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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Principal's Office

I simply cannot believe that we are half way through December and the end of the first semester is only a few days away. It literally feels like we just started this school year and here we are ready to close the first semester. Good luck and continued success to all of our winter sports teams and athletes. Your hard work will pay off in the end.

Upcoming Events:

December 19h: 7-12 Winter Concert 7PM

December 20th: 2:30 Dismissal (Semester Tests Periods 1-3-5-7)

December 20th: K-6 Winter Concert 7PM

December 21*: 2:30 Dismissal (Semester Tests Periods 2-4-6-8)

December 22rd: 11:30 Dismissal (Last Day of 1rd Semester)

December 23rd-January 3rd: No School

December 23rd-December 27th: NSAA Practice Moratorium

December 28th: GBBB @ Ravenna Holiday Tourney 1:00/2:45/4:30/6:00PM (We play at 1 & 2:45)

December 29h: WR @ Pleasanton 10AM

December 29th: GBBB @ Ravenna Holiday Tourney 1:00/2:45/4:30/6:00PM

January 4th: 1th Day of 2th Semester

January 5th: WR @ Overton vs. Elm Cree & Axtell 6PM

January 6th: GBBB vs. Amherst 4:30/6/7:3PM

January 7th: WR @ Amherst 10AM

January 7th: GBBB @ Maxwell 1/2/3:30/5PM

January 9th: School Board Meeting 7:30PM.

January 10th: GBBB @ Brady 4:30/6/8PM

January 11*: JHBB @ Loomis 1PM

January 12th: Inter-Local Meeting 6PM

January 13*: WR @ Elm Creek 2:30PM

January 13th: GBBB @ North Platte St. Pats 4:30/6/8PM

January 14th: WR @ Shelton 10AM

January 14th: GBBB vs. Bertrand 2/3:30/5PM (Jr. Cheer Camp)

Weather Reminder: Thank you to all parents for ensuring your child is dress appropriately for the weather as winter has arrived. Heavy coats, hats, and gloves are essential for your child each day. Thank you again for your help with this.

Report Cards: Just a reminder that report cards are not mailed out for grades 5-12. They will be available through Powerschool with your parent login. If you would like a printed copy, please call or email me at school and I will print on to send home with your child.

I hope that everyone has a good break and returns to school refreshed and ready for another great Semester. Thank you for your support of the school. If you have any further questions or comments, please feel free to contact me or stop by and visit.

Educationally yours,

Mr. Brian Fleischman, Principal

308-987-2424 x206

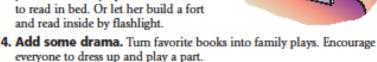
brian.fleischman@overtoneagles.org

Title I Cooperative Educational Service Unit 10

Seven strategies help elementary schoolers expand reading skills

Is your child reading by herself? That's terrific. Keep in mind, however, that her reading skills must be strengthened and maintained. As she gets older, she will be expected to read more complex material. So how can you support her efforts and help keep her reading progress on track? Here are seven ways:

- Let your child read what she likes. She doesn't have to read only books. Graphic novels, magazines, advertisements and recipes are fine choices, too.
- Make connections. Look for books about the places your child's ancestors came from. Or have her read about historic events that happened near home.
- 3. Make reading irresistible. Allow your child to stay up 15 minutes later to read in bed. Or let her build a fort and read inside by flashlight.



- Start a book club. Get your child's friends together for book-related discussions, activities and snacks.
- 6. Set a timer. If your child resists reading, say, "Read to me for three minutes. When the timer rings, you can stop." Add a minute every few days.
- Read aloud. Select books that are a bit more advanced than your child can read herself. When parents read, kids enjoy more challenging stories.

