

APRIL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

April 1, 2012

Richardton-Taylor Public School

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE... BY BRENT BAUTZ

I recently read an article in the March 2012 issue of High School Today, published by the National Federation of State High School Associations, that discussed the importance of the relationship between parents, coaches, and student-athletes, and I would like to share with you some of the finer points. The article, "Building a Proactive Relationship with Parents," was written by Alex Swenson. Alex is an intern in the NFHS Publications/Communications Department. He is a junior at Franklin (Indiana) College majoring in broadcast journalism and public relations.

Understandably, a parent wants what is best for his or her child, but sometimes the parent's actions become misguided and feelings of hostility or bitterness develop toward a coach. Karen Coffin, who coached tennis in Ohio for more than 20 years and has hosted seminars and written several articles on parent involvement, stresses the importance of the need for coaches and administrators to be proactive in dealing with parents.

"I think the parents want to be very involved, and I think it's in every coaches' best interest to consider them as

part of the team," One of the jobs of coaching is to acknowledge parents and encourage them to be a positive part of the team. If you don't set ground rules on how to interact, though, they will tell you."

Tom Doyle, who has spent 22 years as an athletic director and authored two books – The Sport Parent's Manual and True Coaching, tends to agree with Karen Coffin on setting a tone early for parent behavior.

"If you don't plan ahead for it, it will cause problems," he said. "We need to be educating parents on how they should act at their kids' sporting events. [Athletic directors] often aren't comfortable doing that. They make the assumption that everyone will behave as adults should behave."

Mr. Doyle also noted that through his experience, he found that it was important to lay out ground rules early and not let conflicts escalate.

"Whatever you allow to happen becomes acceptable," he said. "If I allow a parent to scream at an official and I don't do anything, everyone thinks it's acceptable. If I saw behavior out of the norm, I had to respond so others saw that it wasn't appropriate."

Dan Cardone, through his time as an athletic director at North Hills High School in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has also seen the parent coach struggle. However, he says that many of the parents at his school work well within the program, and a large part of that is because of booster clubs.

"Just like you're looking for quality coaches, you look for quality parents in your booster organization," he said. "Usually, when you have championship teams you have championship parents."

Because of the importance of the parent relationship, the NFHS has produced an online education course. Parents who wish to be a positive part of their child's athletic team can visit

www.nfhslearn.com to take the free, online course called "The Role of the Parent in Sports."

Tim Flannery, director of the NFHS Coach Education Program and former coach and athletic director, said the course is designed to help parents understand and match the team's goals and not interfere with them. He thinks that parents often misinterpret what they can bring to their child's experience and how they are affecting it.

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SECONDARY PRINCIPAL'S NOTES... BY RUSSELL



"What we have started doing is a ZAP policy which stands for Zero's Aren't Permitted."

If you have not yet heard, we have implemented a new policy to help the students get their homework done and handed in. We have implemented this because we have too many students on the Low Grades lists. The majority of the students on the list are in the junior high and are on there because they are not turning in their assignments. After talking to teachers and students it has become evident that the reason they are not turning in their assignments has nothing to do with them not knowing the material. What we have started doing is a ZAP policy which stands for Zero's Aren't Permitted. Teachers will no longer give a zero for an assignment not completed or for one that is turned in late. Now if a student comes to class without their assignment or if their assignment is not finished satisfactorily then the student is assigned

to "Working Lunch". In working lunch the students will be able to get their tray and then go to the working lunch room to eat for the first 10 minutes and then they are working on their assignment that they missed for the remainder of the time. If they do not finish their assignment in that time they will be required to stay after school to finish it. We are only on the second day of this initiative while I am typing this article, but so far it is working nicely. Students are getting their work done and handed in. We have had a handful of student serve the working lunch and in the afterschool program but hopefully that number will diminish once the student realize that we are going to be on top of this and that not doing your work is not acceptable behavior.

As part of this initiative we are asking for help from parents and guardians. There are many ways you can support your child's learning and school. Here are some ideas:

1. Spend a few minutes every evening looking over your child's planner and make sure they have it filled out and they have completed what they need to do for the next day.
2. Come and volunteer at school.
3. Stay up-to-date with your child's grades using PowerSchool to access important information.
4. Contact the teacher immediately if you see a problem. Working together will help your

child succeed.

5. Attend conferences, parent meetings, and school events regularly.

We are currently preparing the juniors for the ACT this spring. Mr. Bohn has been meeting with the juniors on a daily basis doing some ACT prep. The state test date for the ACT is on the morning of April 24th. On Sunday the 22nd and Monday the 23rd we ask if you have a junior child that they get enough sleep those nights and to make sure they have good breakfast on the morning of the test.

All students in grades 7 – 11 will also be taking the NWEA in the spring. This is the same test that they took in the fall. We will compare their spring score with the fall score and hopefully see growth for the year. I personally feel that this is a better assessment of where the students are because we are not comparing one student to another, we are looking at the students on an individual basis. This way we can see whether or not the student had growth, during the year and if that growth was significant or not. This test also helps us focus on the students who might struggle on the state assessment next fall.

