

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

RICHARDTON TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Superintendent's Message By Brent Bautz:

The North Dakota Association of School Administrators (NDASA) held their annual mid-winter conference this past weekend, and Governor Dalrymple honored us with his presence to discuss his proposed educational funding bill House Bill 1319. I think this says a lot about our Governor's dedication to education when he takes the time to address a room full of school superintendents educational funding.

The major highlights of the Governor's bill are as follows:

- Increase per pupil payment from \$3,910 to \$8,810 fiscal year 2013-2014 and to \$9,092 fiscal year 2014-2015.
- Increase special education funding
- Eliminate the 70% teacher compensation language, and increase minimum teacher salary from \$22,500 to \$27,500.
 - o Our base salary is currently at \$30,000.
- Puts \$250 million into the school construction loans fund.
- Sets a maximum levy at 60 mills for general fund
 - o Our current general fund levy is 108 mills.
- Sets maximum levy of 12 mills by a school board for "non-educational purposes including transportation, extra-curricular activities."
 - This must be kept in a separate "miscellaneous fund" and may not be transferred to any other fund.
- Property tax relief is included in the bill by limiting the number of mills a school district could levy.



Dates to

Remember:

- **School Make Up Day April 1, 2013**
- **Boys Basket Ball Parents Night Feb. 11, 2013**
- **Girls Basket Ball Parents Night Feb. 14, 2013**
- **RTHS Prom April 6, 2013**

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Superintendent's Message Continued:

It is still early in the legislative session, so a lot of things may change by the end of the session. However, one of the issues that is of deep concern for our school district is our eligibility for school construction loans. We are currently working with the Department of Public Instruction to see if we qualify under the current law, and what the numbers would need to be to make us eligible for the Governor's proposed legislation.

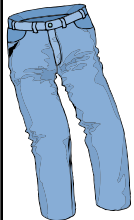
We did receive our facility feasibility study from EAPC. The study will be posted on our website, hopefully by next week for all to view. EAPC did an excellent job with the study, and it will assist us in our quest for a new school.

I am not going to go into great detail about what the report said because I would like for you to read it yourself. However, I would like to point out a couple major points.

The study states that:

- "The main high school building has numerous instances of structural deficiencies and deterioration. A combination of inherent building design flaws, craftsmanship, and sub grade movement are likely to be potential causes of the facilities wide structural deficiencies and deterioration. Regardless of cause, the issues observed pose a threat to public safety.
- The main area of concern for the elementary is the 1900's boiler pit structure. "The boiler pit has stood the test of time; however, its proximity to classrooms and office is reason for concern. Failure of the boiler pit walls is likely to lead to localized structural failure that would include surrounding classrooms and office areas."

**SCHOOL
MAKE UP
DAY
Monday,
April 1,
2013**



Jeans for Teens:

Once again Rose Kuntz is going to host a drop-off location for the Aeropostle Jeans for Teens Program. Donations of gently used jeans any brand can be dropped off at the high school or you can call and leave a message for Rose Kuntz @ the high school for pick up. All jeans collected will go to area Teens in need. Girls and boys jeans are excepted.

If anyone has a small 2 or three chair patio set that they would be willing to let the junior class use for their prom set please contact Rhonda Kuntz at Richardson Taylor High School or her cell # 290-7932.

Secondary Principle's Notes By Russell Ziegler:

I am currently taking a class on School and Community Relations from NDSU. The main objective of the class is to help with the communication between the school and community. One item that I found out was that hardly anyone reads what we write in the news letter, if you can believe the statistics. According to a Grunig and Ipes study 67% of the people do not even use the newsletter, 17% Read it but do nothing else with it, 6% will discuss and talk about what they read, and 4% gave it to someone and another 4% sought further information about what they read. Looking at those statistics the school needs to use multiple means of communication with the public and can't rely only on the newsletter to get information out. If you have any ideas on communication between the school and the public please give me a call so we can discuss it.

One item that I have noticed recently is that the public feels that the school board meetings are an open venue for comments. That is not the case, school board meetings are business meetings with an agenda that has to be followed. The reason for this is so the meeting flows in a timely manner and that the board members can get up to speed on what is going to be discussed before the meeting happens. The question then becomes where does the public go if they have a concern or question? My answer to this question would be to go to the horse's mouth as they say. Start with the individual you have a question about. If you do not know why a teacher, administrator, coach, etc... are doing what they are doing go and ask them. It does absolutely no good to sit and talk to people who also do not know. After you talk to that individual then you follow the chain of command up the ladder until you get a response. Remember though, it might not be the response you are looking for. There are always two sides to every story, and it is the ultimate goal to hear both sides and make a decision from there.

