

Ames HSAP Newsletter

April 2023



For Your Calendar

Quarter 4 Enrichment Classes	3.20-4.28
Mary Greeley Mileage Club	3.20-5.12
Parent Connection #4	4.06
Robison Wildlife Area Field Trip	4.07
Live United Food Drive	4.10-4.28
2023/24 Enrichment Class Registration	
Begins Today	4.16
4 th & 5 th Grade HSAP Play	4.20
Ames Municipal Airport Field Trip	4.21
Final Week of Enrichment Classes	4.24-4.28
Iowa Assessments	5.01-5.12
Beauty & the Beast Drama	5.07, 5.08, & 5.09
Ice Cream Social (Family-Inis Grove)	5.19

Final Parent Connect #4: Please Consider Joining Us

You're invited to our fourth informal gathering hosted by HSAP supervising teachers Sonia Harold and Irish Briese. They'll facilitate a relaxed discussion with homeschool parents about how this final quarter of the school year is progressing. We would love to chat about all things homeschool, brainstorm ideas with each other, and just gather to make connections and get to know each other better. Meet with us in the foyer of Harvest Vineyard (320 S. 17th Street, Ames) from **1:00 pm to 2:00 pm** during the enrichment classes on **Thursday, April 6th**.



Open Enrollment

Those who are open enrolled already do *not* need to reapply, *unless* they have a younger child who has *not* been open enrolled yet (*it is per person, not per family*). New students must submit their own form even if siblings are already open enrolled into the Ames Community School District. Once a student is open enrolled, there is no need to fill out open enrollment forms for that student again. If you know of others who wish to join our program from another district, please pass this information on to them.

- [Here](#) is a link for the 2023/2024 open enrollment application.



Your Life Needs More Drama!

A group of our Ames HSAP **4th and 5th graders** will be presenting a production of "**Puss in Boots**" on **Thursday, April 20, at 7:00 pm**. This will take place at Harvest Vineyard (320 S. 17th Street, Ames). **Everyone is invited to join us!**

We also have an enthusiastic group of **6th-12th graders** who are rehearsing for this year's HSAP Drama Production, **an adaptation of Beauty and the Beast**. **Everyone is invited to join us, and there are three performances on the calendar!** This production will take place on the stage at Ames Middle School (3915 Mortensen Road).

Please save the dates for these scheduled performances of *Beauty and the Beast*:

- **Sunday afternoon at 2:30 pm on May 7th**
- **Monday evening at 6:00 pm on May 8th**
- **and Tuesday evening at 6:00 pm May 9th**

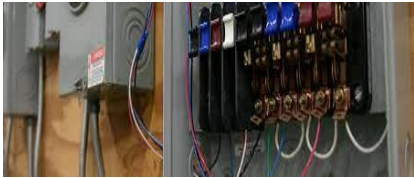


For High School Students

FINANCIAL AID NIGHT – On *Monday, April 3*, at 7:00 pm in the AHS Auditorium, AHS Counselors will host a representative from the Iowa College Access Network to explain the FAFSA process and funding for postsecondary schooling.

This presentation is designed mostly for the parents/guardians of current juniors, but anyone is welcome to attend.

- [High School Website](#)



The DMACC Electric Utility Program has a great opportunity for students who may be interested in learning more about becoming a utility line worker. Sign up for their boot camp event that will be held on *Thursday, April 6th* from 9:00 am – 11:00 am at the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities in Ankeny.

Here is a direct link to sign up today! [Electric Utility Program Information](#)



Learn More About Transferring College Credits Earned While in High School

Transferring college credits earned in high school can seem overwhelming, be confusing, and can vary from each institution. This virtual presentation on Thursday, April 13, will take place from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Discussion will include both completing a degree at DMACC before transferring to a 4-year

institution and transferring college credit directly to a 4-year institution *after high school*, as well as questions regarding pass/fail, etc. Students will have the opportunity to hear from DMACC, a representative from the Iowa Regents and a representative from Iowa private colleges via Zoom to virtually discuss frequently asked questions about transferring DMACC credit and what they should be asking colleges about the process.

- Registration period closes *Thursday, April 13*
- Students are able to register for the presentation by following this link:
- [Event Registration](#)



High School Summer Volunteer Program & Medical Career Exploration Opportunity

Mary Greeley Medical Center Volunteer Services is happy to announce that they are offering a High School Summer Volunteer Program & Medical Career Exploration opportunity! Please follow the link below to see the full program details.

