



Roachdale Elementary News



Roachdale Elementary
J. Scott Spencer, Principal

Vol. 7, No. 7 – February 2016
Dan McMurtry – Counselor

"Every Child, Every Day, Whatever It Takes!"

Calendar of Events

- Feb 1 PTO Meeting 6:00pm
- Feb 5 Monthly Awards 8:20am
- Feb 5 Midterm
- Feb 12 Valentine's Parties
- Feb 17 Spring Picture Day
- Feb 17 School Board Meeting 7:00pm
- Feb 25 Math Bowl Competition @ SP
- Feb 29 ISTEP+ Part 1 Begins

FEBRUARY 15 is Presidents' Day. Currently, this is scheduled to be a DAY OFF from school. However, if we have a snow day prior to this date, we could use this as a make-up day and students would attend school. Please stay tuned for more information since we cannot predict what will happen with the weather between now and then.



MATH BOWL 2016
(not pictured: Arrick Kramer)

When school is in session, the building is open for supervision from 8:00am to 3:20pm daily.

Office Hours: 7:30am-4:00pm

Roachdale Earns an "A" Rating for 2014-2015

After a lengthy and controversial ISTEP+ scoring process administered by the Indiana Department of Education, Roachdale Elementary School first received a "B" designation for the 2014-2015 school year. Tougher standards and implementation of new technology enhanced test questions caused a predicted drop in scores statewide, on average, 18-25% below the previous year. Roachdale scores dipped 13% in English/Language Arts and 14% in math from 2013-2014. This drop caused overall performance to fall below the 90% mark, taking Roachdale Elementary out of the "A" range for the first time since 2011-2012 when the school earned a "C".

Though the initial "B" rating is accurate for the data described above, the State Legislature passed a bill in late January holding schools "harmless" for the 2014-2015 school year, meaning that the school gets to keep an "A" rating. However, the school's goal remains the same. A 90% passing rate is the target and for those that do not pass, the goal is to show a year's growth, moving students toward proficiency and mastery of standards.

The ISTEP debate is far from over. Legislation currently at the Statehouse could eliminate ISTEP altogether, if passed. The future of education in the State of Indiana has been anything but clear over the past couple of years, but Roachdale Elementary School remains focused on students. Please contact Mr. Spencer with any additional questions and watch news outlets closely for weekly updates on the state of education in Indiana.

Swim Lessons Resume This Month

As February closes with Leap Day on Monday, February 29, Roachdale Elementary students return to the pool for semester 2 of the elementary swim program. More information and permission slips will be sent out soon. The dates for grades 2, 1, & K are listed below (weather permitting):

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Feb 29-Mar 11 (10 days) | Grade 2 – Mrs. Crosby & Ms. Proctor |
| Mar 14-18 (5 days) | Grade 1 – Mrs. Davies & Mrs. King |
| Mar 28-Apr 1 (5 days) | Grade K – Mrs. Denny & Mrs. Lenihan |