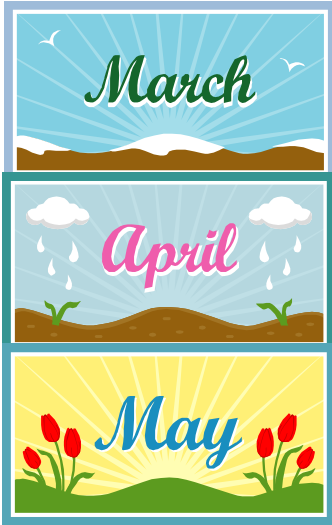


THE HURRICANE

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Albert City-Truesdale Community School Newsletter

March/April/May 2012



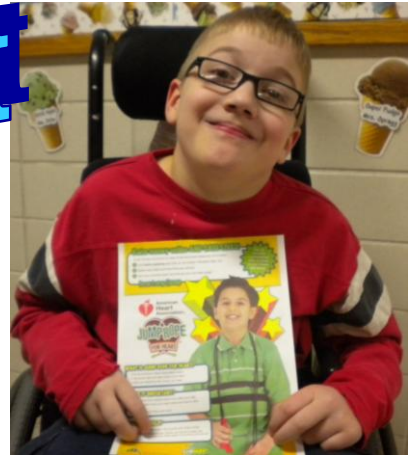
AC-T Students Qualify for State History Day by Mrs. Laura Sievers

“Revolution, Reaction and Reform” was the theme for the annual AEA8 District History Day event held at Okoboji Middle School on Saturday, March 17. Sixth graders Makayla Bjork, Carter Beckman, Shera Smith, and Gabby Long presented a documentary on the life of Carrie Chapman Catt, a revolutionary leader in women’s suffrage, and were chosen to move on to

the state event on Monday, May 7 in Des Moines. Students are coached by Laura Sievers and Julie Bjork. The Sundholm Foundation provides financial support for the project. L to R: Carter Beckman, Makayla Bjork, Shera Smith, Gabby Long

Jump Rope For Heart

Jump Rope for Heart was held in the Albert City-Truesdale Elementary gym on March 8th from 2:00-3:00pm. Students had two weeks to collect donations which totaled \$2240. The money goes to the American Heart Association which they use for research. Dakota Caldwell, 4th grader, collected the most donations totaling \$379. 45 students in grades 3-6 participated and a fun time was had by all. By Mr. Linn Lovin



For jump rope for heart we, went around town asking some people if they would donate money for Jump Rope for Heart! Then when it was time to turn in the packets for Jump Rope for Heart with the money, we would hand it in to Mr. Lovin (PE teacher). He would take the money and count it up and tell us how much money we raised for grades 3rd - 6th and we raised a lot of money! We announced how much money we raised and then we would get to jump rope with our class. Then we would take a little break and have some orange drink and some cookies. They were both very delicious. Thank you to Mr. Lovin and Cyndie. Then at 3:00 we would put the jump ropes away and get ready to go home. I had a lot of fun raising up money and going to the gym to jump rope with my class; it was a lot of fun. By: Emma Garvick

Nurse Notes

Welcome to spring! It's certainly been a busy winter in the Nurses' office...

~We completed our annual "mini-physicals" last December, including height, weight, pulse, blood pressure and BMI (body mass index: a measure of body fat), along with a vision screen. Parents received those results with report cards in January; if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call!

~Nurse Julie continues with fluoride treatments, and covering many health-and-wellness issues...uninterrupted during swishing! Some of the more recent topics include bike safety, wound care, what our teeth look like magnified 1200 times (they're really not smooth!) and water intake.

~Even though the weather has been wonderful, we are still seeing lots of stomachaches, sore throats, coughs and fevers. Please remember that if your child has a fever, they must be *fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medications* (such as Tylenol or ibuprofen) for 24 hours in order to return to school. This is not only for the protection of other students and staff, but in order for your child to heal fully and be ready to learn when they come back to school.

~A reminder...Head lice exist wherever there are children. We do our best to prevent students from sharing any hair articles, hats or hoods, and provide separate space for each child's coat and personal items. Please do the same, and continue to check the head of every child in your home, every week, for at least 15 minutes.

