

# WEST BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

West Burlington School District-January 2011

## In this issue

Superintendent's  
Remarks

West Burlington Arnold  
Jr/Sr High Parent  
Teacher Conference  
Dates Moved

Post Prom News

Making History

Reading Appreciation  
- Updates and Changes

Equal Educational  
Opportunity Statement

Band News

Pep Club Spreads  
Holiday Cheer

Great Prairie AEA  
Hearing Screening

Iowa College Goal  
Sunday

January Activity  
Calendar

January Lunch Menu

## Superintendent's Remarks

By Dave Schmitt



West Burlington Schools is busy planning for the 2011-2012 school year. We have a few items we would like to share with you and ask for your input. We hope your son/daughter is having a positive school experience, both academically and socially. West Burlington Independent School District encourages you to contact the appropriate school official if you have a question or concern about your child's education or his/her educational experience.

West Burlington Schools will be opening the 8 classroom addition when school commences in August 2011. The classrooms will be state of the art rooms with a lot of natural light and contemporary technology. We know these new spaces will enhance teaching and learning. In February, the district will start working on a proposed calendar for next school year. We would like your input on the number of early out days for professional development. We are looking at the number of early out days as well as the placement of them on the calendar. One possible idea is strategically placing professional development to extend student vacation days or even weekends. The idea of possibly starting earlier in August has also been brought up. There are school districts in the state that start in early August and complete the first semester at the holiday break. I see a lot of benefit to this approach. The School Board is considering air-conditioning all of our classrooms in our school district, which would be beneficial for an early August school start. West Burlington Schools continues to work on meaningful and relevant professional development for its staff. We believe that quality instruction is a top priority, and further believe that continually providing professional development is the best way to improve teaching and learning.

Sixth grade students will be part of our Junior/Senior High School next school year. We are having much discussion on middle school concept for our 6th, 7th and 8th graders, as opposed to our current junior high school model. The Board will have a recommendation taken to them at a work session in late January or early February, with board action occurring at the February regular board meeting, February 22nd. The SIAC committee will also discuss this at their January 12th meeting and provide input to the administrative team. Whichever educational model we choose, middle school or junior high school approach, all parents and students can have our assurance that the sixth grade students will be provided an age appropriate learning environment in which their social, academic, and emotional needs will be nurtured and carefully monitored.

*(Continued on the Next Page)*

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The district office and board room will be moving in January. Our new address is 607 Ramsey St. When the district vacates the old middle school, the Board will have the decision of what to do with the building. Please contact superintendent Schmitt or any of our board members to provide your input on what you believe to be the best option.

If you would like to provide input on professional development days, school start date or middle school versus junior high educational program, contact Superintendent Dave Schmitt at [david.schmitt@wbschools.us](mailto:david.schmitt@wbschools.us), or 319 753-8747, or contact your child's building principal, the names and contact information is available on the school web site [www.wbschools.us](http://www.wbschools.us). We are also posting the names of the School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) on the web site. Please share your thoughts or ideas on the aforementioned topics, with them.

As always, we will continue to place our students' interest as our school district's top priority. We hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. See you next year!! ❖

**West Burlington Arnold Jr/Sr  
High Parent Teacher Conference  
Dates Moved  
By Bruce Snodgrass**

As a way to be more proactive with student academic success, the West Burlington Jr/Sr High School will be moving to a parent teacher conference format that allows for a scheduled date at mid-term 3rd quarter and mid-term 4th quarter. Currently for second semester, parent teacher conferences are scheduled for Tuesday, February 22nd and Thursday, February 24th from 5:00-8:00PM. The new format will keep the Thursday February 24th conference date as scheduled. There will not be parent-teacher conference for the Jr/Sr high school on Tuesday February 22nd. A parent-teacher conference night will now be scheduled during mid-term for 4th quarter, which will be Tuesday, May 3rd from 5:00-8:00PM.

