7th GRADE NEWS

Language Arts

Students in 7th Grade English/Language Arts (ELA-7/Literacy) are focusing on a novel unit for 4th quarter: The Outsiders, by S.E. Hinton. The book is set in the 1960's and filled with 60's culture, references, and teen angst. The classes will engage in close reads, multimedia activities featuring EdPuzzles, a series of worksheet activities emphasizing characterization, and a small-group "Body Biography" project in which students will color and label different features and traits of 1 of the key characters in the story. Quizzes, or comprehension checks, will be given after every 4 chapters of the 12-chapter novel. Vocabulary and literary terms such as allusion and symbol are included in the worksheet packets. Passage analysis and writing-response opportunities will be provided. A final summative project with a debate or speaking component is planned.

Pre AP Literacy

In 7th AP, ELA students just finished a unit on debate and persuasive writing. Students learned about formal skills while focusing on the Lincoln-Douglas style of debating. Rhetorical devices of persuasion were utilized and speaking and listening skills were practiced in order to present the written material for an audience. We are still working on sharing the speeches that were recorded for each group. We are finishing the year by listening to a Podcast and focusing on characterization and metacognition skills in the AP curriculum that will benefit reading comprehension.

Social Studies

7th Grade Social Studies is currently wrapping up our Food Supply Unit. This unit examines challengings to feed our population of more than 8 billion people. Every day, more than 1 billion people go hungry. There are food shortages due to crop failure, soil depletion, flood, drought, poor food distribution, conflict, and the economy. Students looked at problems and solutions to this issue. They were also lucky to have two guest speakers come and talk about how the state of Iowa helps the food supply chain.

Global Health is our next topic of focus in 7th grade social studies. Global Health is a key issue around the world with several countries experiencing major

health concerns. To the world's developed countries, these concerns are considered minor health issues that are able to be medically treated. Students have the opportunity to participate in case studies about how different countries around the world experience health, highlighting both the positive and the negative. They get to dive into different health care systems around the world and try to think of positive ways to improve healthcare in the United States of America.

Pre-AP has been discussing the impacts of colonialism and the Industrial Revolution on the modern world. We have done research and written essays about colonialism. The students are excited to talk about the World Wars as we move towards the end of the school year.

As a reminder, please use PowerSchool to keep up with your student's work and grades and feel free to email with questions and concerns.

Math 7

During Quarter 4, students will dive deep into the building blocks of algebraic thinking as they begin to tackle solving more complex equations and inequalities, such as two-step equations and equations with rational numbers.

Key ideas:

- Solving equations with multiple steps uses the same reasoning as solving simple equations; you must always do the same operation with the same number on each side.
- When you perform the same operation on both sides with the same number, you will generate an equivalent equation which has the same solution.
- You can always check your answer through substitution; you should end up with a true equation after fully simplifying.
- An inequality is a math statement that has multiple solutions; for example, a solution to $x \ge 3$ could be 3, 4, 5, or 100.
- Combining like terms and the distributive property are ways to write equivalent expressions that can be simpler.

Pre-Algebra

Students are rounding out the year finishing up their geometry unit with volume, area, and circumference.

They will be starting a quick unit on measure of center and probability to finish off the rest of the school year. Our kids will also be taking the I-Ready diagnostic test again in the next few weeks to see their growth over the year. These students will have accomplished a lot of things as they put an end to their 7th grade year that will help them greatly as they transition into Algebra.

Science

Seventh Grade Science students have been exploring the relationship between the sun, earth, and moon. Students were able to visualize how each celestial body has a relationship with the other and creates different phenomena in the sky! The timing of the total solar eclipse was awesome! We also spend time over the next week learning the different phases of the moon and how to identify them. To finish out the school year, we will be moving into the energy and motion unit. Ha, did you get that? Moving and motion... pun intended. We will be exploring the use of different types of forces, energies, and motions in our everyday lives.

