Dear Families,

Summer school planning is well under way. There is still time to register for summer school if you haven’t already done so. Did you know that the word “engineer” comes from a Latin word meaning “cleverness”? We will be developing “cleverness” during summer school and can’t wait to get started!

We are excited to announce that Sarah Winans will be joining the Horace Mann team next year as the fifth/sixth grade teacher. Mrs. Winan’s introduction letter is included in this newsletter. We will schedule a meet/greet time in May.

**ART SHOW & OPEN HOUSE**

Thursday, April 23
3:30-6:30 p.m.
Horace Mann Lab School
And
Phyllis & Richard Leet Center

The Art show is an opportunity to showcase the art work our students have worked hard to create all year. We look forward to celebrating these great works of art. Refreshments will be served in the Horace Mann lobby.

Incoming Kindergarten families-visit the KINDERGARTEN ROOM for special activities

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Kendra Quick, new Aramark dietitian, joined the Aramark team over spring break. Kendra graduated from Northwest in 2013 with a Bachelor of Science in foods and nutrition with an emphasis in dietetics. She completed her internship in Richmond Virginia. I’m sure you have already noticed a change in our menus. Kendra and Peggy Wilmes are working closely to monitor our menus and make adjustments as needed. Please contact Sandy or Amy if you have any concerns or suggestions regarding the menu options.
Congratulations to Paige Runnels, Horace Mann’s Outstanding Youth Optimist Honoree.

Paige and her family attended a special Optimist breakfast to celebrate the honorees.

Grade Level Assessments for grades 3-4-5-6 will take place Monday, April 27 through Friday, May 1. Teachers will contact families to ask for snacks during testing week. Attendance is crucial during these testing times because it is difficult to make up these sessions. The entire assessment is online this year.

THANK YOU
This week we celebrated our student employees. These students take on various roles at Horace Mann and we appreciate all they do. Thanks to Emily and Marina for helping with front desk and office tasks; Jack, Briana, Jordan, and Sarah for keeping our students safe and engaged at Bearcat Club. Thanks to Ryan and Audrey for being great band instructors. Thanks to Dana, Serena, Haley, and Alyssa for manning the library. We also thank our graduate assistants, Hannah, Maggie, Ciara, Anusha, Natalie, and Gitta for creating an engaging learning environment for all students.

Upcoming Events:

**APRIL**
- 20 No School/Bearcat Club is available
- 21-24 Jukebox cast early bird practices 7:30am GYM
- 21-Kindergarten visits Recycling Plant
- 22 & 24 Creative Dramatics 10-11 am
- 22-4th-6th grades to Robertson-Crist Park
- 22-Tech Club 4-5-6 grades 3:30-4:30
- 23-Kindergarten visits Greenhouse
- 23 ART SHOW AND OPEN HOUSE 3:30-6:30
- 24-Theater presentations 10-11 am
- 24-Kindergarten participates in tree planting
- 27-30 Grade Level Testing 3-6th grades
- 28-DARE Graduation 7 pm Ron Houston Center
- 29-Tech Club 4-5-6 grades 3:30-4:30

**MAY**
- 1-Pastries with Principal (Clubs Update)
  - 7:15-8:00 a.m. CAFE
- 4-Leet Center Pot Luck @ Park
- 6- Grades 4/5/6 field trip-Omaha Zoo
- 8-1st Grade Mother’s Day Tea
- 8 5th- DARE bowling; 6th-DARE Movie
- 13-Tech Club 3:30-4:30
- 14-MAGIC JUKEBOX 7 pm
- 15-LEET last day of school
- 19-Kindergarten LUAU
- 22 Awards Ceremony 10 am
- Sixth Grade GRADUATION
- 22 Last day of school 12:30 dismissal

*Congratulations to Paige Runnels, Horace Mann’s Outstanding Youth Optimist Honoree. Paige and her family attended a special Optimist breakfast to celebrate the honorees.*
Dear Horace Mann Families,

Amidst the flurry of the final weeks of the school year, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Sarah Winans, and I am originally from North Platte, Nebraska. I completed my undergraduate degree at Northwest Missouri State University, and I also have a Master’s of Historical Studies degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University and a Master's in Educational Leadership from Doane College. I taught 2nd grade for two years in Elkhorn, Nebraska, before moving to work for Lincoln Public Schools. In Lincoln, I taught grades 3–5, and I currently am the elementary instructional technology coach for the district. My husband Rich is the HyVee store director in Bedford, Iowa, and we have a daughter named Adelaide who cannot wait to start Kindergarten next year.

My contributions to the professional community extend beyond teaching. I played a key role in the development of district social studies curriculum, leading efforts in grades 3–6 and 11. I also developed portions of the elementary science curriculum in preparation for the digital transition. At the state level, I contributed to the development of Nebraska’s social studies and science standards. I worked with Nebraska Public Television to develop a web curriculum. Beyond that, I have contributed to the development of C3 Framework lessons in coordination with North Carolina State University and participated in a seminar with colleagues from around the country at Harvard University. In 2013, I was honored as the Nebraska History Teacher of the Year.

I am excited to join the Horace Mann community. It is a great place for children to learn and grow, and I look forward to working with you and your student. I believe my teaching is most effective when your child feels at home in our classroom, and I strive to meet the individual needs of every student, each with his or her own interests, experiences, and dreams. I also believe a strong partnership between teachers and families is essential, and I encourage frequent communication and participation by all stakeholders. Finally, I am thrilled by the possibilities that Project Lead the Way will provide for us as we learn together next year. The opportunity to engage in authentic opportunities to explore science, technology, engineering, and math is one I embrace.

I look forward to meeting you all soon. Best wishes on the end of the 2014-2015 school year!

Sincerely,
Sarah Winans