

Oakland News



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Bloomington Public Schools District 87

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Message from Mr. LaFrance

Happy November Oakland families and friends,

Last Sunday, I heard a message on gratefulness. As I reflected on this topic, I thought about situations that arise both at home and at school. For many educators, these feel like similar places at times. In my six years at Oakland and twenty-one years in education, I thought of the many students, families, and staff I have formed relationships with throughout the years. I'm very grateful for the calling of education into my life and for the students and teachers that I get to spend meaningful time with daily, which brings me to the word, *gratitude*. According to Merriam Webster, it is *the state of being grateful*: (Thankful). As we enter into November, what are you thankful for? Can we pause from our busy schedules to take a moment for reflection and think of what you are grateful for?

We are now 10 weeks into school and we have many things we are grateful for at school. Did you know there are only 37 weeks in a school year? Only 27 more weeks to go! Here is a small gratitude letter for November with the acronym of **T-H-A-N-K-S**. (We use these often in education).

- **Time** - The intentional focused time you spend with your children makes a difference! As humans, we all long for a connection. So, be present when you spend time with your children. Have face-to-face conversations. Research shows us that face-to-face conversations are missing in our younger generations, having a negative impact on our relationships. During the intentional moments you spend with your children, work on the soft skills of conversations and be a good listener.
- **Humor** - Humor is healthy. When we laugh at ourselves, we don't take ourselves as seriously. When we laugh with others, humor breaks down barriers, brings us onto common ground, and builds our resilience. "Laughter is the shortest distance between two people." Share a laugh with someone today.
- **Attendance** - The most important thing is to send your kids to school each day, on time, and ready to learn. As a school and as a state, we keep track of our attendance and tardies. This includes excused and unexcused absences. Research shows us that students missing school, arriving late, or leaving early has a direct impact on their learning. When students attend each day, they will succeed in the future. It is also very helpful to keep students in school for the entire day and to schedule any outside appointments or activities after the school day. Thanks for helping to be mindful of our valuable school days.
- **Night Time Routines** - The routines you set at home help when your kids arrive at school in the morning. Sleep matters. Avoid T.V., phones, and other electronic distractions. Keep a consistent bedtime when possible.

- **Kindness** - Kindness goes a long way. We are focusing on Kindness at school throughout the month of November. Will you join us? Really, every month should be focused on kindness, but we are just being very intentional and discussing its importance throughout this month. Choose kind!
- **Support** - In what ways can you support our school when you can't make it in during the day? During November, we have our Book Fair and Family Fun Night. Come out for one of these events! We will have plenty of fun activities planned. If you are available during the day, come on in for lunch. We offer lunch for any family and would love to have you connect with your child and their friends. If you ever need any support or have questions, you can always call or make an appointment to come in to talk with our teachers or with me.

Happy November everyone!

Thanks,

Mr. LaFrance

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District 87 Communication Grid

DISTRICT 87 COMMUNICATION GRID

**Looking for the recommended tools to connect and collaborate with the people in District 87?
 This grid maps out the most productive and secure ways to communicate about school-related topics.**

TO → FROM ↓	Teachers/ Staff	Principals	Students	Parents/ Guardians	Community Members	D87 Leaders
Parents/ Guardians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skyward Message Center • Email • Phone calls • Remind.com • Meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email • Phone call • Meetings 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Teacher Organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D87 social media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email • Phone call • Meeting • School Board meeting
Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D87 Email • Remind.com • Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D87 Email • Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D87 Email 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Board presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D87 Email
Teachers/ Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D87 Email/call • Grade/content level meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D87 Email/call • Meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skyward Message Center • D87 Email • School website • Online backpack • Remind.com 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skyward Message Center • D87 Email • Remind.com • School website • Online backpack • Documents sent home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School website • School Board presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D87 Email/call • Meetings
Principals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D87 Email/call • Meetings • District87.org 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D87 Email/call • Meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skyward Message Center • Skylert • School website • Newsletters • D87 Email • Meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skyward Message Center • Skylert • School website • Newsletters • D87 Email/call • Meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School website • School Board presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D87 Email/call • Meetings
D87 Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District87.org • D87 Email/call • Skylert • Newsletters • Meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District87.org • D87 Email/call • Skylert • Newsletters • Meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District87.org • Skyward Message Center • Skylert • D87 Social Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District87.org • Skyward Message Center • Skylert • Excel Newsletter • D87 Social Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District87.org • School Board Meetings • Excel Newsletter • D87 Social Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D87 Email/call • Meetings

November 2019

Illinois 5Essentials Survey

Dear Parent,

Beginning December 10, students and teachers across Illinois will have an opportunity to participate in the eighth annual statewide Illinois 5Essentials Survey. This survey is designed to generate a detailed picture of the inner workings of your child's school. As a parent, this opportunity will allow you to share your thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness in a survey about your child's school. **The survey that parents can complete is available now.** To take the survey please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/Illinois/> and select the appropriate survey to begin. You may also visit our website for easy access to the survey's link at www.district87.org/oakland.