~As you look ahead to the next school year, make your appointments now for those doctor, dentist and vision exams, and ask your doctor or nurse about any immunizations your student may need. If you wait to call for those appointments this summer, you may have a hard time getting in; and, the worst way to start a new school year is by scrambling to get those things done at the last minute when the offices are booked! The requirements for immunizations can be confusing, so it is best to ask your doctor or nurse which ones your student needs, if any, and make sure they are given at the right time.

Please feel free to contact us with questions or concerns anytime; we are happy to partner with you in ensuring that our students are as healthy as possible!

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



Come & celebrate with Annette Bruns & Jan Bobolz, our retiring teachers, on Monday, May 21st at 3:30pm in the AC-T Library! Help us thank them for their many years of service & dedication to the students of AC-T!





The PACT will be sponsoring a Cake Walk during the Spring Musical on May 15th. If you would like to donate a cake, please bring it that night. Tickets will be \$1 each or 6/\$5.00.

The 3rd and 4th Grade Presentation of:



Two Pigs, a Wolf, and a Mud Pie

-and-



Red Writing Hood



We cordially invite you to attend our plays!

Date: Thursday, April 26, 2012 Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Albert City-Truesdale Elementary Old Gym

Admission: Adults \$2.00/Children \$1.00

**Funds help pay for costumes, props, and supplies. The students also plan on having a cast party!*

We hope to see you at our plays!

-Mrs. Spragg, Ms. Dirks, and the 3rd/4th graders

Scholastic Book Fair at AC-T by Desiree Fitzgerald

We had our spring book fair on March 13th and 14th during conferences. We appreciate all that came out to visit and purchase some wonderful books. When you buy books from our book fair we earn Scholastic dollars to purchase books for our Library. At this book fair we made \$450.85 of Scholastic dollars to spend for our Library. Thank you for helping the school.

Throwing Money in Your Garbage by Judy Clausen

Have you ever stopped on the sidewalk to retrieve a dime or nickel that someone had dropped? Of course you have. Who doesn't like 'found money'? Many of you may have a change jar at your house where you toss your loose change. Would you consider emptying your pockets into the trash can? Of course you wouldn't.

Box Tops for Education are that ‘found money’ or the change jar that you have at home. Each Box Top is worth a dime to our school. Yes, that little hot pink and white rectangle you see on your cereal box, Kleenex box, biscuit tube or vegetable can is worth a dime to us.

So, please, stop trashing this money! Clip them out and keep them safe. If you have a school age neighbor, ask them to stop by to pick them up, or drop them by the school office.

For those of us who like to be on the computer, check out www.boxtops4education.com. Register and select AC-T Elementary School as your school to support. There are daily e-tops you can earn. If we all do this simple task every day, think how much we can benefit our students and our school.

And, in case you didn’t know, those ‘Land O Lakes’ milk caps are each worth a nickel. Wow! These easy to accomplish tasks can fill up our change jar pretty quick.

Interview with Jan Bobolz *By: Natalie Baack*

Jan Bobolz has enjoyed teaching here at Albert City-Truesdale School. Jan Bobolz has two kids and their names are Bob and Jill. Her husband’s name is Randy. Jan Bobolz has been teaching here for 31 years. She has three grandchildren and their names are Megan, 7, Brady, 4, and Peyton is 2. She will miss the students and teachers. When Jan Bobolz retires she is going to spend time with her grandchildren and do some projects. Her son Bob, his wife Keisha, and their daughter Peyton live in Mason City. They are both teachers. Her daughter Jill and her children Megan and Brady live in Spencer. Jill is a nurse at the Spencer Hospital and a clinic instructor for Iowa Lakes. Jan Bobolz will miss Cyndie’s food. The best memories of AC-T was when they went to the Fort Museum in Fort Dodge, picnics at Olsen Park, and watching children learn to read. She loves to read and wants to keep reading after retiring. We wish her luck and hope she comes to visit often. We will miss her very much. Jan Bobolz loved teaching kids.

