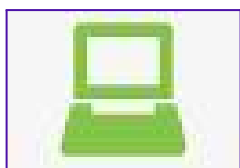


# Ames HSAP Newsletter

**March 2023**

HSAP Website: [ameshsap.org](http://ameshsap.org)



## Iowa Assessments Sign-up

Iowa Assessments (IA) are available and completely optional for students in grades 3-12 in our Ames HSAP program. *These tests are free of charge.* Testing will be available remotely and on-site at Harvest Vineyard (320 S. 17th St.) during the first two weeks of May. Both testing location options use online tests (not paper and pencil).

Please complete [THIS FORM](#) by **March 3rd**.

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

## 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.

## For Your Calendar

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Qtr 3 Enrichment Classes               | 1.23-3.03   |
| April Field Trip Registration Begins   | 3.01        |
| Final Day for IA Sign up               | 3.03        |
| Ames Resource Recovery System Plant    | 3.03        |
| No Enrichment Classes                  | 3.6-3.10    |
| Daylight Savings Time (spring forward) | 3.12        |
| Spring Break                           | 3.13-3.17   |
| Quarter 4 Enrichment Classes           | 3.20-4.28   |
| Mary Greeley Mileage Club              | 3.20-5.12   |
| Parent Connect #4 (1:00-2:00 pm)       | 4.06        |
| Robison Wildlife Area Field Trip       | 4.07        |
| Live United Food Drive                 | 4.10-4.28   |
| 4th and 5th Grade HSAP Play            | 4.20        |
| Ames Municipal Airport Field Trip      | 4.21        |
| Iowa Assessments                       | 5.01-5.12   |
| HSAP Drama Production (Gr 6-12)        | 5.7,5.8,5.9 |
| Ice Cream Social (Family - Inis Grove) | 5.19        |



## Ames HSAP Field Trip Information

All registration for field trips will take place through our HSAP website: <https://ameshsap.org>.

- Under the Program Resources heading, choose Services; Scroll down to "Field Trips"
- Field trips will generally be open for registration two months at a time. (*Currently featuring March & April events*)
- 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](mailto:carrie.pahl@ames.k12.ia.us) (515.450.4068)

Homeschooling is like  
crafting with glitter.  
It's messy and scary  
but so worth it.



## **March Field Trips**

### **Ames Resource Recovery System Plant Tour**

**Grades: 2nd - 12th**

**Friday, March 3**

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

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

**2:00 pm - 3:00 pm** (*check-in time 1:45 pm*)

**110 Center Street, Ames**

Get to know your city! You will be a voter someday! Learn about the Ames Resource Recovery System "where our community recycles metals and glass, and prepares 60% of the waste to be used as fuel at our power plant to help generate electricity for Ames."

- Consider joining us by registering right now
- Each session is 45 minutes long
- You can park in the parking lot or on the street
- *This is not a drop off for most students. High school students might be able to be dropped off, but contact Carrie Pahl first. She needs to make sure that we have plenty of chaperones.*
- There is no fee for this event.



## **April Field Trips**

*Registration opens March 1*

### **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*)

**29490 632nd Avenue, Maxwell, IA 50161**

## **Robison Wildlife Acres** (*continued*)

Enjoy the outdoors and spending time with other homeschool families. 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 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**

**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: Friday, April 14 (20 people maximum per session)**

**2520 Airport Drive, Ames**

Get to know your Ames Municipal Airport. Everyone will get an opportunity to sit on an airplane.

- Each session is approximately 45 minutes long
- The Ameshsap.org website includes 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.



### **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. 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Ames) from **1:00 pm to 2:00 pm** during the **Thursday** afternoon enrichment classes on **April 6th**.



### **Check out the Ames HSAP Website for High School Students**

If you have a high school student or are thinking ahead to this phase, please consider checking out the upcoming opportunities and information that Sonia Harold has included on her incredible website.

- [High School Website](#)



### **Joni Received "Eggxactly" What She Needed**

Art teacher Joni Gainer now has plenty of egg cartons for the painting projects. She extends her thanks to you for the generous and timely donations of egg cartons (you were *egg-ceptional*), and she now has an ample supply for the rest of the year. The students have really been enjoying working with the acrylics.



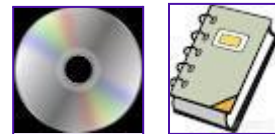
### **Ames HSAP Resource Library**

The library will be open during our last week of 3rd quarter enrichment classes (Wednesday and Thursday) through March 2.

- 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

The resource library will re-open for fourth quarter enrichment classes which begin on March 20.

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. *Also, if you have books to return that you are no longer using, you can place them in the bin as you enter the library.* 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.



### **HSAP Curriculum Library**

If you are interested in borrowing some of the additional resources we have, please contact your supervising teacher or direct questions to Kathy Burns ([kathy.burns@ames.k12.ia.us](mailto: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 1-3)
- 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 (IEW)





## 2023 Mary Greeley Mileage Club

This is the eighth year that our Ames HSAP has joined other local Story County schools to participate in the Mary Greeley Mileage Club. The goal of this eight (8) week program is to encourage students to increase activity levels. ***Participation is voluntary and is open to those HSAP students who are in Kindergarten through 8th grade.***

The 2023 Mileage Club will take place from March 20-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 contact Kathy Burns ([kathy.burns@ames.k12.ia.us](mailto:kathy.burns@ames.k12.ia.us)), and provide their names and grade levels. A special thanks to those who already responded after the February newsletter was published.

