Dear Parents/Guardians,

Masters’ annual Holiday Program is scheduled for Friday, December 13th. This year’s program will be performed at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The morning only will include band and strings performances. To add to our holiday spirit, student artwork will be on display by grade level in the gym during our holiday program. Please take time to enjoy the beautiful work of all our “artists”. Our students have worked hard in preparation and we’re looking forward to a great program! The PATT/PTO and Student Council are sponsoring a raffle for reserved front row seating and parking. Information on this will be included in the next newsletter.

Sincerely,

Lynnette Keyes
Principal

WELCOME
A warm Masters welcome to Ray Perrigo, retired OPS Principal and part-time Administrative Support. Mr. Perrigo replaced Mrs. Wild who moved to Uta Halee as the building principal. Please join me in welcoming Mr. Perrigo to the building.

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Gabe and Hannah, October’s Students of the Month. Gabe and Hannah were selected for consistently displaying Model Monarch behavior and being a good role model to their peers. Way to go Monarchs!

NSCAS SCORES
Results from the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System English Language Arts (NSCAS-ELA) and Math (NSCAS-M) tests taken last April are being sent home with fourth and fifth grade students today. Parents, please see today’s Thursday Folder for this information and review it with your child.

QUARTERLY PROGRESS
Progress reports will go home with students in grades K - 5 on Wednesday, November 20th. Please watch for these reports, as they will let you know how your child is doing midway through the second quarter.

FUNDRAISER PICKUP
Due to processing delays, the PATT/PTO sponsored fundraiser delivery has been pushed back to the second week in December. An exact date and times will be given as soon as it’s been confirmed by Cherrydale.

NEW SCHOOL NUMBER
The phone system for Masters Elementary was recently upgraded to Cisco phone systems, the district standard. Due to this upgrade, our new school number is (531) 299-1800 and our new fax numbers are (531) 299-1819 (Office) and (531) 299-1818 (Health Office & School Counselor). Phones were also added to classrooms.

ATTENDANCE
Did you know attendance in the early years matters for academic success? We are working hard at Masters to promote a culture of good attendance! Our teachers are providing incentives for good attendance. If your child’s classroom spells out the word ATTENDANCE, they earn a popcorn party. Classrooms get to turn a letter each day every student in the class arrives to school on time and is in their classroom ready to learn by 8:50. We miss our students when they are not here! Help Masters Strive for 95%!

HY-VEE RECEIPTS
We will continue to collect Hy-Vee receipts for the “Cash For Students” program through December 31st. Place your Hy-Vee receipts in the “Hy-Vee Receipts” envelopes located in your child(ren)’s classroom. Please talk this up with your friends and neighbors and have them save their receipts for us. Our school receives $1.00 for every $200.00 spent and the classroom with the highest overall receipt total will earn a pizza party for the classroom.
**ALICE BUFFETT OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD**

The Alice Buffett Outstanding Teacher Award recognizes the achievements of skilled and dedicated educators in the Omaha Public Schools (OPS). Given to 15 teachers annually, the Award has recognized and rewarded nearly 300 teachers over the past two decades. Any Omaha Public Schools teacher or counselor (Pre-K through Grade 12), with a minimum of two years experience, is eligible for nomination.

Submit a nomination today! Nominations are due by January 15th, 2020 and may be submitted by students (current and former), parents, other teachers, administrators, and the general public. The online form is available at [www.BuffettOutstandingTeachers.org](http://www.BuffettOutstandingTeachers.org).

**MODEL MONARCHS**

As part of our MTSS-B plan, Model Monarch tickets are given out to students who display respect, responsibility and learning behaviors throughout the school day. When students are recognized for Model Monarch behavior in the classroom or receive a Model Monarch ticket in the common areas, they get to put their ticket into a weekly Friday drawing to receive a prize. Model Monarchs for the last week are: Kaleb, Maverick, Kason, Knight, Jaycen, Payton, Caleb, Ezekiel, Aaliyah, Delijah, Aliah, Pedro, Brooklynn, Taylor, Max, Chea’Trell, Randy, Jordan, Anthony, Jeremy, Channing, Rick, Ariel, Grace, Evelyn, and Sunday. Congratulations to all!

**YEARBOOK**

The Yearbook Committee would like to remind all parents and guardians to send pictures taken during the school year of Masters events to [Janelle.Sollenberger@ops.org](mailto:Janelle.Sollenberger@ops.org) so they may be used in the Masters yearbook. Pictures of classroom field trips, the Halloween parade and parties, spirit days, etc. would be greatly appreciated.

**BURKE DANCE CLINIC**

The Burke Dance Team is sponsoring a Dance Clinic for kids ages 3 - 13 on Saturday, December 14th, at 2:00 in the Burke Auxiliary gym. This clinic includes an afternoon of fun with the Burke Dance Team. Following the clinic, dancers will perform at a Varsity Basketball game at 5:30 p.m. To see a flyer with additional information, please see today’s Thursday Folder.

**SCHOOL CHOICE FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR**

An informational flyer regarding School Choice for the 2020 - 2021 school year is available online at [www.ops.org/elementary/masters](http://www.ops.org/elementary/masters) under our newsletter or if you have any questions regarding the Omaha Public Schools’ Student Assignment Plan or the School Selection process, please contact the Student Placement Office at (531) 299-0302.

*Omaha Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age, genetic information, citizenship status, or economic status in its programs, activities and employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individual has been designated to address inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Superintendent of Schools, 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (402-557-2001)
**SCHOOL CHOICE FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR**

**January 2020**, starts the annual school choice application process for the 2020-21 school year. Students enrolled in a transition grade (last grade at the current school), will receive a school choice application.

