

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come.... Psalter 247

School Board Monthly Report

Meeting Held January 3, 2018

1. All members are present.
2. President Nathan Schiermeyer reads from Psalm 128 and opens with prayer.
3. Treasurer's report is received.
4. Tuition report is received.
5. Building report is received.
6. Technology Report is received.
7. Transportation/Busing Report is received.
8. Principal's report is received.
9. Education Committee report is received.
10. Motion is made to switch the 2:30 dismissal from January 25, 2018 to January 24, 2018, to allow staff to attend via Skype the PRTI meeting. Support and Carried.
11. Scrip Committee Report is received.
12. Script minutes are read.
13. Motion is made to receive script minutes as read. Support and Carried.
14. Motion is made to adjourn. Support and Carried.



NOTICE THE NEW HOURS!

SCRIP HOURS AT SCHOOL:

Mondays 9:30-12
Wednesdays 11-12
Thursdays 9:30-12

Church Collection Report

Received YTD: \$133,959.91

Budgeted YTD: \$150,465.00

Difference YTD: (\$16,505.09)

Ladies Guild News

The Ladies Guild will be hosting the annual Belgian Waffle Supper in the HPRCS gym on February 21. Waffles will be served from 5-7 PM for a free will donation. Carry-outs will also be available. Parents, please watch upcoming memos for your assigned food or monetary donation list as well as scheduled work hours.

The Ways and Means Committee is in need of another volunteer for our Basketball Tournament Committee as soon as possible. This is usually held in April or May. You do not need to be a member of Ladies Guild to volunteer. If you have questions or are able to volunteer please contact Anna Van Den Top or Sheila Blankespoor.

Please take note in the change to Scrip office hours. They are as follows: Monday 9:30 to 12, Wednesday 11-12 and Thursday 9:30 to 12. We have also expanded the brands of scrip that will be on-hand. They include Amazon (2.25%), DQ (3%), Hardees (5%), Kohl's (4%), Pizza Hut (8%) and Target (2.5%). Thank you for supporting our school through scrip!

School Calendar

JANUARY

15-20: Iowa assessment tests
24: 2:30 dismissal; PRTI speech for HPRCS teachers

FEBRUARY

7: school board
8: 2:30 dismissal

Principal's Corner

By Mr. Gritters

It is hard to believe that we are officially into the year 2018! We are halfway through another school year. Friday, January 12, marked the end of the 1st semester for the 2017 – 2018 school year. January is always a busy time for everyone, and for us at school it is no different. January is when our school administers the Iowa Assessment Tests. This coming week, January 15 – January 19, has been set aside to administer these tests to the students. All the students in our school take these tests. Results of these assessments for each student are given to their parents at the March conferences. Overall results of each grade are reported to the Education Committee and to our school board.

The 7th and 8th graders are busy preparing for their chapel exercise which is scheduled for Wednesday, January 24. Rev. De Boer from our Edgerton Prot. Ref. Church will be the speaker. Everyone is invited to attend this chapel exercise. Many of the other classrooms are busy using the morning singing each day to help prepare the students for the All School Program to be held Friday evening, February 24, the Lord willing. The theme of this year's program is the "Truths of the Reformation" using the five solas of the Reformation for the different sections.

THIRD GRADE MATH

By Mrs. Brenda Vande Kamp

A large part of third grade math involves the memorization of multiplication and division facts. The focus of this article is to share many strategies that aid in the memorization of the multiplication facts. Once the students have mastered the multiplication facts, the memorization of division facts usually presents less of a challenge. Division, being the inverse operation of multiplication enables students to figure out $36 \div 6 = 6$ by thinking $6 \times \underline{\quad} = 36$.

Doubles Fact Strategy: These are facts that have 2 as a factor. These facts are equivalent to the addition doubles. (Example: 2×7 is double 7, $7 + 7 = 14$) These facts are easy to memorize because the students know their doubles addition facts as well as counting by twos.

Fives Fact Strategy: These are facts that have 5 as a factor. Products of facts with 5 as a factor will end in either 5 or 0. (Example: $5 \times 5 = 25$, $5 \times 6 = 30$) These facts are easy to memorize because the students know how to count by fives.