Help your child get a feel for fractions

Many kids find fractions difficult. But they don't have to be! Help your child get comfortable with fractions by making a fraction kit. Here's how:

- 1. Cut several long strips of paper, each one a different color. They should all be the same length and about three inches wide.
- 2. Let your child choose one strip to represent one whole unit. He can label it 1/1.
- 3. Have your child fold another strip in half end-to-end and cut on the fold. Label each piece 1/2. Discuss how the two halves make one whole.
- 4. Fold and cut other strips into thirds, fourths, sixths and eighths. Label the pieces. Say what each fraction represents. This is one piece of three, so we'll write 1/3."

- 5. Let your child play with the pieces. How many fourths add up to 1/2? Which is larger, 1/3 or 1/2?
- Save the kit to help check work.

Source: D. Adams and M. Hamm, Helping Students Who Struggle with Math and Science, Rowman & Littlefield Education.

Exercise observation power

Scientists notice and remember details. Here's a memory game to play with your child to help build her observation skills.

When you're on a walk, ask your child questions like, "How many windows were on the front of the house we just passed?" or "What color was its front door?" See if she can remember without looking.

Reset your child's habits for better results

If your child's school year is not going the way you'd hoped, push the reset button and give her a fresh start. To do it:

- · Involve the whole family. If your child needs to spend more time studying, make it quiet time for everyone. Work or read while she studies.
- Replace bad habits with good ones. If she usually watches TV when she gets home, she can relax by reading for 30 minutes instead.



Praise successes. Help her see the link between her new habits and her results.

Source: R. Fry, Cet Organized, Career Press.

Clean hands, healthy kids

One simple step can help your child stay healthy and avoid missing school. It's hand washing! Teach your child to:



- Wash properly. He should wet hands, lather with soap and wash fronts, backs, between fingers, etc. for 20 seconds.
- Use a fresh paper towel to turn off the faucet and open the bathroom door.
- Wash hands often, especially before eating and after using the bathroom.
- Sneeze or cough into his elbow, not his hand.

Source: C.H. Lau and others, "Hand hygiene instruction decreases illness-related absenteeism in elementary schools: a prospective cohort study," BMC Pediatrics, niswc.com/lather.

Helping Children Learn Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School



How can I change my child's attitude toward school?

Q: My child has recently told me, more than once, that he hates school. I'm not sure how to respond—he has to go to school, after all. What can I do to improve the situation for him?

A: Not all children who say they hate school actually do. Sometimes, they're just looking for attention—or for a chance to put off homework.

Still, if your son has said this repeatedly, there's probably something going on. Here are some steps you can take:



- **1. Talk to your child.** Wait for a time when he's relatively calm and when you have plenty of time to talk. Then ask him what's going on. "You've said you hate school a couple times. What's making you feel this way?"
- **2. Identify the problem.** Listen closely to what your child says. Is he struggling in class? Are kids mean to him on the bus? Is he bored?
- **3. Help your child find solutions.** For example, if he is struggling in a subject, ask his teacher for advice. Does your child need to spend more time reviewing the subject? Is he turning in his homework? How can you help at home?
- 4. Be positive. Help your child see that nearly every situation in life has positives and negatives. Then help him build on the positives and minimize the negatives.



How do you handle issues at school?

If the teacher tells you that your child has a problem at school, your reaction can make the difference between finding a solution and creating a standoff. Are you addressing school issues constructively? Answer yes or no below:

- ______1. Do you hear the teacher out before you start explaining away your child's behavior?
- ____2. Do you wait to discuss the issue with your child until you can do so calmly?
- 3. Do you involve your child in brainstorming possible solutions to the problem?
- _____4. Do you let the teacher know how you plan to handle the issue?
- 5. Do you stay in touch with the school to confirm that your solution is working?

How well are you doing?

More yes answers mean you are working with the school and your child to solve problems in positive ways. For each no, try that idea.

Share test-taking strategies

Your child has studied and knows the material. But does she know these strategies for test success? Encourage her to:

- Ask questions. If your child doesn't understand the directions or a question, she should ask the teacher to clarify.
- Answer easy questions first. If she gets stuck on a hard one, she should move on and return when she's finished the rest.
- Use the process of elimination on multiple-choice questions. She should cross off the answers that can't be right and decide between the ones that are left.
- Use extra time to review her answers and check for careless mistakes.

