



Treynor Elementary School

Tim Larsen, the Treynor Elementary School Principal, spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on November 22. He brought along his two youngest children and talked about his family. His wife works in labor and delivery. One of his sons was in HOBY at Central College last year and really learned a lot. The college offers a \$12,000 per year scholarship to those attending, but that doesn't cover much with tuition at \$43,000 per year.

Mr. Larsen's job is to supervise 370 children and 44 employees. He also has a long list of other assignments. They include oversight of 6-8 homeschooled children.

There are three sections in every grade in the Elementary School. The 4th and 5th grades have over 70 children. Kindergarten and 1st grade have 56-58. 90-95% of the children go to a pre-school.

The school still teaches handwriting. They emphasize math and reading. A new Iowa law says that by 2017, 3rd graders have to be proficient or repeat 3rd grade.

In the Elementary they have 5 I-Pads per classroom. They would like to double that number. They also have two computer labs.

Mr. Larsen also talked about a variety of initiatives the school has. One is "Capturing Kids Hearts". Part of this involves shaking hands of children when they get off the bus in the morning.

For safety the school has all buildings locked during the day. The teachers also have bullying prevention training.