Brilliant Bruns *One day a long time ago there was a most wonderful person, she was brilliant and super fantastical and her name was “Brilliant Bruns” (Her real name is Annette Bruns). And she has a husband named Tim, 4 kids, 7 grandchildren and one is on the way. She is a teacher at Albert City - Truesdale School. While she was teaching her 2nd grade class that day, she had an idea . . . her idea was to play with crossword puzzles. So they all played with the crossword puzzles and went out for recess and sang songs. She also used to teach Pre-K, 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Her favorite part about teaching is all the kids. Her favorite thing to teach is Language Arts. That day at lunch they had her favorite foods: Bread and Potatoes. Although she had no plans for summer, all she was going to do was relax and take care of her husband. We will miss “Brilliant Bruns”!* *By Gabby Long*

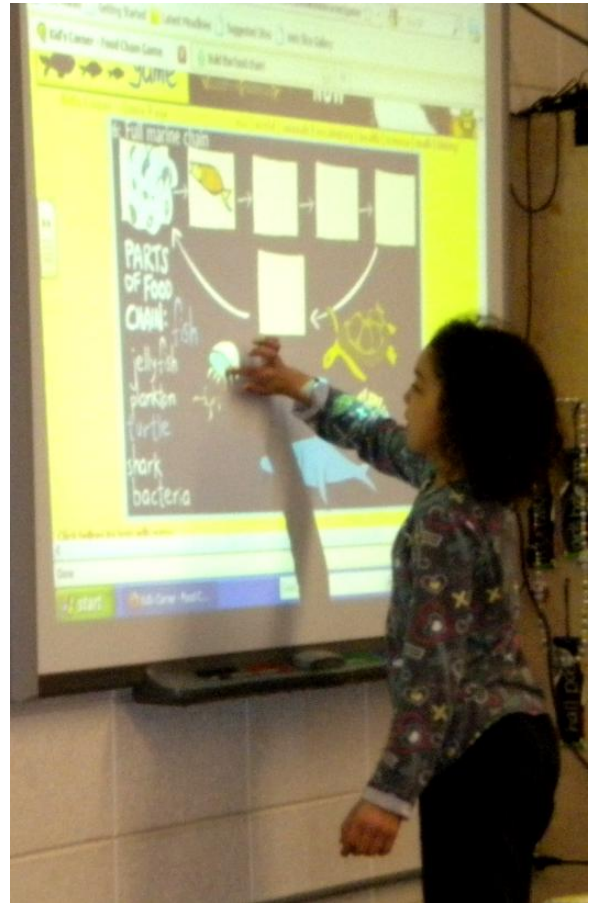
The Field Trip to Sioux City by Kiley Fuchs

For our field trip to Sioux City the third through sixth grades all went. On this trip, we went to the Orpheum Theater and the Sioux City Public Museum. The Orpheum theater was amazing! I think we all liked it! We saw the Peter and the Wolf orchestra and it was awesome! The museum was my favorite part; it had a bunch of cool things to see. I hope that in the future more kids will get to go there also!

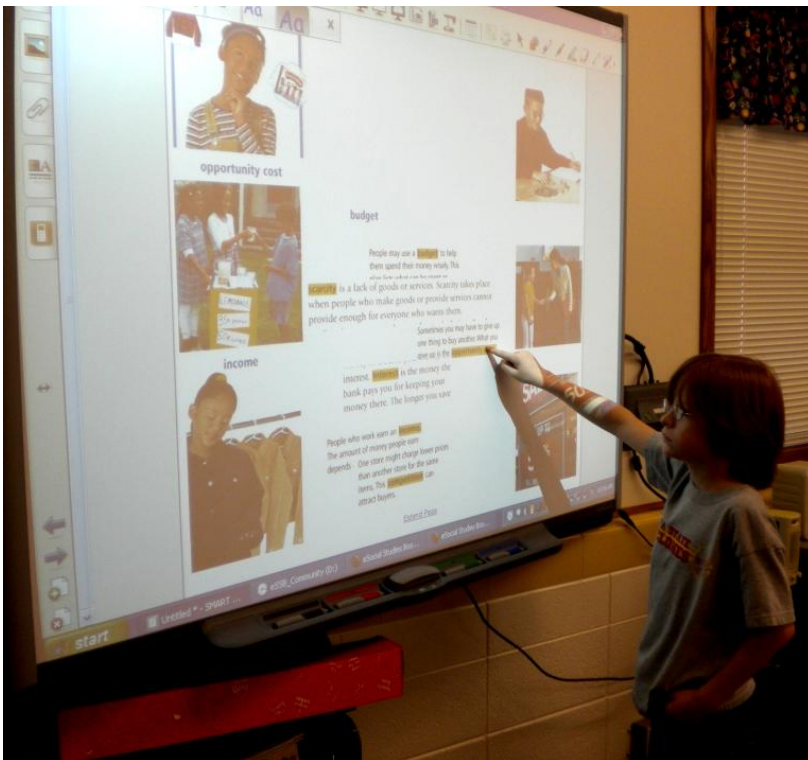
Fun Activities in the 3rd & 4th Classrooms by Ms. Dirks and Mrs. Spragg

3rd & 4th graders with the Smart Board!

