



# The Hurricane



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Albert City-Truesdale Community School Newsletter

June/July/August 2017

## 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter – by Mrs. Voyles, AC-T Principal

During the 2016-2017 school year our students made tremendous growth in all areas. One of the areas that I enjoy watching the most is in their growth in their character. At AC-T our staff works very hard to not only teach our students how to read, write, be mathematicians, etc. they also teach the children to work well with others while being respectful. There are times our students struggle, but this provides our students the opportunity to continue to grow and learn. Our goal is to encourage students in all areas of their lives to be productive citizens. I can't wait to see how all of these students are able to contribute to our world and community as they continue to grow.

During the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter we had another round of Super Achievers who were recognized for all of their hard work. I love having the opportunity to recognize these students each week for their work. I have included a picture of our 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Super Achievers.



The end of the year becomes very busy with all of the field trips that our students have the opportunity to take part in. This spring our Preschool and Kindergarten students had the opportunity to visit a dairy in Lemars and learn where the milk for their ice cream treat at the end of was made. Our Preschool through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students spent a day at the conservation center in Sac County learning about different parts of nature. This year our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade spent a day in Des Moines at Living History Farms. They had a great trip which helped to tie together their Iowa History unit that they were studying in school. At AC-T, we feel very blessed for all of the donations of pop cans, Box Tops, and Hy Vee receipts that allow for all of these great field trips. Thank you to everyone for your donations!







This year we had 14 students participate in our 6<sup>th</sup> grade graduation as they prepared to move on to Sioux Central. Many of the students gave speeches during the ceremony that allowed for them to reminisce about their time at AC-T. Overall, the theme of the speeches included the number of wonderful teachers we have at AC-T who have made a difference in their lives, as well as the great experiences they were provided. As the students end the school year and head to Sioux Central next year I wish them good luck and hope for their great success as they finish out their school careers. I am very proud of the students and young adults they have

turned into. I know you will continue to make us proud! Please help me in congratulating Jenna Abbas, Andrew Anderson, Gregory Anderson, Sarah Christensen, Braeden Cormany, Erin Daly, Trevor Ehlers, Preston Harder, Berkley Johannsen, Taylor Melby, Makinzie Miller, Angel Pineda, Emily Salazar and Reagan Wolff on their transition to Sioux Central.

At this time of year, I like to reflect on the amazing volunteers that we have who spend time with us. This year we had dads volunteer over 200 hours of time to create a very successful Watch DOGS program. Our dads each volunteer a day or two of their time to spend the day at school working with students, playing at recess and enjoying lunch with the students. We will continue this program again next year, so if you would like to participate, watch for more details about the kick off date in the fall.



For the last several years, we have also had friend readers come to school to read with our younger students. We are very appreciative to these wonderful volunteers who give of their time. I figure that they have volunteered over 180 hours this school year alone reading with our students! This is a huge blessing to our students.



I know I could go on and on with all of the great things that we have going on at AC-T. I will end with wishing you each a wonderful summer. Enjoy the break and the extra time you get to spend with the students of AC-T!

# School Update by Rob Olsen, Superintendent

Summer is upon us and we hope everyone is enjoying their summer!

## Albert City Athletic Fields

We are very fortunate to have the ball fields at our north complex that will be used by Sioux Central JH and Albert City little league this summer. Improvements have been made to the concession building between the 2 fields as well as some other improvements to prepare the area for this summer. The smaller south diamond will not be used for little league games this year.

## Summer Work

The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of our abatement that started last summer, is the removal of the ceiling on the west 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.

In addition to the work described above, there will be some concrete replaced around the building as well as some new concrete on the east side of the building to be used for the bus pick-up area and for parking. Our main gym will also be receiving a facelift. The gym floor will be sanded down to the wood, repainted, and resealed.

## School Sale

We want to thank everyone who was able to attend our school sale on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> in an effort to reduce the amount of equipment and supplies we are no longer utilizing in the district. The School Board took a tour of the building last fall to observe the items no longer being used and made a decision to have a sale so our patrons could use the equipment and items we no longer are using. All the proceeds from this sale went to PACT, our parent organization, to be used for the purchase of playground equipment or something else that all students can use and enjoy.

## ***The Little Hurricane Relays*** ***BY MS. KELLY WOLFF***

On Wednesday, May 24, we held the Little Hurricane Relays. This year I decided to do something different by having all the events in the afternoon. I think it worked well for everyone, students, teachers and parents to have it at this time. PreK-2 participated in the shuttle run, 50 yard dash, and the ball kick. Older students had the opportunity to do 4 events from running various dashes, long jump, football throw, and softball throw. This day is all about fun, team building, and sportsmanship; which was demonstrated throughout the afternoon. AC-T has some excellent athletes and this was a great way to show just how good they were. I look forward to working next year's relays.



