



GOBBLER GOSSIP



Sports
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PBIS: Positive Behavior Intervention Support

The day after Christmas break been new signs were put up in the hall ways on the first floor that say Respect, "Responsibility, Character and Pride." There are miscellaneous signs on the second and third floor doorways. There are also new posters in all the rooms, the computer labs, cafeteria and hallways. The posters tell us the behaviors that should be exhibited through-out the different areas of the school.

These changes are all part of the new system Positive Behavior Intervention Support which the elementary school has had this whole year. The concept of it is to reward students for doing the right things.

The high school has already had part of PBIS started this year and that is the minors and majors, which gives kids warnings instead of immediately giving them detention. If a student is to get four minors they get a major. When a student receives a minor it is stapled to their file. It will hopefully instill more "Gobbler Pride" in the students. Over the years there has been a drastic decrease of Gobbler pride shown throughout the school from dress up days to cheering at games.

GOBBLER PRIDE Library/Computer Labs

- Be mindful of volume:
 - Voice/music
 - Printing
- NO food/drink
- Mind your personal space
- Maintain settings
- Leave no trace
- Use appropriate language

GOBBLER PRIDE Cafeteria

- Work on appropriate sites/materials
- Return books on time & in good condition
- Use time wisely

GOBBLER PRIDE Hallways

- Stay focused
 - Be productive
- Be drug free
- Use integrity

GOBBLER PRIDE Restrooms

- Report equipment problems immediately
- Support & participate in school activities
- Keep PDA to holding hands

According to Aitkin senior Drew Burke, this is a more effective system. The teachers have been carrying

around little yellow slips which they hand out to kids who show good Respect, Responsibility, Character or

Pride. Each week the teachers will give them out for a different word such as one week may be "Responsibility" week, so teacher will give yellow slips to students who show they are responsible. They may also use them to ask students what those four words are. When you get one of those slips, you put your name on them and hand them in to the office. At different times throughout the trimester. There will be a drawing for different prizes.

When asked about the new system Aitkin senior Christine Grey stated "I don't think it is going to work". Senior Sabrien Anliker added that it is kind of what we already have they just put a name to it. We don't know how its going to be accepted among the student body until it is in full swing. Some have said that they same students are receiving the yellow tickets over and over. And at lunch no once has a teacher came to our lunch table and asked us to recite the four words. When first year gobbler teacher Mr. Heller was asked about the topic she said "It's a way to finally recognize and reward the good students for doing well."



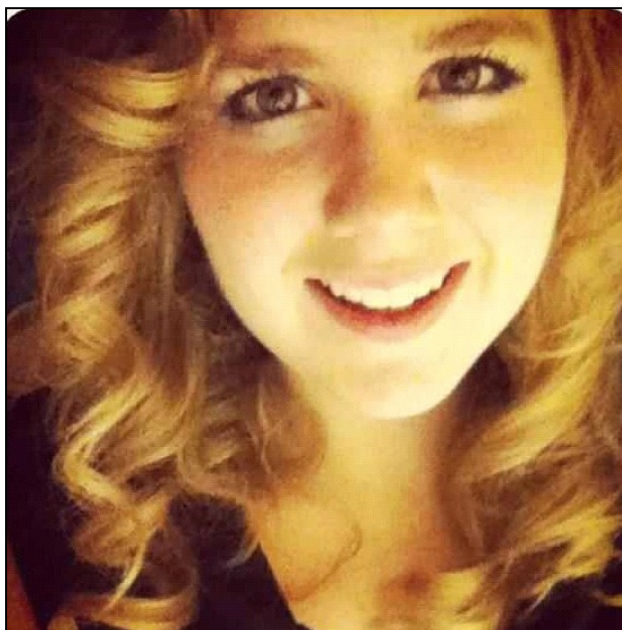
Student of the week: Erin Host

Erin has lived in Aitkin her whole life and is involved in many different activities here at AHS such as softball, volleyball, part time basketball manager (without pay), National Honors Society, student council treasurer, region 5 BPA president and local chapter co-president, Peer Helpers, church choir, choir, madrigals and hand bells. Erin does it all; she has extraordinary amounts of experience under her belt. When she is not busy with her many activities she likes to spend her free time snap chatting, going on adventures with the super six (Cassie, Ash, Chels, Jenaë and Bailey), singing in her car, organizing things, playing piano and guitar.

