## ALMOND-BANCROFT SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER 1336 ELM ST PHONE 715-366-2941 ALMOND, WI 54909 WWW.ABSCHOOLS.K12.WI.US



#### **MARCH 2008**



#### MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

January Students of the Month



Students were honored last week for being selected as Student of the Month. From sixth grade, we honored Alex Crull. Alex is an excellent student academically and socially. Alex always works very hard and is an enthusiastic learner. He is always very attentive and interested in the topic. He is polite and courteous to others. From seventh grade, we honored Heather Merila. Heather is working very hard this year and seems to have really come into her own as a student here at Almond. She is always cheerful and hardworking in class. She has a smiling face each day. From eighth grade, we honored Jeff Kollock. Jeff is attentive during class and asks good questions when needed. He is a pleasure

to have in class. He is polite, intelligent, and works very hard. These students were selected by their teachers.

#### **High School News**

Student of the Week

Last week of January: Lucas Meddaugh was selected by Toni Rock, English Teacher. Lucas always gives his work his best effort, helping without being asked, and being fun to have in class while still behaving.



\*\*DATES TO REMEMBER\*\*

March 12 Child Development Day

March 17 Internet Safety Program

March 21, 24, & 25 No School



First
week in
February:
Andrew
Parra
was selected
by Karin
Mather.

LMC Director. Andrew is a responsible student and a hard worker. He always has a positive attitude and is willing to do whatever is needed to assist staff and help students of all grade levels. His LMC duties include checking out books to library patron, filing videos, doing clerical work, troubleshooting AV problems, videotaping programs, inputting data into DESTINY ( the LMC online cataloguing and circulation system), maintaining the inventory of bulbs for equipment, finding resources for teachers, delivering books and equipment to the classrooms, and keeping the AV supply room organized. Andrew definitely deserves this honor. Congratulations!



Second week in February:
Ashley Roeske was selected
by Pat Krueger, Science
Teacher. Ashley has had high
academic success throughout
her four years at AlmondBancroft Schools. She is very
respectful and very responsible. She is willing to work
with other students to help
them achieve success.
Congratulations Ashley!



Third week in February: Ethan Meddaugh was selected by Todd Knepfel, Family and Consumer Education Teacher. He is an excellent student in the classroom, both academically and socially. Ethan displays a positive attitude and willingness to help others when necessary. He is a role model for other students. Congratulations!

## **CONGRATULATIONS!** You make us Proud Second Quarter Honorees

The following students were honored for a "clean" strike card. No strikes all quarter.

From sixth grade: Kayla Smith, Anna Perin, Abbigail Karpen, Meghan Varga, Tisan Barid, McKenna Heck, Jewel Matke, Felicia Penza, Hannah Lansing, Aiden Rock, Derek Keenlance, Gunnar Larsen, Raiden Vann, Sarai Barraza and Carissa Perzinski. Seventh grade: Hayley Riske, Destiny Dykes, Ashley Lucht, Heather Merila, Colter Stutesman, Kiara Turzinski, Baylee Voss, Marissa Warzynski, Mary Zak, Jennifer Hunkins, and Jade Stuebs. Eighth grade: Tyler Bunders, Taylor Martines, Morgan Baar, Brady McIntee, Sorcia Rock, Jeanette Colombe, and Ryan Sanders. We are so proud of you for fulfilling our student expectations by being responsible and respecting our school and yourself. CONGRATULATIONS!

On Monday, February 4th the district wide spelling bee was held in the high school auditorium. 8th grader Amber Hintz edged out Alex Crull, who is in the 6th grade, for the championship. Both of



these students advanced to the regional bee which was held on Tuesday, February 19 in Stevens Point with six other school districts throughout the area having representatives participate. Alex placed 7th and Amber placed 3rd overall. Congratulations!







#### Special Internet Safety Presentation - Eric Szatkowski

The Dark Side of the Internet: Sexual Predators of Children March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008, at 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Tri-County High School Auditorium

While the Internet offers a world of educational and entertainment options for young people, it also has a dark and dangerous side we must be aware of. This presentation on the online exploitation of children includes real-life examples and practical advice for anyone interested in the safety and well being of our children. Topics covered include techniques used by predators, what types of kids are most vulnerable, and the importance of filters and monitoring software. Also covered is a discussion of the risks of online journals like My Space, and an eye-opening live demonstration of chat rooms.

(Due to the nature of this material, it is for ADULTS only – 18 years and older)

# RE-CAP OF THE QUESTION/ANSWER FORUM ON JANUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>

Mr. Rykal, Mr. Stucker, and myself attended the meeting. In addition, we had two board members and approximately 20 staff and community members. The meeting was designed to have the public ask questions of administration/bus contractor as to the general operation of the school district. Topics that were brought up and discussed included, students being dropped off and picked up at school, the time from when students are dropped off and the first hour, breakfast program (location of where students eat), location of school office, security system (entry into the building and camera system), accuracy of the student handbooks, consistency of rules, use of safety patrol, curriculum (class offerings), study skills, programs that encourage positive rewards, and school climate.

As you can see, there was a lot of discussion that took place and some very good ideas as the evening progressed. I found that many individuals had differences of opinions on several of the topics. What was always at heart was "What is good for our children". That echoed in my mind as I listened and tried to prioritize our next step. We will continue to work towards making our school a special and successful place to be. Do we or any other school district do everything correct in the eyes of the students or parents. NO.

I am truly amazed at what a small, rural community district consistently accomplishes. Maybe it is the small class sizes, or the fact that we take part in the SAGE program (Student Achievement Guarantee in Education) dollars from the state lowers class sizes in those primary grades to develop strong personal relationships, or the fact that our middle and senior high, class sizes rarely exceed 25 students. Maybe it's the fact that the board of education and community make a commitment to create and maintain quality educational facilities. Maybe it's the dedication and commitment of our staff members to their jobs and students. Our teachers, custodians, aides, coaches, secretaries, cooks, administration and school board members share a common purpose: to serve our students by providing the best possible education. It is obvious that everyone in our community, district and schools play a vital role in the education of our children.

I have agreed to a two-year contract with the Almond-Bancroft School District and make a commitment to you as parents and community members to work together in making a positive difference for our children. We hope to survey our recent graduates and a survey and opinion inventory to the public in the near future. By fostering a climate of learning and constant assessment and revaluation, we will continue to recognize what we do well and what we can do better.

