



# Oakland News

## March 2011

Oakland Elementary School  
Dr. Mary Kay Scharf, Principal  
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[www.district87.org/oakland](http://www.district87.org/oakland)

### A Message From the Principal

#### We Are ISAT Ready

Testing is just days away and your child has been preparing for years to be successful! Please communicate your confidence and encourage best performance. **Please also remember that if a child is pulled out of a class during a testing session, the State of Illinois prohibits later completion of the test session.** This is why it is critical all appointments during this time be avoided. While attendance is important, we all want your child to be healthy and feeling his or her best on test days. If a child must stay home due to illness, there are two days available to make up the test session missed.

#### Parent Participation on School Field Trips

Although we are sometimes limited in the number of parents who can accompany classes on a field trip, we often depend on and appreciate the extra support parent volunteers provide. We also understand what a wonderful time it is for a student to have a parent join them for this type of special event. Please be aware that in order to help the class on a field trip, parents must complete an annual criminal background check in advance. If you plan on attending a field trip this year, please contact the office for the necessary paperwork.

#### New Website

Please check out our new website at [www.district87.org/oakland](http://www.district87.org/oakland). The new pages feature our mascot, Okie. There are a few additions and other improvements we hope you enjoy and find helpful.

#### Consider Honoring a Family Member

A great way to honor a family member or friend is to participate in the Oakland School Book Club. We have a large cart of highly desired books advanced to us from our book vendor. For a \$20 donation, your child or your family can select a book from this cart to donate to our school library. Your child will be the first student to borrow it, and we will also place a book plate in the front cover in recognition of this donation. Families may choose to personalize this information. i.e. "In memory of Grandpa Walston..." or "In honor of Mrs. Smith, outstanding teacher." If you would like to participate, please visit our website or contact the office.

*~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. If you know any families with children who will be eligible for Kindergarten, we would appreciate it if you would pass along this information.

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

March	3	6:30 PTO Meeting
March	7-17	ISAT Testing
March	15	Spring Picture Day
March	15	Barnes & Noble Book Fair
March	18	12:05 Dismissal
March	21-25	Spring Break
April	1	Report cards go home today
April	4	McDonald's McTeacher Night
April	4-8	SAT 10 Testing for Grades 1 & 2
April	7	6:30 PTO Meeting
April	12	6:30 6th Grade Orientation @ BJHS
April	14	Kindergarten Registration
April	21	Scholastic Book Fair at Oakland
April	27	Avanti's Dine to Donate
May	27	New Last Day of School-9:15 dismissal <i>(if no more emergency days used)</i>

## Did You Know?

- ◆ There has been a change to the lunch selections. Effective immediately, the “yogurt” and “Cheez-it” choices will be combined into one choice. When selected, the child will receive 1 yogurt, 1 pack of Cheez-it and 1 string cheese as their entree.
- ◆ On the rare occasion school is canceled due to inclement weather, all school-related activities are also canceled.
- ◆ Electronic devices such as MP3 players, handheld game systems, etc. are not allowed on buses.
- ◆ Our Lost & Found is overflowing! Please encourage your child to look for any missing treasures at this time. The Lost & Found is located in the cafeteria for easy access.



## HOOT at Home “How Oakland Operates Together”



The data has spoken at Oakland School! Through our continued effort to track, analyze, and intervene with common behavioral problems, the HOOT data indicated there has been a significant increase in office referrals for verbal disrespect to teachers and staff. With this knowledge, we would like to offer a few thoughts for home consideration as we continue to focus on kindness and respect at school.

### ***Common Reasons for Talking Back***

1. If a child is talking back, it is important to observe the behavior of the adults in the home. Many children model themselves after the adults they come in contact with on a daily basis.
2. If parents and other adults around the child who is talking back often “give in” to the behavior, the child will use this to his or her advantage. A certain level of control is gained by back talking. Children should grow to learn “no” is no, and they will not always get their way.
3. Children who do not feel they get enough attention from parents may begin to talk back to adults in order to acquire attention – even if it is negative. To a child, negative attention is better than no attention at all.

### ***How to Handle Back Talk***

1. If a child starts to talk back, inform them this action is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Stop the behavior in its tracks by backing up what you say, when you say it.
2. Many children will talk back to an adult to simply get an argument going. If your child does this and continues to engage in the behavior, simply ignore it. When children see the ability to control and manipulate you is not working, the behavior typically subsides.
3. Acknowledge and praise positive behavior in order to see it more often. If you have a child who talks back, be sure to recognize and commend respectful conversation when it occurs.



