

**GRANT WOOD
LITTLE DOGS**



Grant Wood Elementary
1423 Hillside Drive
Bettendorf, IA 52722
John Cain, Principal

Educational excellence is the foundation of the Bettendorf Community School District. Working in partnership with the family and community, we will instill and nurture in all students the knowledge, skills, creativity, and confidence to pursue their dreams and to succeed in a global society.

Grant Wood Little Dogs NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2019

#GWBUILT4KINDNESS



January 9—Major Savor Kickoff

January 15—Early Release (12:00-1:10)

January 17— Watch Dog Night

January 21—No School

January 22-Helium Night @ 6pm

January 24—PTA Meeting

February 1—Trivia Night

Every Wednesday Early Release at 2:30 pm

Student of the Month

December

EC1—Xakhi Russel
EC2—Teegan Bair
K1—Rylan Matthys
K2—Tyler Ripple
K3—Bella Lane
1A— Brielle Gardner-Levi
1B—Erika Buxton
1C—Ashlyn Urmy
2A—Logan Johnston
2B—Charlie Hawley
2C—Amari Goerd-Kincaid
3A—Connor Hill
3B—Joziah Hill
3C—Olivia Savina
4A—Logan Ramstack
4B—Amos Spector
5B—Brooklyn Meyer
5C—Brooke Turner

Optimist Award

December

EC1-Timmy Skrzynski
EC2—Catherine Engels
K1—Tessa Schueler
K2—Shirley Ye
K3—Asher Vance
1A— Harper Moran
1B—Knight Murphy
1C—Vivian Peterson
2A—Sadie Dusenberry
2B—Weston Freking
2C—Sadie Harnung
3A—Amarie Buford
3B—Emily Cooney
3C—Carter Huskey
4A—Luc Gibeau
4B—Lena Bunttemeyer
5B—Isaiah Griffin
5C—CeCe Spector

Principal's Connection

Iowa Statewide Accountability System

The state of Iowa has recently released the first part of a "School Report Card" reporting the status of each Iowa school. The following data has been summarized for you so that you can have a better understanding of the report.

Grant Wood scored a composite score of 58.11. We exceeded the District average in some areas and fell below the District average in others. The chart below will better assist in comparing our status with the other elementary buildings in the District to assist you with developing a better understanding of the report.

Based on 17—18 Data	Grant	Hoover	Mark Twain	Armstrong	Paul Norton	Jefferson
3rd—5th Grade	77	86	86	80	93	93
3rd—5th Grade	86	87	87	85	94	94
4th—5th Grade	59	55	60	40	54	47
4th—5th Grade	45	53	64	51	60	62
Conditions for	53	48	37	45	61	30

As you can see, we would like to see improvement in all areas. We are concerned with and are addressing our overall reading proficiency as well as our growth in the area of math. Based on this measure we do fall below the District average in these two areas. We are putting together a three year plan to address these concerns and this will be supported with training from the state.

An area in which we are "targeted" relates to our low socio economic student population. This is a subgroup measured by the state that we need to work towards getting all students, specifically this subgroup, more proficient.

Thank you for your time and I hope you find this information helpful. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Principal, John M. Cain

From the Counselor

Ten Actions ALL Parents Can Take to Help Eliminate Bullying

Bullying Special Education, copyright 2012, www.education.com/bullying

The latest research shows that **one in three children is directly involved in bullying a perpetrator, victim, or both.** And many of those who are not directly involved witness others being bullied on a regular basis. No child is immune-kids of every race, gender, grade and socio-economic sector are impacted. But it doesn't have to be this way. As parents we have the power to help reduce bullying. Here are Education.com's top ten actions you can take to help address bullying:

- 1. Talk with and listen to your kids-everyday.** Research shows that adults are often the last to know when children are bullied or bully others. You can encourage your children to buck that trend by engaging in frequent conversations about their social lives. Spend a few minutes every day asking open ended questions about who they spend time with at school and in the neighborhood, what they do in between classes and at recess, who they have lunch with, or what happens on the way to and from school. If your children feel comfortable talking to you about their peers before they're involved in a bullying event, they'll be much more likely to get you involved after.
- 2. Spend time at school and recess.** Research shows that 67% of bullying happens when adults are not present. Schools don't have the resources to do it all and need the help of parents to reduce bullying. Whether you can volunteer once a week or once a month, you can make a real difference just by being present and helping to organize games and activities to encourage kids to play with new friends. Be sure to coordinate your on-campus volunteer time with your child's teacher and/or principal.
- 3. Be a good example of kindness and leadership.** Your kids learn a lot about power relationships from watching you. When you get angry at a waiter, a sales clerk, another driver on the road, or even your child, you have a great opportunity to model effective communication techniques. Don't blow it by blowing your top! Any time you speak to another person in a mean or abusive way, you're teaching your child that bullying is OK.