We believe that having a scheduled parent-teacher conference night at mid-term for both 3rd and 4th quarter will lead to greater parent involvement and better communication between parents and the school regarding student academic success. The belief is that something can be done at mid term, rather than after the fact. We look forward to seeing you both nights to discuss your child's academic success. Thank you for your continued support. ❖

**Post Prom News  
By Tammy Wall-  
Schmidt**



The Post Prom Committee would like to thank all of the support that falcon fans have given by purchasing a falcon sports sign or a falcon pride sign. If you are still interested in purchasing a sign, please contact Mrs. Schmidt at the Elementary building.

Future events:

January 10: Science Fair bake sale. We are selling snacks and drinks at the Science Fair.

January 12: WB falcon night at Pizza Hut/Wing Street

January 14: Prom dress sale set up and dress sign up, more information coming.

January 15: Prom dress sale 8:00AM-2:00PM

January 11, 14, and 25: Quilt raffle ticket sales. Drawing held on January 25th, half time of the boys game. This is a very beautiful, handmade quilt with vibrant colors! If you can't make it to the games to get your raffle ticket, please contact Tammy Wall-Schmidt at the elementary building, 319-754-5726 and leave a message with Robin or Pam. ❖

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## Making History

By Jamie Johnson

“And the 2010 Class 5 Pom State Runner Up is....West Burlington!” On December 2, 2010 the West Burlington Competition Dance Team competed at the Iowa State Dance Team Competition. It was the first year that the team competed in the competition, and they were still able to bring home a trophy. They competed in the Class 5 Pom division and placed second.

The West Burlington Dance Team has made history this year. At the competition they received a Division 1 rating in the Pom Division of the competition. This rating allowed them to place higher in the competition than most teams in their category. “Being able to get a Division 1 rating was very exciting, and placing was even better.” stated Freshman Jazlan Boyd. Along with the high rating they received, they were the state runner up to South Hamilton.

The members of the team are Seniors: Tayler Johnson, Taylor Johnson, Taylor Roberson, Lindsi Tillo, and Mariah Young; Junior: Jamie Johnson; Sophomore: Joslyn Hicks; and Freshmen: Jazlan Boyd and Keeley Switzer. The dance team is choreographed by Megan Reid and coached by Cindee Reed.

The team has been working on perfecting their routine for several months. They auditioned for the team in June and have been working hard ever since. “We have all worked really hard the last couple of months, and we are really proud of what we have accomplished!” exclaimed Senior Taylor Johnson.

Hopefully the rest of the season will be just as successful and fun! Congratulations to the West Burlington Competition Dance Team! ❖



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# Reading Appreciation - Updates and Changes

By Vern Reed

The Junior High and High School have seen quite a “reading revolution” over the course of the past few years. Along with the typical teen talk of texting, sports and who’s taking who to homecoming; a new conversation is heard fairly often in our halls. “What book are you reading now?” “I want to check that out after you’re done.” These are words that 4 or 5 years ago we might only have heard in an English class.



West Burlington Jr./Sr. High School is truly a school that reads, and at least some of that positive change in reading attitudes relates directly to our school wide reading program, RAPP. This reading initiative has helped us improve our student’s reading across grade levels, but more importantly it truly has helped many students figure out they really do like to read; of course your child probably won’t admit that ...

This year in an effort to continue to improve our student’s reading we have made some adjustments to our RAPP program, and we wanted you to be aware of them:

1. RAPP will now be graded quarterly just like the rest of our classes.
2. RAPP will now affect both first and second semester eligibility.
3. Students have to complete at least 70% of their point goals to pass RAPP.
4. A student’s final grade each quarter is broken into 3 parts:
  - 80% their percentage of the RAPP goal
  - 10% their average on AR tests
  - 10% their average on tests taken through the Skills Iowa program

Research tells us that the best way for a person to improve their reading is to practice reading at a level in which he or she is comfortable. That is the focus of our Reading Appreciation program. We are able to let our students read novels they are interested in at a level they can succeed with. Really, for us it does not get much better than that.