Put spare time to good use

One valuable lesson you can teach your child is how to use small bits of time. If he has a few extra minutes before dinner, you might say, "Let's run through your spelling words." He'll learn that using spare moments frees up longer blocks of time for other things.

Brush up on discipline basics

All children misbehave sometimes. Keep in mind that discipline is meant to teach desired behavior, not to punish. It helps to:

- Be realistic about your child's abilities.
 Match rules to her age and maturity level.
- Mean what you say. Make sure your rules and consequences are fair, then stick to them!
- Acknowledge your child's feelings. Say, "You are upset because you wanted that toy. But it's Jana's turn. You can have another turn when she's done."
- **Be forgiving.** Teach your child that everyone can learn from mistakes.

Source: "Disciplining Your Child," Healthy Children.org, American Academy of Pediatrics, niswc.com/aap-discipline.

Helping Children Learn®

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Box Tops For Education!!!

Did you know that the box tops that you can clip and save for the school help your elementary teachers purchase extra things for the classroom? Please help our students by bringing in your labels all year long!!! CLIP AND HELP US SAVE!!

Fifth and Sixth Grade Computers The Fifth and Sixth Grade Computers classes participated in the Hour of Code movement in December. The Hour of Code is a introduction to computer science, designed to demystify computer program coding. The students completed two different activities which involved problem solving, logic and creativity. These activities were designed to help the students understand what steps are needed to have a computer program do



The Spelling Bee will be held on Tuesday, February 14 at 1:00. This is for students in grade 3-8 that wish to participate. Join us to test the limits of their **A**ptitude, **B**rainpower, and **C**anny **D**etermination. The spelling bee will be held in the south gym.

First Grade News!

The first graders have been working hard on lots of different things! We have started Xtra Math and Accelerated Reader. Xtra Math is going well and the kids always enjoy working on the I-pads. I love to see their bright, smiling faces when they succeed.

Accelerated Reader has been a success so far. In November they took over 115 tests and received either an 80% or a 100%. I am so proud of how hard they are working and how far they have come.

In Science we have been discussing all the different kinds and types of animals. So we have been researching and presenting on the different types of penguins. The students were then split up into groups and each group researched and learned about a specific type of penguin. Mrs. Lassen took them in small groups and worked on researching their type of penguin on various informational, educational websites. Then, they took that information and made a book on Scribble Press on the I-pads highlighting the important information. Finally, they presented the books to the rest of the class. It was a lot of fun!

We also had a "Thanksgiving feast" with the kindergarteners. We got together and shared popcorn and apples just like the Native Americans and pilgrims did many years ago.

Mrs. Cordes

2016 One Act

Little Play of Horrors

The one act for 2016 was Little Play of Horrors. Written by Samara Siskind, the play is a parody of several horror movie classics, including Halloween, Little Shop of Horrors, and Chucky. The three main characters (Sydmour, Taudrey, and Carol Anne) fall asleep while watching a horror movie marathon and spend their dreams encountering characters and situations from horror films.

38 students participated in the cast and crew for the show. The first performance was on Nov. 4th at Elm Creek for the One Act Festival. Students were not placed, but given feedback for improvement from the judges. Receiving outstanding actor awards were Logan Weiland, Josh Thompson, and Tony Vollmer.

Following school and community performances, the cast and crew traveled to Holdrege on Nov. 22nd for FKC Competition. Receiving outstanding actor awards were Logan Weiland, Josh Thompson, and Tony Vollmer. The final competition was districts, also held in Holdrege, on Nov. 28th. Receiving outstanding actor awards were Logan Weiland, Josh Thompson, Tony Vollmer, and Taylor Sarratt. Receiving outstanding actress awards were Ivey Zimmerman and Jaycee Wallace.



