

Treynor Community School

"COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE"

NEWSLETTER



February, 2015

"District Details" ... a few notes from Superintendent Elwood

2015-16 School Calendar

As the 2015 legislative session gets underway, the news out of Des Moines has focused on school start dates and funding for education. Iowa Code currently states schools cannot begin prior to the week of September 1 unless the local Board of Education requests a waiver from the Department of Education. For years, this has been the standard procedure and 99% of schools each year apply and receive the waiver. However, this year Governor Branstad (along with support of the state tourism industry) has indicated that the Department of Education should no longer grant waivers and require schools to begin the week of September 1.



School start date for 2015-16 hinges on Iowa legislature's decision.

Special points of interest:

- ✓ Early start waivers may no longer be granted by the Department of Education.
- ✓ The school calendar will not be set until the legislature makes a decision.
- ✓ Large group speech is sending eleven groups to state contest.
- ✓ Speech State Large Group Contest will be held on Feb. 7 at West Des Moines Valley High School!

At Treynor, after years of tweaking our calendar and determining what works for the majority of our local families, we traditionally start around mid-August and dismiss prior to Memorial Day. For the 2015-16 school year, if we follow our traditional calendar, school will begin around August 20 and dismiss around May 20. However, if required by the State to begin per Iowa Code, it is likely we will begin around September 1 and dismiss about June 3.

The current issue in front of legislators is who is best positioned to make decisions about the school start date? Should your local school start date be set by a district's local Board of Education or should it be regulated by the Governor and/or those promoting the Iowa State Fair?

Unfortunately, the 2015-16 Treynor school calendar will not be set until the legislature makes a decision on this issue. Many legislators are interested in hearing the opinion of their constituents. If you have an opinion on this topic, feel free to share your thoughts with the legislators which represent the Treynor School District:

Representative Greg Forristall
Senator Tom Shipley

Greg.Forristall@legis.iowa.gov
Tom.Shipley@legis.iowa.gov

Another Successful Speech Season Underway....

The Treynor speech program continues to flourish under the direction of new head speech coach, Lori Burton. This year we have over 60 students participating in large group and individual speech. Due to the continued growth and hard work of our students and coaches, the expectations are once again set high for our thespians. District Large Group was held at Audubon High School on January 24. After a day of outstanding performances, 11 groups (totaling 45 students) qualified for State Large Group. The State event will be held on February 7 at West Des Moines Valley High School. Congratulations to Coach Burton, our dedicated assistant coaches, and all the speech students on their success thus far. As Large Group starts to wind down, Individual Speech will be kicking off soon. When you get a chance, stop by one of the upcoming contests to support our speech students.

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SPEECH CONT'D.

February 7	State Large Group	West Des Moines Valley High
February 21	Large Group All-State	Iowa State University
February 28	District Individual Events	Shenandoah High School
March 14	State Individual Events	Nevada High School

Thanks for your continued support of our students, staff and programs.

Go Cardinals!

Mr. Elwood

CABIN FEVER? CATCH A CONCERT!



If you are feeling the winter blues, get out of the house and catch a concert! The high school winter concert will be held on Thursday, February 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium. This concert will feature the high school choir, concert band, jazz choir and jazz band.

The Pops Concert is scheduled for Thursday, March 12th beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the west gym. This will include a meal along with small groups, jazz choir and jazz band. Get out of the house and support the arts!

CAUTION: Changes in weather arriving soon...

As the weather begins to change, school cancellations and early dismissals can occur at anytime. If severe weather causes school to be cancelled prior to the start of the day, we will try to have information to the media by 6:30 a.m. In addition to our school website, the media outlets that will carry our announcements this year are: **KMA, WOWT, KMTV and KETV.**



If weather or unforeseen circumstances (loss of power or water) should occur during the day and school is dismissed early, **PLEASE HAVE A PLAN IN PLACE WITH YOUR CHILD.** When early dismissals occur during the day, we usually have limited time to get information out and many parents aren't aware that an early out has taken place. Also, we have over 750 students in the district and only a couple of phone lines in each building. Don't assume that your child will be able to call you if a decision is made to dismiss school during the regular day. Have a plan in place! The elementary has forms for each parent to keep updated outlining your family's specific plan to deal with this type of situation. Parents of middle school and high school students need to discuss with their child what plan of action they will take in the event of an early dismissal during the school day. Proper planning now will provide assurance to you and your child that all will be okay should we ever have an unforeseen early dismissal.