Zeroes & Ones Fact Strategies: These are facts that have either 0 or 1 as a factor.

When one of the factors is a 0, such as 0×8 , then the number sentence is read "0 groups of 8, or 0×8 . If you don't have any groups then how things do you have? None or zero. If the number sentence is 8×0 , then it would read "8 groups of 0, or 8×0 . If you have zero items in a group, the product is zero. This is called the Zero Property.

When one of the factors is a 1, the product is always the other number. (Example: $1 \times 7 = 7$, $5 \times 1 = 5$) The other factor always keeps its identity. This is called the Identity Property.

Tens Fact Strategy: These are facts that have a 10 as a factor. (Example: $10 \times 1 = 10$, $10 \times 2 = 20$) These facts are easy to

The Board has approved a change to our school's calendar in January. The 2:30 dismissal of Thursday, January 25, has been changed to Wednesday, January 24. This change allows the teachers to be able to participate (via Skype) with their colleagues in the Eastern Time Zone in a PRTI winter meeting at 2:45 PM. Prof. Doug Kuiper will be addressing the teachers on "Judging in the Christian School".

The staff of our school has been busy analyzing and updating the various subject curriculums which are taught in each classroom for the past few years. The staff has updated the math, reading, spelling, English, and science curriculums. For the 2017 – 2018 school year, the staff is examining the new social studies standards to see how effectively our curriculum is aligned with those standards. Along with this process, the staff is working on updating their current social studies curriculum.

Teaching and learning about God's creation and His great works fill up each of the school days throughout the school year. What a joy and blessing it is to be able to educate our children in our own covenant Christian school!

memorize because the students know how to count by tens.
Nines Fact Strategy: These are facts that have a 9 as a factor. A strategy for nines that is easy to use is related to the tens strategy. Notice that 3×9 is one set or group less than 3×10 . $3 \times 10 = 30$ so $3 \times 9 = 27$, which is 3 less than 30.

A second strategy follows the patterns created by the multiples of 9. ($9 \times 1 = 09$, $9 \times 2 = 18$, $9 \times 3 = 27$, $9 \times 4 = 36$, $9 \times 5 = 45$, $9 \times 6 = 54$, $9 \times 7 = 63$, $9 \times 8 = 72$, $9 \times 9 = 81$, $9 \times 10 = 90$) Notice the tens place increasing, the ones place decreasing, and the sum of the product's digits add up to nine.

A third strategy that we use most often uses our 10 fingers. Number your fingers 1-10, beginning with your left pinky finger and ending with your right pinky finger. Now lay your hands flat in front of you. If the fact is 7×9 , tuck your seventh finger under. You have 6 fingers lying flat before the tucked finger, and you have 3 finger lying flat after the tucked finger. The product of $7 \times 9 = 63$.

Square Numbers Fact Strategy: These are facts where both factors are the same number. The visual image of these facts create a square. (Example: $4 \times 4 = 16$ creates a 4×4 square) The students enjoy coloring in grids to represent the image made when multiplying square numbers.

Double and Double Again Strategy: This strategy is used for facts that have 4 as one of the factors. This strategy builds upon the **Doubles Strategy**. Students look at the other factor and double it, then double that answer. (Example: 4×7 . Double 7 to get 14. Double 14 to get 28.) $4 \times 7 = (2 \times 7) + (2 \times 7)$

Half then Double Strategy: This strategy works for facts that have an even factor. (Example: To find 6×7 , find half of 6 which is 3, so $(3 \times 7) + (3 \times 7)$ will equal 6×7 .) This strategy works well facts with a 6 or 8 as a factor.

There may be other strategies or "tricks" that help in the memorization of multiplication facts, but these are the strategies that are mostly used in the classroom. The third grade students are nearing their goal of memorizing the 0-10 facts. Upon completion of this goal, they are anticipating a celebration with banana splits. YUM!

In Malachi 3:6 we read, "For I am the Lord, I change not..." God teaches us much about Himself in the study of mathematics. He is the unchanging God, and the products of multiplication problems are also unchanging.