Introduction to Computer Science

Computer Science class has been continuing to work on logical thinking and problem solving through creating apps in MIT App Inventor. We have created sounds and modified images that we have put into our apps. A critical skill that we learn is how to create high-level documentation to improve the development process. Students will also research different careers in the Computer Science and Information Technology fields and discuss the importance of digital responsibility.

Visual Art

Hello from 7th grade Art! As we are coming to the end of the year, things are still moving along in the Art Room. We finished our SEL piece, the students' version of *Starry Night*. They created a piece that is a representation of who they are. Part of art is having a personal connection to what they are creating. This is a tough piece but they all did very well. Students are currently working on their final unit project, Paper Quilling. They have created a design and are using quilling concepts to create their masterpieces. I've created a Facebook page to showcase what is happening in the art room. Check out our talented young artists.

7th grade art Facebook page

Family Consumer Science



I am quite proud of the growth our FCS students have made in the kitchens over the last couple of weeks. They are improving on sharing the responsibilities in the kitchens. I often hear things like "who's in charge of dishes today?" or "I will dry if you put them away." I hope those duties are carried over at home as well. We have also made a number of things in the kitchens. Please see the list below.

- Oreo Bites This was some students' first experience with a double boiler that melted white chocolate.
- Quesadilla Pan frying can be a little stressful for them but they did well
- Cupcakes They made homemade frosting as well.
- Spaghetti Everyone wanted to test
 the theory of throwing spaghetti
 strands on the cabinet to see if they
 stick. Sorry all, but we did discuss
 the need to wipe the cabinet down
 with warm soapy water.
- Jello We topped this easy dessert with marshmallows.
- Bread pudding this was not a big hit with some, but our construction workers enjoy our efforts.
- We also shared a meal of Tex Mex, cornbread, and pineapple fluff with the people who have been working on our beautiful new District Office wing. The students set up a lovely table.

In the coming weeks we will learn about gas grill and fire safety. We will also learn how to properly ignite

and ventilate a gas. Our other outdoor activity is the proper steps to build and fire and roast s'mores.

As always, thanks for sharing your young people with our FCS program. Please ask them to send you pictures of what they are making in class.

PLTW

PLTW automation and robotics classes have recently completed a research project over a STEM career of their choice. Students picked a STEM career, researched the career, and then created either a poster or a slideshow to present the information. We had some really great presentations and I think the students learned a lot about career choices. Students are currently learning about all the different mechanisms that we can build using our robotics materials. Students are learning and building mechanisms like cam and follower systems, rack and pinion systems, crank and slider systems, and chain and belt drives. They will use this knowledge to finish out the semester by building and automating different robotics systems.

Physical Education

Students in 7th grade Physical Education just finished up a badminton unit, and also just completed the Pacer Test. For the remainder of the school year, we will be doing various team games and spending time outside walking, jogging, and utilizing the mini pitch. Please encourage your child to stay active throughout the summer. There are many things they can do such as swimming, bike riding, playing outdoor sports, etc.

8th GRADE NEWS

Language Arts

8th Grade Literacy students have ben reading the novel, *Prisoner B-3087*, by Alan Gratz. We will be revisiting skills and concepts such as theme, story elements, plot, characters, and word meanings. We have continued to focus on comprehension and supporting thinking with text evidence. Students will monitor character change and development over the course of the story. Upon completion, students will complete a project to combine their creativity with their understanding of the novel.

Pre AP Literacy

8th PreAp students have been reading *Between Shades* of *Gray*, by Ruta Sepetys. Through this novel as well as other texts, it gives students the opportunity to study the past as a way to act on their future. The characters encounter horrific challenges that students are able to examine and evaluate. The theme of "finding hope in times of despair" is developed throughout the novel and students are given the opportunity to learn about some incredible hardships that people endured.

Social Studies

In 8th grade Social Studies we will be looking at westward expansion during the 4th quarter. Students will look at how the push westward not only changed the country's physical borders but also its domestic and foreign policy. The Industrial Revolution and how it changed the United States from an agrarian to an industrial society will also be a topic that students will explore this final quarter.