Erin has many different nicknames: Ren, Ren-Ten, Ren-Ten Billie, Ernest, and Ernie. Her favorite nickname and the one she is referred to the most is Ren-Ten Billie. That name came about on the softball bus coming home from a game. She was having a rap battle with Nataly Milbradt (Nat Milly), amidst one of her raps she called herself Ren-Ten Billie because "Ten billion is greater than a million" said Erin. She went on to say "I find it funny everyone calls me a nickname that I came up with, but it's cool".

So far in her 17 years of life, Erin's favorite memory is going to New York with the choir and spending almost every minute with her best friend Cassie Sandberg. Erin is not the type of girl to cause a ruckus, however the craziest thing she has ever done was at BPA state a group of kids skipped the hypnotist provided for the evening entertainment and went to Target to buy a movie. When they got back to the room they put the sheets over the windows and used a projector to make their own "nerd" Movie Theater.

Erin enjoys coming to school every day, not many kids can say that. She looks forward to seeing her friends and having great teachers that prepare her for the real world. Erin stated "even if I think something is pointless, I find that it still comes back and is actually quite valuable."



Erin Host

A day in the life of "Ren- Ten"

"Well I'm typically up by 5:30 to go to my various activities such as hand bells, madrigals, student council or open gym. I find this ironic because I seriously am not a morning person, like an oh-my-goodness-let-me-hit-the-alarm-five-more-times kind of person, but I still manage. Then I go to school with all the awesome people and we have an awesome time if our teachers don't plan their tests all on the same day. After school I do homework or have practice of some sort or workout with Cassi Tetrick. I normally leave after the sun goes down. When I get home, I do more homework, or play my piano or sleep. I don't get much sleep and some call me overcommitted. I'd probably go insane if I did nothing every day."



Boys Basketball

The boys basketball team has a new coach this year, Jordan Moss and it seems to be working out for them. The boys have to run extraordinary amounts in practices, sometimes up to 20 killers. With no seniors on the team, that will not stop the boys with phenomenal players coming from the grade below such as Nathan Ehnstrom, Ryan Anderson and Sam Hanson, Kyle Thompson, Dan Bender, Will Provost, Kinzer Hill, Bryan Haugly and Logan Quade.

So far on the season the boys are 4-9. leading the points for the boys is Nathan Ehnstrom. If Nathan keeps an average of 20 points a game he will

reach his 1,000 points in the next few games. The boys rival is Crosby as usual, however the boys fell to Crosby this season.

The junior varsity boys are also doing very well this year. Leading scoring for the team is Steven Schnieder followed by Nathan Davies.



Nathan Ehnstrom against Isle

Girls Basketball

The girls are doing pretty swell this year with a record of 15-3. The captains this year are Megan Welshons, Melissa Paulson and Cassie Sandberg. The seniors are Megan Welshons, Melissa Paulson, Nataly Milbradt, Hope Palkie and Mikayla Michaletz. Managers are Alyssa Peterson and Raven Krueger. On the team there is no one girl that scores the majority of the points. On an average night there are usually four people that score in double digits. Cassie Sandberg scored the first 20 point game for the girls this year.

The girls' biggest competition this year is against Isle, even though the girls lost in their first game against the Huskies they plan to take them down in their next encounter coming up Jan 31st.

The girls last game against the East Central Eagles was in the girls' favor, winning 61-29. Scoring 12 points for the girls' was Cassie Sandberg with Lisa Anderson scoring 10, Melissa Paulson and Madi Newton each scored 8 points.

Rebounds for the girls are usually shared between Bailey Nordean and Mikayla Michaletz. Bailey is the shortest girl on the team but still manages to lead in rebounds.

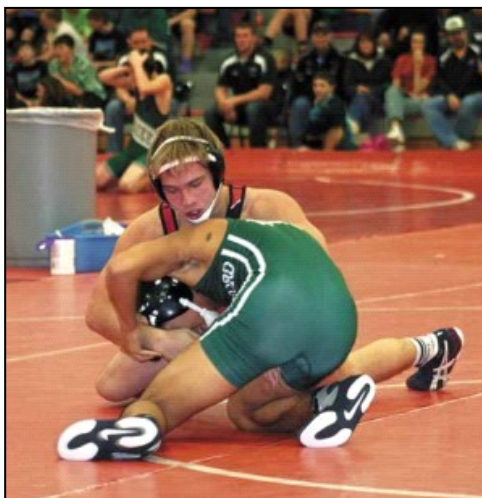


Megan Welshons



Wrestling

This year's wrestling seniors are Brian Wold, Isaac Novak, Roy Wigton and Anthony Aston. Captains are Brian Wold and Isaac Novak. The wrestlers have started their season off with a win over Rush City. Their second match was at home against Holdingford. They wrestled a tough match with Holdingford's team having two state ranked wrestlers. Starting off the match for Aitkin was Tyler Bare at 106; he took home another personal win. He is now 21-10 on the season. Last month the boys traveled to Cass Lake for the annual Big Bear tournament. Placing third at 150 was Isaac Novak, placing fifth at 138 was