To conclude, we are currently in the 4th quarter for the 2011-2012 school year. I cannot believe we are ALREADY $\frac{3}{4}$ done for the year. It has flown by so fast it makes my head spin. Now that we are getting to the end of the year we need to make sure the students stay on course and finish the year strong. Please keep reminding them of this! Thank you

(Continued from page 1) Superintendent's Message

"You are often dealing with very intelligent people who don't understand their role," said Flannery. "Their role is to support the team. They need to let their kids have their own experience."

Bruce Brown, athletic director at Lake High School in Uniontown, Ohio and Karen Coffin pointed to a three tier system that determines how an athlete will perform. The parents, coaches, and student athletes make up the three sides of the triangle, and if even one of those sides fails to function properly, the athlete will struggle to perform at his or her best.

Parents, coaches and administrators will not always see eye-to-eye, but Dan Cardone thinks that if everyone can look together at the big picture, they would realize that there is a common goal that could drive the relationships to a much healthier level.

"We are all on the same team," he said. We all want the same thing. And that's what's best for your child."

NOTICE OF FILING DEADLINE

The Richardton-Taylor Public School District #34 Board of Education is seeking individuals to fill two positions for a three year term beginning the July 2012. One candidate will be elected to represent the **former Richardton Public School District** and one candidate will be elected to represent the **former Taylor Public School District**. Any individual interested in serving on the Richardton-Taylor Public School District #34 Board of Education shall prepare and sign a document stating their name and that they meet the requirements. A candidate shall also file a statement of interests as required by section 16.1-09-02. The document must be filed with the school district business manager, or mailed to and in the possession of the business manager, by four p.m. on **April 13, 2012** (NDCC 15.1-09-08). Statements of interests can be obtained from the RT PSD Business Manager by calling 701-974-2111.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER... BY SCOTT BOHN

• SCHOLARSHIPS

The Associated General Contractors of ND Scholarship	www.agcnd.org
Tylenol Scholarship	www.tylenol.com
Dan Haag Memorial Scholarship	see me for application (due May 1)
Quentin N. Burdick Memorial Scholarship (April 9)	http://areafoundation.org/index.php/scholarships
DSG Education Connection Scholarship	http://areafoundation.org/index.php/scholarships
ND Military Scholarship	www.nddfs.org
Edson and Margaret Larson Foundation Leadership Scholarship	www.nddfs.org
B. Davis Scholarship	http://www.studentawardsearch.com/scholarships.htm

• EVENTS

ACT Testing for Juniors	April 24 (a.m.)
Leadership Seminar for juniors and seniors at DSU	April 16 (leave time 1:25)
Manufacturing Tour (NDSCS)	April 21 9:00 a.m.—1:00 pm (CT)
National Energy Center of Excellence (BSC)	April 24 3:30—7:00 p.m. (CT)
Telecom Career Exploration Academy	June 4-8 @ BSC (contact me for more information) — (Funding for attendance possible)
Altru Experience Healthcare Program (Grand Forks)	April 12 9:00—11:45 a.m (CT)



**Region X
Speech at Rich-
ardton-Taylor
High School on
Thursday, April
12, beginning at
2:30.**

**SCHOOL WILL
BE DISMISSED
AT 2:25.**

RTHS Prom

**Saturday, April 21st
Grand March: 8:30 p.m.**

Any junior parents interested in coming in to help with decorations on Friday April 20, please let Mrs. Rhonda Kuntz know by calling the school.



Richardton-Taylor Alumni Basketball

Saturday and Sunday,
April 14-15

- 3-pt contest
- Concessions available
- Admission \$3.00

The Richardton-Taylor After Prom Party will be held April 21 at the high school. Prizes or monetary donations are being accepted at this time. Donations can be dropped off at Richardton-Taylor High School or the Country Drug Store.

The After Prom Committee is also seeking individuals who would like to help the night of the event. Please contact Gae Zentner (974-2111) or Sara Conlon (974-3841) to confirm your support.

All donations of time, prizes or financial support are greatly appreciated.

RTHS APRIL MENUS

BREAKFAST:

April 2: yogurt w/ granola, cereal, juice, milk
 April 3: breakfast taco, cereal, juice, milk
 April 4: ham pattie, toast, hashbrowns, juice, milk
 April 5: caramel roll, cereal, juice, milk
 April 6: No school

April 9: No School

April 10: fruit muffin, cereal, juice, milk
 April 11: omelet, toast, juice, milk
 April 12: breakfast pizza, cereal, juice, milk
 April 13: doughnut, cereal, juice, milk

April 16: hot or cold cereal, toast, juice, milk
 April 17: ham, egg & cheese biscuit, fruit, milk
 April 18: waffles, sausage patty, juice, milk
 April 19: egg bake, toast, juice, milk
 April 20: blueberry bagel, cereal, juice, milk

