



MS Students help beautify Hannen Lake

# Middle School Bobcat Blurb

## Benton Middle School

### Reading....and Good Books

Reading is one of the most beneficial activities a child can pursue. The best way someone can become a better reader is to read. Research shows that reading a minimum of twenty minutes a day will help a student achieve reading gains. Coupled with knowledge and practice of comprehension strategies taught in the classroom, the time spent reading each day becomes even more valuable. This is the main reason eighth grade students are required to read at least thirty minutes a day.

A third important factor in this reading improvement equation is the right book. It has been my experience over the years that if a student

finds a book that he or she enjoys reading, and it is written at the correct reading level for the student, that student can become not only a better reader but a lifetime reader, which is the ultimate goal.

The Iowa Teen Award books, selected by seventh through ninth grade students across the state of Iowa, have proven to be very motivating books. The 2011/ 2012 list is no exception. In April students will vote to recognize the book they believe to be the best one on this list. Please encourage your student to read, whether it is a book on this list or another captivating book. There are plenty of good books out there!

### 2011/2012 Iowa Teen Award List

- After Ever After – Jordan Sonnenblick*
  - All the Broken Pieces – Ann E. Burg*
  - Along for the Ride – Sarah Dessen*
  - Anything but Typical – Nora Raleigh Baskin*
  - The Batboy – Mike Lupica*
  - Beastly – Alex Flinn*
  - Boost – Kathy Mackel*
  - The Last Thing I Remember – Andrew Klavin*
  - Operation Yes – Sara Holmes*
  - Pop – Gordon Korman*
  - Purple Heart – Patricia McCormick*
  - Red Glass – Laura Resau*
  - Sunrise over Fallujah – Walter Dean Myers*
  - Unwind – Neal Shusterman*
  - Woods Runner – Gary Paulsen*
- ~Denise Nottger

## Target – Take Charge of Education

Benton Community Middle School received our “2011 Take Charge of Education” donation check in September. This money will be used to continue to put technology in the hands of our students..

Take Charge of Education donations are accumulated when supporters of Benton Community Middle School make purchases on their REDcard. Target donates up to 1% of these purchases to the eligible K-12 schools. Then each September, Target distributes checks to schools across the country.

To learn more about Take Charge of Education or to make sure your Target card is set up to support Benton Community Middle School visit [Target.com/tcoe](http://Target.com/tcoe)



Thanks for your support of Benton Community Middle School!



### Upcoming Dates

October 5, 2011	1:00 Dismiss (K-12 PD)
October 7, 2011	MS Picture Retake Day
October 19, 2011	No School K-12 PD
October 26, 2011	1:00 Dismiss /End of Term 1
October 27, 2011	Start of Term 2
November 2, 2011	1:00 Dismiss/MS Matinee “Hello Dolly”
November 11, 2011	9:30 a.m. Veteran’s Day Program
November 16, 2011	1:00 Dismiss

### Special points of interest:

*Van Horne Future Green has donated 8 trees and helped the BC Grounds Crew beautify our campus . We appreciate their continued support in making our campus look great and create an outdoor learning environment for our staff and students to utilize.*

