

Administration

Principal  
 ..... Gene R. Haynes  
 Assistant Principal  
 ..... Kathy Lee  
 Assistant Principal  
 ..... Lynne Slobodnik  
 Assistant Principal/Athletics  
 ..... Dan Bartels  
 Dean of Students  
 ..... Carrie Freeman  
 Dean of Students  
 ..... Jim Savio  
 Student Support  
 ..... Eric Johnson

Curriculum Specialists

Melinda Bailey  
 Jan Christensen  
 Dan Sitzman

Counselors

Jenn Bernard  
 Kevin Custard  
 Liliame Jamal  
 Kristin Lawton  
 Ronald Mertz  
 Gene Moneke  
 Chris Wiley  
 Bryson Wisner

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# North High News

Omaha Public Schools ~ Omaha, Nebraska

## Principal's Points

"Everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you are climbing it"

Greetings!

Our mission is to provide educational opportunities that enable all students to achieve their highest potential.

It is that time of year again! We are rushing to finish last minute shopping and decorating, caught up in the anticipation of sharing time with our family and friends. This is a time to count our blessings, a time to pause and reflect upon how we are personally blessed by our loved ones and by the privilege of living in a free nation.

This holiday season also means the end of first semester of this school year (December 19, 2008). It is critical that students earn their credits by successfully completing final exams. All students must be accountable for exams. Please do not plan an early vacation on December 18 and 19, 2009.

Remember that our second semester begins on January 6, 2009.

**Eighth Grade** Open House is January 25, 2009, 1:00-3:00 P.M. This is a special opportunity for parents/guardians and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to visit our school.

January is also a time to remember our teachers. The Buffet Foundation recognizes outstanding teachers each year. The deadline for submitting letters of nomination is January 31, 2009. Please consider nominating one of our outstanding teachers. Omaha North High is very fortunate to have had **13** Buffett winners on our staff and there are many additional teachers who deserve this wonderful recognition. Please address your nomination letters to this address:

**The Buffet Foundation**  
 222 Kiewit Plaza  
 Omaha, NE 68131

The best school systems are those where parents/guardians take active roles and become partners in education, involved in the activity programs of their children. We strive to provide a

well balance curriculum that prepares students for a global society in this 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Your continued support is encouraged and greatly appreciated.

Thank you,  
 Gene R. Haynes, Principal



**Go Vikings!**



# North High News

## Counselor's Comments



### COLLEGE IS AFFORDABLE!!!

Get reliable, free service from **EducationQuest**. Call **Sheila Schoessler, 391-4033**, for an appointment at North High School or at 11031 Elm St. Students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. FREE services include electronic searches for scholarships, careers, and colleges; completion and electronic filing of the FAFSA; and answering questions concerning student loans.

Note: To file the FAFSA electronically and free of charge, use [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

### RESUMES

Encourage your student to make a resume and save it on the computer. These are essential for Juniors and Seniors (especially for letters of recommendation) and other students who want to participate in special programs and/or scholarships. A “quick” resume can be done individually in the Computer Center.

### COLLEGE & SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINES!!!

Please encourage students to complete scholarship and college applications two weeks before the deadline. If applications are brought to the GRC at the “last minute”, we cannot guarantee that transcripts and letters of recommendations will be sent on time. NOTE: UNO’s application deadline to be considered for Scholarship is February 1, 2009, and UNL’s deadline to be considered for Scholarship is January 15, 2009. Please have transcript requests in to Ms. Brace two weeks in advance.

### ACT TESTS!! (JUNIORS AND SENIORS)

ACT--February 7, April 4, June 13

Get your registration packets in the GRC or register on-line. Questions concerning the ACT Written part can be directed to Mrs. Lawton at 557-3421.

### SENIOR ACTIVITIES

You and your graduating senior should have received a Senior Letter and Calendar about graduating items, scholarships, and college applications (Also see the Senior Cues). If you need more information, please call your counselor at 557-3408. The Senior Cues are emailed to students and on the Guidance Web Page.

Helpful phone numbers: EducationQuest--391-4033; Jostens/School Traditions (Rings, Announcements) 733-0300.

The Class of 2008 received over \$4 MILLION in scholarship money. The class of 2009 is an amazing, talented class. Let’s hope that can translate into scholarships for your futures!

