

BEING THANKFUL

Thursday, November 26th, is Thanksgiving Day 2009. In many ways, Thanksgiving is the start of the Christmas Holiday Season—at least from a commercial and media point of view. Actually, the hype has already begun well in advance of Thanksgiving. When you stop to think about it, Thanksgiving is almost a forgotten holiday except for the airlines and the department stores who depend heavily on the Thanksgiving Holiday Weekend to boost profits.

Everyday is a good time to pause, reflect, and be thankful for what we have. Thanksgiving is the formal and communal way of expressing our thanks. As we prepare for Thanksgiving 2009, we can certainly be thankful for so many things. I suppose that the list could go on and on, but I would at least like to mention some things from the school's perspective that I am thankful for.

- 1) We made it through the first phase of swine flu.
- 2) To the best of my knowledge, we have lost no students in our district to this serious virus.
- 3) The swine flu vaccinations have arrived, so more of our students will now be protected from this virus.
- 4) We are moving to our new elementary buildings soon!!!
- 5) We have a dedicated school staff that believes in children, their abilities to succeed, and our efforts as a school district to improve.
- 6) Our school district has been rated “Excellent” for the past two years. This is a phenomenal accomplishment for any school district. I just hope that

there are others in the community who appreciate and care about this as much as I do. It is not an easy thing to accomplish.

- 7) Our teachers and students are blessed to have so many materials and supplies to help us reach our goal of Excellence.
- 8) The AC/OVSD continues to provide excellent staff development opportunities for our teachers and administrators, mostly thanks at this time to the Federal Stimulus/ARRA funds that we receive.
- 9) The building project is nearing completion, and there have been no serious injuries that have occurred during construction.
- 10) Adams County Regional Water, Adams Rural Electric, and AEP for all of their assistance with the new construction projects.
- 11) Village and Township officials for their efforts to help us successfully complete the construction projects.
- 12) County officials, including the Commissioners, for all of their assistance and support with the construction projects.
- 13) We're almost ready to move into our new elementary buildings!! I know that I mentioned this in #4, but this one is big and it is exciting for so many people—children and adults alike.

This is my Thanksgiving Education Thankful List for 2009. In case you can't tell, I really enjoy the Thanksgiving Holiday for several reasons. It is my hope that your family will enjoy the special meaning and fellowship that goes with this day.

BASKETBALL SEASON SET TO BEGIN

As unbelievable as it is for me to comprehend, another basketball season is upon us. The Girls' Preview was last weekend, and the Boys' Preview is slated for this weekend. I urge you to go and support your favorite team(s) throughout the basketball season. If you don't have a favorite team, then go and support all of our teams like I do. Our boys and girls, and their coaches work very hard to make us proud of them. I encourage fans to show your appreciation by attending the games, and encouraging the teams with your cheers and enthusiasm—not discouraging them with jeers and criticism. After all, if this was all so easy, then everybody would do it. So, support the teams and enjoy the 2009-2010 basketball season. Do your part to promote good sportsmanship.

If you have any questions concerning this article, please contact me at 544-5586. Thank you, and Happy Thanksgiving.

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Superintendent