A new Parent Notification system has been purchased to allow Treynor school officials to communicate school cancellations, early dismissals, emergency information, activity schedule changes and general notices or announcements to parents in a timely and efficient manner. Parents have the ability to sign up and select multiple methods for receiving notifications from the school (direct phone calls with recorded voice messages, text messages, emails, text-to-speech, TTY, Facebook, Twitter and RSS). Check the website for updates regarding this new service and sign up on the webpage by clicking on "Quick Links" and then "Notifications".

FROM THE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Another month in the books! Our students continue to perform at very high levels and have enjoyed many different activities including the second round of FAST testing, Kindergarten Muffins for Mom, Cardinal Branch Bank, Lunch with Mr. Larsen, Junior Dance Camp, Invention Convention, Olweus Bullying Prevention Program Kickoff with Josh Dreaan, our second Accelerated Reading Cardinal Cart of the year and Omaha Storm Chasers assembly.

February proves to be very busy as well with our classroom Valentine's parties as the highlight. February 6th marks the date for our Jump Rope for Heart Kickoff assembly. Finally, we have our last Box Tops for Education submission on February 21st, so please send those to school with your children as soon as possible.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have questions, comments or concerns on happenings here at the elementary school!

Mr. Larsen, Principal

UPCOMING ELEMENTARY EVENTS

- February 3 Cardinal Branch Bank 9:00—11:00 a.m.
Stock Market Game @ 3:30 p.m.
- February 4 Progress Reports Sent Home
1:00 Early Dismissal—Teacher Inservice
- February 6 Jump Rope for Heart Kickoff Assembly
- February 12 2nd Grade Pott. Co. Conservation Program
- February 13 Classroom Valentine's Parties @ 2:15 p.m.
- February 16 No School/Teacher Inservice
- February 27 Jump Rope for Heart event



ST. PAUL PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION



St. Paul Lutheran Preschool enrollment forms are posted on our website www.stpaultreynor.org. Applications are open to the general public starting January 31, 2015. Priority will be given to contracted Extended Preschool students.

If you have any questions, please call or email us at 712-487-3960 or preschool05@frontiernet.net.

OPEN ENROLLMENT DEADLINE

Parents/guardians considering the use of the open enrollment option to enroll their child/children in another public school district in the state of Iowa should be aware of the following dates:

March 1, 2015: the last date for regular open enrollment requests for the 2015-2016 school year, except for "good cause" reasons or kindergarten applications.

Kindergarten applications must be filed on or before September 1 of the school year in which open enrollment is requested. (September 1, 2015 for the 2015-2016 school year).

For further details, contact the school Superintendent's office at 712-487-3414.

THOUGHTS FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL.....

MR. NAVARA

As a high school principal, you receive many professional publications to read and derive some understanding regarding education. After reading an article in one of those publications, I began to think on how the article relates to Treynor High School and our students. The article is titled "Closing the Attitude Gap" published in the January edition of Principal Leadership.



The title "Closing the Attitude Gap" brought forth a question. What is the attitude gap? The author Baruti Kafele defines attitude gap as "the gap between the students who have the will to strive for academic excellence and those who do not." At THS we are fortunate to have a majority of students who strive for academic excellence; however, we cannot overlook those who do not. In continuing with the reading, it asked the question of "how do principals meet the challenge of motivating the unmotivated to have the desire to excel?" This is a question which is always asked not just by principals, but also by teachers. Baruti Kafele stated that "ultimately, the student must want it from within." I agree with that statement. The old saying of "you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink" came to my mind. I also agree with their next finding. Administrators must pay attention to the climate and culture of their schools. The article defined climate and culture as "its' collective attitude." The collective attitude is the "mood (climate) and the lifestyle (culture) of the school." What is the mood and lifestyle that our students are walking into everyday? And how that mood and lifestyle affects the strive for excellence in our building. The article stated the focus on five key areas to ensure a school's climate and culture is conducive to closing the "attitude gap".