FCCLA & FBLA Participate in Service Project for Make-a-Wish

On Tuesday November 29th, several members of the FCCLA and FBLA chapters as well as Foods and Nutrition class students helped make over 250 popcorn balls for the Make A Wish Christmas party which was held on December 3rd at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds in Kearney. Mrs. Cynthia Getty organizes everything for making and delivering the popcorn balls. The Overton students had fun making popcorn balls for this very worthy cause.







Elementary Technology and 8th Grade Homeroom

Along with my duties as Instrumental Music instructor and my work with the iPads and computers here at Overton, I teach Elementary Technology and I use the 8th grade homeroom as a chance to expand students' technology skills. During the first semester, I teach the 3rd and 4th grades technology skills two days a week per grade. During the second semester I teach K-2 a few days per week as well. The skills we cover in these 30 minute lessons are everything from how to work an iPad, to basic computer tasks, typing, and coding/programming. With the 8th grade homeroom we work on skills such as iMovie, web design and coding/programming.

ESU 10 in Kearney let us borrow their 2 Dash and Dot robots to help these classes learn about coding. The students use Blockly coding (javascript coding built as basic directions on blocks that snap together) to give the robots commands to follow in an order as a chance to learn basic coding skills. All three grades attempted to complete an obstacle course that I designed for them. They had to use their measuring skills to find a path, math skills to find lengths and angles, and coding skills to give the robot his commands. Unfortunatly, Dash does not follow each command to the perfect measurement. The surface of the floor and how close he can follow each



command was not ideal and so no student group was able to successfully complete the course. Several groups had code that could have been successful had I made the course on a more reliable surface.

All of the students had a great time with the challenge and I believe they truly worked on their problem solving and coding skills to help give themselves a leg up in their future education.

Mr. Brumm





Student's Name	Grade:	Contact Phone #:

Blue Out T-Shirt Order Form



FCCLA is sponsoring a BLUE OUT at the Overton & Bertrand basketball games in Overton on **January 14**th to raise awareness of

Rheumatoid and Psoriatic Arthritis.

All proceeds from the t-shirt sales will go to the Arthritis Foundation.

Order forms & payment are due to Angie Ehlers by December 21st.

Elementary students- please turn in orders to your child's teacher.

Please indicate the number of each size you would like to order.

Youth	Youth	Youth	Youth	
Small	Medium	Large	XL	

Shirts are \$10.00 each

Adult	Adult	Adult	Adult	Adult	Adult	Adult
Small	Medium	Large	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL

_____ shirts x \$10.00=____

Total T

*Payment MUST be made at time of order.
Checks payable to Overton Public Schools.

Orders due December 21st by 3 pm!

From the Guidance Counselor

A New Year is upon us, and I hope everyone feels the sense of new opportunities. I hope your holidays were a great time spent with family and friends!

Here are some things to keep in mind:

Pennies for Patients

Students will be collecting money to help support the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Leukemia causes more deaths than any other cancer among children, adolescents, and young adults under the age of 20. January 16th to January 30th will be the time frame. Each student can create an online profile for donations, they can bring money to their classrooms, and high school teachers will have collection jars as well. This is a great cause that many families have personal connections to. Our goal as a school is to raise \$500. Any donations are greatly appreciated!

<u>Juniors</u>

-Colleges. It is never to early to start looking into colleges. Start considering where your future plans might take you and start looking into what the requirements are to be accepted. Go on campus tours and ask questions. If you feel overwhelmed come talk to me and we can discuss it.

<u>Seniors</u>

-FASFA- Use your tax information from 2015 to file this. Your results will be sent directly to the colleges you applied and were accepted to. The colleges will put together a scholar-ship/financial package and email it to you. Look at what the college(s) are offering to compare how much each school is going to give you and use that number to help decide on future plans. If you have any more questions, feel free to contact me.

MINUTES OF THE OVERTON PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

December 12, 2016 7:30 p.m.