Switching gears I would like to talk about the parents roles in the education of their child. As part of my class that I talked about earlier, I found out that we have a large disconnect between what the schools wants from parents and what parents think the school wants from them. We will start with what the parents feel is their role in educating their child in order of importance:

1. Child properly nourished, rested, ready to learn
2. Instill good values, habits, and discipline
3. Provide wide range of learning experiences
4. Reinforce classroom learning @ home
5. Emphasize importance of learning
6. Oversee homework
7. Read with child
8. Parent/Teacher conferences
9. Volunteer in classroom
10. Participate in site councils
11. Help with fundraising/support

If you were to ask school teacher or staff they would give that exact same list in the exact order but the schools are not getting that message across to the parents. The schools need to start emphasizing what the parents are already doing. According to my class, parents think that the schools want the following in the following order:

1. Volunteer in classrooms
2. Help with fundraising/support
3. Participate in site councils
4. Parent/teacher conferences
5. Read with child
6. Oversee homework
7. Emphasize importance of learning

Secondary Principle's Notes Continued:

As you notice the first four of the previous list is missing. Schools are not asking or letting parents know that there main priority should be:

Child properly nourished, rested, ready to learn

Instill good values, habits, and discipline

Provide wide range of learning experiences

Reinforce classroom learning @ home

This is a huge problem that needs to be addressed from the school. Both schools and parents have the same thoughts on what parents need to do but the communication is not there. Don't get me wrong all of the items on the list are important but we need to all be on the same page! Parents have a huge influence on how their students do in school, more so than the teachers or staff of the school. Did you know that 97% of the students who mostly get A's and B's report that their parents or an adult encourage them to do well in school? And that 49% of the students who get grades below C report that they have no adult encouragement? That is huge, and shows that supporting your child in school and letting them know that school is important and meaningful will make a world of difference.

We all have to remember that communication needs to be a two way road. We might not agree on what either is saying or wanting but that does not mean we do not have the same vision or main goal to get accomplished. In the school that goal should be to do what is best for the students. The students are our customers and instilling in them the desire to become life long learners is very important. Always remember that we all need to EXPECT Success!

Booster Club News:

The Booster Club Board will be having a silent auction for the Boys and Girls Basketball teams on Friday, February 8, 2013. Items and baskets can be brought to the high school or to the Country Drugstore. Some suggestions are theme baskets, baked goods, homemade items etc. Thank you in advance for your support.

The board is continuing to work on the Football bleachers project. If you are interested in donating to this worthwhile cause, please contact any board member.

Blackjack continues to be a good fundraiser for the boosters. If you are interested in dealing, please contact Suzy Rummel or Thomas Fandrich.

We welcome new Board members Jenna Fischer and Katie Hoselton to the board.



Music Department News:



Congratulations goes out to Lane Aune for being selected through a live audition to participate in the Mixed Choir at All -State.

The 47th Annual North Dakota All-State Band, Mixed Choir, Women's Choir, Orchestra, Jazz Band and Jazz Choir will be held at the Bismarck Civic Center & Exhibition Hall on March 21 - 23, 2013. The All-State event will conclude with three grand concerts, the first being on Friday evening (Jazz Band and Jazz Choir) and the final two being on Saturday afternoon featuring Band, Orchestra, Women's Choir and Mixed Choir.

Counselors Corner Senior Scholarships:

Buick Achievers Scholarship Program	www.buickachievers.com
Foundation for Rural Services	www.frs.org
Frame My Future	www.framemyfuture.com
Body by Milk	www.bodybymilk.com
Music and Broadcast	www.radioscholarships.com or www.theconclave.com
Consolidated Telephone Cooperative SCHOLAR2011.pdf	http://www.ctctel.com/pdf/
ND Propane Gas Ass.	http://www.ndpropane.org/Scholarship/Scholarship.asp
Western Coop	http://www.wccu.org/wccu/News.asp?id=8973&lid=88
Northern Plains Eye Foundation	www.npef.org
Co-op House	www.ndfu.org/youthEducation
American Liberty	www.americanlibertyscholarship.com
North Dakota Farm Bureau	http://www.ndfb.org/?id=199
Stockmen's Foundation Legacy Scholarship	http://www.ndstockmen.org/?id=160
Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship	http://www.alaforveterans.org/what_we_do/scholarships/Pages/NatPresScholECW.aspx
Samsung American Legion Scholarship:	http://www.alaforveterans.org/what_we_do/scholarships/Pages/SamsungTALScholarship.aspx
Spirit of Youth Scholarship for Junior Members	
	http://www.alaforveterans.org/what_we_do/scholarships/SoYSF/Pages/default.aspx
Lil' Opryland Days 5K Walk/Run Scholarship (Return to Mr. Bohn)	see Mr. Bohn
Gate City Bank	see Mr. Bohn
WIFE	see Mr. Bohn
Dickinson Women of Today	see Mr. Bohn
ND Conservation District Employee Association Conservation Studies	see Mr. Bohn
Farm Credit Services	see Mr. Bohn

Counselor's Corner Continues:

Junior and Senior Scholarships:

Duck Tape Stuck at Prom

<http://www.cappex.com/scholarships/index.jsp;jsessionid=6771AEF3AEE530034A355C6A38696E0E.server6>

Brickfish Photo

http://www.brickfish.com/Lifestyles/MyFavoritePhoto3?tab=overview&=FASTWEB_FAVPHOTO3_SEARCH

The Diversity of America Photo

http://www.oneamerica2012.org/Photo_Scholarship.html

Scholarships for Alumni:

