Dear Wakonda Families,

They say time flies when you’re having fun! It is ImPoSSiBle to think that it is December! The holiday season makes us all pause and reflect on what’s important in life, the people we love, and our life’s work. At Wakonda, our staff spent a lot of time reflecting this year about our mission at Wakonda and what you can count on as you send your child to school each day. Here is why we come to work each day:

At Wakonda, we empower confident lifelong learners by:
- Fostering a safe and consistent environment
- Investing in positive relationships and
- Providing Rigorous Instruction.

We guide students to discover their passions and broaden their opportunities to reach their fullest potential.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your family’s life and trusting us with your children each day! It is truly something we are thankful for as we count our blessings this time of year!

We plan to finish 2018 strong as we work to hit our daily learning goals (Make sure you ask your student each day, what their learning goals were for the day.) We know that hitting these daily goals will make us really proud as we take our Winter MAP tests when we return in January. These tests help us goal set with students and help us measure how they are growing throughout the year. Please remind your child how important it is to be listening, learning and giving their best effort each day. We can’t wait to see the growth!

Please enjoy this holiday season with your families and friends. We hope you can join us on December 18 at 9:00 or 2:00 for our Winter Program, A Celebration of Peace and Joy!

Wakonda Forever!
Jennifer LeClair
Principal

Baby, It’s Cold Outside!

As the weather gets cold, please dress students to stay warm. We will go outside for recess as much as possible. Not to mention, walking in from the car and waiting for rides at dismissal or walking to and from school is COLD! If you need coats, hats, or gloves please reach out to Ms. Williams in the family room or Miss Kate, our social worker! 531-299-2180
December:
3-12 Holiday Fair Shopping
6 4\textsuperscript{th} gr. to The Nutcracker
6 Girls’ Basketball Game @ Wakonda 4:30
7 Kate Klise Author Visit
12 Popcorn and Sweets Orders Due
13 Girls’ Basketball Game @ Skinner 4:30
13 PTO Meeting 5:00
18 Winter Music Program PK-5 9:00
& 2:00
20 PreK to Children’s Museum
20 Mobile Food Pantry
20 Report Cards Come Home
21 No School Pre K
22-January 6 Winter Break
January 7 Welcome Back!

Family Room &
THREE 4 ME
Participate in school activities/volunteer a total of 3 hours or more here at Wakonda throughout this school year! Every 3 hours allows your name to be entered to win great prizes! You make a BIG difference!

Please join us for the PTO meeting on December 13 at 5:00. We would love to have your input as we plan for second semester.

Popcorn and Sweets orders will be delivered on Friday, December 14\textsuperscript{th}. All proceeds go to support student activities in the building throughout the year!

The date for the Mobile Food Pantry this month is Thursday, December 20 from 4:30-6:30.

Attendance Matters!
Each class is working to be the Weekly Attendance Heroes and win a traveling trophy! Students need to be Here Every day Ready On time! Mrs. Gray’s KDG class was the weekly attendance winner with 98\% of the students at school on time this last week! The super attendance team will be announcing the monthly attendance winner on Friday afternoon. A video of the winning class receiving their trophy and snack will be posted on class dojo.

Also, a reminder as we are entering a time of year where students get sick. Please help your student stay well by making sure they get plenty of rest, are washing their hands regularly, and staying away from others who they know are sick. If your student is ill, please call the school, 531-299-2180, and let us know.
The Wakonda Winter Program will be on December 18 at 9:00 and 2:00. The program will be for Pre-K- 5th grade. Band and string performances will only be in the morning. Please plan to stay for the whole performance because we have a Grand Finale planned.

Please follow your child's teacher on Class Dojo! It's a GREAT way to view photos of what your child is doing in school each day, view Wakonda's daily announcements, see how they have earned points, send messages instantly to keep in touch with his/her teacher, and find out about what's happening at our school through our school story!

We are using Class Dojo to help students earn points in class for Being Safe, Being Responsible, Being Respectful and Being Brave. Each Friday, they get to redeem their points for prizes! Follow along to see how many points your child has earned! It's A.Ma.Zi.Ng!

You can download the Class Dojo app in the App Store on your phone or sign up online at Classdojo.com.

The Alice Buffett Outstanding Teacher Award recognizes the achievements of skilled and dedicated educators in the Omaha Public Schools. Nominations can be submitted by parents, students, fellow teachers, administrators and general public. We have AMAZING educators at Wakonda. Please use the following link to nominate a teacher! The deadline is January 15, 2019.

https://buffettoutstandingteachers.org/nominate

How does a conversation become a life lesson?

With a great teacher.

Nominate a Teacher Today!

COMING SOON

Wakonda Winter Music Program
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
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<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holiday Fair Shopping Begins</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4th gr. To Nutcracker</td>
<td>Girls' B-ball Game 4:30 @ Wakonda</td>
<td>Kate Klise Author Visit</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday Fair Shopping Ends</td>
<td>Popcorn &amp; Sweets Orders Due</td>
<td>Girls' B-ball Game 4:30 @ Skinner</td>
<td>PTO 5:00</td>
<td>Popcorn &amp; Sweets Orders Delivered</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-K-5th Grade Winter Music Program 9:00 &amp; 2:00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pre-K to Children's Museum</td>
<td>Mobile Food Pantry 4:30-6:30</td>
<td>No School PreK</td>
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<td>23</td>
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<td>Winter Break: December 22-January 6</td>
<td>Happy Holidays &amp; Happy New Year!</td>
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SCHOOL CHOICE FOR THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR

The Omaha Public School’s Student Assignment Plan for elementary and middle school students called the Partner Plan (grades K-8) consists of eight (8) elementary partner zones and four (4) middle school partner zones within the district. Your residential address and corresponding neighborhood school determine your partner zone. A student’s residence and distance to school determines transportation eligibility. If you have had a change of address, please contact your child’s school immediately as this could impact your Partner Zone and transportation eligibility.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 1</th>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 2</th>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 3</th>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belvedere PK-5</td>
<td>Boyd PK-5</td>
<td>Benson West K-5</td>
<td>Adams K-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florence K-5</td>
<td>Lothrop PK-4</td>
<td>Central Park PK-5</td>
<td>Druid Hill PK-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fullerton PK-4</td>
<td>Miller Park PK-5</td>
<td>Dodge PK-5</td>
<td>Fontenelle PK-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Masters K-5</td>
<td>Minne Lusa PK-5</td>
<td>Hartman PK-5</td>
<td>King PK-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prairie Wind K-5</td>
<td>Pinewood PK-5</td>
<td>Mount View PK-5</td>
<td>Picotte PK-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saddlebrook PK-5</td>
<td>Ponca K-5</td>
<td>Rose Hill K-5</td>
<td>Skinner PK-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wakonda PK-5</td>
<td>Sherman PK-5</td>
<td>Western Hills K-6</td>
<td>Standing Bear PK-4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Springville K-5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sunny Slope PK-5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Wilson Focus will continue as a District wide Specialty School. Families may apply to Wilson Focus starting in grade three. Applications available through the website at wilsonfocus.ops.org or by calling the school at 402-733-1785.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 5</th>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 6</th>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 7</th>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belle Ryan PK-6</td>
<td>Conestoga PK-6</td>
<td>Ashland Park/Robbins PK-6</td>
<td>Bancroft PK-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catlin K-5</td>
<td>Edison PK-5</td>
<td>Beals PK-6</td>
<td>Castelar PK-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dundee K-6</td>
<td>Franklin PK-6</td>
<td>Crestridge K-5</td>
<td>Chandler View PK-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Club PK-5</td>
<td>Harrison PK-6</td>
<td>Gateway PK-6</td>
<td>Columbian PK-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jackson PK-6</td>
<td>Joslyn PK-5</td>
<td>Highland PK-6</td>
<td>Gilder K-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liberty PK-6</td>
<td>Kellom PK-6</td>
<td>Indian Hill PK-6</td>
<td>Gomez Heritage PK-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walnut Hill PK-6</td>
<td>Kennedy PK-5</td>
<td>Jefferson K-6</td>
<td>Pawnee PK-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington PK-6</td>
<td>New School K-6 (32nd St &amp; Burt St)</td>
<td>Oak Valley PK-5</td>
<td>Spring Lake PK-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Middle School Partner Zones
Zone 1: Davis (6-8), Hale (6-8), King Science* (5-8), McMillan (6-8)
Zone 2: Alice Buffett (5-8), King Science* (5-8), Monroe (6-8, 8), Morton (6-8)
Zone 3: Beveridge* (6-8), King Science* (5-8), Lewis & Clark (6-8), Norris (6-8)
Zone 4: Beveridge* (6-8), Bryan (7-8), King Science* (5-8), Mars (5-8)

*King Science is a district magnet school and is therefore a partner school in each zone; however, students who live in the King Science neighborhood are in partner Zone 2 and only eligible for transportation to schools in that zone.

^Beveridge is a shared partner school in zones 3 & 4; however, students who live in the Beveridge neighborhood are in partner zone 3 and are only eligible for transportation to schools in that zone.

January, 2019, starts the annual school choice application process for the 2019-20 school year. Students enrolled in a transition grade (last grade at the current school), will receive a school choice application.
Visit: sap.ops.org to determine your Partner Zone and transportation eligibility.

SCHOOL CHOICE UNDER THE PARTNER PLAN
Families may apply for their child to attend any OPS school. Approval of a request depends on the availability of space at the student’s grade level in the requested school and these priorities:

1. Neighborhood school (guaranteed placement).
2. Siblings residing within the Partner Zone are selected first, followed by siblings residing outside the Partner Zone (not eligible for transportation).
3. Students residing in the Partner Zone. OPS remains committed to diversity in our schools. Applications are prioritized within the Partner Zone between schools with significantly different neighborhood characteristics.
4. Students residing outside the Partner Zone (not eligible for transportation). Applications are prioritized for any remaining space between schools with significantly different neighborhood characteristics.

TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY (The school choice application must be received by January 29, 2019)
- Students are eligible for transportation if they attend their neighborhood school and reside more than 1.0 mile from their elementary school or more than 1.5 miles from their middle school.
- Students are eligible for transportation if they attend one of their Partner Zone schools and reside more than 1.0 mile from the elementary school or 1.5 miles from the middle school.
- Students are NOT eligible for transportation if they attend any school outside of their Partner Zone.

EARLY CHILDHOOD INFORMATION
If your child is currently enrolled in an early childhood program and will be age-eligible for kindergarten for the 2019-20 school year, she/he will be enrolled at the neighborhood school. If you would like to be considered for placement at a non-neighborhood school, you must complete the school choice application that will be provided by your child’s current school.

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UPS will be held in January, 2019. Please attend Round-Up at your neighborhood school based on your residential address. School Choice Applications will be available at Round-Up and throughout the month of January for families who wish to request a non-neighborhood school(s). Round-Up dates will be posted on the OPS Web page or check the date with your neighborhood school.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECRUITMENT LETTERS will be mailed in December to families of students currently in the last grade level of their school. The purpose of the letter is to provide information about middle schools and their respective Open House dates.

If you have questions about the Omaha Public Schools Partner Plan or the School Choice process, please contact the Student Placement Office at (531) 299-0302.