Thank you, Dan Boxx

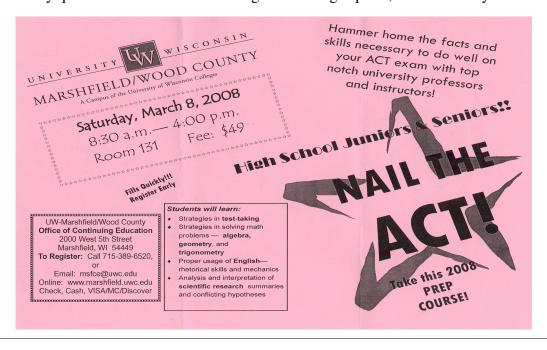
	SINGING BIRTHDAY GRAMS					
<b>8</b>	A-B High School will deliver singing Happy Birthday Telegrams to your favorite Student/Staff member on their birthday! There are packages you may select from:					
<b>S</b> e?	Option 1: (\$5.00) Happy Birthday balloon on party stick decorated with ribbons, birthday hat/noisemaker, card, and your choice of a chocolate rose or 4 tootsie pops.  Option 2: (\$10.00) Same as #1 but with addition of New Stuffed Eagle					
J.	your choice of a chocolate rose or 4 tootsie pops.					
	option 2. (\$10.00) banke as \$11, but with addition of 100 bearies Eagle.					
	Option 3: (\$15.00) Decorated balloon, hat, noisemaker, card, rose or pops, beads and our new bobblehead Eagle or					
<i></i>	new Eagle hat.					
<b>8</b>	Bonus Extra \$1.00—we will include 3 strands of Mardi Gras beads in school colors.					
Fr.	Bonus Extra \$3.00-4x6 Photograph of birthday student on professional photo paper.					
	Student Name:Birthday:Grade/Teacher:					
<b>3</b>	Special Message:					
<b>3</b>	OPTION 1 \$5.00 Rose PopsOPTION 2 \$10.00RosePops OPTION 3 \$15.00RosePops					
	Bonus Extra \$1.00Bonus Extra \$3.00					
	[ <b>8</b>					

#### SAT/ACT/AP Practice Test Website Now Available by Miss Spencer

The Portage County Public Library and other members of the South Central Library System now subscribe to a database called LearningExpress, which you can use, for free, from any computer with Internet access at home or at school. LearningExpress allows you to prepare for and practice taking various tests including: ACT, SAT, and Advanced Placement in the following areas of, Biology, Chemistry, Calculus, English Literature and Composition, European History, U.S. Government, and U.S. History.

To use LearningExpress, go to www.scls.info/testprep/. The first time you use LearningExpress, you will have to establish a username and password. Your username must be your 14-digit Portage County Public Library card number. This will allow you to start a test at one time and finish later. It will also allow you to review the tests you have taken and see the answers explained.

If you have any questions or trouble connecting to Learning Express, call the library at 346-1548.



# PLACEMENT TESTING REVIEW: MATH

Date: Saturday, March 15 OR Saturday, April 19
Time: 10—12:30 pm
Instructor: Beth Howard
Room: 131

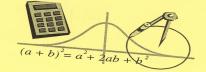
UNIVERSITY WISCONSIN
MARSHFIELD/WOOD COUNTY

Office of Continuing Education 2000 West 5th Street Marshfield, WI 54449

To Register: Call 715-389-6520 Or Online: www.marshfield.uwc.edu/ce

Check, Cash, VISA/MC/Discover

To Register for the National Placement testing, go to: www.uwc.edu/admisions/placement Save time and money! Avoid placing lower than your skill level on the college math placement testing. This class is designed for students in upper level math or who have been away from math for a few years. Instruction will cover the basics of (calculating by hand) Algebra and Geometry. Just in time for National Placement testing scheduled on March 29 and/or April 26.



#### **Safety Cadet News**

By: Mrs. Upton, Safety Coordinator

This past month there have been two safety cadets that have really stepped up to the plate and have been noticed. These two students are Devon Anderson and McKenzie Miner. Both students have really kept me informed about certain duties and have even sacrificed their recesses more than once to help out when we have needed extra cadets. With all this really cold weather that we have had lately there have been a number of times when we couldn't go outside and needed to have recess indoors. The extra help from these two has not gone unnoticed. (There were some others that also helped out, so I would like to say "Thank You" to those students also. Thank you!!!!) Keep up the great job kids!!!

## WISCareers Website Available (http://wiscareers.wisc.edu)

Students and Parents of Almond-Bancroft:

Please remember that Almond-Bancroft School District has subscribed to the WISCareers website for its students. This career development website helps guide students through the process of making career and educational decisions. Students can access their WISCareers personal account from any computer with Internet access.

WISCareers website offers career assessments to encourage self-discovery and awareness, career exploration with over 1,000 occupations for career exploration and over 3,000 schools with links to school home pages and on-line applications, and career preparation with a database of over 110,000 Wisconsin employers for job exploration and Resume & Cover Letter programs to build job-seeking skills.

We encourage you to look at WISCareers with your student. For more information, and for the pass code to log onto the site, please contact Ms. Spencer, Secondary School Counselor, at 366-2941 ext. 414.

#### Almond-Bancroft Music Department Hosts Eighth Annual Community Variety Show

The Almond-Bancroft Music Department will host its eighth annual Community Variety Show at 7:30 PM, April 4, in the ABHS Auditorium. Reserved seating tickets can be purchased in advance by contacting Mr. Royal Gingery at (715) 366-2941 ext. 326. Tickets are on sale now. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students and seniors.

Come join the fun as we showcase the talents of students, staff, and the community. The A-B Friends of Music will be raffling off prizes throughout the evening.

#### **NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY** by Karin Mather

#### **RIF Contract Approved for 2008**

Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) prepares and motivates children to read by delivering <u>free</u> books to children. Founded in 1966, RIF is the oldest and largest children's and family nonprofit literacy organization in the United States. RIF provides 4.5 million children with 16 million new, free books and literacy resources each year.

All RIF programs combine three essential elements to foster children's literacy: reading motivation, family and community involvement, and the excitement of choosing free books to keep.

RIF's accomplishments are due in part to the generous support of the U.S. Department of Education, corporations, foundations, community organizations, and thousands of individuals. RIF projects that receive federal funds are required to fund the "local matching share" for RIF books (at least 25 percent of the total cost of books for the children served). *Each year the Almond-Bancroft School District contributes at least 25% of the cost to provide books to our students.* 

The RIF (Reading is Fundamental) contract for 2008 has been approved thanks to **Jeff Rykal** who completed the application process for the school. Organizations participating in RIF Programs must follow specific guidelines. At the end of the program year, RIF programs must complete a performance report on RIF activities and submit a new proposal to RIF. The performance report is designed to help RIF staff share ideas with other RIF projects and report to Congress and corporate sponsors. Programs receiving federal funds must also submit a distribution report for each distribution held and also complete guidelines checklist forms in order to be approved.