North Dakota Farm Bureau

<http://www.ndfb.org/?id=123>

ACTIVITIES:

Manufacturing Day (NDSCS)

February 6, 2013\

Last chance ACT and Work Keys Test

February 9, 2013

Campus Preview Day (Lake Region)

February 9, 2013

Campus Visit Day (DSU)

February 23, 2013

Registration Deadline for April ACT

March 8, 2013

After Prom Party Committee:

The Richardton Taylor After Prom Party Committee is looking for volunteers to join this committee or that would be willing to help at the after prom party. The main function of this committee is to make a fun safe memorable event for our junior, seniors and their dates. The committee is also accepting donations to help make this year's prom an eventful evening. Prom is scheduled for Saturday, April 6, 2013 with the After Prom Party to take place in the early morning hours of April 7, 2013. If any questions or would like more information please contact Kim Dressler or Gae Zentner at Richardton Taylor High School (701) 974-2111.

Marketing News: Craft and Bake Auction a Success

The cold and snow didn't keep the Marketing Students down. They have worked hard to make the Craft and Bake Auction a success and it paid off. Marketing Students (Maggie Zentner, Kasey Dressler, Tabby Hoffart, Colten Kuhn, Ryder Bohlman, Mac Vaagen, and Forest Van Orman) along with the Sports Marketing Students (Spencer Floberg, Carli Bagley, and Garret Meyer) all worked hard on their leadership skills for a class project. They spent many hours creating flyers, writing articles, gathering items to auction and recruiting help. Travis Olson and Marv Messer were kind enough to donate their time to auction off the goods, which helped the students raise \$1200.00. The amount was split between the Richardton Health Center and the Kathy Steckler Benefit in Richardton and The Domestic Rape and Violence Crisis Center in Dickinson. The Marketing Students would like to thank everyone who contributed items and time to make the Craft and Bake Auction a success.

RTHS SNOW DAZES: February 5-8, 2013

Tuesday February 5, 2013:

3 rd Annual Ping Pong Tournament and Ice Cream Social

Wednesday February 6, 2013 Late Start: Black Out Day (dress in BLACK)

2nd Annual Archery Tournament

Thursday February 7, 2013: Snow Daze Day (winter apparel)

Ice Skating and Dodge Ball Tournament

Friday February 8, 2013: Blue and Grey Day

Hot Chocolate and Brownies and watch JV Trinity Christian Basketball Game



RTHS Breakfast and Lunch Menu:

Feb. 1	Cinnamon Rolls, Cereal, juice/fruit, milk	Kneophla Soup, ham & cheese sandwich, lettuce, veggies, fruit
Feb. 4	Jelly donuts, cereal, fruit/ juice, milk	Chicken twister, baked potatoes, veggies, lettuce, fruit, milk
Feb. 5	toast, cereal, juice, milk	French toast, omelets, hash browns, fruit, milk
Feb. 6	No Breakfast Late Start	Beef French Dip, curly fries, lettuce, veggies, fruit, milk
Feb. 7	cereal, granola bars, juice, milk	Super Potato oleos, lettuce, cheese cake, cherries, milk
Feb. 8	Yogurt, cereal, juice, milk	Chili, baked bread, crackers, shredded cheese, lettuce, veggies, fruit, milk
Feb. 11	Granola Bars, cereal, juice, milk	Chicken nuggets, rolls, butter noodles, corn, lettuce, fruit, milk
Feb. 12	Breakfast to go, hash browns, juice, milk	Pork Roast, mashed potatoes, California blend, rolls, lettuce, fruit,
Feb. 13	Cereal, toast, juice, milk	fish patties, oven potatoes, rolls, green beans, lettuce, fruit, milk
Feb. 14	Pancakes, sausage links, juice, milk	Tacos, cheese, lettuce, veggies, fruit, milk
Feb. 15	Yogurt, cereal, juice, milk	Tomato soup, grilled cheese sandwiches, pickles, lettuce, veggies, fruit, milk
Feb. 18	No School	
Feb. 19	Yogurt, cereal, juice, milk	Baked Potatoes bar, chili, California blend, bread sticks, pudding, milk
Feb. 20	Egg Patties, Hash browns, toast, juice, milk	Hot Dogs, baked beans, potato wedges, pickles, lettuce, veggies,
Feb. 21	Banana bread, cereal, juice, milk	Hamburgers, cheese slices, french fries, pickles, lettuce, veggies,
Feb. 22	French toast, sausage patties, juice, milk	Cheese pizza, lettuce, veggies, fruit, dessert, milk
Feb. 25	Doughnuts, cereal, juice, milk	Chicken burgers, hash browns, pickles, lettuce, veggies, fruit, milk
Feb. 26	Waffles, sausage patties, juice, milk	Burritos, nachos, refried beans, lettuce, veggies, fruit, milk
Feb. 27	Fruit muffins, cereal, juice, milk	Turkey & cheese sandwiches, curly fries, pickles, lettuce, veggies, fruit,
Feb. 28	Yogurt, cereal, juice, milk	Meatballs, mashed potatoes, rolls, corn, lettuce, fruit, milk

