

# West Burlington School District Newsletter

West Burlington School District-February 2017

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## Superintendent's Remarks

By David Schmitt



We have had a reprieve from the typical cold, long, and snowy winter. I know, I probably just jinxed it. The 2016-2017 school year has passed the midpoint and we continue to have an excellent school year. West Burlington Arnold High School has been identified as

one of the top 500 schools in the nation who are overcoming the odds and providing a quality education to our students. Newsweek magazine did an in-depth study of all high schools in the nation. The first criteria is a cut score on standardized test results. After a school cleared the first bar, then consideration of college readiness, graduation rate, college bound students, and poverty were used to measure effectiveness and determine the ranking. We are proud to say West Burlington ISD is one of 15 Iowa high schools receiving this distinction. Our national ranking is 373rd out of 500 selected high schools. Here is the link if you want to read more, <http://www.newsweek.com/high-schools/beating-odds-2016> . It takes a PK-12 effort to get exemplary results.

The Iowa Department of Education has released its annual report card. West Burlington Elementary received a commendable rating this year, improving upon an acceptable rating the previous school year. West Burlington Junior High has a needs improvement rating, compared to an acceptable rating last year. West Burlington Arnold High School came in with a commendable rating, matching last year's rating. We recognize all three attendance centers must strive to get better. We are especially concentrating our efforts in the junior high school and hope the new strategies will result in our improved rating in the State of Iowa Report Card. If you want to review the State Report Card go to the Iowa Department of Education website and search for "report card". You will be able to see all of the schools in the state. We will work together in a PK-12 effort to improve the educational experience and results for all of our students.

There are a few important dates I'd like you to be aware of. These dates are invitations to provide input to school officials. We are progressing well in our efforts to educate our students, but we need your input to make improvements. If we are not progressing, we are digressing. February 22, 2017 is the date of our annual School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) meeting. We will have a light supper available starting at 5:00PM. The actual meeting will start at 5:30PM and should wrap up by 7:00PM. Topics on the agenda will include district APR goals, standardized

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testing results from 2015-2016, Wellness policy, district facilities, Bridges Out of Poverty, literacy instruction, interventions, and TLC implementation. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Shawna at the central office at [shawna.brown@wbschools.us](mailto:shawna.brown@wbschools.us) or (319) 752-8747, option #3. We are also sending out invitations to current members or prospective new SIAC members.

The second important date will be February 27th. On that date I will post on our website a DRAFT of the proposed school calendar for the 2017-2018 school year. If you have questions, input, or comments please send them to me, Dave Schmitt at [david.schmitt@wbschools.us](mailto:david.schmitt@wbschools.us) or call (319) 752-8747, option #3. We will abide by the State mandated start date and are planning to continue our early dismissal on every Friday at 2:15PM. I don't foresee any major changes in the calendar format. Watch for the posting and send any comments to me. The board will take official action at the March 20th regular board meeting.

The board of education has implemented grade caps in our K-12 educational program. Grade K-5 will work with a 72 student cap and grades 6-12 will have a cap of 80 students per grade. Resident students are always accepted, of course.

Thank you for entrusting the education and safety of your student(s) to us on a daily basis. We are proud of what we are doing and achieving at West Burlington. We also recognize we have much work to do. We will keep working for all students and continue holding teaching and learning as our number one priority. Kids First! ✂

## Speech/Drama News By Eric Field



Congratulations to the Large Group Speech Team! Fourteen high school students competed at Wapello High School on Saturday, January 21. Ten of them qualified to the State level in three different events.

The following teams qualified to the state contest in February:

Choral Reading - Mason Forquer, Adrienne Martin, Athena Moad, Samantha Myers, Caleb Robinson, Blake Stumpf

Radio Broadcasting - Adrienne Martin, Blake Stumpf

Group Mime - Jakob Anderson, Cecie Crozier, Micah Gnann, Meghan Ryan

On February 2nd, the Large Group Speech Team will give a FREE performance in the auditorium at 7:00PM showcasing their work from districts contest and giving a proper send-off to the state qualifiers.

The Individual Events Speech Team is preparing for Districts at Tipton High School on February 25th.

Sixteen students will be competing in thirteen different events.

The Junior High Play, Anne of Green Gables will be April 7-8, 2017. More information will following in upcoming newsletters. ✂



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## **Band News**

### **By Mark Eveleth**

#### 7th & 8th Grade Band

##### SEIBA Honor Band

Congratulations to Ilianna Murphy (clarinet), for auditioning and being accepted into the South East Iowa Bandmasters Association Honor Band. She competed against 72 other clarinet players for one of 16 spots in the band. Her performance was January 21st in Iowa City.