The first distribution of this new contract year will be during the week of April 7-11. If any parents, grandparents, or community members would like to help give out books to smiling students, please call me at school (366-2941 ext. 412). Thanks!

#### **Forty Favorite Children's Books**

In honor of RIF's 40th anniversary, people were asked what book they loved most as a child. Was is a fantasy, a fairy tale, or a soothing bedtime story? The results are in. *How many of these books have you read?* Here is the list of the Forty Favorite Children's Books:

Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss 2. Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak 3. Charlotte's Web by E.B. White 4. The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle, 5. Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin, Jr., 6. Cat in the Hat by Dr. Seuss 7. Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown 8. Chica Chica Boom Boom by Bill Martin, Jr. and John Archambault 9. Curious George by H.A. Rey 10. The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein 11. The Three Little Pigs (many versions) 12. **The Snowy Day** by Ezra Jack Keats 13. **The Little House** by Virginia Lee Burton 14. **Corduroy** by Don Freeman 15. Little Women by Louisa May Alcott 16. A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle 17. Cinderella (many versions of this classic tale) 18. Pokey Little Puppy by Golden Books Staff 19. Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery 20. The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett 21. Dr. Seuss's ABC: An Amazing Alphabet Book by Dr. Seuss 22. Velveteen Rabbit by Margery Williams 23. Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling 24. Heidi by Johanna Spyri 25. Oh, the Places You'll Go! by Dr. Seuss 26. Caps for Sale by Esphyr Slobodkina 27. I Love You Always and Forever by Jonathon Emmett 28. Little Red Riding Hood (many versions), 29. No. David! by David Shannon 30. The Box Car Children by Gertrude Chandler Warner 31. Love You Forever by Robert N. Munsch 32. Make Way for Ducklings by Robert McCloskey 33. One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish by Dr. Seuss 34. If You Give a Mouse a Cookie by Laura Numeroff 35. Blueberries for Sal by Robert McCloskey 36. Are You My Mother? by P. D. Eastman 37. Guess How Much I Love You by Sam McBratney 38. The Wind in The Willows by Kenneth Grahame 39. Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret by Judy Blume 40. Olivia by Ian Falconer

#### **Learning About African American Heritage**

February was National African American History Month, a time to honor the history, culture, and contributions of African Americans. The first graders in **Brenda Ramcyzk**'s class read stories about famous Black Americans and their contributions to our country. Older students learned about African Americans and Black History by reading books such as these from our LMC: **Extraordinary Black** Americans: from Colonial to Contemporary Times/ Thank you, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.!/ Spin a Soft Black Song: Poems for Children/ Black, Blue, & Gray: African Americans in the Civil War/ Black Profiles in Courage: A Legacy of African American Achievement/ The Music of Black Americans: A History/ Children of Promise: African-American Literature and Art for Young People/ The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales/ Masterpieces of African-American Literature/ Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad/ and If a Bus Could Talk: the Story of Rosa Parks.

#### **LMC Donations for February**

This past month the LMC received the following donations: **Brenda Newby & family** (children's books including "Where is My Friend?" by Marcus Pfister and "Finding Nemo - The Best Dad in the Sea"), **Dan Boxx** (The Green Bay Packers - Game Day 2007 Playoffs), **Lynn Hintz** (family, photography, & food magazines), and **The United Nations Association of the USA** (The 2008 United Nations Calendar for Peace). Thank you all for your donations!

#### **Scouting For Food**

Every year Almond-Bancroft Cub Scout pack 248 is involved in Scouting for food. If you live within the village limits of Almond or Bancroft, during the week of April 5th to April 12th cub scouts from this community will leave a bag at your home. Please place a donation of non-perishable food items in the bag and place it in the same location where you received it by 9:00 AM on Saturday, April 12th.

On that day, the scouts will pick it up from your home and give the donations to The Salvation Army, A Place of Peace, Second Harvest, Operation Bootstrap, and Portage County Food Assistance Program for local distribution.

Thank you in advance for your support.

**Cub Scout Pack 248** 

The Kindergarten class recently celebrated day 100 with fun activities and a field trip to Jordan Park to learn about what it takes to make snow. The children enjoyed listening to the speaker, trekking thru the wooded trails, reading temperatures, studying snow flakes, looking for animal tracks, and a game of wolf rabbit! The trip was extra special because it was actually snowing, which made it possible for the children to catch snow flakes!



Learning how to read a thermometer.



Decorating a caterpillar for a Day 100 activity.

Kindergartners by the thermometer at Jordan Park.

The entire Kindergarten posing at Jordan park.



#### A.C.E.S Club Kick Off on the Slopes by Miss Davy

The Almond Bancroft Adventure Club with Environmental Services (A.C.E.S) kicked off their first event February 1<sup>st</sup> at Nordic Mountain. A.C.E.S is a brand new club with the intention to provide a variety of outdoor experiences and opportunities for students in a fun and organized way. Members and advisors work together to develop activities for the club, and for the very first activity, the club decided to travel to Mt. Morris and experience snowboarding and downhill skiing! Members had a wonderful time and are in the midst of planning another ski trip. The club



is also in the process of planning a hayride and a visit to an animal rehab establishment. Look for more exciting news on what the club is participating in. If you are interested in helping with donations or providing an activity, please contact advisors Mrs. Brenda Ramcyck or Ms. Amanda Davy.

#### **BOOSTER CLUB NEWS** by Renee Hunkins

On February 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> we finished our tournament season by hosting the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls. This tournament gets bigger and bigger each year, with approximately 15 teams each day. We invited in almost 600 people during the weekend to watch some exciting basketball games during the very cold weather.

Obviously we could not run our tournaments without the help of some very important people. We would like to thank the boys and girls basketball teams for working each day. It is nice to see your dedication in helping to improve the young athletes in our community. Our younger athletes look up to you – you teach them so much both on and off the court.

We would also like to thank Mike Galien, Gerald Fletcher, Pam Berry-Wilcox, Jennifer Hunkins and Jeff Fletcher for taking admissions and personally greeting everyone who came to Almond.

We would like to thank all the community members who gave an hour or two of their time to officiate the basketball games. It can sometimes be a thankless job, but it is so important to teach the athletes the rules of the game.

