

# JANUARY NEWSLETTER

## 2007

### JANUARY 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, January 3 - Welcome Back!! HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Thursday, January 4 - Wrestling at Denison 5:30 p.m.  
JH Wrestling at Clarinda 4:00

Friday, January 5 - Varsity B/G BB vs. Stanton Here 6:15/8:00  
PTO Baked Potato Bar prior to game  
JH Boys' BB at Hamburg 3:30  
JH Girls' BB vs. Hamburg Here 4:00

Saturday, January 6 - Varsity B/G BB vs. Tarkio Here 6:30/8:00  
Winterset Wrestling Tournament 10:00 a.m.  
JV Wrestling Tournament at St. Albert's 9:30 a.m.

Monday, January 8 - JV B/G BB vs. Malvern Here 6:15  
PTO Meeting 5:45 p.m.

Tuesday, January 9 - Varsity B/G BB at South Page  
JH Girls' BB at South Page 3:30  
JH Boys' BB vs. South Page Here 4:00

Wednesday, January 10 - Mark Jewell Yearbook Pictures 10:00 a.m. start

Thursday, January 11 - JV B/G BB at Stanton 6:15  
Regular School Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.  
JH Girls' BB at Stanton 3:30  
JH Boys' BB vs. Stanton Here 4:00

Friday, January 12 - Varsity B/G BB at West Nodaway 6:00

January 12-13 - Mt. Ayr Wrestling Tournament TBA

Sunday, January 14 - Speech Program Performance

Monday, January 15 - Late Start 9:30 a.m. - Professional Development

**January 15 - 20 - Corner Conference Basketball Tournament TBA**

**Tuesday, January 16 - JH Wrestling at Lewis Central 4:00**

**Thursday, January 18 - Wrestling at Shenandoah 5:30**

**JH Wrestling at Red Oak 4:00**

**January 19-20 - John Harris Wrestling Tournament at Corning TBA**

**Saturday, January 20 - District Large Group Speech Contest TBA**

**Monday, January 22 - JV B/G BB vs. Nishna Valley Here 6:15**

**JH Girls' BB at Essex 4:00**

**JH Boys' BB vs. Essex Here 4:00**

**Late Start 9:30 a.m. - Professional Development**

**Tuesday, January 23 - Varsity B/G BB vs. Nishna Valley Here 6:15/8:00**

**JH Girls' BB vs. Nishna Valley Here 4:00**

**JH Boys' BB at Nishna Valley 3:30**

**Wrestling at Griswold 5:30**

**Parents' Night between games**

**Thursday, January 25 - JH Wrestling at Shenandoah 4:00**

**Friday, January 26 - Varsity B/G BB at Hamburg 6:15-8:00**

**JV B/G BB at Hamburg 4:00**

**Saturday, January 27 - JV B/G BB Tournament at South Page TBA**

**Hawkeye 10 Wrestling Tournament at Lewis Central TBA**

**Monday, January 29 - Varsity B/G BB at North Nodaway 6:30**

**SEEDS - Staff Development - No School**

**January 30-31 - Cheer Camp 3:30-4:30**

## **FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Thursday, February 1 - JV B/G BB vs. South Page Here 6:15**

**Wrestling at Harlan 5:30**

**Cheer Camp 3:30-4:30**

**Friday, February 2 - Varsity B/G BB vs. Clarinda Academy Here 6:15/8:00**

**Cheer Camp Performance**

**JH Wrestling at Shenandoah 4:00**

**Saturday, February 3 - State Large Group Speech Contest TBA**

**JV Wrestling Tournament at Harlan 10:00**

**Monday, February 5 - JV B/G BB vs. Fremont-Mills Here 6:15**

**SWI Honor Choir @ IWCC**

**Tuesday, February 6 - Varsity B/G BB at Villisca 6:15/8:00**

**Wrestling at Sidney 6:00**

**JH Wrestling at Glenwood 4:00**

**Wednesday, February 7 - Local Poetry Contest 3:30 (9-12)**

**Thursday, February 8 - JV Wrestling at Atlantic 5:00**

**JH Wrestling at Red Oak 4:00**

**Friday, February 9 - JV/V Boys' BB vs. Malvern Here 6:15**

**Saturday, February 10 - State Piano Contest TBA**

**Wrestling Sectional TBA**

**Monday, February 12 - Regular School Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.**

**Boys' Track Practice Begins**

**Tuesday, February 13 - JV/V Boys' BB at Nishna Valley 6:00**

**Saturday, February 17 - All-State Speech Contest TBA**

**Wrestling Districts TBA**

Monday, February 19 - Late Start - Professional Development 9:30 a.m.  
JH Wrestling at Lewis Central 4:00

February 19, 22, & 26 - Boys' District Basketball Tournament Here

February 21-24 - State Wrestling in Des Moines

Sunday, February 25 - Talent Show TBA

Monday, February 26 - Late Start - Professional Development 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, February 27 - JH Wrestling Tournament at Tarkio 5:00  
JH SWI Solo/Ensemble Contest at Griswold

## **SECONDARY PRINCIPAL NOTES - MRS. HILDING**

Welcome back to second semester of the 2006-2007 school year! We hope you have had a wonderful Christmas break and were able to spend time with family and friends.