April 23: breakfast pizza, cereal, juice, milk
 April 24: omelet, toast, hash browns, juice, milk
 April 25: banana bread, cereal, juice, milk
 April 26: French toast, sausage link, juice, milk
 April 27: caramel roll, cereal, juice, milk

April 30: ham & cheese rollup, cereal, juice, milk
 May 1: doughnut, cereal, juice, milk
 May 2: blueberry bagel, cereal, juice, milk
 May 3: sausage link, pancakes, juice, milk
 May 4: granola bar, cereal, juice, milk



Happy Easter

LUNCH:

April 2: super potato oles, side salad, breadstick, fruit pizza, milk
 April 3: pork roast, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, dinner roll, jello with topping, milk
 April 4: southwest salad w/ popcorn chicken, breadstick, fruit, cookie, milk
 April 5: beef barley vegetable soup, crackers, ham or minced bologna sandwich, cheese slice, veggies, fruit, rice krispie bar, milk
 April 6: No School

April 9: No School






April 10: chicken strips, mashed potatoes with country gravy, corn, dinner roll, jello, milk
 April 11: burrito, nacho & cheese sauce, refried beans, veggies & dip, fruit, milk
 April 12: chili, baked bread, veggies & dip, fruit, milk
 April 13: deli turkey & cheese sub, lettuce, pickles, oven potatoes, fruit, milk

April 16: pepperoni pizza, side salad, veggies & dip, fruit trail mix, milk
 April 17: spaghetti with meat sauce, green beans, bubble bread, fruit, milk
 April 18: BBQ riblet on wheat bun, baked potato, California blend vegetable, fruit salad, milk
 April 19: chicken nuggets, rice pilaf, peas, dinner roll, fruit, milk
 April 20: sloppy joe, cheese slice, oven potatoes, fruit, milk

April 23: super nachos, veggies & dip, applesauce, milk
 April 24: chicken fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, dinner roll, apple crisp, milk
 April 25: Stromboli, side salad, veggies & dip, fruit, milk
 April 26: toasty dog, tomato soup, oven potato, pickles, fruit, brownie, milk
 April 27: popcorn chicken, buttered noodles, creamed corn, dinner roll, fruit, milk

April 30: hamburger, cheese slice, oven potatoes, fruit, milk
 May 1: baked potato bar, California blend veggies, bread stick, pudding, milk
 May 2: pork roast, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas & carrots, dinner roll, jello, milk
 May 3: taco with toppings, fruit, rice krispie bar, milk
 May 4: baked ham, hash browns, creamed corn, dinner roll, pineapple, milk

APRIL 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
1	2	3 Elem VB @ RT 4:00 (NS-NE) Hair Academy @ RT 1:15	4 RESP Adm. Mtg 9:00 am	5 EARLY RELEASE DAY: 1:30 (Professional Development)	6 NO SCHOOL— Good Fri- day	7
8 EASTER 	9 NO SCHOOL	10 TR @ Hazen 12:30 JH TR @ Beach Elem VB @ GU 4:00	11 School Board Mtg @ TRE 5:30	12 Region Speech @ RTHS 2:30 DISMISS: 2:25	13 Choral Festival @ Abbey NDATL Confer- ence/Bismarck Elem VB Gr 6 Jamboree @ RT 4:00	14 TR @ Bowman 10:00 Alumni BB Tournament
15 Alumni BB Tournament NWEA Tests: April 15-May 4	16 Jr. & Sr. @ DSU (speaker) 2:00 JH TR @ Hazen 1:30 ACT State Con- ference/Bis	17 JH TR @ Bow- man 3:00	18 AD Mtg. @ Hebron 10:00	19 TRE Spring Recital 7pm	20 Elem VB @ TRE vs. Trinity 4:00	21 RTHS Prom/ grand march 8:30 pm Trinity Music Fes- tival
22 NFL Speech –	23 NFL Speech –	24 NFL Speech ACT Test to all juniors Elem VB @ Hettinger 4:00	25	26 JH TR @ DSU Elem VB @ Killdeer 5:00	27 NDASSP State Mtg. 10:00	28 State Speech @ Bismarck JH & V TR @ Beach Elem VB @ Center Jam- boree
29	30	May 1 TR @ DSU (Badlands Conference)	May 2	May 3	May 4 State Music— JH TR @ DSU (Badlands)	May 5 State Music TR @ Bis- marck



TRE April News

From the Principal's Printer By Janine Olson

PAWS Meeting

The next PAWS meeting will be on Tuesday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m. Note the time change. There is a volley-ball game in Glen Ullin that after-noon so we will meet a little bit later.

Save the date for the Spring Fling - Friday, May 4 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. This year's theme is Amazing Adventures and will be a great time for all with food, fun and prizes.



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We are officially in the fourth quarter of school. It is hard to believe that there are only 6 ½ weeks left of school. We will be busy, as usual, finishing up the year with field trips, graduation programs, music festivals and the many other events that happen in the spring.

