

December 2010/ January 2011

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT:

It doesn't seem possible that I am writing this newsletter and we have not had any measurable amount of snow yet. We missed a lot of school days from snow by this time last year. Let's hope it keeps this up and we don't have any inclement weather. (Okay- wishful thinking!)

Our school motto is: **High Expectations in a Safe Environment**

It is not possible to obtain this motto without parent and community support. Thanks for your support at parent/teacher conferences. Improving our attendance is the first step in reaching our goals. Continue to encourage your child to not miss any school and be on time to school. We need your support on this issue to provide our students with the opportunities to be successful in life's endeavors. Increased reading and math are our school improvement goals. Improved attendance is the only way we can reach these goals. The first semester ends on December 17th. It is important to visit with your child about finishing strong and keeping their grades up at this time of the year.

I encourage you to take time to visit our school and continue supporting our students in their activities. The school website is <http://walthweb.esu1.org/> Please take time to visit our website to check on your student's grades and their school activities.

Our students are really busy with extra-curricular activities during the months of December and January. Please take the time to come to school and watch them perform in basketball, drama, and our music programs. Your support and encouragement is critical for us to be successful in activities. Make positive comments about the team and not about individuals. It is always a team game!

The month of December and January can bring about some inclement weather. Continue to watch the local news stations for any cancellations, early dismissal or late starts.

I hope everyone has a great holiday season with your children. Put time into your schedule to play with your child. Listen to their thoughts, ideas and be a part of their lives.

Sincerely,
Ed Stansberry

From the Desk of Mr. Jorgenson:

Greetings! My name is Bryce Jorgenson and I am the new 9-12 Principal at Walthill Public Schools. It has been a great privilege to get to know the staff and students here at the school. We all should be very proud of the quality education that is being provided and the excellent learning opportunities that are available for the youth in Walthill.

One area that school staff has been concentrating on is school improvement. We have been researching ways to help improve our school to make it even better than it is currently. In order to make improvements, we need to find out where we are as district. The staff has been working very hard to evaluate our school to discover areas of strength and areas of improvement. In March, a team comprised of educators outside of our district will be on campus to make their own evaluation of our system. If we receive a high enough rating, we will be accredited school. In short, this means that we have achieved a standard of excellence amongst high schools across the country. When the team comes, they will be looking at 7 areas:

1. Vision and Purpose. Where do we want the school to go and what do we want the students to achieve?
2. Governance and Leadership. How do the principals, superintendent, and school board support the vision and purpose of the school?
3. Teaching and Learning. What are the teachers doing to make sure that students are achieving the vision and purpose of the school?
4. Documenting and Using Results. What data are we using to see if we are making progress?
5. Resources and Support Systems. How is the money and extra staff allocated to help achieve this vision and purpose?
6. Stakeholder Communication and Relationships. What kind of role do the community, students, and parents have in achieving this vision?
7. Commitment to Continuous Improvement. How is the district going to assure that improvements are continuously made?

Again, the staff has really worked hard on each of these areas and are looking forward to the completion of this evaluation. We are excited to have this team come in and evaluate our district to show the excellent school system we have in place.

JV Quiz Bowl



Marcell, Mimi, Maria, Shyvonne

Varsity Quiz Bowl



Carly, Chelsea, Albert, Chance

On November 9th, I took our quiz bowl team to our conference competition at Wayne State College. We competed very well and the students had a great time testing skills against other districts.

WALTHILL PUBLIC SCHOOL



HOME OF THE BLUJAYS
High Expectations in a Safe Environment

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Vida Stabler, Vice-President
Janet Nielsen, Secretary
Mark English
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Michael Wolfe, Sr.

SUPERINTENDENT

Ed Stansberry

estansbe@esu1.org
602 Main St. Box 3C
Phone (402) 846-5432
Walthill, NE 68067- 0563
Phone (402) 846-5432
Fax (402) 846-5932

ELEMENTARY

Sandy Ostrand

sostrand@esu1.org
HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
Bryce Jorgenson
bjorgenson@esu1.org
JUNIOR HIGH PRINCIPAL
Marty Slaughter
mslaughter@esu1.org

November 19, 2010

School Improvement Notification

The federal education legislation, No Child Left Behind, mandates that all students must be proficient on math academic standards by 2014. Schools are expected to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) toward that goal. The state goal for last year was to have 83% of all students in grades 3-6 proficient in Math. Additional information about how our school compared to other schools in the state will be available on the State of the Schools Report which will be available for public viewing sometime in November.