- 12 Applicants will be selected
- Applications are due *Friday, April 28th*
- Applicants accepted to the program will be notified May 5th

<https://www.mgmc.org/foundation/volunteer/youth-support-areas/>



LIVE UNITED Food Drive in April

As a part of our participation in the Mary Greeley Mileage Club, we have been invited to once again take part in the *LIVE UNITED* Food Drive. We will be collecting items during the last three weeks of Enrichment Classes held at Harvest (320 S. 17th Street). This will take place from **April 10-27**. If you are not involved in these classes, please contact Kathy Burns and she will do her best to arrange a pick-up. *This is all voluntary, of course.*

LIVE UNITED Food Drive (Continued)

Here are some of the top items they are hoping to stock, but *please don't feel limited by this list*.

- **Food Items**: Peanut butter, pancake mix & syrup, any cereal, breakfast bars, rice, canned soup (including bean with bacon soup), canned beans, mac & cheese, nuts, flour, sugar, oil, ravioli/spaghettios, pasta sauce, alternative milk, canned fruit/veggies, bottled water, canned chicken/tuna
- **Non-Food Items**: shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand soap, dish soap, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, paper towels, sandwich bags, freezer quart and gallon bags, ethnic hair care

“The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves.”

Helen Keller



2023 Mary Greeley Mileage Club

Mileage Club has already started, but all interested K-8 students are still welcome to join us! The goal of this eight (8) week program is to encourage students to increase activity levels. **Participation is voluntary.**

The 2023 Mileage Club takes place from March 20 until Friday, May 12. Our HSAP has been given special permission for our parents to record the mileage covered **via walking, jogging and/or running**. If you know that you would like to have any of your K-8 students participate in this program, please email Kathy Burns, our Mileage Club Coordinator (kathy.burns@ames.k12.ia.us). Provide her with the names and grade levels of all who are interested.

We will follow the same protocol as the Story County schools that participate: Mileage is recorded based on a maximum of three 25 minute exercise sessions per week (or a total of 75 minutes). Small awards are earned every five miles, ranging from a “toe token” to a nice Mileage Club dry-fit tee shirt (at the 25 mile mark).



Iowa Assessments Days and Times

Families of students who have been registered for the Iowa Assessments can expect to receive an email within the next week or two with their student's testing days and times. *Please watch your inbox!*

If you have questions or need assistance, contact either Stephanie (stephanie.haila@ames.k12.ia.us) or Wendy Pixler (wendy.pixler@ames.k12.ia.us) (515-520-0872).



Ames HSAP Resource Library

The library will be open during our last quarter of enrichment classes through April 27.

- Mondays from 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm
- Wednesday from 9:30 am - 11:30 and 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
- Thursday from 9:30 am - 11:30 and 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Our HSAP Librarian, Joni Gainer, has organized our resources and labeled the different sections to make it easier for you to locate what you may like to borrow.

- If you have books to return that you are no longer using, you can place them in the bin as you enter the library.
- The Resource Library will be open during May and the summer. *The schedule has not been finalized yet.*
- Please don't forget the “free resources” that are found on the carts in the hallway. We are grateful for the many generous donations our HSAP has received.

Ames HSAP Field Trip Information

All registration for field trips will take place through our Ames HSAP website:

<https://ameshsap.org>

- Under the Program Resources heading, choose Services; Scroll down to "Field Trips"
- Currently the April Field trips are featured.
- Updates and additions will be found on the website and sent via email.
- **Some of our students have severe nut and peanut allergies! Please do not bring or consume any products with nuts/peanuts.**
- HSAP Field Trip Coordinator is Carrie Pahl. carrie.pahl@ames.k12.ia.us (515.450.4068)



April Field Trips

Robison Wildlife Acres

Grades: Whole Family (not a drop-off)

Friday, April 7

11:00 am - 1:00 pm (check-in time 10:45 am)

**Registration Deadline: Thursday, April 6
29490 632nd Avenue, Maxwell, IA 50161**

Enjoy the outdoors and spending time with other homeschool families. Jerry Keys from Story County Conservation will be our naturalist. This is a gentle hike, and you can decide what length you want to cover based on your family.

- There is no running water on site, with only a portable bathroom for use.
- Bring drinks and a snack lunch if you choose. You may also want a blanket for seating.
- Wear clothing and shoes suitable for both the weather and getting dirty.
- The Ameshsap.org website includes a link.
- Park in their parking lot
- 295th Street and 632nd Avenue, northwest of Maxwell. Travel 5.5 miles south of Highway 30 on S-14, then 1 mile east on 295th Street
- There is no fee for this event.



Ames Municipal Airport

Grades: Whole family (not a drop-off)

Friday, April 21

10:00 am – 11:00 am (check-in time 10:45 am)

11:00 am - 12:00 pm (check-in time 10:45 am)

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm (check-in time 12:45 pm)

Registration Deadline: All sessions are now full. Please text or email Carrie Pahl as there are often cancellations (515.450.4068).

