As we continue into the school year, it is a good time to review the basic goals we had for the school year.

* SUPPORT REGULAR ATTENDANCE: He woke up late and there’s no way he’s getting to the bus. You’ve got to get to work and don’t have enough time to drive him. Would it REALLY matter if he missed just ONE day of school?

The answer is YES! Attendance makes a BIG difference. Children who attend school regularly achieve at higher rates than students who are chronically absent. So please get your child to school every day! Most children have trouble keeping up if they miss more than a few days. To encourage attendance:

* Tell your child that school is extremely important to you and your family.
* Avoid taking your child out of school to babysit younger children or to go on vacation.
* Schedule your child’s medical or dental appointments for non-school hours whenever possible.

* SET UP A “HOMEWORK HUB”: Children need a quiet area for studying. But that doesn’t mean your child has to be banished to his room. Some children like to have people around, especially parents who can help. If your child feels this way, brainstorm a distraction-free spot that might work-like the kitchen table (with the television off!).

* MAKE TIME TO TALK ABOUT SCHOOL: You read the handouts sent home, sign the assignment notebook, check the website and attend parent-teacher meetings. But don’t forget to consult another expert-your child. Look at homework together. Ask what classroom activities are going on. When your child knows you give your full attention, they will be more likely to talk about their day.

Your support makes all the difference for your student!

Sincerely, Mrs. Nanette Beller
What’s Happening Around Columbian?

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES ON MARCH 7TH AND 8TH

Conferences will be held on Tuesday, March 7th and Wednesday, March 8th from 4:15 to 7:30 PM. There will be no school Thursday and Friday, March 9th and 10th.

We will be using the same times as fall conferences unless there is a conflict. Call (402) 697-1433 to schedule or change a time.

BRRRR….IT’S COLD OUT THERE

But we DO go outside for recess unless the temperature and winds are just too bitter. All students have a lunch recess. Students in grades PK-2 have an additional recess built into their day beyond the lunch recess. All teachers can take their students out for additional recess whenever they feel students are in need.

Please make sure your child is coming to school dressed appropriately for the weather. It is time for long pants, sweatshirts, socks, and closed-toed shoes. Appropriate dress includes winter coats, hats, gloves or mittens.

THE NEXT COLUMBIAN PTO MEETING IS MONDAY, FEB 13TH

The next PTO meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 13th in the library at 6 PM. Childcare for school age children is available – contact Karen Burmood at sunnymonday@yahoo.com for more information.

BOYS TOWN/OPS PARENTING SERIES

You’re Invited to Attend an Upcoming Parent Workshop on “Helping your Child Succeed in School”. Parenting is the toughest job you’ll ever love! Boys Town and the Omaha Public Schools are hosting a parenting series sponsored by Nebraska Medicine on the first Tuesday of the month in February, March, April and May. Join Boys Town’s nationally recognized staff on Feb. 7 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. as they present “Helping Your Child Succeed in School”. All sessions will be held at the OPS Teacher Administrative Center; 3215 Cuming St. Activities for children and snacks will be available.

Please call 402-498-1059 to reserve your spot today!

Upcoming topics are:

March 7: “Strategies to Help You and Your Child Remain Calm”
April 4: “Teaching Your Child Self-Discipline”
May 2: “Helping Your Child Make Good Decisions”
The Counselor’s Corner

A Cobra To COUNT on!

Cobra to COUNT on students recognized in January were:
DaShawnna Boatman
Cassandra Bray
Matthew Buchholz
Stella Clark-Kaczmarek
Mahi Dholakia
Harper Duke
Aisha El-Kasaby
Jack Elsasser
Jacye’on Foote
Everly Grubb
Rennen Hartmann
Enoch Heady
Kira Irwin
Timothy Janicek
Estell Jennings
LaTayvia Jones
Avery Kluver
Manella Lawson
Carlos Montanez Lopez
Lydia Matejka
Gracelyn Nice
Delaney Ochsner

A Cobra To COUNT on continued....
Grady Pearsall
Charlie Pella
Alea Pella
Lilyan Perez
Lilly Pettus
Het Prajapati
Henry Reinsch
Chloe Reynek
Renatta Rogers
Evan Shapiro
Ryan Simmons
Santiago Trujillo
Julia Walenz
Bailey Washburn
Thomas White
Julianna Wright
Gavin Wycoff
Anthony Ruiz Yates
Davyn Zach
Rachel Zurita

Congratulations to all our Cobras to COUNT on!!!
What’s Happening Around Columbian?

NEBRASKA IS TURNING 150!

On March 1, 2017, Nebraska will be celebrating its sesquicentennial. Columbian Elementary will be celebrating our statehood as well. We are planning lots of activities to commemorate this event.

As part of our celebration, we would like to see all the wonderful places our Columbian families have visited in our beautiful state.

If you have traveled to any Nebraska landmarks, please send us your pictures. Pictures can be dropped off in the office, emailed to your child’s teacher, or uploaded to the Columbian Facebook page via Facebook Messenger.

COLUMBIAN CLASSROOM VALENTINE PARTIES

We will be having classroom Valentine's Day parties and exchanging Valentines on Tuesday, February 14th, 2:30 PM. We are so grateful to the parents volunteering in our classrooms and making Valentine's Day fun for all!

COLUMBIAN ELEMENTARY
a once in a lifetime learning experience...every day!

C... Community Partnerships
O... Optimizing Student Achievement
U... Understanding Citizenship
N... Nurturing Leaders of Tomorrow
T... Tradition of Excellence

COBRAS COUNT!

Omaha Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including pregnancy), marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, citizenship status, veteran status, political affiliation 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 accept allegations regarding non-discrimination policies: Superintendent of Schools, 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (402-557-2001). The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director for the Office of Equity and Diversity, 3215 Cuming St, Omaha, NE 68131 (402-557-2790).