Pre-Ap U.S. History

In Pre-AP U.S. History we are currently finishing our last unit of the school year. We are wrapping up the year by discussing the lead up to the Civil War. I have enjoyed the first year of 8th Grade Pre-AP U.S. History, and I hope the kids enjoyed learning about the history of our country.

Pre-Algebra

Students are continuing Unit 6 on Exponents and Scientific Notation. Students deepen their knowledge of exponents before exploring how powers of 10 and scientific notation can be used to write and work with numbers as small as the mass of a bacterium or as large

as the number of atoms in the Universe. Students use the exponent rules to apply applications such as addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Before the end of the year students will complete Unit 7 on Pythagorean Theorem and Rational vs. Irrational Numbers. Students begin by learning about square roots and cube roots which help understand rational vs. irrational numbers. Lastly, students use geometry to explore and apply the Pythagorean Theorem.

Algebra

Students finished Unit 5 on Quadratic Functions. They analyzed and compared patterns, tables, graphs, and equations. To finish the year, students learn to write and solve quadratic equations and make sense of the solutions. They will investigate the structure of quadratic equations and determine efficient strategies for solving them by focusing on factoring.

Science

8th grade students have been learning about energy in the atmosphere. We have recently been focusing on how the unequal heating and rotation of the Earth causes patterns of atmospheric and oceanic circulation that determine regional climates. We are now focusing on weather and how the information we have learned impacts weather and climate. Students will finish off the year completing a project on weather and climate by applying what they have learned through this unit.

Physical Education

8th grade students in PE have wrapped up their final Pacer Test for the year, showing great improvement throughout the year. After completing their health unit, students will get the opportunity to go outside more often as it gets nicer and they've completed all of their units for the year. It has been a good year to introduce new equipment and content to them as they move on to 9th grade next year!

Introduction to Physical Conditioning

Students are completing their 4th and final max out assessments. They are bringing together everything they've learned throughout the year and the strength they have built to finish the year with their best performance. Once max outs have been completed, we will be working on covering all of our health standards. Some of those include CPR.

communication, decision making, mindfulness, self-management, and wellness.

Visual Art

The 8th grade Art students have been working on drawing all elements of the face leading towards a portrait that will be finished in oil pastel. As students finished a basic line drawing for their final portrait they took a break to glaze their clay pieces. Glazing should finish up next week and we will return to he portrait project and begin working with pastels.

This is the first year that I have assigned a "Bell Ringer" at the beginning of class and I am amazed at some of the insightful, personal, and impressive reflections from students. I really enjoyed discovering what they think is good art and what they can't believe is considered art.

Financial Literacy

To close out this semester of Financial Literacy, the students started learning about Savings Accounts and Checking Accounts and the differences between the two. They also had some practice with how to balance an account statement. We learned about the power of Compound Interest versus Simple Interest and how to protect themselves from possible fraud, scams, and identity theft. We are finished out this last few weeks with preparing for high school and learning how to determine the best classes to take to set them up for a seamless transfer towards a Post-Secondary degree or career in the field of their interest as well as how to seek employment while still a teenager, including the application process and how to make a great 1st impression. Lastly, we will take a deeper look at what they can expect from their college experiences, how to find the right school based on their desired occupation plus the price to attend that college and what alternatives are available to a 4-year degree.

7th/8th Agriculture

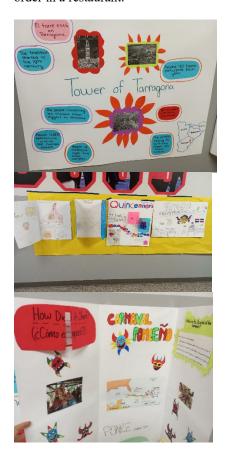
This quarter has brought a lot of excitement with the addition of baby animals in the classroom. Students enjoyed helping take care of 4 orphaned baby goats (Carl, Ed, Stevie, and Daisy) for several weeks in addition to continuing to care for our classroom ducks (Wally and Winnie). We successfully hatched 19 chicks and are currently caring for them in our classroom until they are ready to go to their new homes at the end of the school year. We are also incubating 6 duck eggs that should hatch towards the end of May. These animals will be exhibited by several of our

students at the Wapello county Expo from July 16th-July 20th and we would love to invite everyone to come visit them at the Expo and see the hard work the students have put into their projects. It's been a fun and exciting year in the Ag Room and we're looking forward to next year being even bigger and better.