**Seniors: READ the Cues; APPLY for scholarships; COPY scholarships received for the GRC. ASK questions if you don’t know something.**

**GRADUATION: Saturday, May 16, 2009, 10:00 AM, Omaha Civic Auditorium**

### SCHOLARSHIP FRAUD

- \*If you must pay money to get money, it might be a scam.
- \*If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- \*Spend the time, NOT the money. Contact your NHS counselor.
- \*Never invest more than a postage stamp to get information about scholarships.
- \*Nobody can guarantee that you’ll win a scholarship.
- \*If you’re suspicious of an offer, it’s usually with good reason.

**IF YOU SUSPECT FRAUD:** Contact your counselor at North High School.

## ACT Test Dates

*February 7, 2009*

*April 4, 2009*

*June 13, 2009*



Graduation  
Saturday, May 16, 2009  
10:00 a.m.  
Omaha Civic Auditorium

## Counselor's Comments (con't)

### ALL-GRADE TESTING AND CAREER INFORMATION

In November, the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students took the EXPLORE and PLAN tests. Students will be given their test scores including an explanation of the different work skill levels and the academic/elective classes that would help them to increase skill levels during 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. Ask to see their scores and certificates. Both career and educational resources will be discussed with students using the Careers and Education in Nebraska booklet.

Juniors went on a college/career visit and received a wealth of information while on the various campuses. Seniors were able to participate in a future planning session or participated in a community service project of cleaning up Fontenelle Park.

All the results and outcomes achieved through testing are filed in each student's Career/Planning Portfolio located in their counselor's office. Students receive this Portfolio when they graduate.

### PLAN/EXPLORE and PSAT TEST RESULTS

The PLAN and EXPLORE test results will be interpreted to students after we receive them in February 2009.

The PSAT test results will be interpreted to students in December.

### REGISTRATION 2009-10

Please encourage your student to think about classes for next year. Courses are set up on a semester or full-year basis. Once a class is registered for, it is important that the student remain in that class for the duration of the semester or year. In following district policy, only seniors will be allowed 1 block of release during the 2009-2010 school year. College Admissions consider what, and how many, classes/courses seniors take in their senior year. College admissions offices are most favorable toward students who continue a full schedule through all 4 years of high school. Students reaching into higher level courses in high school show a marked stability in continuing their education beyond high school and achieving a college degree. Please discuss the course selections your student is considering. If you have further questions about registration, please call your student's counselor at 557-3408.

### ADULT NIGHT SCHOOL

Students who fail core classes (English, math, science, and social studies) may take on-line credit recovery courses to make these up. Any high school student may now attend these classes. Cost is \$85.00 for Angel Credit Recovery. Contact a counselor to verify if courses are needed to graduate and register.

### SUMMER SCHOOL

Information about O.P.S. Summer School will be forthcoming in late April. If your student needs to make up some required classes, contact the counselor in early May.

### NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

If you have questions about joining this prestigious society, please call Ms. Cherie Connors or your counselor. Juniors or seniors must have a 3.5+ GPA, volunteer hours, and participate as a leader in activities at school and in the community to be considered for membership.

### PARENTS Still Make the Difference!

We encourage you to continue to communicate with your student. Take time to spend a minimum of 10 minutes a day talking with each other. Another communication technique is to write letters or notes (your student can read this in private and respond to you). Write your child a thank you note showing your appreciation for something they did. This acknowledgement shows



**Registration  
2009 - 2010**

**...coming soon ...**

*National Honor*

*Society questions can*

*be directed to Ms.*

*Cherie Connors or*

*your counselor.*

# North High News

## Counselor's Comments (con't)

you care and teaches our young people gratitude. Extend this courtesy to teachers who show extra care and concern for your student. Buffett nominations will be coming out soon. This is a valuable learning tool and practice--graduating seniors will need to write thank you notes for interviews, opportunities, and awarded scholarships.

### OUTSTANDING TEACHERS

Recognizing those outstanding teachers who have taught your child(ren) is easy to do. Nominations for the Alice Buffett Outstanding Teacher Awards may be submitted to The Buffett Foundation, 222 Kiewit Plaza, Omaha, Nebraska 68131 by January 31, 2009.

### IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

Dec 6	SAT
Dec 13	ACT @ ONHMS
Dec 17	Last Day to Order Jostens Announcements—11-1:15 p.m., Viking Center
<b>Dec 19</b>	<b>First semester ends</b>
Dec 26	SAT Registration Deadline for January 24 Test
Dec 22-Jan 2	Winter Break--NO SCHOOL

Jan 5	NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Jan 5	Teachers submit 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Grades
Jan 5	New student orientation 5:00 p.m.
Jan 6	ACT Registration Deadline for February 9 Test
Jan 6	Second semester begins
Jan 19	NO SCHOOL—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Jan 13	Last day to ADD a class
Jan 20	Last day to DROP a class
Jan 24	SAT
Jan 29	SAT Registration Deadline for March 1 Test

Feb 4	Teachers submit 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Progress Grades
Feb 7	ACT @ ONHMS—8:00 a.m.
Feb 10	SAT Registration for March 14 test
Feb 11	Last Day to Order Josten Cap & Gown—11-1:15 p.m., Viking Center
Feb 16	NO SCHOOL--President's Day
Feb 17	NO SCHOOL for students--Teacher Inservice
Feb 23	Parent Involvement Day/Honors Convocation
Feb 27	ACT Registration Deadline for April 4 Test

Mar 5	Teachers submit 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Grades
Mar 12	School-7:45-11:30 a.m.; Parent Teacher Conferences-12:30-7:30 p.m.-MPC
Mar 13	NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Mar 14	SAT
Mar 16	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter Begins
Mar 31	SAT Registration for May test

Apr 1	SAT Registration Deadline for May 2 Test
Apr 4	ACT @ ONHMS



**Last Day To  
Order  
Jostens  
Announcements  
December 17,  
2008**



**Last Day To  
Order  
Cap & Gown  
February 11,  
2009**

## Counselor Comment's (con't)

Apr 6-10	NO SCHOOL- Spring Break
Apr 15	Teachers submit 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter Progress Grades
Apr 15	Graduation Tickets go on sale—Seniors receive 6 complimentary tickets; additional tickets are \$3 each (cash only); Jostens orders delivered this week
Apr 16	School Traditions Delivery
Apr 23	Blue & Gold Academic Breakfast @ 7:30 a.m. & Convocation
Apr 27	SAT Registration Deadline for June 2 Test
TBA	Senior Banquet—6 p.m., Parents Invited
May 2	SAT
May 4	NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS-Teacher Inservice Day
May 5	SAT Registration for June 6 Test
May 7	Senior Scholarship Night--7:00 p.m., NHS Aud
May 8	Vikings of Distinction
May 8	ACT Registration Deadline for June 13 Test
May 13	Eric Awards (Seniors' Last Day)--9:00 a.m., NHS Aud., Awards, Caps & Gowns issued, Senior Picture with Mr. Haynes taken (Pictures will be available for purchase on Graduation Day for \$8 each)
<b>May 15</b>	<b>Graduation Rehearsal MANDATORY (time tba)</b>
<b>May 16</b>	<b>Graduation Ceremony 10:00 a.m.</b>
Jun 6	SAT
Jun 13	ACT

Spring

Break

**April 6 -  
April 10**

Important Resources for You:

**SENIOR CUES**--College Reps, college applications, scholarship applications and deadlines; see Ms. Brace.

**EducationQuest**, 11031 Elm St., is an excellent, free source to obtain college, scholarship, and financial aid information. Call Sheila Schoessler, 391-4033, for an appointment.

**Military Recruiters**—See Mr. Mertz in the GRC.

**Jostens (Cap & Gown; Graduation Announcements)**-Representative: Reid Brakke, 733-0300.

Information for professional counseling services may be obtained through your counselor. Questions? Call your counselor at 557-3408.



# North High News

## Student Council



Omaha North donated \$2,774!

Please congratulate North High Student Council members on a wonderful State Convention this year. On October 17th, we attended the Nebraska Association of Student Council's State Convention at Papillion-LaVista South High School. There, they were recognized with the following:

**Outstanding Student Council, Gold Level.** This is the highest distinction a

council can earn from our state organization. "This award is in praise and recognition of outstanding leadership. Outstanding councils have well-rounded programs, are active at the local, state, and national levels, and have displayed exemplary leadership in their schools."

