



The Hurricane



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Albert City-Truesdale Community School Newsletter

March/April/May 2016

Time Flies When You're Having Fun! By Mrs. Sarah Voyles, AC-T Principal

It's amazing to me how fast time flies when you work with children. I guess the saying, "Time flies when you're having fun" really rings true in a school. We are now in the fourth quarter. For me this is a great time to reflect on all of the great things that have been going on at AC-T.

Our Iowa Assessment scores are back and I am pleased with the results. I have included a breakdown of how each of our grades did on the different subjects. With our small class sizes it only takes one or two students to bring down the average, but it's important to not only look at the class as a whole, but the growth our students are making. Our teachers have been using this information as well as other assessment data throughout the year to guide their instruction. It's hard not to spend a great deal of time focusing on Iowa Assessment data because it is used so widely by the state, however we strive at AC-T to create well-rounded individuals and sometimes that doesn't always show up on a standardized test. Since our students in 2nd – 6th grade worked so hard on their assessments they will get to spend a day at the Wellness Center in Emmetsburg yet this spring.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Sievers, three 6th grade students competed at our local History Day in Storm Lake. From that competition they earned the opportunity to present their project at State History Day on April 25th in Des Moines. Congratulations to Toby Kruse, Isaac Albeus and Sara Feeley on this honor!

Leah Bean was recognized this spring for her conservation poster that she submitted last year. Her poster was chosen to go from the state competition on to the national competition in Utah. She earned a National Honorable Mention for her work. We are very proud of all of her hard work. Thank you to Mrs. Bean for encouraging our students to learn not only about art principles, but also about soil conservation practices through the poster contest.



This spring we kicked off a Watch DOGS (Dads of Great Students) program. Watch DOGS is a national program that is designed to encourage positive male role models in the school. Our Watch DOGS kick – off was a success with 30 father-figures and 44 students joining us for a

night of fun and pizza. It is great to have so many people involved in our students' lives and this is just another example of our community's willingness to take an active role in a child's life. After the kick-off night we had 14 dads sign up to come in and volunteer a day out of their busy schedules at school. Thank you to the father-figures for taking the time to be involved in our school!



The students were given a challenge during the month of March to bring in as many pop tabs as they could in support of the Ronald McDonald House. I challenged the students in hopes that they would be able to help those in need and they far exceeded my expectations. Our students were able to bring in about 380 pounds of pop tabs! Please continue to send pop tabs to school as our 6th grade students will take the tabs with them on their field trip to Des Moines and deliver them to the Ronald McDonald House there.



I've included a picture of our Super Achievers for the 3rd Quarter. Each week I get to recognize two to three students for their hard work in the classroom. I am proud of these students and I hope they continue to use all of their talents!

Finally, this is the time of year when we get to celebrate those who have dedicated many years to AC-T. Mr. Lovin and Mrs. Bean will be retiring at the end of the year and we would like to celebrate their commitment to AC-T. Mr. Lovin has been a teacher at AC-T since 1982 and Mrs. Bean joined the staff in 2005. We will have a retirement open house in the AC-T lunchroom for them on May 24 from 3:30pm – 5:00pm. Please join us in celebrating their service to AC-T!



Update from Rob Olsen, Superintendent

Spring has sprung and we are looking forward to an awesome finish to a great school year! I have included a couple of items the School Board has been working on the past couple months.

Albert City Athletic Fields and Open Space

We are looking for ideas of how to best use the fields and open space available. An Advisory Council has been created made up of members from the School board, City Council and Albert City Chamber so we can begin to take some of the ideas and work together to find a viable use for the fields and buildings. If you have any ideas to pass along, please contact myself or a member of the School Board.

Summer Work

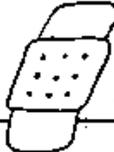
The School Board has approved the removal of the ceiling on the east side of the building, which contains asbestos. Site Services, Inc. is contracted to complete the work this summer. Once the ceiling has been removed, a new ceiling will be installed with new energy efficient lighting, which will save utility dollars in our general fund. As part of this project, we are also looking into replacing the flooring in these rooms since the rooms will be empty from the abatement work. Phase 2 of this project will occur next summer with the removal of the ceiling on the west side of the building.

