

WILDCAT PRIDE

January NEWSLETTER



Happy February! We made it through the first half of the year and are now back into the full swing of things since winter break. It was a quick month with returning back on the 7th, a teacher in-service day on MLK Day, and a few snow days sprinkled in there as well. Hopefully spring is now closer than farther away.

In regard to snow days, student and staff safety is of course a priority. We will always make a decision based on weather forecasts and anticipated road conditions, as well as driving rural bus routes and highway routes checking on developing conditions. We generally follow a better safe than sorry approach to decision making. We understand the trouble calling off school may cause some families and understand it can be especially frustrating when the weather conditions don't turn out to be as bad as forecasted. We do however transport nearly 300 students on busses and have many teenage drivers traveling down Highway 109, which can become a very treacherous road if not quickly maintained. Putting our kids and drivers in an unsafe situation is not something we want to do and I'm sure everyone understands that.

Also in regard to snow days, in the past we have adjusted the school calendar due to excessive snow days, or having little to no snow days and scheduled days off of school in the spring may have been adjusted. Through our scheduling this year and teacher contracted days we think we have it pretty much figured out that we should not need to add, or take days away in the spring and all days listed as early outs, or days off on the current district calendar from now until May 20th should remain unchanged.

Lastly, I'd like to give an update on our transportation. We currently operate 4 big 65 plus passenger busses, two mini busses and a suburban. Our mini busses and suburban and at least a couple of our big busses are currently operating at, or very near capacity. It is great we can provide so much to so many, but we have unfortunately had to deny some people transportation requests as some buses are at capacity for certain home locations. We hate to do this, but when there is no room, there is no room. Going forward, if you anticipate a need for bussing your best bet is to contact Myk Kuhns as soon as possible and fill out a request form. Routes are re-evaluated twice per year and he does his best to serve as many as possible with our available drivers, vehicles and the time it would take to complete a route.

I know we all here feel like we've seen tremendous growth in kids in their academic performance, as well as their self-confidence, behavior and social emotional awareness. I hope you and your children feel the same way and we have another successful month at Cedar Bluffs Elementary. Go WILDCATS!

Ben Hansen

REMINDERS

* **NO SCHOOL ON FEBRUARY 28th.**

*Kindergarten and Preschool Round Up are taking place during the day **Feb 28th**. 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 28th you are welcome to come the evening of March 2 from 5-7 p.m. during the new student open house. That night will be nothing like the actual round-ups, but you can get a tour and ask questions to staff.

***Parent Teacher Conferences are Tuesday and Wednesday March 17-18 from 4-7 p.m.** Your day and time will be sent home soon. Please plan on attending. There is no school the Friday after conferences on Friday, March 20th.

EVENTS

*This year we are focusing on Wildcat **PRIDE** (Positivity, Respect, Integrity, Determination, Empathy) The characteristic of focus for January was **Determination**. 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 Thursday, February 27th at 8:20 a.m. in the high school gym.

*Kindergarten and Preschool Roundup meetings will take place during the day on Feb 28th. Call Miss Jordyn in the elementary office for questions and details if you did not receive a letter from us.

*There is a scheduled teacher in-service day on Feb 28th and there will be no school for all students that day.

*The first American Legion Fish Fry will be Friday February 28th starting at 5:00 at the CB American Legion. Be there or be square.

*Please visit the school website for athletic dates and times.

Other Information

*Fifth Grade is taking part in D.A.R.E. This program is being conducted through Saunders County Sheriff'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. It seems like we always have a few families calling and wondering why busses don't show up, or we have a handful of kids show up to school on teacher work days. These are all posted on our district calendar, listed in these newsletters and reminders are also often sent out on our automated text and voice service.

*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.

January **PRIDE** Award Winners Were:

Kindergarten: Elizabeth Hansen, Arantza Quintero, Wrigley Novotny **First Grade:** Carter Redding, Ariel Castellanos **Second Grade:** Eli Ostry, Sophia Johnson **Third Grade:** Jack Scheulke, Abigail Ledgerwood **Fourth Grade:** Drake Egger, Dawson Novotny **Fifth Grade:** Peyton Hall **Sixth Grade:** Kelcy Allmendinger

*These students were nominated by a teacher in the building for exhibiting **DETERMINATION** 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!

