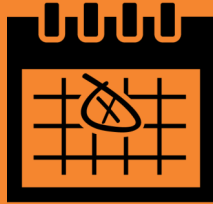


SACAJAWEA ELEMENTARY
 PHONE: 360-313-2750
 FAX: 360-313-2751
 ATTENDANCE LINE:
 360-313-1434

Skyhawk Extra



DECEMBER 16, 2016



Key Dates

December & January

- 12/19-** NO SCHOOL
- 1/2** Winter Break
- 1/9** 1 Hour Early Release
- 1/10** PTA Board Meeting
- 1/16** NO SCHOOL - MLK Day
- 1/20** Movie Night
- 1/23** 1 Hour Early Release
- 1/30** Self Manager Assembly



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PRINCIPAL'S CORNER by Travis Bond

A New Year's Resolution: Attendance

I wish each and every one of you a safe and restful holiday season. As we wrap up 2016 and begin 2017 it is time to reflect on this past year. One area of pride for Sacajawea is our attendance. At the end of the 2015-16 school year our school wide attendance rate was a dismal 73%. This summer we came together as a school and made attendance our priority. Put simply, if students are not at school they cannot learn. Thanks to the efforts of the Sacajawea community our current attendance rate is 89.5%. Our school wide goal is 90% of students at school for 90% of the year.

Our goal for each student is 5 or fewer absences for the school year. Our school saying is "LESS THAN 5! STRIVE FOR 5!"

As you look ahead to the new year and consider making goals for yourself, why not help your student make a resolution as well? Talk with your student about what a resolution is. Share resolutions that you may have made in the past. Ask them if they have any they might want to make.

One of the main goals of this is to give students an understanding of things they have control over in their lives. You can help empower them to take ownership of their choices and start making big changes. Spend some time looking at the kinds of resolutions people make. You might want to brainstorm a list of possible resolutions on paper and divide them into categories.

Once students have explored some possibilities, have them choose at least one resolution for the new year. Explain how to turn a resolution into a goal. One of the reasons some resolutions fail is because they aren't specific or measurable. If a

person resolves to "eat healthier," that's hard to measure and hard to track. Teach students how to take a vague resolution like "give my dog more attention" and turn it into a specific, measurable goal like "spend 10 minutes a day petting and playing with my dog." If a resolution is something more complex and long-term, like "learn how to cook," have students think about what they would need to do to be successful. Perhaps your student can decide how many recipes they'd like to learn and set a deadline for learning them.

Show students how to track their goals. Explain to students that people generally have a greater chance of meeting their goals if they keep track of their progress. Because students will have different kinds of goals, they will need different approaches to tracking these goals. If the goal is improved attendance, you can use the tracker in this newsletter.

Provide time to reflect, monitor progress and celebrate. Plan a time for your student to do a written reflection on the progress they have made. Have them consider how well their plan is going, what factors may be getting in their way, or how the new changes are impacting their quality of life. When your student reaches their goal, or shows improvement, CELEBRATE!

If you don't have any ideas for resolutions, school attendance is a great one. Together we can build the foundation for successful learners.

Sincerely,

Travis Bond,
Principal



BOOKANEER BOOK FAIR

Sacajawea Elementary is very proud to announce that some of our teachers have been the recipients of grant funding from Farmers Insurance! In October and November 2016, the following Sacajawea Elementary teachers were the lucky recipients of grant funding: Nikki Andres-Bye, Darby Stromberg, Katelyn Koenig, Jenay Conner, Heidi Venema, Abigale Wright, Kelsey Day, and Madonna Underland. Grant funding applicants for the month of December are: Anndrea Eagle, Margaret Meddaugh, and Mary Allmaras. This incredible opportunity will allow these teachers to purchase some much needed items to help them do what they do best, TEACH! Farmers Insurance is committed to education, and they know a great education starts with teachers! If you happen to see these wonderful educators in the halls at Sacajawea, make sure to congratulate them and don't forget to thank your friendly Farmers agent!



