
Albrecht Elementary News & Views

Learning Today For A
Better Tomorrow

September 2017

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Welcome back to another year at Albrecht! The elementary staff is excited to start out another year as we welcomed over 470 4K through 5th grade students through our doors to start out the year. We have had a lot of great improvements around the exterior of our school, exciting new programs starting, and new staff members joining our Albrecht Teaching Team. We are all excited to get the school year underway!

Mr. Novy-Principal

Goal to Reduce Tardy Numbers You may have noticed the letter in your registration materials, but we are making an extra effort to reduce the number of tardy students to our school. There is a growing concern with students arriving late to school, and also a growing concern with students being taken out of school at the end of the day before the school day is over. We



had almost 700 tardies to school last year.

A student who is tardy shows up to school after 8:00 without a doctor's excuse. We would like to cut this number in half. Throughout the school year I will give updates in our newsletter regarding our progress toward this goal. **Please note the start of our academic school day is 8:00 and our day ends at 2:55.** Thank you for your help to support this goal.

Locked Doors at School

All schools in the district

will continue locking doors. At Albrecht, the doors will be locked after the 8:00 bell to start our day and will be unlocked at 2:30 in the afternoon for parents to wait in the foyer for their child(ren).

We ask that parents please stay in the foyer area and not go down to classrooms. We want all hallways to be clear for students to get their materials from their lockers and proceed down the hallways at the end of the day.

Jaycees Donate \$200 to Backpack Program

Thank you to the Brodhead Jaycees for their donations of \$200 to help supplement our Backpack Program. This is a program that helps families in need with food and supplies over the weekend. We appreciate the donations!



Albrecht Elementary Now Offers Breakfast

Albrecht Elementary will now be offering breakfast to our students from 7:30 to 8:00 daily. The program will be through the National Lunch Program and will be similar to how we run our lunch program.

Students who wish to come in to have breakfast in the morning will come directly into the school, enter their code into the system, and the amount will be deducted from their individual Skyward lunch account. Money will need to be added to that account on a regular basis in order to participate.

For those students who qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch and Snack

Milk, they will also qualify for Free or Reduced Breakfast. Breakfast will cost \$1.80 daily, but the reduced price will be \$0.30 for those who qualify.



Improvement To School Exterior

Improvements To School Exterior

We have made some great improvements to the exterior of our school this summer. We have added a new playground area outside our 4K rooms. This will be the new location where our students will line up to start their day.

We have also added a new blacktop area on the west playground, com-

plete with basketball hoops. This allows us to remove all students from the parking lot area during their recess time, which also provides more parking for visitors to our school. Additional improvements on that playground include mulch in the play area and a new bank of swing sets.

Sugar River Bank School Donations

Albrecht Elementary School would like to thank the Sugar River Bank and all organizations and individuals for their very kind and generous donations of school supplies. Each year there is a growing need to have a supply of general, every-day supplies for students who don't have the proper materials at the beginning of the school year. We appreciate all the supplies brought in and will have enough on hand to make sure all of our students have what they need to start off the new school year.



Homework Policy

Albrecht Elementary is starting the second year of our new homework policy. These changes have been made based on current research, the busy lives of our students, and the importance of quality family time. Please note the following policy.

Staff will still assign homework, but that homework needs to follow the following guidelines:

- ◆ Teachers will follow the general time guidelines of "the 10 minute rule" when assigning homework (ex. 2nd grade will not have more than 10 minutes of homework a night).
- ◆ New concepts should not be introduced as homework tasks. Exceptions to this could include work assigned due to absence from school (eg. illness, travel).
- ◆ Good examples of acceptable homework include: independent reading, basic math facts practice, Words Their Way Spelling, studying for an upcoming test, or interviewing a relative.
- ◆ When homework assignments are consistently not being completed, early parental contact is essential. A plan must be developed to ensure homework time guidelines are not exceeded and assignments are appropriate for that specific student.
- ◆ If a student struggles with a concept and doesn't understand, homework will not be given on that topic. We don't want a student to practice something they don't understand or repeatedly do something wrong over and over again with out guidance.
- ◆ Homework will not be graded. We want student to do their

assignments in class so we can offer support when needed and understand their strengths and weaknesses.

Most of the time, we offer our students time to complete their work during the school day with the support of the classroom teacher. If time is used wisely, homework should be minimal. When homework is given, it is our expectation that it is completed by the required time and according to the "10 minute rule". **If a student's homework takes longer than that, or if his/her family had another activity or event that prevented the homework from getting done, a simple note from a parent or guardian should be written to the teacher so it is understood why the homework wasn't completed.**

Staff is required to know and understand this policy and cover it's contents with parents at the start of each school year.

A Note From Mr. Bockhop-PE Teacher

Hello and welcome to another exciting year at Albrecht! I am really excited to get started this year. With each start to a new year, there are new games and activities that have been implemented to help aide in our student's physical, mental and emotional health.

I would first like to thank everyone who helped me with the shoe drive. I had just over 50 pair donated for our students, as well as a monetary donation given to me by the Optimist Club to purchase shoes for students who need them. Another great way that our school helps our students!

I would also like to thank Kelli and Jared Arn for donating funds to the PE dept for some new equipment. I have been slowly building exercise equipment the past couple of years to

start turning the corner of our curriculum to be more fitness based. With this money, we will be able to get to our goals quicker.

I also wanted to remind parents and let new parents know a couple rules that I have in PE. PLEASE help your child to have a good pair of shoes on PE days. If they can keep an extra pair at school, that would be ideal. If not, make sure they do not come to school on PE days in crocs, flip flops, sandals, dress shoes, or boots.

Also, if there is a reason to miss PE, a parent note will be required for them to miss one class. If it needs to be more than one class, a doctors note is required. Make sure the doctors note is specific as to what your child needs to miss. For example, if we are

running the mile and your child has a sore wrist, they should still be able to run, or if they have a sore ankle and we are cup stacking in class. With our students only getting PE once or possibly twice a week, it is crucial for them to participate in PE class.

The last thing to mention is comfortable clothes on PE days. Students do not sit out if they have jeans or a dress on. But it is much more comfortable to have on breathable clothing for PE class.

If you ever have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email me. I am really looking forward to seeing the kids and get started this year!

Mr. Bockhop, PE Teacher
897-2146 ext. 348
bbockhop@brodhead.k12.wi.us

Meet Our New Staff!

Please give a great Brodhead welcome to our new 5th Grade Teacher, Mariah Ahrens!

Hello my name is Mariah Ahrens and I am excited to announce that I will be teaching fifth grade at Albrecht Elementary School this fall. I recently graduated from UW-Platteville with a degree in Elementary Education and a minor in Early Childhood Education.

As a Brodhead native and graduate, I am excited to be back in my hometown! Growing up in Brodhead gave me so many priceless opportunities and an appreciation for our small town atmosphere and people. It is exciting to think how I can now give back to the community I love.

In my spare time, you can find me playing and watching sports, showing cattle, and spending time with my family and friends.

I am thrilled to begin this new chapter in my life in a great school district and community.



Please give a great Brodhead welcome to our new 4K teacher Heather Boeke!

Hello! My name is Heather Boeke and I am very excited to be joining the Albrecht Elementary Staff as the new 4K teacher. I graduated from Ripon College in 2014 with a degree in elementary education and history. After graduating, I taught 4K for two years at Noah's Ark Preschool in Monroe.

In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my friends and family, fishing, making crafts, and coaching basketball.

I am very excited to meet and work with all the students, families, and staff in the Brodhead School District.

Welcome to Albrecht Mariah & Heather!