Spanish 1

In Spanish 1, we have been working with different verbs (to go and to have). They are already able to complete whole sentences and ask some questions. Also, we worked with different traditions in Spanish speaking countries and they did a great job on their presentations.

For the rest of the term, we will work with different verbs in the present tense, and we will learn how to order in a restaurant.



7th/8th TAG

Evans seventh and eighth grade TAG students are closing the school year with two rather ambitious projects that are tapping the top of the Bloom's

taxonomy pyramid - CREATING. They are designing, developing, and constructing during these final units. Students first created a country of their own. They developed a profile for the country, created the physical components, "traded" with other countries, forged alliances through treaties, designed a government modeled after a current country's government, and created a promotional campaign so that others would "visit" their country.

For the final few weeks of school, students are working on putting together a short stop motion animation video. Individuals and groups are responsible for creating a simple storyboard, building objects/characters/sets, and filming these scenes frame by frame using an approved application. The hope is that we will have numerous 15 to 30 second videos to watch the last week of school. Clay, paper, and LEGOS are being used as the materials to build.

Fine Arts

The band, choir and orchestra students are preparing for their Annual Pops Concerts. Check out the following dates for our performances:

May 7th & 8th- Orchestra Tours

Students from the Evans and High School Orchestras will be touring to elementary schools across the district. We will be playing fun pop tunes for our upcoming concerts and demonstrating what a string orchestra sounds like. Odd scheduled orchestra students will be playing at Horace Mann/Eisenhower and Liberty on the 7th and even scheduled orchestra members will perform at Wilson and James Elementary schools the following day.

May 9th – Evans Band/Orchestra Pops Concert

The Evans Orchestras will showcase classic songs such as "Ghost Riders in the Sky" which has been showing up since the 1940's, "I Like that Old Time of Rock N'Roll" by Bob Seger, and a few snippers that are most recent tunes. The band will feature marching songs from their trip to Tulip Time. The concert will conclude with the Evans Middle School Jazz Band who will perform selections from their season as well as some fun pop tunes.

May 14th- 7/8th Choir Pop Concert

The 7th and 8th grade choirs will perform their POPS concert on May 14th at the OHS Auditorium. Each class is performing a set of songs based on a "theme". 7th grade period 3 is performing a 4th of July theme and

singing "Party in the USA", "Firework", and "Dynamite". 7th grade period 1 has a theme of Time and are performing "Baby One More Time", "A Thousand Years", and "Tik Tok". 8th grade is performing the them of Minions are singing the songs "Starships", "Talking to the Moon", and "Happy".

We hope you can come enjoy the show! The kids have worked hard. All choreography and staging was done by students as well, it will be a very fun way to end the year.

May 20th- Band at Adventureland

Members of the 7/8th grade bands will celebrate the end of a great year in band by performing at Adventureland! The bands are excited for this outdoor performance.

May 25th-Symphony Orchestra

Students newly interested in trying out for next year's Ottumwa Symphony Youth Orchestras will be auditioning at OHS. Please talk to Ms. McDonald and she can connect you with the youth symphony director.

Summer Band and Orchestra

Information will be available soon for 7/8th grade orchestra and band members about our summer programs. It is a great opportunity to keep your skills over the summer!

MULTICULTURAL, NONSEXIST STATEMENT

Applicants for admission and employment, students, parents, employees, sources of referral of applicants for admissions and employment, and all unions or organizations holding professional collective bargaining or professional agreements with the Ottumwa Community School District are hereby notified that the District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning the Ottumwa Community School District's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VII, Title IX, Americans with Disability Act or Section 504 is directed to contact David Harper, who has been designated by the Ottumwa Community School District to coordinate the District's efforts to comply with the regulations implementing Title VII, Title IX, and Section 504.