We believe that one of the best gifts we can give our students is the ability to read. Thank you for your help and support with this. If you have questions never hesitate to contact Mr. Adams or myself. ❖

## **EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT**

The school district does not discriminate in its education programs or educational activities on the basis of sex, race, religion, color, national origin, age, marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity, socio-economic status (for programs), creed or disability. Students are educated in programs which foster knowledge of, and respect and appreciation for, the historical and contemporary contributions of diverse cultural groups including those of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, and socio-economic background, as well as men and women, to society. The programs include contributions and perspectives of Asian Americans, African Americans Hispanic Americans, American Indians, and European Americans. Students who feel they have been discriminated against are encouraged to report it to the school district Affirmative Action Coordinator. The Affirmative Action Coordinator is David Schmitt and can be reached at 211 Ramsey Street, West Burlington, IA 52655, (319) 752-8747. Inquiries may also be directed in writing to the Director of the Region VII Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 310 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 800, Milwaukee, WI 53203-2292, (414) 291-1111, or the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319-0146, (515) 281-5294. ❖



## Band News

By Mark Eveleth

### Junior High Band

#### Solo and Small Ensemble Contest

Junior High band students are now in the middle of preparations for the SEIBA solo and small ensemble contest. The date for this is Saturday, February 19, 2011. It is open to the public and everyone is encouraged to come and support the music students. The event will take place at New London Elementary School.

### SEIBA Junior High Honor Band

This year we have 2 students trying out for this very prestigious honor band. They have been preparing etudes and memorizing scales since October. Their audition will take place on Saturday, January 8th at Fairfield High School. Those successful in their audition

will travel to Iowa City's West High School on Saturday, January 22, 2011 for a day of rehearsal with a guest conductor followed by an evening concert performance.

### High School Band

#### Concert Band

The concert band members are now in the process of preparing for solo and small ensemble contest. This year's contest will take place on Saturday, April 9, 2011.

#### Pep Band

The Pep Band has really been working hard to prepare for this basketball season! The students take a lot of pride in this band since it is the one most seen by everyone including people from other schools. This year they designed and made shirts to wear at each of our performances. As always, alumni should feel free to come and sit in with the band when you are at the game.

### SEIBA High School Honor Band

This year we have 2 students trying out for this very prestigious honor band. They have been preparing a solo, 2 etudes and memorizing scales since October. Their audition will take place on Saturday, January 8, 2011 at Fairfield High School. Those successful in their audition will travel to Iowa City's West High School for a day of rehearsal with a guest conductor followed by an evening concert performance. This will take place on Saturday, January 22, 2011.

### Central College Honor Band

This honor band takes place on the campus of Central College in Pella, Iowa on Thursday, January 27, 2011.

Interested students were recommended by the director and will be accepted into the band through a form filled out by the director.

### High School Jazz Band

The Jazz Band will compete at State Jazz Band Contest Saturday, January 29th, 2011 at Muscatine High School. The band will compete against a set of standards set up by the state with an opportunity to receive a "I", "II", "III", "IV", or "V", rating based on how they perform that day for those three judges. We wish the Jazz band success!! ☒



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## **Pep Club Spreads Holiday Cheer**

**By Mariah Young**



As the Holiday season picks up, the Pep Club is spreading cheer. This winter the Pep Club is hosting numerous activities including secret Santa, a “spirit store”, and giving gifts to those less fortunate. Pep Club co-president, Taylor Johnson, says, “This season we have decided to make giving a priority.” One way of doing this is to have each Pep Club member purchase a gift for a student at the elementary who otherwise wouldn’t receive gifts. Not only does this make the elementary student happy, but it also gives a sense of accomplishment to our members.

In addition to this gift giving, Pep Club sponsors a secret Santa gift exchange between all students currently participating in a varsity sport, Dance Team, Basketball, and Wrestling. On Wednesday, December 15, the secret Santa’s are to bring a canned good to be donated to a local pantry. Thursday the 16th the Santa’s will deliver a snack item to their assigned person, and finally on the 17th there will be a gift exchange over Breakfast before school. The gift is to be approximately two dollars, which usually means using a little creativity and humor. The Falcon Spirit Store is a new addition this year, which you will notice at every home basketball game. It will be selling items such as seat cushions, koozies, and bandanas, amongst other things. So be sure to check it out and support your Falcons!