Band Notes by Adam Perry, Band Director, Sioux Central and AC-T

Please join us for an evening of wonderful music at the AC-T Spring Concert on Tuesday, May 3rd at 7:00pm. I know the instrumental ensembles have been working very hard on their pieces. The 5th grade has made some remarkable progress since the days of Hot Cross Buns and Jingle Bells. The 6th grade have made some instrument changes to have a more balanced ensemble sound. Both groups will be playing selections separately, but they will also combine, under the baton of my student teacher, Miss Schubring, to play a combined selection. You won't want to miss it!

As the end of the school year draws closer each day, I find myself thinking ahead to the start of next school year. With that brings a lot of transitions, this years 6th graders are now in 7th grade at Sioux Central, last years 5th Graders are now at the top of the totem pole, and this years 4th grade students, as new 5th graders, have the opportunity to be in the band program. Being in Band opened an entire new world up for me and that's what I hope to pass along to my students. In the fall they will have a chance to try out each different type of instrument before they choose what they want to play. For the older students, they have the chance to continue to improve musically by taking summer band lessons. Summer lessons are 30 minutes on June 7th, 14th, 21rd, & 28th. Lessons are completely free. To sign up for lessons, please visit my website (<http://www.siouxcentral.k12.ia.us/webpages/aperry/index.cfm>) and click on the Summer Lessons link on the upper left side. More playing opportunities also present themselves by playing in either the Albert City or Storm Lake Municipal Bands. If you (adult) or JH/HS/College student wants to stretch your musical muscles please email me and I can give you the contact information for those ensembles. Have a very musical summer!

happy spring!

Nurse  Notes

~I am continuing to spend a few minutes in each classroom every Thursday, teaching a small lesson on good health every week. Recently, we've talked about seat belt use and proper positioning, prevention and

treatment of blisters, good hygiene, and how much sugar is in pop. For instance, if you drink 6 16.9-oz. bottles of pop, the amount of sugar in all of those is nearly 2 cups!
~Ideally, every child should see their doctor, dentist and eye doctor every year. What better time than during summer break? Call now and make all of those appointments for early summer. June, July and August fly by, and it's a relief to get all of those taken care of before the back-to-school rush!

~Immunizations: Students going into 7th grade will need a tetanus booster, required before they start school. Pre-K and Kindergarten students are also required to have certain vaccines before beginning the new school year. I will be looking at our current students this spring and letting those going into Kindergarten know what they need in the way of immunizations.

~May 2-8 is Screen-Free Week: Have you ever taken a "vacation" from your TV or other devices? Even a majority of infants and toddlers are spending as much as 2 hours per day in front of TV or videos; older elementary students can spend more than 7 hours per day of screen time! Research shows that children who spend less or no time in front of a screen tend to eat better, sleep better, are more physically active, perform better in school, and play more creatively. Spring is a great time to take a break from screens and spend time outside together as a family. You can also make small changes to your routine: turn the TV off during meals and first thing in the morning, and encourage your children in sensory play, like containers in water at the kitchen sink. Hours of fun!

Please feel free to call anytime...I'm happy to speak with you!

Julie Olson, RN 712-843-5416 ext. 272 nurse@albertct.k12.ia.us

The 3rd and 4th Grade Presentation of:

Sir Bookworm,
Click, Clack, Moo,
Giggle, Giggle, Quack,
-And-

Tales of a 4th Grade Nothing

We cordially invite you to attend our plays!

Date: Thursday, April 28, 2016

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Albert City-Truesdale Elementary Old Gym

(Please enter through the north doors.)

Admission: Adults \$2.00/Children \$1.00

*This money helps pay for costumes, props, and supplies. The students also plan on having a cast party.



Notes from The Music Room by Mrs. Laura Sievers

It has been a busy year for the vocal and band departments at AC-T. Vocally, the Preschool – 6th graders have performed for Grandparents' Day, Veterans' Day, and our winter concert. The PK – 2nd graders sang at the Pleasant View Nursing Home on Friday March 18. Grades 3-6 will sing there on April 1st. I will be taking eight 5th and 6th graders to an Honor Choir in Le Mars on April 19, and we are all looking forward to our spring concert which will be on Tuesday, May 3 at 7:00 pm.