- 4. Learn the signs.** Most children don't tell anyone (especially adults) that they've been bullied. It is therefore important for parents and teachers to learn to recognize possible signs of being victimized, such as frequent loss of personal belonging, complaints of headaches or stomachaches, avoiding recess or school activities, and getting to school very late or very early. If you suspect that a child might be being bullied, talk with the child's teacher or find ways to observe his peer interactions to determine whether or not your suspicions might be correct. Talk directly to your child about what is going on at school.
- 5. Create healthy anti-bullying habits early.** Help develop anti-bullying and anti-victimization habits early in your children—as early as preschool and kindergarten. Coach your children on what not to do—hitting, pushing, teasing, “saying na-na-na-na,” or being mean to others. Help your child to focus on how much actions might do to the child on the receiving end (e.g., “How do you think you would feel if that happened to you?”). Such strategies can enhance empathy for others. Equally if not more important, teach your children what to do—kindness, empathy, fair play, and turn-taking are critical skills for good peer relations. Children also need to learn how to say “no” firmly if they experience or witness bullying behavior. Coach your child about what to do if other kids are mean—get an adult right away, tell the child who is teasing or bullying to “stop,” walk away, ignore the bully and find someone else to play with. It may help to role play what to do with your child. And repetition helps: go over these techniques periodically with your kindergarten and early elementary school aged children. ignore the bully and find someone else to play with. It may help to role play what to do with your child. And repetition helps: go over these techniques periodically with your kindergarten and early elementary school aged children.
- 6. Help your child's school address bullying effectively.** Whether your children have been bullied or not, you should know that their school is doing to address bullying. Research shows that “zero-tolerance” policies aren't effective. What works better are ongoing educational programs that help create a healthy social climate in the school. This means teaching kids at every grade level how to be inclusive leaders and how to be empathic towards others and teaching victims effective resistance techniques.

If your school does not have effective bullying strategies and policies in place, talk to the principal and advocate for change.

- 7. Establish household rules about bullying.** Your children need to hear from you explicitly that it's not normal, okay, or tolerable for them to bully, to be bullied, or to stand by and just watch other kids be bullied. Make sure they know that if they are bullied physically, verbally, or socially (at school, by a sibling, in your neighborhood, or online) it's safe and important for them to tell you about it—and that you will help. They also need to know just what bullying is (many children do not know that they are bullying others), and that such behavior is harmful to others and not acceptable. You can help your children find positive ways to exert their personal power, status, and leadership at school. Work with your child, their teachers, and their principal to implement a kindness plan at school.
- 8. Teach your child how to be a good witness or positive bystander.** Research shows that kids who witness bullying feel powerless and seldom intervene. However, kids who take action can have a powerful and positive effect on the situation. Although it's never a child's responsibility to put him or herself in danger, kids can often effectively diffuse a bullying situation by yelling "Stop! You're bullying" or "Hey, that's not cool." Kids can also help each other by providing support to the victim, not giving extra attention to the bully, and/or reporting what they witnessed to an adult.
- 9. Teach your child about cyberbullying.** Children often do not realize what cyberbullying is. Cyberbullying includes sending mean, rude, vulgar, or threatening messages or images; posting sensitive private information about another person; pretending to be someone else in order to make that person look bad; and intentionally excluding someone from an online group. These acts are as harmful as physical violence and must not be tolerated. We know from research that the more time a teen spends online, the more likely they are to be cyberbullied—so limit online time. There's a simple litmus test you can teach your children about online posting: if you wouldn't say it to someone's face or you would not feel comfortable having your parents see it—don't post it (or take it down now).

