



# Oakland News

## May 2011

Oakland Elementary School  
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### A Message From the Principal

#### End of the Year Odds and Ends

If you have put off making a contribution to the Oakland School Book Club, your child could have a wonderful end of the year book selection opportunity! For just \$20, your child may make a selection from a highly desired collection of books and your family can personalize the book plate placed inside the new book. In the fall, your child will have the opportunity to be the first person to check the book out of the library.

Thank you for the many positive comments regarding the Facebook message from last month. We are encouraged by how many parents indicated their eyes were somewhat opened by the information it contained. A parent-child media agreement is attached to this newsletter. We included it to help guide your family discussion on this topic. It is for home use only and does not need to be returned to school. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Speaking of Facebook, our Oakland PTO has a Facebook page they are using for communication related to school events. If you are a Facebook user, the PTO invites you to "friend" the site to be in the loop about upcoming events and opportunities. You can find the page directly at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bloomington-IL/Oakland-Elementary-PTO/191879040834781> or simply search Oakland Elementary PTO.

Our school-wide data repeatedly demonstrates regression in reading fluency each August. We hope you will act as partners in our effort to prevent any loss of skills this year. The KEY to maintaining skills until school begins is continued minutes of sustained reading. Your child could participate in a formal program or create a system for maintaining reading minutes over the summer. Summer reading opportunities are numerous including the Bloomington Public Library Summer Reading Program. The Bookmobile visits many of our neighborhoods as well. When travelling by car, carry a basket with a variety of reading materials including magazines, books, comic books, and journals for reading responses or creative writing. The variety may introduce your child to a new genre of reading and will hopefully motivate continued interest.

In July, you will receive school registration papers. Please complete and return the paperwork as soon as you receive them. Because there is a delayed due date, parents often put the papers away for later completion. Since summer is a time we are typically out of our routines, many families misplace or forget to send the information. We will appreciate your assistance in getting 100% return before the deadline of July 29!

If you have moved out of the Oakland School area, please let the office know and be sure to register at the new school. If you wish to submit a request to attend Oakland on an in-district transfer, this request must be made at our central administration office at 300 E. Monroe Street on or after June 1. Students must be registered at their home school for this consideration to be made; the decision on the transfer is made the afternoon of the first day of school and is based on space availability.

Thank you for supporting the learning of your children by supporting the teachers and staff, participating in activities, and being your child's first and most important teacher. Have a wonderful, safe summer.

-Mary Kay Scharf

We value the time and effort every person commits to Oakland School!

To show our gratitude, you are cordially invited to a

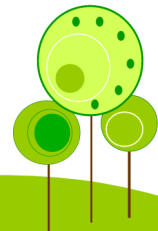
**Volunteer  
Appreciation  
Reception!**



**Date:**  
**Thursday, May 5**  
**Time: 6:00 pm**

**Sponsored by  
Oakland  
Teachers  
& Staff**

**Place:**  
**Oakland  
LMC**



*Children just walk in and eat.  
No paperwork!*



**District 87 sponsors the Summer Food Service Program and offers free meals to ANYONE 18 or under at the following sites:**

Location	Dates of Operation	Breakfast	Lunch	Exceptions
Boys & Girls Club 1615 W. Illinois Bloomington	June 6 through August 12, weekdays	9:00 to 9:30 a.m.	12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	Closed July 4th
Irving School 602 W. Jackson Bloomington	June 6 through August 5, weekdays		12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	Closed July 4th
Second Presbyterian Church 313 N. East St. Bloomington	June 6 through August 5, weekdays		11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Closed July 4th
Sheridan School 1403 W. Walnut Bloomington	June 6 through August 5, weekdays	8:30 to 9:00 a.m.	12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	Closed July 4th
<b>Schools open for breakfast during summer educational programs</b>				
Bloomington Junior High 901 N. Colton Bloomington <i>Summer School</i>	June 6 through July 7, Monday - Thursday	8:30 to 9:00 a.m.		Closed July 4th
Irving School 602 W. Jackson Bloomington <i>Early Start</i>	July 25 through August 11, Monday - Thursday	9:00 to 9:30 a.m.		
Sheridan School 1403 W. Walnut Bloomington <i>Early Start</i>	July 26 through August 11, Monday - Thursday	9:00 to 9:30 a.m.		The first day of the program is Tuesday, July 26th.

