



# Oakland News

## April 2011

Oakland Elementary School  
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### A Message From the Principal

**Facebook Alert:** Oakland teachers have increasingly reported being requested to “friend” students. As they peruse the requests, they have been shocked to see the number of students who, not only have Facebook pages, but who provided full access to their information. Additionally, the teachers reported seeing personal information on various pages. From an early age, Mrs. Oberts and the teachers lay a solid foundation for Internet safety. The teachers were frightened by the significant safety issues surrounding the student pages that reveal where they go to school, their last name, what bus they ride, etc.

The issue is about more than the appropriateness of having a page, the greater concern is for student safety. We believe it is important to share some information with you to help protect your child. I set a timer for 30 minutes tonight to see what I could learn about students in this short amount of time.

- ◆ Of the 14 fifth grade students I observed, only 5 protected their information so it is only shown to “accepted” friends.
- ◆ In 4<sup>th</sup> grade, 15 students with no safety precautions were observed along with 2 third graders.
- ◆ Personal, identifying information such as the school attended, street names, and telephone numbers were easily viewed on some pages.

The purpose of this newsletter item and subsequent mailing to the parents of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders is to bring awareness to parents of the dangers of this type of online behavior.

Facebook’s terms of use require a member be at least 13 years old before creating a social network page. This is due to the lack of good judgment in terms of safety at lower ages and due to the mature content often found there. Some parents are aware of the Facebook pages of their children and the continuation of the page is not a school matter. The purposes of this article are to alert parents who are potentially unaware pages exist for their children and to implore all parents to review the safe content and behaviors of their children while using social network pages. If you are unsure how to access Facebook or have limited computer access, please call me and I will try to help you get connected.

Starting the week of April 25, Internet safety will be the theme of lessons in the LMC through the end of the year. Mrs. O’s intention is to help students develop safe habits as they enter the summer months.

While resource links have been sent in previous newsletters, here are a few new sites to help if needed:

- ◆ <http://facebookforparents.org/>
- ◆ <http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/parent-guide/parent-guide>
- ◆ [http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/family/net\\_safety.html](http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/family/net_safety.html)

*-Mary Kay Scharf*

### Kindergarten Registration

Oakland Kindergarten pre-registration will be Thursday, April 14. Please call the office at 662-4302 to set up an appointment. Your child must be five years old on or before September 1, 2011, to register for the 2011-2012 school year.

For registration you will need to bring the following:

- \* Your child!
- \* Your child’s **certified** birth certificate from the courthouse in the county where your child was born; the hospital birth certificate is not acceptable
- \* 2 proofs of residency (a copy of your lease agreement, or a recent utility bill with your name and address on it)
- \* Physical examination with all required immunizations dated after 8-18-10 due BEFORE the first day of school

### Upcoming Dates to Remember

Month	Date	Event
April	4	McDonald’s McTeacher Night
	6	Spring Picture Orders Due
	11	Yearbook Orders Due
	12	6:30 6th Grade Orientation @ BJHS
	21	Scholastic Book Fair at Oakland
	27	Avanti’s Dine to Donate
May	28	6:00-7:30 PTO Mother/Son Event
	2	NO SCHOOL-School Improvement Day
	3	6:00 5th Grade Music Program
	13	PTO Spring Carnival
	27	New Last Day of School-9:15 dismissal <i>(if no more emergency days used)</i>

**Bloomington District 87**

**Elementary Art Exhibit**

**SPOTLIGHT 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

**April 6-May 1**

**Bloomington Public Library**

## **Cornbelters Tickets**

**Save the date!**



Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup> will be Oakland's night out at the Cornbelters' game! The PTO will be selling box seat tickets for \$10 each; \$2 from each ticket sold will come back to Oakland. Information on purchasing tickets will be coming home soon.



## **HOOT at Home "How Oakland Operates Together"**



In March, Kathy Case, administrator at Hammitt School, presented a "Parenting with Love and Logic" class at Oakland School. Love and Logic supports a consultative parenting style. It helps parents learn to give children control, on their terms, and helps parents learn to build positive relationships with their children. Love and Logic implies children desire firm and friendly adults who set up an atmosphere in the home that increases children's chances for success. Below are some highlights from Mrs. Case's program.

### **STEPS TO RESPONSIBILITY**

**Step One: Give a child a task he/she can handle.**

For best results, have the child describe, in his/her own words, how things will look when the task is finished (i.e. rake leaves, clean up room, etc).

**Step Two: Hope the child "blows it".**

This provides opportunities for the child to have a "real world" learning experience and reduces the temptation for reminders. If the child can have a learning lesson today, it will be the most inexpensive lesson possible. The cost of learning about the real world goes up as time goes on.



**Step Three: Let equal parts of empathy and consequence do the teaching.**

Deliver a strong dose of empathy, BEFORE delivering the consequence. Children need to learn that their mistakes hurt them but that they are also opportunities for growth. This does not happen when adults get angry. When consequences are delivered with anger, a child focuses on the anger instead of their behavior. Empathy needs to be delivered with sincerity (not sarcasm) and with a "one-liner" statement such as "That's so sad", "What a bummer", "What are you planning to do about that?", etc.

**Step Four: Give the same task again.**

This sends the unstated message we learn from our mistakes.

### **HOOT at Home Bonus Ticket**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Try a little Love and Logic in your house. Tell us about your experience below.

Return this portion of the newsletter with your Love and Logic experience for a chance to win a Smoothie King prize.

## Mother/Son Kickball Game & Ice Cream Social



Get ready to play, Oakland boys and moms! It's time for the first Mother/Son event at Oakland! Join us for a kickball game and ice cream social on Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. Sorry dads—this is an event just for your sons and their moms! We could, though, use a few dads to help make the evening a success. If you are interested in helping out during the event, please contact Elana Heinonen at 309-661-8509 or by email at [erheinonen@gmail.com](mailto:erheinonen@gmail.com). If you would be willing to donate ice cream toppings, please contact Elana as well. The event will be held rain or shine!