10. Spread the word that bullying should not be a normal part of childhood. Some adults hesitate to act when they observe or hear about bullying because they think of bullying as typical phase of childhood that must be endured or that it can help children “toughen up.” It is important for all adults to understand that bullying does not have to be a normal part of childhood. All forms of bullying are harmful to the perpetrator, the victim, and to witnesses and the effects last well into adulthood (and can include depression, anxiety, substance abuse, family violence and criminal behavior). Efforts to effectively address bullying require the collaboration of school, home, and community. Forward this list and articles you’ve read to all the parents, teachers, administrators, after-school care programs, camp counselors, and spiritual leaders you know. Bullying is a serious problem, but if we all work together, it’s one we can impact.

Notes from the Nurse



We have certainly been lucky so far this year regarding the flu. According to the Iowa Influenza Surveillance Network (IISN), flu outbreaks are low in Iowa as well as internationally.

It is important that we work together to keep our children healthy. You can help prevent the spread of viruses and bacteria and help your child get better if he/she does get sick by following a few simple steps:

- Remind your child to cover his/her nose and mouth with a tissue when sneezing or coughing and dispose of the tissue immediately
- Have your child wash his/her hands frequently with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds
- Disinfect frequently-touched surfaces and shared items at least once a day
- Ensure that bathrooms are stocked with soap, hand towels and tissues
- Teach your child not to touch his/her mouth, nose and eyes

If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, call your doctor early. Call your doctor immediately if your child has a chronic disease.

Common symptoms of actual flu include high fever, severe headache, muscle and body aches, exhaustion, and dry cough. Additionally, children often exhibit other flu symptoms that are rare in adults, such as nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

YOUR STUDENT SHOULD REMAIN HOME FOR SURE

if.....

FEVER: If your student is running fever at any point over 100.4, they must remain home **until they are fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medications** such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen.

VOMITING AND DIARRHEA: If your student has vomited or had diarrhea or both, they **must remain home from school until ALL symptoms are gone for 24 hours** without any medications.

COUGH: If your student is coughing to the point that they have been awake all night or cannot walk around your home without coughing; or will be disruptive to the other student in the class, **please keep them home until they are feeling better.**

INFLUENZA: If your student has been diagnosed with Influenza A or B, they **must remain home until the fever criteria above is met and they are feeling better.**

STREP THROAT: Your student **must remain home until they have been on antibiotics for 24 hours.** This means for example. If your student was prescribed Amoxicillin twice a day, they must have received the antibiotics and return 24 hours after the first dose of antibiotics not the strep test.

ASTHMA: If your student has asthma, the cold weather is a trigger for most asthmatic children. **Please make sure that we have current asthma rescue inhalers or nebulizer medication at school** in order to avoid an extra absence.

Happy New Year from Nurse Carol

From the PTA

Hello Grant Wood parents and staff!

Happy New Year!!!! The Grant Wood PTA is very excited to invite you to a very fun event that we hope will raise LOADS of money to benefit our kids and our new school. It's the Grant Wood Trivia Night Fundraiser!

This trivia night will be on FEBRUARY 1st, 2019 and hosted by Tiffany McClure. It will be held at the Golden Leaf Banquet Center (on Kimberly by Big River Bowling). Doors open at 6:30pm; trivia begins at 7pm. A table of 8 is \$120 (\$15/person) and may be paid by cash or check on the night of the event (checks payable to Grant Wood PTA).

Soda and adult beverages will be available for purchase, as well as pizza, burgers, and wraps. You may bring in snacks for your table, but please NO crock pots or outside alcohol. And no children.

There will also be a raffle and a silent auction with some fun items, so bring some cash or your checkbook! Each grade will be putting together a basket for the silent auction, so please look for an email from your room parents asking if you can donate items. This year there are also sign up geniuses for each class requesting specific items for these baskets. We are asking that these items be sent to school by January 23rd. All funds raised from this event will directly benefit the kids at Grant Wood. If you or your business has anything special to donate to our auction, please let us know!

We are also looking for businesses to sponsor a round of trivia for \$100. We would then display your company logo at the beginning of the round for all potential local customers to see. Let us know if you are interested!

This should be a very fun event, so put together your trivia team of 8 today! You don't need a team to attend this event. We will have tables available for anyone interested in playing. Just let us know ahead of time so we can pair you up with others. Be sure to include your relatives and friends from outside the Grant Wood community. Send us an email and we would be happy to reserve you a table! Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Your PTA Board