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 t-shirt (at the 25 mile mark).

We understand that you may join and then change your mind or adapt your participation based on other activities in your lives at that time. However, Mileage Club director Kathy Burns would love to hear from you *if you are thinking about joining us* so she secures the right amount of prizes. As a part of Mileage Club we will also participate in the *Live United Food Drive* in April (10-28). More details to follow as we receive specifics.



## Looking for Some *More Drama* in Your Life?

The Ames HSAP ***4th and 5th graders*** who signed up to be in a production of "***Puss in Boots***" continue to practice for their performance on Thursday, April 20. It will take place at Harvest Vineyard at 7:00 pm (320 S. 17th Street, Ames). Please add this to your calendar and 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.*** This will take place on the stage at Ames Middle School (3915 Mortensen Road). Please save the dates for these performances scheduled for Sunday afternoon, May 7th, along with Monday and Tuesday evenings (May 8th and 9th).



## Humor Me

What do you call a penguin in the Sahara desert?

*Lost*

What kind of candy is never on time?

*ChocoLATE*

What is an astronaut's favorite place on a computer?

*The Space bar*

How do you get a squirrel to like you?

*Act like a nut*

How do scientists freshen their breath?

*With experi-mints*

Where do leprechauns live?

*In lepre-condos*

What do you call a leprechaun prank?

*A saint pat-trick*

How did the leprechaun get to the moon?

*In a shamrocket*



**Please contact our teachers by following this format:** [first\\_name.last\\_name@ames.k12.ia.us](mailto:first_name.last_name@ames.k12.ia.us).

**Specific HSAP Contacts:**

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



**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 *Ames Has Talent* event mentioned below. You can also find the dates and sites for upcoming concerts in March, April, and May.

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

**Ames Has Talent**

This event will take place on Sunday, **March 12**, and is sponsored by the Ames Children's Choirs for those in grades K-12. Acts are required to keep to four minutes or less. **Register by March 8.**

- Any talent qualifies: they've had recent inquiries regarding yo-yo tricks and beatbox! Previously some students performed magic acts, as well as dance, etc. All participants will receive gift cards.
- Please limit set-up time to one minute. Trophies and prizes will be awarded in multiple age divisions. Check out the details on the link below.
- The event begins at 3:30 pm, and will be held at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 1416 20th Street, Ames.
- [Ames Has Talent Registration Form](#)

**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 (3.2 - *RAD American Women A to Z* by Kate Schatz), March Madness (vote weekly for most popular new book in children's section), Metro

## **Additional Activities/Groups to Consider**

### **Ames Public Library (continued)**

Opera Children's Performance (3.4), Toddler & Family Storytime, Lego Builders (Gr 3-5), Kids Create, Storybook Science, Checkmates Chess Club (Gr 4-6), 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, along with a variety of events for teens. (Note: Check the website to find out details for these events, including what books will be discussed in future Homeschool Book Club meetings).

- <https://amespubliclibrary.org>

### **Blank Park Zoo**

You may want to check out all the activities and special events they offer at this time.

- <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/>

### **ExerCYse Time**

ISU is offering ExerCYse time for local students up through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The fun and games are scheduled for Friday evenings from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm in Forker Gym #184 on the ISU campus. You may have to sign a parental permission slip.

- Friday: 3.03, 3.10

### **4-H**

If there are any of our HSAP students who are interested in finding out more about 4-H and Clover Kids, you can contact the ISU Extension Office at 515-382-6551. More information is available on their website regarding other opportunities. For those seniors who are Iowa 4-H members, **March 1** is the deadline to submit your application for Iowa 4-H Foundation college scholarships. Their website has all the details.

- <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, available resources, and upcoming programs. They also include a "Tip of the Week" covering a variety of topics.

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

### **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 upcoming events.

- 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

## **Additional Activities/Groups to Consider**

### **Reiman Gardens (continued)**

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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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".

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

### **Seven Oaks Recreation**

- The season is not over yet!
- Check their Facebook page for the latest updates on skiing, snowboarding, and snow tubing.
- 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. Their annual photo contest will accept submissions through March 20. All of the details can be found on their website. Each photographer is allowed up to three digital entries.

- 56461 180th street; (515) 232-2516
- <https://www.storycountyiowa.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* (the STC annual teen show on March 31, April 1-2) and *High School Musical JR* (June 16-25). Visit the website for details and sites.

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

### **Vision Homeschool Basketball**

This is a homeschool program, and is faith-based. The competitive season is nearly over and they host a Banquet at the end of the season.

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

### **Youth Matinee Series at ISU**

All performances will include grade level recommendations. Additional shows can be found on their calendar. Seats are \$4.00 in advance and \$5.00 at the door. Investigate their website for more details about the upcoming productions and available workshops.

- *Danny Carmo's Mathematical Mysteries* for those in Grades 2-6 - a spectacular magic show featuring math, theater, and digital technology, with a performance at 10:00 am and 12:30 pm on Friday, March 10.
- *Tales as Tall as the Sky* - introduces audiences to famous American tall tales, or stories that exaggerate larger-than-life characters who may or may not be based on real people - Thursday, March 30 at 10:00 am and 12:30 pm, for Grades K-5
- *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.
- *ISU Youth Orchestra* welcomes all ages to this performance at 10:00 am on Friday, April 28. They will offer an "instrument petting zoo" prior to the start of this event.
- <https://www.center.iastate.edu/education/>