The 3rd – 6th graders were also able to take a field trip to Ames, where they attended an ISU Symphony Youth Concert, visited the "Instrument Petting Zoo" where they got to see many instruments up close, and toured both CY Stephens and Hilton Coliseum. Thanks to parents for making the effort to get your students to school early that day. It was a great experience for all!

Our 5th and 6th grade bands this year boast 100% participation in both grades. Studies have shown that playing an instrument is one of the few activities that uses both sides of the brain equally. So not only is learning an instrument a great skill and (hopefully) enjoyable, it is also good for your brain!

One thing that is unique about a specials teacher is that we get to work with students at all grade levels. It is a pleasure for me to get to know your children and see their growth and development as they move through AC-T elementary.

Albert City – Truesdale Students Qualify for State History Day!

By Toby Kruse History Day was a great success! 6th Grade students, Toby Kruse, Isaac Albeus, and Sara Feeley are going to state with a documentary on the Spirit Lake Massacre. They recently went to the Storm Lake Public School where they competed against other districts in our area, they and a few other lucky students will go on to state in Des Moines on April 25th. If they are super lucky they might go to nationals, where only the best of the best are judged. If they win there, then they are the overall champions. We here at AC-T wish them the best of luck.



Student Council Update by Ms. Kelly Wolff

Pop Cans

In the upcoming months, the pop can bin that is at Crossroads in Albert City will be moved to the Albert City-Truesdale School. AC-T would like to thank Crossroads for allowing us to use their facility during the past years. The new bin will be located on the north side of the school. Please continue to donate your cans. Your donations allow our students to attend many field trips throughout the school year, it is deeply appreciated.

Valentine Fundraiser

The Student Council had a fundraiser during the month of February. Students voted for who they wanted as the AC-T cupid. Each class voted on a representative. This year's nominees were Paige Eral, Berkley Johannsen, Layla Scruggs, Max Bjork, Reata Ayers, Lexi Espana, Makayla Scruggs, and Vincent Harden. Money was placed in that student's bucket for a total count. Max Bjork in third grade was this year's cupid winner as he raised the most money.

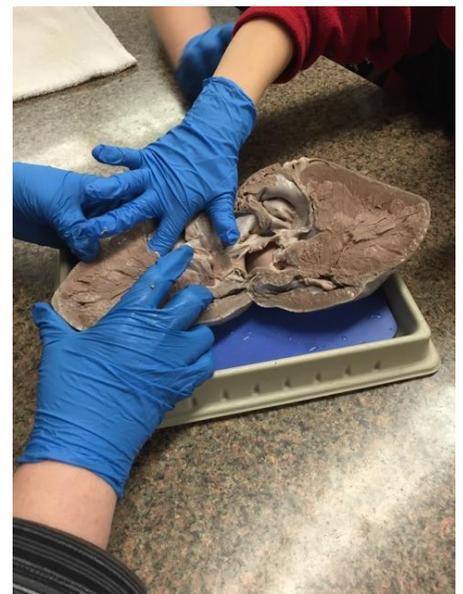
Congratulations Max!

Third Grade by Mrs. Becky Spragg

The 3rd Graders have been enjoying our unit about the human body. We have been learning the functions of the Skeletal, Muscular, Nervous, Respiratory, Circulatory, and Digestive systems. The students have observed dissections of the different organs including the heart, kidney, brain, and lung. We have also dissected an eye, newt, salamander, frog, and pig. Chris Bean visited our classroom in February to teach about the heart. She brought different heart



specimens to dissect and showed us what inflated and deflated lungs look like. Chris gave us pens, pet scoops, and clips. We appreciate her expertise and willingness to share her knowledge. Our culminating activity was to help dissect a pig in a small group and identify all of the organs!



News from the 6th Grade

Get To Know Our Sixth Graders

Sara Feeley

By Larene Scruggs

I interviewed Sara Feeley. I asked her if she was stranded on a deserted island what you would take with. She answered: a friend, a flashlight, water, and food. She has a sister named Alyssa. Her mom's name is Karen and her dad's name is Denny. Her favorite foods are pizza and ice cream. She is 12 years old. She has 1 dog. She goes to AC-T. For a summer vacation she likes to go to The Albert City Pool. Her favorite thing about sixth grade is the free time. She also has a favorite football team: the Hawkeys. The vacation she loves the most is going to Texas. The movie she thinks is spectacular is "The Fault in Our Stars". She enjoys the holiday Christmas. Also she likes to watch "Girl Meets World", and go on her computer. I hope you learned a little about Sara.

