Dear Wakonda Families,

Our Celebration of Love and Peace was a perfect way to spend our last week of school in 2018! THANK YOU to everyone that was able to join us for the performances! We LOVED having all of the families here...we just need a little more parking 😞 Your children's voices brought tears to my eyes as they filled the gym and sang together! There is something magical about 400 students singing about their wish for peace!

Not only are students bringing tears to my eyes as I hear them sing, but also as I watch them perform on their MAP assessments. We are seeing some tremendous gains from the beginning of the year! Parents, so much of that is because of YOU! Thank you for setting the expectation for your student that school is a priority and learning is their number one job! When you send them ready to learn and we have your support...growth happens quickly! It makes such a difference when students come to school and understand how to be respectful, ask for help when they need it, and listen carefully. Thank you for building these foundational skills at home...we see it carry over into the classrooms and are GRATEFUL for your support!

Winter Break has come unbelievably fast! Please enjoy spending time with family, sleeping in and making memories! We would love if students spent time reading and practicing math facts each day as well! One of things we are most thankful for this holiday season is that we get to spend our days with your children! We look forward to seeing their smiling faces again on January 7th!

Wakonda Forever!
Jennifer LeClair
Principal

For everyone’s safety, please pull into the circle drive and drop students off drive near the breakfast doors and then continue driving. Please do not allow students to exit the car from the street and cross. It is VERY dangerous! Please do not stop on Curtis to let students out for breakfast. It stops traffic and is dangerous for all cars and students. There have been several close calls recently! If your child goes to daycare, please relay this message to the daycare drivers as well! Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe!
January:

7 Back to School
9 Popcorn & Sweets Orders Due
11 Popcorn & Sweets Orders Delivered
11 3rd Gr. Reading Pep Rally Field Trip
18 4th Gr. & Ms. Bergstrom’s Class to SAC Museum
17 PTO Meeting 5:00
18 Kindergarten Round Up 2:30
21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day No School
24 Mobile Food Pantry
25 Pre K No School
25 Ms. Muhammad & Mrs. Helwig’s Class to SAC Museum
31 Progress Reports Come Home

Attendance Matters!

We are STRIVING FOR 95! This means that EVERY student is at school 95% of the school year! This number is a TURNING POINT in student achievement with several links to future achievement in reading scores, high school graduation, discipline data, etc. Studies show habits start as early as PreK. To achieve 95% attendance, a student cannot miss more than 9 days all year. Minutes add up quickly to days...please make sure that students are at school ON TIME each day and that they STAY THE WHOLE DAY! If at all possible please make appointments after school or on days when we don’t have school.

**Remember students can eat breakfast at 7:55. Please make sure they are here on time to eat and get to class by 8:20.**
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

**Wakonda Elementary Kindergarten Round Up**

We are so **excited** to have your child become part of our school family!

Please bring your son/daughter and join us for Kindergarten Round Up at Wakonda on:

**Friday, January 18, 2019**

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Your child must be **5 years old before July 31, 2019** to be eligible for enrollment for Kindergarten.

Parents/Guardians **must** bring the below paperwork for enrollment:

- **Birth Certificate** (certified copy)
- **Immunization Records**
- **Proof of Address**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Welcome Back</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3rd Grade Pep Rally</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Field Trip</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Mobile Food Pantry</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>KDG Roundup 2:30</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mobile Food Pantry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Welcome Back</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Welcome Back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>26</td>
<td>4th Grade Order Delivery</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Welcome Back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Popcorn &amp; Sweets Orders Due</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4th Grade Order Delivery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Popcorn &amp; Sweets</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4th Grade Order Delivery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Popcorn &amp; Sweets</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4th Grade Order Delivery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Progress Reports</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4th Grade Order Delivery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Come Home</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4th Grade Order Delivery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day: No School
- Mobile Food Pantry: 4:30-6:30
- 4th Grade Order: 2:30