Junior High Play "Cinderella"

Sunday March 10, 2013 @ 2:00

FEBRUARY 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7/8 BB @ GE/H 4:00 JV BB Tourn. @ GU	2 ABC BB vs HR @ SH 4:15 JV BB Tourn. @ GU
3	4	5 ABC BB @ Trin-ity 4:00/7/8 BB vs Hazen @ TRE 4:00 Snow Daze	6 LATE START 10:25 Snow Dazes	7 AB GB @ Trin-ity 5:30/7/8 BB vs Killdeer @ TRE 4:30 Snow Dazes	8 AB GB and AB BB vs Trin. Christian 3:00 Snow Dazes	9 Speech @ RTHS (Jeans Tourn.)
10	11 ABC BB vs NS @ RT 4:00 Parents Night	12 AB GB @ NS 5:00	13	14 AB GB vs Beulah @ RT 5:00 Parents Night 7/8 BB@ Hazen	15 BB District Tournament Beulah	16 BB District Tournament Beulah
17	18 NO SCHOOL BB District Tourn. Beulah Finals School Board Mgt @ RTHS 5:30	19 AB GB @ Center 5:00	20 EARLY RELEASE 1:30	21 GB @ N E 5:30	22 VB & FB Fund-raiser 1:00-7:00 Schwans Truck Load Sale @ RT 7/8 BB Tour. @ RTHS Speech @ Shiloh	23
24	25 BB Region Tournament	26 7/8 BB vs GU/H @ TRE 4:00	27 RTHS Parent Teachers Conferences	28 BB Region Finals		

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

RICHARDTON-TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS



From the Principal's Printer.....

February is **Reading Month!** This year our theme is "Catch the Reading Wave". Our staff has many exciting activities planned for the month. Look for notes from the teachers for more details. Our goal is to encourage children to read, read, read! This year the students have the opportunity to earn a trip the Rec Center for a morning of swimming. Other activities for reading month include: BIG Books with the BIG kids, a family picnic, Read a T-shirt day, Raiders Reader day where the high school athletes will come over to TRE and read to the students, Teachers Read day where the teachers dress up in character and read to the students, a character parade and finally a chance to watch the play Cinderella performed by the Jr. High students from RTHS. Please help your child read as much as they can. Thanks for your assistance!

The Stark County **Spelling Bee** will be held in Dickinson at Trinity High School on Wednesday, February 13th. There will be 3 finalists and 1 alternate representing TRE at this contest. The county winner will advance to the state finals in March in Bismarck.

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held at TRE on Wednesday, February 20th and Thursday, February 21st from 3:30 – 7:30. The classroom teachers will be sending slips home with the students notifying parents of their scheduled time. If you are not able to attend the conference at that time, please call and make arrangements with the teacher to schedule a meeting as soon as possible. The staff and I are proud of the relationships we have established with the parents of our students. Our number one goal is to educate the children to the best of our ability. Thank you for your cooperation and

collaborative efforts. **Conferences are only 15 minutes in length, so it is very important that you come a little early and leave your conference when your time is up.** I know that we are a busy society and there is always something going on. Please be considerate of the people before and after you. If you think you need more than 15 minutes to confer with your child's teacher, please make arrangements to meet at a different time or on a different day. Thank You! We will be conducting a Title I Needs survey to assess our Title I program and how we can improve it. So that extra time can be used to complete the survey. Your input and cooperation is greatly appreciated!

Kindergarten Registration will be held during Parent/Teacher Conferences. If you have a child who will be attending kindergarten next year (2013-2014), please come to the office on Wednesday, February 20th from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM or Thursday, February 21st from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM to register your child. There are forms to be filled out. We also **need a copy of the Certificate of Live Birth and an updated Immunization Record of the child.** There is information available in the office about kindergarten readiness skills. Stop in and ask! If you are unable to register your child during this time, please call the office to arrange another time that is convenient for you, 974-3585. The sooner you register your child the better it is for our district. It helps us determine staffing needs and to make arrangements to better educate the children.

Continued on page 7

Upcoming Events

- **Love & Logic—**
continues
February 4,
March 11 & 18
- **No school, Monday**
February 18—
President's Day
- **TRE PTC—**
February 20 & 21
- **TRE PAWS—**
Sunday, Feb 24 -
4:00 p.m.

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Annika Bobb Wins the TRE National Geography Bee for Second Straight Year

Can you name the mountain state covered almost entirely by the Appalachians? Which state is famous for the Gold Rush of 1849? Or how about naming the South American capital that lies southeast of Lake Titicaca.