Last but not least, we need to thank those who helped with concessions. Thank you so much for donating an hour or more of your time – I apologize if we missed your name, but please know that we appreciate everyone that came in and helped.

Jane Wiesner Rachel Penza Gary Smith Debbie Yonke Mary Pagel Jill Stuebs Jean Swan Alan Pagel Erin Kalata Mary Beth Karpen Kiara Turzinski Lisa Romo Sierra Stucker Brandon Lehman Katie Schude Chris Kollock Melina Cummings Jane Buckenberger Carol Ellie **Brianna Cummings** Audrey Warzynski Liz Stucker Kristi Hintz

Verna Yonke

Mike Wiesner Jessica Dorgan Krista Bradley Sylvia Merila Monica Hunkins Paul Cieslewicz Julie Crull Scott Hunkins Lynn Hintz Carolynn Perzinski Danielle Dykes Connie Takacs Terri Warzvnski Jennifer Hunkins Trina Warzynski Jill Kollock Dale Meddaugh Brenda McIntee Dean Lamb Sandy Dykes Emil Zak Connie Stricker Amy Stricker

Stephanie Rodriguez Genene Bunders Jeanette Wilson Sheila Meddaugh Todd Richtmyre Bev Biegel Michelle Cisewski **Braden Hunkins** Dominique Minor Kathy Minor Julie Perrin Jolynn Wierzba Amber Hintz BJ Turzinski Nicki Hunt **Shad Cummings** Pam Meddaugh Randy Ellie Kay Lamb Leanne Turzinski Pam Dahms Brynn Richtmyre Norman Yonke

The Booster Club is actively working on raising funds to complete the improvements at the Athletic Complex. We will be putting in underground sprinklers at the Baseball and Softball fields as well as reseeding the outfields and we will be installing permanent bleachers at the Football field. Obviously, this is not something that will happen overnight, but we are looking forward to the improvements being done in the next year or so. If you would like to be part of this exciting adventure feel free to contact a Booster Club member for details.

The Booster Club thanks everyone for all of their support throughout the school year – we could not do this without you!!!

#### **Nutrition Corner** by Renee Hunkins

Whole Grains

It has been proven that whole grains reduce the risk of some cancers and we know they contain more nutrients and fiber than refined grains, yet 40% of American teens have no whole grains whatsoever in their diets! How can you make the change for your family?

It's easy to make the switch over to whole grains because you can keep your recipes pretty much the same but swap the refined flour ingredients for whole wheat ones. This is a change that kids can learn to make early and they probably won't even notice the difference. According to the Whole Grain Council, 40% of American teens have no whole grains in their diets. It's easy to neglect these ingredients but when you see how easy it is to incorporate them into your family's diet, you won't think twice.

Why whole grains? They keep the good nutrients that are stored in the hull of the grain and pass them on to you. Also, whole grains have much more fiber than refined grains which means you stay fuller, longer. That fiber helps your system process foods better too so you avoid constipation. All in all, whole wheat is the way to go if you are going to have a meal with grains.

Here are some easy conversions to try:

Whole wheat pasta instead of Semolina pasta
Whole wheat bread (4 grams of fiber and up) instead of White bread
Oatmeal cookies instead of Chocolate chip cookies
Whole wheat flour instead of White flour
Brown rice instead of White rice
Quinoa instead of Cous cous
Barley instead of White rice
Popcorn instead of Chips or crackers

#### Whole Wheat Mac-n-Cheese for the Family

Serves 4

**INGREDIENTS** 

2 Tbsp butter

2 Tbsp flour

1 cup chicken stock

1-1/2 cups milk

2 cups sharp cheddar cheese, grated

Salt and Pepper

1 Tbsp Dijon mustard

1 pound whole wheat pasta, cooked to al dente

1 head cauliflower, cut into florets and steamed

#### **PREPARATION**

In a saucepot, melt the butter over medium-low heat, add flour and cook for 1 minute. Whisk in chicken stock and milk. Thicken the sauce for 5 minutes and stir in cheese, season with salt and pepper and stir in Dijon mustard. Toss sauce with whole wheat pasta and cauliflower.

This recipe and many more can be found on Rachel Ray's website www.yumo.org. Rachel has dedicated this site to her non-profit organization that is dedicated to teaching kids to eat healthier at school and at home.

#### Youth Art Month by Mrs. Ritter

(YAM) is an annual observance in March that emphasizes the value of art education for all children and encourages support for quality school art programs.

People often think that the arts are mainly about expressing feelings and crafts. However art teachers talk about decisions, choices and understanding far more than they talk about feelings.

Watch for this year's elementary YAM art exhibit right here in our school. It will include examples of many of the art projects students have completed this year along with in-depth descriptions of all the things students achieved and learned as they created them. I hope this help everyone understand more about why it is so important to support the arts in school.

#### Elementary Counselor News By Dawn Barber

Our elementary guidance program called G.I.F.T.S. is focusing on three concepts this school year: compassion,



**courage, and peacefulness.** Within the "courage" unit, I will be covering protective behavior skills with all students in grades K-5. The purpose is to teach children personal safety skills without scaring them and helping kids to realize that they have the courage to say "no" to unwanted touch and to report such incidents to a trusted adult. There are two videos that will be used in the lower elementary grades to help children learn how to protect themselves: "Little Bear" and "Critter Jitters."

In all elementary grades we will emphasize the NO-GO-TELL rule. When in a situation in which touch makes you feel uncomfortable:

- 1. Say NO!
- 2. GO away from the person.
- 3. TELL a trusted adult right away.

We will also identify trusted adults in each child's safety network. I encourage you to ask your child about our protective behavior lessons at school and to contact me with any questions or concerns. I hope you will agree that these safety skills can never be taught to our children too often.