#### Solo and Small Ensemble Contest/Recital

7th and 8th grade band students are now in the middle of preparations for Solo and Small Ensemble Contest/Recital. The date is Tuesday, March 7, 2017 from 6:30PM to 8:30PM. The event will take place here at West Burlington in the Auditorium and is open to the public. We invite and encouraged everyone to come and support these talented student musicians.

#### Parade of Bands

Thursday, March 16th the 5th-8th grade bands as well as the high school concert band will perform their annual "Parade of Bands" concert. This is a great concert to see just how much musical progress the band students make while being involved in instrumental music at West Burlington. The concert will start at 7:00PM. Each band will perform a few selections on their own and then all the 5-12 students will play together for a grand finale piece. The concert will take place in the high school gym.

There will be a full group rehearsal for this concert the morning of March 16th and it will take place in the high school gym at 7:30AM. Every band student is required to attend.

#### High School Band

##### SEIBA Honor Band

Congratulations to Kaleb Moore (trumpet), for auditioning and being accepted into the South East Iowa Bandmasters Association Honor Band. He competed against 35 other trumpet players for one of 15 spots in the band. His performance was January 21st in Iowa City.

#### Central College Bandfest 2017

Congratulations to Meghan Ryan (clarinet), Cecilia Crozier (alto saxophone), Keegan Moore (alto saxophone), Kaleb Moore (trumpet), Brandon Broeg (trumpet), Emily Steele (trumpet), John Glasscock (percussion), and Athena Moad (percussion), for being nominated and accepted in the Central College Bandfest Honor Band. Their performance was Thursday, January 26th. The concert took place in Dowstra Auditorium on the Central College Campus in Pella Iowa.

#### Concert Band

The concert band members are now rehearsing music to be performed in March on their music department trip to San Antonio, Texas and at Large Group contest in May. They are also making plans for Solo and Small Ensemble Contest which takes place in April.

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### High School Jazz Band

The jazz band had two great performances in December. They played for the Burlington Rotary Club and the Burlington Noon Lion’s Club. Both clubs really praised the student performers for an outstanding performance.

The band traveled to Burlington High School on Saturday, January 28th to perform at the Iowa High School Music Association’s State Jazz Band Contest. This event was open to the public and the jazz band members loved all the support of their parents and the community.

The band will travel to Culver-Stockton College in Canton, MO for their JazzFest on Monday, February 6th. The students will attend workshops and clinics throughout the day with professional jazz musicians, working on a piece of their contest music. Each participant will perform for each other at the end of the day. This should be a great educational opportunity for the students.

The band will perform on Friday, March 3rd at the Falcon Follies Variety Show. We will be asking for baked goods to serve to the audience during the intermission that evening. Be looking for an e-mail from me and Ms. Eidson the vocal director.

Saturday, March 4th the band will compete at the SEIBA District Jazz Band Festival. This event will be held in Iowa City at West High School. ❖

## **IOWA NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

“It is the policy of the Independent School District of West Burlington not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, or religion in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by the Iowa Code section 216.7. If you have questions or grievances related to compliance with this policy by the Independent School District of West Burlington, please contact the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, Grimes State Office Building, 400 E. 14th St., Des Moines, IA 50319-1004; phone number 515-281-4121, 800-457-4416; web site: <http://www.state.ia.us/government/crc/index.html>.” ❖

## **EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT**

The school district does not discriminate in its education programs or educational activities on the basis of sex, race, religion, color, national origin, age, marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity, socio-economic status (for programs), creed or disability. Students are educated in programs which foster knowledge of, and respect and appreciation for, the historical and contemporary contributions of diverse cultural groups including those of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, and socio-economic background, as well as men and women, to society. The programs include contributions and perspectives of Asian Americans, African Americans Hispanic Americans, American Indians, and European Americans. Students who feel they have been discriminated against are encouraged to report it to the school district Affirmative Action Coordinator. The Affirmative Action Coordinator is David Schmitt and can be reached at 607 Ramsey Street, West Burlington, IA 52655, (319) 752-8747. Inquiries may also be directed in writing to the Director of the Region VII Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 310 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 800, Milwaukee, WI 53203-2292, (414) 291-1111, or the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319-0146, (515) 281-5294. ❖



## **Preschool & Kindergarten**

### **Pre-registration for 4-Year Old Preschool**

Pre-registration for Preschool will begin Monday, February 6th. Your child must be 4 years old by September 15, 2017. Please come to the Elementary Office to pick up a preschool packet. Pre-registration and a place reserved for your child is not complete until all the required paperwork and birth certificate is turned into the office. When returned to office, your child's name will then be placed on list according to completion date.

### **Pre-registration for Kindergarten**

If your child will be 5 by September 15, 2017, please call 754-5726, option #2 to pre-register your child. Pre-registration packets will be available on Friday February 10th.