This is just a small sample of questions that the 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students of TRE recently tackled. Boys and girls from these three grades recently competed in the annual National Geography Bee in a preliminary round. 22 students were selected from those grades to move onto the second round of competition. The students who moved into the second round of competition were:

Grade 4: Taylor Davenport, Zane Entze, Kazanne Gjermundson, Trista Hargrove, and Ashton Hoff

Grade 5: Conner Kuntz, Gabby Messer, Britton Paulson, Cheyden Paulson, Tymber Schneider, Sebastien VanWeerd, and Nigel Watson

Grade 6: Jan Ballon, Annika Bobb, Elle Goetz, Conner Haman, Kaylee Heiser, Logan Hoff, Jodi Leingang, Logan Kuntz, Sierra Kelley, and Collin Kuntz

Competition concluded with a short round of 10 final questions answered by our finalists. The students who were in the final round were Ashton Hoff, Zane Entze, Gabby Messer, Annika Bobb, Logan Hoff, Jodi Leingang, and Logan Kuntz. A nerve wracking round was completed in



front of the student body, much like the finals in Jeopardy. Annika Bobb, daughter of Jim and LaVonne Bobb of Taylor and sixth grade student at TRE, answered the most questions correctly and will go on to the next level of competition. She will be taking a written test in the next few days and will then be notified if she will compete in the state competition.

We want to congratulate all of the students on a job well done and wish Annika the best of luck in the next level of competition.

TRE Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held Wednesday, February 20th & Thursday, February 21st 3:30 – 7:30 pm.

Kindergarten registration for 2013-2014 will be held in conjunction with conferences.

February 6 Late Start 10:25

February 18 No school President's Day

February 20 Early Dismissal 1:30



Kindergarten Registration

Wednesday, February 20th

from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm

Thursday, February 21st

from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm





GeoBee Final Contestants Front row, l to r: Zane Entze, Sebastien VanWeerd, Britton Paulson, Nigel Watson, Ashton Hoff, Cheyden Paulson, Tymber Schneider.
Middle row: Sierra Kelley, Logan Hoff, Jodi Leingang, Trista Hargrove, Kazanne Gjermundson, Taylor Davenport, Conner Kuntz, Gabriella Messer.
Back row: Annika Bobb (winner), Jan Ballon, Collin Kuntz, Conner Haman, Logan Kuntz, Elle Goetz and Kaylee Heiser

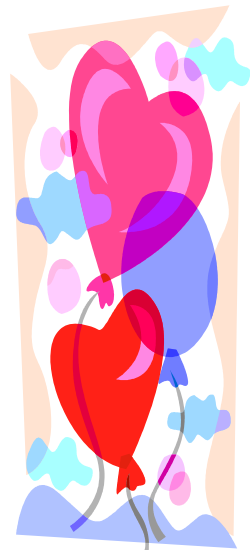
“Can you name the mountain state covered almost entirely by the Appalachians?”



Congratulations and good luck Annika!



Mr. Bohn hands GeoBee champion Annika Bobb first place medal.



TRE February Menu

BREAKFAST:

February 4-8

Monday- cereal, muffin, juice, milk
 Tuesday- egg omelet, toast, fruit, milk
 Wednesday- late start, no breakfast
 Thursday- cereal, lemon bread, juice, milk
 Friday- egg & cheese biscuit, fruit, milk

February 11-15

Monday- breakfast on a stick, fruit, milk
 Tuesday- cereal, cinnamon toast, juice, milk
 Wednesday- cinnamon rolls, fruit, milk
 Thursday- cereal, bagel, juice, milk
 Friday- French toast w/syrup, fruit, milk

February 18-22

Monday- No school, President's Day
 Tuesday- cereal, yogurt, juice, milk
 Wednesday- breakfast pizza, fruit, milk
 Thursday- cereal, toast, juice, milk
 Friday- long john, fruit, milk

February 25-March 1

Monday- cereal, donut, juice, milk
 Tuesday- sausage & cheese biscuit, fruit, milk
 Wednesday- cereal, cinnamon toast, juice, milk
 Thursday- caramel roll, fruit, milk
 Friday- cereal, granola bar, juice, milk



LUNCH:

February 4-8

Monday- chicken nuggets, rice pilaf, green beans, carrots, muffin, pears, milk
 Tuesday- hot ham & cheese, tator tots, cole slaw, chocolate pudding, ½ orange, milk
 Wednesday- pork roast, mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, dinner roll, apple crisp, milk
 Thursday- rib burger, smile potatoes, broccoli & cauliflower, grapes, cookie, milk
 Friday- taco salad w/beans & tomatoes, bread stick, cantaloupe, chocolate cake, milk

February 11-15

Monday- tator tot hot dish, mixed veggies, muffin, pears, milk
 Tuesday- corn dog, French fries, baked beans, ½ apple, milk
 Wednesday- fish wedges, tator wedges, green beans, muffin jell-O w/fruit, milk
 Thursday- finger steaks, buttered noodles, peas, bubble bread, peaches, milk
 Friday- cheese pizza, lettuce salad, cookie, ½ orange, milk

February 18-22

Monday- No school, President's Day
 Tuesday- popcorn chicken, French fries, mixed veggies, cinnamon bread, apricots, milk
 Wednesday- scalloped potatoes & ham, corn, dinner roll, banana cream pie, milk
 Thursday- super nachos, lettuce salad w/black beans, cookie, grapes, milk
 Friday- tomato soup, grilled cheese, crackers, carrot & celery sticks, banana, milk

