

# HAMLOW HAPPENINGS

EVELYN HAMLOW ELEMENTARY - FEBRUARY 2011

## The Importance of Parental Involvement

by Rodney Engel

Education continues to change almost as fast as technology. Since I have been in education we have seen many changes come about. No Child Left Behind (NCLB), School-based Teacher-led Assessment Reporting System (STARS), and now NeSA (State Reading and Mathematics Assessments). Through the continuously changing face of education, one thing seems to remain constant. Parent involvement is vital to the success of your child throughout his/her educational experience.

Parental involvement is major factor to consider when looking at the success of a child in school. Research dated back to the 1960's (Coleman Report) and current research (A New Wave of Evidence: The Impact of School, Family, and Community Connections on Student Achievement written by Anne T. Henderson and Karen L. Mapp) confirm the importance of parents taking an active role in their child's education.

Research states that no matter what the parents' educational background students are more likely to:

- Have better attendance
- Earn higher grades
- Have better social skills, show improved behavior, and adapt better in school
- Graduate and go on to post secondary education

(A New Wave of Evidence, 2002)

How do I get involved?

There are many ways to get involved with your child's education. You can be a parent volunteer and/or be an active member in the local Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO). The next PTO meeting will be Monday, February 21 at 6:00 PM at Hamlow Elementary. If your schedule does not allow you to be a volunteer or an active member of the PTO, you can help in many other ways. Such as:

- Develop routines for homework and play
- Have lunch with your child at school
- Communicate with your child about their school day
- Read with your child and let your child read to you
- Attend special school events (music programs, skits and plays, etc)

You know your children better than anyone and there are endless opportunities to enhance their educational lives. The key is to be involved.



## Parent Climate Survey

Please take a moment to complete the District #145 Parent Climate Survey during Parent/Teacher Conferences on February 15 & 17. The survey will be conducted through an online services that will be accessible at each building in the district. If you are unable to take the survey during Parent/Teacher Conferences you will be able to access it online through the district website (<http://www.dist145schools.org/>).

## School District #145 School Closing Information

Inclement weather may result in closing, delayed opening or early dismissal of district schools. If the weather is threatening please tune in to any of the following media contacts. In addition, some of the TV stations provide the opportunity for e-mail notification direct to your computer or at minimum provide up to date school closing information on their web site.

Please remember, that when inclement weather exists, it is not always easy to make contact with all the media contacts. It is recommended that you use several media contacts.

### Radio Stations

[KFOR](#) (1240)  
[KFRX](#) (106.3)  
[KLIN](#) (1400)  
[96KX](#)  
[92.9 The Eagle](#)  
[104.1 The Blaze](#)

### Television Stations

[WOWT](#) (6) - Omaha  
[KETV](#) (7) - Omaha  
[KLKN TV](#) (8) - Lincoln  
[KOLN TV](#) (10/11) - Lincoln

## Kindergarten News

by Jen Baumeister

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Fun February has arrived! The children are looking forward to exchanging valentines. Our Valentine's Day party will be Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:15. We will be making our valentine's holders in class, so there is no need to make one at home. Please have your child bring a valentine for each student in their class. Your child's class list will be sent home in early February..They may start bringing their valentines on Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>.

Patriotism and Citizenship week is February 7<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup>. During this week we will show our American pride by singing patriotic songs, learning about our country's symbols, and saying the Pledge of Allegiance. We will recognize that we admire certain people such as George Washington and Abraham Lincoln because of their special qualities and achievements. We will discuss how doing certain things has changed over time.

Just a reminder... we go outside for recess whenever the weather allows. Children need to bring their mittens, hats, etc on these cold and snowy days. If your child is having trouble zipping and/ or buttoning their coat, please continue to practice at home. We hope you have a Fabulous February!

Visit the District website to see additional Kindergarten information and the Kindergarten Calendar (downloadable in PDF) [www.dist145schools.org](http://www.dist145schools.org)

## 1st & 2nd Grade News

by Kim Frantzen & Heather Manning

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First and Second graders are all set to start TRAVELING AROUND THE WORLD! We have packed our bags and begun our cultures study looking at the seven continents. We will travel to different countries and see how the people there live, work and play. While visiting each new place we will look at the land, animals and people that are native to that area. We will experience traditional customs, such as learning dances and songs, and creating art that is a reflection of that culture.

To culminate our study we will have a Cultures Festival on Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:20 in the Hamlow Gym. Each classroom will perform a dance or skit from around the world. Hope to see you there!



## Warm Your Heart Clothing Drive

A big thank you to all families who donated to our Warm your Heart Clothing Drive.

We collected:

111 mittens/gloves  
63 pair of socks  
66 hats  
1 coat

This was a HUGE success!



# Health News by Tracy Anderson, LPN

## Unvaccinated Children

Children who have not been vaccinated against childhood diseases are at a greater incidence of complications from these diseases. Not only can there be complications but the chance of infecting others is far greater than those who have been vaccinated against these diseases.

Children who have started immunizations must finish the series to be in compliance and therefore eligible to enroll/attend school. If you have signed a medical or religious exemption for your child against receiving immunizations you then must be aware that if at any time a confirmed case of any communicable disease occurs in the school your child may be excluded from attending school. This will include the time of incubation of disease as well as the duration of the disease once a child has become infected and exhibiting signs of the disease. The child may not return to school until all signs of the disease has subsided, which could be quite lengthy depending on the disease. For example, if your child has been exposed to chicken pox from a confirmed case within the building it will require you to keep your child home for 10-16 days for incubation and this could happen multiple times just for this one incidence if other children would happen to come down with the disease. This scenario would happen anytime/every time a child from within the school is infected with any communicable disease/illness.

The best and easiest way to make sure your child is protected from disease is to vaccinate them. Not only are you making the decision to not vaccinate your child, you are making the decision for other families as well to expose them to disease and illness that would not be necessary if your child had been vaccinated.

Tracy Anderson LPN

### Upcoming Events:

February 4 - 1st & 2nd Grade  
Cultures Festival 2:15 in gym

February 15 - Parent Teacher  
Conferences 4:00-8:00

February 17 - Parent Teacher  
Conferences 4:00-8:00

February 21 - PTO Meeting  
6:00-7:00

### HEALTH NOTES:

The flu season is in full swing. Remember to evaluate your children before sending them to school if they are complaining of headache, sore throat or stomach ache. Students will be sent home if they have a fever of 100 or more.

Encourage your children to wash their hands often.

Please call the health office if you have concerns.

Tracy Anderson LPN  
786-2341

### READING CLUB REMINDER

Open 8-8:20

Doors close at 8:10 to allow students time to find a book and have an opportunity to read or be read to.

Reading Club runs M-F

### EVELYN HAMLOW ELEMENTARY

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Neda Large - Secretary

Tracy Anderson - Nurse

Mary Downey - Counselor

Visit the District website to check out upcoming events on the Hamlow Calendar and download the lunch calendar (PDF)  
[www.dist145schools.org](http://www.dist145schools.org)