



Panther Press

Celebrating Our Respect, Pride And Integrity

IPSD 204

February /
March

From the Principal, Stan Gorbatkin...

Dear Crone Parents,

It is hard to believe that we are into the third academic quarter of the 2009-2010 school year. The students of Crone continue to make our community proud with continued success in their academic and extra-curricular pursuits.

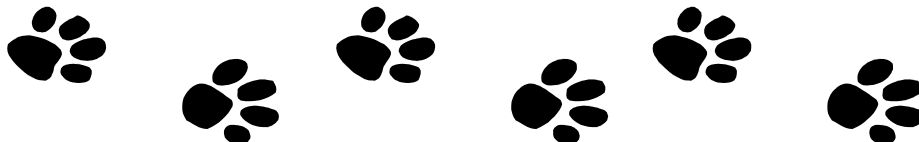
Special congratulations are in order to all Crone students who participated in the recent district level Science Fair and Spelling Bee. Best wishes to those individuals who will be advancing to the regional and state science fairs in the coming months. In addition, special kudos are in order to the Crone 7A and 7AA Boys' Basketball teams for their recent conference championships.

Please note that ISAT testing will begin on Monday, March 1, and continue through the entire week. This upcoming round of testing will involve 6th, 7th and 8th grade students. An informational letter with further specifics is included in this issue. Please join the members of the Crone staff in reinforcing the importance of these tests with your child. Also, timely arrival to school is particularly essential during this time frame to avoid the need for make up testing.

In this newsletter, you will also find information regarding topics covered during our Professional Development Wednesdays. This time is invaluable as it allows for much needed planning and articulation. As you review the topics listed on page 3, please know that this initiative helps ensure that your kids are having the best possible educational experience.

As always, please contact a member of the Crone administrative team with any questions, comments, or concerns. Best wishes for a productive and enjoyable second half of the school year.

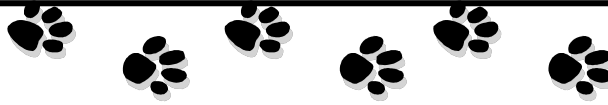
Sincerely,
Stan Gorbatkin



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ISAT Tests to be Administered in March 2010

Students in sixth, seventh and eighth grades at Clifford Crone Middle School will be taking the state-required Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) on March 1-5, 2010. Make-up tests for absentees are scheduled for March 8-12, 2010. Students in grade eight will be tested in reading, mathematics, and writing. Students in grade seven will be tested in reading, mathematics and science. Grade six students will be tested in reading, mathematics and writing.

The tests are a part of the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) program, and are being given to all eligible students in District 204. Crone Middle School will review these results along with information from our local assessments to help us continue to improve our school program. The results of this state test will be reported to you on the School Report Card in the fall. In addition, you will receive the results of your child's individual performance on the ISAT within the next school year.

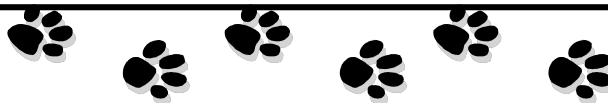
As parents you can help your child do his or her best on the test by:

- Making sure that your child attends school on the days of testing.
- Making sure your child gets a good night's sleep on the nights before the testing.
- Making sure your child comes to school prepared with testing materials such as a pencil and calculator.
- Providing breakfast on the mornings of the testing.
- Reminding your child to ask the teacher questions if he/she does not understand the test directions.
- Letting your child know that you have confidence in his/her ability to do their best.
- Advising your child not to worry about the test, just do the best that he/she can.

Should you need additional information or have any questions or concerns about these tests, your child's teacher or the grade level guidance counselor will be able to assist you.

We look forward to sharing the ISAT results with you in the fall.





Professional Development Wednesday's (PDW)

Each Wednesday morning, the Crone staff works collaboratively on a variety of topics to improve teaching and learning for benefit of all students. Below is a list of topics that have been discussed or will be discussed during this time. The professional development activities have been small and large group and include teachers sharing their expertise.