February 25-March 1

Monday- burritos w/lettuce & salsa, chips, carrot & celery sticks, ½ apple, chocolate chip bar, milk
 Tuesday- hot ham & cheese, French fries, cole slaw, applesauce, milk
 Wednesday- spaghetti, bread stick, corn, fruit salad, milk
 Thursday- chicken burger, hash browns, baked beans, grapes, cookie, milk
 Friday- macaroni & cheese, peas, cinnamon roll, carrots, peaches, milk



Elementary School • February 2013

BUILDING READERS®

How Families Can Help Children Become Better Readers

Taylor Richardton Elementary
Janine Olson - Elementary Principal

Put some extra thought into reading time

During your family's reading time each day, it's important to have "thinking time," too. This builds your child's comprehension. For example:

- **Before reading a book**, talk about it. Why does it look interesting? What is it about? What hints does the cover provide? Encourage your child to ask questions and make comments while you read.
- **Think aloud while reading.** You and your child might wonder, "Why did that happen?" "Does the story make sense?" "What could happen next?" "Do you agree with that character's decision?"
- **After reading a book**, talk about it again. Did you like it? Why or why not? Do you relate to the characters' experiences or feelings? Discuss it again days later, when your child has had more time to think about the story.



Source: "Helping your child learn to read: A Parent's Guide," Ontario Ministry of Education, www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/brochure/earlyreading/index.html

*"It is well to read everything of something,
and something of everything."*

—Lord Henry P. Brougham

'Journaling' is an exciting writing project

Keeping a journal is a great way to build reading and writing skills. But kids aren't always enthusiastic about "journaling." Try giving your child a notebook, a pen and irresistible ideas, such as:

- **Rewriting a favorite story.** Encourage your child to write something new about a character he loves.
- **Writing a silly poem.** Don't follow the "rules." Instead, craft a poem that uses fun combinations of words!
- **Trading messages.** Pass notes with your child. Write a fun question in his notebook for him to answer. Then he can write back and ask you something.
- **Writing for TV.** Suggest that your child imagine a new episode of a TV show he loves. Read—and compliment—the story he writes!

Source: K.J. Gough, "Summer Journaling with Kids," Metro Parent, www.metroparent.com/Metro-Parent/June-2012/Summer-Journaling-with-Kids/

Let reading inspire family activities

Your child has to read a biography for school, and he's not excited about it. How can you help him persevere?

Plan fun activities related to the book. If he reads about Benjamin Franklin, for instance, he might learn that Franklin supported fire departments. As a family, you could visit a fire department in honor of Franklin's work.

Source: "Summer Reading Activity Center," All Star Activities, www.allstaractivities.com/reading/Reading-summer-calendar.htm



Soar With Reading supports family learning online

Looking for reading tips, book ideas and online activities? Visit Soar With Reading at www.soarwithreading.com. Click on "Let's Read" for parent tips. Or try "Activities" for kid-friendly fun.



Add sight words to your child's regular learning routine

Children are often told to "sound out" words. But that's especially difficult with some words. Introduce



your child to *sight words*—words she needs to recognize quickly. Ask her teacher for a list. Then make flash cards that use words and pictures. (The number "twelve" might have a "12" next to it, for example.) Use the cards to review often.

Teach your child to tackle tough words

Sometimes words are hard to figure out, and that's why schools teach "word attack" skills. When your child approaches a challenging word, she can:

- **Sound out the word**, making and blending letter sounds. Which sounds make the most sense?
- **Think of similar words**. What words look like the mystery word? For example, *freight* looks and sounds like *eight*.
- **Look carefully at pictures**. What people, things and actions are shown? Do they provide any clues?
- **Read more**. Reread the sentence—and the ones before and after it. Think about what words might fit. Give them a try!

Source: "Reading and Word-Attack Strategies," Reading A-Z, www.readinga-z.com/more/reading_strat.html.



Suggest comic books for reluctant readers

Does your reader hesitate to pick up traditional chapter books but will read comic books? That's okay!

Experts say that comic books are just another type of book. They provide the same benefits and reading skills. In fact, picture books have adopted elements of comics, including motion lines and speech bubbles.

By reading comic books that you approve of, your child will understand how words and pictures come together to tell a story. He will also see the progression of a story from beginning to middle to end.



Digital Vision

So when your child says that he just doesn't want to read, suggest a comic book featuring some of his favorite characters—he may just change his mind about reading!

Source: P. Ciciora, "For improving early literacy, reading comics is no child's play," University of Illinois, <http://news.illinois.edu/news/09/1105comics.html>.



Q: Is it normal for children to reverse letters? I'm worried that my son has dyslexia.

A: It's common for early readers to confuse similar-looking letters, such as *b* and *d*. As reading skills improve, however, this shouldn't happen often.

It's wonderful that you pay attention to your child's skills! But if you are worried about his reading, be sure to discuss your concerns with his teacher.

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

Famous actors read to children online

Need a break from doing dramatic read-alouds for your child? Visit Storyline Online! Here, find recordings of popular stories done by members of the Screen Actors Guild. Check it out at www.storylineonline.net. The site provides free reading activities, too!



