

Altoona Intermediate School Gr 4 & 5



March 2020



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Absentee Hotline

715-839-6095

AMS Office

715-838-7111

Student Transit

715-839-5116

Food Service

715-839-6056



Andrea Steffen

AIS Principal

Altoona Intermediate School, 715-838-7111 1903 Bartlett Avenue, Altoona WI 54720



National Blue Ribbon School Nominee!!!

I am very excited and proud to announce that the Altoona Intermediate School was nominated for the National Blue Ribbon Award!!! What exactly is this prestigious award? It is an award that the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (Madison, WI) nominates. From the DPI:

“We are nominating these eight schools for the National Blue Ribbon School award because they serve as great examples of our progression toward improving student outcomes across the state,” State Superintendent Carolyn Stanford Taylor said. “I wish these schools and their respective communities well in the next steps of this prestigious national program.”

The eight public schools nominated for Wisconsin are:

- Maple Dale Elementary School, Maple Dale-Indian Hill School District
- Lake Delton Elementary School, School District of Wisconsin Dells
- **Altoona Intermediate School, School District of Altoona**
- Nicolet Elementary School, Menasha Joint School District
- Lake Superior Elementary School, School District of Superior
- Red Apple Elementary School, Racine Unified School District
- Luther Elementary School, South Milwaukee School District
- Thomas Jefferson Elementary School, Wausau School District

Now that we have been nominated, we are in the process of filling out the application, which is quite robust if I say so myself :), which is due in April. From here, the DPI sends the eight schools' applications to the US Department of Education. Schools who are awarded travel to Washington DC in the fall.

While I'm hoping our school is awarded, I am just so proud that we were nominated. We are doing great things in our school. What an honor that this is recognized.

PT Conferences: Thank you! Thank you for once again coming in and meeting with us. We once again have over 98% attendance. The collaboration between home and school means a lot to us. It takes a village to raise our children.

Honoring Mr. Jeff Calkins, Lunch/Recess Supervisor: Please read on for a special message from Mr. Calkins. over



Meet Mr. Calkins, one of our Lunch/Recess Supervisors. Mr. Calkins was diagnosed with brain cancer. As part of his treatment, he carries an OPTUNE machine which transmits low-intensity electric fields from the machine, along wires, to adhesive patches on his head. As you can imagine, our students were curious about this. To say that our students have been warm, caring and supportive would be a **HUGE understatement**. To repay their kindness, Mr. Calkins is creating a gray headband for all students. Brain tumor awareness is represented by the color gray. On March 18th, during lunch/recess time, we will all wear our gray headbands to celebrate the success of his treatments and the caring of our students. Here is a message from Mr. Calkins:



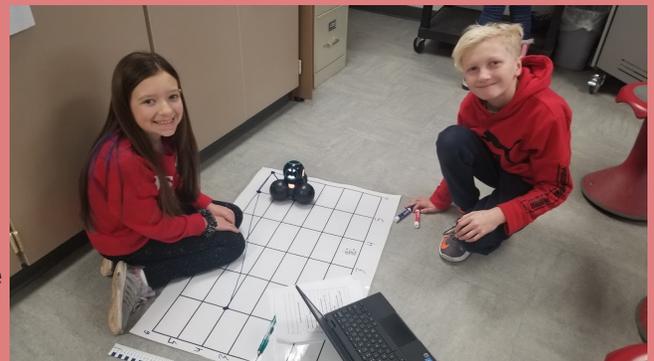
The first day I came to school with my OPTUNE machine on there were a lot of stares and questions to follow. I decided to tell the 4th & 5th graders what was going on. Without going into a lot of detail, a brief explanation was given. They seemed to understand and what followed was something never expected.

They clapped and cheered and the well wishes from them almost knocked me to my knees. Fighting back tears was not going well. Not a day goes by that someone does not ask how I am doing or stating that they hope I get cured. Simply heartwarming to see and hear these kids.

With support from my wife, daughters and grandchildren, I can add 260 more to my support group and am proud to have them.

CUE Robots By Arabella

CUE is a robot who you can make sing, dance, bark like a dog, and more. For CUE I worked with Carter and Novalie. They both were really good partners and we all worked together great! The thing that was the most challenging thing about CUE is that sometimes it takes a lot of tries to get something right. For example, we tried to turn our robot Raven 90 degrees, but he/she didn't even move half the distance we wanted. Overall, it was really fun and I would 100% do it again.



CUE Lesson By Kyle

The CUE is a robot. You use it to program things you want it to do. We used the CUE in math when we learned about angles, measurement and coordinates.. We programmed the robot to go to coordinates that we picked. The Cue is a little hard to work with because when we just want it to stay in one spot, it kept moving around. I had fun working with a partner, well actually I worked in a pod of three because someone was absent. The other two kids I worked with were Jack and Evelyn. Jack is like my best friend and I worked well with Jack and Evelyn.

