

Lamoni Community School Newsletter February 2016

CONTACT INFORMATION

WEBSITE: www.lamonischools.org

Phone: Elem 784-3422

MS & HS 784-3351

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ADMINISTRATION

Chris Coffelt,
Superintendent

John Burrell,
Pre K-12 Principal

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Chip Millslagle- President
Michele Dickey-Kotz- Vice Pres
Bob Bell

Larry Heltenberg
Cody Shields

School Board Meeting
Monday Feb 8th 6:00 pm

IMPORTANT DATES

Feb 12th – Feb Fest Dance 9 pm

Feb 15th – Prof Development – No School

Feb 18th – Pops Concert 6:30 pm

Feb 21-27- National FFA Week

SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS & DELAYS

In case of bad weather, avoid calling your child's school; instead, please check the following media. Information is available starting at approximately 6:30a.m. Unless you see or hear an announcement, assume school is running as usual.

KAAN RADIO FM 95.5
WHO RADIO AM 1040
Channel 5-WOI-TV Des Moines
Channel 8-KCCI-TV Des Moines
Channel 13-WHO-TV Des Moines

Open Enrollment Deadline

Reminder to parents: **March 1** is the deadline for filing an open enrollment application with the resident and receiving districts for the 2016/2017 school year. For kindergarten students, the deadline is September 1. Any questions call the school at 784-3351.



From the Desk of Mr. Coffelt

Lamoni Community,

While February may have the fewest number of days of any month on the calendar, it certainly does not lack for amount of activity. In this month alone, basketball, wrestling and bowling squads continue their seasons and begin their quest for state through sectional, district and regional competitions. Jazz band competes at Indianola and Indian Hills and National FFA Week is February 21-27. If anyone ever complains about nothing to do in a small town, feel free to share our activity calendar with them!

The 2016 Legislative session continues, with a heightened focus on education funding in two areas: Supplemental State Aid (SSA) and Securing an Advanced Vision for Education (SAVE) funding. My conversation with local legislators has been on timely and adequate funding of SSA, which establishes our funding level for next school year. Timely and adequate funding ensures we develop a budget for next school year with the most accurate amounts available to us to support teaching and learning. The Governor, House and Senate have each established a different level in their opening proposals. Additionally, Governor Branstad announced a proposal that would divert a portion of funds from Iowa's existing one-percent sales tax (SAVE funds) from school infrastructure improvements to water quality initiatives. The proposal would also extend the tax, which generates more than \$400 million annually, by 20 years from 2029 to 2049.

While I appreciate that Gov. Branstad recognizes the need for significant long-term, sustainable funding for education infrastructure – as well as water quality – I have serious concerns regarding the diversion of funding, the precedent this sets, and how funds would be allocated. Funding for both education and natural resources – including water quality – improves Iowa's economy, communities, health and quality of life. Each would benefit from its' own independent funding stream. (Pardon my pun.) I am wary of legislation that would divert money from one well-deserved source to another.

I also question the precedent this sets for future diversions of this and other dedicated funding sources. SAVE funding was created and approved by every county to fund school infrastructure needs, and benefits Iowa communities across the state. While the plan under consideration extends the tax 20 years and "guarantees" schools all the SAVE funds they currently receive plus an additional \$10 million per year, it sets a dangerous precedent that could lay the foundation for additional changes in the future.

Lamoni has used SAVE funding to relieve our local property tax levy, build the FEMA-approved SAFE room and support transportation and technology, along with other infrastructure priorities. Diversion of funds at the state level will impair our ability at the local level to continue to support these priorities and provide the educational environment our students deserve.

It is critical that the Legislature find a way to work together as they address these two measures in a manner that maintains education as a priority in the state. Feel free to contact me with questions regarding either of these topics as we move forward this spring.

Thanks for your continued support.

Chris



From the Desk of Mr. Burrell

As we progress into the month of February, our second semester is well under way, and the promise of spring is right around the corner. Overall, we have been fairly lucky with our winter weather, but I still am looking forward to warmer temperatures. We have quite a few activities on the calendar, as we enter this long stretch of school before spring break.

As we approach the end of our winter sports seasons, there are a couple activities I would like to highlight. February 5th our basketball teams will face Melcher-Dallas, and we will have Senior Night to recognize the hard work and dedication our student-athletes have shown. On that night, we will also have the South Central Energizers Power Tumbling Team perform at half time of the boys' game. Saturday, February 6th wrestling sectionals will begin, and February 9th the final, regular season, varsity boys' and girls' basketball games are played at home. Our bowling team will have their final meet on February 11th at Centerville. We would like to thank everyone for your continued support of our students and school at these types of events.

Our elementary students are finishing up their second round of FAST testing, and the middle school students will be taking their Iowa Assessments the week of February 8th. These are both very important assessments for our students, as the state uses this data as a strong indicator of the success of our school district. At the high school level, our FFA students will be busy the week of February 21st because of National FFA week. The jazz band will also be busy during February with performances 3 out of the 4 Saturdays throughout the month.

With all of the activities going on during this winter season, it is important to remind our students that schoolwork and learning are always a top priority. We appreciate all of you who make sure your children are at school on time and are prepared for class, and the learning that takes place each day. It is difficult to replace the valuable

instruction that our teachers deliver on a daily basis. It is our hope that we can continually improve the quality of the education we offer your children, and your continued support in that is extremely beneficial. It is great to be a Demon!