For lower elementary readers:

- *Minette's Feast* by Susanna Reich (Abrams). What would chef Julia Child serve her pet? Readers find out in this tale about Child's real-life cat Minette.
- *Because Amelia Smiled* by David Ezra Stein (Candlewick). Because she saw Amelia smile, Mrs. Higgins smiled and baked some cookies. See what happens next in this chain of events started by a simple smile.



For upper elementary readers:

- *Our White House: Looking in, Looking Out* by N.C.B.L.A. (Candlewick). More than 100 authors and illustrators contribute to this updated edition. It's especially good for advanced readers and read-aloud story times.
- *Bananas in my Ears* by Michael Rosen (Candlewick). This silly collection of quirky poems and stories takes readers to the seaside to meet some Smelly Jelly Smelly Fish, but be careful not to get Spollylollydiddlytiddlyitis, or you'll have to go to the doctor!

Building Readers®

How Families Can Help Children Become Better Readers

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February is Reading Month!

Now is the time to put all those wonderful reading skills into action. February is reading month. This year's theme is Catch the Reading Wave. We are planning a few exciting things for the month of February. Each of our activities is designed to make reading fun. Our main goal is to encourage a love of reading.

We will begin our month with a short assembly. Our children will do a choral reading of their Reader's Oath. We hope they will be motivated to spend a little extra time every day to read. Each child will be given a special treat to see just how cool reading is.

One of our next activities will partner our older children with our younger boys and girls. The children will team up to read books. Children learn so many things from each other. We would like to have our older boys and girls set good examples of what good readers sound like. They always like to spend time with a new reading buddy.

On Valentine's Day we invite a family member to spend some time with your child for a family picnic. We would like family members to bring in a beach towel or blanket. Pack up a simple picnic or snack and join your child for a special afternoon of sharing a good book. You can enjoy a little game of beach volleyball or maybe even a limbo contest. We look for-

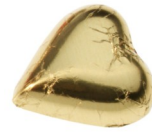
ward to seeing you there. What a wonderful way to say I love you on Valentine's Day.

We will also enjoy guest readers from the high school and staff. We really want the boys and girls to see how important reading is by having other students and staff be role models for good readers.

We are planning a character parade the first of March. Start thinking of a costume (not Halloween) that fits a character in a book. The children will be sharing them with the other students in the school. It will be a chance to share something about a favorite story. This will tie into a visit to the high school to see a play presented by the junior high later in the week.

Our final activity will be in the middle of March. Each classroom is going to set a goal for how much they can read during the month of February. If your child achieves the set goal they will earn a trip to the West River Recreation Center for an afternoon of swimming.

As you can see we have lots planned. Please be an active participant. Help establish good reading habits and encourage your child. Your boys and girls will be coming home with a calendar of events and one to keep track of their reading. Thank you for your help. Catch the Reading Wave!

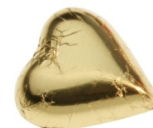


Spend a little extra time each day reading with your child.

PAWS Meeting

Sunday,
February 24

4:00 p.m.
at TRE



Principal's Printer continued from page 1

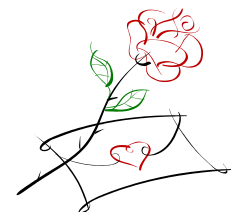
TRE's fourth grade students have been selected to represent schools across our state by participating in the **National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)**. NAEP is given by the U.S. Department of Education and tells us what American students know and can do in key subject areas. It is the only ongoing nationally representative assessment that provides this valuable information. NAEP has been given in schools nationwide for more than 35 years. The results are published in a report call *The Nation's Report Card* which provides reliable student achievement information to educators, parents and other citizens. If you would like to have additional information about NAEP, please visit the web site at <http://nationsreportcard.gov>. You may also contact me at 974-3585 or via email at Janine.Olson@sendit.nodak.edu.

There will be a **late start** on Wednesday, February 6, no **school** on Monday, February 18th and an **early release** on Wednesday, February 20th. Enjoy some family time together during this mini-vacation.

The next PAWS meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 24, 2013, at 4:00 PM at Taylor-Richardton Elementary school. We will be planning for the annual Spring Fling, which is scheduled for Friday, May 3. We welcome any and all parents to attend. Your input would be greatly appreciated.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY AND PRESIDENT'S DAY!

Janine M. Olson





Pep Grant Year 3 Fruit and Vegetable Challenge

Nearly two hundred people participated in the Fruit and Vegetable challenge sponsored by RU-fit. Participants kept track of the number of servings of fruits and vegetables they consumed each day for a two week time period. The majority of participants were K-6 students who each received a mini-beach ball for their effort. Students also had a chance to win \$10 gift cards and RU-Fit t-shirts.

As part of the kick off for this event, Rhonda Herauf, RU-Fit Education Coordinator, and Yvonn Weigel, RU-Fit Data Coordinator, visited the schools and met with K-6 students. Students were taught a simple dance which was videotaped – Glen Ullin students and staff were voted as the winners! Glen Ullin School will receive a banner recognizing them as the dance contest champs. You Rock!

