



The "PACK" Newsletter May 2011

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Jazz Band Competes At Championships

The IKM-Manning Jazz Band performed Tuesday, April 12th in Des Moines for the Iowa Jazz Championships and came home with the 7th place trophy in what was considered the toughest competition in Class 2A in years. Fifteen bands in Class 2A vied for eight trophies with bands in the 9th through 15th places receiving participation plaques.

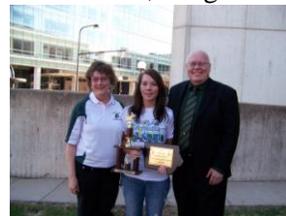


Mr. Don Struve, the IKM-Manning Band Director said, "I truly believe that not only was this the toughest competition in years in our class, but this year's jazz band actually came the farthest in improvement from the

beginning of the jazz season until the championships. Many expected us not to be back to the championships this year, but the students made that their goal, and then increased their determination to bring home a trophy this year. I am so proud of the entire band for setting and reaching their goals! On the back of our jazz championship T-shirts this year, the students put the saying, 'Some People Dream of Success--We Make It Happen'.

I truly believe we had a very successful jazz season this year--thanks to all our jazz students."

Kelli Struve, daughter of Don and Brenda



Struve, was awarded one of the four Outstanding Soloist Awards given in Class 2A.

Approximately 400 students participate in each class, so receiving the Outstanding Soloist Award is truly a great honor. Kelli was featured on a Bari sax solo and also played an improvisational solo on another song.

Awards Night Coming May 16th

Seniors and Senior Parents: Believe it or not, Awards Night will soon be upon us. If there are any scholarships that you would like announced that night (either from the college/university or from private organizations), please let me know as soon as possible. It's always nice to be able to recognize hard work and achievement!

Hammrich's Howl

It is amazing to me that this school year is almost over. When I look back over all the events and achievements it is great to see the growth displayed by not only the students but also the staff. We are ever changing as new experiences come our way.

As we approach the summer, this time to refresh, I would like to remind parents that there are so many things they can do to reinforce the growth their children accomplished this year. Our young students truly need as many opportunities to read as possible. This can be done in many ways throughout a given day. Yes, it is great to take your children to the library for books on a regular basis. Yes, it is wonderful to sit together as a family and either listen to your children read or read to them. It is also good to ask your independent readers about what they are reading so they can reflect and build on their comprehension skills. But don't forget we read recipes when cooking. And we read road signs when traveling. The practical side of reading is very "reinforcing" and shows the usefulness and independence it provides.

Math can also be supported throughout the summer if families do regular fact

practice using flashcards or computer games. Check your teacher's website on our school homepage to see what recommendations are listed and give them a try at home. As we know, computer games can make learning fun. Parents could also go a step further and provide their children simple charts to keep track of their progress or the number of times they complete certain games. Maybe even have friendly competitions to make it even more interesting. Math, like reading, is truly everywhere. It can be seen in ways as simple as telling time, sorting objects, and even counting money. Providing opportunities to practice the skills is the key!

So, have a great summer together as a family. I hope you are all able to practice what I call the three "R's" of summer, which are Reconnect, Refresh and Reinforce!

May dates to put in BOLD on your calendar:

- May 4** - Kindergarten field trip to the zoo
 - May 6** - Title I Parent Meeting
 - May 11** - K-4 Track and Field Day
 - May 13** - 1st grade Mothers' Tea
 - May 13** - 2nd and 3rd grade field trip to the Rose Theater/IMAX theater
 - May 16** - Next year's 5th graders' "Instrument Display" night
 - May 18** - Preschool field trip in the morning to Crawford Co. Nature Center
 - May 18** - Preschool thru 3rd grade Grandparent Day in the afternoon
 - May 19** - Preschool Graduation
"Rain date" for elementary track and field day
 - May 20** - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
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First in Math

Students in the middle school have been refining their computation and mathematical problem solving skills in the online program First in Math. This program allows students to compete with one another in three levels-- local, state, and national. Each level allows for competition individually, as a team, and as a school. The national level of competition closes on April 29th. I have three teams of seventh grade students and three teams of eighth grade students competing. (There are other teams in other grade levels.)

As I write this article, I am very proud of our students' accomplishments.

Here are the current rankings:

School level:

IKM-Manning is *first* in the state of Iowa and *tenth* in the entire Nation. The creator of First in Math recognizes the top ten schools in the nation (all grade levels combined) and we are working hard to keep in the top ten. Competition is very rigorous and to be in the top ten is a huge accomplishment for our students in grades 5 through 8.

Team levels:

7th grade: Our three teams are currently ranked at 1st, 3rd and 4th in the state, and 3rd, 9th, and 12th in the Nation. Another Iowa team has been trying to oust us out of first place, so we are working hard to maintain this honor.

8th grade: Our three teams are currently ranked at 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the state, and 22nd, 23rd, and 30th in the Nation. Students are working in all four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and with whole

numbers, decimals, fractions, integers, variables, and polynomials. The following examples are taken from www.firstinmath.com.

Here is a sample problem where students must make the number 24 in two steps, using any of the four operations. The wheel on the right side is the one that works as you multiply 23 times 2 which equals 36, then subtract 22 from 46 to get 24.