Elementary wrestling has ended as the volleyball program begins. Congratulations to the entire wrestling team for a successful season. Coach Dazell stated in his last parent newsletter, "There's a pile of promise on the big blue mats these days!" Let's hope our program continues to grow! Best of luck to the volleyball players in grades 4 - 6, may you have a successful season also! Check the calendar for dates, times and places of the games. Go Raiders!

The TRE Spring Music Recital is scheduled for Thursday, April 19th, at 7:00 PM. Students participating in the Trinity Music Fest on Saturday April 21st will be showcasing their talents along with the 4th grade class on their recorders, and the 5th and 6th grade bands. Please come and listen to our budding musician. Bring a friend!

By Easter you should receive your children's report cards in the mail. If you do not, please contact the office. During Parent-Teacher Conferences in February the classroom teachers should have discussed the results of the students' North Dakota State Assessment (NDSA) for Math and Reading for grades 3 - 6. If you did not receive a copy of the results and would like one, please contact your child's teacher or myself. We will be happy to assist you.

The 6th graders have the opportunity again this year to have an international student from China, speak in their classroom. World Voices is a program sponsored by Dickinson State University (DSU) and Roughrider Education Services Pro-

gram (RESP). The intent of the program is to bring the international students from DSU into the local classrooms. This provides opportunity for the DSU international students to become involved in the educational communities of our school systems in a meaningful way. It also benefits the students by building a deeper understanding of different cultures among our students in southwestern North Dakota. The international students have been in the classroom for a total of three hours sharing information about their culture with our students and learning about our culture from them. On Friday, April 13th the 6th grade class is invited to the DSU campus for a World Voices Showcase where the Dickinson State International Club will demonstrate a variety of cultural events from various countries.

We will be administering the NWEA assessments April 16th - May 4th. This assessment is an excellent way to measure how much progress a student has made from last year at this time to now. A report will be sent out to the parents in May summarizing students' results. The staff uses this information to plan intervention strategies and modify teaching techniques. Please make sure that your child gets appropriate amounts of rest and eats a healthy breakfast each morning to stimulate brainpower. It is important that they do well on this assessment.

Once again PAWS will be having a Spring Fling supper and dance. This year it is scheduled for Friday, May 4th. This is the seventh annual Spring Fling and the theme is "Amazing Adventures!" It has been a great success in the past and is fun for all. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend! More information will be sent out closer to the date. Hope to see you there!

Continued on page 2...



Kindergarten Open House
April 24—6:30 p.m.

From the Principal's Printer Continued

To welcome next fall's kindergarten students, we will be hosting an evening of orientation; Tuesday, April 24th at 6:30 p.m. This event is intended for 2012 - 2013 kindergarten students and their parents. We will cover the information that was previously presented in the "Gearing Up For Kindergarten" series and the annual open house typically held in May. If you have a child or know of a child who will be in kindergarten this fall, please come to the elementary school to register them. We need a copy of the Certificate of Live Birth and the official Immunization Records of the

child. Students will be receiving an invitation from the kindergarten teacher for this event. We encourage everyone to attend. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

There will be NO SCHOOL on Friday, April 6, or Monday, April 9, for Easter Break.

Please stop in or call if you have any questions or concerns!

Mrs. Janine Olson

Conner Kuntz Wins Essay Contest



Recently the fourth graders of TRE were invited to participate in the North Dakota Ag Essay Contest. The theme of the contest was "Name all the ways you used agriculture in any one day this month". All of the children submitted their own essays on the topic. 38 entries from four schools each received certificates on the topic. The entries were sent to the North Dakota Women Involved in Farm Economics. Conner's essay was chosen as the overall winner and he also received a certificate and a \$15.00 check from the organization. The following is a copy of his essay.

"Thank God for farming because if we did not have farms there would be no bread, ice cream, milk or cream. We wouldn't have any more corn, barley, oats, flax, sunflowers and wheat. The products farmers grow feed the world. Farming created many other jobs like making the crops into food and getting the products to stores for people to buy".

We would like to congratulate Conner on his winning essay!



Sixth graders dying eggs green for Dr. Suess' Green Eggs and Ham breakfast.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR ORDER FORM

Order Your PAWS Calendar Now!!

PAWS will again be sponsoring a community calendar, which includes birthdays of local community members as well as school events. In order to receive a 2012-2013 PAWS community birthday calendar you **MUST** fill out the order form below and send it to TRE with your \$6.00 payment. **NO extra calendars** will be ordered. Please take time to order your calendars now.

2012-2013 Taylor-Richardton Community Calendar Order Form

Please send your order to Taylor-Richardton Elementary, PO Box 157, Taylor, ND 58656. Include any corrections, deletions, or additions. New community members please send us your birthdays. Remember, **NO EXTRA** calendars will be ordered this year, so please order your calendar now.

