

Paton-Churdan Community School

April 2017

Lunch Reminder

April lunch money is now due. Cost of student lunch is \$54 and breakfast is \$33. Reduced prices remain at \$8 for lunch and \$6 for breakfast. We ask that all families pay the first of every month to keep a positive balance in student accounts.



Kindergarten Round-up Time!



Yee-haw! It is that time of year again to roundup all our incoming kindergartners! The date for Kindergarten Round-up is Friday, April 28th. Incoming students will spend their morning having a routin-tootin' good time in the kindergarten room! ☺

If you haven't done so, please call the school office to register your child. Thank you!

Reminder: There will be no school for this years kindergarten class on this day!

Spring Play

Due to student conflicts the play, *16: In 10 Minutes or Less*, has been postponed to next fall. Tentative dates have been set for November 3-4. Many students wanted to be involved in the production, but this is such a busy time for most of them. Due to this, we made the decision to move the play.



Congratulations

to the Paton-Churdan Speech Team on their great season!

We started Large Group meetings for Short Film back in November. After a few mishaps, and students needing to drop the category, we ended on a film idea centered around the game "Guess Who?". The group consisted of sophomores Megan Carey, Briana Jewett, Carter Meseck, Eric Sabus, Ty Lynn Smith, Mason Sorenson, Eric Thompson, and freshman Kyla Beyers. Our Large Group team also consisted of our Group Improv, which was our returning trio of senior Autumn Gannon, and sophomores Jenna Beyers and Megan Carey. The Large Group speech team attended district speech contest at the Perry school on Saturday, January 21. Group Improv received a two rating at contest and did not advance. Short Film received a one rating and advanced to state at West Des Moines Valley on February 4. At State contest they earned two 2s and a 1 rating for their film.

This was a good year for our individual speech team. We had more students compete this year, trying some new categories. District individual contest was held at ADM on March 4th. The following students competed:

Autumn Gannon performed in Storytelling ("The Gruffalo" by Julia Donaldson) and wrote an Original Oratory ("More Than a Label")

Kyla Beyers performed Poetry ("To This Day" by Shane Koyczan)

Megan Carey performed a humorous Acting piece ("No, Really, It Happened This Way" by Juleen Pappan)

Briana Jewett performed Poetry ("Please Hear What I'm Not Saying" by Cardinal Deardon)

Jack Bryson performed in Spontaneous Speaking ("Is media biased to the left or right?")

Ty Smith performed Poetry ("Worst Poetry" and "Postcards" by Sarah Kay)

Jack, Ty, and Kyla received a two rating for their performances and did not advance. Autumn, Megan, and Briana earned one ratings in their categories and advanced to State contest. This was held at the Johnston high school on March 11. Autumn received three 1 ratings for her Original Oratory, and an overall two rating (two 2s and a 1) for her Storytelling. Megan received an overall 1 rating (two 1s and a 2) for her acting. Briana received an overall 2 rating for her poetry.

All of these students worked very hard this season and I am looking forward to working with them again next season! Congratulations!

(See picture on left.)

Elementary CAPS Recap

Mrs. Towers

All Kindergarten through 5th grade students receive weekly CAPS lessons. CAPS lessons focus on the three domains of a well-rounded school counseling program designed to offer the most benefit to all students-- Careers, Academics, and Personal/Social skills. Below is a reCAP of topics and lessons during March. I often encourage students to take work home and tell their parents about what we are learning in CAPS. I now encourage you to talk to your child about CAPS lessons and find times to incorporate these lessons into your daily interactions.

K- This month we discussed what makes us similar and what makes us different for example we all love pizza, BUT our favorite toppings vary. Then we got to eat M&M's in class as we talked about how the shell color varies, but the insides is the same. Just like we may all look different, but we are the same inside and all have feelings. Finally we discussed how a disability does not mean someone doesn't deserve respect. In a nutshell, this whole month has been about being respectful and caring for others no matter the similarities or differences between each other!

1st- We've also been talking about our similarities and our differences and being kind to each other. We discussed the difference between cotton and sandpaper words or actions. Ask your student what that means! After discussing the words and actions and how they make us feel, we went fishing. Not literally, but learned to avoid the hooks (put downs) thrown at us. We can't control how others act or behave, but we can control how we respond to others. The goal is to avoid hooks and remain FREE fish!

2nd & 3rd- Both 2nd grade and 3rd grade are discussing healthy habits. These habits are based off of Sean Covey's, "7 Habits of Happy Kids". These habits include-- be proactive, begin with the end in mind, 1st things 1st, think win-win, seek 1st to understand then to be understood, synergize and sharpen the saw. Please encourage your student to explain these habits with you!

4th- We've started our digital citizenship unit. We'll be discussing how to stay safe on the internet, the ins and outs of sharing personal information on the internet, how to make sure we are being respectful on the internet, and being conscious of our digital footprint. As adults it is important we show our child how to properly use this powerful resource we have access to. I encourage all parents to play an active role with your child's use of devices and the internet. Make sure they are staying safe!

5th- We are finished up our mindful lessons. Students worked hard to recognize how their body communicates with their brain and how to be sure they are using their whole mind and not just the amygdala to control their actions, perceptions and thoughts. The culminating activity for our mindful lessons was a trip to help in the 3 and up room at the Paton-Churdan Early Learning Center. Students paired up with the younger kids and helped create a craft and then read books. All involved enjoyed the positive interaction! We now are starting our 5th grade transition discussions. Always an exciting time as 5th grade students start to prepare for this upcoming change in their life!

Please take the time to see what your student can tell you about these lessons and incorporate your own lessons. Building the social and emotional skills discussed throughout the month can not be mastered in a weekly 30-45 minute lesson. Thank you for your support! (Picture at right)

March Proud Classrooms

Mrs. Higgins' 5th Grade



6th Grade



CAPS Lessons



The last day of school will be Wednesday, May 31st.

Reminder: No school for Kindergarten on April 28th.