

# WILDCAT PRIDE

## March NEWSLETTER



Dear Families:

It is April 1<sup>st</sup> and the end of the year is fast approaching. I said it in a previous newsletter this year and I can't help to say it again. This year seems to be flying by! I attribute it to having a pretty normal school year and things running smoothly in the building with our schedules, routines and consistent staffing.

We do have a couple staffing changes at the elementary level to announce. Miss Neiman (3rd Grade) who has been with us the last 4 years got engaged and will be moving to South Dakota at the end of the school year. Miss Ludwig (4th Grade) joined us this year and will be moving to middle school math with us. Mrs. Pittack, who has been with us quite a while, and in 2nd grade the last 5 years, will be moving to 6th grade with us. Lastly, Miss Smoot who has been with us 5 years and taught Kindergarten, 6th grade and Title I, will move back to the classroom to teach 2nd grade. Replacing Miss Neiman will be Ashely Heisterkamp, coming to us from Columbus Public Schools and the sister of Mrs. Meduna, our special education teacher. Replacing Miss Ludwig will be Allison Lester and coming to us from Omaha Public Schools. Both Miss Lester and Mrs. Heisterkamp are experienced classroom teachers with 2 and 5 years of experience.

### State Testing

The state tests now called NSCAS and administered to students in 3-8th grade is still in a transitional phase. In the past, the state test was a summative assessment (given one time at the end of the year). The state has been working on transitioning to a growth model to show a student's growth throughout the year rather than a one and done summative test.

This year the state is still working on the growth model and working out the kinks in the system. For our school, grades 3-5 will be taking the NSCAS assessments on the new system and platform in March and April. Our testing schedule is at the end of this newsletter. The scores and information gathered from the spring assessments should be the last step of this transitional process and starting next year we should be able to start using the new system and the scores next year will begin to count.

PLEASE look at the attached schedule or check with your child's teacher and do your best to make sure your child is in school on testing days. We are required to test all students and when students are absent on test days, we do need to have make up tests and it is not the easiest thing to accomplish.

### District Testing

We will also be completing our spring AIMS and MAPS testing. Students in all grades complete AIMS testing to track their reading progress. Students in K-5 will take MAPS math and students 3-5 will take MAPS reading. This will be the last time students in grades 3-5 will be taking MAPS. Starting next year the NSCAS Growth should take its place and is good since it will allow us to give one less set of assessments to students in those grade levels. Students in K-2 will continue to take MAPS next year since those grades are not state tested grade levels.

### Conferences

Thank you all for attending Parent Teacher Conferences. In PK-5 we had 97% of our parents attend. This is great to see and much appreciated. I hope you had a chance to visit with your child about what their teacher reported and had a discussion about how to improve or maintain what they are doing in class. Thank you also for stopping in to visit your child's specials teachers. Many of them reported an increase in parents coming to see them. Visiting with as many people as you can about your child no doubt helps you to understand how they act and what they have been working on in all their classes.

Until next month, take care and GO WILDCATS! Mr. Hansen

### Other Information

- \*For transportation issues contact Felicia Rounph.
- \*For Kids First After School Program and Youth Sports, Contact Jeff Beckman
- \*For classroom related behaviors and academics contact your child's teacher.
- \*If you need additional support in one of these areas contact Mr. Hansen.
- \***Track and Field Dates:** Grades 2-5 will be Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> starting at 12:15. Grades PK-1 will be Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> starting at 12:15. For both days, you are free to take your child home when the events are over. PK-1 generally gets over about 2:45 and Grades 2-5 typically lasts until about 3:15.
- \*April 1, 1:30 Early Out
- \*April 14, 1:30 Early Out (NO ASP)
- \*April 15 and April 18 NO SCHOOL
- \*K-2 Music Program Tuesday, May 3 and 3-5 Music Program is Thursday, May 5. Both start at 7:00
- \*May 19, Last Day of School 1:30 Early Out
- \*Summer School June 6 – June 28
- \*Aug 10, the 2022-2023 School Year Begins

### **2022 NSCAS TESTING SCHEDULE**

DATE	TEST	CLASS	TIME	LOCATION
22-Mar	Reading	5th (Fredrickson)	9:00 -10:30	Classroom
23-Mar	Reading	5th (Loch)	9:00 - 10:30	Classroom
29-Mar	Math	5th (Fredrickson)	9:00 - 10:30	Classroom
29-Mar	Reading	4th (Shanahan)	9:00 - 10:30	Classroom
30-Mar	Math	5th (Loch)	9:00-10:30	Classroom
31-Mar	Reading	4th (Ludwig)	9:00- 10:30	Classroom
5-Apr	Math	4th (Shanahan)	9:00 - 10:30	Classroom
6-Apr	Math	4th (Ludwig)	9:00- 10:30	Classroom
7-Apr	Reading	3rd (Brousek)	9:00 - 10:30	Classroom
8-Apr	Reading	3rd (Neiman)	9:00 - 10:30	Classroom
11-Apr	Science	<b>BOTH 5th</b>	9:00-10:30	

12-Apr	Math	3rd (Brousek)	9:00 - 10:30	Classroom
13-Apr	Math	3rd (Neiman)	9:00 - 10:30	Classroom

**GO WILDCATS!**