On behalf of the Illinois State Board of Education, the Illinois 5Essentials Survey will be administered online by UChicago Impact at the University of Chicago. The survey gathers data related to five indicators that can predict important student outcomes, including improved attendance and larger test score gains. These five indicators that affect and predict school success are:

- Effective Leaders
- Collaborative Teachers
- Involved Families
- Supportive Environments
- Ambitious Instruction

Prior research in more than 400 schools has shown that schools that were strong on at least three of these "5Essential" indicators were 10 times more likely to improve student learning gains in math and reading than those that were weak on three or more Essentials.

All teachers and 4th through 12th grade students will be responding to this survey. 5Essentials Reports will be generated for schools if their teachers and/or students meet the response rate threshold of 50 percent. These reports will be sent to schools and districts in April 2020 and will also be included in the State School Report Card.

Additionally, District 87 has chosen to provide the optional Parent Supplement survey. If at least 20 percent of Oakland parents complete this survey, a parent supplement report will also be generated. The parent data will not be reported on the State Report Card.

Your participation in the parent portion of the survey will help us understand the conditions at your child's school and guide improvement. Your identity and survey responses will be kept completely confidential and will never be connected to you or your child.

The Illinois 5Essentials Survey for students and teachers will be conducted December 10, 2019 through February 14, 2020. The Parent Survey Supplement will be conducted from October 24, 2019 through February 14, 2020.

For more information about the Illinois 5Essentials Survey, or to view previous years' Reports, please visit <https://www.5-essentials.org/illinois>. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact 5Essentials Client Services at 1-866-440-1874 or 5essentials@uchicago.edu.

Sincerely,

Mr. LaFrance

Hoot at Home



Our golden ticket target for November is Kindness. We will continue to encourage our students to be bucket fillers by showing kind and caring actions towards themselves and others. You can encourage your child at home to do the same.

Below are some tips on how to promote kindness at home: (adapted from parents.com)

Make helping a family affair- allow your children to assist you in helping others, they will experience firsthand how good it feels to brighten someone's day

Model teamwork and pitching in- perform and assign small chores, in aims to teach your children to take pride in doing their share

Teach respect for the Earth- recycle and don't litter, emphasize the importance of picking up a mess that they did not make

Perform small acts of kindness- show your children the importance of being kind to others without expectations in return

Give thanks- teach your children that a simple expression of appreciation may be what they needed to turn their day around



Nurse's Corner



Attendance Matters: Help your child succeed in school.

Build the Habit of Good Attendance early:

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance.

- Kindergartener eye exams were due October 15th, please turn yours in ASAP.
- Please bring your students' inhalers to school with a medication authorization form signed by a parent/guardian and doctor.
- If your student has a food allergy, make sure to complete a food allergy form.
- Our annual **FREE dental clinic** is scheduled for Thursday, December 5th, at Oakland. Check your student's book bag for the dental form, they were sent home last week. Please complete the form and return it to school if you want your child to have a dental exam at school.
- All kindergartners and second graders are required to turn in a dental exam to school nurse by May 15th, 2020.
- Students who have a fever of 100 degrees or above, diarrhea, a contagious rash or illness, or vomiting should not attend school. They should be free of illness or fever for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Be as specific as possible when you call your student in sick please. We have a student that is very immunosuppressed and we would like to keep our student safe. Please report all illnesses like chicken pox, strep, and fevers to the school office.

If you have, any questions please feel free to call or email me, Nurse Colleen

309-662-4302 or spaniolc@district87.org

Library



Library News

From Mrs. Martin

Fall Scholastic Book Fair

November 12-14

The fall Scholastic Book Fair is this month! Students will shop with their classes on November 12-14th during the school day! View the shopping hours below.

- Tuesday, Nov. 12th: 9:00-3:00 PM
- Wednesday, Nov. 13th: 9:00-3:00 PM
- Thursday, Nov. 14th: 9:00-3:00 PM & 5:00-7:30PM @ Family Fun Night (activities and ice cream sundae bar from 5:30 to 7:30)

Book Celebration Sign Up

Information about Oakland's Book Celebration program has been sent home. Please return the bottom portion if you wish to participate!