1. Environment for Learning

- a. What does the overall learning environment look like at the school and classroom levels?
- b. Is it a true environment of excellence?
- c. 4 essential daily questions should be asked for an understanding of this area.
 - i. What do all students see in their classrooms that is reflective of them?
 - ii. How often do students hear that they are special, great or extraordinary?
 - iii. Do students feel comfortable exhibiting their brilliance without negative consequences and ridicule from their peers?
 - iv. Is learning fun, stimulating and engaging, yet rigorous and relevant?

2. Attitude toward Students

- a. Teachers need to demonstrate to students that they believe in them despite the behaviors that students might exhibit.

3. Relationships with Students

- a. Do teachers know their students beyond their names?
- b. How do students learn, what inspires their learning, what motivates them, their experiences and realities, their challenges and obstacles?
- c. We must genuinely know our students.

4. Compassion for Students

- a. It is important for teachers to demonstrate care, concern and compassion.
- b. However, it is also the students' perception of whether or not teachers care about them.

5. Relevance in Instruction

- a. Students must be able to see themselves both historically and culturally in their lessons.

It is my conclusion that THS does some of these areas well and we have areas in need of growth. It is my job to lead in answering all of these questions. It is a large task, but a task which needs to be addressed, studied and worked on at THS. This task is one that challenges us and energizes us to become better. Striving for excellence is not only for the students.

Mr. Tim Navara
High School Principal



Happy Valentine's Day!

The cheerleaders would like to help you encourage someone this Valentine's Day. Carnations or milk chocolate candy bars can be delivered to any student, teacher or staff member at Treynor School on Feb. 13th.

Return one form for each recipient (with payment) to school office by Monday, February 9th. Checks can be made payable to Treynor Cheer.

The cost is \$2.00 for each carnation or candy bar if the order is placed by Feb. 9th

The cost is \$3.00 each for orders received after Feb. 9th.

Name of the person receiving the candy bar(s) or flower(s): _____
First & Last Name *Grade/Teacher*

Number of **carnations** _____ x 2.00 = _____

Number of **candy bars** _____ x 2.00 = _____

Message with Flower(s):

_____ I/We love you! From _____

_____ Happy Valentine's Day! From _____

_____ Friends Forever! From _____

_____ Write your own message: _____

Message on Candy Bar Wrapper(s):

_____ I/We love you! From _____

_____ Happy Val. Day! From _____

_____ Friends Forever! From _____

_____ Write your own message: _____



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Cardinal Financial Literacy Update

Help Young People Learn the Joy of Giving



There's a good chance you've heard of [Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation](#), started by Alexandra "Alex" Scott who - at a very young age - bravely battled her own cancer while raising money by selling lemonade to help other kids who were also fighting the disease. When Alex was just four, she held her first lemonade stand, raising an amazing \$2,000. Touched by her story and determination to help other sick children, people from all over the world began holding their own lemonade stands and donating the proceeds to Alex and her cause. By the time she passed away at the age of 8, Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation had raised more than \$1 million to help find a cure for the disease that took her life.

Alex clearly had a reason for her commitment to help others, but how do parents inspire today's young children to become engaged in charitable giving? Two crucial elements are parental involvement and encouragement. When children see the adults in their lives actively involved in philanthropic causes, it can inspire the children to find their own causes they want to support. And, the sooner they start, the more likely it'll make a lasting impression.

Here are some other steps parents can take to help teach their young children the joy of helping others:

Start young. Begin encouraging philanthropy as soon as your children can grasp the concept. Giving doesn't need to be financial; children can also volunteer their time. Some families encourage giving at a young age by using a piggy bank with three containers - one for saving; one for spending; and, one for sharing.

