WILDCAT PRIDE January NEWSLETTER

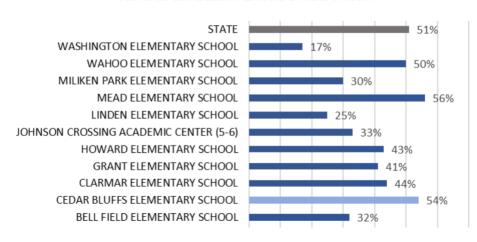
Over the past two years we have made quite a few adjustments at CBPS. We have added many new staff members, reassigned teacher roles, continued to grow our student population, renovated parts of the building, added new construction projects for additional classrooms, implemented new math and reading curriculums, implemented a new K-12 master schedule, increased the amount of daily interventions targeting student needs, created and implemented K-5th grade district common math assessments, created student data collection system, implemented Wildcat PRIDE school-wide behavior expectations, and have increased the amount of teacher professional development in-service days. This is a long list and there is even more that could be included. Most of these changes have revolved around reflecting upon the past and looking to the future and trying to create a system and the structure needed to best support our staff and most importantly support and do what is best for our students. There is always more to do and we will continue to evaluate our systems to identify areas of need and successes to build upon.

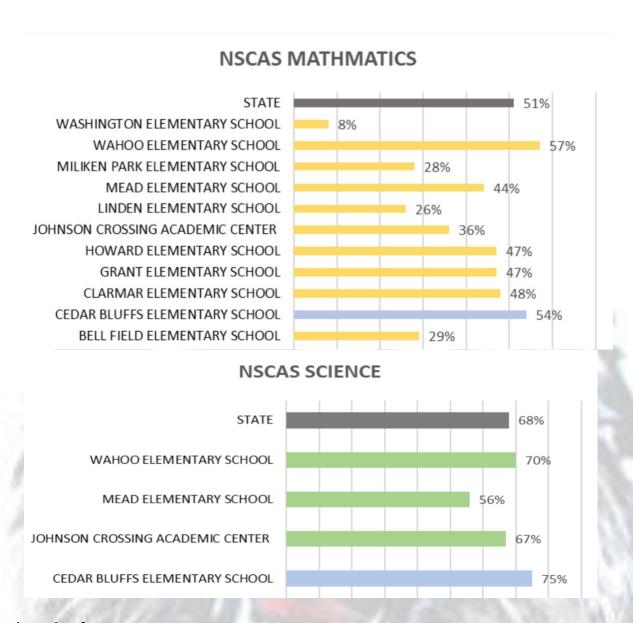
In school, our goal on a daily basis is to create a safe and welcoming environment for our students conducive to the learning process. The above-mentioned changes over the last two years reflect this goal. Our teaching staff has done a great job rolling with changes and give it their all for your children on a daily basis. I am pleased with our staff and our student's effort during my time here and we have some success to celebrate.

On December 21st, the state released their latest education profile for Nebraska schools. Our elementary received a rating of "Great" and did very well on state testing measures in comparison to other schools in the local area. Below are some graphs showing the overall proficiency of our school in English/Language Arts, Math and Science. We did better than the state average in all areas and did very well in comparison to other schools in the area. I wanted to thank our students, their parents and our staff members for their accomplishments. All of us working together towards the common goal of educating and supporting our kids to the best of all our abilities seems to be currently paying off and I look forward to what we can all accomplish together moving forward. It's a great time to be a Cedar Bluffs Wildcat.

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







School Lunch Info:

It was recently brought to my attention there were quite a few comments being posted on social media about school lunch. I personally am not a big fan of most social media platforms and generally do not partake in them as a user. I know I am very alone in this practice and sometimes am out of the social loop, but thought I'd fill some space and share a little about our school lunch.

We are able to offer one main entrée per day for breakfast and for lunch. At lunch, if a student does not want the main choice they can get a turkey and cheese sandwich. Through the year there about 35 different main entrées served on a rotation. Some are served more often and some are served less. There is also generally a main side dish along with the main meal. For example, a hamburger and French fries. Students then also have at least 8-10 choices of items on the salad bar. Common items are house salads, broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, apples, bananas, grapes, oranges, pineapple, cantaloupe, taco salads, various noodle and fruit salads, cottage cheese, and a desert salad of some type are typical daily options. Students can also get white, chocolate, strawberry, or soy milk. All meals meet federal guidelines. On occasion, there are food delivery mistakes, or trucks arrive later than scheduled making our orders not arrive on time, or arrive frozen and substitutions for menu items may replace what the scheduled meal is supposed to be. These situations are unfortunate and often beyond the cafeterias control. Overall, students have about 12-14 options of various foods to pick from at lunch daily. I eat it daily and am always pleased with the quality and selection.

