



Oakland News

November 2010

Oakland Elementary School
Dr. Mary Kay Scharf, Principal
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Messages from the Principal

Welcome OKIE!

On Friday, October 8, the Oakland School community participated in an election of our new school mascot. Okie, who was selected in a landslide, was designed by our own art teacher, Mrs. Geggus. The design is simple for clear transfer to clothing and other items. The colored version of Okie will be used on our newsletter, website, stationery, and other print material. The PTO sale of Oakland clothing will begin soon. A teacher committee will also work with our older students to select a student-designed shirt. This shirt will also be available to all students for sale.

HOOT - How Oakland Operates Together

Each month, we share additional information about our school-wide management system. This month copies of the Oakland School behavioral expectations matrix and HOOT flow chart are included. The matrix defines clear expectations for behavior in all settings of the school. The flow chart defines problem behaviors and identifies how each is addressed in our school. Teachers continue to review this information and are committed to continuously improving our efforts to create a safe environment in which children learn.

Parents' Role with Thinking Spot and HOOT Forms

The purpose of sending behavior notes home with students is to communicate incidents of misbehavior that go beyond an appropriate level of frequency or severity. This allows the parent to address the problem with the child and to be clearly informed of concerns. The teacher and the principal have already invested a great deal of time on the situation by the time a note is sent home with a child. Students avoid further consequences when the forms are signed by a parent and returned the next school day. Unfortunately, these forms are often not returned, making a phone call to the parent necessary. Students receive additional consequences when notes are not returned; the teacher or the principal invest even more time; parents are interrupted at work and the problem escalates unnecessarily. Please support the efforts of the school to reduce inappropriate behavior by discussing the content of these forms with your child and by signing the report for your child to return to school on the next day of attendance.

~Mary Kay Scharf

Oakland Oath
Oakland Owls are respectful.
We are responsible.
We are safe.
We give a HOOT!

Lunch at Oakland

Parents are welcome to eat lunch at school with their children. Here are some things to know:

- Please call the office by 9:30 if you wish to purchase a school lunch.
- Parent lunches must be paid for separately from the child's account with cash or check.
- If you bring lunch into the cafeteria, please do not bring soda/pop for your child as it is not permitted at meal times.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

| | | |
|----------|-------|------------------------------|
| November | 3 | 8:15 Student Council Meeting |
| | 4 | 6:30 PTO Meeting |
| | 18 | Family Fun Night & Book Fair |
| | 15-19 | American Education Week |
| | 25-26 | NO SCHOOL—Thanksgiving Break |
| December | 2 | 6:30 PTO Meeting |
| | 22 | End of 2nd Grading Period |
| December | 23 | Winter Break Begins |
| January | 5 | Last day of Winter Break |
| January | 6 | School Resumes |

Holiday Shopping Made Easier With Scrip!

It's time to start thinking about holiday shopping. For those of you with older kids or family far away, what better (and easier) gift than a Scrip gift card to that person's favorite store? Many popular retailers participate in the Scrip program. Why not get your shopping done early and easily AND benefit your Oakland School student by shopping through our Scrip program? A percentage of each purchase goes directly to Oakland PTO to help fund the many programs and resources that are available to our kids. Also, don't forget that all Bloomington-Normal major grocery stores participate in one way or another in the Scrip program. If you haven't done so in the past, why not try using the Scrip program for all of your holiday meal and baking needs?

Student Council News

The Oakland School 2010-2011 Student Council members are as follows:

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| <i>Abigail S.</i> | <i>Alex M.</i> | <i>Ashley O.</i> | <i>Aubree A.</i> | <i>Avery C.</i> | <i>Brady S.</i> |
| <i>Brooke G.</i> | <i>Brooke M.</i> | <i>Clarissa M.</i> | <i>Colton S.</i> | <i>Daisy S.</i> | <i>Drew C.</i> |
| <i>Emily K.</i> | <i>Eva C.</i> | <i>Faith P.</i> | <i>Grace M.</i> | <i>Grace W.</i> | <i>Hadley H.</i> |
| <i>Hannah J.</i> | <i>Jacqueline R.</i> | <i>Jeremy P.</i> | <i>Justina J.</i> | <i>Katharine S.</i> | <i>Katie R.</i> |
| <i>Kayla H.</i> | <i>Kristi C.</i> | <i>Leila W.</i> | <i>Lexi H.</i> | <i>Maria L.</i> | <i>Mariah P.</i> |
| <i>Molly N.</i> | <i>Nick D.</i> | <i>Nick H.</i> | <i>Noah M.</i> | <i>Pavithra K.</i> | <i>Skyler M.</i> |
| | | <i>Yashasvini R.</i> | <i>Kylie C.</i> | | |

Student Council meetings are scheduled for 8:15 a.m. on the following dates:

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| <i>November 3</i> | <i>November 17</i> | <i>December 1</i> | <i>December 15</i> |
| <i>January 12</i> | <i>January 26</i> | <i>February 9</i> | <i>February 23</i> |
| <i>March 16</i> | <i>March 30</i> | <i>April 13</i> | <i>April 27</i> |

Due to limited supervision, students should not be dropped off until 8:10 a.m. Your cooperation in this safety issue is greatly appreciated.