Students made schedule changes before they left in December. Students have also been looking at next year and beyond as they plan for classes in the future. Mrs. Slavik has visited or will be visiting with each class from grades 8 - 11 to work on their six year education plan. This is a plan that will help students focus on where they want to be upon graduation and beyond. In February we plan to have 4 nights set aside for parents to come in with your child or children to look at and sign these plans and schedule for next year. If you cannot attend on the specific night of your child's class please feel free to attend one of the other sessions. These dates are 8<sup>th</sup> grade - February 8<sup>th</sup>, 6 P.M., 11<sup>th</sup> grade - February 12, 6 P.M., 10<sup>th</sup> grade - February 15<sup>th</sup> - 6 P.M., and 9<sup>th</sup> grade - February 20<sup>th</sup> at 6 P.M.

If any of you could be a tutor for a child will you please call the school? From time to time there are students who could benefit from some extra help. Another need is for projects for our students in Woods class. If you have a project that you would like done and are willing to provide the material for please contact us.

Students using the office phones will be asked to pay \$.50 for each call beginning January 3. We still have a pay phone, which students may use. Students may also use their cell phone or calling card with permission.

The NAEP test will be given to 8<sup>th</sup> graders on January 25<sup>th</sup>. The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is a congressionally mandated project overseen by the National Center for Education Statistics to continuously monitor the knowledge, skills, and performance of the nation's children and youth.

District Large Group Speech contest is on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Mr. and Mrs. Carey and the entire speech team are diligently preparing for this event, which will be held at Abe Lincoln High School in Council Bluffs.

## FOURTH GRADE NEWS - MRS. ILES

Our first semester is over, and it flew by! Since this is my first news article this year I would like to introduce the students. They are: Brandon Bockert, Trisha Dalrymple, Brian Gruber, Rickie Hartman, Michael Irwin, Caleb Kimpel (He moved, but he might be coming back...), Scott Labrum, Anne-Marie Maher, Ryan Niccoli, Miranda Scroggie, Chris Smith, Shea Thibodeaux, and Alex Tillman. This is an interesting group of students that keeps me on my toes all the time. They all have a lot of potential; if I could just convince them to work up to it each day, we would have it made.

So far in math we have worked on rounding and estimating numbers to a certain place value; place value; basic facts; interpreting graphs: line, bar, and pictographs; adding and subtracting large numbers; simple probability; and several story problem strategies.

In English, the students have worked with simple and compound sentences, subjects and predicates, nouns and verbs, contractions, abbreviations, and several other concepts to help us become better writers. The students have written informative and creative essays throughout the year. Our last project was to write a creative Christmas story. I was expecting your average happy Christmas type story, but several of the stories were about evil creatures bothering Santa Claus or about bad Santas. Do you think having a class of mostly boys might have had something to do with this? :->

In science, the students finished the first unit on animals and plants involving ecosystems, habitats, survival, characteristics of plants and animals, etc. They are now working on the physical science unit and have worked with matter, volume, mass, and several other interesting concepts. They have had a chance to do experiments, work with graduated cylinders, and use balances to compare objects.

In social studies they have learned about the United States government and how it works. They just completed a unit on the Northeast Region of the United States involving the people, resources, cities, and several interesting facts about the area. Our new social studies book has several good resources to go along with the units. These extra resources really help the students understand the concepts better.

The reading groups have been busy reading several guided reading books. They have worked with vocabulary words; wrote chapter summaries; and discussed conflicts, settings, and characters of various books. We have tried to do "Campout Reading" each day to help Mrs. Bredensteiner get to the tent. The students have worked on reading fluency using reader theater exercises, plays and poems. The students do several worksheets on reading skills to help them understand words better. Some of the concepts that have been covered are: confusing words, multi-meaning words, homophones, antonyms, synonyms, suffixes, prefixes, and base words. Our QAR (question-answer relationships) are used frequently in all our subjects to help with reading comprehension.

That's all for now, except to wish you a Happy Educational New Year!

## ELEMENTARY UPDATE-PENNY BREDENSTEINER

Where did the year 2006 go! I hope students and staff enjoy the holiday season.

As classes resume Wednesday, January 3, students will begin second semester. The grade cards will be sent home Wednesday, January 10. If questions arise about some of the grades, please contact the teacher. We want all the students to get off to a great start with the new semester.

It seems that testing is another constant fact of education today. The kindergarten, first, and second grades will be taking the DIBELS test, which is a one-on-one test during the month of January. Our AEA 13 representative, Roger Hartman, will help with this testing. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade will be taking the NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) on January 25. Our testing results become a part of *The Nation's Report Card*. Schools are periodically asked to be a part of this testing. More information will be sent to parents of the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students.

Students are continuing to read for Camp Out Reading. You may note my trek from steppingstone to steppingstone on the entryway bulletin board. Students have read over 50,000 minutes so far. The goal is to reach 120,000 minutes and at this time it looks like I won't have to brave the January cold in a tent!