## Books & Bytes



### ★ It's Not Star Wars...It's "Change Wars!"

Monday, April 18 - Friday, April 22

Who can bring in more change to sponsor next year's award books—the boys or the girls? Each morning, teachers will greet students in the lobby with two containers. One container will be dressed like a girl carnival character, and the other will be decorated like a boy carnival character. Who will raise the most change to help buy new books for Oakland's library? **Let's see!**

### ★ Third Annual Kids-Free "Stop & Shop"

Monday, April 18 3:45 - 5:30 p.m.

Be the first to purchase the latest and greatest book titles! Buzz in and buzz out with the specific books your child needs, or make some surprise selections without your child(ren) present.

### ★ Lunch with a Loved One

Tuesday, April 19 and Wednesday, April 20

Enjoy a "book-nic" with your child during his/her regularly scheduled lunch time. **Bring a blanket, share a meal, and help your child feel extra-special!** A sign-up sheet to reserve your spot will be sent home soon. Each child's "loved one" can pre-order a school meal or bring a sack lunch. The Book Fair will be open for shopping, too!

### ★ Family Book Fair Carnival: Your Ticket to Read!

Thursday, April 22 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Book Fair remains open until 8:00 p.m.

Join us for some carnival-like fun! A balloon twister, magician, free popcorn, estimation stations, and additional activities will make for a **fun family event** you won't want to miss!



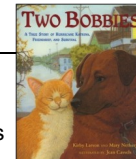
### Oakland School's Award Winning Books for 2011

Throughout the year, students in kindergarten through third grade have enjoyed reading **20 exceptional books** during their visits to the Library Media Center. These books come from the state-wide Monarch Award nominee list. Fourth grade students enjoyed several books read aloud from the state-wide Bluestem Award list, and fifth grade students independently read at least three chapter books from their respective Rebecca Caudill list. Last month, **every child** at Oakland School participated in his/her designated award book election. Here were Oakland's top three choices per award category:



**Kindergarten -  
Grade 3 Results**  
(316 voters total)

<b>Two Bobbies:</b> <i>A True Story of Hurricane Katrina, Friendship, and Survival</i>	54 votes
<b>Help Me, Mr. Mutt:</b> <i>Expert Answers for Dogs with People Problems</i>	36 votes
<b>Keena Ford</b> <i>and the Second Grade Mix-Up</i>	28 votes



Look for the results of the **state-wide elections** for all three awards in next month's newsletter!

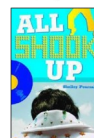


**Grade 4 Results**  
(72 voters total)

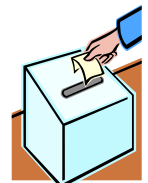
<b>No Talking</b>	16 votes
<b>Hachiko Waits</b>	11 votes
<b>Shredderman</b> <i>Book 1: Secret Identity</i>	9 votes



**Grade 5 Results**  
(70 voters total)

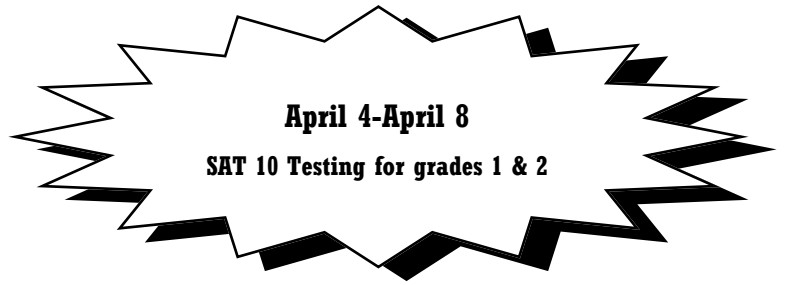


<b>All Shook Up</b>	17 votes
<b>Schooled</b>	7 votes
<b>Tie:</b> <b>Fablehaven   Scarlett</b>	6 votes each



**Oakland Students Choose to Read and Read to Choose!**

# April 2011



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<div style="border: 2px solid yellow; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE CAFETERIA</b></p> <p>After May 1, student meals may no longer be charged.</p> <p>All balances must be paid in full!</p> <p>Please contact Julie at 309-827-6031 X229 with questions or concerns.</p> </div>						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
	<p>Student Council Canned Food Drive All Week</p> <p>5:00-7:00 PTO McTeacher Night</p>	<p>7:00 Band Extravaganza at BHS gym</p>	<p>Spring Picture Orders Due Today</p> <p><i>Look on your proof envelope for easy on-line ordering instructions.</i></p>	<p>6:30 PTO Meeting</p>			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
		<p>6:30 Incoming 6th Grade Orientation at BJHS</p>	<p>8:15 Student Council Meeting</p>	<p>Kindergarten Registration <i>Please call 662-4302 for an appointment</i></p> <p>Scrip Order Deadline</p>	<div style="border: 2px solid yellow; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>Don't forget to visit the 5th Grade Art Show April 6-May 1</b></p> </div>		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
	<p>Change Wars Week</p> <p>3:45-5:30 Kids-Free Stop &amp; Shop</p>	<p>Lunch With a Loved One</p> <p>Kids Shop at Book Fair</p>	<p>Lunch With a Loved One</p> <p>Kids Shop at Book Fair</p>	<p>6:00-7:30 Scholastic Book Fair</p>			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
 <p>Easter Sunday</p>			<p>8:15 Student Council Meeting</p> <p>PTO Avanti's Dine to Donate All Day</p>	<p>6:00-7:30 PTO Mother/ Son Event</p> 			