All About Paige Eral

BY MORGAN GRIFFIN

I interviewed Paige Eral and asked her 10 questions. She has 5 siblings. Bella, Kenzlie, Christian, Mac and Charlie. Her parents are Christy and Mike Eral and Jonathan and Amber Vazquez. Paige has one dog named Chewey and he is a Yorkie. Her last hair color was purple and she is planning on her next one to be blue, which is her favorite color. Paige enjoys playing soccer. She likes being defender. Her favorite football team is the Vikings.

Paige's best friends are Makinzie Miller, Morgan Griffin and Matthew Goeller. During the summer she likes to hang out with her friends. Now you know a little bit about Paige!

A Little About My Friend, Isaac Albeus By Matthew Goeller

Let me tell you a little about my friend Isaac Albeus. He loves going to AC-T. His family is his mom, Leda; dad, Jon; and brother, Josiah. He's excited to go to the Rec Center. Paige and I are his best friends. If he ever won the lottery he would buy an island and Isaac and I would live on it. He was born in the Philippines in Naga. His hair color is black. He misses his old friend in the Philippines in Naga. His favorite color is blue. That's a little about my friend Isaac.

Mr. Linn Lovin

by *Brooksyn Taylor*

Linn Lovin is one of the teachers at AC-T Elementary and sadly he is retiring this year, so I interviewed him for the school newsletter. Mr. Lovin's family consist of his wife, Sue, is a paraprofessional at AC-T and previously taught at Sioux Central for 35 years. And his son Ryan works at Wells Fargo in Des Moines. Linn claims the funniest moment of his teaching career was when they got the new gym because he rode a moped around for a short skit he did. He also decided to be a teacher to work with kids. I asked Mr. Lovin what his favorite sport was and he said he could not pick because they are all fun.

Mr. Lovin has had 33 years working at AC-T and says it has been a great and memorable experience he is sad to retire. Linn was not always a P.E./health teacher though he started out teaching Math, then he was teaching all junior high classes, and soon became K-12 P.E. and 4-10 health teacher. He wants the next P.E. health teacher to live by his saying "Work Hard, Play Hard, Have Fun".

Linn's favorite subject to teach was P.E. The thing Mr. Lovin will miss most about teaching is the children. And Linn wants to be remembered as a fun teacher.

Thank you for teaching all these years Mr. Lovin we will miss you.

Mrs. Andrea Bean

By Isaac Albeus

Andrea Bean was born as she says "a long time ago" on November 6th at Slayton, Minnesota. Her parents were Fern and Goodwin Johnson, she has two living siblings named Jean and Gregg, she has two children named C.J Bean and Kaitlyn Johnson, and she is married to Merlynn Bean and he is also her best friend. The thing that inspired her to teach art is that; she likes art, kids, and to learn new things. Her favorite artist is the Impressionist and her favorite painting is all of the Impressionist's work. The other job that she would have chosen was a carpenter because she liked working with wood and that actually fit in with the whole art thing. She also likes to watch the show Fixer Upper on HGTV (my family enjoys Fixer Upper too!) and more HGTV shows. Mrs. Bean has been teaching 12 years at AC-T, 10 years in Newell, and 3 years in Spencer. The reason why Mrs. Bean is retiring is because she wants to do her own art and write some books, she also wants to read, garden, and work a little bit more. The thing she will miss is being with the kids and teaching. The advice she would give the new teacher is to take care of the kids and

have fun. The place that she would go to for a vacation is the western states. She states that she is a "Minnesotan" by birth and "Iowan" by marriage. We will miss Mrs. Bean next year! AC-T wishes her a wonderful retirement!

WELCOME THOMAS COWELL!