Board President called the meeting to order. Members Present:

Brennan

Johnson

Luther

Meier

IVICICI

Rudeen

Walahoski

Notification: The December 12, 2016 meeting of the Overton Public School Board of Education was posted at the Overton Public School, on the Overton Public School web site, Beacon Observer, Post Office, and the Security First Bank.

Open Meetings Information: To be in compliance with LB 898, The Nebraska Open Meetings Act, Board President informed the public that a copy of the Open Meetings Law is posted near the LMC check-out counter.

Administration Present: Mark Aten, Superintendent, Brian Fleischman, Principal

Guests Present: Angie Ehlers and Alisha Remmenga

Public Comments: None

Reports: Mrs. Ehlers presented on a nutritional services grant application status and goals.

Communications: None

Other:

a. Board appointed the superintendent to act President Pro-Tem for the January 2017 meeting

Action Items:

- 1. **Agenda** Moved by Luther, seconded by Walahoski to approve the agenda of the December 12, 2016 regular monthly board meeting as presented. Motion 6-0. Voting Yes: (6) Brennan, Johnson, Luther, Meier, Rudeen and Walahoski. Voting No: (0). Absent: (0).
- 2. Minutes Moved by Brennan, seconded by Johnson to approve the November 14, 2016 regular board meeting minutes. Motion 6-0. Voting Yes: (6) Brennan, Johnson, Luther, Meier, Rudeen and Walahoski. Voting No: (0). Absent: (0).
- 3. Claims Moved by Meier, seconded by Luther to pay the December General Fund bills in the amount of \$44,647.13. Motion 6-0. Voting Yes: (6) Brennan, Johnson, Luther, Meier, Rudeen and Walahoski. Voting No: (0). Absent: (0).
- 4. Moved by Johnson, seconded by Meier to approve the contract renewal for the superintendent. Motion 6-0. Voting Yes: (6) Brennan, Johnson, Luther, Meier, Rudeen and Walahoski. Voting No: (0). Absent: (0).

- Moved by Johnson, seconded by Walahoski to approve the superintendent's evaluation.
 Motion 6-0. Voting Yes: (6) Brennan, Johnson, Luther, Meier, Rudeen and Walahoski.
 Voting No: (0). Absent: (0).
- Moved by Johnson, seconded by Walahoski to adjourn at 9:30 p.m. Motion 6-0. Voting Yes:
 (6) Brennan, Johnson, Luther, Meier, Rudeen and Walahoski. Voting No: (0). Absent: (0).

Board Reports and Discussion Topics:

1. Board Reports:

a. Upcoming Meeting:

NASB/NCSA State Conference

b. Negotiations Committee:

Negotiations Update

c. Interlocal:

January 12, 2017 annual meeting

- 2. Discussion Topics:
 - January board meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 9, 2017 beginning at 7:30
 p.m. in the LMC
 - b. 2015-2016 School Audit

Administrative Reports:

Principal's Report:

- 1. Calendar of Events
- 2. Enrollment Update
- 3. Teacher Evaluation Update
- 4. Student Handbook Update

Superintendent's Report:

- 1. Enrollment Option Report
- 2. Option Enrollment-

a.	Out –	a.	
		b.	
b.	In -	a.	
		b.	
c.	Change of Status	a.	None

- 3. Financial & Budget Summary Updates
- 4. Projects Update
- 5. November Board Election Results