The 3rd graders have been working hard to help Mrs. Spragg create some Smart Board lessons for the whole class to use. They are learning how to do everything from typing words, taking pictures, grouping items, infinite cloning and much more! This has been quite the learning experience.



The 4th graders have enjoyed some interactive websites this year that can be used on the Smart Board. They have used websites that have math, social studies, science, and more! The students were able to use a really neat website that allowed them to put the food chain in order.



DISSECTION TIME!!!!!!

The 3rd and 4th graders had a special visitor on Valentine's Day. Chris Bean, Abby's mom, came once again this year to dissect some hearts with us. She started by reviewing and teaching some important facts about the heart. Then we got to dive right in!!! A fun time was had by all. 😊 Thanks Chris!!!!!!



READING BUDDIES BY CRYSTAL JOHNSON

Here at AC-T we have reading buddies. The sixth grade reads with the preschoolers, the fifth grade reads with kindergarten, the fourth grade reads with the second grade, and the third grade reads with the first grade. It is a lot of fun reading with the preschoolers, they are really cute! I like having reading buddies every year so you get a chance to read with different grades. Sometimes when we read with our reading buddies we get to have treats.

Fund Raising By: Leslie Salazar

This year the Student council has decided to raise money for recess equipment. So far the student council has raised \$750. The student council does one thing each month to raise money. Some items they have decided to raise money for are a tire swing, Hula Hoop, snow molds, butterfly nets, and lots of other fun stuff.

Spring Musical By: Shera Smith

At 7 p.m. on May 15th the Albert City-Truesdale school will be having the spring musical. They will be performing "Disney's The Aristocats Kids." The musical is about Duchess, Marie, Gabrielle, and Toulouse that are kidnapped by Edgar and their adventure to get back home to their owner Madame in Paris, France. Before the musical starts, the 5th and 6th grade bands will play some songs. After that the Preschool through Second grades will sing some songs. The 5th and 6th grade classes will have the main parts in the musical. The younger grades will be cats and dogs. Some of the songs that are in the musical are "Everybody wants to be a cat" and "Scales and Arpeggios." All of the songs are fun and interesting. The musical is about 30 minutes long. I hope you will come!

News from the 6th Grade

Get To Know Our Sixth Graders

Kiley Fuchs Interview

By Lainnie Miller

I interviewed Kiley Fuchs; a 12 year old female. I asked Kiley what her favorite animal was. She said a squirrel was her favorite animal. I also asked her who her best friends were. She loves playing soccer with Gabby, Crystal, Hannah, Mercedes, Leslie, and Emma. I also asked Kiley what do you like to do after school? She likes to go to a friend's home or watch TV. I also asked Kiley if she likes going to school each day if so what are her favorite subjects. She said yes and she likes math the most. She has two sisters: Addisyn and McKenna and her parents are Tim and Melanie Fuchs. Kiley likes the Hawkeyes. Her favorite thing to do in the summer is going swimming. Her favorite colors are blue, green, and purple. She is looking forward to next year at Sioux Central and not seeing her sisters in school. I think you should get to know Kiley Fuchs.

All About Makayla

BY HANNAH JOHNSON

Makayla is a 6th grade student at AC-T. She is 11 years old and loves to be in school. She is the daughter of Chad and Julie Bjork and has three siblings: Mallory, Madelyn and Maxwell. Her favorite meal here is chili and cinnamon rolls and cinnamon roll casserole. Her favorite project we have done so far is the black and white race role play. This involves three days getting to see what it was like to be black or white in the 1930s, in which we have separate drinking fountains, have to go to lunch very last (black), and the restroom last (black). Her favorite colors are lime green, hot pink, all the pretty blues, purple, yellow, and neon colors. Her favorite animals are horses and cows. She has 5 or 6 animals on her farm and she loves to talk to them and read books when she is bored. Her favorite books are the Left Behind series and the Mandy series. She also likes to watch movies. Her favorite movies are 101 Dalmatians 1 and 2 and

Facing the Giants. Her favorite teams are the Broncos, the Hawkeyes, and SOMETIMES ISU. She likes the Hawkeyes the best and if they are playing ISU she goes for the Hawkeyes. Some day in the future she wants to paint her room with black chalkboard paint and neon splats. You should totally get to know Makayla.