BY PAIGE ERAL

Who is Thomas Cowell? All of Albert City is dying to know! Thomas Cowell is the janitor here at Albert City-Truesdale Elementary School. He cleans and fixes the school! He says he plans on working here at AC-T until they get tired of him. Thomas is from Marathon, Iowa. He has one son named Kellan. Thomas enjoys spending time with his son over the weekend. He went to school at Newell-Fonda. The rest of these questions were just a bunch of random questions that I thought would be a nice addition to this article. Thomas loves to listen to country music. His favorite sport is football. His most favorite candy would be Twix! This last question was just something I thought would be kind of interesting to know. I asked if he believes in ghosts and he said "Yes."! I enjoyed getting to interview the one, the only, Thomas Cowell! This is Paige Eral signing off! Have a great day!

World Read Aloud Day

BY ETHAN SCHULTZ

WORLD READ ALOUD DAY WAS ON WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 24TH AND WE HAD THREE SPEAKERS. THE SPEAKERS WERE ELLIE HILLMER, PASTOR TYLER JOHNSON, AND RHONDA WEDEKING. THIS EVENT WAS HELD IN THE BIG GYM AT AC-T. THE KIDS FROM PRESCHOOL TO 6TH GRADE WERE IN THE GYM. THIS EVENT HELPED KIDS HEAR SOMEONE ELSE READ A STORY TO THEM. I AM GLAD THAT THEY TOOK THEIR TIME TO READ TO US.

Trip to Ames by Sara Feeley

On February 16th, the 3rd-6th graders took a trip to CY Stephens in Ames. First, we saw an amazing orchestra at the theater. In music class, before we went on the trip, we talked about the different instrument families and we each got a paper that had the songs that the orchestra was going to play. We had to be at the school a few minutes before 7:20am because that's when the bus was leaving. It took two hours to get there and we had granola bars and water for everyone on the way back. Steve Stepec came along as a chaperone. We were able to hear and see the orchestra play a new song called "Full Metal" that has never been played for anybody before so that was very special. The director, Michael-Thomas Foumai, came all the way from Hawaii to see this orchestra perform his song for the very first time! After the performance, they had something for us called the "Instrument Petting Zoo" where we were able to see all of the instruments that were in the orchestra. The college orchestra students played them for us. There was even a harp that the kids were able to play! It was super fun! Then we ate lunch on the second level. After we ate, a volunteer from CY Stephens showed us around backstage and in the theater area. It was really cool! We also went into another building, the Hilton Coliseum, where we saw the locker room and we got to go into the press room and sit in the coaches' chairs while we got our picture taken! It was really fun! After the tour, we got on the bus to go back to school. It was a fun day! I would definitely go again!

Hurricane Announcements!

The Little Hurricane Relays will be held May 5, 2016 at the football field in Albert City. Pre-K-2nd grade will be participating in their events from 9:30-11:00 a.m. and Grades 3-6 will hold their events at 1:30-3:00 p.m. The rain date is May 6, 2016.

6th Grade Graduation will be May 25th at 6:00 pm.

Last Day of School will be May 27th with a 1:00 pm dismissal.

Awards ceremony will be held at 8:30 am.



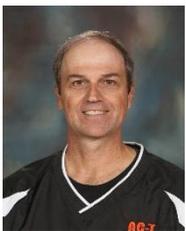
PACT (Pride of AC-T support group) needs volunteers for the next school year! If you are interested in helping with various events at school with serving or providing food please contact Principal Sarah Voyles or Karen Feeley for details. Thanks!

Connect with AC-T on Social Media! We now have Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts to share the great things that are happening at AC-T!