Name _____	Birthday _____
Name _____	Birthday _____
Name _____	Birthday _____
Name _____	Birthday _____

The cost of the calendar is \$6.00. Please make checks payable to Taylor-Richardton Elementary School. Send your payment and order to:

Taylor-Richardton Elementary
PO Box 157
Taylor, ND 58656

Numbers of calendars _____ @ \$6.00 each. Amount enclosed \$ _____

RICHARDTON TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #34

"Home of the Raiders"

Taylor-Richardton Elementary School
306 Ertel Avenue—PO Box 157
Taylor, ND 58656
(701) 974-3585 Fax (701) 974-3520



Brent Bautz, Superintendent
Russ Ziegler, Secondary Principal
Janine Olson, Elementary Principal
Kim Dressler, Business Manager

Dear School Patrons,

Greetings from Taylor-Richardton Elementary (TRE) and the school's Parents Active With School (PAWS) organization!

PAWS initiated "Project Playground" earlier this year. Our current playground is out of compliance with our insurance company's coverage and safety standards. The equipment is out-dated, in poor condition and does not have recommended fall zones. The current playground includes swings, two slide structures, spring riders, teeter totters and a merry-go-round. The playground surface consists of hard-packed dirt, pea gravel and weed patches. The playground serves more than 140 students daily during the school year and serves the community throughout the year. Consequently, we are working to carry out TRE Project Playground.

Estimated cost for the project is \$57,300. We anticipate spending \$31,000 on updated playground equipment. We plan to incorporate one existing slide. An additional \$14,800 is budgeted for wood fiber surface and borders and \$11,500 for equipment installation. We are counting on volunteer labor to install the borders and wood fiber surface.

Thus far the PAWS organization has raised \$8,000 for Project Playground. Currently, we are seeking donations from area businesses and organizations for Project Playground. We also invite and encourage patrons to contribute. Donors over \$100 will be recognized through a sign posted on the new playground and all donors will be recognized through local print media sources. We plan to install the new playground equipment before the 2012 – 2013 school year.

Categories of giving range from (but are not limited to) more than \$10,000 to under \$100. Please see the individual categories on the enclosed commitment form. Please complete the form and return it to TRE by May 1, 2012.

If you have any questions or comments please contact me, TRE Principal Janine Olson, by calling 701-974-3585 or emailing Janine.Olson@sendit.nodak.edu.

Thank you for your time. The school, parents, students and community greatly appreciate your consideration in helping us with TRE Project Playground.

Sincerely,

Janine Olson

Mrs. Janine M. Olson, Principal
Taylor-Richardton Elementary
P.O. Box 157
Taylor, ND 58656



P.A.W.S.
Parents Active With School

TRE Project Playground

Giving Categories:

- A More than \$10,000
- B \$10,000 - \$5,001
- C \$5,000 - \$2,501
- D \$2,500 - \$1,001
- E \$1,000 - \$501
- F \$500 - \$251



PAWS (Parents Active With School)
Shanna Singer, President
Carrie Zieger, Vice President
Polly Hargrove, Secretary
Cindy Dohrmann, Treasurer

Business/Organization’s Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone numbers: _____

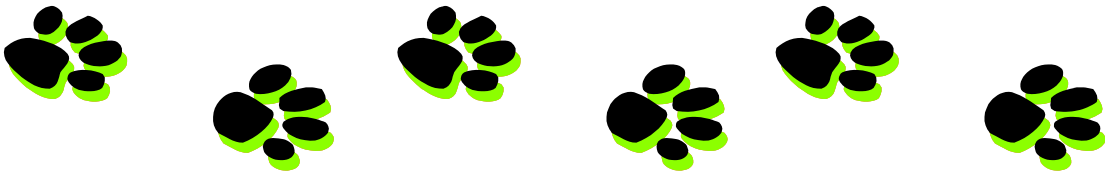
Email: _____

Donation amount: _____

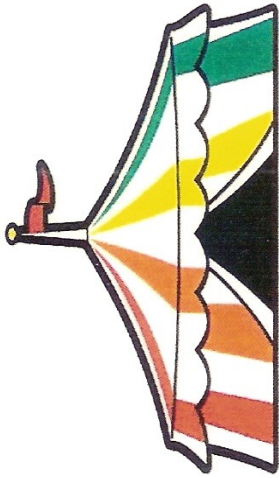
Giving category (circle one): A B C D E F G H

Donation enclosed? _____ Donation will be made by (date): _____

Please insert and mail to: Mrs. Janine Olson, TRE, P.O. Box 157, Taylor, ND 58656. Thank you for your support of TRE Project Playground. We appreciate you!



Save the Date!



Save the Date!

2ND ANNUAL KIDS HEALTH AND SAFETY FAIR

&

4TH ANNUAL PREVENT CHILD ABUSE WALK

Thursday, April 26th, 2012

3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Dickinson Recreation Center



FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE

HAVE FUN WHILE
EARNING ABOUT

HEALTH AND
SAFETY!

HANDS ON
ACTIVITIES!