Here is a sample that uses fractions. There are also puzzles that use decimals, variables, and polynomials.



SS4 - G2 (Multiply/Divide)

Pick the wheel that makes the target number 24. You can add, subtract, multiply and divide. Use all numbers on the wheel, but use each number only once.

Example:
Target number is 24. The right wheel works.
 $2 \times 23 = 46$
 $46 - 22 = 24$



SS7 - G1 (Fractions)

Make the target number 24. You can add, subtract, multiply and divide. Use all four numbers on the wheel, but use each number only once.

Example:
Target number is 24.
 $6 - 5 = 1$
 $1 - 5/6 = 1/6$
 $4 \div 1/6 = 24$

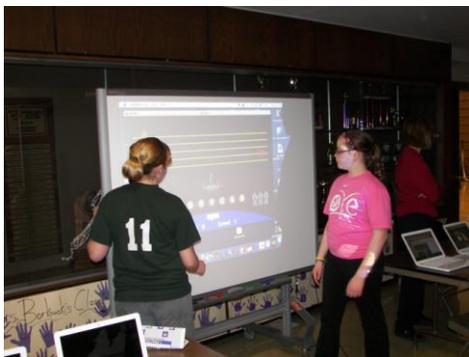
High School Tech Night Is A Success!



Kaylee Blake demonstrates some of the technology presented at Tech Night.



Elementary students shows off some of the technology used in their wing of the school.



Students show off their Smart Board skills during Tuesday night's technology presentation.

IKM-Manning High School and Manning Elementary enlightened several parents and community members about resources available to students on April

19th at the Technology Open House. Approximately 200 people enjoyed the meal prepared by Mrs. Erb and her Family Consumer Science students. Mr. Benton and the National Honor Society members volunteered their time to help serve the meal. Teachers and students lined the halls to show several pieces of equipment and resources such as SmartBoards, the online yearbook program, inDesign and Photoshop Elements used in the high school multimedia class, PowerPoint, graphic calculators, GoggleDocs, Timetoast timeline creator, Voki-talking avatar, the basketball gun machine, and several other interactive Web 2.0 tools.

We thank all that have volunteered their time and donated food and/or funds to go towards the educating of the schools' 21st Century Technology Skills.

5th & 6th Social Studies

In 5th grade Social Studies this year, we are studying U.S. History and Geography, and we also spend time working with maps, charts, tables, and graphs. We started the year studying the early European explorers, why they came to America, and where they came to in America. Next we continued by moving onto early colonization in the New England, Middle, and Southern Colonies. Then we covered the period leading up to the Revolutionary War and the War itself. Finally we are covering the Constitutional Convention and the setting up of the U.S. government. During the 3rd quarter, we studied the 50 states, and took several states tests in which the students had to identify each state on a map. In the 4th quarter, we have been working on the state capitals, and then testing on those. They continue taking tests every other week until either they get 100% or the end of the quarter arrives.

In 6th grade Social Studies this year, we are studying the Western Hemisphere with concentration on Canada and Latin America. We also spend much time on maps, charts, tables, and graphs. During our unit on Canada, each of the students completed a project-such as a poster, tourist brochure, or report about a Canadian province, city, landmark, or historical site. In our Latin America unit we spent extra time on Mexico as well as the Aztec, Maya, and Inca civilizations. In small groups of 2 or 3, the students did a picture note poster indicating important aspects of each civilization, and then used these to make an oral presentation to the class describing the Native group. During the last 3 weeks of the 3rd quarter, the students researched a Latin American country to complete a 5 part project: a research report, a map, a comparison/contrast chart, and several illustrations including a tourism poster, and designing a cover. They have used the internet to do research as well as other reference materials such as their textbook, encyclopedias, books, and even interviews of parents, grandparents, other acquaintances who have visited their country. This year Mrs. Schaben and I coordinated our efforts on this project, so the students learned about doing a research paper in Language Arts class and did their paper in that class. The remainder of the work was done in Social Studies, as well as part of their research. During our Iowa History unit, we are studying important people, places, and events of Iowa's past and present, and recalling information learned from their 5th grade field trip to Living History Farms in Urbandale last spring. We did an acrostic poem for IOWA HISTORY at the beginning of the quarter, and a display board/model project on some important person, place, or event in Iowa throughout the quarter. We will be presenting this major project to the class during the week of May 9.

It has been a very eventful year in both 5th and 6th grade Social Studies. The classes have shown great progress throughout the

year, and learned much about the history and geography of the United States and the rest of the western hemisphere. Our middle school continues to be an interesting, enjoyable, and safe place to learn.

Submitted by,
Virgil Peterson

Rec Trip For Middle School

The end of the school year is approaching us very fast. The Middle School Student Council is planning our end of the year Rec Center Day. All students must fulfill all of their obligations, which include all assignments completed and detentions served.

The 5th and 6th grade students will be bused to the Rec Center Wednesday, May 18th from 1-3. The 7th and 8th will be on Thursday the 19th from 1-3.

The students and teachers are able to swim, play basketball, use other rec center facilities, relax and have fun. Student Council members have planned many snacks. Colton Hacker, an 8th grade student states, "Last year we had a blast setting up basketball teams and competing against each other."

Remember this is a drug free, money free activity for our middle school students.