Brian Wold

Brian Wold and placing seventh at 106 was Tyler Bare.

The boys are currently 9-4 on the season, after beating pine city last week with a score of 40-31. In sports Aitkin's rivalry is usually Crosby, but this year the boys have dominated Crosby's team with a score of 42-22 their last match. They have a tournament in Grand Rapids this weekend and sections to follow weeks later. Aitkin has three wrestlers ranked in state this year, Jerod Novak ranked 10th at 145, Brian Wold Ranked ninth at 138, and Isaac Novak ranked seventh at 160.

Dance

There is no need to worry about the Aitkin All-Stars. They are doing what they do every year, taking first. With captains Kassie Kokesh, Bailey Barber and Kennedy Swanson. The girls had a conference high kick competition in Pine River, the girls took first. They had a jazz competition in Pierz and the girls yet again took first.

The girls had a big win in Alexandria jazz beat Duluth Marshal and high kick took first as well. The girls beat La Qui Parrel Valley and Yellow

Medicine east who are 3rd and 4th in state.

The girls were named conference champs at Crosby last week. They have sections February 9th at home. The All-Stars had parents night this past Friday. If everything stays how it has been going for the girls they are looking at going to state February 15h and 16th.

Good luck girls!

*Kassie Kokesh, Kennedy Swanson
and Bailey Barber*



Upcoming events

Tuesday Feb. 5th

- Wrestling @ Pierz
- Boys Basketball @ home -Onamia
- Girls Basketball away @ Onamia
- Dance Team @ home

Friday Feb. 8th

- Wrestling away @ Pine City
- Girls Basketball @ home- Rush City

Saturday Feb.9th

- Dance Team section @ home



No Turn Out At Games

It seems that as the years go on less and less kids come out for the sporting events. Back when I was in seventh and eighth grade it seemed like the whole senior and junior class was at the games. My friends and I got pushed all the way up to the top rows of the student section. The students were always on their feet cheering on the Gobblers. Our mascot was at every game as well, pumping up the crowd.

Now at the games any underclassman that shows up have a second or third row seat. The spirit of Aitkin is slowly dying; the kids that do show up

hangout with friends and just sit there not paying attention to the game. There is hardly ever cheering at the games anymore. The student section used to lead the whole gym in the wave or start cheering battles with rival teams. Where has the spirit gone? We need more activities at the games; anything to pump up the fans.

A good way to get kids at the games is to announce it before the 3:20 bell rings. A lot of kids don't know there is a game. We need more students willing to come out and support our teams. It doesn't help when the teams look over

and see ten students just sitting there. We



Ryan Anderson and Will Provost

Poll

What do you think about the gun control controversy?



Mikaela Zebro: "It's stupid. It's not the guns it's the people"



Christine Grey: "It doesn't effect me. I don't shoot guns"



Jordan Fiske: "There are too many guns"



Alex Bobenmoyer: "They shouldn't have control."



NHL Lockout

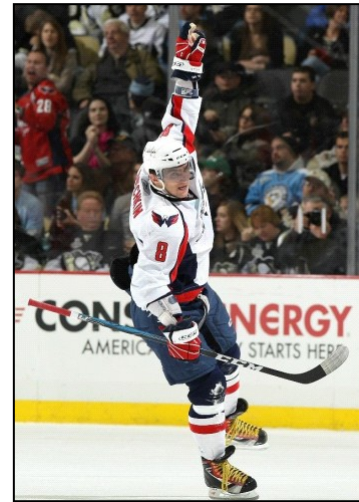
The truth of the matter is this is helping no one; the players aren't getting paid and the team owners are not seeing the money they would get from each game. The controversy is between the player's association (NHLPA) and the NHL. The main issue is still the salary of the players, for a while they had the profits at 50-50. In the past meetings they haven't seemed to get anywhere. They have had large groups, small groups and even mediators still with no agreement.

