

"Becoming
Responsible,
Respectful,
Lifelong
Learners"

Something to Celebrate

at Germantown Elementary School

Letter from the Superintendent

*Dear Parents,
Staff, Students,
and Community*



The school year has quickly come and gone. The students worked very hard all year long mastering the skills needed to be successful at the next level. While our PreK through seventh grade students will be returning to Germantown Elementary next school year, our eighth grade students will be moving on

to the high school level. On behalf of the faculty, staff, and Board of Education, I want to wish all of our graduates the best of luck in the future. We are confident they have the tools needed to be successful whether attending Central or Mater Dei. We look forward to hearing about their many successes in the years to come.

While the school will be a little quieter over the summer months with fewer students in and out of the building, we will be very busy preparing for a new school year. This summer, the school will be undergoing a renovation project thanks in large part to an Energy Efficiency Grant that was awarded to the district. Grant funds combined with district funds will be used to cover the cost of the project. Through this project, we will be replacing the windows and glass doors in the original building which was constructed in 1967. By replacing windows that are over four decades old, we will be better served to conserve energy thus cutting down on energy costs.

Replacing the windows poses the

perfect opportunity to replace all of the blinds as well, thus we will be replacing the old vertical blinds with new, more user friendly and eco-friendly roll-a-shades. Upon completion of this project, the school will have a slightly new look to it. The timeline for project completion has yet to be finalized. It will depend upon the availability of material for the project. There is a real possibility this project will extend beyond summer break. Regardless, the students should plan to return for their first day of school on August 18. I will provide regular updates to the website regarding the renovation project.

While summer is a time for students to relax and rejuvenate themselves, it is imperative that they maintain a commitment to reading on a regular basis. Children that engage in only 15 minutes a day of independent reading outside of school can expose themselves to more than a million words of text in a year. One of the best methods to increase intelligence is one of the oldest ones-read more! If children are part of your summer plans, please encourage them to read.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Robin Becker

Germantown Elementary School District #60

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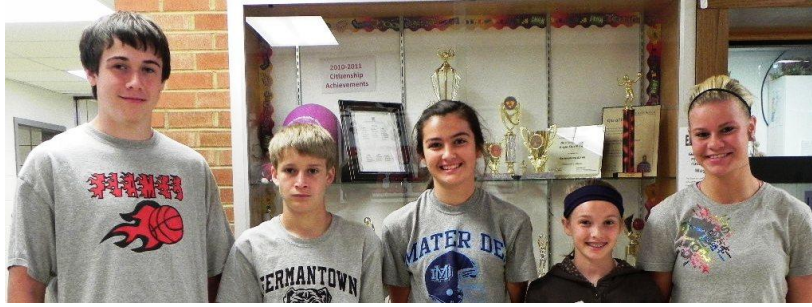
School Board Members

Kathleen Fauke | Denise Haake
Charlene Hemker | Darin Johnson
Mark Kohnen | Jeff Lampe
Gail Theising

Superintendent

Robin Becker

These Germantown track athletes qualified for competition at the State Track Meet.



Volleyball

Only three days after being crowned the Class S Girl's Basketball State Champions, the volleyball team kicked off its season. With the entire season crammed in six weeks, the girls were very busy competing against some of the best competition in the state.

The fifth and sixth grade teams finished with records of 5-8 and 10-5 respectively. Both teams made great progress from the start of the season to the end. The sixth grade team brought its season to a close with a third place finish in the ASA Tournament.

The JV team finished with a winning record of 11-4. They captured 2nd place in the St. Rose Tournament to end the season.

The Varsity team concluded its season with a record of 10-12. They played some of their best volleyball when they beat Nashville and captured the championship of the Germantown Tournament.

Track

The rainy spring weather played havoc on the 2011 track season. Despite the challenges Mother Nature threw their way, Coach Mike Fields and the track team members worked hard in preparation for several track meets

hosted at area schools. Despite our relatively small numbers compared to the bigger schools, the track team was very competitive and ended its season sending five of its members to the State Track Meet. Isaac Gebke qualified in the 800m by finishing 2nd at Regionals. He had a strong finish at State by finishing in 6th place. Ben Lampe qualified in the shot put by placing 2nd at Regionals. He finished 9th at State, just missing a medal. Lexi Hemker qualified in the 100m hurdles by finishing first at Regionals. She won her preliminary heat and finished 4th at State. Olivia Theising qualified in the 800m by finishing 2nd at Regionals. She had a strong finish at State to capture 3rd place. Sophie Kuhl qualified in the 1600m by taking 1st at Regionals. She finished 9th at State.