If you have any questions, please call Kate at 309-826-6031, x227.

*The Summer Food Service Program is available to all eligible children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. Any person who feels he or she has been discriminated against in any USDA-related activity should write immediately to:*

*USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.*

## Teacher Appreciation Week

*Recycled Article!*

We like to refer to this special week as Staff Appreciation Week...what we do at Oakland School is the result of continuous teamwork by all of the caring professionals who work here.

- The teachers and staff members selflessly contribute their own time to help plan or implement events such as the Multicultural Fair and Health Fair. They attend, without requirement, a significant number of events such as McDonald's Spirit Night, Book Fairs, Chuck E. Cheese Night, Cub Scout Events, band and orchestra concerts, and Parks and Recreation activities.
- In addition, they often attend the special events of former students.
- Without doubt, the staff members at Oakland School work more after-hours than in any school I have served.
- I am continuously touched by the generosity of the people in our school who, with their own money and resources, provide school supplies, coats and other clothing items, and even food for families...just to name a few.
- Teachers often give up their own time to assist students with organization, make-up work, and extra instruction.

It is my honor to work with this group of caring professionals. Every day they demonstrate their commitment to building positive relationships with students and families and to making sure children have what they need to be successful in school.

Please join me in recognizing these efforts during our Staff Appreciation Week, May 3-6. A simple note to our kitchen/lunchroom staff, a card to a teacher, or an email to our support staff will let them know they are appreciated.

While it is their life's work to teach and keep your children safe, it always feels good to be acknowledged!

# Oakland PTO News

## OPTO Needs Your Help!

Some of our dedicated volunteers are moving on. This leaves the OPTO in great need of what YOU can offer. Rewarding experiences are plentiful with the OPTO. We invite you to contribute to your school as an OPTO volunteer for the 2011–2012 school year. We have open board and committee positions that need to be filled! Inquire with Jillyn Rink, Kristie Blakeney, Dan Bonomo, or Roy Mason.

## Thank You! *Thank You!* Thank You!

As the 2010 – 2011 school year draws to a close, we would like to take the opportunity to thank all of the parents, grandparents, students, teachers, and administrators of the Oakland family who have offered their time and talents to serve each other. Your service is invaluable. Your presence makes a difference in all the lives you've touched.

*Ron & Kristie Blakeney, Monte & Jillyn Rink*

### PTO Dining Out Nights Raise Money! Your Support Adds Up!!!

November—McTeacher Night.....	\$ 162.60
December—Pizza Hut.....	\$ 113.25
January—Papa John's card sales.....	\$ 644.00
February 16—Chuck E. Cheese.....	\$ 263.80
April 4—McTeacher Night.....	\$ 160.17
April 27—Avanti's.....	\$ 181.70
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$1,525.52</b>

### Join us for the Fifth Grade Finale!

Who is invited?

**Family and friends**

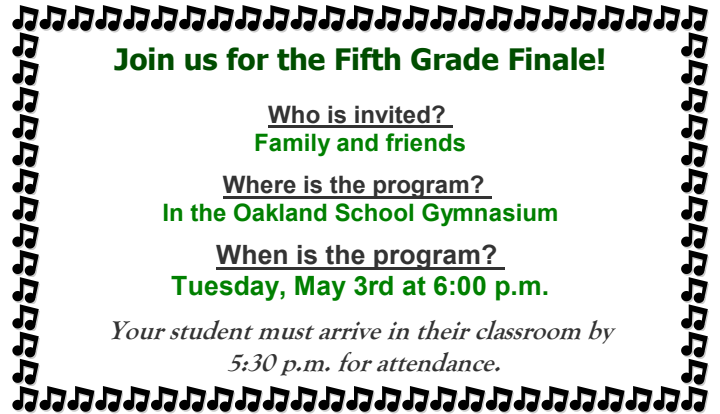
Where is the program?

**In the Oakland School Gymnasium**

When is the program?