DISABLED PARKING

Please DO NOT PARK IN THE DISABLED PARKING SPACES when you are picking up and dropping off your students. These spots are reserved for visitors with disabled parking permits ONLY. Thank you for saving these spots for those who need them.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to Karie Rinker McCormick and Eric Bindewald for all of their hard work on the Bookaneer Book Fair. Also, a BIG thank you to Lora Harrell, Brandi Dymont, Karie Rinker-McCormick, and Teddy Raines for planning our Goodies with Grandparents event. It was a huge success! And lastly, thank you to everyone who participated in our Book Giving Tree this year for Sacajawea families in need. We appreciate all of you!



VISIT SARAH J. ANDERSON AND GAISER MIDDLE SCHOOLS

On Friday, January 20, Vancouver Public Schools Superintendent Steve Webb will host the second patron tour of the 2016–2017 school year. The tour will provide an in-depth look at the award-winning Sarah J. Anderson Elementary and Gaiser Middle School.

At Anderson, which was named the state's only Innovative School of 2015, visitors will tour a kindergarten classroom and see the Spanish/English dual language program. They'll also visit a fifth-grade classroom, where every student is using a take-home iPad to expand his or her learning.

Visitors will be treated to a video technology class at Gaiser Middle School, and discover how students there learn how to meet behavioral expectations. Also on the tour: an overview of the science offerings and environment-friendly practices that earned Gaiser the Green Ribbon School designation from the U.S. Department of Education in April 2016.

The free tour will begin and end at the Bates Center for Educational Leadership, 2921 Falk Rd. The tour starts at 8:30 a.m. and concludes at 1 p.m. After visiting Anderson and Gaiser, guests have the option of enjoying a student musical performance and delicious lunch prepared by culinary arts students. Lunch is available for \$5 per person.

Everyone is welcome, but space is limited. To sign up, call Sue Knable at 360-313-4720, email susan.knable@vansd.org or sign up online at <http://vansd.org/visit-vps>.

ATTENDANCE CALENDAR

August 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2016						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 2016						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2016						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2017						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28				

March 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
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April 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

CHRONIC ABSENCE =
18 absences (10% of school year)
Warning Signs =
10 to 17 absences

My student was present ____ days. My student was absent ____ days.
My goal is to improve my student's attendance. I will ensure my student misses no more than ____ for the rest of the year.

2016-2017 DISTRICT CALENDAR

Vancouver Public Schools 2016-17 Official District Calendar Board Approved: February 23, 2016

July 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 2016						
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28	29	30				

September 2016						
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October 2016						
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November 2016						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

December 2016						
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						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

January 2017						
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						1
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2017						
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						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

March 2017						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

July 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Holidays

Labor Day	September 5
Veterans' Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Break	November 23, 24, 25
Winter Holiday	Dec. 19, 2016—Jan. 2, 2017
New Year's Day, observed	January 2, 2017
Martin Luther King Day	January 16
Presidents' Day	February 20
Spring Break	April 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Memorial Day	May 29
Independence Day	July 4

Student Non-Attendance Days

Inservice Day	October 14
Parent Conference (ES Only)	October 20
Parent Conferences (All)	October 21
Semester Break	January 30
Parent Conferences (MS/HS Only)	April 21

Student Days

First Day of School	August 31
Last Day of School	June 16

2-Hour Early Release Days

October (All)	October 19
October (MS/HS Only)	October 20
April (All)	April 20
April (ES Only)	April 21
Last Two Days of School	June 15, 16

Snow Make-Up Days

June 19, 20, 21 and January 30
Note: Dates listed in priority order. Actual date could change based on timing and number of snow days.

- Board Meetings
- First and Last Day of School
- Student Non-Attendance Days—Holidays
- 2-hour Early Release Days

THIS CALENDAR DOES NOT INCLUDE ONE-HOUR EARLY RELEASES; PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE KEY DATES CALENDAR.