On Tuesday, December 4th they had another meeting to discuss a possible agreement. The players associations sent Pittsburgh Penguin's center Sidney Crosby, Chicago Blackhawks center

Jonathan Toews to attend this meeting.

One of the NHL's greatest players, Alexander Ovechkin of the Washington Capitals, threatened to not return to the NHL if there are salary cuts. If he does not return he will continue player for his home country of Russia.

Finally after 113 days of the lockout it is finally over. Alex Ovechkin flew back to Washington D.C on Tuesday. The union chief Donald Fehr said, via Sportsnet: "Any process like this is difficult; it can be long...we have the framework of a deal."



Washington Capitals captain Alexander Ovechkin

Gun Control Controversy

There are a lot of stories in the news about gun control and what the government plans on doing to tighten it or loosen it. Approximately 80 million Americans (half of U.S. homes) own guns, in that 80 million people there are 223 million registered guns. Even with half of the U.S. homes with guns 60 percent of Democrats and 30 percent of Republicans are striving for stronger gun ownership laws.

States generally decide on their own gun laws, especially depending on the states location. The south and western rural states have less regulation on guns compared to more populated states with larger cities. In 2010, the Supreme Court declared that "Americans in all 50 states have a constitutional right to possess firearms for self-defense."

A lot has changed about the gun control act since 1968; the reason for the act was the assassinations of John F. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. The gun control act of 1968 prohibited felons and mentally ill from buying guns. And you could not order guns through the mail.

In the past, new gun control legislation has only been passed when the Democrats control congress. This might be hard to do with Republicans having majority in the House of Representatives and Democrats having majority in the Senate.

Since the Newtown Shooting president Obama has been working with Vice President Biden's gun violence task force. The initiative is to reduce gun violence. Among the proposed congressional actions are Reinstating and Strengthening the assault weapons ban, limiting the number of ammunition magazines to 10 rounds, provide 30 million dollars to schools

to develop emergency response plans and require criminal background checks for the purchase of guns including private sellers.

President Obama signed 23 executive orders on Jan.16 2013 in the white house. He invited four children to stand among him. These 23 points plan to close any loopholes dealing with guns.



Vice President Biden and President Obama



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Is Minnesota Next?

In North Carolina there is a debate going on between congress and the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) pertaining to text messages. The SBI (police) is pushing congress to pass a bill that will make cellular companies store your text messages for up to two years. Currently no phone companies store your texts, no need to worry. If it does pass and they can go back and look at texts the police would still need a court order. Is the government going too far into personal life?

Also, who would pay for the storage of these text messages? Most likely the customers of these phone companies. To

start an unlimited plan with Sprint it already costs roughly \$150 a month plus an activation fee. How much more would it cost if there was a storage fee?

I asked a couple teenagers how they feel on the subject, Aitkin's finest Melissa Paulson and Kassie Kokesh. Melissa said, "I would not like that," and Kassie added "Personally I don't care, the government wouldn't be interested in my conversations. They're pretty boring." How far is too far for the government?

Whose Tat is That

This Tattoo consists of many hearts slowly fading off into the distance. This teacher got it because they couldn't find the outfit they wanted for prom.



Miller's Board

Megan Welshons "Is there colleges in Canada?"

Nataly Milbradt "Dolphins and whales are the same exact thing."

Kennedy Swanson "Is there really a duck called a wood duck?"

Alec Kinzer: "If you gave me a million dollars to kill someone, id kill someone."

Dean Lynn "Does your phone not hold a charge"

Nataly Milbradt "No my battery just dies really fast"



Fun Facts with Cass!

- The average person falls asleep in seven minutes.
- If you yelled for 8 years, 7 months and 6 days, you would have produced enough sound energy to heat one cup of coffee.
- Every day more money is printed for monopoly than the US Treasury.
- Months that begin on a Sunday will always have a "Friday the 13th."
- Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2-6 years of age.
- Bullet proof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers, and laser printers were all invented by women.
- Polar bears are left handed.
- If you put a raisin in a glass of champagne, it will keep floating to the top and sinking to the bottom.

Across

1. name of our principal

3. youngest teacher

7. this girl won Snow Days queen

9. Head Cook

Down

2. you do these to start class in Smith's

4. sport that always wins state

5. New english teacher on the 3rd floor

6. the Aitkin _____ (mascot)

8. we have these in the gym a couple times a year