**Tuesday, May 3rd at 6:00 p.m.**

*Your student must arrive in their classroom by  
5:30 p.m. for attendance.*



## HOOT at Home

### “How Oakland Operates Together”



HOOT at Oakland School is showing positive results! Our Office Discipline Referrals are down by 15% compared to this time last year. We believe our students are increasingly respectful, responsible, and safe. Don't let summer stop you from continuing to teach these skills at home. Here are a few helpful tips for making sure your child continues to give a “HOOT” at home.

- ◆ Keep your child active – both mentally and physically. Turn off the TV and unplug the video games. Get out to the pool, jump in puddles, read A LOT of books, draw with sidewalk chalk, set up play dates with friends, get plenty of rest, ask questions, listen more, start a journal. These are great ideas for grownups too!
- ◆ Sign up for a sport. Organized sports can teach children discipline, courage, teamwork, self control, and turn taking. They also teach children to have a healthy body image, encourage strength, and helps them learn to take care of their bodies.
- ◆ Volunteer!!! Make time to help others. You will feel great and your child will learn time spent helping those less fortunate is a great way to fill buckets!!
- ◆ Take care of the earth. With your child, choose a park, street, or neighborhood to clean up by removing litter. This joint responsibility will create a lifelong memory for your child. Another idea is to develop a system for improved recycling in your home; children may have more ideas about this than you realize.
- ◆ Conduct a safety audit of your home with your children. Go room to room identifying improvements for safety. Examples include making a house rule to store nothing on the stairs. In the garage, start with readjusting helmets for proper fit.
- ◆ Chore chart. If your children do not have assigned chores, summer is an excellent time to initiate habits of responsibility. Creating charts for self-monitoring increases responsibility.



Relax...Read...Laugh...and have a Wonderful Summer!

## Tar Wars Winner



Congratulations to Hadley H. of Mrs. Hiles' 5th grade class. Hadley is the winner of the Tar Wars 2010-2011 Tobacco-Free Poster Contest! Hadley's winning picture (left) will be made into a billboard. Great job, Hadley!

## Congratulations to our Honor Roll Students!

### High Honor Roll

*High Honor Roll Students are 4th or 5th graders who have maintained straight As during the third nine week grading period.*

Avery C.	Alexa H.	Hannah J.	Macy R.	Katharine S.	Sonali A.	Connor J.
Lilian S.	Kameron W.	Tish Y.	JD A.	Jaziba B.	Blake B.	Clarissa M.
Eva C.	Kylie C.	Hadley H.	Julia H.	Emily K.	Caleb L.	Brylee L.
Zachary H.	Pavithra K.	Kniyah K.	Tenny K.	Lauren L.	Carlos O.	Faith P.
Lamees S.	Aubree A.	Katie C.	Kristi C.	Bailey M.	Yashasvini R.	Katie R.
		Jacqueline R.	Abigail S.	Leila W.		

### Honor Roll

*Honor Roll Students are 4th or 5th graders who have received As and/or Bs during the third nine week grading period.*

Cassie A.	Sean B.	Brooke G.	Alex M.	Grace M.	Molly N.	Jeremy P.
Braden P.	Shelby S.	Brady S.	Leah A.	Sarah C.	Seantaevia J.	Maria L.
Skylar M.	Noah P.	Daisy S.	Makenzie W.	Noele B.	Drew C.	CJ D.
Kumudini D.	Jamie H.	Zoe H.	Ashley O.	Jack P.	Rawan S.	Noah S.
Hannah W.	Rose G.	Justina J.	Brooke M.	Julian M.	Lama S.	Colton S.
Alex W.	Gabe W.	LeeLanda B.	Aidan C.	Sabion C.	Jonathan M.	Paige S.
Natalie S.	Saivishnu C.	Nathan H.	Nick H.	Jacob R.	Destiny V.	