It’s very apparent that this holiday season Pep Club will be very busy spreading cheer. Whether the members are busy working the spirit store, shopping for their secret Santa, or picking out a special gift for a less fortunate child they are sure to be gearing up for this holiday season! ❖

## **Great Prairie AEA Hearing Screening**

**By Kelly Wallace**



Great Prairie AEA will be doing hearing screenings for all students in 8th & 11th grade and testing those students in the non-screening grades who have had a hearing loss in previous year. We will be at your school to test on February 3, 2011. Parents will be informed of those students who do not pass. ❖

IOWA

COLLEGE GOAL  
SUNDAY<sup>SM</sup>



# Get Your Hands On Some **CASH!**

## Get free help filing for financial aid!

Volunteers will help students and families fill out and file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Filing the FAFSA is the first step to qualify for federal financial aid for college.

### Find details and what you'll need to bring:

[www.iowaCGS.org](http://www.iowaCGS.org)  
(877) 272-4692

Iowa College Goal Sunday is provided by various state and nonprofit organizations in Iowa.

\* The FAFSA and EZ FAFSA are free forms that may be completed without professional assistance via paper or electronic forms provided by the U.S. Department of Education.

**Location**  
**SCC - SOUTHEASTERN**  
**COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**BUILDING 100, ROOM 192**

**Date**  
**SATURDAY,**  
**FEBRUARY 19, 2011**

**Time**  
**9:00AM-3:00PM**

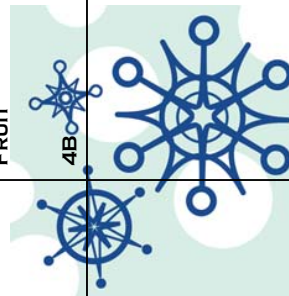
# January 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <b>Jan</b>
						New Year's Day
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>No School (Winter Break)</b>	7:00pm Board Work Session	4:30pm JV G/B Bball @ Danville 6:00pm Varsity G/B Bball @ Danville		6:30pm HS Wrestling WBND/Highland @ Wapello	6:00pm Varsity Boys Bball only @ Maharishi (one game)	SEIBA Auditions (JH/HS) @ Fairfield HS 10:30am HS Wrestling Van Buren Invite
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	5:30pm HS Wrestling New London JV Tourney 5:30pm New London JV Wrestling Tourney 5:30pm - 7:30pm JH Science Fair in JH Gym 6:00pm JV G/B Bball @ Central Lee	6:00pm Varsity G/B Bball Central Lee (H)		End 2nd Quarter/1st Semester 5:00pm JH Boys Bball @ Notre Dame	4:30pm JV G/B Bball Notre Dame (H) 6:00pm Varsity G/B Bball Notre Dame (H)	Competition Dance Team Performance @ SCC 10:00am HS Wrestling Solon Tourney
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Martin Luther King Day No School (Teacher Work Day Option II) 4:30pm JH Boys Bball Central Lee (H) 6:00pm JV G/B Bball Harmony (H)	Begin 2nd Semester/3rd Quarter 4:30pm JH Boys Bball Mediapolis (H) 6:00pm Varsity G/B Bball @ Harmony 7:00pm Board Regular Meeting		4:30pm JH Boys Bball New London (H) 6:00pm JV/Varsity Girls Bball Iowa Menonite School (H) 6:30pm HS Wrestling WBND / Mediapolis @ Cardinal of Eldon	4:30pm JV G/B Bball New London (H) 5:30pm HS Wrestling L&M JV Tourney 6:00pm Varsity G/B Bball New London (H)	District Large Group Speech Contest @ Danville SEIBA Honor Band Festival @ IA City West HS 8:00am - 9:00pm WB Booster Club Girls Bball Tournament 10:00am HS Wrestling L&M Tourney
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
8:00am - 6:00pm WB Booster Club Girls Bball Tournament	4:30pm JH Boys Bball @ Danville	4:30pm JV G/B Bball Holy Trinity (H) 6:00pm Varsity G/B Bball Holy Trinity (H) 6:30pm HS Wrestling WBND/Highland @ Columbus	<b>12:30pm Early Out (Staff Development)</b>	Central College Honor Band ES ICDA Honor Choir JH ICDA Chorus Festival @ Mt. Pleasant 4:30pm JH Boys Bball Holy Trinity (H) 6:00pm JV/Varsity Girls Bball @ Notre Dame (non-conference)	4:30pm JV G/B Bball Cardinal (H) 5:30pm HS Wrestling Conference JV Tourney @ Mediapolis 6:00pm Varsity G/B Bball Cardinal (H)	State Jazz Band/Show Choir Contest 10:00am HS Wrestling Conference Tourney @ Mediapolis
30	31					
	4:30pm JH Boys Bball Notre Dame (H)					