THOR NIELSON

BY CARTER BECKMAN

Thor Nielson is one of my best friends at AC-T. He is the son of Mark and Angie Neilson and has two siblings: Sven and Suneva. He loves to play basketball. His favorite meal here at AC-T is chili, cinnamon rolls, and pears. He is going to miss the lunches and teachers here at AC-T. When he grows up he wants to attend Annapolis Naval Academy-GO NAVY!!!! He is looking forward to go to Sioux Central. He isn't too excited about the Mac books next year though. His friends here are Gabby Long, and Carter Beckman. His friends at Sioux Central are Trey Blomberg, Chase Birdsall. He is very excited about going to Sioux Central!

Do You Know Gabby Long?

By: Makayla Bjork

Gabby Long is a Sixth Grade Student at AC-T. She is a good student, and a good friend. Her favorite animal is a monkey, and I think it is a good choice for her. She even has a bit of the same personality as a monkey. A crazy, fun, loving, and a "Hanging Round" type of personality. (It is kind of like a monkey.) Gabby's favorite color is Lime Green. Her favorite subjects in school are Math and P.E. She is in TAG. The TAG group just won History Day, and they get to go to State. She really likes to play video and computer games. The games that she likes the most are Xbox 360 MW3 and Sims 3. "Zombie Land" is her favorite movie, and "The Guinness Book of World Records 2012" is her favorite book. If Gabby could be an animal, she said that she would be a Siberian

Husky. Her friends in school are Crystal, Kiley, Hannah, Makayla, Shera, Leslie, Thor, and Carter. Mrs. Wenell and all the other teachers are her favorite. Gabby loves Cinnamon Roll Casserole. Her favorite things to do here are to play outside, P.E., and Keyboarding. If Gabby could change something about the school or improve it, she would get new books, and some new subjects. Gabby's family is really big! She has 9 people in her family which includes Sam, Curtis, Marcy, Garrett, Kathy (mom), Russell, Melissa, Shanaz, and Chris.

Gabby is going to be included in the sports of softball and soccer. She likes to hang out with her friends, and playing video games for fun. When Gabby goes to Sioux Central, she looks forward to getting a computer and the teachers. This year, Gabby is looking forward to the Des Moines overnight field trip. We also get to play Laser Tag this year. This is a little summary on Gabby Long. You should get to know her more!

Hannah's Interview

By: Leslie Salazar

Hannah is the daughter of Chris and Sarah Johnson and Becky Johnson and she has two siblings, Shelby and Micah. She likes the color lime green. Her favorite book is Tuck Everlasting. Her favorite subject in school is math, and her favorite animal is a dog. When Hannah gets home from school she likes to play video games. Her favorite game is pac-xon. Hannah's friends are Makayla, Leslie, Mercedes, Crystal, Shera, and Haylee. Hannah is looking forward to Sioux Central because there are bigger classes and new subjects. What she is going to miss at AC-T is Cyndie's cinnamon rolls and the teachers.

Invention Convention by Mercedes Unger

This year the students did not attend an Invention Convention. Their invention had to be sent in by February 8th. There were 5 students from AC-T this year. They were Shelby Johnson, Ethan Baack, Sam Long, Sami Hays, and

Abby Bean. They all enjoyed it and would like to do it again. The students learned that things don't always work the first time, and you need to be patient. They also learned about the magnetic pull as well as lots of other inventors too. No one qualified for State, but I think they all did a great job. They are looking forward to it next year!

Our New Custodian by Brandon Demers

Our new AC-T custodian, Jeff Jones, starting working at our school on Wednesday, March 7th, 2012. I asked him what he thought of our school building. He said he loves working here with the students and staff, but the very first day he got lost when working here! I asked him if he had been a custodian before. He said this was his first time doing this kind of work, and had previously worked in sales. His hours at school are currently 10 am to 6 pm.