## PTO Carnival \* Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> \* 5:30 - 8:00 \* RAIN OR SHINE!!!

**Don't miss out on all of the excitement! Admission is FREE!**

- \*Inflatables      \*Face painting by the ZooLady      \*Balloon Twisting      \*Sandy Candy      \*DJ**  
**\*Carnival Games      \*Sno Cones      \*Cotton Candy      \*Popcorn      \*Raffle      \*Silent Auction**

- Dinner provided by Famous Dave's! If you sign up to volunteer to help us that night, you will earn one dinner ticket per shift worked—a \$6 value! Contact Jill at [Jillyn.rink@gmail.com](mailto:Jillyn.rink@gmail.com) or 662-4635 or Jane at [Janerupp@yahoo.com](mailto:Janerupp@yahoo.com) to sign up!
- Be sure to check out all of the amazing items that have been donated to our raffle AND silent auction! You won't want to miss out! Watch your backpacks for more information on buying your dinner and raffle tickets in advance.

Hope to see you there!

**Field Trip Schedule**

May 3—3rd grade to ISU Planetarium  
 May 12—4th grade to Weldon Springs  
 May 26—Mrs. K & Ms. Schrift to Miller Park Zoo


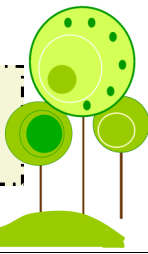








# May 2011

**Moving?** If your child will not be attending Oakland next year, please notify the office as soon as possible.

**Returning Students.** Students who are returning to Oakland in the fall will receive registration packets in the mail mid-July. Please return no later than July 29.

Children will not be officially registered or placed on a class list until the packet is returned.

**Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat**

1 May 2-6 Teacher Appreciation Week Child Nutrition Employee	2 NO SCHOOL School Improvement Day	3  6:00 Fifth Grade Music Finale	4 3:30-4:45 Volleyball Clinic for 4th & 5th Grade Girls	5 3:15 Student Council Meeting & Field Trip to Humane Society  6:30 PTO Meeting	6 Volunteer Reception Thursday, May 5th 6:00 pm in the LMC 	7	
8 	9	10 7:30 String Extravaganza at BHS	11 	12	13 5:30-8:00 PTO Spring Carnival 	14 	
15	16 All LMC Materials Due Back Today	17	18	19 Final Day of Band & Orchestra Practice  Relay for Life During PE Classes	20 11:30-12:30 3rd Grade Portfolio Picnic 	21	
22 	23 <b>Lost &amp; Found</b> Please check out lost and found items in the office and the cafeteria before the end of the year. We have a large variety of items which are unclaimed at this time.		24	25	26 2:15 Teacher 5th Grade Farewell	27 9:15 Dismissal Final Day of School	28
29 	30 <b>IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE CAFETERIA</b> After May 1, student meals may no longer be charged. All balances must be paid in full! Please contact Julie at 309-827-6031 X229 with questions or concerns.		31 Report Cards Mailed Today				

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# Common Sense media agreement for parents and kids grades k-5

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## I will keep myself safe.

- I will not share my password with anyone other than my parents.
- I will not give out any personal information, including my birthday, last name, address, school, picture or phone number.
- I will not upload or download photos or videos or fill out surveys without my parents' permission.
- I will not meet someone in person who I've met online without my parents' permission.
- I will tell my parents or an adult I trust if anything happens online that makes me feel upset, sad or not safe.

## I will be a good digital citizen.

- I will not bully anyone online or on my cell phone by sending pictures, sharing videos, spreading gossip, setting up fake profiles or saying cruel things about people.
- I agree not to use technology to cheat in games or on schoolwork.
- I agree to tell my parents if I see something that is inappropriate.

## I will think first.

- I will make smart decisions about what I watch, play and send, and will ask my parents if I'm not sure what's appropriate.
- If my family has rules about ratings, I will follow them.  
Movies \_\_\_\_\_  
TV \_\_\_\_\_  
Video games \_\_\_\_\_  
Web sites \_\_\_\_\_  
Music \_\_\_\_\_
- I know that not everything I read, hear or see online is true.

## I will keep a healthy balance.

- I will help my parents set time limits that make sense, and then I will follow them.
- I will recognize that my safety is more important to them than anything else.
- I will continue to enjoy the other things — and people — in my life.

## In exchange, my parents agree to:

- Recognize that media is a big part of my life, even if they don't always understand why.
- Before saying "no" talk with me about what worries them and why.
- Talk to me about my interests and help me find stuff that's appropriate and fun.

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Signed by Me

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Signed by my Parents



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