The Student Council sponsors this year are Miss Carter and Mrs. O'Brian.

Golden Dustpan Award

With an unprecedented response, students at Oakland School have risen to a challenge to take excellent care of their classrooms each day. While teachers have historically encouraged students to clean up after themselves and to place chairs on the desks at the end of the day, the rooms are cleaner each day than ever before. Students are motivated by three Golden Dustpan Awards given each Monday by Mr. Matlock and Mr. Rexroat. A travelling shiny Golden Dustpan Award is given to the cleanest room in each wing. Students show respect for the school environment and to our two custodians who work very hard to keep our school clean and in excellent working order. Keep up the good work!



American Education Week

Parents' Back to School Events

We hope you will join us at Oakland School and visit your child's classroom during American Education Week, November 15-19. Teachers in each grade level designed a range of visitation opportunities for parents during this week. The summary of the visitation schedule below includes dates and times for your advanced planning. More information will be sent home with children in the next 2 weeks. We hope you will make plans to join us!

- Please mark your calendar with the dates from the chart below.
- For planning purposes, some grade levels will request you to RSVP and will send this request home.
- If you plan to eat lunch at school, please call or email your order in advance.
- If you visit during the afternoon, please allow your child to complete the school day.
- Parking should only occur in marked spots and any cars parked in the front circle must be moved by 3:00.
- If you have special parking needs, please call the office in advance of your visit so we can adequately accommodate you.
- Please adhere to the posted days and times. Due to the large number of visitors, we request you not extend your time during this special week.
- We respectfully request siblings not attend this event if it can be avoided.

| | Monday 11/15 | Tuesday 11/16 | Wednesday 11/17 | Thursday 11/18 | Friday 11/19 |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Kindergarten | | | 11:30—12:00 | 11:30—12:00 | 11:30—12:00 |
| 1st Grade | | 10:15-11:15 | 10:15-11:15 | 10:15-11:15 | |
| 2nd Grade | 10:00-11:00 | 10:00-11:00 | 10:00-11:00 | 10:00-11:00 | 10:00-11:00 |
| 3rd Grade | | | | 1:30 –3:00 | |
| 4th Grade | | | | | 1:40-3:15 |
| 5th Grade | | 1:30—3:00 | | | |

Friendly Reminders

- School starts promptly at 9:00 and ends at 3:15. Instruction takes place the entire day! Late arrivals and early dismissals not only disrupt your child's learning, but also the students in the classroom.
- Students go outside for recess everyday when the wind chill is 20 degrees or above. Rain, heavy snow, or an uncleared blacktop are the only exceptions to this rule. Please help your child be prepared for outdoor recess by making sure he or she wears a hat, coat, and mittens on cold days.
- Changes in how a child goes home must be communicated in writing to the teacher. An email is also acceptable, but should be sent by 11:00. When emailing, be sure to include a copy to the office in case a teacher is absent. If no parent contact is made, students will be sent home in the usual manner.

Help Us Stay Healthy

Cold and flu season has arrived early this year. We are asking for your assistance in controlling the spread of illness throughout the school. The Centers for Disease Control have identified the following as flu-like symptoms:

- ~ Sore or achy muscles and joints and/or fatigue
- ~ Cough and/or sneezing, runny or stuffy nose
- ~ Fever of 100 degrees or more or chills
- ~ Sore throat and/or headache
- ~ Runny or stuffy nose
- ~ Vomiting and/or diarrhea

Please keep your child home until all symptoms are gone. Once your child is fever free for 24 hours without medication, they may return to school.



Books & Bytes



It's not too late to contribute to the **photo gallery** kindergarten through third grade students are building in honor of "Cowboy & Octopus!" The book *Cowboy and Octopus*, by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith, features two unlikely friends who experience hilarious adventures.

Please visit <http://bit.ly/oaklandbookproject> to learn more about our plans to share Oakland's pictures with author Jon Scieszka and illustrator Lane Smith. Your child can also visit the site to print a **NEW** copy of *Cowboy and Octopus* or **email** the document to a relative. We would enjoy receiving pictures from outside of Illinois, too! All photos should be sent to Mrs. Oberts at oberts@district87.org. Please consider joining in the fun!

