OAKLAND-CRAIG PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DECEMBER, 2008 & JANUARY, 2009 NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL CLOSING/DISMISSAL INFORMATION

When school is dismissed early for bad weather, students who drive their own vehicles and live outside the city limits will be required to contact their parents by telephone prior to leaving school.

Bus students will ride the bus home as usual.

Parents are asked to listen to AM84 or KWPN 107.9 radio, or TV Channels 3, 6 or 7 in Omaha for any school closings or early dismissals in case the weather is threatening.

EARLY DISMISSAL TIMES

We will have the holiday early dismissal on Friday, December 19. Elementary will be dismissed at 1:50 and secondary students will be dismissed at 2:00.

The junior-senior high students will have semester tests during December 17 through 19. Junior-Senior High report cards will be mailed out in January. Vacation dates run from Monday, December 22 through Tuesday, January 6, 2009.

TEACHER IN-SERVICES ARE SCHEDULED

A teacher in-service is planned for Monday, January 5, 2009. There will be no school for students and no breakfast or lunch served that day. *School will resume for the 2nd semester on Tuesday, January 6, 2009.*

SENIOR PICTURE DEADLINE

Don't forget that all senior pictures for the yearbook, composite, newspaper and slide show are due in the office on Tuesday, January 6, 2009. Turn in all your pictures to the office and we will distribute them to the appropriate sponsors.

Remember that for the composite, seniors must have a head and shoulders wallet photo. Any picture showing students' hands, or including trees, cars, horses, etc, or other size of picture (for example, a 4 x 6 size) will NOT be accepted. This is your basic head and shoulders wallet picture – the type of picture you'd send in with a job resume.

Parent quotes and student quotes are due by January 6, 2009. The parent quote is a tribute to your senior student and the student quote is a quote that might be a famous quote that fits the student's personality or represents their attitude. **Please keep the quotes short and simple**.

If quotes are too long, they will be shortened to fit into the designated area.

Also due for the yearbook is the baby or toddler picture and the senior wallet picture.

So in summary, the pictures required on January 6, 2009 include:

Yearbook – baby or toddler picture and a senior wallet
Also the student and parent quote
Composite – a head and shoulders color wallet
Newspaper – a black and white wallet (although color will work)
Slide Show – baby picture, growing up (elementary age) picture and a senior wallet.

DECEMBER CONCERTS & SOUP SUPPER ARE SCHEDULED

"There's No Business Like SNOW business!"

The elementary Christmas program will be held on Monday, Dec. 8, 2008, at 7:00 pm in the new gym. The 6th grade band will begin the program, followed by kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades sharing a whacky collection of holiday songs set to new lyrics.

Grades 3-6 will present the choral revue "Santa's Frosty Follies" featuring the "hoofer from way back", Rudolph; the "rockin', rollin' snowman", Frosty; the "Lovely lady in white", Suzy Snowflake; and the "star of the show" Santa Claus!

Be sure to join the cast in some Holiday Hoop-la for all ages!

The Oakland-Craig Music Department will present its annual Christmas concert on Tuesday, December 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the new gym. Featured performers will include the junior and senior high bands and choirs, ensembles and combined choirs.

Prior to the music concert, the Oakland-Craig Band Department will be holding a soup supper on Tuesday, December 16th from 5:30 – 7:00. Adults $4.00 and grades K-6 are $2.00. Pre-school is free. If any parents would like to help at the soup supper, contact Mr. Beavers at school.

YEAR-ROUND MAGAZINE SALES NOW AVAILABLE ON-LINE

For many years, you have helped support the Oakland-Craig Band through the magazine sales program. Now you can continue to support the band year-round! All you need do is purchase your magazines and renew your old magazine subscriptions on-line using these simple steps:

1. Go to qsp.com
2. Click on "Shop Now"
3. Use the *School or Organization Finder* and type in "Oakland", "NE". Then click on OAKLAND CRAIG JHS/BAND.

4. You are now ready to shop! You may purchase new magazines or renew existing subscriptions at the lowest available prices. When you check out you will have the option of entering the name of a specific student. That student will receive credit for the sale. 40% of all sales is sent back to support the O-C band program.

Thanks for your help! Remember, you can now support the band students year-round!

Oakland-Craig Public Schools now has a Parent Teacher Organization!
The mission of PTO is: To be an advocate for kids and to partner with the teachers and administration in the learning environment.

The goal of PTO is: To expand parent/ teacher communication and involvement in school and PTO activities

Our organization will meet on a quarterly basis. We have formed 6 committees which are as follows:

1. **H.A.L.** - Higher ability learners program. The purpose of this committee is to reach out to the gifted in our school (primarily elementary age children at this point).

2. **Breakfast for the teachers and staff** - At least one time this year, this committee will provide breakfast to all the teachers and staff.

3. **Years of Service**- Small gifts will be awarded to teachers at the honors convocation (high school and junior high teachers) and at the elementary awards program (elementary teachers) for teachers who have served for a set number of years.

4. **Meal at parent/ teacher conferences** – A meal will be provided to the teachers and staff on the night of parent/ teacher conferences.

5. **Fundraising**- Raising money to operate is the main objective of this committee.

If you are interested in becoming involved, contact Mr. Holys or Paige Peterson.

Grolier Online FREE to Patrons

Oakland-Craig patrons can connect to five online encyclopedias at their homes for FREE. The school subscribes to five online encyclopedias:

The New Book of Knowledge—geared to elementary students
Includes sections on:

Wonder Questions, Literacy Selections, Projects and Experiments,
World History Time Line, Homework Help, NBK News, Spotlight, Web Feat

Encyclopedia Americana—geared to high school and adults

Has segments on:

Editor's picks--Engaging introductions to research topics, offering insights, Web sites, and article links

Profiles--Biographies of the famous, the infamous, and the highly influential.

Journal--A searchable, international current events database, and online newspapers from around the world

Browse--Allows you to browse lists of articles arranged by subject

Multimedia Encyclopedia—special effects like movies, maps, and sound effects

Includes segments on:

Brain jam, News, Today is, Research Starters, Timelines, Quizzes and Games

New Book of Popular Science—specialized in science & geared to junior high

Includes—Newsbytes, Projects, Biographies, SciZone, Biographies, SciFiles, SkyWatch, and Ask PopSci

Lands and Peoples—specialized in geography& geared to junior high

Includes Global News Desk, Electronic Atlas, Focus North America, Cross Cultures, Passport to Fun, and L & P Almanac

To access this on your home computer:

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