# Don't Let the Summer Pull You Back

By Mrs. Christina Balder

It's summertime!! At the end of the each school year we say the same things, "Make sure your child reads this summer. Practice math skills." There is a reason we say this. It's called summer learning loss and it's been measured in a variety of studies. (2011-2013 Gwen Dewer, Ph.D.) Kids forget their lessons when they take long breaks from school.

The average student loses more than two months' worth of knowledge of mathematics.(Cooper 1996) Set aside some time to review math concepts and practice computational skills. Kids can retain specific math facts over the summer when you review with them every 2 weeks. This is helpful, but it is important to engage your children in problems and questions that inspire them to experiment and explore. Games and experiences that make kids count, measure, and compare quantities are very helpful. Playful intellectual problems and puzzles can keep their math brains active this summer.

Reading skills suffer too during the summer, but not as much if kids continue to read. What concepts have your child already mastered? What skills does he/she need to develop next? Teacher feedback and report cards will give you some of these answers, but so does personal, one-on-one time with your child. Reading is an excellent way to keep your child's mind active during the summer months.

This summer, make a commitment to have your child read every day. Read with your child, read to your child, and have your child read to you. This summer, make a commitment to have your child use mathematical concepts daily. For

example: There are 8 ants on the sidewalk, 4 more ants come. How many ants in all? I caught 11 fireflies. I put 6 in a jar and let the rest go. How many fireflies did I let go? What would happen if...? The possibilities are endless!



Dr. Seuss said, "You have Brains in your Head. You have Feet in your Shoes. You can Steer yourself any Direction you Choose." So AC-T students keep up the good work! Show us what you can do! Parents, enjoy your time with your children. Make each day a wonderful memory.

# Nurse Notes

Happy summer! I'm thankful to have spent another great school year with our students. Here are a few reminders for the next couple of months...

Immunizations: Now is a great time to make that summer appointment to see your doctor, if you haven't already! Call to make your appointments now, if you haven't already. It is far easier to do this right away in June, rather than scrambling to get an appointment in August! Students who will be in Pre-K or Kindergarten next fall need to have certain immunizations in order to attend. Incoming K students received a letter from me listing what vaccines are needed, if any. All 7<sup>th</sup>-grade students need to have their Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) vaccine updated and receive a meningitis vaccine before they start school in the fall. Please visit with your healthcare provider about any vaccines your child may need. Nationally, immunizations provide protection against millions of potential illnesses, hospitalizations and deaths, so it is important to keep those up-to-date!

Pre-K: All incoming PK students must have a physical exam by a doctor, and have that provider fill out the form that is required. Please contact me or the school office if you need that form.

Dental and Vision Checks: All Kindergarten students are required to have a dental screen. Dental offices have that form available, so please ask your dentist to fill that out. Incoming K and 3<sup>rd</sup>-grade students need to have a vision screen; likewise, your eye doctor has that form and can complete it at the time of your appointment. However, all students should see their dentist and eye doctor every year, and summer is a great time to get those scheduled!

Medications: Any students who need to take medication at school must have parent permission to do so. This applies to prescription and over-the-counter meds, whether taken the whole year or short-term. There is a "Medication Consent Form" that needs to be filled out and signed before we can administer any meds at school. This form is available on the school website, in the bottom right, under "Student Resources". Please remember that all meds must be brought to and from school by an adult, never by a student, and only in the original container or packaging.

Head Lice: Please make it a habit to check the head of every household member weekly for 15 minutes. Lice don't take summers off! Continue to remind your children not to share anything that comes in contact with the head.

Be sure to practice summer safety with all of your activities, especially near water and in the sun. Use sunscreen (apply sunscreen first if also using insect repellent) and make sure all family members drink plenty of water!

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's health or the requirements for school. I'm happy to speak with you anytime. Have a wonderful summer break!

Julie Olson, RN  
AC-T School Nurse  
843-5416 ext. 272 [nurse@albertct.k12.ia.us](mailto:nurse@albertct.k12.ia.us)

# It's Been A Great Year in 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

## By Mrs. Rebekah Spragg

This year we have had lots of fun learning!

In Social Studies, we learned all about the history of the United States. Our favorite activity was bartering like the Native Americans did in the past. The class learned about our city, state, and national government.



In Science, we loved dissecting pigs and frogs. Mrs. Spragg also dissected a shark, snake, eyeball, heart, kidney, brain, and starfish. We learned about the different systems of the human body and compared them to different animals. Our magnet and electricity unit was shocking! We learned about the Van de Graff generator and put together our own circuits. Mrs. Spragg showed us how magnetism and electricity work together in motors and electromagnets. Miss Ehlers, our student teacher, taught us all about rocks, minerals, and fossils. We even made our own fossils! We researched animals and made animal posters to present to our class.

