

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **January 16**  
**Martin Luther**  
**King Holiday**
- **February 20**  
**President's Day**  
**Holiday**
- **February 21**  
**Professional Day**  
**for Teachers**
- **March 26-27**  
**Mini-Break**
- **April 6**  
**Professional Day**  
**for Teachers**
- **April 16-20**  
**Spring Break**

## District Accreditation

What is District Accreditation?

Opelika City Schools is hosting a Quality Assurance Review team January 22-25, 2012. This team is a part of the AdvancED district accreditation process. AdvancED is an organization that "accredits" districts and schools across the country. Accreditation is a voluntary method of quality assurance developed more than 100 years ago by American universities and secondary schools, and designed primarily to distinguish schools adhering to a set of educational standards. Being "accredited" is important because it shows that our school system meets quality standards and embraces a systems approach to continuous improvement.

The five team members come from both within Alabama and outside of the state. These members will be in our Central Office on Monday, January 23 interviewing various employees and stakeholders, in our schools on Tuesday, January 24 visiting classrooms and interviewing various groups, and then back in our Central Office on Wednesday, January 25 to finish gathering information. The team will then present an exit report during a board meeting on that same day.

We are excited about the opportunity to "show off" all of the great things going on in the Opelika City School System!



Many of you have already heard from our new automated communication system, School Messenger. We are excited about the opportunities that this system brings in terms of providing our parents with important information. One way that School Messenger is used is to communicate to parents when their student is absent from school. Another use is for individual principals to inform their parents about upcoming events and important announcements. Of course, being able to provide parents with information about school closings during inclement weather is an extremely important function of School Messenger. However, getting information to you, the parent, is only effective if the correct information is on file. If you have not yet received any calls from School Messenger, please contact your child's school office to ensure that the correct information is on file. This is a new system, so feedback from you is very important. If there are ways you would like to see this system used, let your school know. We do not want to overuse the system so that you receive too many calls, but we also want to get you the information that you want and need. So, please let your principal know of any suggestions that you may have!

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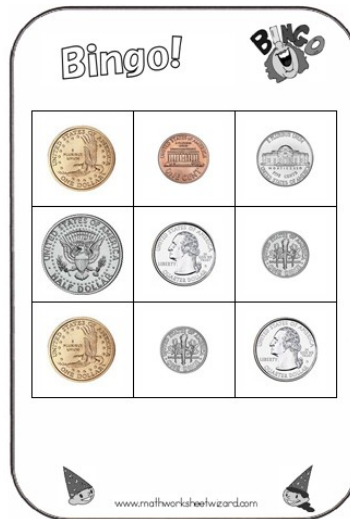
**MONEY MATTERS**

## MONEY MATTERS\$

In our last issue you helped your child create a piggy bank and covered it with an artistic coin rubbing... Now that your child has learned about the different sizes, values, and designs of coins, it's time to start identifying them through a fun game of BINGO! After a few rounds of MONEY BINGO your child will know what each coin is worth in a matter of minutes!

Simply go to this website to print your bingo card

<http://www.mathworksheetwizard.com/files/bingo4x4.html>



The cards depict coins ranging from pennies to whole dollars, and you can select anywhere from 9 to 25 squares on your cards using the radio buttons. Just choose your child's level.

### How to Play MONEY BINGO

Print your bingo cards.

Take out enough coins collected in your piggy bank to cover the squares on the cards.

(Be sure to include the same types of coins that are depicted in the bingo cards.)

Using the leftover coins from the piggy bank, call out "one cent" for a penny, "five cents" for nickels, "ten cents" for dimes, etc., just as you labeled your coin rubbings as instructed in the last newsletter issue.

Let the winner keep a dime!

**TIP: MODEL HOW TO IDENTIFY THE COINS BY JOINING IN THE GAME.**

# Title I Information

## Title I Information

<http://www.opelikaschools.org/index.php/parent-involvement>

Parents, please be sure to visit the Parental Involvement section of the Opelika City Schools website. It offers numerous resources and topics ranging from math homework to fun family activities to advice on discipline. You can also access your school's Title I Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) to learn about the goals and strategies it plans to accomplish this school year—and remember, your input is valued and appreciated, so join your school's CIP committee today!

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