OAKLAND-CRAIG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2008 NEWSLETTER

NEBRASKA STATE PATROL WEBSITE

Oakland-Craig Schools is publishing the Nebraska State Patrol's Sex Offender Registry.

The web site is www.nsp.state.ne.us

Also we've been asked by the West Point Area School Administrators to pass along a sex offender city ordinance:

"This letter is to inform your school of a city ordinance passed by the West Point City Council concerning Sex Offenders and their presence at school functions.

The ordinance mandates that a sex offender is prohibited from attending school functions such as fine arts productions or athletic events.

However, the ordinance does make exceptions for parents and other relatives that plan to attend these events. Sex offenders that are parents or relatives of a student in your school must inform the school where the event is taking place of their planned attendance. This notification must take place prior to the event.

We ask that you would make this new ordinance known to your public."

GET A JUMP ON COLLEGE SUCCESS

Learning Skills for Success class will be meeting Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:10 – 8:10 on the Northeast Community College campus in Norfolk from October 20 – December 17. This class is also available online. This is a two credit hour college class. Topics covered include time management, advanced study skills, note taking, test taking, goals, motivation, being responsible, critical thinking, budgeting, and relationships. For more information, contact instructor Scott Berg at (402) 844-7225.

ALL-STATE AUDITIONS COMING
HUSKER CONFERENCE VOCAL CLINIC

Auditioning for the 2008 All State Chorus on October 11th include: Clare Carl, Sara Ann Prewett, Carrie King, Lisa Burghardt, Elizabeth Swearngin, Ellen Pille, Baker Blanc, Josh Wilson and Kai Friis-Hansen. The All-State Convention will take place on November 16-17 in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Several junior high choir members will be auditioning for the UNO Heartland Festival Middle School Honor Choir – Kameron Shelley, Mollie Blanc, Jaylynn Mace, McKayla Lundry, Elizabeth Pille, Emily Weitzenkamp, Caleb Peterson, Brock Denton and Jordan Snader.

On Tuesday, November 11th, the senior high choir will be participating in the Husker Vocal Clinic in Stanton. Following an afternoon of rehearsals under the direction of Doane College's Kurt Runestedt, the 300 plus choir will perform a final concert at 7:00 pm, open to the public. Admission is $4 for adults and $3 for students. Participating in a rotating schedule among the 9 conference schools, Oakland-Craig Choir will be featured in the final concert this year. Please make plans to attend.

FOR SALE

An Everett brand console piano with bench – needs some work - Contact the school office if you're interested.

RAILROADS AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

We have a number of students who walk to school and must cross the tracks to get here. On occasion, there may be a train parked across the route used by students, and on occasion, these students may determine that if they don't get to school on time, they'll get into trouble, so they climb through or under the train. WHOA!! Not a good idea! Please do some parenting with your child and advise them of train safety. We do some at school but we're not supervising the railroad, and some students think they are old enough to take action. We want them to get "older enough".

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION MEETING

A financial aid information night for senior students and parents is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12 at 6:30 in the 3rd floor Media Center.

This is a service provided by the Educational Planning Center's financial aid office. It is intended to assist parents and students with the financial aid process and will include the most current information.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Please mark your calendars! Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Monday and Wednesday, October 27 and October 29. There will be no school held on Friday, October 31st. Conferences run from 5:30 – 8:30. The elementary school will be sending home information about your appointment. The 5th and 6th grade teachers will meet in the elementary building. Junior and Senior High teachers will be available in the old gym. No appointment is needed for the secondary teachers.

PSAT TESTS

On Wednesday, October 15, 2008, the juniors at Oakland-Craig High School will be given the opportunity to take the PSAT test. The test will take all morning with the students finishing around 12:00.

The PSAT Test measures verbal reasoning, critical reading, math problem-solving and writing skills developed over many years, both in and out of school. The students do not have to recall facts from literature, history, or science. They will not have to write an essay. And they will not have to memorize math formulas; in fact some will be given on the test for reference. This test is the test required to be considered for a National Merit Scholarship.

The fee for the 2008 PSAT is $13.00. The College Board makes fee waivers available to schools for juniors from low-income families who cannot afford the test fee. Your child may check with the counselor and request a waiver if it applies to him or her.

PLAN TEST

On Wednesday, November 5, 2008, all sophomores at Oakland-Craig Schools will be taking the PLAN test from 8:30 – 11:30. This test provides useful information regarding strengths and concerns regarding your child's educational plans. It also provides an estimated ACT score based on the performance on the PLAN test.

Tests in English, math, reading, and science reasoning that measure the academic skills and abilities developed up to this point are included in the test. There is also an interest inventory that will give your child some clues as to the kind of career path and occupations that he or she might consider.

The district pays the fee for this test and no students will be assessed a fee.

JUST SO YOU KNOW ---

The reason the O-C office staff asks you why your children are ill when you call them in absent in the morning is because the Elkhorn Logan Valley Public Health Department is calling us (and each school in their four-county service area) each Wednesday in an attempt to track the outbreak of illness. This information is forwarded to the Nebraska Department of Education and the Department of Health in partnership on the project, specifically attempting to obtain the number of students experiencing rashes or fevers.

We would like to thank you for your cooperation in this endeavor.

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Many times the question is asked "Can my son or daughter ride home with a friend's parents? A grandparent? A sister or brother? (etc)" We would like to clarify any questions or confusion on this issue.

The student must ride to the school activity on school transportation. The trip home can be with parents, with a note from the parent given to the coach. No other arrangements are acceptable. They can not ride home with a friend's parents, or with grandparents, or other relatives, or basically any one else except the parents. Of course this is at the discretion of the coach, but it is a common practice to release the student to their parents upon contact and a note. Any situation falling outside this criteria must have prior approval and will be considered on an individual basis.

ONE ACT PLAY SEASON IS HERE

The One-Act Play season is well underway. This year the students are being co-coached by Cindy Dahlquist and Nancy Guenther. Around thirty students attended the informational meeting early in September, so we're excited there was such interest in trying out for the production. Our play is a romantic comedy, entitled *Jolly Roger, King of the Pirates.* A wealthy woman of title is about to marry the infamous pirate to stop him from pillaging her coastline. Of course, the play is filled with comical characters and several scenes of mayhem before its romantic ending. The cast is looking forward to performing the play for the public on Sunday, November 23rd at 2:00 in the old gym. Conference One-Acts will again be held at Wisner-Pilger's theatre on Tuesday, November 25 and O-C has the 8:00 time slot. Districts will also be held at Wisner-Pilger on Wednesday, December 3 and O-C will be performing at 2:45. We'd love to see some friendly faces in the audience on those two days!