**Make-a-Wish Donor:**

North Student Council donated \$2 for each Homecoming Dance ticket sold this

year, which meant we gave \$2774 towards a child's trip to a beach side resort in California!

**Student Council All-State: Tessa Phillips** was one of 20 students from across the state recognized. Congratulations to our student leaders!

## JROTC News



OPS/City Pistol League The Omaha North JV Pistol Team won the city championship in November. The team consisting of **Courtney Baker, AJ Cappellano, Dana Jensen, Jordan Stevens and Devaunte Youngblood** were undefeated. **Devaunte Youngblood** won the individual high average title.

The Varsity Rifle Team finished third in the league during the regular season led by **Merle Joslin, Justine Kohtz, Brett Fabian, Adam Cleveland, and Xavier Schulte**. Unfortunately, the team had to forfeit their match in the finals due to injury and illness.

JROTC Drill Team and Color Guard

The North JROTC Drill Team and Color Guard competitive teams begin practice November 17<sup>th</sup>. The North Varsity Drill team will practice on Mondays at 7:00 a.m. Junior Varsity Drill on 7:00 on Wednesdays, and Color Guard on Fridays at 7:00 a.m.

## 2008-2009 Senior Yearbook Pictures!

### 2008-2009 Senior Yearbook Pictures!

Deadline: December 18<sup>th</sup>

Submit to room 261 with name on reverse side or electronically (as a .jpg) to [hillary.aerts@ops.org](mailto:hillary.aerts@ops.org)

Specifications:

- \*Wallet size   \*Color   \*Head and Shoulder shot   \*No hands
- \*Neutral background (solid color, no scenery)

### Senior Ads and Friendship Ads

Deadline: December 18<sup>th</sup> (Then prices go up!!!)  
Submit money and your pictures to room 261

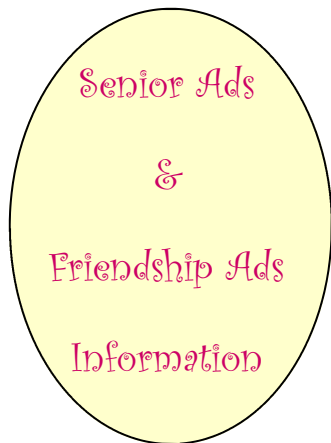
Color

Full page: \$155 – up to 25 pictures

Half Page: \$85 – up to 5 pictures

Quarter page: \$55 – 3 pictures

Business card size: \$35 – 1 picture



## From the Health Office

Our winter weather will be arriving soon. Please make sure your student is properly dressed for winter conditions including appropriate shoes and boots. Remind your children that loss of body heat and frostbite can occur quickly and it is important for them to have layers of clothing, coats, gloves, and hats available for changing weather conditions. The health office does not have clothing items to loan out to students.

The Health Office is seeing an increase in the number of students in the office complaining of vomiting, stomach pains, cough, fever and other symptoms of the flu. If your child has been ill during the night or prior to coming to school, please consider allowing them to remain home. If your child has a fever, they must be kept home until they are fever-free for 24 hours. Remember the importance of using good hand washing techniques to prevent the spread of illness. Also remember that students can not carry medication with them for the treatment of these illnesses. All medication must be kept in the Health Office and be accompanied by a signed medication permission form from your child's doctor as well the parent/guardian. This includes over the counter medications as well as medication prescribed by your child's doctor.

There have been several outbreaks of Pertussis or "Whooping Cough" in the community the past couple of weeks. Pertussis is a highly contagious infection of the respiratory system that causes fits of severe coughing which can last up to 10 weeks. Most children are vaccinated for pertussis, but it is still possible that your child could contract the disease. Infected individuals are most contagious at the beginning of the illness (sneezing, cold-like symptoms), and usually up to 2 weeks after the cough begins. Pertussis is spread through the air when a sick person sneezes or coughs. Infected children will need to be excluded from school until they have completed 5 days of antibiotic treatment. Please NOTIFY the school nurse IMMEDIATELY if your child is diagnosed with Pertussis.

Please remember to notify the school of any changes in address, phone numbers to both home and work and changes in emergency contacts. It is important that we are able to make contact with parents/ guardians quickly in case of illnesses or emergencies. Working together we can ensure the safety and health of our students and staff of Omaha North High Magnet School.