**Remember: Talk directly with office staff  
Please do not leave a message**

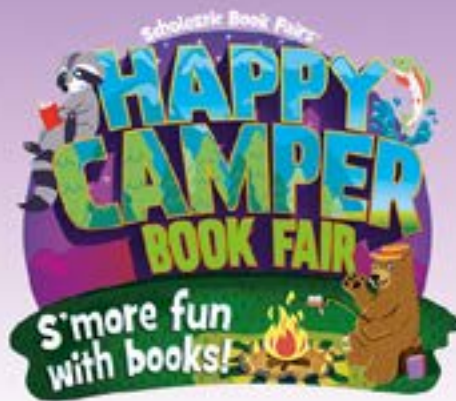
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## Welding Class Field Trip

### By Taylor Fountain

Thirty WB high school welding students went to CNH Construction for a manufacturing technology/welding field trip today. These students were exposed to the opportunities in advanced manufacturing, welding, and fabrication. Topics included: automation & robotics, MIG, TIG, and stick welding, and production. 🌟





Dear Parents and Families:

Reading for pleasure unlocks the power of information and imagination and helps children discover who they are. Here's what you can do to help children develop stronger reading skills and a love for reading:

- Set the example. Let children see you read.
- Have a collection of books in your home. Update this collection routinely to keep pace with changing tastes and reading skills.
- **Support our school's Book Fair. Allow your children to choose their own books to read.**

Our Scholastic Book Fair is a reading event that brings the books kids want to read right into our school. It's a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Please make plans to visit our Book Fair and be involved in shaping your child's reading habits.

Students will be shopping during their Media Skills Class. These dates are listed below.

**Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**- Mrs. Henry, Mr. Nehring, Mrs. Gunn, Mrs. Springsteen, Mrs. Marlow, and Mrs.'s Bush

**Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**- Mrs. Schmidt, Mrs. Hoskins, Ms. Mickey, Ms. Bernhart, Mrs. Morey, Mrs. Lamb

**Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**- Mrs. Shipp, Mrs. Mineart, Mrs. Watkins, Mrs. Laffoon, Mrs. Claypool, Mrs. Sleister

**Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>**- Mrs. Leopard, Ms. Elliott, Mrs. Dotson, Mrs. Williams

We will also be open from 4-8 during Parent Teacher Conferences on February 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.

If you are unable to attend the Fair in person, we invite you to visit our online Book Fair at <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/westburlingtonelemschool>

We look forward to seeing you and your family at our Book Fair! Remember, all purchases benefit our school!





“ This institution is an equal opportunity provider”.



**Nutrition Tip:** Practice stealth health - sneak veggies into favorite foods. Go light on the meat and top your pizza with vegetables like tomatoes, onions, bell peppers, mushrooms, zucchini, and artichoke hearts.



#### Monday

**6**  
1 Savory Salisbury steak  
Steamed peas  
Dinner roll  
Mandarin oranges  
Milk

**13**  
2 Popcorn chicken  
Carrots w/ranch  
Dinner roll  
Peaches Milk

**20**  
NO SCHOOL

**27**  
2 Mac n cheese  
Broccoli  
Dinner roll-HS only  
Fresh apple Milk

#### Tuesday



**7**  
2 BBQ burger  
Cheesy broccoli  
Kiwi  
Milk

**14**  
3 Hoagie sandwich  
Baked beans  
Pineapple  
Milk

**21**  
2 Tenderloin sandwich  
Sweet potato fries  
Applesauce  
Milk

**28**  
3 BBQ pork sandwich  
Baked beans  
Mixed fruit  
Milk

#### Wednesday

**1**  
2 Chicken Fajita  
Black beans  
Pears  
Milk

**8**  
3 Chicken nugget  
Sweet potato fries  
Dinner roll  
Mixed fruit Milk

**15**  
4 Turkey & gravy  
Mashed potatoes  
Dinner roll  
Fruit mix Milk

**22**  
3 Tasty tacos  
Black beans  
Fresh orange  
Milk

#### Thursday

**2**  
3 Crispito w/salsa  
Steamed corn  
Mixed fruit  
Milk

**9**  
4 Cheeseburger  
Baked beans  
Pears  
Milk

**16**  
1 Chicken & cheese burri  
Country vegetables  
Kiwi  
Milk

**23**  
4 Turkey & cheese sandw  
Green beans  
Peaches  
Milk

#### Friday

**3**  
4 Mini corn dogs  
Oven potatoes  
Peaches  
Milk

**10**  
1 Teriyaki chicken  
Brown rice  
Peas  
Fresh Apple  
Milk

**17**  
NO SCHOOL

**24**  
1 Pizza  
Corn  
Pears  
Milk







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