David Harper 1112 N. VanBuren david.harper@ottumwaschools.com Phone: (641) 684-6597

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE-TITLE IX

Inquiries regarding compliance with Title IX, Title VI, or Section 504 may be directed to Compliance Officer, David Harper, 1112 N. Van Buren, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501, Telephone: (641)684-6597, Email: david.harper@ottumwaschools.com, or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661-7204, Telephone: (312)730-1560, Facsimile: (312)730-1576, Email: OCR.Chicago.ed.gov

NON-DISCRININATION STATEMENT

It is the policy of the Ottumwa Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status(for programs) in its educational programs, and its employment practices.

There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the district's Equity Coordinator, Maria Lantz, 1112 N. Van Buren, Ottumwa, IA 52501, Telephone

(641)684-6597,Email:

maria.lantz@ottumwaschools.com; or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661-7204, Telephone (312)730-1560 Facsimile: (312)730-1576, Email: OCR.Chicago@ed.gov

ANTI-BULLYING/HARASSMENT POLICY

Harassment and bullying of students and employees are against federal, state, and local policy, and are not tolerated by the board. The board is committed to providing all students with a safe and civil school environment in which all members of the school community are treated with dignity and respect. To that end, the board has in place policies, procedures, and practices that are designed to reduce and eliminate bullying and harassment as well as processes and procedures to deal with incidents of bullying and harassment. Bullying and harassment of students by other students, by school employees, and by volunteers who have direct contact with students will not be tolerated in the school or school district.

The board prohibits harassment, bullying, hazing, or any other victimization, of students, based on any of the following actual or perceived traits or characteristics, including but not limited to, age, color, creed, national origin, race, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status, or familiar status. Harassment against employees based upon the employee's race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, age or disability is also prohibited.

This policy is in effect while students or employees are on property within the jurisdiction of the board; while on school-owned or school-operated vehicles; while attending or engaged in school-sponsored activities; and while away from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school or school district (Board Policy Code No. 106). Any student or staff who feels they may have been a victim of bullying or harassment should contact a building administrator.

Calendar

5/9/24	7:00 p.m. 7/8 th Band & Orchestra Pops Concert- OHS Auditorium
5/14/24	7:00 p.m. 5-8 th Vocal Pops Concert- OHS Auditorium
	7:00 p.m. Travel Program ECE Required Parent Meeting- Evans Auditorium
5/16/24	7:00 p.m. Travel Program Discovery 21 Required Parent Meeting- Evans Auditorium
5/24/24	1:00 Dismissal- Last Day of School
5/27/24	Travel Program- ECE Trip Leaves, Returns 6/4
6/6/24	Travel Program- Discovery 21 Trip Leaves, Returns 6/16
7/29/24	Travel Program- Black Hills Adventure Trip Leaves, Returns 8/5

Dear Evans Middle School parents,

Please see the information below concerning drills that we be held throughout the school year.

Tornado Drills
Your child's safety is always at the forefront of what we do at OCSD. Safety and security continues to be a top priority for everyone connected to our school community.

While safety and security are paramount, we also believe proactive social and emotional wellness for students and adults is essential. At Evans Middle School we work to ensure we build relationships with our students, families, and each other.

Our Philosophy:

For years, our students have participated in multiple emergency drills: earthquake, fire, tornado and intruder. Our intent is never to frighten anyone but to be sure our students have walked through enough routines of what to do IF a situation ever occurs. Just as we are proactive in making sure our children wear helmets, get check-ups, and get immunized, our drills are a chance to act proactively.

Tornado Drills

During the school year we will conduct Tornado Drills. Your child's classroom teacher has taken time to teach, discuss and practice the Tornado Drill procedures. The discussions in the classroom include talking about duck and cover, listening for adult instructions, and each classroom's designated area within the school. Typically, the designated areas are outside their classrooms, in the hallway. It is important that students crouch as low as they can and cover their necks with their hands. These drills are something we will continue to practice throughout the

While we practice these drills at school, it is also important to speak as a family about these drills and to come up with a family plan if an emergency would occur at your home.

