



June 11, 2022

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Carrie Currin, Elementary Counselor



Carrie Currin, Treynor Elementary School Counselor for grades K-5 the past six years, spoke to the Optimists. She and her husband, LC, and daughter, Brooklyn live in Treynor. Their son, Logan, age 25, lives in New York. Brooklyn placed 6th at the State Golf Tournament this year.

Carrie graduated from NW Missouri State and has worked in education all her life, with 17 years as a school counselor, also having counseled at Malvern and Nishna Valley.

There are 327 students on the Treynor Elementary roster for 2022. The Kindergarten class is low with 40 students. Approximately 35 percent are open enrolled. In general, there are 3 sections per grade. The average section size is 20 students. Currin meets with all students. She gives a 35-45 minutes lesson each week in all classes. All students get some counseling and some get more. There can also be individual guidance or small groups, even lunch bunches for kids with similar problems such as related to friendships or changes within the family.

Topics Currin discusses with students include: identifying feelings and range of emotions, coping skills, friendship skills, bullying behaviors, career awareness/exploration, character education (respect, responsibility, honesty), substance abuse awareness, personal safety, problem solving, digital citizenship – yes, many have phones and even tech watches.

Since COVID, Currin stated there has been a big difference seen in social/emotional issues and academic issues because kids lost time in the classroom. Interventions are being done with second graders who lost the last nine weeks during COVID to keep them going – keeping them reading, learning math facts. It was found youngsters who didn't get to have a school concert that year, didn't know how to go on a stage or stand on a riser.

Currin says she has a "No Blab" rule! "What's said in here stays in here except if someone is hurting you, you want to hurt someone, or you want to hurt yourself." Students can be referred to Currin or fill out a form themselves. She has pictures for students to indicate the size of their problem – rain, storm, or tornado. With a smile, she stated it's almost always a tornado because most kids feel any type of problem of

theirs is huge. She reaches out to parents as much as she can.

Currin has a mail box outside her office and is the recipient of many love notes and drawings. She loves her job and said she tries to give back 10-fold. When she goes to the classroom, she has "Counselor Mail" which is a package delivered to a different individual each time. They all sing the Counselor Mail song and she gives out clues for the kids to guess who it is! Because only one at a time receives it, students are taught they don't always win! But eventually all receive.

Other topics Currin talked about were: Student Assistance Recommendations, supporting groups such as Teammates, School Safety Team, SRP Model for lockdowns, the Treynor culture, societal changes, the 3 R's, "School Watch", and more.

Next week's speaker will be:

Joe Chapman, Treynor Girls Basketball Coach

All are welcome!

Meetings are from 8-9 AM, Saturdays

Treynor Community Building

FAMOUS QUOTE

"Great minds have purposes, others have wishes."

Washington Irving

Meeting Minutes

John Klein called the meeting to order. Present were 15 members plus Carrie Currin.

John led the Pledge of Allegiance and Dee Gutttau gave the opening prayer.

Jokes were shared by Keith Denton, Kirk Vorthmann, Kevin Underwood, Gary Gutttau, Jeff Jorgensen, and Kathy Luedke.

50/50 was won by Marsha Underwood. Ken Graham's name was selected for the Attendance Drawing, but he was not present.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: There were no birthdays or anniversaries.

Bragging Rights: (\$ are used for youth activities)

- Both Kevin and Marsha Underwood donated to talk about their new puppy, a black lab mix, named Luke.
- Jeff Jorgensen donated \$10 for his win as a candidate for a new Pott. Co. Supervisor and spoke about the positives of running for political office.
- Bill Vorthmann contributed because his grandson did very well at the State Trap Shoot Meet, scoring 91/100 and 90/100.
- John stated the success of the AEA sponsored Missile Base Tour last Saturday. 155 people attended.
- Jim Clausen donated because he and Diane were two of seven attending the Treynor Alumni Banquet at Silos on Saturday. In two years it will be the 100th anniversary of the Treynor School. The Alumni Banquet is always on the first Saturday of June. Diane was one of two observing their 60th class reunion.

BUSINESS:

- Optimist American Flags will be put out Monday morning for Flag Day. This is a new time schedule due to high heat tomorrow. To load flags, meet at Gary Gutttau's at 9 AM. To help put out flags, meet at the Treynor Community Building at 9:15 AM.
- Flags will then be taken down at 4:00 Wednesday, June 15. Following that, they will be put up again before Treynor Days on June 25.
- Can kennel helpers were John Klein, Gary Gutttau, Gary Funkhouser, Dennis White, Steve Chambers, Bill Vorthmann and Chad Gutttau. John stated the next time bags are requested from Casey's, he will ask for the bigger bags as in the past.
- Discussion was held about having a possible tent location at Treynor Days to promote membership in the Optimist Club, but the idea was put on hold.
- We will have an Optimist Club meeting with speaker on June 25, the morning of Treynor Days.

COMMUNITY NEWS:

- It was noted we lost two of our veterans this week, Gerald Young and Roland Burger.
- The Treynor Days Schedule is out and will be held June 24-26. It is attached.

The meeting was closed with reciting the Optimist Creed.

“Why?” HUMOR

1. Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?
2. Why don't you ever see the headline “Psychic wins lottery”?
3. Why is “abbreviated” such a long word?
4. Why is a boxing ring square?

Calendar

Events

- June 13 9 AM – load flags at Gary Gutttau's.
9:15 AM – meet at Community Bldg to put up flags
- June 15 Take down flag at 4:00 PM
- June 24-26 Treynor Days

Birthdays

- June 16 Dale Willenborg
- June 20 Jeff Jorgensen

Anniversaries

- June 15 Steve & Jeannie Chambers
- June 28 Mick & Judy Gutttau
- June 29 Dave & Linda Danker

Programs

- June Steve Chambers (3rd Sat)
Jeff Jorgensen (4th Sat)
- July Phil Waggoner (1&3 Sat)
Judy Gutttau (2,4&5 Sat)

Speakers

- June 18 Joe Chapman – Treynor Girls Basketball
- June 25 TBA
- July 2 Kayli Christensen, Treynor grad
- July 9 Kevin Forristall, President TS Bank
- July 16 TBA
- July 23 Kyle Osborne, TS Institute (Financial Literacy)
- July 30 TBA

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Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 51575