### HOOT at Home Bonus Ticket

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

Students at Oakland School have been learning about Respect, Responsibility, and Safety through our HOOT process. Complete the following portion of the newsletter and return it to school for a chance for your child to have his or her picture on our newly re-designed webpage? Tell us about a time your child showed RESPECT to his/her family members at home.

## A Well Fed Body Will Perform With a Strong Mind During Testing!

The Week of March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011, we will be featuring a new breakfast menu to be seen in 2011-2012.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Super Scrambled Eggs & Ham Toast* Fruit Milk	Colossal Cheese Omelet Toast* Juice Milk	½ Bagel with cheese Fruit Milk	Twin City Egg & Cheese Muffin* Juice Milk	Café 87 Presents: Assorted Hot Breakfast: 1. Cinnamon Roll 2. Fabulous French Toast Sticks 3. Cinnamon Tastries Fruit Milk
<i>Monday's breakfast is FREE for students in Grades 3-5!</i>	<i>Tuesday's breakfast is FREE for students in Grades K-2!</i>			

\*Denotes a whole grain product

Assorted yogurt (including plain), cereal, whole grain Poptart, and cereal bars are available daily.

Please send your student to dine with us. Special prizes will be given!



## Get Carried Away with a Good Book at the Barnes & Noble Book Fair!

You are invited to a fun evening of reading and shopping at our local Barnes & Noble on Tuesday, March 15 from 4:00 - 9:00 pm. At least 10% of each purchase, including all books, CDs, DVDs, nook™ eReaders, and nook™ accessories will benefit Oakland's Library Media Center! Plan to enjoy a light dinner or dessert at the café, as these purchases also count toward our fundraiser. Select a special book for your child's classroom by browsing the baskets of titles pre-selected by the teacher. Guest readers will be present to share their favorite titles and student artwork will be displayed in the café.



Even if you cannot join in the evening's festivities, you can still participate! Purchases made during store hours (9:00 am - 10:00 pm) on Tuesday, March 15 will count toward our fundraiser. Online orders placed between Wednesday, March 16 and Sunday, March 20 also benefit our Library Media Center. Visit [www.bn.com](http://www.bn.com) and enter **Book Fair ID #10423853** at the time of check out.

The voucher attached to the last page of this newsletter **must be presented** at the time of purchase for a portion of the proceeds to be donated to Oakland's Library Media Center.

**Thank you for your support!**

Make this a two-for-one opportunity to support Oakland Elementary School by pre-purchasing a **Barnes & Noble Scrip card!** Barnes & Noble Scrip Cards in \$10, \$20, \$25, and \$100 amounts are available for purchase in the school office.

**Supplies are limited, so stop in soon!**



## Easter Seals Coin Drive Success!

Due to the overwhelming generosity of Oakland students (and their parents) our Student Council raised over \$950.00 for Easter Seals! The winning class was Mrs. Hiles', which brought in \$109.54. According to Mrs. Stephanie Hagerty, one of the co-chairs for the Easter Seals Telethon, "The money the students raised will be used locally to provide vital therapies for the children, which are only available through Easter Seals. The donations have a direct impact on the lives of local children. Thank you, Oakland students, for earning your wings by being a V.I.P. Angel of Change! We appreciate your support!"



## The S.I.T. Conference ... Savvy, Interested Technologists!

Over 500 students, ranging from grades 3 through 12, gathered at Heartland Community College on February 12 to share their technical expertise at the 11th annual Students Involved with Technology Conference. Over 15 students participated from Oakland Elementary School, and two fifth grade students prepared and delivered an engaging presentation titled, "iWorld's Technology." Pavithra Kannan and Yashasvini Ramkumar investigated the features of several Apple gadgets, including the iPod, iTouch, iPhone, and iPad. When asked about their favorite experiences related to the S.I.T. conference, Yashasvini said, "I liked finding out the details about each gadget, and practicing our presentation was fun." Pavithra was impressed by the organization of the conference; she said, "Everything was set up, and we were ready to learn!" The S.I.T. Conference takes place each year in February, and we hope to have an even greater number of Oakland participants for next year's program, "All Hands on Tech!"



### PTO Dining Out Nights Raise Money—

#### Your Support Adds Up!

November—McTeacher Night  
raised \$162.60

December—Pizza Hut  
raised \$113.25

January—Papa John's card sales  
raised \$644.00—WOW!!!

February 16—Chuck E Cheese  
Raised \$263.80

**TOTAL—\$1,183.65**

#### Upcoming PTO Dining Out Nights

Monday, April 4  
McDonald's McTeacher Night  
Wednesday, April 27  
Avanti's Dine to Donate



### **Calling All Parents!**

The PTO functions with the volunteer efforts of parents for the good of Oakland School. We are looking for dedicated parents to fill available roles within the PTO for the 2011-2012 school year. We also have the opportunity for you to shadow a position that may be opening up for the 2012-2013 school year for a smooth transition.