The Omaha Public School’s Student Assignment Plan for elementary and middle school students called the Partner Plan (grades K-8) consists of eight (8) elementary partner zones and four (4) middle school partner zones within the district. Your residential address and corresponding neighborhood school determine your partner zone. A student’s residence and distance to school determines transportation eligibility. **If you have had a change of address, please contact your child’s school immediately as this could impact your Partner Zone and transportation eligibility.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 1</th>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 2</th>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 3</th>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belvedere PK-5</td>
<td>Boyd PK-5</td>
<td>Benson West K-5</td>
<td>Adams K-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florence K-5</td>
<td>Lothrop PK-4</td>
<td>Central Park K-5</td>
<td>Druid Hill PK-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fullerton PK-4</td>
<td>Miller Park PK-5</td>
<td>Dodge PK-5</td>
<td>Fontenelle PK-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters K-5</td>
<td>Minne Lusa PK-5</td>
<td>Hartman PK-5</td>
<td>King PK-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie Wind K-5</td>
<td>Pinewood PK-5</td>
<td>Mount View PK-5</td>
<td>Picotte PK-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saddlebrook PK-5</td>
<td>Ponca K-5</td>
<td>Rose Hill K-5</td>
<td>Skinner PK-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wakonda PK-5</td>
<td>Sherman PK-5</td>
<td>Western Hills K-6</td>
<td>Standing Bear PK-4</td>
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</tbody>
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*Wilson Focus will continue as a District wide Specialty School. Families may apply to Wilson Focus starting in grade three. Applications available through the website at wilsonfocus.ops.org or by calling the school at 531-299-2260.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 5</th>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 6</th>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 7</th>
<th>Elementary Partner Zone 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belle Ryan PK-6</td>
<td>Conestoga PK-6</td>
<td>Ashland Park/Robbins PK-6</td>
<td>Bancroft PK-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catlin K-5</td>
<td>Edison PK-5</td>
<td>Beals PK-6</td>
<td>Castellar PK-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dundee K-6</td>
<td>Franklin PK-6</td>
<td>Crestridge K-5</td>
<td>Chandler View PK-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Club PK-5</td>
<td>Gifford Park K-6</td>
<td>Gateway PK-6</td>
<td>Columbian PK-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson PK-6</td>
<td>Harrison PK-6</td>
<td>Highland PK-6</td>
<td>Gilder K-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty PK-6</td>
<td>Joslyn PK-5</td>
<td>Indian Hill PK-6</td>
<td>Gomez Heritage PK-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walnut Hill PK-6</td>
<td>Kellom PK-6</td>
<td>Jefferson K-6</td>
<td>Pawnee PK-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington PK-6</td>
<td>Kennedy PK-5</td>
<td>Oak Valley PK-5</td>
<td>Spring Lake PK-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Middle School Partner Zones**

**Zone 1**: Davis (6-8), Hale (6-8), King Science* (5-8), McMillan (6-8)

**Zone 2**: Alice Buffett (5-8), King Science* (5-8), Monroe (6-8), Morton (6-8)

**Zone 3**: Beveridge^ (6-8), King Science* (5-8), Lewis & Clark (6-8), Norris (6-8)

**Zone 4**: Beveridge^ (6-8), Bryan (7-8), King Science* (5-8), Marrs (5-8)

*King Science* is a district magnet school and is therefore a partner school in each zone; however, students who live in the King Science neighborhood are in partner Zone 2 and only eligible for transportation to schools in that zone.

*Beveridge* is a shared partner school in zones 3 & 4; however, students who live in the Beveridge neighborhood are in partner zone 3 and are only eligible for transportation to schools in that zone.

Visit: sap.ops.org to determine your Partner Zone and transportation eligibility.
SCHOOL CHOICE UNDER THE PARTNER PLAN

Families may apply for their child to attend any OPS school. Approval of a request depends on the availability of space at the student’s grade level in the requested school and these priorities:

1. Neighborhood school (guaranteed placement).
2. Siblings residing within the Partner Zone are selected first, followed by siblings residing outside the Partner Zone (not eligible for transportation).
3. Students residing in the Partner Zone. OPS remains committed to diversity in our schools. Applications are prioritized within the Partner Zone between schools with significantly different neighborhood characteristics.
4. Students residing outside the Partner Zone (not eligible for transportation). Applications are prioritized for any remaining space between schools with significantly different neighborhood characteristics.

TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY (The school choice application must be received by January 29, 2020)

- Students are eligible for transportation IF they attend their neighborhood school and reside more than 1.0 mile from their elementary school or more than 1.5 miles from their middle school.
- Students are eligible for transportation IF they attend one of their Partner Zone schools and reside more than 1.0 mile from the elementary school or 1.5 miles from the middle school.
- Students are NOT eligible for transportation IF they attend any school outside of their Partner Zone.

EARLY CHILDHOOD INFORMATION

If your child is currently enrolled in an early childhood program and will be age-eligible for kindergarten for the 2020-21 school year, s/he will be enrolled at the neighborhood school. If you would like to be considered for placement at a non-neighborhood school, you must complete the school choice application that will be provided by your child’s current school.

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UPS will be held in January 2020. Please attend Round-Up at your neighborhood school based on your residential address. School Choice Applications will be available at Round-Up and throughout the month of January for families who wish to request a non-neighborhood school(s). Round-Up dates will be posted on the OPS Web page or check the date with your neighborhood school.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECRUITMENT LETTERS will be mailed in December to families of students currently in the last grade level of their school. The purpose of the letter is to provide information about middle schools and their respective Open House dates.

If you have questions about the Omaha Public Schools Partner Plan or the School Choice process, please contact the Student Placement Office at (531) 299-0302.