Jeff grew up nearby in Varina, IA. He has one brother and two sisters. His family now consists of his wife, Abby, son Brody (a 1st grader here at AC-T), daughter Kaitlyn, 14 (Sioux Central), son Dallas, 16 (Sioux Central), and son Jordan, 19 (Sioux Central Graduate). He lives in Albert City at 3rd St. N. They also have a fat cat, Turbo.

His favorite thing to do is to play his electric or acoustical guitar. He also likes to sing. His wife, Abby, is an oil painter. She also teaches painting classes at the Albert City Public Library.

He is extremely happy to live and work in Albert City. His mother and grandmother were music teachers. Jeff loves to hang out with his family and go to his children's music concerts. We are happy to have Jeff Jones work in our building and want to welcome him to AC-T! Please feel free to come and meet Jeff here at our school.

Recycling by Thor Nielson

Here at AC-T we like to recycle. Every room here has recycling and we recycle both cans and paper. It goes to Rowley Landfill (Buena Vista Landfill). Arny Grows picks up the trash. He can carry it all in one load. He picks it up twice a week. We have four recycling bins here; one in the West wing, one in the East wing, another in the North wing, and one in the T section of the school.



The Little Hurricane Relays will be held May 11, 2012 at the football field in Albert City. Pre-K-2nd grade will be participating in their events from 9:30-10:30 a.m. and Grades 3-6 will hold their events at 1:30-3:00 p.m. The rain date is May 14, 2012.

News from the Administration- by Barb Kady

Your Albert City-Truesdale students continue to achieve at high levels! When looking at achievement trends over the past 8 years, 86.84% of the AC-T students in grades 2-6 scored at or above proficiency levels on the math portion of the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (recently renamed the Iowa Testing Program). In addition, over the past 8 years, 84.46% of students scored at or above proficiency levels in reading! We are proud of the achievement levels our students have attained. AC-T faculty and staff are deeply committed to helping each student achieve to the highest possible level.

We also wish to congratulate the sixth grade students who recently competed in the area History Day activities. Carter Beckman, Makayla Bjork, Gabby Long, and Shera Smith presented a documentary on Carrie Chapman Catt and her role in the Women's Suffrage movement. These students earned the right to participate at the state level this spring! We are proud of their achievement and also congratulate their Talented and Gifted Instructor, Mrs. Laura Sievers. We would also like to congratulate the 13 AC-T students who are members of the Sioux Central Honor Society.

In addition to these achievements, we look forward this spring to the 3rd and 4th grade plays, the school musical and band concert, the Little Hurricane Relays, numerous field trips, and the sixth grade graduation ceremony. We would encourage and invite each of you to attend the special programs presented by our students!

Many of you have probably heard or read about the Governor's Blueprint for Education Proposal, released in January of this year, and now under consideration by our state government. The proposal includes 25 separate items. Many of these items will not be enacted in the coming year, but may be implemented over the course of the next several years. Some aspects of the proposal, in my opinion, need further study and input from educators in the field. I also believe some of the contents of the governor's proposal have the potential to help educators to provide students with an education that will best prepare them for the future. The process of educational reform at the state level is a monumental task – one that will take time, manpower, and resources to carry the proposal forward. Curriculum reform has been in progress for several years in all Iowa school districts via the Common/Iowa Core Curriculum. This work will continue. Your AC-T faculty will be collaborating with educators in seven area school districts next year for four professional development days. The goal of this work is to provide the opportunity for teachers to meet with peers who are teaching at the same grade levels or subject areas to study research based instructional practices that will help to prepare students for successful futures. The world we live in is ever-changing, and as educators we must continually seek to align our instruction with the changes our students will encounter in the world. Technology is an important piece of that instruction, and students at AC-T are provided technology integrated instruction in numerous ways.

The process for assessment is also part of the governor's proposal. State assessments are to be aligned with the state and national core curriculum by 2014. There are also requirements for college entrance exams for high school students, and prekindergarten assessments for four year olds. We anticipate some significant changes to current assessment practices in the coming years. Your AC-T students have traditionally done very well when compared with students across the state and nation. We would expect no change to that with the changes that are forthcoming to the evaluation process.

Your AC-T faculty and staff do a phenomenal job of educating our students and you can be assured that tradition will continue as we move to the next level of educational excellence in the district and State of Iowa.