

Benton Middle School

MS Yearbook

Dear Middle School Families,

The Benton Middle School yearbook will go on sale starting Monday, October 31 and remain on sale for three weeks through and including Friday, November 18. The cost will be \$15.

Sheets with the information will be available through seventh grade English teacher, Mrs. Thompson, or eighth grade math teacher, Mr. Carlson. Extras are NOT ordered for these yearbooks. If you want one, it must be paid for in advance and will be delivered to students in May before the end of the school year. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact high school English teacher and yearbook adviser Diane Trostel-Redmond at 228-8701 x214.

Thank you.

Hello, Dolly

The fall musical *Hello, Dolly!* is coming to the Benton Community High School stage on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, November 3, 4, & 5 at 7:00 P.M. Performances will be at the middle/high school auditorium in Van Horne.

Make reservations by calling the school office (319-228-8701, ext. 357). Ticket prices are \$6.00 for adults, and \$5.00 for students and senior citizens.

Hello, Dolly! takes us back to a day when men and women knew their roles and still struggled to figure each other out. Dolly Levi, a matchmaker who meddles with love, ends up finding a match for herself, if she can convince the grumpy Horace Vandergelder that he needs her. Dolly's invincible spirit takes her on some twists and turns, but no one can resist her charm and wit. For an evening of fun and memorable songs, come see Benton Theatre's production of *Hello, Dolly!*

MS Students will watch a matinee performance of *Hello, Dolly* on November 2, 2011 during the school day.

Concert Etiquette

The first Middle School Band/Vocal concert is approaching! On Tuesday, November 22, 2011 at 6:30p.m. in the Middle School/High School auditorium, the Middle School musicians will be presenting their fall concert to the community. This a required concert for all students involved. There will be an admission fee of \$2 for adults and \$1 for students.

As the audience, you are an important part of the concert. The audience's responsibility at concerts is to honor the efforts of the performers by providing a listening atmosphere in which their performance can be appreciated by all. To that end, we ask your cooperation in adhering to the rules of concert etiquette as published by The National Association of Music Education: (www.menc.org).

- ~Mr. Hayden, Mrs. Schmucker, Mrs. Lampkin
- ~Please refrain from talking during the performance.
- ~Do not leave as soon as your child's portion of the concert is over.
- ~Refrain from unwrapping noisy wrappers during the performance.
- ~Turn off pagers, cell phones, and watch alarms.
- ~Do not wave to your child during the concert.
- ~Do not take flash photography.
- Please do not walk down the aisles with your video camera.
- ~Applaud at appropriate times.
- ~Do not leave the auditorium during the performance.
- ~Go to the concert expecting the best.

Benton Scholarship Foundation Soup for Scholars

Nov. 22, 2011
5-7p.m.

Eat & enjoy the concert!

Middle School Bobcat Blurb

Iowa Assessments to be given in November

The Iowa Tests of Basic Skills and Iowa Tests of Educational Development will have several changes in the 2011-12 school year — beginning with the name. "We are going out this year with new versions of our standardized tests, which will be referred to as the Iowa Assessments," said Stephen Dunbar, director of the Iowa Testing Programs in the University of Iowa College of Education.

The Iowa Tests represent a continuum of achievement that measures student progress from K to grade 11. The Iowa Tests measure achievement in core academic areas important for success in college including reading, language arts, mathematics and science. These assessments have been carefully designed using the Iowa Core State Standards, surveys of classroom teachers, reviews of curriculum guides and instructional materials and responses from students.

Family Involvement that can make a difference in how students perform

Here's some information that might be helpful when thinking about helping your child prepare for the Iowa Assessments that will be taken during the month of November:

- See that your child is rested and eats a healthy breakfast.
- Encourage your child to do the best possible work.
- Do not send your child to school if illness is apparent.
- Try to avoid scheduling appoints on testing days (see testing dates below).

Living Healthy and more...

In physical education and health classes we have been talking about being more active and eating more healthy. In this day and age of rising child obesity, I can not stress enough to your son or daughter about being active and eating well. In physical education class they are also doing more jogging/walking at the beginning of physical education classes and trying to work at their target heart rate (220-age). They will take a six second count and multiply by ten to find their target heart rate after they jog the first 5-minutes or more of class. The middle school students also participated in the Start Somewhere Walk that was held on October 7th, not only throughout the state of Iowa but across the country. An interesting link on their website that has some good resources about "Living Healthy" can be found here: <http://www.livehealthyiowa.org/>

Upcoming Dates

Nov. 2, 2011	1:00 Dismiss (K-12 PD)
Nov. 11, 2011	Veteran's Day Program @ 9:30 in MS/HS gym
Nov. 16, 2011	1:00 Dismiss (K-12 PD)
Nov. 22, 2011	MS Concert @ 6:30 p.m. in Auditorium
Nov. 23-27, 2011	No School (Thanksgiving Break)
Dec. 7, 2011	1:00 Dismiss (K-12 PD)

Special points of interest:

- Iowa Assessments will be given in the MS on the following dates: Nov. 1, 4, 9 10, 15, 16, and 17.
- Thanks for all your efforts in your child's education. If you have suggestions about what you'd like to know more about, please send me an email, note or call and I'll try to include that information in our next MS Blurb: jprusha@benton.k12.ia.us 319-228-8701 ext. 351