#### Why Children Sometimes Don't Tell

Borrowed From Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine

- "He told me if I told, he wouldn't be the only one who would get in trouble." (age 6)
- "He said if I didn't do it, he'd do it to my sister." (age 12)
- "I didn't tell because I didn't like talking about it." (age 10)
- "He told me if I told, he'd spank the "blank" out of me." (age 9)
- "Once I told my mother and she didn't do anything. She didn't even say anything to him." (age 15)
- "I didn't think my mom would believe me and I thought she'd get mad at me." (age 11)
- "He beat me before and I knew if I told, he'd do it again." (age 14)
- "He said if I told my mother, he would kill her and eat her, and he said if I told anyone else, he would just kill me." (age 8)
- "Well, I couldn't tell. My mother is already sick and my step-brother was in trouble with the police." (age 13) "He's a nice man. He gives children candy and gum." (age 5)



#### **Congratulations!!**

#### The following students earned green cards recently for demonstrating gifts of character.

Carmen Anaya, Zenaida Banda, Hattie Berry, Hunter Berry, Austin Bunders, Grant Burns, Megan Burns, Adrialis Cabrera-Laborde, Jarod Cieslewicz, Kara Cisewski, Deana Clark, Josie Colombe, Ken Cook, Katherine Dobbe, Joey Dorgan, Kristal Durst, Lauren Dykes, Nick, Figueroa, Gabrielle Gendusa, Colton Hintz, Paige Hintz, Jesse Hunkins, Alex Karpen, Taylor Kim, Aurora Larsen, Chloe Lehman, Kyle Merila, Catie Methfessel Shayla Newby, Jon Perrin, Aly Plaski, Margaret Scott, Jadon Solis, Caleb Sullivan, Patience Turner, Johl Turzinski, Vincent Vasquez, Jessica Webster, Hailey Wierzba, Michela Wierzba, Allan Zinda

#### Four-Year Old Kindergarten Registration

The 4K registration will coincide with the child development screening on Wednesday, March 12th, 2008, at the Bancroft School from 8:30 am until 3:30 pm . Please bring your son or daughter's birth certificate for proof of age. **Students eligible for the program must turn four prior to September 1st, 2008.** There will be no early admittance considered.

You may come any time between 8:30 am and 3:30 pm to pick up the necessary information and fill out the appropriate paperwork. No appointment is needed. Please contact Principal Jeff Rykal at 366-2942 with any questions you may have.

#### **Procedures When Receiving Bus Conduct Referrals**

We have reevaluated the consequences for unfavorable behaviors on the bus and the new bus conduct procedures are as follows:

First Offense:

 $4K - 5^{th}$  grades

Students will be kept indoors during lunch recess and second recess for one day. They will report to the Dean of Student's office during this time.

Second Offense:

4K-5<sup>th</sup> grades

Students will be kept indoors during lunch recess and second recess for two days. They will report to the Dean of Student's office during this time.

Third Offence:

 $4K-5^{th}$  grades

Students will be kept indoors during lunch recess and second recess for one week. They will report to the Dean of Student's office during this time. Parents will meet with the Principal, Dean of Stu dents, and a representative from the bus company.  $6^{th} - 12^{th}$  grades

Students will report to the Alternative Learning Center after they receive their lunch and they will remain in the ALC until the end of their lunch hour for one day.

6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades

Student will report to the Alternative Learning Center after they receive their lunch and they will remain in the ALC until the end of their lunch hour for two consecutive days.

 $6^{th} - 12^{th}$  grades

Students will report to the Alternative Learning Center after they receive their lunch and they will remain in the ALC until the end of their lunch hour for one week. Parents will meet with the Principal, Dean of Students, and a representative from the bus company.

These new procedures will be implemented as of February 21,

2008. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this procedure, please call Mr. Rykal at 366-2941, extension 416.

#### **Child Development Screening Day!**

If you have a child that is 3 or 4, and has not been screened yet, you'll want to call Sandy Barden at 366-2941 x 329 to make your appointment for Almond-Bancroft School 's annual Child Development Day Screening Day. The date is **Wednesday, March 12th, 2008, and it will take place at the Bancroft School.** The time slots (starting times) are available from **8:30 am to 2:30 pm**. Please plan approximately one hour for your visit that day with your child. You do not have to bring anything but your child.

Children will enjoy a number of fun activities designed to compare their play, socialization, motor skills, and overall developmental levels to other children their age. Hearing and Vision screenings will also be conducted by the Portage County Health Department. In addition, representatives of various community services (Birth to Three, etc.) will be on hand to describe services available to families with young children. Portage County Birth to Three will be available to screen any children under the age of 3. If you have any concerns about your child under the age of 3, they are more than happy to talk with you and work with your child to help address your concerns. Please call the Achievement Center Early Intervention Program at 342-0393 to schedule a screening.

The school district must locate, identify, and evaluate all resident children with disabilities, including children with disabilities attending private schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities. The school district has a special education screening program to locate and screen all children with suspected disabilities who are residents of the district and who have not graduated high school to determine whether a special education referral is appropriate. A request may be made by contacting Angie Meilahn, the district psychologist at 366-2941 x-123 or by writing her at 1336 Elm Street, Almond WI. 54909.

We look forward to seeing you!

#### CWC District Solo & Ensemble Festival by Mr. Gingery

On February 23, 2008, students from the Almond-Bancroft Middle and High Schools fought the cold, influenza, and the early morning buses to participate in the CWC District Solo and Ensemble Festival held at Pacelli High School in Stevens Point, WI. These performances are the culmination of several months, and in a lot of cases years, of dedication and practice on the part of the students.



There were 23 band events that participated this year. Students receiving ratings of I include a clarinet duet by Miranda Borchardt and Carly Rast, a clarinet duet by Jeanette Colombe and Baylee Voss, and a flute duet by Aiden Rock and Tisan Baird. Soloists receiving a I are Sorcia Rock, Audrey Sanders, Shelby Swan, Angie Iwanski, John Waggoner, and Aiden Rock. The High School Band's performance of the Mozart Symphony No. 40 also received a first place rating. Students receiving a rating of II on their solos are: Cody Meddaugh, Amber Hintz, Alex Crull, Aiden Rock, Jeff Fletcher, Levi Milanowski, Dominique Miner, Jon Turzinski and Jenny Hunkins. The Polish Mafia Polka Band received a second place rating on their performance. Students that have received ratings of III on their events are: Destiny Dykes, Sam Borchardt, Ashley Denes, Levi Milanowski, Sorcia Rock, and Ray Pieters.

The band students have really worked hard this year and have been steadily improving in both technique and musicianship. Every student that participated from the band program placed in the top 3 places and have earned medals for their participation. Looking back to the first days of band this year I have seen some remarkable changes and improvements in these kids and I want to thank every one of them for their hard work and dedication to music and to band.

There were also 23 choir events this year. There were five events in the Class A category that earned a starred first rating which qualifies them to perform at the State Solo & Ensemble contest at UW-Stevens Point on May 3. Events going to state are soloists Adam Bradley, Ray Pieters, Datonn Ammel, Carly Rast, and the SATB Single Quartet including Datonn Ammel, Ray Pieters, Audra Anderson, and Adam Bradley.