HOW CAN YOU HELP US? Follow our visitor procedures:

• Stand in front of the camera when you buzz, and we will ask you how we can help you.

When you come in, please come directly to the office, and sign in.

- All guests at Evans Middle School will sign in and out of the office and wear a visitor tag. No adults should be in the hallway without a tag.
- If we don't know someone who is requesting to pick up a student, we will ask for identification. When you are buzzed in, please do not hold the door for others. We know this can be uncomfortable but reassure the person entering behind you that these are our safety procedures.

Fire Drills

Your child's safety is always at the forefront of what we do at OCSD. Safety and security continues to be a top priority for everyone connected to our school community.

While safety and security are paramount, we also believe proactive social and emotional wellness for students and adults is essential. At Evans Middle School, we work to ensure we build relationships with our students, families, and each other.

Our Philosophy:

For years, our students have participated in multiple emergency drills: earthquake, fire, tornado and intruder. Our intent is never to frighten anyone but to be sure our students have walked through enough routines of what to do IF a situation ever occurs. Just as we are proactive in making sure our children wear helmets, get check-ups, and get immunized, our drills are a chance to act proactively.

Fire Drills

During the school year we will conduct Fire Drills. Your child's classroom teacher has taken time to teach, discuss and practice the Fire Drill procedures. The discussions in the classroom include talking about the most efficient route, listening for adult instructions and each classroom's designated rally point. These drills are something we will continue to practice throughout the year.

While we practice these drills at school, it is also important to speak as a family about these drills and to come up with a family plan if an emergency would occur at your home.

HOW CAN YOU HELP US?

Follow our visitor procedures:

- Stand in front of the camera when you buzz, and we will ask you how we can help you.
 When you come in, please come directly to the office, and sign in.
- All guests at Evans Middle School will sign in and out of the office and wear a visitor tag. No adults should be in the hallway without a tag.
- If we don't know someone who is requesting to pick up a student, we will ask for identification. When you are buzzed in, please do not hold the door for others. We know this can be uncomfortable but reassure the person entering behind you that these are our safety procedures.

K-9 Dog Drug Searches (OHS, Evans & Gateway)

The Ottumwa Community School District is working with the Ottumwa Police and Wapello County Sheriff's Departments to bring specially and highly trained non-aggressive canines or "detection dogs" onto our school campus throughout the school year to deter students from bringing contraband substances to school. Random canine sweeps offer our school resource officers and school administrators a proactive approach to successfully locate and remove such contraband from a school.

When done efficiently, canine assisted contraband sweeps help ensure the safety of students and staff with minimal disruption to the learning environment. The main purpose of this program is to deter students from bringing illegal substances to school, however it also serves a minimally invasive way to keep our students and staff safe. The detection dogs will help us locate and remove contraband, including possible weapons, from campus.

How does the search work?

During random unannounced vists, the dogs will sniff the air around lockers, gym areas, restrooms, vehicles, vacated classrooms and school grounds as they search for potential contraband items. Before a classroom is checked, students and staff will be asked to exit the classroom while school personnel accompany the canine team. With an administrator present, the canine team will sniff the interior of the room including the air around any belongings left behind, including backpacks. Evans Middle School is a drug free zone. These searches are performed to ensure the safety and security of our buildings. We truly appreciate you taking the time to read this communication and being our biggest partner in keeping our building safe!

Intruder Drills

Dear Evans Middle School Parents,

Your child's safety is always at the forefront of what we do at OCSD. Safety and security continues to be a top priority for everyone connected to our school community.

While safety and security are paramount, we also believe proactive social and emotional wellness for students and adults is essential. At Evans Middle School we work to ensure we build relationships with our students, families, and each other.

Our Philosophy:

For years, our students have participated in multiple emergency drills: earthquake, fire, tornado and intruder. Our intent is never to frighten anyone but to be sure our students have walked through enough routines of what to do IF a situation ever occurs. Just as we are proactive in making sure our children wear helmets, get check-ups, and get immunized, our drills are a chance to act proactively.

