A Note from the Principal:

Dear Belle Ryan Families,

Our students have completed winter MAP testing and are ready to celebrate their success! In the next few weeks we will have a popcorn party to celebrate students’ effort on the MAP test and their growth. We are so very proud of the students who have met and surpassed their goals!

Next week the PTO will be hosting a Sweethearts Dinner with the Pancake Man on Tuesday February 11th from 5:30-7:30. A flyer went home last week about this fundraising event. Preorders were requested by Friday February 7th but you can still turn them in on Monday. This is such a fun time for our community and opportunity for someone else to do the cooking! We hope you can make it.

Our winter music program “Shoot for the Stars” will take place on Friday February 21st at 10:00 & 2:00. Please note that those students who participate in strings will perform at 10:00 and those students that participate in band with perform at 2:00.

The OPS Board of Education recently approved the Strategic Plan of Action with four priorities in these areas: Academics, Staff, Financial Accountability & Ethic of Care. Please feel free to access the details and the entire plan at https://district.ops.org.

Remember to Strive for 95! Attendance Matters. If your child is absent, please be sure to call the school and submit any doctor’s notes or absence verification as needed.

Wishing you a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Johnson
Principal
**Calendar of Events:**

- **Mon. Feb. 17**  NO SCHOOL—Presidents’ Day
- **Fri. Feb. 21**  Spring Program-10 am & 2 pm
- **Mon. Feb. 24**  Early Childhood Application Day, 1-3 pm

**Early Childhood Application Day**
February 24th, 1-3 pm

If you have a child who will be 3 or 4 yrs. old by July 31, 2020, please plan to attend.

Please bring:
- your child,
- address verification in the parent’s name (OPPD/MUD bill or lease),
- original birth certificate,
- up to date immunization records, and
- income verification.

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**Omaha Public Schools**
**Every Student. Every Day.**
**Prepared for Success.**
2019-2020

**Non-Discrimination Statement**

Omaha Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including pregnancy), marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, citizenship status, veteran status, political affiliation or economic status in its programs, activities and employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individual has been designated to accept allegations regarding non-discrimination policies: Superintendent of Schools, 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (402-557-2001). The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director for the Office of Equity and Diversity, 3215 Cuming St, Omaha, NE 68131 (402-557-2790).

Las Escuelas Públicas de Omaha no discriminan por motivos de raza, color, origen nacionalidad, religión, sexo (incluyendo el embarazo), estado civil, orientación sexual, discapacidad, edad, información genética, identidad de género, expresión de género, estatus de ciudadanía, condición de veterano, afiliación política o condición económica en sus programas, actividades y empleo y se proporciona acceso equitativo a los niños exploradores (Boy Scouts) y otros grupos juveniles. La siguiente persona ha sido designada para aceptar las alegaciones en relación con las políticas de no discriminación: el Superintendente de Escuelas, 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (402-557-2001). Las siguientes personas han sido designadas para manejar las preguntas con respecto a las políticas de no discriminación: Director de la Oficina de Equidad y Diversidad, 3215 Cuming St, Omaha, NE 68131 (402-557-2790).
From the Nurse:

**Illness Guidelines:**
We have begun to see an increased number of ill children coming to school/at school. In order to help prevent the spread of communicable diseases, we would like to remind you of the following guidelines:

**KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME if any one of the following occurs:**

- Temperature of 100 degrees or higher within the last 24 hours. Do not medicate your child with anti-fever medications and send him/her to school. It is recommended that they are fever free for 24 hours without the anti-fever medications before returning to school.
- Vomiting or diarrhea within the last 24 hours
- Any symptoms of acute illness such as persistent cough or body aches
- Students with strep throat need to be treated with antibiotics for 24 hours before returning to school.

Your child should look and behave like him/herself for 24 hours before returning to school. Why?

- To protect your child from exposure to other illness before he/she is able to build resistance.
- To protect the other students and staff from communicable disease that your child may transmit.

Remember—hand washing is the most effective means of preventing the spread of communicable diseases!

Please call the health office with any questions or concerns you have regarding your child’s health needs.

D. Fahrer RN, School Nurse

District News:

February is Dental Health Month. For many parents, concerns about their children's oral health begin and end with cavity prevention. Healthy gums are also a key component of dental health. The best defense against gum disease is prevention. Morning and evening brushing, and flossing, will go a long way towards preventing gum disease.

Here are some healthy dental habits you can reinforce at home:

1. Keep your teeth clean by brushing at least twice a day.
2. The ADA recommends flossing a minimum of once daily to get rid of plaque in areas between teeth that are difficult to reach with a toothbrush.
3. Visit your dentist regularly for professional cleaning, evaluation, and care.

K – 6th Grade Parent Math Nights

All parents of students K-6th grade are welcome to attend quarterly Parent Math Nights. At each Parent Night, attendees will:

- experience what their students are currently learning in math and become familiar with grade level curriculum, vocabulary, and expectations
- see first-hand how students apply math strategies
- learn how to support student learning at home

**2019–2020 K-6 PARENT MATH NIGHT DATES**

March 19, 2020 at Prairie Wind Elementary

Two parent sessions each date: 6:00-7:00pm & 7:00-8:00pm

These nights are designed for adult learners. Childcare is not available.
**Kids Heart Challenge**

We are kicking off our Kids Heart Challenge program (formerly Jump Rope for Heart) the week of Feb 3rd. We are thrilled to participate as we work together to raise money for the American Heart Association and learn how nutrition and being active can help us live longer, healthier lives.

Through the Kids Heart Challenge, we are going to talk about three things:

1. Habits to keep our hearts healthy
2. How we can help others
3. Encourage everyone to take the challenge to adopt one of three healthy habits

This year we are excited to welcome the Heart Heroes to our school. Over the next few weeks, the characters will share important messages about keeping their heart healthy, building self-confidence and helping others. The first step is getting your student registered and taking a challenge. When they register, they will receive their free wristband and join the Heart Heroes!!!

1. **Go to** [www.heart.org/khc](http://www.heart.org/khc) **register your student for our Kids Heart Challenge**
2. **Choose your challenge**
   a. **MOVE MORE**
   b. **BE KIND**
   c. **BE READY**
3. **Earn your free glow-in-the-dark Heart Hero wristband**
4. **Download the Kids Heart Challenge app** to bring the wristband and any Heart Heroes to life.

Your student can earn the Heart Hero characters and additional gifts by asking friends and family to make donations in the support of the American Heart Association.

Thank you so much for supporting our school and the American Heart Association. Together we can do this!