If a school does not meet the state goal in any area, the school is identified as "In Need of Improvement". A school can get out of School Improvement by meeting the AYP goals for that area.

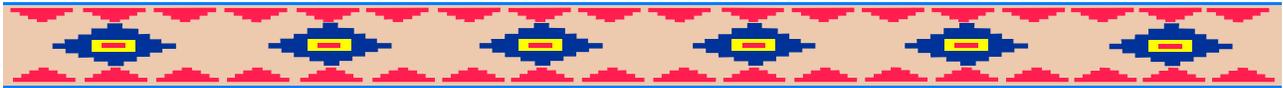
The Walthill Public Schools will be in School Improvement in Math for the school year 10-11 due to the fact that our English Language Learners did not meet AYP in Math during the 08-09 school year. The school needs to meet AYP for two consecutive years to not be in school improvement. Students must be proficient or advanced on the Math state standards to meet Average Yearly Progress.

The Elementary School will be examining the Math Curriculum, our expectations per grade level, data from last year, changes in instruction, MAP scores, Aimsweb scores, and making sure that we do Math for 60 minutes a day.

As partners please contact the school with concerns or questions. Since there is only one elementary school in this district, there is not an option for parents to transfer their students to another school. Please assist in our endeavor to improve our Math scores by having students attend regularly and being responsible.

Sincerely,

Sandy Ostrand



Culture Class

The past couple months the High School Culture Class has been studying the Omaha history and getting to know our Umo^{ho} numbers up to 20. We studied Omaha history on the Sacred Pole, below are papers from two students. They all did a really good job on their papers. Wi^{bthaho}. This past week we have been doing our "family tree" I would like to have all parents, grandparents and relatives helping the students with information. Wi^{bthaho} to you all. The rest of this month, we will be doing "Give Thanks" and Thanksgiving, so prepare for homework.

Wi^{bthao}
Mrs. Whiteyes
High School Culture

The Sacred Pole

By Tyler Grant

The Sacred Pole is a tribal unity. The Sacred Pole was there through bad and good times. Doran Morris was the tribal chairman at this time. In 1888, the Sacred Pole was put into the Pea-Body Museum.

Alice Fletcher wanted the Omaha Tribe to buy land so they wouldn't have to leave the rez. Francis Lafleche was not a true member of the Omaha Tribe, they used to say he was from the Ponca Tribe. The tribe was trying to burry the Sacred Pole with YellowSmoke, the last keeper of the pole. The tribe was also interested in getting artifacts back from the Pea-Body Museum. Random people from the tribe were trying to get the Sacred Pole back.

Doran Morris was the one who got the Sacred Pole back; he is the great-great-great grandson of YellowSmoke. The Sacred Pole was found by the son of the chief. He was out hunting one night and got lost, he looked on the ground and seen a glowing tree. It looked like it was on fire, but it was not consumed. The Sacred Pole is at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. You have to get permission from the tribe to visit it.

I am glad the Sacred Pole made it home but the tribe should be able to see it rather than have it locked up. It should be in the halls of Walthill Public School so everyone can see it. When is the next time the Sacred Pole making it's journey home? One day I would like to see the Sacred Pole so I can tell my kids about it when I'm old.



The Sacred Pole

By Keenan Parker

The Sacred Pole is known as Umo^{ho} ti. It is a cottonwood pole and is a physical object, which has had a long life of its own.

