

# Alexander Elementary



## Parents Make A Difference!

Vol. 14 No. 6 February 2012

A note from:  
**Mr. Wade**  
Elementary Principal

Oklahoma, along with 47 other states voluntarily agreed to adopt the Common Core State Standards. Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year all Oklahoma schools will no longer use the Priority Academic Student skills (commonly referred to as P.A.S.S.) as their guide for teaching major core subjects, including Math and Language Arts. This change involves all grades K through 12.

The Common Core Standards were developed in collaboration with a variety of stakeholders including content experts, states, teachers, school administrators and parents.

These standards define the knowledge and skills students should have within their K-12 education careers so that they will graduate high school fully prepared for college and careers. The standards are:

\*Aligned with college and work expectations; Clear, understandable and consistent;

\*Include rigorous content and application of knowledge through high-order skills;

\*Build upon strengths and lessons of current state standards;

\*Informed by other top performing countries, so that all students are prepared to succeed in our global economy and society; and

\*Evidence- and research-based.

Recently Commerce Public School developed a Transition Plan to assist in our efforts to move from P.A.S.S. to CCSS. Teachers have already begun to become familiar with the new standards making necessary adjustments to current lessons. Teachers are now making changes on not only what is taught but how it is taught.

Over the next three years our faculty will be heavily engaged to insure this conversion is conducted in a smooth and uncomplicated manner. If you have questions about CCSS, please do not hesitate to contact me at 675-4336.

For more information go to:

<http://www.corestandards.org/frequently-asked-questions>

<http://www.corestandards.org/>



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Progress Reports- Thursday, February 2.

Dental Hygiene Program (Tooth ladies)-  
Tuesday, February 7. Grade K.

Prevent Blindness- All students will have  
their eyes examined on February 8-9.

"I Love My Job" Career Day- Friday, February 10.

Rise and Shine Assembly- Monday, February 13.

Valentine's Day- Tuesday, February 14.

Parent-Teacher Conferences- February 16 and 21.  
3:30PM – 6:30PM.

No School- Friday, February 17.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Writing Test- Tuesday, February 21.

Fourth Grade Field Trip- Fantastic Caverns- Leave  
8:15AM Return: 3:00PM

Red Wheel Fundraiser Begins- Thursday, March 1

Kindergarten Field Trip to Jenks Aquarium- Friday,  
March 2, Leave: 8:00AM Return: 2:45PM

End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter- Friday, March 2.

Grade Cards Go Out- Tuesday, March 6.

Rise and Shine Assembly- Monday, March 12.

Red Wheel Ends- Wednesday, March 14.

Professional Day- Friday, March 16. No School.

Spring Break- March 19-23.

Red Wheel Delivery- Thursday, March 29.  
3:00PM to 6:00PM in the gym.



## When is Your Child Too Sick to Attend School?

When is my child too sick to  
send to school?

At times, this can be a tough question to answer. At Alexander Elementary, we want your child in school all day, every day, as much as possible...except when they are sick.

We all want to insure that we do not put other students at risk when a child becomes ill. Here are a few things to consider before sending your child to school when they are ill:

If your child has a fever above 100 degrees Fahrenheit they should remain home.

Signs of possible severe illness such as uncontrolled coughing, difficulty breathing, wheezing, persistent crying or lethargy.

Diarrhea, such as loose or runny stools or a sick child that can't get to the bathroom in time.

Vomiting; if your child has vomited (especially if they continue not to feel well afterwards) parents are encouraged to keep the child at home for a minimum of 24 hours.

Any sort of rash, especially when accompanied by a fever or behavior change. The child is not allowed to return until they have been cleared by a doctor; or the rash is completely gone.

While having a sick child is a hardship for most families, it is important that parents enact the Golden Rule (do unto others as you would have them do unto you) in that if you wouldn't want your son or daughter setting next to a sick child who exhibits certain illnesses, then the same hold true for them as well. Providers and teachers report that families will often drop off a sick youth with a fever or who has just recently thrown up because of work arrangements. That creates not only a major health risk to all youngsters but is terribly unfair to the sick child as well. Plus, recovery time is shorter with a sick patient who is given plenty of rest, and some good ol' TLC.

Source: About.com Child Care

# Happy Valentine's Day!