- Bullying
- S.M.A.R.T. goals related to our School Improvement Plan
- School climate initiative – specifically hallway expectations and behavior
- Technology to support instruction
- ACT – quality core
- Student interventions
- Common assessments
- Classroom management
- Instructional strategies
- Marzano's Essential 9 - research based strategies for improving student achievement
- Differentiated instruction



We are the Champions!!



Congratulations to the Crone Boys 7A and 7AA Basketball Teams on their Conference Championships!

Tyler B.

Griffin H.

Steven Q.

Alex E.

Ryan J.

Connor R.

Jacob E.

Reed K.

Brock R.

Jeremiah F.

Jared L.

Eli T.

JP G.

Evan M.

Evan T.

Connor G.

Noah P.

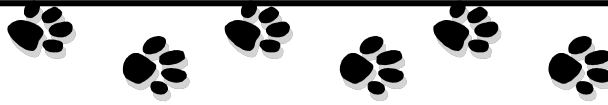
Colin W.

Chad H.

Glenn P.

Coaches: Mrs. Furlan & Mr. Blaser





MOVING?

or

GOING TO ANOTHER SCHOOL?

(EVEN IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING ANOTHER HIGH SCHOOL)

If you will be moving and your child(ren) will **NOT** be attending Crone Middle School in the Fall, please complete and return this form to the Guidance Office. If you have an 8th grader that will not be attending Neuqua, we would like to know that as well, so we can send the student's records to the appropriate high school. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Student Name(s) _____

Grade(s) (09/10School Year) _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Telephone Number _____

Home

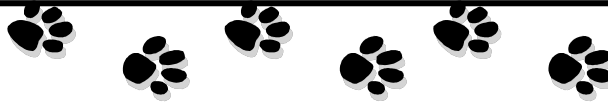
Work

New Home Address (if known) _____

New School (if known) _____

New School Address _____

Thank you for your cooperation. Best wishes at your new school! If you have any questions, please call the Guidance Office at 428-6518



PTSA News

Crone Families,

A New Year – A new you! Everyone makes and breaks New Year's resolutions. But this year, the Crone PTSA is striving to make it that much easier to keep your resolutions. If your resolution is to know what is going on at Crone, you're in luck. Start by attending the monthly PTSA meetings to hear what is happening in your child's school and among the school district.

It is bittersweet for those of us who have 8th graders as we begin to look forward to high school while reliving the memories we have shared in middle school. We will also be welcoming rising 6th grade parents to Crone. This event – an orientation and encore selection – is scheduled for late April early May. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents of rising 6th graders (students currently enrolled in 5th grade) to visit the school and to become informed about the various happenings at Crone.

It is hard to believe we are already into the third quarter! But it is never too late for parents to get involved. Simply attend our PTSA meetings and help us brainstorm ways to help our school succeed. Our PTSA meetings are efficiently run (they seldom last more than an hour) and highly informative.

As always, I appreciate all you do for our children and I look forward to meeting each and everyone one of you. Have a wonderful February/March!

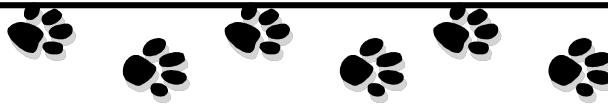
Maria Neufeld
PTSA President

From the Nominating Committee...

As we approach the second half of the year, the Crone PTSA is looking for individuals to serve on the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee responsibilities include soliciting and presenting candidates to fill the 2010/2011 PTSA executive board positions. All positions are available for the 2010/2011 school year. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please email Holly Ramsdell at bhzahr@comcast.net.

Many Thanks...

Many thanks to Karen Amundsen, Vice President of Committees for organizing our Crone Family Night at Pancake Café. We were able to raise **\$141.00**. Thank you Crone families for supporting our PTSA.