A long time ago a young man, the son of a chief, was hunting in the woods at night and lost his way. He stopped to rest and to find the "motionless star" for his guide. Suddenly, he was distracted by a light. When he approached the light, he was that it was a tree that sent forth the light. From a distance, it looked like it was on fire but it wasn't and you could only see the flame at night. In 1888 YellowSmoke, the last keeper of the Umo^{ho}ti gave up the Sacred Pole to the Pea-Body Museum. YellowSmoke at the time did not want the Umo^{ho}ti to be buried, he said that it is still living and you only bury dead things. ..for Umo^{ho}ti is still alive, it is not just a dead piece of wood, it is still solid. On July 12, 1989 Umo^{ho}ti returned home for the 185th Umo^{ho} Tribe Pow-Wow. Its present location is in Lincoln, Nebraska. No person can see it unless approved by the council.



Stuco State Convention

On November 8th, the Student Council took a trip to Macy, NE, for the State Student Council Convention. There, the students listened to motivational speakers, discussed about ideas about improving their council, elected positions for the District Student Council and set up where the District Student Council Convention will be. The students and advisors had a lot of fun and learned a lot of new things.



Mimi



Front: Hope Ann, Chelsea, Sonjra, Taylor, Mimi
Back: Albert, Marcell, Selena



Albert, Chelsea, Taylor, Selena, Sonjra and Marcell taking a break



Seasons Greetings!



Wazhingia Ti Zhingia Early Childhood Center

During the last few month's children have enjoyed playing outside when the weather permitted, improving their fine motor skills by building with blocks and doing puzzles. They have also enjoyed painting, coloring, and drawing...although sometimes we forget that we draw on paper not the walls or the tables. Thank goodness everything is washable.

As always a large majority of our time in the center is focused on Early Literacy. Children love to look at books and be read to. One of the children's favorites this year is Bob the Builder. I believe that most of our staff knows most of the stories by heart by now. What does Bob do? Well he builds which is why our blocks are another popular area in our center, and of course everything we build we must knock down!! ☺

Just a few notes: Please do not let your children bring small toys, acorns, coins, or candy and gum to the center. We have children of all ages here and they could choke on small parts and pieces.

Winter weather is upon us. The crunching sound of the leaves will soon be replaced with the crunching sound of snow under our boots. Weather permitting we will be going outside for a few minutes each day. Please dress your children appropriately for outside play. It would be good to label coats, hats, and mittens as we have had some mix-ups when children were picked up.

Phone numbers and emergency contacts: If you have new phone numbers or emergency contacts please update these with Jill.

Have a safe and happy holiday season,

Jill, Rita, Bonnie, LaShayna, and Trish.

Important Dates:

November 24, 1:30 Dismissal students and staff

November 25, 26 No School Thanksgiving Break

December 17 1:30 Dismissal students and staff

December 20-31 NO SCHOOL Christmas Break

January 3 School Resumes

January 14 1:30 Dismissal for students.



ART CLASS



Mrs. Bonneau's 2nd grade newspaper-stuffed 3-D birds



Heaven's Zebra



Chelsea's Fish



David W. Clay Piece



Sinjin's Eagle

1st Grade



We would like to send out a huge thank you to Jaresse Blackbird's family for sharing their pumpkins with us. We had a lot of fun going out to pick them up. Before Halloween we were able to choose if we wanted to paint them or carve them. Then we were able to take them home to share with our families. We had a Halloween party playing games and bingo. We were able to wear our costumes for the afternoon. We had lots of fun.

5th/6th Grade

News from the Fernau Frontiers:

Well, we're excited to be starting a study of energy efficiency, or lack of, in our homes. We hope to really get started and into the kits by Christmas Vacation so we can all work on our homes over the Holidays. I would like to acknowledge the Village of Walthill Energy Detective program for sponsoring our school with some really neat energy kits, workbooks and materials for use in our homes from the Nebraska Dept. of Energy. As we go along doing the labs, parents/guardians, PLEASE help your student fulfill the workbook and see that it gets back to school. We will all be taking a look at our homes and what we could be doing to use energy more wisely or what options are out there for trying to fix our home, school, library or wherever we use energy sources. So parents/guardians, tribal members, community members etc. please help and guide us in an effort to do our small part in protecting our resources and Mother Earth as She has tried to look out for us.

Mrs. Fernau
5th/6th Grade Science



Winter Weather is upon us!