Athletic Awards Banquet

Germantown Elementary hosted its seventh annual Athletic Banquet on May 4 to recognize the student athletes for their efforts during the 2010-11 school year. After dinner and opening remarks by Athletic Director, Scott Gabler, the coaches recognized the players for their achievements.

Girl's Basketball-Coach Mike Fields
Hustle: Paige Langenhorst
Free Throw: Olivia Theising
Rebounds: Alyx Wilkins
Assist: Maggie Fields
Most Improved: Vivian Albers
MVP: Olivia Theising

Boy's Basketball-Coach Gerard Albers
Hustle: Bryce Beckmann
Free Throw: Garrett Boeckmann
Rebounds: Ben Lampe
Assist: Blake Langenhorst
Most Improved: Parker Albers
MVP: Ben Lampe

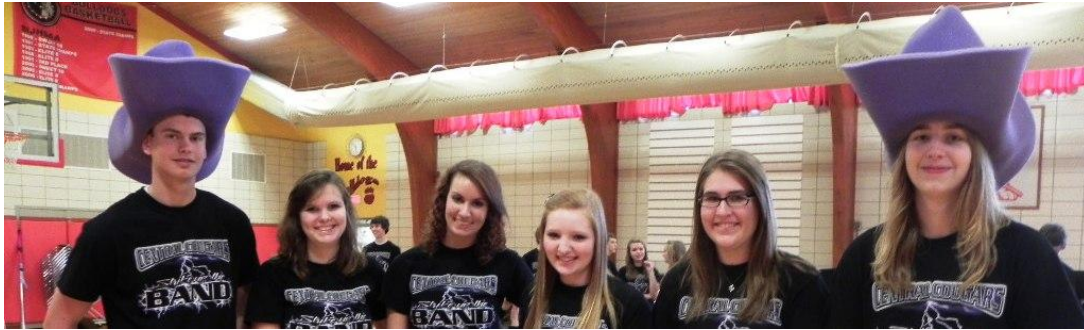
Cheerleading-Coach Tanis Hampton
Most Athletic: Sheridan Jordan
Spirit: Rebecca Hemker

Volleyball-Coach Shannon Kampwerth
Defense: Brienne Hellmann
Serves: Vivian Albers
Hustle: Maggie Fields
Kills: Lexi Hemker
Most Improved: Kenzie Schroeder
MVP: Olivia Theising

Girls Track-Coach Mike Fields
Short Distance: Lexi Hemker
Long Distance: Olivia Theising
Field Events: Maggie Fields
Relay Team: Paige Langenhorst, Maggie Fields, Olivia Theising, and Lexi Hemker
MVP: Lexi Hemker
Most Improved: Claire Langenhorst

Boys Track-Coach Mike Fields
Short Distance: Derek Hemker
Long Distance: Isaac Gebke
Field Events: Ben Lampe
Relay Team: Ben Lampe, Derek Hemker, Isaac Gebke, and David Foppe
MVP: Ben Lampe
Most Improved: Brent Kohrmann

These former Bulldogs performed with the Central Band when they visited the school on April 19.



Team Quest

Team Quest is a program that challenges students to apply their knowledge in a group setting to come up with an answer to a question or a solution to a problem. Competition is held at the Local, Regional, and State level for teams in grades 3/4, 5/6, and 7/8. Each team consists of four students, two from each grade level. A theme is chosen for each level of competition, and the teams are challenged in the following areas:

Engineering - A problem is given which must be solved by constructing something to complete a task.

Trivia – This is a challenge where questions are asked in a game format. Strategy and applying knowledge must be used in this challenge.

Math – This challenge includes math questions and applying math to help solve problems. It pertains to how math is applied in everyday life and why math knowledge is important in solving everyday problems.

Music – During this challenge, there are questions on theory, recognizing types of music, where and when different types of music is found, and what role music plays in the lives of people.

Creativity – In this area of the competition the students are challenged to come up with totally new and innovative ideas and be able to communicate that to others.