Make the experience relevant and hands-on. According to Alison Sirkus Brody, Program Officer for The [Women's Foundation of California](#), parents should not only intentionally model philanthropic behavior, they should also give their child an opportunity to experience it. Otherwise, philanthropy remains just another concept that they watch you do.

For example, if your child is an animal lover, consider suggesting that his or her next birthday party support a local animal shelter. All of the children attending can bring supplies for the shelter. Check with the shelter to see if you can bring all of the attendees to visit on the day of the party so everyone gets to see where their gift is going and how it benefits the animals in the shelter. When children can see how their gifts will actually be put to use, it can make a real impact on them.

Establish a structure for giving and make it a regular practice. As mentioned above, some parents encourage their children to divide their allowance into three parts... one-third to save, one-third to spend and one-third to give away. Other parents help their kids identify other giving opportunities - such as birthday parties and/or holidays - where children can offer gifts and/or valuable supplies for a local charity or family in need.

Whichever path you choose, it's important to make it a regular practice. Just as children learn about money by watching their parents, they also learn about philanthropy by observing the adults in their life.



Cardinal Financial Literacy Update

Iowa Economic Concepts Poster Contest

“A Picture is Worth A Thousand Words”

Congratulations to the following 1st and 2nd grade students for being selected as winning and honorable mention students by the Iowa Center for Economic Education:

Emma White – 2nd Grade
 Andyn White – 2nd Grade
 Emma Grashorn – 2nd Grade
 Reese Chapman – 2nd Grade
 LuLu LaScala – 2nd Grade
 Genevieve Deitchler – 2nd Grade
 Grant Karr – 2nd Grade
 Kallie Danker – 2nd Grade
 Lilley Casson – 1st Grade
 Andrew Kalstrup – 1st Grade
 Clare Keiner – 1st Grade
 Lilly Yochum – 1st Grade

Molly Allen – 2nd Grade
 Crew Keller – 2nd Grade
 Ava Kennedy – 2nd Grade
 Bailey Roberts – 2nd Grade
 Bradley Heikes – 2nd Grade
 Zachary Robbins – 2nd Grade
 Camden Hughbanks – 2nd Grade
 Jett Sornson – 1st Grade
 Dane Gutttau – 1st Grade
 Drew Meyers – 1st Grade
 Lance Wasenius – 1st Grade
 Chloe McGreevy – 1st Grade

Posters were created with focus on the economic concepts of scarcity, opportunity cost, and goods & services. Each student received a 2015 calendar with the winning artwork included! Special thanks also to the following teachers for participating in the event:

Mrs. Travis
 Mrs. Finnegan
 Mrs. Vohs

Mrs. Robinson
 Mrs. Larsen
 Mrs. Elwood

February 2015



Happy Valentine's Day!




Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 JH Girls BB @ IKM-M 4:15 JH Wrestling Here 4:15	3 9th Boys BB Griswold Here 4:30 JV/V G & B BB Griswold Here 6:00/7:30	4 1:00 EARLY DISMISSAL TEACHER INSERVICE Progress Reports Sent Out	5 JH G BB Underwood Here 4:15 JH Wrestling @ Riverside 4:15 BB @ Lo-Ma JV G 4:30; G/B Var 6:00/7:30	6 Elem. Jump Rope for Heart 9th B BB Underwood Here 4:30 JV/V G & B BB Underwood Here 6:00/7:30	7 Sectional Wrestling @ 12:00; Pinewood Derby @ Elem; State Large Group Speech @ West Des Moines Valley
8	9 State Jazz Choir JH Girls BB T-C Here 4:15 JH Wrestling @ Griswold 4:15 School Board Meeting	10 9th B BB IKM-M Here 4:30 JV/V G & B BB IKM-M Here 6:00/7:30	11	12 JH Girls BB @ Riverside 4:15 JH Wrestling @ Audubon 4:15 HS Winter Concert 7:30	13 Elem. Valentine Parties @ 2:15 9th Boys BB @ Atlantic 4:30 JV/Var Boys BB @ Atlantic 6:00/7:30	14 District Wrestling @ 12:00 
15	16 NO SCHOOL TEACHER INSERVICE JH G BB Griswold Here 4:15 HS G/B Track Practice Begins	17 District Jazz Band @ Audubon; JH Wrestling @ T-C 4:15; Girls Regional BB Here @ 6:15	18 Fill Out the FAFSA Day Here 10:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m.	19 JH Girls BB @ AHST 4:15 State Wrestling in Des Moines Boys District Basketball	20 State Wrestling in Des Moines Girls Regional Basketball @ IKM-M 7:00	21 Large Group All State Speech @ Ames
22 St. Paul's Chili Cook-off in MS Commons 11:30—12:45	23 JH Girls BB Audubon Here 4:15 Girls Regional Basketball @ Stuart 7:00	24 Boys District Basketball	25	26 Contest Speech Community Night in Auditorium	27 Elementary Jump Rope for Heart	28 District Individual Speech @ Shenandoah Boys Sub-State Basketball

