

FYI.....April 14, 2022

No School - Friday, April 15 & Monday, April 18

STATE TESTING (NSCAS Growth) DATES ARE SCHEDULED FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL . . .

for grades 3-8. NSCAS Growth state assessments are given for English Language Arts and Math. Students in fifth and eighth grade also take NSCAS Growth for Science. Students will take the assessments online. Teachers will have specific testing dates and times. Please do not schedule appointments or vacations during this time. As a general practice, we try to avoid testing on Mondays. Please encourage your student to do his/her best on these tests, eat a healthy breakfast (school breakfast is great), and get a good night's sleep.



CALENDAR UPDATE . . . The Board of Education approved some changes to the school calendar. Wednesday, May 11 will no longer be a late start day; it will be a regular start time at 8:15AM at the elementary schools. Friday, May 13 will be the last day of school, with an early out at 11:45AM for elementary students and noon at the high school.

NOROVIRUS "STOMACH FLU" . . . There has been a notable amount of students at the elementary schools out ill with a stomach bug. Norovirus is a very common and contagious virus. It is known commonly as the stomach flu. It is sometimes called the Flu but is not related to the Influenza virus. Symptoms of Norovirus include: stomach cramping and discomfort, diarrhea, vomiting, nausea, sometimes fever, and headache. *If your child starts to feel any of the above symptoms, please keep them home until symptoms are resolved and it has been 24 hours without medication for symptoms. Policy is that the student must be 24 hours free of fever, vomiting and diarrhea before returning to school.*



DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP . . . Our students are exposed to the use of technology in their everyday lives. This can be at home and at school. The most important thing that parents can do to keep their child safe, is to monitor their child's activity when they have access to any form of technology.

As a school, we have seen an increase of TikTok challenges at all grade levels. ***This app is not allowed on school devices.*** Do we really know what this app is and how it is affecting your child at home and/or at school? Please have a conversation with your child about this app and how to use it appropriately. Below is a link that offers answers to many questions you, as a parent, might have. Is TikTok safe? How does it work? It takes all adults in a child's life to help them feel safe not only at home and school, but online as well.

Parents' Ultimate Guide to TikTok: <https://www.common sense media.org/articles/parents-ultimate-guide-to-tiktok>

TEACHER/STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK . . . is May 2nd - 6th. The PTO is organizing some special treats for staff. Please help us celebrate by signing up to bring a treat for our wonderful teachers and staff. To sign up to bring treats to Valparaiso, please click [here](#). To bring treats to Ceresco, please click [here](#).

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER . . . Please ensure that your student is dressed appropriately for the weather. A jacket or coat is required for outdoor recess until the temperature and/or windchill reaches 60 degrees.



PTO SPRING CARNIVAL . . . is Friday, April 22. Attached are the pre-sale carnival punch ticket orders. Paper forms were sent home with students last Friday. Save time by purchasing presale punch tickets, as they will be picked up in a separate line at the door! **We are still looking for volunteers!!** Do you have a high school student at home who would like to be involved? High school students can volunteer to help, too! Check out the [Carnival Sign-Up Link](#) for volunteer opportunities.

MAKE-A-WISH . . . The Junior High Student Council partnered with Make-A-Wish Foundation to raise money to make a difference by hosting a coin drive in the elementary schools. Students brought change with the motivation to win an extra recess for their class. The schools raised over \$800 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation! Congratulations to the Ceresco 4th grade, and Valparaiso 5th grade classes for winning an extra recess!

SHOE DRIVE . . . the Raymond Central Cheerleaders are participating in a fundraiser; there is nothing to buy or sell, all they need is your support and your old shoes. Gently worn, used, and new shoes are being collected over the next 3 weeks and can be dropped off at the following locations: RC High School, Valparaiso School, Ceresco School, CerescoBank, Sweet Pea Market, Jones Bank, and Otte Oil & Propane.

PTO ON SOCIAL MEDIA . . . Don't forget to check the PTO Facebook page for current events and information. A strong and active PTO is a key contributing factor to the success of our students.

FUNDRAISER . . . The last date to order Epicure or Senegence for the PTO fundraiser is April 20. Information was sent home with students last Friday. You can order online, for Epicure go to CandaceJindra.Epicure.com; For Senegence go to <https://senesite.senegence.com/jenivech>

PTO MEETING . . . The next PTO meeting will be Tuesday, May 3 at 7:00PM at the Hot Spot near Raymond. We hope to see you there!

Upcoming Dates . . .

April 15 and 18 - No School

April 20 - Last Day to Order from Senegence & Epicure PTO Fundraiser

April 22 - Spring Carnival at the HS new gym from 5:30-7:30PM

April 27 - Late Start at 10:15AM

April 29 - Plant Sale at Valparaiso Elementary from 5:00-10:00PM

May 3 - PTO Meeting at Hot Spot near Raymond at 7:00PM