Oakland Elementary School's website features a drop-down menu titled, "**For Students.**" Within this menu are hundreds of engaging and valuable resources to reinforce or extend what your child is learning at school. In addition, our school currently offers **four web subscriptions** that can be accessed from home: The BrainPOP® collection, Enchanted Learning®, TumbleBooks™, and TumbleReadables™. Special information related to each product is provided under the title "Directions to Access a Web Subscription from Home." Parental guidance is encouraged while your child accesses the BrainPOP® collection. Each student has been assigned unique user names and a password to access these resources. Please refer to the **green handout** provided during parent-teacher conferences for your child's specific information. Don't delay... click to a new resource today!

IT'S NOT A BIRD...

IT'S NOT A PLANE...



HERE'S TO OUR HEROES!
READING SAVES THE DAY!



...IT'S THE SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR!



NOVEMBER SCHOOL BOOK FAIR HOURS

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Tuesday, November 16 | 3:45 - 5:00 pm - Teacher Preview Party & Hassel-Free Shopping for Parents |
| Wednesday, November 17 | 8:30 am - 4:00 pm - Students shop at pre-assigned times; parents may shop anytime |
| Thursday, November 18 | 8:30 am - 4:00 pm - Students shop at pre-assigned times; parents may shop anytime 6:00 - 8:00 pm - "Family Fun Night" activities from 6:00 - 7:30 pm |

Healthy Harvest Foods: Fall into Colorful Eating Habits

What comes to mind when you think of autumn? More than likely you think of all the oranges, yellows and reds like the beautiful colors of leaves changing in the fall. The next time you head to the local grocery store keep in mind all of the colors of autumn when picking out seasonal fruits and vegetables such as pumpkins, squash, apples, sweet potatoes, and corn. These fruits and vegetables vary in the types and amounts of vitamins and minerals, but one thing is certain that these healthy harvest fruits and vegetables are packed with nutrition!

District 87 encourages you and your children to try some new fruits and vegetables at school as well as in your home this season. Don't forget to go outside, get physically active, and enjoy autumn's cool weather and the beautiful scenery. One great way for you and your family to enjoy all autumn has to offer is visiting a pumpkin patch, farm, or apple orchard! They have great activities for the kids such as corn mazes, pumpkin picking, and hayrides. For more information and a list of pumpkin patch locations near you go to www.pumpkinpatchesandmore.org!



By: Melanie Pavlovic, ISU Dietetic Intern

Oakland School Behavioral Expectations Across All School Settings

Adapted from *Positive Behavior Intervention and Support*



H.O.O.T. "How Oakland Operates Together"

| | Be Respectful | Be Responsible | Be Safe |
|-------------------------|---|--|--|
| All Settings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treat others how you want to be treated. Raise your hand if you have a question. Listen while others speak. Keep hands and feet to self. Use "I" messages and the "Talk It Out" system. Use kind words and actions. Help and share with others. Use good manners (i.e. please, excuse me). Keep voices quiet. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be on time. Be prepared. Be on task. Give your best effort. Follow directions the first time given. Treat materials/equipment carefully. Clean up after self and others. Recycle. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use walking feet. Walk facing forward. Keep "4 on the floor." Push in chairs/stools. Keep all items out of walkways. Stay in assigned locations. |
| Bus Stop and Bus | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay on sidewalks, not in yards. Keep voices quiet on the bus. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel on your assigned bus. Keep items in your backpack. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay on the sidewalk away from the curb. Speak only to people you know. Wait for the driver's signal. Stay seated. Keep the bus aisle clear. Arrive at stop; stay at stop. Exit bus; walk directly home. |
| Arrival Areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grades K – 3: Wait in lobby, at back door, or in cafeteria if assembly has started. Speak softly. Wipe your feet. Remove hats. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter after the 8:45 bell rings unless going to breakfast at 8:30. Grades K – 3: Sit "Oakland Style" in your assigned line. Grades 4 and 5: Walk to your assigned area. Stay seated. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch and listen for teacher directions. Cross Oakland Avenue only at crosswalk with the guard. |
| Assembly | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listen and watch. Participate when asked. Use appropriate applause. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sit in one spot "Oakland Style." Keep items in your backpack. Keep backpack on your back or in your lap. Use bathroom before special assemblies. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch and listen for teacher directions at the end of an assembly. |
| Hallways | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speak only with permission. Wave hello. Yield to others. Wait at "stopping points." | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold pass. Walk with purpose. Admire with eyes, not hands. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay together. Walk on the right side. Maintain personal space. Walk down the steps and up the ramp. Open exterior doors only with teacher permission. |
| Bathrooms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get permission to leave the classroom. Knock on the door. Keep feet on the floor. Speak softly. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quickly go, flush, wash, and leave. Throw trash in the garbage can. Report problems to the teacher. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use soap and water. Keep water in sink. |
| Cafeteria | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use good table manners. Allow anyone to sit near you. Talk when the light is green; become silent when the light is yellow. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay in line. Count five in the serving line. Eat a lot; talk a little. Clean up your area. Stack your tray. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Touch, eat, and enjoy only your own food. Sit on bench. Keep feet on floor. |
| Playground | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include others. Share equipment. Play by the rules. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play in your assigned area. Line up promptly. Candy and toys stay home or in your backpack. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dress for the weather. Use equipment properly. What's on the ground stays on the ground. Report injuries and unresolved conflicts to a supervisor. |
| Nurse and Office | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wait patiently and quietly. Use good manners (i.e. please, excuse me). Mind only your own business. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Go straight to location. Take no detours. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sign in and out. |
| Dismissal Areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speak softly. Stay on the sidewalk away from the curb. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay seated "Oakland Style" in lines until called to your bus/car. Keep items in your backpack. Keep backpack on your back or in your lap. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow Student Patrol directions. Walk bikes on sidewalks. Cross Oakland Avenue only at crosswalk with the guard. |

OAKLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

H.O.O.T. Process

Prepare students.
Pre-correct potential misbehaviors.

Observe and identify problem behavior.

Is the behavior
teacher
or office
managed?

Teacher Managed

Office Managed

Verbal Reminder

Referring teacher
completes Office
Referral Form and
sends the form to
the office with the

Visual Cue

Remind student of
appropriate
behavior in this
situation and of

Student completes
self-assessment
form.

Vicinity Change

Student completes
self-assessment in

Administrative
action.

Did the
behavior

YES

NO

Acknowledge
correct
behaviors.

Vacate
Office
referral.

Administration
follows up with
referring teacher.

Teacher Managed

Inappropriate Verbal or Body Language:

Disruptive language not suited for school.

Inappropriate Physical Contact:

Not keeping hands, feet, objects, etc. to self.

Non-Compliant:

Not following directions or routine. Pattern of not completing assignments or not being prepared for class.

Property Misuse:

Not handling the property of school or others in a protective way for its intended use or within school rules (i.e. phone in bag turned off).

Teasing:

Insensitive remarks or behaviors that result in hurt feelings.

Dress Code:

Not following handbook guidelines for respectful dress at school.

Unexcused Tardy:

Arriving in classroom after the 9:00 am bell without acceptable reason (see handbook).

Dishonesty:

Exhibiting a deliberate act of hiding or changing the truth.

Cheating:

Copying answers, using inappropriate resources, or submitting the work of others.

Unsafe Behavior:

Activity that could result in harm to self or others.

Office Managed

Profanity:

Use of obscene or abusive language toward another.

Physical Aggression:

Intentional use of force against another including physical contact and throwing or shoving for the purpose of harm.

Defiance:

Intentionally ignoring staff directive or knowingly breaking a major school rule after redirection.

Harassment:

Verbal, physical, or cyber-related behaviors (including racial/ethnic/gender comments) which result in upsetting, embarrassing, or harming another.

Bullying:

Extreme or repeated behavior intended to harm or intimidate another to get them to do something or make them feel uncomfortable or excluded.

Vandalism:

Intentional destruction of property of others causing financial loss.

Stealing:



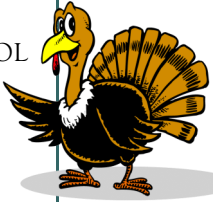
Intentional taking of another person's property without permission.

Weapons:

Possession of a real or replica knife, gun, ammunition, or anything associated with causing

The United Way Coin Drive raised approximately \$800.00. Thank you to everyone for your generosity!

November 2010

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| | 1 | 2 Election Day  | 3 8:15 am Student Council Meeting | 4 6:30 pm PTO Meeting School Special Spaghetti & Meat Sauce  | 5 | 6 |
| 7 <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i>  | 8 | 9 Dental Clinic Today  | 10 | 11 Picture Retake Day Veteran's Day School <u>IS</u> in session today | 12  | 13 Bergner's Community Day |
| 14 | 15 American Education Week (See page 3 for more information.) | 16  SCHOLASTIC HEROES BOOK FAIR | 17 8:15 am Student Council Meeting | 18 6:00-7:30 pm Family Fun Night 6:00-8:00 pm Book Fair | 19 | 20 |
| 21  | 22 5:00-7:00 pm McDonald's Spirit Night 2507 E. Oakland Ave. (More information to follow at a later date.) | 23 | 24 | 25 NO SCHOOL | 26 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break | 27  |
| 28 | 29 | 30 |  <p>Thank you for Giving a HOOT about our Barnes & NOBLE BOOK Fair!</p> <p>The support and generosity of Oakland's families helped raise over \$1000 in new books for our Library Media Center. Thank you!</p> | | | |