Germantown Team Quest members were chosen using the test results from the Fall 2010 ITBS Cognitive Abilities Test. The team members included:

Grades 3/4: Parker Loepker, Christopher Mueller, Brady Boeckmann, and Tessa Beckmann. This team finished 7th in the Local competition and 10th in the Regional competition.

Grades 5/6: Alyssa Robke, Caroline Kenow, Margo Lampe, and Sophie Kuhl. This team finished 1st in the Local competition and 7th in the Regional competition.

Grades 7/8: Kaitlyn Albers, Joseph Heimann, Austin Winter, Isaac Gebke, and Ben Lampe. This team finished 5th in the Local competition, 4th in the Regional competition, and 8th in the State competition.



Bulldog Band



The Bulldog Band was very busy this spring preparing for District and State Organizational Contest. Mrs. Henrichs and the students spent countless hours mastering three pieces of music for contest, Timberline March, Jubilation, and the Great Locomotive Chase. At District Organizational Contest on Saturday, April 2, the Bulldog Band captured an overall first rating with the judges awarding them a pair of first ratings and a second rating. The judges' comments were instrumental in helping the band focus on areas in need of improvement. That focus proved beneficial as the band improved its score by 21 points and narrowly missed receiving an overall first superior rating at State Organizational Contest on April 30. The judges awarded the band one first superior rating and a pair of high first ratings. The band showcased its contest pieces at the annual Spring Concert on May 12.

These former Bulldogs performed with the Mater Dei Drum Line and Color Guard when they visited the school on April 5.



Earth Day



On Friday, April 15, students in fifth through eighth grade participated in a variety of activities to celebrate Earth Day. Deb Wesselmann, co-owner of Plant Land in Breese, served as the guest speaker. She talked to the students about a variety of wildlife, both plants and animals. Then, the students were assigned to groups and given responsibilities at various locations in the community. Whether spreading mulch on the school playground, planting trees and flowers at the park, sweeping tennis courts and pavilions, picking up litter along the streets of Germantown, or cleaning the cemetery, the students played an active role in making a difference on Earth Day. This is the second year the school, under the leadership of Michelle Varel, coordinated community Earth Day activities for its students.

Power Hour

Once again this school year, Germantown Elementary School promoted a program called Power Hour. Power Hour took place on a daily basis from 9:00-10:00. During Power Hour, volunteers helped students in kindergarten, first grade, and second grade with their literacy skills. We were fortunate to have 18 community members volunteer their services to the program this school year. They are as follows: Laurie Lampe, Helen Leonard, Joan Young, Darlene Beer, Danita Deerhake, Kathy Haake, Joan Theising, Jeanette Johnson, Henrietta Koch, Kelly Schuchmann, Kristen Von Bokel, Mookie Leonard, Marilyn Haake, Kathie Heimann, Lisa Lampe, Kelly Conley, Tiffany Loepker, and Janelle Spihlmann. As a token of our appreciation for their commitment to the program, these individuals were recognized with a breakfast and a small gift on May 13.



Because we feel this program is imperative to helping develop strong reading skills in our students, we are planning to continue Power Hour next school year. All community members are welcome to

assist with Power Hour. If you are interested, please call the school office at 523-4253.

PTA Update

The Germantown Elementary PTA kept very busy at the end of the school year. They helped coordinate Faculty/Staff Appreciation activities. The week culminated with a delicious catered luncheon.

The PTA once again coordinated and funded this year's field day festivities. The students were kept busy with a variety of games and activities. The inflatable rides were among the favorite. Field day served to reward the students for their commitment to working hard during the school year.

Besides coordinating these events, the PTA provided the funding to put a new layer of mulch on the playground. The mulch was spread by the students during the Earth Day activities.

2011-12 Officers

President: Jennifer Arentsen
 Vice President: Crystal Gebke
 Treasurer: Carrie Kehrer
 Special Events: Kathy Oertel

Thank you to our outgoing PTA officers.
 President: Jennifer Wempe
 Vice President: Angie Jansen
 Treasurer: Marleen Albers
 Special Events: Trishia Kohnen
 Cheri Johnson

Brent Kohrman served as the Principal of the Day on March 25.