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
I ALT MEAL: pizza	2	3	*Breakfast pizza Spaghetti & meat sauce, green beans, cottage cheese, peaches, pears, garlic toast	*French toast sticks & sausage Chicken & Noodles, mashed potatoes, roll, grapes, peas, applesauce	*Flatbread breakfast Sandwich Hot dog bar, tri-taters, baked beans, jello, mandarin oranges	7
8 ALT MEAL: Corn dog	9 *Biscuits & gravy Chicken drummies, mashed potatoes gravy, corn, biscuits, apple slices, apricots	*Banana muffin & omelet Chicken fajitas, shredded Romaine, relish tray, tropical fruit salad	*Sausage biscuit sandwich Cheeseburgers, fries, pickles, broccoli & cheese, jello, applesauce	*Scrambled eggs & English muffin Soup bar, grilled cheese, relish tray, oranges, pineapple	13 *Breakfast combo & glazed donut Sloppy joes, baked beans, celery & peanut butter, grapes, strawberries	14
ALT MEAL: Cheese stuffed pretzel	16 NO SCHOOL	*Griddle Sandwich Crispitos & cheese, shredded romaine, salsa, pears, fruit cocktail	*Breakfast cookie & ham Lasagna roll ups, salad mix, jello, peaches, kiwi, garlic toast	*Cinnamon Little John Sandwich Chicken patty sandwich, fries, broccoli & cheese, baked apples	*Breakfast pizza Cheese pizza, salad mix, relish tray, oranges, pears	21
ALT MEAL: Hot dog	23 *Cinnamon roll & sausage Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, peaches, dinner roll	*Donut holes & ham Chicken stir fry, rice, cottage cheese, pineapple, apples slices, rice krispy treat	25 *English muffin & sausage Potato soup, breadsticks, jello, celery & peanut butter, applesauce	26 *Oatmeal bar & yogurt Shredded BBQ pork, fries, peas, peaches, tropical fruit	*Funnel cake & egg Walking tacos, shredded Romaine, salsa, corn, jello, bananas	28
29 ALT MEAL: Pizza	*Waffles & scrambled eggs Roast turkey, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, dinner roll, cranberries, applesauce	*Breakfast Tornado Taco bar, shredded romaine, tri- taters, salsa, grapes, oranges				

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
New Year's Day	9 JH Quiz Bowl @ Bertrand 4PM. FCCLA mtg. 6:30PM. School board mtg. 7:30PM.	NO SCHOOL 10 Last day to drop/add classes. GBBB @ Brady 4:30/6/8PM.	School resumes. Jazz band 7:15AM. 11 Jazz band 7:15AM. JHBB @ Loomis 1PM. NSAA District mtg. 1PM. FKC quarterly mtg. 5:30PM.	Rock band 7AM. Cheer @ lunch. WR Tri @ Overton 6PM (Elm Creek/ Axtell) (Parent's night). 12 Rock band 7AM. Cheer @ lunch.	FCA 7AM. Dance @ lunch. GBBB vs. Amherst 4:30/6/8PM. 13 Febr. ACT reg. deadline. FCA 7AM. Dance @ lunch. WR @ Elm Creek 2:30PM. GBBB @ North Platte St. Pats 4:30/6/8PM.	WR @ Amherst 10AM. GBBB @ Maxwell 1/2/3:30/5PM. 14 WR @ Shelton/Kenesaw 10AM. GBBB vs. Bertrand 2/3:30/5PM, FCCLA "Blue-out". Jr. cheer camp.
15	NO SCHOOL — Teacher In- Service. JHBB @ SEM Tourney 12:30PM.	17 GBBB @ Elwood 3:30/4:30/6/8PM.	18 Jazz band 7:15AM.	Rock band 7AM. Cheer @ lunch.	20 FCA 7AM. Dance @ lunch. GBBB @ Eustis-Farnam 4/5/6:15/8PM.	JHBB @ Overton Tourney 9AM. WR @ Mullen 10AM (MT).
22	23 Music boosters mtg. 6PM.	JHBB vs. Kearney Catholic 1PM. GBBB vs. Shelton 4:30/6/7:30PM.	Jazz band7:15AM. FCCLA District STAR @ Mullen.	26 Rock band 7AM. Cheer @ lunch.	FCA 7AM. Dance @ lunch. WR @ Central Valley (Greeley) 11AM. GBBB vs. Elm Creek 4:30/6/7:30PM.	28 FKC GBBB Bunny Brackets 6/7:30PM.
29	30 FKC GBB @ top 2 seeds 6/7:30PM.	FKC BBB @ top 2 seeds 6/7:30PM.				