CUE Lesson By Serena

Cue is a robot that you can code. You can make it move by coding it. For example, if you coded it to go 48 cm., it would move that amount of space. We used Cue to make points on a graph. We would say what amount of space to move and then how to turn to get to the point we wanted it to go to. There was a big graph board that we used to do that. It is hard to use Cue because sometimes we wanted it to go a certain way but it turned the other way because we coded it wrong. Working with a partner is interesting because I usually don't work with partners, so I got to see what it was like to work with one. Overall it was very fun and I learned a lot.





Trip to the Ice Age Center

By Reese T. and Brooke O.



Mrs. Gutsch's fifth grade class went with Mrs. Bain's class to the Ice Age Center in New Auburn, on Tuesday, February 11th. Mrs. Scott and Ms. Baker's classes went on Wednesday, February 12th.

The first thing we did there was snowshoe. Inside the instructor showed us how to put the snowshoes on. After that we put the snowshoes on outside and followed the instructor down the hill. When we were almost down to the pond, he said we could go whichever way we wanted and to meet him at the pond. We had a snowshoe race, and then we went to the other pond. We tried to go up the hill, but it was icy. He told us to meet him over by the pine trees near the road. We took off our snowshoes and played on the hill.

We played historic games like tomahawk throwing and tug of war, and we cut pieces with a cross cut saw. Then it was time for lunch. We ate around the campfire or in a teepee. It was cold and smoky. Some things we did inside the Ice Age Center were dug for fossils, pet a snake, held a turtle, and went on a quest with partners.

They told us if we return with our family there is much much more to do. You can do a scavenger hunt. If you finish the scavenger hunt you can win a prize!!!

It was a great day, and we all had a good time!





Sledding

By: Kimberly L. and Nevaeh R.



The 4th and 5th graders worked hard in January to keep AIS healthy. The goal was to keep a kid, with a paper thermometer healthy. If we had a write up for behavior, a degree on the thermometer was colored in. If we got to 60 degrees, the kid would have a fever, and we could not have the celebration. This celebration was for a sledding party. It was getting close to the end of the month and we were getting close to a fever, but at the end of the month we had...56! So we got the sledding party. Not only did we get to go sledding but the fire department came and supervised a bonfire. At the sledding party we had music, a bonfire, and of course, sledding. It was SO much FUN! That was our sledding party.





Sledding

Student comments when asked what their favorite part of the Sledding Celebration was:
Anikah N. ~ Going down the hill sledding with friends.



Jasmen K.~ Warming up by the fire.
Gracelyn B.~ Going sledding really fast and having fun listening to music



Arabella L.~Going over the bump on the sled!



Wisconsin

By Kimberly L

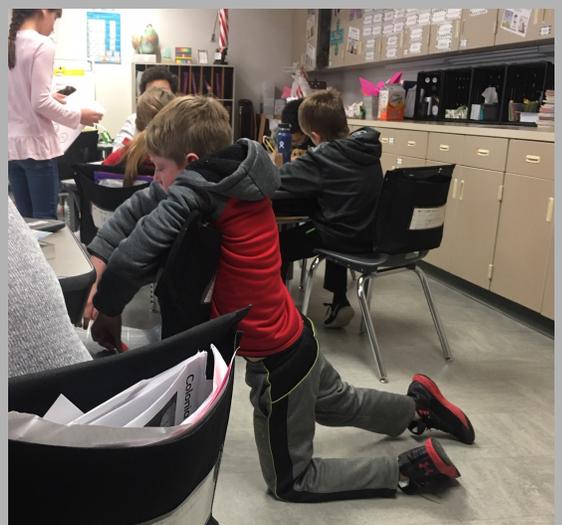
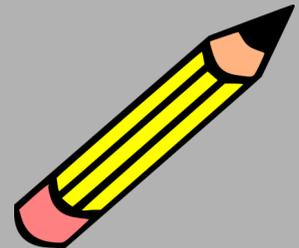
Wisconsin is cold, cold very please.
Wisconsin is warm, very warm oh please.
Wisconsin is windy, very windy indeed.
Wisconsin is chilly, very chilly please.
Wisconsin is cool, oh yes very indeed.
Wisconsin is cheesy, very cheesy indeed!



The Poem

By Jackson P

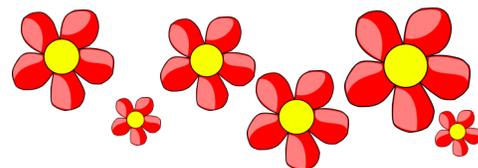
The pencil walks all over the paper,
Every day it says something,
It erases every wrong move,
It runs back and forth,
It doesn't stop moving,
It may break like stick,
But it is very quiet



some days some days
it's just easier to work, or
think, like this



March 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 CCF Bank 7:50-8:15AM	6	7
8 Daylight Savings	9	10	11	12 CCF Bank 7:50-8:15AM	13	14
15	16 Board Meeting 6:30pm	17	18	19 CCF Bank 7:50-8:15AM	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
 No School — Spring Break 						
29	30	31				



UPCOMING DATES:



Thursday, April 9th: Early Release @ 12:35pm

Friday, April 10th: No School

WI Forward Exam Testing: April 13th -17th

Monday, April 20th: 6th gr Parent Info Night 5:30-6:30pm

Thursday, April 23rd: Maker Fair 5-6pm