Student Council



Student Council

Oakland's Student Council will be holding a food drive to support the Salvation Army Food Pantry during the week of November 11th - 15th. Any non-perishable food item will be accepted; canned vegetables, Ramen noodles, Hamburger Helper and canned meals (ravioli, chili, beef stew, etc.) are the highest priority needs for the food pantry. Students can drop off donated items in Oakland's lobby when they arrive at school that week. Thank you for your support and generosity!

Dine to Donate



Dine to Donate

Tuesday, November 19

Dine to Donate at Monical's on Tuesday, November 19 from 11:00 am to 9:00 pm at all 3 Bloomington-Normal locations.

Hoot Hoot Hurray Café



Hoot Hoot Hurray Café

News

The kitchen is having turkey for lunch on November 26 in honor of Thanksgiving.

Mark Your Calendars



Mark Your Calendars

December

- Dec 2- Mrs. Hiles Class Challenger Field Trip
- Dec 3- Mr. Oberts/Mrs. LaVoie and Mrs. Stanek Challenger Field Trip
- Dec 5- Free dental clinic
- Dec 5- PTO meeting
- Dec 6- 1st grade field trip to BHS
- Dec 9-13- MAP Testing (1st-5th)
- Dec 16-20- Dibels Testing (K-2)
- Dec 19- 4th and 5th grade field trip to ISU
- Dec 21-Jan 3- Winter Break

November Calendar

November 2019




Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 No School – School Improvement Day	2
3 Daylight Savings- fall back 1 hour!	4	5	6	7 6:30- PTO meeting	8	9
10	11  Veterans Day Wear red, white, and blue to celebrate Veteran's Day	12 BOOK FAIR 9:00-3:00	13 BOOK FAIR 9:00-3:00	14 Family Literacy/Book Fair Night BOOK FAIR 9:00-3:00 5:00-7:00	15	16
17	18	19 Picture re-take day  Monical's Dine to Donate	20	21	22 MID-State Reading Council's Carnival of Reading from 6:00- 8:00 pm	23
24	25	26	27 NO SCHOOL	28 NO SCHOOL Happy Thanksgiving!	29 NO SCHOOL	30

MID-State Reading Council's Carnival of Reading

Come ONE,

Come all

TO THE MAIN EVENT OF THE YEAR

MID-State
Reading Council's
Carnival
of
Reading

Under the **BIG TOP** WITH Illinois Author
Amy Logan

Friday, November 22, 2019

FREE Family Event! | Oakland Elementary School
POPCORN! BOOK WALK! | 1605 E. Oakland Ave.,
BALLOONS! | Bloomington 6-8 pm

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Figure 1 MID-State Reading Council's Carnival of Reading

FREE Family Event!!! Popcorn, book walk, and balloons!!

Where: Oakland Elementary School

When: Friday, November 22 from 6-8 pm.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

November School Lunch Menu

LUNCH

Elementary Menu

Online Menu: <https://district87.nutrislice.com/>

Follow Us:
 Twitter: @District_87
 Instagram: @District_87
 Facebook: District 87

Nutrition Tip: Snacks can play an important role in meeting kids' nutrient needs. Choosing foods from all of the food groups will give them the energy they need between meals.

Reference: Eat Right

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
					
	4 Cheeseburger Potato Wedges Fruit Milk	5 Lasagna Tossed Salad Garlic Knot Fruit Milk	6 Hot Dog on Bun Baked Beans Fruit Milk	7 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes Fruit Milk	8 Cheese Stuffed Breadstick Marinara Cup Brownie Other Vegetable Fruit Milk
	11 Rib BQ on Bun Broccoli w/ Cheese Fruit Milk	12 Orange Chicken w/ Rice Edamame Fortune Cookie Fruit Milk	13 Nachos Salsa Starchy Vegetable Cheese Cup Fruit Milk	14 Chicken Tenders Sweet Taters Animal Crackers Fruit Milk	15 French Toast Sticks Tri-tators F&V Slush Syrup Pancake Cup Fruit Milk
	18 Breaded Drumstick Potato Smiles Biscuit Fruit Milk	19 Soft Shell Taco Taco Fiesta Beans Shredded Cheddar Salsa Fruit Milk	20 Mini Corn Dogs Green Beans Fruit Milk	21 Breaded Chicken on Bun Sun Chips Mix Parmesan Flavored California Blend Fruit Milk	22 Cheese Pizza Romaine Lettuce Cup Snickerdoodles Fruit Milk
	25 Cheeseburger Potato Wedges Fruit Milk	26 Lasagna Tossed Salad Garlic Knot Fruit Milk	27 NON ATTENDANCE DAY	28 HOLIDAY	29 NON ATTENDANCE DAY

Figure 2 October 2019 Lunch Menu