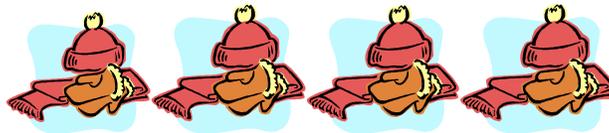
Sign up at www.snowcaponline.net to receive a text message or email anytime Walthill Public School uses SNOWCAP to dispatch alert announcements affecting you or your school activities, such as delays or cancellations, parent meetings or other reminders. No more waiting by the television or radio!

Signing up is easy!

Just look for the cell phone and laptop on the website, click the button next to school, type Walthill in the blank, click on the search button, select Walthill Public from the choice list and then complete the contact information on the next page.

once you have completed signing up, you will receive a verification text and/or email. Follow the link to activate your registration. That's it!

www.snowcaponline.net



Recess will still be held outside, weather permitting, during the winter months. Please make sure your child comes to school prepared; winter coat, stocking cap and mittens.

No flip flops, sandals or shorts.



Winter Weather Information

The following is a list of where announcements about school closing, late starts, and early outs can be heard.

Television

KTIV Channel 4 (Sioux City)
KCAU Channel 9 (Sioux City)
KMEG Channel 14 (Sioux City)

Radio

KMNS 620 AM (Sioux City)
KSCJ 780 AM (Sioux City)
KTCH 1590 AM (Wayne)
KTIC 840 AM (West Point)

MUSIC NEWS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM FROM THE WALTHILL MUSIC DEPT. IT IS DEC. 9 @ 7:00PM. WE HAVE LOTS OF FUN HOLIDAY SONGS TO GET YOU IN THE SPIRIT OF THE SEASON. GRADES K-6 WILL PERFORM ALONG WITH THE HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR AND PIANO CLASS. IT IS RUMORED THAT SANTA MAY EVEN MAKE AN APPEARANCE!

November 24th: Elementary Authors' Assembly at
8:15 in the gym
Come listen to the stories our students have
written! We would love to see you!



Fall Sports



Football

The Walthill Blujays Junior High Football Team completed their season with a 2-3 record. The Blujays lost to Bancroft-Rosalie, Emerson-Hubbard and Winnebago. The victories were against Omaha Nation, in a downpour, and Santee. The Santee game was executed by the blujays using 8 man on offense and playing 6 man on defense.

The two 8th graders on the team were Jamal Yacub and Sheldon Sheridan. The 7th graders were Mario Aldrich, DeAndre Bass, Cameron Freemont, Trey Hundley, Orion LaMotte, Hiram Lovejoy, Ashton McCauley, Dwight Parker, Tristin Redhorn, and Louis Saunsoci. The coaches were Glen Randel and Gary Redden.

The Walthill Varsity Football team recently completed the 2010 season with an 0-8 record. Nine players finished the season for the Blujays; Freshman Tony Brown, Juniors Kendall McCauley, Narcisse Wood, Chantler Lovejoy, Shaquille Moniz, and Chance Clinchers, Seniors David Walker and LJ Merrick. Sinjin Sheridan also participated didn't finish due to injury. The coaches were Glen Randel, John Singer and Gary Redden.

Volleyball

A big **Congratulations** to Sonjra Sheridan for making 1st Team All Conference and to Chelsea Grant for receiving an Honorable Mention. Way to go girls!!

Books Make Great Gifts!



Mrs. Low
Walthill School Librarian

WALTHILL STUDENT WINS LOGO CONTEST

by JoAnn Schmedding



The computer application and web page students in Walthill entered the Logo Contest sponsored by the Occupational Therapy Department at Carl T. Curtis Clinic in Macy. The contest was open to all K-12 students in Macy and Walthill. There were between 70 and 75 submissions in this contest. The prize winning logo will be used on all promotional items for the department such as business cards, letterheads, signs, etc. Marcell Grant, a web page student and sophomore at Walthill Public School, was the winner of the contest. She was awarded an iPod Nano by Rosette Stabler, Doctor of Occupational Therapy at the clinic.