End of Year Awards

Chorus: Abigail Hanna

Band Most Improved: Stephen Avery

Band MVP: Rebecca Hemker
Brenden Tonnies

Math Kryptos 6th: Nathan Loepker

Math Kryptos 7th: Bryce Beckmann
Joseph Heimann

Math Kryptos 8th: Parker Albers

National Physical Fitness Awards:

Patrick Albers, Alyssa Robke, Haley Schrage, Logan Albers, Erica Hitpas, Trevor Kohrman, Sophie Kuhl, Kaitlyn Albers, Garrett Boeckmann, Vivian Albers, David Foppe, Alexis Hemker, Claire Langenhorst, Paige Langenhorst, Kenzie Schroeder, and Alyx Wilkins

Science Fair Semi-finalist Award: Emily Peters, Vivian Albers, Sheridan Jordan, Makenna Kuhl, Brenden Tonnies, David Foppe, Erica Lampe, Katie Haake, Claudia Owens, Chandler Haake

Perfect Attendance: Aiden Poettker, Dylan Poettker, Jordyn Robke, Griffen Wempe, Owen Stahl, Gage Followell, Miah Weems, Brandon Beer, Hannah Schulte, Lucas Theising, Valerie Tebbe, Evan Albers, Eric Deering

8th Grade Awards

Honor Roll All 4 Quarters: Eric Deering, Maggie Fields, Isaac Gebke,

Brianne Hellmann, Makenna Kuhl, Ben Lampe, Claire Langenhorst, Emily Peters, Olivia Theising

Straight A's All Four Quarters:

Math: Eric Deering, Maggie Fields, Brianne Hellmann, Ben Lampe, Claire Langenhorst

Science: Riley Albers, Vivian Albers, Eric Deering, Kyle Eversgerd, Maggie Fields, Isaac Gebke, Kristin Gebke, Calvin Heimann, Brianne Hellmann, Ben Lampe, Claire Langenhorst, Paige Langenhorst, Emily Peters, Olivia Theising, Brenden Tonnies, Connor Wood

Language Arts: Eric Deering, Maggie Fields, Isaac Gebke, Brianne Hellmann, Ben Lampe, Claire Langenhorst, Emily Peters, Olivia Theising

Literature: Eric Deering, Maggie Fields, Brianne Hellmann, Makenna Kuhl, Ben Lampe, Claire Langenhorst, Emily Peters, Olivia Theising, Brenden Tonnies

Social Studies: Riley Albers, Eric Deering, Eric Essington, Kyle Eversgerd, Maggie Fields, Isaac Gebke, Brianne Hellmann, Makenna Kuhl, Ben Lampe, Claire Langenhorst, Paige Langenhorst, Emily Peters, Olivia Theising, Connor Wood

IPA Student Recognition Award: Emily Peters

Best in Language Arts: Brianne Hellmann

Best in Literature: Claire Langenhorst

Best in Math: Ben Lampe

Best in Science: Riley Albers

Best in Social Studies: Eric Essington

Best Achiever Boy: Eric Deering

Best Achiever Girl: Vivian Albers

Highest Average Boy: Ben Lampe

Highest Average Girl: Claire Langenhorst

Presidential Scholar Gold Award: Riley Albers, Isaac Gebke, Ben Lampe, Brenden Tonnies

Presidential Scholar Silver Award: Eric Deering, Eric Essington, Maggie Fields, Abigail Hanna, Calvin Heimann, Brianne Hellmann, Claire Langenhorst, Olivia Theising, Kennedy Wilkins, Connor Wood

James and Joann Lampe Scholarship: Eric Deering

Sons of the American Legion Scholarship: Kyle Eversgerd and Maggie Fields

Miss Illinois spoke to the students about the six pillars of character education on May 6.



Awards cont.