REMINDERS

- * NO SCHOOL ON FEBRUARY 22nd.
- *Kindergarten and Preschool Round Up are taking place during the day Feb 22nd. Informational letters and timeframes were sent home a couple weeks ago. Contact Miss Jordyn in the office with questions, or for more details. If you cannot make it on the 22nd you may schedule a time the evening of March 5th from 5-7 p.m.
- *Parent Teacher Conferences are March 12-13th from 4-7 p.m.
- *Absences whether excused, or unexcused are counted towards missed school days. We are required to report to the county at 20 absences. We generally send out attendance reminder letters after every 5 absences to keep parents up to date on the total amount your child has missed. If you ever have doctor's notes and proof of an illness or office visit, please give those to Miss Jordyn in the office.

Other Information

- *Fifth Grade is taking part in D.A.R.E. This program is being conducted through Saunders County Sherriff's Department. Students are learning of the dangers of not only drugs and alcohol, but also about bullying, internet and social media safety. This program takes place once per week for one hour and culminates in May with their D.A.R.E graduation.
- *Report Cards are going out quarterly this year. They were first given out at conferences and again after Christmas break. The next ones will be given at the March Parent Teacher Conferences.
- *Please check the district calendar under documents on the school app for future days off.
- *Cold weather and recess: If the air temperature is 15 degrees or warmer we generally go outside for recess. Please send appropriate clothing with your child and pay attention to the forecast. Students may be kept indoors if we are not comfortable with their clothes for the day or if they come without a winter coat.

EVENTS

- *This year we are focusing on Wildcat **PRIDE** (**P**ositivity, **R**espect, Integrity, **D**etermination, **E**mpathy) The characteristic of focus for January was **Empathy**. At the end of the month we will have a PRIDE party and recognize a student from each classroom who exhibited this characteristic. If your child is selected a teacher may contact you and invite you to attend. Our next one will be on Friday, March 1st at 8:30 a.m. in the high school gym.
- *Kindergarten and Preschool Roundup Meetings will take place during the day on Feb 22nd. Call Miss Jordyn in the elementary office for questions and details.
- *There is a schedule teacher in-service day on Feb 22nd and there will be no school for all students that day.
- *Muffins with Mom Feb 21st 7:20-7:55 in the City Auditorium
- *American Legion Fish Fry Friday March 8th starting at 5:00 at the CB American Legion

Notes from Project Lead the Way:

Our elementary students have spent the first semester of the school year discovering ways to think, plan, model and test like engineers!

- Students in Kindergarten designed, created and tested their own paintbrushes. They were challenged to create a brush that was able to make thin lines, thick lines and polka dots.
- Students in 1st Grade designed, created and tested a device that gave both light and sound. They were challenged to make this device using a very limited number of supplies!
- Students in 2nd and 3rd Grade designed, created and tested a device that was able to keep a freeze pop frozen for 30 minutes, while under a heat lamp. Students learned about temperature, conductors, insulators, heating, and cooling.
- Students in 4th and 5th Grade have investigated the human brain and how it reacts when injured. These students have written scripts are creating iMovies to document their learning.

Students have been actively engaged in problem-solving, collaborative thinking and modeling! During the 2nd have of the school year, each grade will solve another design challenge and continue to work through the Engineering Design Process. Photos, videos and additional information regarding Project Lead the Way can be found on the school website or at http://cbpltw.weebly.com/

January PRIDE Award Winners Were:

Kindergarten: Mallory Stenger, Walker Pelo, Kayden Kreikmeir **First Grade**: Tyke Lubker, Aubree Hilker **Second Grade**: Silas Juhl, Blayze Jurgens **Third Grade**: Edward Varejcka, Madison Snyder **Fourth Grade**: Sophia Pico **Fifth Grade**: Jasmine Rush, Avery Ranslem **Sixth Grade**: Paige Flemming, Nash Honeywell

*These students were nominated by a teacher in the building for exhibiting **EMPATHY** throughout the month of January. Congratulations to these students for being leaders in our building and exemplifying what it means to be a Cedar Bluffs WILDCAT.

GO WILDCATS!