Students receiving ratings of a I are: Laura Schafer, Aiden Rock, Jenny Hunkins, Carly Rast, Justine Karaba, Datonn Ammel, Sierra Stucker, and Jade Stuebs. Soloists receiving a second place rating are: Chelsea Gendusa, Sorcia Rock, Victor Reyes-Sanchez, Danielle Dykes, and Dominique Miner. Duets that received a second place rating are Tisan Baird and Aiden Rock, Sorcia Rock and Baylee Voss, Dominique Miner and Victor Reyes-Sanchez, and Sierra Stucker and Nicole Stricker. Also receiving a second place rating was the SSAA Single Quartet of Datonn Ammel, Danielle Dykes, Carly Rast and Audra Anderson.

The music staff would also like to thank our accompanists that worked so hard this year - Lisa Vann and SuAnn Pagel-Rast. We would also like to extend a hearty thank you to all of the parents that support our music program. Without your support and vigilance at home these students would not be where they are today. Thank you.

#### ALMOND/BANCROFT FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER NEWS

#### Centro de Recursos del Familias del condado de Portage

Almond High School Room (Cuarto) S325 Enter through Almond Elementary (Entre por la Escuela Elementaria Numero de telefono ) 1-715-366-2882

March 2008

Hello, Bueno,

With all of the snow and cold weather, it is not too late to start coming to Play Group. Let us get to know each other, before the warm weather comes. Maybe at the SPECIAL EASTER FUN PLAY GROUP that has been changed to Wednesday March 19, 2008. We will be making a special project, and, having a special snack. Remember, Room S325 in the High School part of the Almond School from 10:00–11:30 a.m. See you there.

Those of you that have received the Family Connections Newsletter with our calendar of events, take note of the following changes:

My office hours are on Wednesdays from 9:00–10:00 a.m. **Easter Fun Play Group** has been changed from Wed. April 16, to Wed. Mar 19, 2008. **The Workshop, Try it You'll like It**; will be held on Mon. March 31, instead of Thurs. April 3, 2008 (held in Junction City). **Languages, Libraries, and Lots More**, it will be held on Mon. June 2, instead of Mon. May 26, 2008.(**Lenguas, Bibliotecas, y Partes mas**; Lunes de June 2, 2008).

#### **PLAY GROUP**

Special play group on March 5th at the Central Wisconsin Children's Museum in the Center Point Mall. Everyone is welcome, even if you have never been to play group before. The family resource center will take care of any fees. Play Group provides a wonderful opportunity for your child to socialize with other young children and for you to talk with other parents you can relate to. Come as often as you can and relax and enjoy yourself while your child plays, has a snack, makes a craft and usually enjoys a story time. Wednesdays 10:00–11:30 a.m. No registration required.

#### SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT FOR PLAY GROUPS IN THE MONTH OF MARCH

We will be having water and vegetables and/or fruit, for snack. With the obesity epidemic occurring in our children, we are partnering with WIC (Health and Human Services) to encourage healthy eating and increased water drinking in our children. It will be great. Hopefully our children will start asking for carrot sticks, instead of fruit snacks, when they are hungry. I will follow up and let everyone know how our challenge turns out.

### WE HAVE A SIGNIFICANT CLASS COMING UP ON MARCH 12, 08. BULLYING: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW.

This class will be presented by Laurel Hoeth, a teacher that has developed presentations on sexual discrimination and bullying for the Portage County School District and out lying areas. We will orientate this class for the 4-K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grader. Please come if you have concerns. It is difficult at times to get 'Experts' of such caliber, on such an important and relevant subject. At no charge to you. \*\*We have offered this class in the past, with very low turnout...if we do not have considerable interest, the class will no longer be offered

ALSO....WE ARE IN GREAT NEED OF VOLUNTEERS......STUDENTS!! TO HELP WITH THE CHILDREN. REMEMBER, YOUR VOLUNTEER TIME CAN BE USED AS A REFERENCE FOR THAT IMPORTANT FIRST REAL JOB.

Remember: The classes can be counted as continued education and Certificates are provided as needed. Here is looking forward to a New Year at the Almond/Bancroft Family Resource.

Call me at the Almond/Bancroft Family Resource Center at (715)366-2882. Please call to pre-register for events, to volunteer, to donate any items, and if you have any questions you may also call after hours at (715)421-4635.

Jan Roth Family Resource Center Coordinator

#### **Almond-Bancroft School District**

1336 Elm St., Almond, WI 54909 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education Meeting held at the Bancroft School

January 16, 2008 6:30 pm OPEN MINUTES

#### REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

#### 1) Call Meeting to Order by President

Roy Danforth called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

#### 2) Roll Call-Establishment of Quorum

\_\_Bradley \_\_Danforth \_\_Dernbach \_\_Ellie \_\_Guth \_\_Wilson \_\_Smith

All board members were present except Gary Smith. Administrator present was Dan Boxx. Michele Warzynski, District Bookkeeper was present. Members of the audience included Sandy Ciula, Brad Baumgartner, Mary Chris Thompson, Debbie Klinger, and Ed Warzynski.

#### 3) Proof of Posting of Meeting Pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 19.84

Dan Boxx reported that the meeting was posted according to statute.

#### 4) Approval of Agenda

Motion by Cathy Guth, second by Carol Ellie to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

#### 5) Public Appearances Before the Board of Education

There were no public appearances before the Board.

#### 6) Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

6A December 12, 2007, Negotiations Committee Closed Session

Minutes approved in closed session.

6B December 19. 2007, Regular meeting of the Board Open and Closed Session

Motion by Jeanette Wilson, second by Jerry Dernbach to approve open session minutes. Motion carried 5-0.

6C November 14, 2007, Amend minutes from meeting

Motion by Jeanette Wilson, second by Jerry Dernbach to approve amendment from the November 14<sup>th</sup> minutes changing the savings bond amount from \$800 to the correct \$100. Motion carried 5-0.

#### 7) Approval of Current Expenses and Vouchers Payable

Motion by Carol Ellie, second by Debbie Bradley to approve the current expenses and vouchers. Motion carried 5-0.

#### 8) Announcements/Reports/Updates/Consent Items

#### **8A District Administrator Report**

#### 07-08 Budget Projections

Preparations for the 08-09 budget are being made. There is a new report included in the packet that shows the function rather than the object code. Reviewing the percentages gives a good indication as to where the district is financially. Also included in the information is the timeline for the budget process for the 08-09 budget and a sheet to show what should be included in each account function and what should not be included.