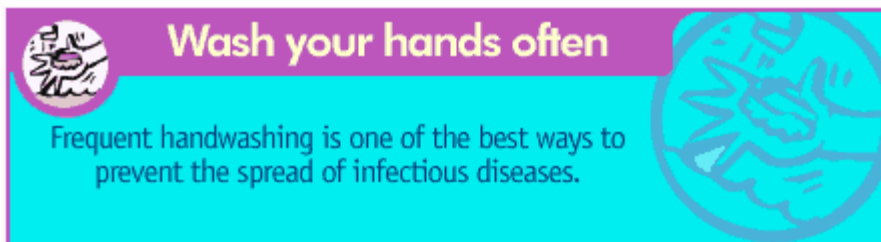
With the increase of winter illnesses, the Health Office will also see an increase in the number of doctor and dentist appointments that are scheduled during school hours. If at all possible, please try to schedule these appointments for after school so that your student does not miss class time. If this is not possible, please notify the Health Office about appointments in a timely manner with either a **written note or phone call, 2 hours prior to the appointment**. Thank you for your cooperation with this process.

Feel free to contact me with any concerns or questions at 557-3415.

Wynelle Tolen RN  
School Nurse  
Omaha North High Magnet School



*Remember to  
notify North  
with any  
personal  
information  
changes.*



# North High News

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## Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment



University of Nebraska Omaha

In January, students in the following courses will have an opportunity to register with the University of Nebraska-Omaha for Dual Enrollment: Dr. Holley's **Honors Differential Equations**, Dr. Meyer's **AP Calculus AB**, Mr. Ahern's **AP World History**, Mrs. Westbrook's **AP Environmental Science** and Ms. Roberts' **AP Comparative Government & Politics**. Students enrolled for Dual Enrollment during first semester must reapply to be considered for second semester credits. This includes Dr. Holley's **AP Calculus BC** and Ms. Wilson's **AP English Literature & Composition**.

The Dual Enrollment program permits students to earn a grade and credit through UNO for the course, with the ability to transfer the grade and credit to most post-secondary institutions in the US. The cost of \$225 per course is a significant savings over the cost for the same number of credits while in college. The fee also covers the \$86 AP Exam fee for the course. A fee reduction is available for students in the Federal Lunch Program.

For FAQs, updates and more information pertaining to Omaha North's involvement in Dual Enrollment, go to "AP Course Information" under "Academics" at <http://www.ops.org/high/north>.

Students intending to take any AP exam in May will need to register and place a \$20 non-refundable deposit by March 11 to avoid the \$50 late fee. Fee reductions are available to students in the Federal Lunch Program. For more details, visit the "AP Course Information" page on the school's website.

In addition to the 13 AP Scholars from Omaha North listed in the last newsletter, the College Board announced in November that senior **Ben Kammerer** has also been recognized as an AP Scholar for his success on three AP Exams.

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## Science News

### Science News

#### **Omaha North 9<sup>th</sup> Graders Study at Teton Science School**

Thanks to the continued generosity of Lozier Foundation, three Omaha North 9<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in the Teton Science School's Young Women in Science program near Jackson, Wyoming, October 26-31. During the week, the students hiked in the mountains, teamed with staff researchers to investigate ecological topics, identified celestial objects in the night sky, and developed leadership skills with other young women from Montana and Wyoming high schools. The Teton Science School was featured in the November 2004 *National Geographic*. Selected through a highly competitive application process after being recommended by 8<sup>th</sup> grade counselors and teachers, Omaha North's 2008 representatives were **Rachael Kirschenmann**, **Kayla Timm**, and **Mercedez Bradley**.




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## Summer Camps

### Summer Camps

#### **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Summer Technology Camp at Omaha North High Magnet High School**

Students currently in grades five, six, and seven are invited to attend Summer Technology Camps. Current 5<sup>th</sup> graders can attend Robotics Camp, June 1-12, 2009. Current 6<sup>th</sup> graders can attend Aeronautics Camp, June 15-26, 2009. The Structural Engineering Camp, for current 7<sup>th</sup> grade students, also runs June 15-26, 2009. For additional details, visit the "Summer Programs" link under the "About" button at <http://www.ops.org/high/north>.