# WEST BURLINGTON SCHOOL MENU

JANUARY 2011

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 BRD CHICKEN PATTY/BUN TATER TOTS GREEN BEANS FRUIT	4 CHIMICHANGA SPANISH RICE W/TOMATO REFRIED BEANS FRUIT	5 HOAGIES TOMATO SOUP W/CRACKERS CELERY STICKS W/RANCH DIP FRUIT	6 CRISPIOS W/CHEESE SAUCE TORTILLA CHIPS W/SALSA MIXED VEGETABLES FRUIT	7 PORK TENDERLOIN/BUN OVEN FRIES BROCCOLI W/CHEESE SAUCE FRUIT
4B	5A	6B	1A	2B
10 BBQ RIB/BUN POTATO WEDGES CORN FRUIT	11 SAUSAGE EGG BAGEL HASH BROWN ROUNDS FRENCH TOAST W/SYRUP FRUIT	12 POPCORN CHICKEN W/SWEET & SOUR SAUCE RICE PEAS FRUIT*	13 CHEESEBURGER/BUN ONION RINGS GREEN BEANS FRUIT	14 BOSCO STICKS CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP W/CRACKERS BABY CARROTS FRUIT
3A	4B	5A	6B	1A
17 NO SCHOOL	18 HOT HAM & CHEESE/BUN JR JOJOS LIMA BEANS FRUIT	19 SALISBURY STEAK Msh POTATOES W/BROWN GRAVY CORN FRUIT	20 PIZZA W/PEPPERONI TOSSED SALAD W/RANCH DIP FRUIT	21 GRILLED CHICKEN/BUN TATOR TOTS GREEN BEANS FRUIT
24 MACARONI & CHEESE LITTLE SMOKIES W/BBQ SAUCE BEETS FRUIT*	25 TACO'S W/LETTUCE & CHEESE SALSA POTATO CUBES REFRIED BEANS FRUIT	26 BEEF RAVIOLI LETTUCE SALAD W/DRESSING BREAD STICK FRUIT	27 CRISPIO W/CHEESE SAUCE TORTILLA CHIPS W/SALSA MIXED VEGETABLES FRUIT	28 FISH SANDWICH W/TARTAR SAUCE CHEESY POTATOES GREEN BEANS FRUIT
6B	1A	2B	3A	4B
31 CORN DOGS BAKED BEANS OVEN POTATO FRUIT				
5A				



**BREAKFAST:** ELEMENTARY 7:30 AM-8:00 AM JUNIOR SENIOR-HIGH SCHOOL 8:00 AM-8:23 AM **PRICE:** ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR SENIOR HIGH \$.85 REDUCED \$.30 MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE CHOICE OF MILK SERVED WITH ALL MEAL \*BREAD AND MARGARINE SERVED WITH JSH & 5-6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE LUNCH

**LUNCH PRICES:**  
 ELEMENTARY \$1.60 JUNIOR SENIOR HIGH \$1.70, REDUCED MEALS \$.40. LUNCH ACCOUNTS THAT ARE NEGATIVE WILL BE CHARGED A \$10 PER MEAL SURCHARGE UNTIL PAID.

*STUDENTS 5<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> MAY BUY SECONDS IF THEY HAVE MONEY IN THEIR ACCOUNTS*  
 BREAKFAST ENTRÉE \$.50, SIDES \$.50 AND TOAST \$.25. LUNCH ENTRÉE: \$.75, SIDES; \$.50, BREAD AND MARGARINE: \$.25