March 2015



Happy St. Patrick's Day!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Girls State Basketball in Des Moines	3 Girls State Basketball in Des Moines	4 1:00 Early Dismissal— Teacher Inservice Girls State Basketball	5 Girls State Basketball in Des Moines JTW Elem. Night of the Arts @ 6:30	6 Girls State Basketball in Des Moines	7 Girls State Basketball in Des Moines
8	9 Boys State Basketball in Des Moines	10 Elem/JH Honor Choir Boys State Basketball in Des Moines	11 Boys State Basketball in Des Moines	12 Jazz Choir Showcase @ IWCC Boys State Basketball in Des Moines Pops Concert @ 5:30	13 End of Quarter Boys State Basketball in Des Moines	14
15	16 Bloodmobile Here in East Gym @ 8:00—2:00 G & B Golf & Boys Soccer Practices Begin	17 2:00  DISMISSAL Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:00—8:00	18 Quiz Bowl @ Griswold 1:00	19 5th Gr. Woodmen Speech Contest 2:00 DISMISSAL P-T Conferences 4:00—8:00	20 NO SCHOOL	21 Prom
22	23 Iowa Assessments JH Honor Band & HS Inst. Fest Here @ 12:30 Girls Soccer Practice Begins	24	25	26	27 → WIC Weightlifting Championships @ Mo Valley 4:30	28
29	30 All State Individual Speech @ UNI in Cedar Falls	31 Iowa Jazz Championships @ Des Moines 2nd & 3rd Grade Concert @ 7:00				