© Teaching Times
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>
</tr>
</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fullerton PK-4</td>
<td>Miller Park PK-5</td>
<td>Dodge PK-5</td>
<td>Fontenelle PK-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters K-5</td>
<td>Minne Lusa PK-5</td>
<td>Hartman PK-5</td>
<td>King PK-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie Wind K-5</td>
<td>Pinewood PK-5</td>
<td>Mount View PK-5</td>
<td>Picotte PK-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saddlebrook PK-5</td>
<td>Ponca K-5</td>
<td>Rose Hill K-5</td>
<td>Skinner PK-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wakonda PK-5</td>
<td>Sherman PK-5</td>
<td>Western Hills K-6</td>
<td>Standing Bear PK-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Springville K-5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sunny Slope PK-5</td>
</tr>
</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dundee K-6</td>
<td>Franklin PK-6</td>
<td>Crestridge K-5</td>
<td>Chandler View PK-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Club PK-5</td>
<td>Harrison PK-6</td>
<td>Gateway PK-6</td>
<td>Columbian PK-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson PK-6</td>
<td>Joslyn PK-5</td>
<td>Highland PK-6</td>
<td>Gilder K-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty PK-6</td>
<td>Kellogg 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), 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), Marz (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.
Wakonda Elementary
Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Omaha Public Schools

Wakonda intends to follow the Title I Parent and Family Engagement policy guidelines in accordance with federal law, Section 1116 (a-f) ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) of 2015.

In General
The written District Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the school plan have been developed jointly with, updated periodically and distributed to parents, family members, and the local community in an understandable and uniform format. This policy agreed on by such parents describes the means for carrying out the requirements as listed below.

- Parents and family members of all students are welcomed and encouraged to become involved with their child’s school and education; this includes parents and family members that have limited English proficiency, limited literacy, are economically disadvantaged, have disabilities, racial or ethnic minority background or are migratory children. Information related to school and parent programs, meetings, school reports and other activities are sent to the parent of all children in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
  - An annual meeting is held with parents in the fall at the first PTO meeting to explain the Title I program and the requirements associated with it.
  - Translators will be provided when needed.
  - Staff is available for phone conferences & home visits if needed.

- Parents and family members are involved in the planning, review and improvement of the Title I program, Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the Parent/Student/School Compact at an Annual Parent Meeting scheduled at a convenient time. This would include the planning and implementation of effective parent and family involvement activities.
  - This meeting allows us to work collaboratively to outline how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved students’ academic achievement.
  - School and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state’s high standards
    - Opportunities include: Back to School Night, Open House, PTO Events, Sporting Events, School Family Nights, Title I Reading & Math Nights, Musical Performances, Class Dojo Messages and Tutorials, etc.

- Conduct, with meaningful parent and family involvement, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Use the evaluation findings to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
  - Identifying and removing barriers to greater participation by parents in Title I activities.
  - Identify the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children.
  - Strategies to support successful school and family interactions.

- Opportunities are provided for parents and family members to participate, as appropriate, in decisions related to the education of their child/children. The school and local educational agency shall provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities.
Wakonda Elementary
Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Omaha Public Schools

- Back to School Night
- Annual Parent Meeting
- Curriculum Night
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Climate Survey
- PTO – meetings & activities

- Parents and family members of all children will be provided in a timely manner information about programs under this part, a description and explanation of the regarding curriculum, academic assessments used and proficiency levels in a format, and when feasible, in a language the parents and family members can understand through.
  - The student handbook
  - Curriculum Night
  - Parent-Teacher Conferences
  - Standardized Tests results
  - Progress reports & report cards
  - Open House
  - Math Night
  - Reading Night
  - Reading & Math take home activities
  - Parent Night handouts
  - District standards handouts
  - Workshops for parents
  - Class Dojo

- Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners.
  - Coordinate parent programs
  - Build ties between parent and the school

- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State and local programs, including preschool programs that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. The school will offer a flexible number of meetings.
  - Preschool programs
  - Parent resource centers
  - Other Federal, State or local programs.