DOOR PRIZES!
AND MUCH MORE!

DON'T MISS IT!

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION COMMITTEE
SOUTHWEST COALITION OF SAFE COMMUNITIES

SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!

BUILDING READERS®

How Families Can Help Children Become Better Readers

Taylor Richardton Elementary
Janine Olson - Elementary Principal

Reading inspiration grows all over in April

Spring is a great time to read about and enjoy nature with your child. Share books that explain the natural world, then supplement your reading with fun “hands-on” activities. Take walks together and discuss what you see.

Your child may see a beautiful flower and ask about it. Use this “teachable moment” to discuss flowers and bulbs. Follow up your outside adventure by visiting the library to research more about plants.

Then plant bulbs or flower seeds in your garden or house. Watch them grow. Write daily observation notes about their growth. You will be growing flowers, learning and creating memories all at the same time.



Hemera

Source: P. Rillero, “Doing Science with Your Children,” ERIC Clearinghouse for Science Mathematics and Environmental Education, www.ericdigests.org/1995-1/science.htm.

*“It is not enough to simply teach children to read;
we have to give them something worth reading.”*

—Katherine Patterson

Differentiate between types of nouns

Children learn about nouns in school. You can reinforce this at home by explaining that a noun is a person, place, thing or idea. Some nouns are “proper nouns,” which means they name something specific and are capitalized (such as *Patrick* or *Idaho*). To practice these concepts:

- **List various nouns** and have your child say whether they’re common or proper nouns. For example, *dog* (common), *hat* (common), *Mississippi* (proper), *plant* (common) and *Dr. Seuss* (proper).
- **Look at a children’s magazine** with your child. Challenge her to find several examples of people, places, things, ideas and proper nouns.
- **Read a story aloud** and have your child listen for nouns. She can raise her hand when she hears a common noun, and stand when she hears a proper noun.

Source: L. Sunley, *Fun With Grammar: 75 Quick Activities and Games*, Scholastic.

Family performances enliven poetry

Whether your family already appreciates a good poem or not, this activity will help bring poetry to life. Visit the library together and check out several books of poetry—both silly and serious. Then challenge everyone to memorize and recite one poem per week. Plan a special performance, and be as creative as you’d like. Set a poem to music. Act it out. Or say it quickly. Enjoy yourselves!

Source: “Enjoying Poetry,” FamilyEducation, www.familyeducation.com/whatworks/item/front/1,2551,1-24357-9605,00.html.



Reading mission: Find mistakes!

Mistakes aren’t fun—unless you’re catching them! Challenge your child to find mistakes when she reads. She might see them in the newspaper, on signs, or in notes you write. You might even make a mistake on purpose to see if your child can find it!



Talk with your child’s teacher now about summer reading

Summer is the perfect opportunity to build reading skills, especially if your child struggles with reading. Before school lets out, however, talk with the teacher about reading ideas. What is your child’s reading level? How should it affect reading choices? Does the teacher recommend particular titles? Which activities will help your child do his best next year?



Turn sight-word practice into a game

"Do you want to practice reading sight words?" you ask your child. "No thanks!" he says. Try asking, "Want to play a game?" instead. Then try this version of "memory":

- **Write 40 sight words** (basic words that kids use often, such as *cat*, *orange* and *school*) on index cards. Put each word on two cards. You'll have a total of 80 cards.
- **Let your child arrange the cards facedown** on the floor or a table. No one should be able to see the words.
- **Take turns flipping over two cards at a time.** Read each word aloud. If one of you finds a match, keep the cards and take another turn. Otherwise turn them back over.
- **When all the cards have been matched,** see who has the most. Make new cards when your child has learned the words!



Source: M.A. Edwards, "Sight Words Memory Game," Education.com, www.education.com/activity/article/memorygame_kindergarten/.

Use questions to stimulate critical thinking

It's important for children to think critically when they read because it boosts understanding. So next time your child picks up a book, ask questions such as:

- **What do you think** the cover says about the book? What do you think it might be about?
- **Does the story** make sense to you? If not, which parts are confusing? Does it remind you of anything you've ever read or experienced?
- **Do you like** how the author wrote the book? Why or why not? What would you change about it?
- **What was the book about?** How would you summarize



it? Would you recommend it to other kids?

Source: "Helping Your Child with Reading and Writing: A Guide for Parents," Ministry of Education (Ontario), www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/parentGuideLit.pdf.

Examples strengthen book reports

Your child is writing a book report, and she has a lot to say! "I didn't like this book. It was scary." Or "I liked the main character because he's kind." These opinions are fine—as long as your child supports them with examples. "The main character, Leo, does nice things for others. He makes sandwiches for homeless people and walks dogs at the animal shelter."



For lower elementary readers:

- *The Purple Kangaroo* by Michael Ian Black (Simon & Schuster). What are you thinking of? A monkey says he knows! His wild, silly guess will keep readers giggling.
- *AlphaOops! The Day Z Went First* by Alethea Kontis (Candlewick). Z is tired of always being last—but rearranging the alphabet isn't quite as easy as A-B-C.