Congratulations to the community of South Heart – they once again had the most school and community members participating in the challenge. South Heart will be receiving another banner to hang in their gym! Way to go!



Frozen Yogurt Pop

Prep time: about 1 to 2 hours

Ingredients: 1 8-oz. container of your favorite flavor of yogurt

Directions:

Pour yogurt into paper cups. Fill them almost to the top.

Stretch a small piece of plastic wrap across the top of each cup.

Using the popsicle stick, poke a hole in the plastic wrap. Stand the stick straight up in the center of the cup.

Put the cups in the freezer until the yogurt is frozen solid.

Remove the plastic wrap, peel away the paper cup, and eat your pop!

Variations and suggestions:

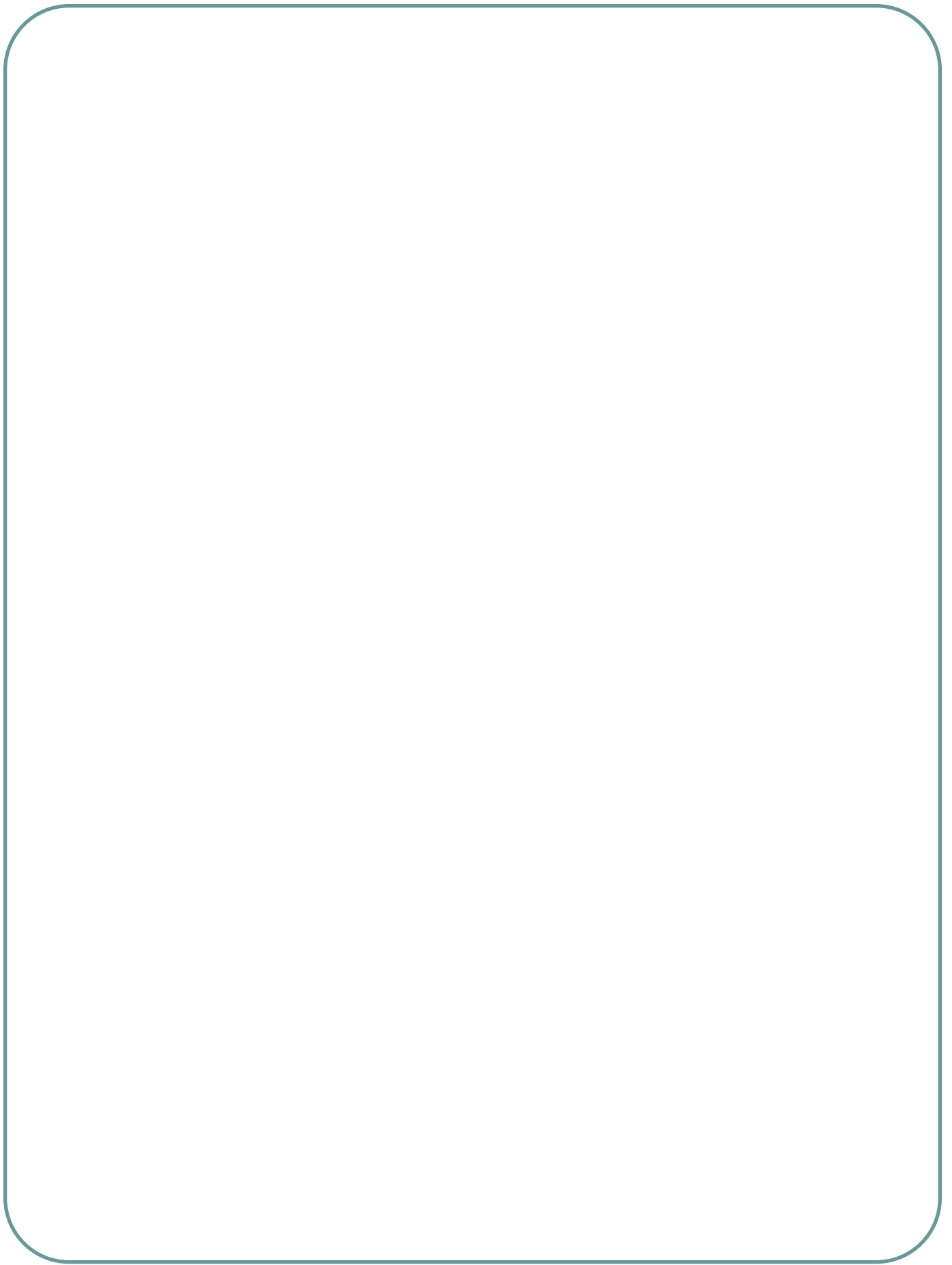
If you like, you can make this recipe using plastic ice-pop molds instead of the paper cups and popsicle sticks.

For a cool-looking snack, fill your cups only halfway with one flavor of yogurt in Step 1. Follow Steps 2, 3, and 4. Remove your pops from the freezer, take off the plastic wrap, and spoon in another flavor of yogurt that's a different color. Put the plastic wrap back on and freeze once more. When your pops are frozen, you'll have two-colored treats!

C-spllosion

1 cup orange juice
1 cup raspberries
1/4 blueberries





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