#### Discussion of upcoming January 28th meeting

There will be a meeting January 28, 2008 at 7:00 open to the public. Administration has implemented a change based off of a suggestion effective today that elementary students will now enter through the West door on the elementary side of the school.

#### Second Friday student count

The second Friday count in January is down due to the leaving of the migrant student population.

#### 8B PK-12 Principal Report

#### Report on school activities

Elementary concert went very well, standing room only. We may consider either moving the concert to the gymnasium or splitting the elementary into two groups, K-2 and 3-5 or doing two performances-one in the morning and one in the evening. 4K program was great. There were around 150 people that attended; there were cookies, an elf, and a surprise visit from Santa. Safety cadets are going on their reward day swimming trip to the YMCA on January 19th. Mrs. Doede took her class on a walking trip to the Almond Public Library to learn more information on the Milwaukee Bucks game tickets reading incentives that are being offered. We are in the midst of organizing a winter pep rally that will involve the first thru twelfth grades. Student council is helping to organize. It will recognize student achievement at all levels and for all activities. It will be on February 8th, 2008, at 1:45 pm. The High School Student Council "Fun Afternoon" went well right before break. The Poms team performed, the skit was hilarious, and the students watched a movie at the end of the day. The Middle School will be going on their end of the quarter reward trip on January 31st. They will be going to Camp Helen Brachman to enjoy some winter activities. Middle School and High School students will be having separate Internet Safety assemblies on March 18th. There will also be a parent presentation that night from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Tri County Auditorium. The parent presentation will be limited to those 18 years and older due to the serious nature of the content. Saturday, January 12th was the AllStar Music Festival in which Carly Rast, Datonn Ammel, Justine Karaba, Chelsea Gendusa, Ray Pieters, and Adam Bradley participated at Amherst. 25 adults and 30 students will be attending the musical Wicked this Saturday. Darrell F. Smith, Cheryl K. Bartelt, Neil Bartelt-Smith, and Matthew Bartelt-Smith donated an acoustic guitar to the music department.

Updates on programs

Julee Dredske from CESA 5, in-serviced the staff on English Language Learners (ELL) on January 9<sup>th</sup>. The teachers need ways to accommodate the special needs of these students. This in-service focused on how students are identified, tested, and then given an ELL level. The rest of the inservice time was spent on the REACh grant which focuses on reading comprehension. The initial testing of students suggests that reading comprehension has far exceeded the 5% goal for the REACh grant. PIE is meeting Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30. The positive action curriculum is being implemented in High School English classrooms and in the Middle School by Mr. Baumgartner. The after school-tutoring program continues to serve a growing number of students. The life skills classes and study skill classes are giving the students the resources they need for successful futures.

#### 9) Policy Development and Review

9A WASB Resolutions

Resolutions were included in the board packet.

9B Review Homecoming policy

Jeff Rykal met with the Student Council to see if there was an interest in one member of the council coming to the board meetings. Further review is needed regarding the Homecoming policy so this item will be tabled until the February board meeting.

9C First Reading of policy Local Agency Special Education Program for Children with Disabilities *This policy basically states that Almond Bancroft is following the policy set by the Department.* 

#### 10) Action Items

10A Adoption of School Forest Plan

Item was tabled until February meeting. The Board would like to have Kathie Plaisance come to the meeting to answer a few questions. Motion by Debbie Bradley, second by Jerry Dernbach to table. Motion carried 5-0.

10B Approve district credit card with Bancroft State Bank

Motion by Cathy Guth, second by Debbie Bradley to approve issuing two more Visa cards to be held in the District office and to change the credit limit from \$5,000 to \$7,500. Motion carried 5-0.

10C Request for 2<sup>nd</sup> security monitor

Motion by Debbie Bradley, second by Jeanette Wilson to approve the purchasing of an additional security monitor for roughly \$800. Motion carried 5-0.

#### 11) Items for Signatures

11A Signatures for meeting minutes

#### 12) Dates for Upcoming Committee Meetings and Board Meetings

12A Regular Board of Education meeting Wednesday, February 20, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

#### 13) Roll Call-Adjournment to Closed Session

Consideration for movement into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Evaluation/Contract of District Administrator and discussion of district staffing (e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, AAEA.

Motion by Jeanette Wilson, second by Jerry Dernbach to adjourn to closed session at 7:15 p.m. Roll call vote 6-0.

#### 14) Roll Call-Return to Open Session

14A Action on items discussed in closed session if necessary.

Motion by Carol Ellie, seconded by Jerry Dernbach to return to open session. Roll call vote 6-0.

Motion by Cathy Guth, seconded by Carol Ellie to reclassify Pat Leary as 100% secretary and place her on the salary schedule accordingly, no back pay will be given by the district. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Debbie Bradley, seconded by Jeanette Wilson to increase Melinda Davies up to 4-8 hours weekly when needed as directed by the district administrator. Motion carried 5-0.

#### 15) Adjournment

Motion by Jerry Dernbach, seconded by Cathy Guth to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0.







On behalf of many youth in our neighboring communities, we (the Eagle Booster Club), ask for your generosity to improve the Almond-Bancroft sports complex. Our goals are to add large scale aluminum bleachers to the football field, replace the outfield at both the baseball and softball fields, and provide underground sprinkler systems to enhance and maintain all of these fields. The infields were upgraded at both the baseball and softball diamonds last year, and we need your help to continue the progress.

These improvements will benefit grade school, middle school and high school football as well as little league and high school baseball and softball. These upgrades will have long term benefits. The bleachers, sprinkler system, and outfields will last for many years with minor maintenance costs. It will also benefit the school by increasing the possibility of hosting football playoff games in the future. We are currently unable to do so primarily because of limited bleacher seating.

We have initiated our plans by having a brand new well put in at the complex. The school is having a building installed to protect and maintain the new well, as well as provide storage space for the sports programs that need it there. Our hope for continued development is greatly dependent on your kindness and generosity.

We ask that you take advantage of this opportunity to help the young people in the Almond and Bancroft communities and their families by donating to our sports complex improvement project. In order to reach our goals, we need to raise approximately \$60,000. Our hope is to raise the money in about a year. A tax deductible gift of ANY amount is greatly appreciated. Please send in your donation with the detachable form at the bottom of this page to the address listed. Or you can drop it off at either the Portage County or Bancroft State Banks. If you have any questions or need any further information, please don't hesitate to contact Spence Bunders at 366-4028.