For upper elementary readers:

- *Are You "Normal"?* by Mark Shulman (National Geographic). What goes best with peanut butter? Chocolate? Jelly? Something else? This irresistible book has answers from kids across the country.
- *Spilling Ink: A Young Writer's Handbook* by Ellen Potter and Anne Mazer (Flash Point). Two children's authors encourage kids to write—and enjoy it! Their approach is cool, funny and inspiring.



Q: The teacher says my child struggles with phonics. What does this mean?

A: Put simply, phonics teaches the relationship between letters and sounds. For example, *b* sounds like "buh." This helps kids sound out words. Ask the teacher how you can help at home, such as by reviewing the alphabet and the sounds letters make. Your support will make a real difference.

Do you have a question about reading? Email readingadvisor@parent-institute.com.

Building Readers®

How Families Can Help Children Become Better Readers

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TRE APRIL MENU**BREAKFAST:**

April 2-6

Monday- cereal, muffin, juice, milk
 Tuesday- breakfast taco, fruit, milk
 Wednesday- cereal, bagel, juice, milk
 Thursday- long johns, fruit, milk
 Friday- Good Friday, no school

April 9-13

Monday- Easter break, no school
 Tuesday- cereal, donuts, juice, milk
 Wednesday- breakfast combo bar, toast w/jelly, fruit,
 milk
 Thursday- cereal, lemon bread, juice, milk
 Friday- caramel roll, fruit, milk



April 16-20

Monday- cereal, cinnamon toast, juice, milk
 Tuesday- breakfast pizza, fruit, milk
 Wednesday- cereal, yogurt, juice, milk
 Thursday- pancakes w/syrup, sausage patty, fruit,
 milk
 Friday- cereal, cinnamon bread, juice, milk

April 23-30

Monday- egg & cheese biscuit, fruit, milk
 Tuesday- cereal, lemon bread, juice, milk
 Wednesday- cinnamon roll, fruit, milk
 Thursday- cereal, yogurt, juice, milk
 Friday- sausage on a stick, fruit, milk
 Monday- cereal, toast w/jelly, juice, milk

**LUNCH:**

April 2-6

Monday- popcorn chicken, rice pilaf, peas, muffin, pears, milk
 Tuesday- corn dogs, chips, baked beans, ½ apple, milk
 Wednesday- turkey, mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, dinner roll, cheesecake, milk
 Thursday- finger steaks, tator tots, green beans, bubble bread, applesauce, milk
 Friday- Good Friday, no school

April 9-13

Monday- Easter break, no school
 Tuesday- rib burger, French fries, pickles, rice krispie bars, milk
 Wednesday- scalloped potatoes and ham, corn, dinner roll, Jell-O, milk
 Thursday- chicken noodle soup, crackers, ham sandwich on a bun w/lettuce, carrot sticks, milk
 Friday- taco salad, bread sticks, ½ orange, cookie, milk

April 16-20

Monday- tator tot hot dish, mixed veggies, cinnamon bread, pears, milk
 Tuesday- chili crispitos w/lettuce, cheese & salsa, chips, ½ apple, cookie
 Wednesday- lasagna, bread sticks, green beans, fruit salad, milk
 Thursday- chicken burger, tator wedges, pickles, chocolate chip bar, milk
 Friday- pizza, lettuce salad, pineapple cup, cookie, milk

April 23-30

Monday- chicken nuggets, rice pilaf, peas, garlic bread, applesauce, milk
 Tuesday- sloppy joes, smile potatoes, cole slaw, brownie, milk
 Wednesday- pork roast, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, dinner roll, chocolate cake, milk
 Thursday- tomato soup, wiener winks, crackers, ½ orange, milk
 Friday- sausage, buttered noodles, California veggies, muffin, apple crisp, milk
 Monday- chicken hot dish, bubble bread, green beans, mandarin orange cup, milk



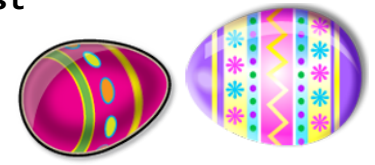
Third Grade "Mayor For A Day" contest



Brea Hauck, 1st place contest winner



Carly Diede, 2nd place contest winner



Kazanne Gjermundson, 3rd place contest winner



Grade Four Goes to the Symphony

Recently the fourth graders of TRE were invited to attend the Bismarck-Mandan Symphony. The students used this as an incentive reward program. The children dressed in their formal and finest clothes. The boys looked handsome in their tuxedos, bowties and neckties. They wore sports jackets and dress shirts. The girls looked especially pretty in their dresses.



The children enjoyed lunch at McDonalds and a quick visit to the park. They were in awe at the beauty of the Belle Mahus Auditorium where they were delighted and a bit nervous in their balcony seats. Most were thoroughly entertained by the conductor, orchestra, and wonderful music.