Mr. Burrell



February 15th, 2016

A Time To Spread Holiday Cheer

Lamoni FFA Reporter, Laura Swank

The Lamoni FFA Chapter helps bring Christmas joy by making decorations for the local Christmas Store. They cut, painted and assembled wooden penguins and Santa Claus'.

They did not just make decorations for the Christmas Store, the members also helped raise money during their annual Christmas Fundraiser at Pizza Hut on December 3rd. To earn money at Pizza Hut they greeted customers, cleaned tables, and washed dishes in order to donate to the Angel Tree for the local community. Thank you to all of those who have helped the Lamoni FFA Chapter make this Christmas Season so special for more in the community.

Sunday, December 6th, members of the Lamoni FFA Chapter and their families were invited to a chapter Christmas party. The Christmas party was a great way for members and their families to get together, celebrate, and show appreciation for each other. The dinner was potluck-style with great food and dessert. After dinner, the members conducted a BINGO game with prizes for all ages. The party was a fun time for all who attended.

Assembling Christmas decorations



pictured: Laura, Derek, and Riley

Chapter presenting the money raised at their annual Christmas Fundraiser



pictured: Jessica, Tanner, Jordan, Shelby, Riley, and Serena Schwab

Nurse's Notes

Many students spend more time in school than they do at home, and keeping them safe and healthy while at school is our primary responsibility. Here are a few things that we would like for parents to know so that they can help with keeping our children well.

1. **Keep children home when they are ill:** Be sure to check the t guidelines when deciding whether or not to send your child to school. It is recommended that the child go at least 24 hours fever- and diarrhea-free before heading back to school.
2. **Make sure children are dressed appropriately to go outside:** Make sure your student is dressed appropriately to spend time outside. We recommend they have warm coats, gloves and hats. If your child is in need of any of these please contact the school nurse.
3. **Hand washing is the most important habit:** Parents are constantly reminded to teach their children good hand-washing habits. We have been doing hand-washing classes at school but they need to be reminded at home as well.
4. **Make breakfast a priority:** Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Students who do not eat breakfast can experience stomachaches, headaches, nausea and dizziness. Our students have bodies and brains growing quickly and often need this refueling in the morning.
5. **Cover your coughs!** The spread of germs can be stopped quickly if students cover their mouth when they sneeze or cough with the inside of their arm or elbow.
6. **Practice good health prevention:** Eating healthy, staying hydrated, and getting plenty of rest will keep both children and parents in their healthiest state. Healthy children often fight off sickness much quicker due to a healthier immune system. If your child has not had a flu shot or the mist this year it is important that they do so.

**Thank you,
Alice Sweeten RN
641-784-3422**

February 2016

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

1 Pancake & Bacon Cooks Choice Fruit & Veggie Bar	2 Oatmeal & Biscuit Shrimp Mac & Cheese Fruit & Veggie Bar	3 Cinnamon Roll & Cheese Chili/Crackers Fruit & Veggie Bar	4 Biscuits & Gravy Chicken Pattie/Bun French Fries Fruit & Veggie Bar	5 Long John Hay Stack Fruit & Veggie Bar
8 Donut & Cheese Cheese Potatoes Fruit & Veggie Bar	9 Bkf Wrap & Saus Chicken Nuggets Peas Fruit & Veggie Bar	10 Oatmeal & Toast Sloppy Joe Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar	11 Omelet Bacon/ Toast Walking Taco Fruit & Veggie Bar	12 Sausage Pancake Stick Pepperoni Pizza Fruit & Veggie Bar
15 No School	16 Pancake & Sausage Popcorn Chicken Peas Fruit & Veggie Bar	17 Biscuit & Gravy Rib/Bun Baked Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar	18 Muffin & Cheese Stick Tator Tot Casserole Fruit & Veggie Bar	19 Breakfast Pizza Corn Dog Carrots Fruit & Veggie Bar
22 Muffin & Cheese Stick Pepperoni Pizza Fruit & Veggie Bar	23 Oatmeal & Toast Hamburger/Bun Calico Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar	24 Fr Toast & Sausage Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese Fruit & Veggie Bar	25 Donut/Boiled egg BLT Wrap Fruit & Veggie Bar	26 Pancake & Sausage Pork/Potatoes Gravy/Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar
29 Waffle & Sausage Turkey/Noodles Potatoes/Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar	1 Biscuit & Gravy Shrimp Broccoli & Cheese Fruit & Veggie Bar	2 Oatmeal/Toast Crispito Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar	3 Egg/Bacon/Toast BBQ Chicken/Bun Wedges Fruit & Veggie Bar	4 Long John/Boiled egg Potato Soup Ham Sandwich Fruit & Veggie Bar
Cereal & Toast offered at Brkfast 1% milk, yogurt, juice & fruit		1%, Chocolate & Strawberry low fat milk offered at lunch		Menu Subject to Change



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LAMONI, IOWA 50140

MISSION STATEMENT FOR LAMONI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Through our collective efforts in a caring environment, we will prepare students for a life-long process of learning, which promotes the ability and motivation to contribute to a better world.

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