Germantown American Legion Scholarship: Claire Langenhorst

Germantown American Legion Women's Auxiliary: Maggie Fields

Kernel Nut Club Scholarship: Stephen Avery and Kristin Gebke

St. Mary's Altar Sodality Scholarship: Claire Langenhorst and Emily Peters

Catholic Holy Family Society Scholarship: Kenzie Schroeder

Years of Service Awards -School Board Member

Mark Freund 4 Years 2007-2011

Marla Langenhorst 16 Years 1995-2011

Years of Service Awards –Faculty/Staff

Barb Wempe 10 Years 2001-2011

Tony Parr 10 Years 2001-2011

Carl Diesen 20 Years 1991-2011

Ruthie Sterkis 30 Years 1981-2011

Jane Strieker 33 Years 1978-2011

Bulldog Dash

On Saturday, May 21, a record-setting 524 participants crossed the finish line at the seventh annual Germantown Bulldog Dash 5K and 2K Run/Walk. The weather cooperated, despite a rainy forecast, and the Committee was thrilled with the results. This year's event netted over \$17,000 to benefit Germantown Elementary School. In its seven year history, the event has provided the district over \$100,000. The proceeds have directly benefited Germantown Elementary students by funding after-school programs including Homework Headquarters and the Reading Lab, and technology purchases such as SmartBoard projectors, laptop computers, and software. The School Board has targeted 2011 event proceeds to be used once again for the after-school programs, Homework Headquarters and the Reading Lab, the summer school program, and technology purchases.

A committee of members from the community endorsed by the Germantown School Board of Education promotes the event.

Local businesses have generously sponsored the event, including Jansen Chevrolet of Germantown, the 2011 Diamond Sponsor of the Bulldog Dash. Jansen Chevrolet has been a proud sponsor of the event each year, including 2005 when it served as the Diamond Sponsor in the inaugural year of the event.

Dash participation continues to increase each year as the race attracts a mix of competitive runners, and local supporters and students. Over 630 participants registered for this year's races, a large increase from the 519 that registered for the 2010 event.

It takes a team to pull off an event the size of the Bulldog Dash. The success of the event can be attributed to the hard work of the Bulldog Dash Committee under the leadership of Rick Sherman, the volunteers who offered their help, the support of the community and the surrounding area, and the donations made by many local businesses. Everyone should be proud of the role they played in the success of this year's record breaking event. The funds raised through this event will directly benefit all students at Germantown Elementary.

Fredbird visited school on April 11 to teach the students about “Doin’ the Right Thing”!



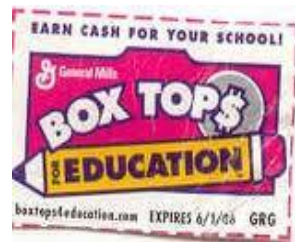
Target Credit Card

Do you shop at Target? If so, you could help the school raise money through the Take Charge of Education program. The program is very easy. All you have to do is use your Target Credit Card®, Target Debit Card® or Target® Visa® Credit Card for purchases and designate Germantown Elementary as the recipient school. The school will receive up to 1% of the amount of each purchase in the form of an annual check. Currently, we have 23 REDcard holders who have designated Germantown Elementary as its beneficiary. Through purchases made by REDcard holders, Germantown has received a total of \$4,561.87 in donations from Target. This year alone, Target has donated \$561.88 to the school with \$405.00 accumulated towards the next Target donation. Grandparents, alumni, friends and neighbors are all welcome to participate in the program. The more people we involve, the harder the program works for our school. If you are already participating, thank you! Every little bit makes a big difference for the youth of our community.



To learn more about the Take Charge of Education program, go to Target.com/redcard or stop in at any Target store to apply.

Box Tops for Education



There are hundreds of grocery items associated with the Box Tops for Education program. By simply cutting the Box Tops coupon from these items, the school can raise money. For every coupon we submit, General Mills will give the school 10 cents. The money raised through this program is used to help pay for student assemblies and incentives. This year, the school raised \$1,389 through the Box Tops program. Please consider joining us in our effort to collect Box Tops. Save your Box Tops all summer long because we will have a Box Tops drive early next school year. If you have Box Tops to donate to the school, feel free to drop them off at the school office or call us at 523-4253, and we will pick them up at your home.

Campbell Soup Labels

For more than 37 years, *Labels for Education* has been awarding free educational equipment to schools in exchange for proofs of purchase from the Campbell family of brands. It's a fun, easy program where students, families and members of the community work together for a common goal. It is simple. Save UPCs from participating products. Send the UPCs to school. The school redeems the UPCs for points. The school then uses the points to purchase educational equipment. Germantown Elementary currently has 5,757 points to put towards educational materials.



Clothing Collection

Just east of the school on the north end of the faculty/staff parking lot, a clothing collection box is located. This drop box benefits Germantown Elementary School. For every pound of clothing collected, a monetary donation is made to the school. If you have any clothes you would like to dispose of, please consider bringing it to our drop box.

