

Lake Maloney & Osgood Elementary

May, 2008

NEWSLETTER



I can't believe this is the last newsletter of the year. It has been an absolutely wonderful school year even with the reality of LB-988 this Spring. Yes, the budget cuts will affect the Lake and Osgood. At the end of the current school year, unfortunately I will have to reduce staff by 3.5 para-educators. Less staff will affect the amount of student interventions and enrichment we will be able to provide. Because of the LB-988 cutbacks, and the Lake and Osgood sharing the same principal, counselor, resource, and PE teacher, the need for both buildings to operate on the exact same schedules becomes imperative. So, to be fair and consistent, next year we will start 5 minutes later at Lake Maloney and 5 minutes earlier at Osgood Elementary. The following is the tentative schedule for the 2008-2009 school year:

Lake Maloney & Osgood Elementary Schedule:

7:45 a.m.	Entrance Door opens for "Kids on the Move" and Teachers official contract day starts <i>(Earlier drop-off of students by permission of the Principal)</i>
8:05 a.m.	STARTING BELL
8:10 a.m.	Tardy Bell
11:15-12:00	K-1-2 Lunch/recess (back in class/instruction starts @ 12:00)
11:45-12:30	3-4-5-6 Lunch/recess (back in class/instruction starts @ 12:30)
3:20 p.m.	DISMISSAL BELL (students do not leave the classroom until 3:20)
3:45 p.m.	Teachers contract day ends.

Now for the good news, the intervention and enrichment programs of PLUS Time, WIN, PERK, and HAL have been huge successes at Lake Maloney and Osgood Elementary. Our reading, math, and writing scores have never been higher. Our goal is to maintain these valuable programs for next year and the future.

With the help of Osgood's PAT, the Lake's PTO, Wal-Mart Distribution, and Technology Grants, by this time next year you will see SMARTBoard technology in every classroom at both schools. Again, I want to thank Osgood's PAT and the Lake's PTO for their hard work and efforts when it comes to what's best for our students!

Mary Hughes announced her retirement at the end of this year, and I want to take this time to thank her for her years of service to the students of Osgood Elementary. Jill Hansen, an experienced 2nd grade teacher at Jefferson Elementary will replace Mrs. Hughes as the 0.50 FTE 2nd grade teacher. Reggie Lewis, Osgood's Resource teacher has accepted a position in Hastings, and I want to wish her the very best. Jessica Braithwait, the Lake's Resource teacher, will also take over Mrs. Lewis' duties at Osgood next year. Jesse Saner, the Lake's 6th grade teacher, has accepted a teaching and coaching position in his hometown of Sutherland. With gas approaching \$4.00 per gallon, who can blame him for eliminating those daily commutes. We have yet to interview and hire Mr. Saner's replacement in 6th grade. Susan Horne has accepted a transfer to teach 6th grade math at Adams, and Amy Black has accepted a transfer to Osgood's 5th grade to replace Mrs. Horne. At the time of this writing, these are the only teaching changes that we are expecting in 2008-2009.

To end, I'm already excited about the upcoming 2008-2009 school year. Lake Maloney and Osgood Elementary are truly becoming 21st Century schools to be proud of. If you have any questions or concerns about the proposed 2008-2009 schedule, please contact the school anytime.

Sincerely,

Ron Parks, Principal
Lake Maloney & Osgood Elementary
North Platte Public Schools