The elementary staff has used several Staff Development Mondays examining the questioning process on the ITBS. Comparisons have been made of test questions and the QAR strategies that are being taught to the students. We are constantly looking at ways to help students improve their reading strategies.

I wanted to let people know, that Mrs. Schaaf's son, Trent, continues to recover. I want to thank all those that have contributed to different fundraisers and those that have kept the family in your thoughts.

I hope everyone has happy, heartwarming holidays enjoyed with family and friends to end 2006 and begin 2007.

## WANTED: GAME PLAYERS AND INSTRUCTORS

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade social studies class has been studying the colonial time period. A unit we would like to do is to play games that colonial children would have played. If you can teach, or play a game of checkers, chess, backgammon, or dominoes we would appreciate your help. There are twenty-six students in the class, so the more games we can get going, the better the experience for our students. Please contact the school and leave a message if you can lend us your time or spare game board. No specific date for the unit has been set but we would like to try this sometime in the month of January or February. Thank you. Mrs. Johnson

## **WANTED: BIOGRAPHIES OR AUTOBIOGRAPHIES**

The high school students will be reading autobiographies or biographies as a part of their English reading requirement. Because we have a limited number available in the library, we are asking for donations of an autobiography or biography. So, if your New Year's resolution is to clean off that bookshelf, we welcome any surplus you may have. Thank you. Mrs. Johnson

## **A DIFFERENT WORLD THAN OUR PARENTS KNEW**

Today's students face a different world from the one their parents knew. We know this when it comes to shopping, eating out, or watching television. But one place we do not always think about is applying for scholarships. Parents remember sitting down and filling out applications with their parents. Perhaps they would round up a bunch of references as well as other information and sit down and pound out applications for hours on the keyboard or even in "neat" handwriting.

Today, students rarely see a paper application. Applications, except for some local scholarships, are almost all online. Students can go to the site, plug in the information and with a push of a button, send their applications for scholarships anywhere in the world.

Applications for colleges and universities are nearly all accessible online. This saves lost applications in the mail as well as postage. However, it does require the student to be self-sufficient and sit at the computer and fill out the appropriate applications for both schools and scholarships.

So if your student does not have any paper applications, it is probably because nearly all the scholarships are now online. All the scholarships the school has received are located on our website at

<http://www.farragutschools.org/vnews/display.v/ART/2006/12/18/436f9006824b2>

or by going to [www.farragutschools.org](http://www.farragutschools.org) and clicking on the counselor's link, and then the link to scholarships.

Students and their parents should check this website regularly as new postings are put on almost daily. If students or their parents have questions about any of the scholarships on our web page or other scholarships they have heard about, do not hesitate to contact our school counselor, Mrs. Colleen Slavik.

Students also need to apply for a PIN (Personal Identification Number) and a link is also on our school site to do so. Each student and one parent will need a PIN number to fill out a FASFA form, which is required for all students wishing financial aid. Remember financial aid includes work-study, loans, grants and scholarships.



## From the Helm of the Ship

Jay D. Lutt,

[jlutt@farragut.k12.ia.us](mailto:jlutt@farragut.k12.ia.us)

### Happy Holidays/New Year

Although it is raining outside my window, winter begins tomorrow. That means Football Bowl Season! And, for my kids the holiday season. From the Lutt home to yours, have a very merry and safe holiday.

### Site-Visit

We still need community members to participate in the interviews during the site-visit on February 6<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't already, please call me at the school to sign up. Help make Farragut a great school!



### The Sailor's Wharf On-line Store

Thanks to all the parents and family members that have gone online to see the advantages of purchasing lunch tickets, yearbooks, and other items online. It seems that we have more and more customers each month. If you have not given it a try, give it a shot! Payments online can be done by check or credit card. Keep watching for new items!

- [www.farragutschools.org](http://www.farragutschools.org)
- Please give me a call or email at school if you have any questions.

### Did You Know?

This section is intended to expand your mind about our ever changing world.

Part 2:

**According to former Secretary of Education Richard Riley . . .**

**\*The top 10 in-demand jobs in 2010 didn't exist in 2004.**

**\*We are currently preparing students for jobs that don't yet exist . . .**

**\*Using technologies that haven't been invented . . .**

**\*In order to solve problems we don't even know are problems yet.**

### Name this country . . .

- Richest in the World
- Largest Military
- Center of world business and finance
- Strongest education system
- World center of innovation and invention
- Currency the world standard of value
- Highest standard of living

Answer is at the bottom of this page...

**The U.S. is 20th in the world in broadband Internet penetration. (Luxembourg just passed us.)**

**In 2002 alone Nintendo invested more than \$140 million in research and development.**

**The U.S. Federal Government spent less than half as much on Research and Innovation.**

**1 out of every 8 couples married in the U.S. last year met online.**

**There are over 100 million registered users of MySpace. (August 2006)**

England, In 1900. **\*\*More next month\*\***