2520 Airport Drive, Ames

Join us as we get to know our Ames Municipal Airport. Everyone will get an opportunity to sit on an airplane.

- Each session is approximately 45 minutes long
- View ameshsap.org website to access a link.
- There is no fee for this event.



May Field Trips

There will not be any field trips scheduled for the month of May. We know that many families will be busy with Iowa Assessments, the HSAP Drama Production, graduation plans for seniors, and the HSAP Ice Cream social.



A Graduation Ceremony will be held at 10:00 am on Saturday, May 27, at Stonebrook Community Church (3611 Eisenhower Avenue, Ames). This special event was organized and designed by interested parents and senior students. You are all invited to join them.



HSAP Curriculum Library

If you are interested in borrowing some of the additional resources we have, please contact your supervising teacher or direct your questions to Kathy Burns (kathy.burns@ames.k12.ia.us). We will let you know if the resource you're looking for is available, or place you on a waiting list, if desired. Our resources include:

- Barton (Level 1- Level 10)
- All About Reading (Level 1-4)
- PAL (Primary Arts of Language) - IEW program
- Saxon Math for middle school and high school
- Teaching Textbooks for middle school/high school math.
- Institute for Excellence in Writing materials (IEW)

Please note that these materials are to be returned to one of the HSAP teachers, and should not be left in the resource library bin.



Humor Me

During what season is it best to go on a trampoline?

Spring Time

Why is the letter A like a flower?

When a bee comes after it

What do you call two young married spiders?

Newly webs

When is it impossible to plant flowers?

When you haven't botany

Why did the farmer bury all his money?

To make his soil rich

Why did the bird go to the hospital?

It needed tweetment

Humor Me a Little More!

What do you call a girl with a frog on her head?

Lily

Which Disney princess would make the best judge?

Snow White, because she's the fairest of them all!

What did Snow White say when her photos weren't ready yet?

Some day my prints will come

Knock Knock

Who's there?

Emma

Emma who?

Emma feeling a bit cold out here – let me in!

Please contact our teachers by following this format:

first.name.last.name@ames.k12.ia.us

Specific HSAP Contacts:

AHS Liaison	<i>Sonia Harold</i>
AMS Liaison	<i>Stephanie Haila</i>
Curriculum Library	<i>Kathy Burns</i>
Drama	<i>Judy Anderson</i>
Field Trips	<i>Carrie Pahl Judy Anderson</i>
HSAP Coordinator	<i>Kathy Geis</i>
HSAP Website	<i>Stephanie Haila</i>
Iowa Assessments	<i>Wendy Pixler Stephanie Haila</i>
K-1	<i>Julie Edmondson Diane Prescott</i>
Resource Library	<i>Joni Gainer</i>
Mileage Club	<i>Kathy Burns</i>
Newsletter Info	<i>Kathy Burns</i>
Speech Contest	<i>Judy Anderson</i>
Spelling Bee	<i>Sarah Johnson</i>



Additional Activities/Groups to Consider

Please note: These are not sponsored by the HSAP, but may be of interest to your family.

Ames Children's Choirs

These choirs include boys and girls ages 7-18. Visit the website for more details on activities, including the *upcoming concert events in April and May*.

- <https://www.ameschildrenschoirs.org/> or call (515.290.1422)

Ames Cyclone Aquatic Club (ACAC)

The Ames Cyclone Aquatic Club is always welcoming new swimmers! Our spring/summer season is about to begin and we would love for you to join us! If you know how to do freestyle and some backstroke, we have a lane for you.

- If interested in a tryout: please email teamadmin@swimacac.com
- If swim lessons are closer to what you are looking for: email coachmike@swimacac.com

The Ames Explorers Program developed by The Community Academy

Ames Explorers will "explore the people and places of our community. We'll go behind the scenes at all kinds of businesses and events around our community." Visit their website to find out about their Summer Experience for 2023 (Community Projects+Experiences+Skill-Building).

- For more details, costs, and information: <https://thecommunityacademy.org>

Ames Public Library

You may benefit from scanning the calendar of our local Ames library (515 Douglas Avenue). A sampling of events is listed here: a Homeschool Book Club (4.6 - *The Turtle of Oman* by Naomi Shihab Nye), Toddler & Family Storytime, Lego Builders (Gr 3-5), Kids Create, Storybook Science, Checkmates Chess Club (Gr 4-6), ISU Stormettes dance group (4.8), and *After School Adventures* (K-5: including art, science, games, and more).

These are just a few highlights of the many programs that may interest your family, and it may be worthwhile to check out their calendar <https://amespubliclibrary.org>.

Blank Park Zoo

You may want to check out all the activities and special events they offer at this time, including a *Wild Lights Festival* (April 1- May 29), Ruby's Spring Kickoff, and Summer Safari. More details and costs can be found on their website.