Dr. Stabler began her OT career at the clinic in September of 2010 when the OT position was established by the clinic. This is the first time Carl T. Curtis Clinic has its own Occupational Therapy

School Cents

Once again, Walthill Public Schools is participating in Hy-Vee's school cents. When you shop at Hy-Vee, save your receipts for your groceries, flowers, or prescriptions. Have your child bring the receipts to their teachers. For every \$100.00 turned into the school, we earn \$1.00. The school does not look at what was purchased or how it was paid for, all we want is the receipt so the school can earn money. Any questions, please call Mrs. Rodasky at 846-5432

Child Find

The Walthill Public School requests your help in locating handicapped children. The school implements the Federal Handicapped Children's Act (PL 94-142) which guarantees a free appropriate public educational program for all children between the ages of 0 and 21 years of age. If you have a student or know of any young person with special needs between 0-21 years of age that is not enrolled in an appropriate public education program, please call 402-846-5432 or write to

Shannon Burgett

Special Education Coordinator
PO Box 3C
Walthill, NE 68067

ACTIVITIES

DECEMBER 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 VGBB VBBB at	3 VGBB VBBB at	4
5	6 JHGBB & JHBBB at Om. Na- tion 2:30 & 3:30	7	8	9 Christmas Concert 7 pm	10 VGBB VBBB at Bancroft 6:15 & 8:00	11
12	13 JHGBB B Home vs Winne- bago	14	15	16 JHBB B Home vs Winnebago 3:00	17 Early Dismissal 1:30 End 2nd qtr	18 VGBB VBBB at Freeman Academy 5 7 7:30
19	20 No School	21 No School	22 No School	23 No School	24 No School	25
26	27 No School	28 No School	29 No School Meed Holiday Tour. BA	30 No School Meed Holiday Tour. TBA	31 No School	



JANUARY 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 School Resumes 3rd qtr begins	4 VGBB VBBB at Winside 6:15 & 8:00	5	6 JHGBB JHBBB at Santee 2:30 & 3:30	7 VGBB VBBB at Parkview Christain 6 & 7:30	8
9	10 JHGBB At Winnebago 3:00	11	12	13	14 Early Dismissal 1:30	15 JHBBB @ Homer 9am VGBB VBBB home 6:15 & 8
16	17	18 VGBB VBBB home vs Leigh 5:15 & 7:00	19	20 VGBB VBBB all Native Tour. Om. Nation TBA	21 VGBB VBBB all Native Tour. Om. Nation TBA	22 VGBB VBBB all Native Tour. Om. Nation TBA
23	24 VGBB VBBB Home 6:15 & 8:00 Parents Nite	25 JHGBB JHBBB at Bancroft 4:00	26	27 VGBB At Wyncr 6:00	28	29 VGBB VBBB Lewis & Clark Tour.
30	31 VGBB VBBB Lewis & Clark Tour.					



December 2010

Breakfast: Offered Daily
Milk and Juice
Lunch: Offered Daily
Milk and Salad Bar 7-12

Walthill Public School
The USDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1 Sausage Gravy/Biscuit Salisbury Steak Potatoes/Gravy Green Beans Diced Peaches Roll	2 Muffin/Cereal Chicken Tettrazzini California Blend w/ Cheese Apricots Brownie Roll	3 Pancakes/Sausage Crispito w Cheese Sauce Spanish Rice Corn Sour Apple Jell-o
6 Breakfast Pizza/Fruit Cup Chicken Nuggets French Fries Baked Beans Pineapple Tidbits	7 Bacon/Egg/Cheese Sand. Vegetable Beef Soup With Mixed Vegetables Biscuit/Cheese Stick Diced Peaches	8 Sausage Gravy/Biscuit Roast Pork in Gravy Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Rosie Applesauce Roll	9 Yogurt/Cereal/Fruit Ravioli w Meat Sauce Broccoli Diced Pears Roll Cookie	10 Waffle Sticks/Sausage Hot Dog on Bun Macaroni & Cheese Peas & Carrots Jell-o Fruit Cup
13 Breakfast Bites/Fruit Tavern on Bun Potato Wedges Baked Beans Rosie Applesauce	14 Breakfast Burrito/Salsa Chicken Noodle Soup Carrots/Celery/Crackers PB & Jelly Sandwich Orange Smiles	15 Sausage Gravy/Biscuit Baked Ham Potatoes/Gravy Corn Cranberry/Cherry Jell-o Cherry Cheese Cake Roll	16 Fruit Turnover/Cereal Lasagna w Meat Sauce Garlic Bread Peas Diced Pears Roll	17 French Toast/Bacon Sausage Pizza Lettuce Salad Banana Chocolate Pudding
20 Christmas Break Merry Christmas! See You Next Year!				