It was a very exciting and educational way to spend the day.

Have You Registered Your Child for Kindergarten?

If you were unable to register your child for kindergarten in February, please call the school office at 974-3585 to arrange a time that is convenient for you to come in and register your child. We are planning for the 2012-2013 school year, so the sooner you stop in or call the school, the better. In order to meet everyone's needs we need to know how many children to plan for.

Children must be 5 years old by July 31, 2012 in order to be eligible for kindergarten. Please bring a copy of the child's Certificate of Live Birth and an updated official Immunization Record when you come to register. There will be additional forms to complete at that time.



Grade Three

Painted



Blarney Stones!

Student Ambassador Matthew Naumann Will Travel to Europe

Hi, my name is Matthew Naumann and I am in the sixth grade at Taylor-Richardton Elementary school. I have been nominated to travel and study with other junior high "People to People" student ambassadors from across the United States. The People to People Student Ambassador Program was founded in 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower as a way to promote peace through understanding.

The "European Heritage Tour" will be June 10-29, 2012. The approximate cost of this learning experience is \$7,000.00. We will study in 6 different countries of England, France, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland. We will meet with government officials and learn about their world through hands-on interaction with local

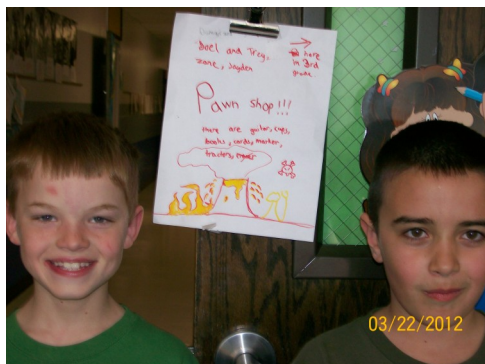
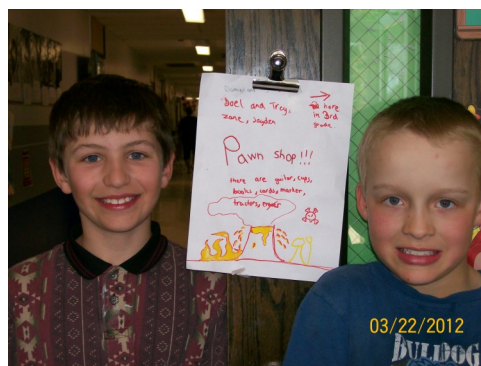
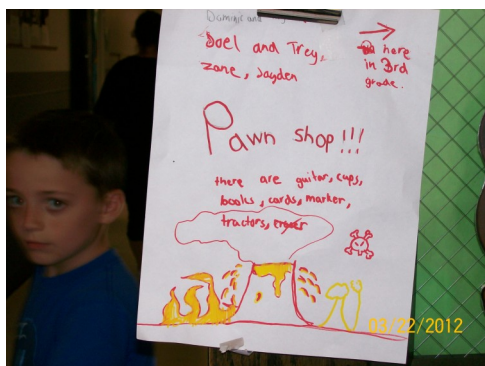
citizens and experts in many different fields.

A raffle is currently underway to help fund this great opportunity. If you would like to purchase a \$5.00 ticket they will be available at area business places throughout Taylor and Richardton. The raffle prizes are great and include an Anton Schneider German Black-Forest Cuckoo Clock, a Danby 3.2 cu ft compact refrigerator, a metal artwork sign, a \$100.00 gift card, a handmade quilt, (2) Lefor K of C steak and shrimp meal tickets, and \$30.00 in iTunes cards.

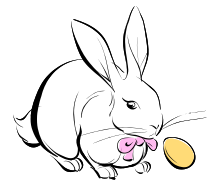
I would like to say "thank you" to all who have donated prizes for the raffle drawing and to those who have given cash donations. All is very much appreciated. Thank you again for your kindness.



**Raffle tickets
are being sold
to help with
the cost of the
"European
Heritage Tour"
which Matthew
will attend
June 10-29.**



Mrs. Treiber's Third Grade Entrepreneurs



Don't Throw It Away!

If you have an old walkman or cassette player please don't throw it away! Consider donating it to TRE for our reading program. Thank you!

Richardton-Taylor Public School District

Carrier Route Pre-Sort
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US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT Number 29
Richardton ND 58652

Richardton-Taylor High School
PO Box 289
Richardton ND 58652
Phone: 701-974-2111 Fax: 701-974-2161

Taylor-Richardton Elementary
PO Box 157
Taylor ND 58656
Phone: 701-974-3585 Fax: 701-974-3520

We're on the web
www.richardton-taylor.k12.nd.us



Expect Success

BOXHOLDER

Happy Easter

**No school
Friday, April 6 and
Monday, April 9—Easter Break**

**Early dismissal
Thursday, April 5—1:30 p.m.
professional development
and Thursday, April 12—2:25 p.m.
Speech at RTHS**