Albert City-Truesdale Elementary [actelementary](#) @ACTElementary



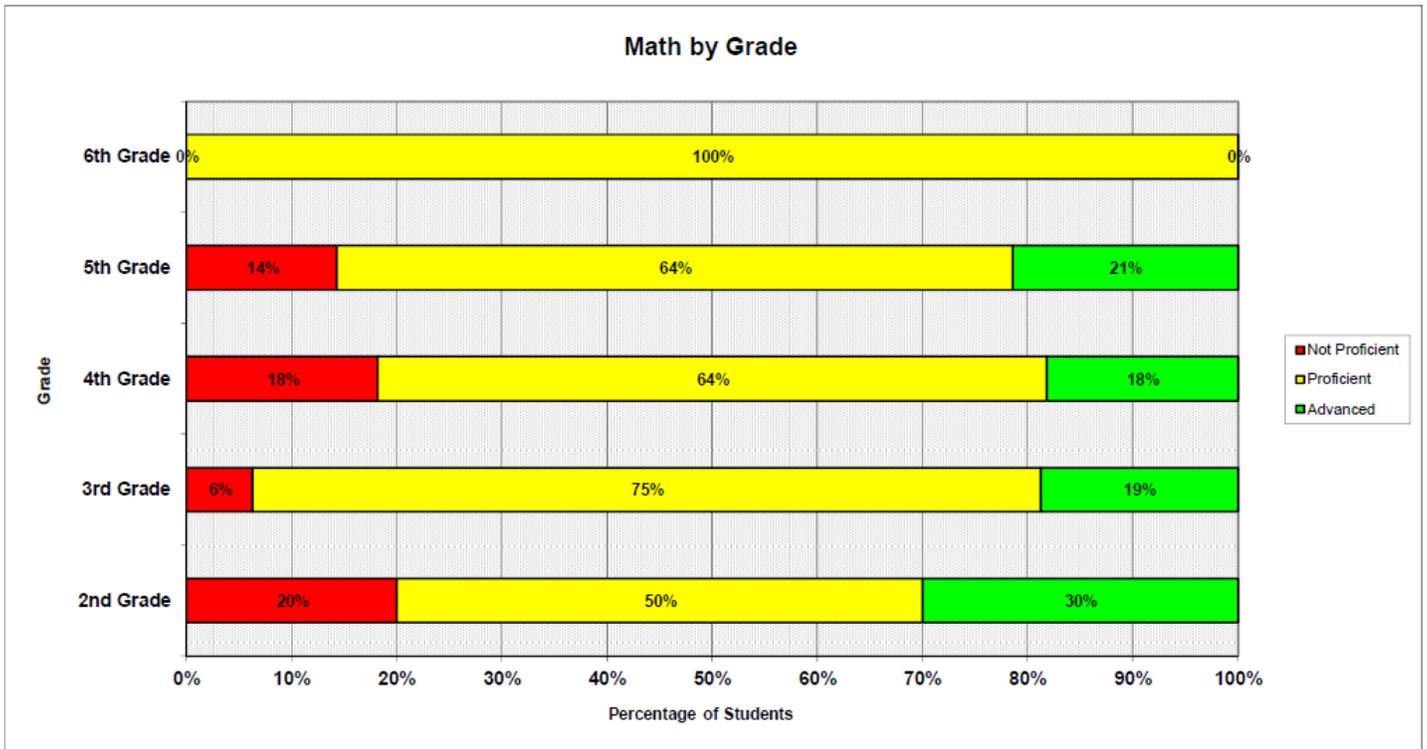
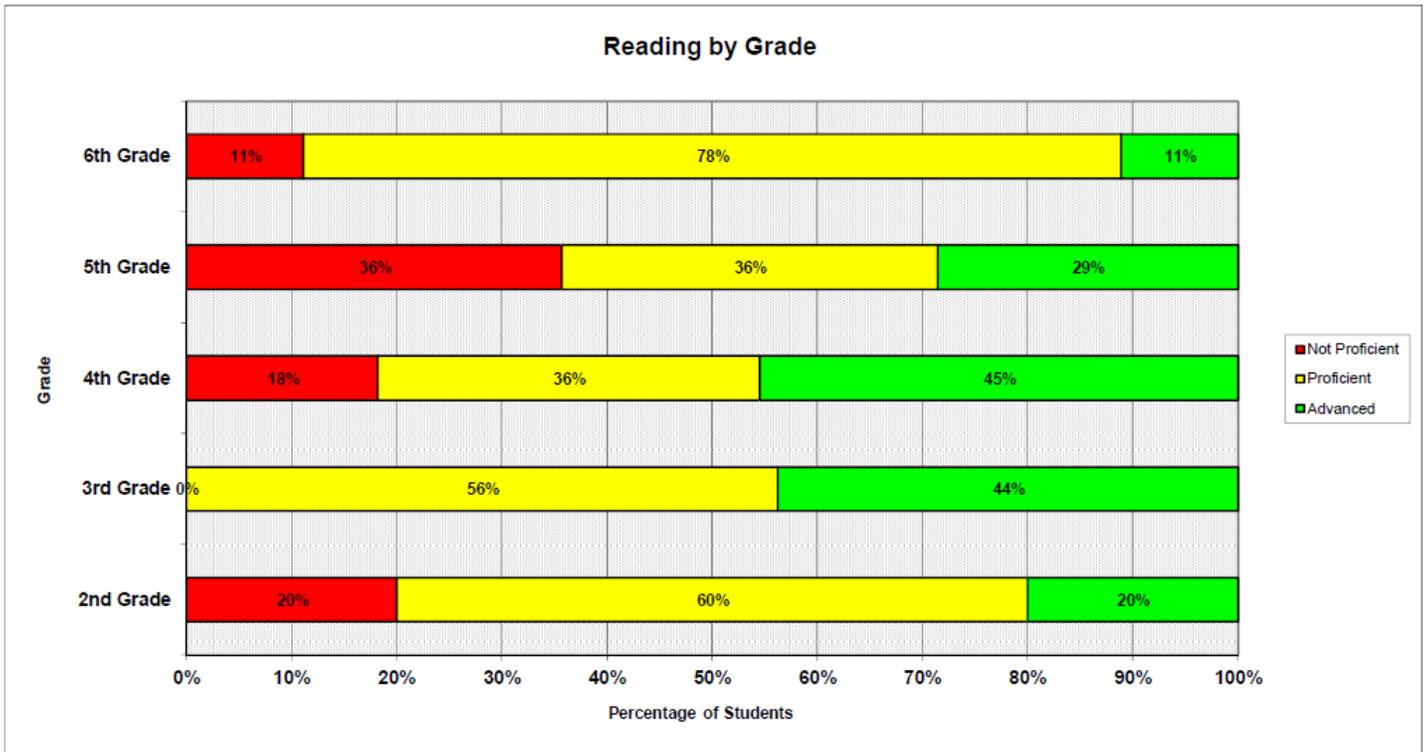
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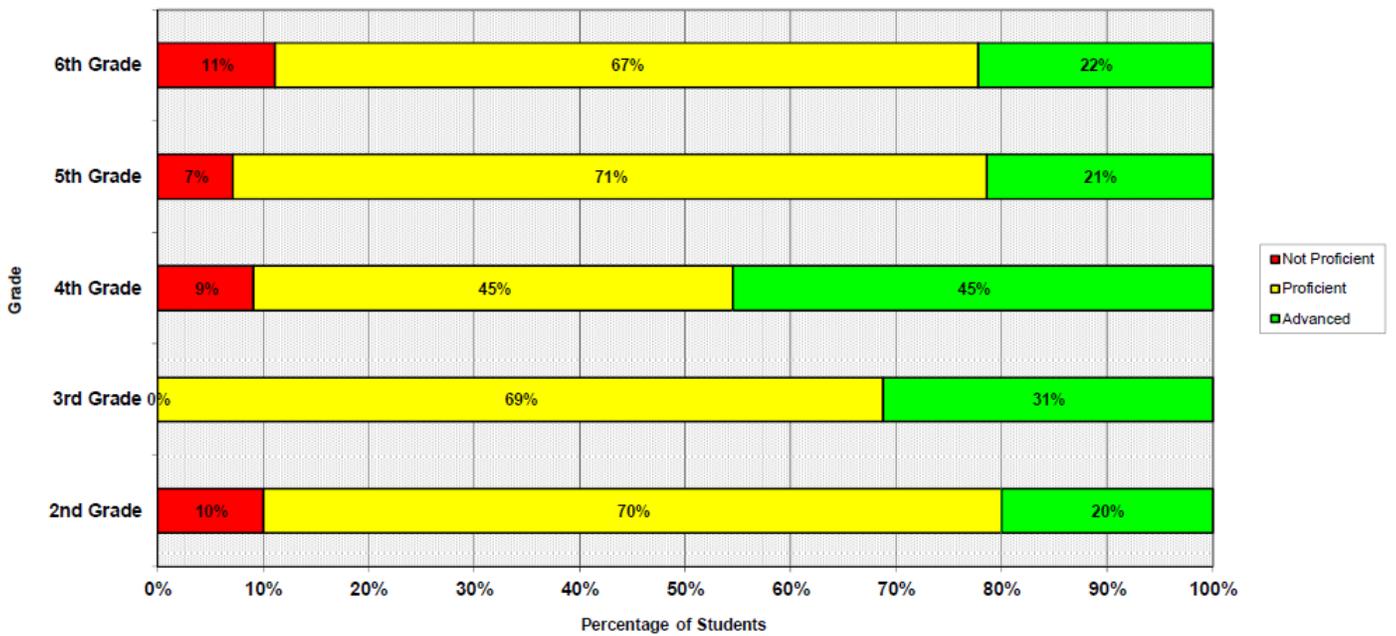
Congratulations to Mr. Linn Lovin and Mrs. Andrea Bean! Mr. Lovin, Physical Education Teacher and Mrs. Andrea Bean, Art Teacher are retiring this year and we will be celebrating their years of service on Tuesday, May 24th from 3:30-5:00pm in the AC-T elementary lunchroom. Please join us in thanking them for their combined 45 years of service!