January 2011

Breakfast: Offered Daily
Milk and Juice

Walthill Public School

The USDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider

Lunch: Offered Daily Milk and Salad Bar 7-12

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3 Pop Tart/Cereal/Fruit Brd. Chicken Sandwich Potato Wedges Corn/Pickle Spear Tropical Fruit	4 Omelet/Bacon/w/w Toast Chili/Crackers Cinnamon Roll Carrots/Celery Diced Peaches	5 Sausage Gravy/Biscuit Chicken Fried Steak Potatoes/Gravy Green Beans Apple Crisp	6 Yogurt/Cereal/w/w Toast Southwest Mac&Cheese Garlic Bread Peas Diced Pears	7 Pancakes/Sausage Fish Sticks Macaroni & Cheese Baked Beans Jell-o Fruit Cup
10 Breakfast Pizza/Fruit Cheese Burger on Bun French Fries Corn/Pickle Slices Rosie Applesauce	11 Sausage/Egg/Cheese Biscuit Tomato Soup/Crackers Grilled Cheese Sandwich Carrots/Celery Orange Smiles Cookie	12 Sausage Gravy/Biscuit Pop Corn Chicken Rice Pilaf California Blend Pineapple	13 Coffee Cake/Cereal Corn Dogs Macaroni & Cheese Peas & Carrots Diced Pears	14 Waffle Sticks/Sausage Beef-Bean Burrito Garnishes Fruit Cocktail Butterscotch Dessert
17 Granola Bar/Cereal BBQ Pork Rib Sandwich Tri Taters Corn Rosie Applesauce	18 Breakfast Burrito/Salsa Potato Soup/Crackers Ham & Cheese Sandwich Carrots/Celery Fresh Grapes Cookie	19 Sausage Gravy/Biscuit Crispito w Cheese Sauce Corn Spanish Rice Cherry Crisp	20 Muffin/Cereal Spaghetti w Meat Sauce Garlic Bread Peas Diced Pears	21 French Toast/Bacon Sausage Pizza Lettuce Salad Banana Banana Pudding
24 Breakfast Bites/Fruit Chicken Nuggets French Fries Corn Tropical Fruit Rice Krispie Bar	25 Bacon/Egg/Cheese Sand. Vegetable Beef Soup With Mixed Vegetables Biscuit/Cheese Stick Rosie Applesauce	26 Sausage Gravy/Biscuit Salisbury Steak Potatoes/Gravy Green Beans Diced Peaches Roll	27 Fruit Turnover/Cereal Turkey Tetrazzini Broccoli w Cheese Sauce Apricots Roll	28 Pancakes/Sausage Taco Salad Garnishes Corn Chips/Salsa White Cake Strawberries/Bananas
31 Breakfast Pizza/Fruit Brd. Chicken Sandwich Potato Wedges Corn/Pickle Spear Tropical Fruit				

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ENCLOSED

**December and January
Calendars for Activities, lunch
And Project are enclosed**

Important Dates to remember



Dec.9 Christmas Program
Dec. 17 Early Dismissal at 1:30
Dec.20-Dec. 31 NO SCHOOL
Jan.3 School Resumes
Jan. 14 Early Dismissal 1:30

Walthill Public Schools
District 13
602 Main St
P.O. Box 3C
Walthill, NE 68067

Phone: 402-846-5432
Fax: 402-846-5029

**Walthill Public School
Bulk Mail Permit #4
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Walthill, NE 68067**