During Math, we learned how to explain our thinking when solving problems. Our lessons had many games and activities with manipulatives to help us learn concepts. We really enjoyed working with partners and being challenged. Now we know how to multiply and divide. We also loved our geometry and fraction units!





We learned to use our Reading strategies in every subject. Our room is filled with books, and we have enjoyed reading many different genres and authors. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade plays were so much fun for us! We learned how to speak clearly with expression. We also learned how to write in cursive this year. Now we can sign our own name! We really enjoyed writing our own sequels of Sarah, Plain and Tall.

We were lucky to have sponsors pay for us to go to the circus. We also went to a Safety Day Camp. One of our favorite trips was to the Wellness Center. We earned this trip for working so hard this year and doing so well on our Iowa Assessments!

## *AC-T 6<sup>th</sup> Graders Participate in Special Events*

**By Mrs. Laura Sievers**

Eight Albert City – Truesdale 6th graders – Erin Daly, Angel Pineda, Reagan Wolff, Taylor Melby, Jenna Abbas, Makinzie Miller, Andrew Anderson and Gregory Anderson, participated in the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Spring Honor Choir Festival at MOC-Floyd Valley High School on Tuesday, April 18. 300 students from Northwest Iowa schools held afternoon rehearsals and performed a concert that evening. A 7<sup>th</sup> grade honor choir was also part of the festival.



Berkley Johannsen and Makinzie Miller presented their group exhibit at the State History Day event in Des Moines on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. This year's theme was "Taking a Stand in History", and the girls chose to research the Cherry Sisters, a vaudeville act from Iowa known for being "so bad they were good". The sisters were some of the first people in the United States to sue for libel, and their case is still referred to in courts today. Support for History Day comes from the Sundholm Foundation.

## Technology at AC-T by Mrs. Julie Bjork

We are blessed at AC-T to have awesome technology to use and learn from! The students and I enjoy exploring wonderful websites using our student laptops, amazing apps on our iPads, and super resources on the Smart Boards and Smart Tables! We start our year learning about Internet Safety from the characters from the NetSmartz program. Monthly we revisit this topic as we view the video of the month and discuss the topic addressed. All the students have worked on various coding websites to encourage their logic and problem solving skills utilizing linear thinking. They are so proud when they can advance to the next level having solved the challenge presented. We also enjoy being creative and exploring art and writing websites. Students just love to have the opportunity to bring their ideas to life! We also work on learning the life skill of touch-typing on a laptop. We work on accuracy, memorization of the key placement, and speed that comes with continued practice! We use the online program Typing Pal that is available for them to continue to practice on during the summer months. Another focus we have is working on getting familiar with common computer programs and skills such as the Microsoft Office family, Internet Browsers (Firefox, Chrome and IE) and searching for information online wisely using Google. The 6<sup>th</sup> graders this year also started working with Google Docs and Adobe Spark for online creation and sharing. This is just a sampling of some of the Terrific Technology that has been occurring at AC-T! Go Hurricanes!

## *EMILY SALAZAR* BY JAZMIN DURAZO

She has 5 members in her family. Her parents are Quince and Miguel Salazar and her sisters are Ana and Leslie. Emily's best friend is Berkley. She has 3 pets: 2 little kittens named Lucy and Coco and a rabbit. Her favorite hobby is jumping on her trampoline and going to the pool when it is open in the summer. Her favorite color is orange. She loves to feed her pets and her favorite thing in Iowa is Albert City. She is funny, nice and good friend.

❖ Registration is Monday, August 7<sup>th</sup> (10:00am-6:00pm) at AC-T.

*We have still have openings for our FREE Full-Time Preschool!*

❖ The Back to School Open House for parents and students will be Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5:00pm-6:00pm.

❖ The first day of school is Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8:15 am - 3:20 pm.

❖ Contact the AC-T office with any questions! 712-843-5416



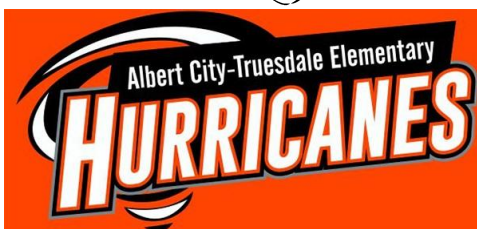
# AC-T Elementary Spring Concert



## 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Plays



## Little Hurricane Relays



# THE HURRICANE

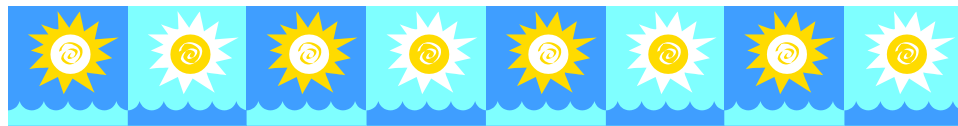
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## Summer Vacation