Please consider donating some of your talents to the PTO in the coming year. Some, but not all, of our vacancies include Vice President, Treasurer, and Fall Fundraiser Chair. We will also need a shadow for our Health & Safety Committee Chair.

We will be taking nominations for positions throughout March and will announce interested parties at our April PTO meeting. Voting for positions will take place at the May PTO meeting.

Please contact Jillyn Rink or Kristie Blakeney at [oaklandpto@gmail.com](mailto:oaklandpto@gmail.com) for further information. Jillyn may be contacted by phone at (309) 662-4635. Kristie may also be reached at (309) 661-9449, if you prefer.

# 2011-2012 SCHOOL CALENDAR



## Bloomington Public Schools, School District 87 School Calendar 2011 - 2012

### August 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	*	*	*	(18)	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### September 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	V	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

### October 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	V	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	+	22
23	24	25	26	27	PTC	29
30	31					

### November 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	V	N	26
27	28	29	30			

### December 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	T	N	N	24
25	N	N	N	N	N	31

### January 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	N	N	N	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	V	S	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### February 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	PTC	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	V	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

### March 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	T	T	T	T	T	10
11	T	T	T	T	T	17
18	19	20	21	22	½	24
25	N	N	N	N	N	31

### April 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	N	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	T	T	26	27	28
29	S					

### May 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	T	E	E	26
27	V	E	E	E		

### June 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Symbol Code	
Institute Days*	+
First Half Day of School	(
Holidays*	V
End of Grading Period	=
Parent Teacher Conference*	PTC
School Improvement Days*	S
Testing	T
1/2 Day of Attendance	½
Last Day of School early dismissal )	)
Emergency Days	E
Non Attendance Day *	N

\* = NO STUDENT ATTENDANCE

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Approved 2-9-2011

**New ISAT Testing Dates are March 7-March 17. Please do not make appointments for your child during these 2 weeks.**

# March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Gabe Williams was mistakenly left off of the High Honor Roll list in last month's newsletter.</p> <p>Sorry, Gabe! Great job!!!</p>		1	2	3 PTO Meeting 6:30 School Special <i>Italian Beef Sandwich</i> <i>This item will be a "regular" on next year's menu.</i>	4	5
6	7 ISAT Testing Week for Grades 3-5  Free breakfast for Grades 3-5 today!	8 Free breakfast for Grades K-2 today! 	9	10 Scrip orders due today, to ensure delivery before Spring Break.	11 <b>Alyssa Capucilli book orders due today</b>	12 
13	14 ISAT Testing Week for Grades 3-5	15 Spring Picture Day Everyone will be photographed. No payment due at this time. 4:00-8:30 pm Barnes & Noble Book Fair 	16 Student Council Meeting 8:15	17	18 Teacher Inservice 1/2 Day 12:05 Dismissal  End of 3rd grading period	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
						
27	28	29	30 Student Council Meeting 8:15	31 School Special <i>Rib Sandwich</i> <i>This item will be a "regular" on next year's menu.</i>	<p>As decided by the elementary Art teachers, this year's art exhibit will only include work by 5th grade students.</p> <p>The 5th grade Art Exhibit will be at the Bloomington Public Library April 6-May 1.</p>	

**SAVE  
THE DATE**

# Barnes & Noble Bookfair

**Tuesday, March 15, 2011**  
**Family Activities from 4:00 – 9:00 pm**

At least 10% of each purchase will benefit  
Oakland's Library Media Center, including all books,  
CDs, DVDs, nook™ eReaders, nook™ accessories,  
and food/beverage items from the café!

If you are unable to make it between 4:00 – 9:00 pm, you can still support Oakland's  
Library Media Center! All purchases you make at  
Barnes & Noble between 9:00 am - 10:00 pm will contribute to our fundraiser.

You **MUST HAVE THE ATTACHED VOUCHER**  
(to the right) in order for  
your purchases to be counted toward  
Oakland Elementary School's fundraiser.



**Barnes & Noble Bookfair**

supporting  
Oakland Elementary  
School's

**Library Media Center**



*Please present this voucher  
prior to making your purchase.*

**Tuesday, March 15**  
**9:00 am – 10:00 pm**  
*Family Activities*  
*from 4:00 – 9:00 pm*

**Barnes & Noble**  
1701 E. Empire (near Schnucks & Toys R Us)

**Bookfair I.D. #10423853**

**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR SUPPORT!**