Thank you in advance for your generous contribution.	
Sincerely,	
Eagle Booster Club ************************************	****************
Name	Contribution

Send to: Eagle Booster Club 7270 County Road D Almond, WI 54909



#### **Participants in Winter Sports**























2007-2008 Dance Team

The winter sport season has come to an end and we would like to thank all of the student athletes for their hard work and dedication on another successful season. Also, thank you to the parents for your devoted attention to your son/daughter during this season. A special thank you to our fans who always show support at our home games as well as away. Thank you to our coaches who have spent much time and dedication to our athletes. A job well done!

#### **Spring Sports Schedule**

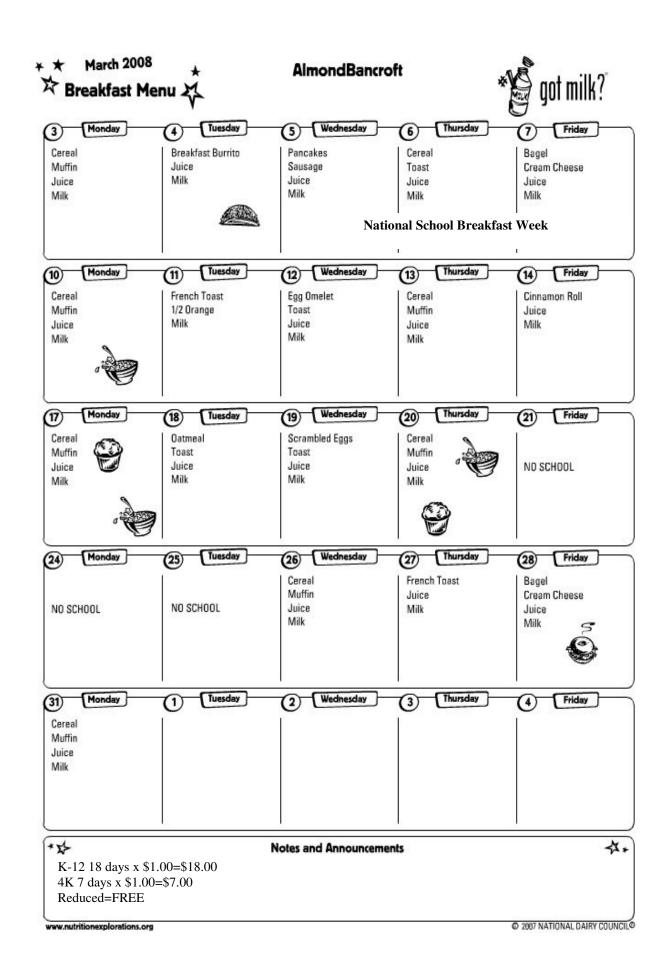
<u>Track</u>		
March 27	@ Wild Rose	4:30
April 1	@ Necedah	4:30
April 3	@ Wild Rose	4:30
April 8	@ Tri-County	3:30
April 10	@ Port Edwards	4:30
April 14	@ Bowler	4:00
April 15	@ Amherst	4:30
April 22	@ Iola	3:45
April 24	@ Tri-County	4:30
April 28	@ Iola	3:45
May 6	@ Wild Rose	4:30
May 8	@ Marion	4:30
May 10	@ Rosholt	
May 13	@ Bowler	4:30
May 15	@ Weyauwega	4:30
May 19	Regionals	TBD
May 22	Sectionals	TBD

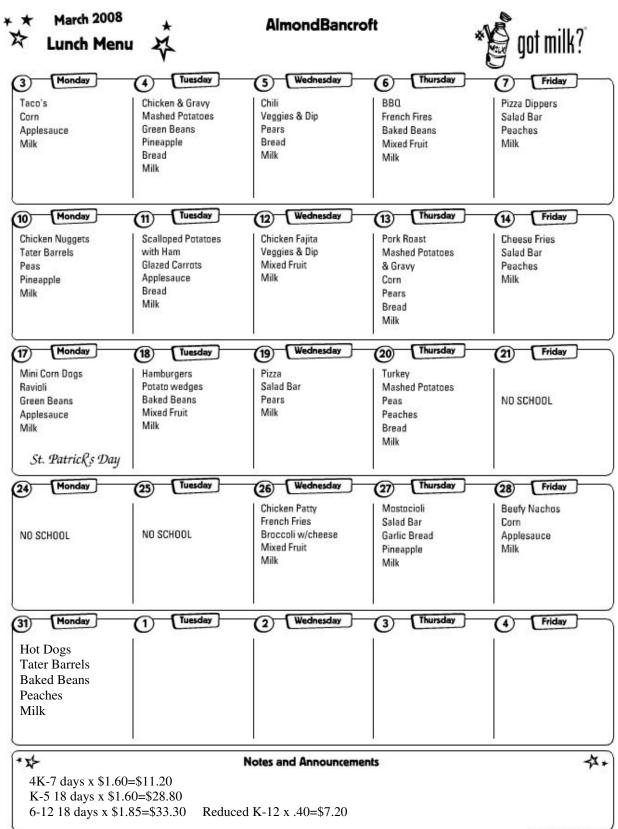


#### Baseball/Softball

March 27	Wild Rose (SB only)	4:30	
March 28	@ Montello	4:30	
April 1	@ Gresham (BA only)	4:30	
April 3	Marion	4:30	
April 4	@ Princeton	4:30	
April 7	@ Bowler	4:30	
April 10	Tigerton	4:30	
April 11	@ Iola	4:30	
April 15	Port Edwards	4:30	
April 17	Rosholt	4:30	
April 21	@ Wild Rose	4:30	
April 24	Amherst (BA only)	4:30	
April 25	Gresham (BA only)	4:30	
April 29	@ Marion	4:30	
May 1	Bowler	4:30	
May 5	@ Tigerton	4:30	
May 6	Iola	4:30	
May 9	@ Port Edwards	4:30	
May 13	@ Rosholt	4:30	
May 15	Wild Rose (BA only)	4:30	
May 15, 20, 23 Softball Regional			
May 23, 27, 2	8 Baseball Regional	TBD	







# March 2008 Eagle Activity Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 PIE meeting 5:30 Elementary Art Room	5 Auditions for Talent Show 3:30 In the auditorium	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 4K Registration @ Bancroft 8:30-3:30	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 NO SCHOOL	22
23/30	24 NO SCHOOL 31	25 NO SCHOOL	26	27	28	29

Almond-Bancroft School 1336 Elm St. Almond, WI 54909 Non-Profit Org. US Postage Paid Almond, WI 54909 Permit #1 "PRSRTD." "ECRWSS"

**BOXHOLDER**