**Enrichment Programs ...**

The PTSA sponsors curriculum-based enrichment programs throughout the school year. Some of the events include:

- 6th grade Recycle Program
- 7th Grade Science Dome
- Year end celebrations
- Staff Appreciation
- LMC Volunteers
- Health & Safety

Reflections...

Congratulations to the following students for advancing from IPPC level to Dist. 36 level in the Reflections Program.

- Film-Production - Liam S. 7th grade
- Literature - Kellyn K. 6th grade and Max R. 7th grade
- Photography - Natalie M. - 8th grade
- Music Composition - Max R. 7th grade
- Visual Arts - Paige H. 7th grade

Congratulations to the following students for advancing from Dist. 36 level to state level in the Reflections Program.

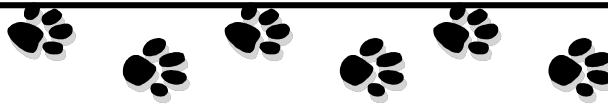
- Film-Production - Liam S. 7th grade
- Literature - Kellyn K. 6th grade and Max R. 7th grade
- Visual Arts - Paige H. 7th grade

Honorable Mention - Musical Composition - Max R. 7th grade

Community Service...

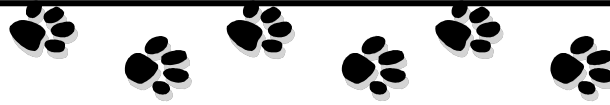
Don't know what to do with all those worn out tennis shoes? Crone PTSA Community Service Committee will be hosting a Nike shoe recycle drive during the March 12th school dance. Look for more information to follow.





February/March 2010

Date	Event	Time
February 23	Girls Basketball vs. Kennedy— 7A/8H	4:00 PM
February 24	Newspaper Club	3:10—4:30 PM
February 25	Student Council Meeting	7:15—7:50 AM
	Girls Basketball vs. Scullen— 7H/8A	4:00 PM
February 26	No School—Institute Day	
February 27	Solo & Ensemble Contest	8:00 AM—4:00 PM
March 1—5	ISAT Testing	
March 2	Scrapbooking Club	3:00—5:00 PM
	Girls Basketball vs. Lincoln 7H/8A	4:00 PM
March 4	Girls Basketball vs. Washington 7A/8H	4:00 PM
March 8—12	ISAT Make-up Testing	
March 8	Girls Basketball vs. Madison 7A/8H	4:00 PM
March 10	Newspaper Club	3:10—4:30 PM
	Girls Basketball vs. Fischer 7A/8H	4:00 PM
March 11	Student Council Meeting	7:15—7:50 AM
	Girls Basketball vs. Gregory 7A/8H	4:00 PM
March 12	Crone School Dance	6:00—8:00 PM
March 13	Chorus Organizational Contest Huntley MS, Dekalb	8:00 AM—3:00 PM



March 2010

Date	Event	Time
March 13	Regional Project Science Fair Unity Jr. High, Cicero	9:00 AM—2:00 PM
March 15	PTSA Meeting	10:15—11:15 AM
	Girls Basketball vs. Hill 7H/8A	4:00 PM
March 16	Scrapbooking Club	3:10—5:00 PM
March 17	Girls Basketball Playoffs	4:00 PM
March 18	Girls Basketball Playoffs	4:00 PM
March 19	End of Third Quarter	
	Orchestra Organizational Contest Westfield CS, Algonquin	8:00 AM—3:00 PM
March 20	Band Organizational Contest Indian Creek MS, Waterman	8:00 AM—3:00 PM
	Regional Paper Science Fair Edmund F. Lindop, Broadview	9:00 AM—2:00 PM
March 22	Girls Basketball Playoffs	4:00 PM
March 23	8th Grade Picture Retakes	10:30 AM—12:45 PM
	Girls Basketball Conference Finals	4:00 PM
March 24	Newspaper Club	3:10—4:30 PM
	5th Grade Spring Concert	Band—6:30 PM Orchestra—7:30 PM
March 25	Student Council Meeting	7:15—7:50 AM
March 29—April 2	Spring Break	