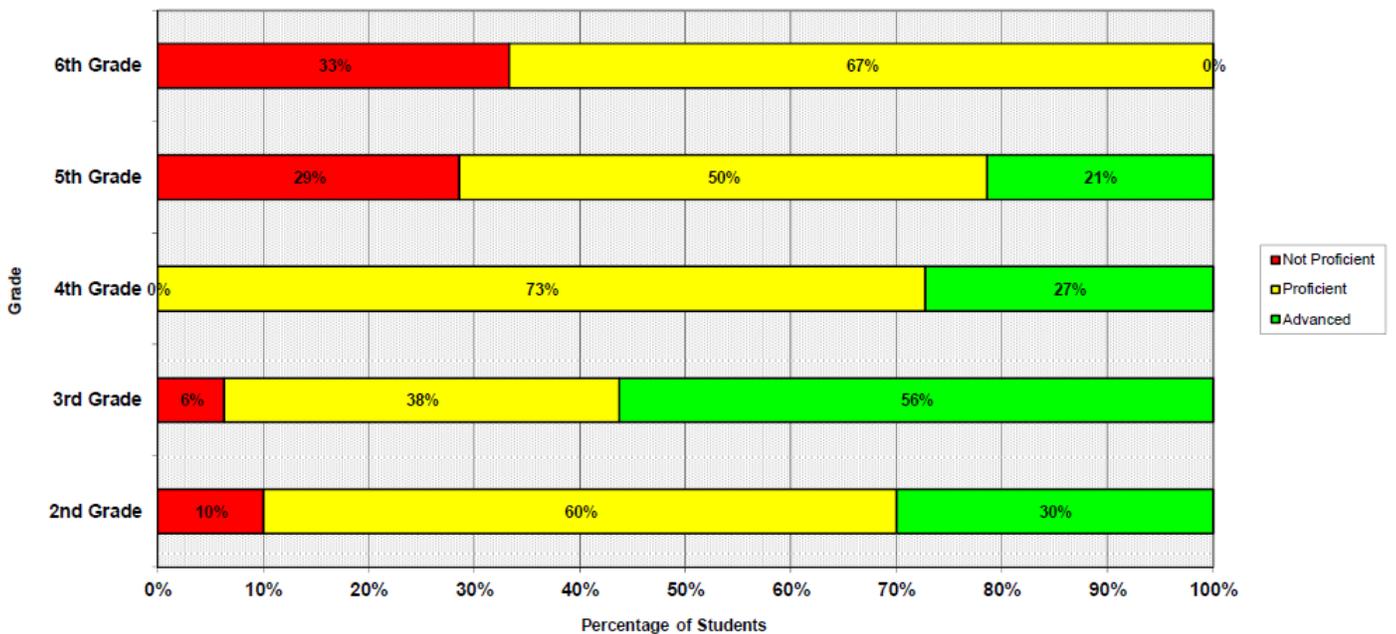
Iowa Assessment Results Grades 2nd-6th for 2015-2016



Science by Grade



Social Studies by Grade



THE HURRICANE

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