- <https://www.blankparkzoo.com/>

Cultivating Hope Farms

Events on this farm are specifically designed to safely engage family fun for our families living with autism and special needs. Visit their website for all details.

- <https://cultivatinghopefarms.org/>

Des Moines Chess Academy

There's a summer camp for players of all skill levels (ages 6-14) that will be held in the Ames/Gilbert area in July (17-21). Costs and details in link below:

- <https://dmchessacademy.com/summer-camps/>

4-H

Find out more about 4-H on their website to see all that they offer through the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach..

- <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/>

Goldie's Kids Club

The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs has a program called Goldie's Kids Club "to introduce children aged 12 and under to Iowa history – starting with Goldie the eastern goldfinch, the state bird." Please investigate the website to find out what they offer ("*History Mystery*" - *virtual, requires registration*). You can also investigate a STEAM education program "Innovative Iowans".

- <https://iowaculture.gov/goldie>

Hy-Vee Kids Fitness Program

Includes a five week challenge, with videos, training tools, a blog, and more

- <https://hy-veekidsfit.com/>

ICAN

Features a variety of resources for college and career, including financial aid and helpful steps for success. It may be helpful to regularly check their website for upcoming virtual events, special events, scan through "The Resource Zone", and investigate any upcoming programs. They also include a "Tip of the Week" covering a variety of topics.

- <https://www.icansucceed.org>

Additional Activities/Groups to Consider

(Continued)

Iowa Living History Farms

This is an interactive, 500-acre outdoor museum that tells the 300+ year story of Iowan farmers. Check their website for a number of upcoming events they are offering in the upcoming months.

- 11121 Hickman Road, Urbandale, IA
- <https://www.lhf.org>

National Parks Service

Fourth grade students can get a free annual pass to visit more than 2,000 federal recreation areas with their families, classmates, and friends. The **Every Kid Outdoors** Program is an interagency collaboration that provides free access to explore, learn, and recreate in spectacular settings, including national parks, wildlife refuges, marine sanctuaries, and forests. Consider visiting their website for additional details and other benefits.

- [Every Kid Outdoors Program](#)

Octagon Center for the Arts

They are once again offering in-person classes, as well as affordable art kits for fun at home (contactless pickup).

- 427 Douglas Avenue
- <https://octagonarts.org>

Reiman Gardens

The exhibits and offerings may be of interest to your family at this lovely site in Ames (1407 University Boulevard). Beginning in the month of April, you can “search for whimsical fairy doors and creature homes, created by local artists hidden throughout the Gardens”. *Homeschool Day - Plant Science* takes place on April 5, 9:00 am - 12:00 noon. This is designed for grades K-5, and you can register online (\$10.00-youth; \$12-adult 13 and up) An art exhibit (*Glass in Flight*) begins on April 15.

- <https://www.reimangardens.com/events/>

Science Center of Iowa (SCI)

Visit their website to confirm offerings and hours of operation. Ticket/event cost and details can be found on their website. For those with children on the autism spectrum or those with sensory processing disorder, they offer “Sensory-Friendly Hours” on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The SCI also offers a variety of virtual programs and educational resources with “Go Beyond with SCI”. The World’s Largest Dinosaurs exhibit ends on April 16.

- 401 W. Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway, Des Moines
- <https://www.sciowa.org>

Seven Oaks Recreation

- The season featuring Canoes/Kayaks, River Tubes, and Paintball equipment begins soon!
- Paintball fields can be reserved starting on April 15, and water activities will open for the season mid-June
- Located in Boone
- <https://sevenoaksrec.com>

Story County Conservation Center-McFarland Park

Offers classes, workshops, hikes, activities, Story County park maps, nature center, and volunteering. Check out their calendar of events.

- 56461 180th street; (515) 232-2516
- <https://www.storycountyia.gov/1579/Conservation-Parks>

Story Theater Company

This company offers theatrical opportunities for area children, with an opportunity to learn the fundamentals of theater. Their next shows include *Romeo and Juliet* (tickets are sold out) and *High School Musical JR* (June 16-25). Visit the website for details and locations. They also have a lot of different activities in the summer.

- 1609 Golden Aspen Drive #105, Ames
- <https://www.storytheatercompany.org/>

Youth Matinee Series at ISU

All performances will include grade level recommendations. There is only one more offering for this 2022/2023 season. Seats are \$4.00 in advance and \$5.00 at the door.

- *The Wonderful World of Simple Machines* for those in Grades K-5. This is a lively, hands-on introduction to the scientific principles and properties of simple machines. The production is Monday, April 10, at 10:00 am and 12:30 pm.
- <https://www.center.iastate.edu/education/>