TREYNOR COMMUNITY SCHOOL

February, 2015 Breakfast & Lunch Menus



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 Juice or Fruit (1/2 c. required) Choice of Cereal Granola Bar	3 Juice or Fruit WG French Toast Sticks w/Syrup	4 Juice or Fruit Choice of Cereal NutriGrain Bar	5 Juice or Fruit WG Breakfast Square	6 Juice or Fruit Choice of Cereal Toast
Chicken Wrap Romaine Lettuce Tomato—Cheese Carrots Applesauce (6-12 Salad Bar)	Walking Taco WG Corn Chips Mexican Corn Cake Applesauce (4-12 Salad Bar)	Chicken Stir Fry Chicken Shapes K-5 Green Beans K-5 Bread Stick Pineapple/Oranges (4-12 Salad Bar)	Sloppy Joe on Bun French Fries Corn Cinnamon Apples Brownie (4-12 Salad Bar)	Hot Dog on Bun Whole Grain Chips Baked Beans Fresh Veggies Pears (No Second Choice)
9 Juice or Fruit (1/2 cup required) Choice of Cereal Granola Bar	10 Juice or Fruit Whole Grain Breakfast Bagel	11 Juice or Fruit Choice of Cereal Poptart Biscuits/Gravy 6-12	12 Juice or Fruit Egg Omelet WG Bagel K-5 WG Toast 6-12	13 Juice or Fruit Choice of Cereal Toast
Beefy Mac Salad Garlic Toast Peaches (6-12 Salad Bar)	Chicken Patty on Bun Peas Potatoes Pears (4-12 Salad Bar)	Beef & Noodles Mashed Potatoes Roasted Cauliflower 9-12 Whole Grain Roll Pineapple/Oranges (4-12 Salad Bar)	Deli Turkey Sandwich Tomato/Lettuce French Fries Yogurt Cup 9-12 Banana (4-12 Salad Bar)	Fiestada Pizza Garden Salad Mixed Veggies Cookie Applesauce (No 2nd Choice)
16 NO SCHOOL	17 Juice or Fruit Whole Grain Pancake Stick Syrup	18 Juice or Fruit Choice of Cereal Toast	19 Juice or Fruit Eggs Sausage Links	20 Juice or Fruit Choice of Cereal NutriGrain Bar
NO SCHOOL	Chicken Shapes Tri Taters Rice Crispy Peaches (4-12 Salad Bar)	Cheese Pizza Steamed Corn Garden Salad Angel Cake Pears (4-12 Salad Bar)	Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes Seasoned Broccoli Applesauce (4-12 Salad Bar)	Hamburger on Bun French Fries Lettuce/Tomato Pineapple/Oranges (2nd Choice—Fish)
23 Juice or Fruit (1/2 c. required) Choice of Cereal Poptart	24 Juice or Fruit Breakfast Pizza	25 Juice or Fruit Choice of Cereal Toast	26 Juice or Fruit WG French Toast Sticks w/Syrup	27 Juice or Fruit Choice of Cereal Granola Bar
Mr. Ribb Tri Tater Carrots Pears (6-12 Salad Bar)	Chicken & Noodles Mashed Potatoes Fresh Veggies Orange Smiles (4-12 Salad Bar)	Stromboli Seasoned Peas Fresh Broccoli Applesauce (4-12 Salad Bar)	Meatball Sub Garden Salad Corn Pineapple (4-12 Salad Bar)	Nachos w/Sauce Whole Grain Corn Chips Green Beans Peaches Brownie (No 2nd Choice)
	(We reserve the right to make changes or substitutions as necessary.)			

Elementary: \$1.20 Breakfast—\$1.95 Lunch; Extra Milk \$0.50

MS-HS: \$1.20 Breakfast—\$2.10 Lunch; Extra Milk \$0.50

Breakfast includes 100% juice or fruit (1/2 cup required) and a milk choice. All lunches include a fruit choice available each day, whole grain bread and buns are served along with a daily milk choice.

It is the policy of Treynor Community School not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, or religion in its' programs, activities or employment practices as required by the Iowa Code Section 216.7 and 216.9. If you have questions or grievances related to compliance with this policy by Treynor Community School, please contact the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, Grimes State Office Building, 400 E. 14th St., Des Moines, IA 50319-1004; phone number 515-281-4121, 800-457-4416; website; <http://www.state.ia.us/government/crc/index.html>.



Trey nor Community School

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POSTAL CUSTOMER

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2014 ELKS HOOP SHOOT WINNERS



Congratulations to the following placewinners in the annual Elks Hoop Shoot Contest held in Mr. Van Winkle's PE classes during the month of December:

		<u>8-9 year olds</u>	<u>10-11 year olds</u>	<u>12-13 year olds</u>
GIRLS	1st Place	Lucy Scott	Keelea Navara	Averie Perdue
	2nd Place	Haley Swanson	Mia Shipley	Mandy Stogdill
BOYS	1st Place	Jared Schwarte	Davin Rucker	Braden Larsen
	2nd Place	Loeck Helvie	Kaden Miller	Sid Schaaf

The first place winner in each age group advanced to the local Elks Hoop Shoot contest held at Wilson Junior High in Council Bluffs on Saturday, Jan. 10th. These students were great representatives of Trey nor Elementary/Middle School—Congratulations!

PARENTS—CHECK LUNCH BALANCES!

Low lunch balance notices are given to students and also emailed to parents. Please make sure your email address in our database is correct in order for you to receive these notices. Students need to maintain a positive balance in their lunch account. If at any time you would like to complete a free and reduced price lunch application, contact the Superintendent's office. If you have any questions regarding your student's lunch account, please contact any of the school offices.