Safety Procedures

In partnership with the Ottumwa Police Department and local law enforcement agencies, our procedures have been enhanced over the years to provide our students and staff with more options in an intruder situation.

Our staff has participated in and will continue training on how to evacuate a building quickly and safely and how we will communicate in these situations. Teachers are continuously thinking about the best safe spots they can quickly reach off campus, and kids will be practicing these routes with teachers.

We call these drills EMERGENCY DRILLS and the intent is simple: students need to focus on whichever adult they are nearest (in case they are in the cafeteria, in the restroom, on the playground for example) and be ready to move to where an adult is asking them to go.

We also discuss scenarios where we would remain in the building and why. Our reunification sites are

being refined as we participate in discussion and problem solving with the entire district.

While we do answer questions of students who may need reassurance or clarification about what they may have heard on the news, we do not talk with students about what news events have led to these types of drills. We are focusing on emergencies and safety. Our most important message to your children is that YOU ARE SAFE WITH US and LISTEN TO THE ADULT GIVING DIRECTIONS.

HOW CAN YOU HELP US?

Follow our visitor procedures:

- Stand in front of the camera when you buzz, and we will ask you how we can help you.
 When you come in, please come directly to the office, and sign in.
- All guests at ENTER SCHOOL will sign in and out of the office and wear a visitor tag.
 No adults should be in the hallway without a tag.
- If we don't know someone who is requesting to pick up a student, we will ask for identification. When you are buzzed in, please do not hold the door for others. We know this can be uncomfortable but reassure the person entering behind you that these are our safety procedures.

Dismissal is chaotic and everyone is in a hurry, which can lead to someone with ill will entering our building or taking advantage of dismissal. The calmer we can keep our front office the better.

We realize this is an emotional topic. We truly appreciate you taking the time to read this communication and being our biggest partner in keeping our building safe!

Respectfully,

Mr. Davis Principal

Educational Talent Search UPDATES



Educational Talent Search serves 500 students annually in grades 6 – 12 in the Ottumwa and Cardinal Community School Districts to support and encourage high school completion and enrollment in post-secondary education.

Tutoring Classes

In our 7th grade Reading Tutoring class, we are currently reading Tuck Everlasting. Our goal is to help those interested improve their comprehension, vocabulary, and fluency. We are also reading fiction & nonfiction short stories with an online site, where the students can choose from different difficulty levels and choose to have the stories read aloud to them.

In our 8th grade Math Tutoring class, we are working on daily math skills as a class, and we are working on an online program where the students can work on skills they need the most and go at their own pace. Class lessons include various delivery methods, such as various 'get up & move' activities, games, and videos.

The tutoring classes are not graded, so our students work on an 'incentive' basis. Our 1st-semester classes cultural trip was delayed due to the weather, but we finally got to go to Des Moines to Breakout Games & have lunch at the Hibachi Grill. They had a GREAT time !!!!



Scan to Apply!

Questions?

jessica.cain@indianhills.edu

Kim Schwartz, Student Success Coach kim.schwartz@indianhills.edu

BREAKOUT





Important News

January 2024: We ended January with an 8th-grade trip to the Science Center in Des Moines. The students participated in the Augmented Reality and 3-D design discovery lab, where they used CAD software to create their own 3-D design objects and learned how augmented reality images can be viewed. The students also participated in the live program Chemistry Clues, which presented how to investigate the clues chemists use with explosive experiments. The students enjoyed lunch from Jersey Mike's on the bus ride back to school.

February 2024: 7th-grade students traveled to the Science Center in Des Moines. The students participated in the Crime Scene Science discovery lab, where they could investigate clues and solve the crime. They also participated in the live program Zap, which presented the world of electrons and electricity. The students enjoyed lunch from Jersey Mike's on the bus ride back to

school.

TRO

EVANS MIDDLE SCHOOL - MARCH 202