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## Academy of Finance

### Omaha North Academy of Finance students top 248 other teams in State Competition

Omaha North Academy of Finance students, under the direction of Mr. Tom Dickey, took the top two places in the Fall 2008 Finance Challenge. The Nebraska Council on Economic Education at UNL sponsored the state-wide competition for 250 teams and 750 students. Students were tested on financial terms, concepts and literacy. Omaha North team members were:

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Place in State (each team member wins a \$50 gift card):

Kris Martin, Andrew Schroeder, Xavier Schulte

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in State (each team member wins a \$25 gift card):

Jason Combes, Kira Luxon, James Robinson



The Academy of Finance, under the umbrella of the National Academy Foundation, is a two-year program of study at Omaha North High Magnet School. The program includes a 6-week summer internship in an Omaha-based financial institution and an opportunity for students to earn college credit through a dual enrollment agreement with Metropolitan Community College.

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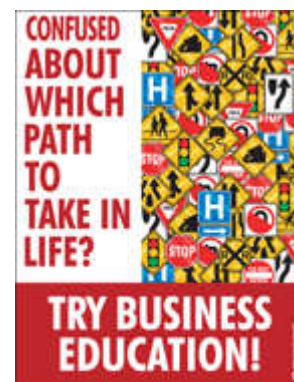
## Business Education

Whatever path you are pursuing - college prep, career training, tech prep, or school-to-work - every student can learn how to succeed in life by electing business courses!

Why study business? There are several reasons why you should enroll in business education courses at Omaha North High School:

1. Business transactions, decisions, and interactions are a part of every person's daily life. All students, regardless of their ultimate career goal, need business courses in high school.
2. Business courses contribute to higher-order thinking.
3. Business courses enhance achievement test performance.
4. Business programs contribute to workplace readiness and help develop skills and knowledge employers want and need.
5. Business programs provide for integrated learning.

Omaha North High School offers several courses in business education which are beneficial to all students. Elect a Business Education class for the 2008 – 2009 school year!




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## Tardy Policy

In order to address an unacceptable number of tardies to last block (A7 and B8) classes, the attendance office and administrators will now address tardies to school (A1 and B2) as well as to last block. Effective January 5, 2008, the school wide tardy policy is revised as follows:

Tardies for A1/B2/A7/B8 will be totaled together.

Tardy #1	Warning by attendance
Tardy #2	Warning by attendance
Tardy #3	Warning by attendance
Tardy #4	Phone call home by attendance
Tardy #5	Counselor Referral
Tardy #6	Administrator Referral - phone call home by attendance
Tardy #7	Counselor Referral - SAT process begins
Tardy #8	SAS
Tardy #9	SAS
Tardy #10	Overnight Suspension (Parent meeting with administrator)
Tardy #11, 12, ...	Saturday School

Students should be on time to other classes, too; individual teachers will address tardiness to A3, A5, B4, B6.

# Tardy Policy

**Be Safe. Be Respectful. Be Responsible.**

Omaha Public Schools  
Omaha North High Magnet  
School  
4410 North 36 Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68111

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Omaha, Nebraska  
Permit #856

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## Nominate An Outstanding Teacher Today

### THE ALICE BUFFETT OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD

Their skill and dedication inspire students to reach new heights. They are Omaha's best teachers and it's time to give them the reward they deserve.

**The ALICE BUFFETT OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD gives 15 OPS teachers a well-deserved \$10,000 gift.**

If you know a teacher who deserves recognition and thanks, take a moment to nominate them now. To be considered, the nominee must be a certified OPS teacher with two or more year's experience.

To nominate a deserving teacher... Visit [www.stbfoundation.org](http://www.stbfoundation.org)

Or, write a letter of nomination to:

The Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation  
222 Kiewit Plaza  
Omaha, NE 68131

In your letter, include the teacher's name, school, grade level and subject taught and examples of why he or she is deserving of recognition.

Nominations must be received no later than **January 31, 2009.**

**It's the thanks they so richly deserve.**

Winners receive:

**A \$10,000 Gift • \$500 in McDonald's Gift Certificates • A Silver plated Medallion • Public Recognition**

Note: Anyone can nominate a teacher (teachers however are not allowed to nominate themselves).