



The Knight Times

North Cedar Community School District

Superintendent Dohmen's Message

October 2022 Issue

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2023 Legislative Priorities

The North Cedar CSD Board of Directors has approved the association's priorities for the 2023 legislative session, which begins January 9. The North Cedar Board of Directors needed to submit their focus on two to four of the 33 2022 legislative resolutions that would have the most positive impact on our local schools. The North Cedar Board of Directors formulated the platform during our regular meeting in July of 2022. With the upcoming session starting in January, I wanted to share our priorities with the staff and community. The state priorities will be voted on in November at the IASB Convention and then be advocated for during the 2023 legislative session.

DROPOUT/AT RISK

Supports the inclusion of dropout prevention and funding for at-risk students in the foundation formula and the inclusion of socio-economic status as a factor in determining a student's at-risk status. Supports allowing districts to request additional dropout prevention modified supplemental amount up to the 5% maximum cap. Opposes changes to the compulsory age of attendance unless sufficient funds are provided to implement strategies to retain those students.



TEACHER RECRUITMENT & LICENSURE

Supports additional tools to attract individuals to the teaching profession, especially for teacher shortage areas including:

- Alternative teacher licensure upon completion of research-based teaching pedagogy training in addition to content knowledge in a curricular area;
- Pathways for individuals with non-traditional or international educational backgrounds to meet licensure qualifications;
- Reciprocity agreements with other states with high-quality education programs so as to increase diversity among our certified teachers and administrators;
- Expansion of programs such as: Teach Iowa Scholar, Troops to Teachers, Teacher Intern Program, and others as approved by the Board of Educational Examiners;
- Programs designed to recruit and retain teachers that will better match the demographic makeup of our student population; and
- Advocate for funding of loan forgiveness programs, grants, and stipends that will make education careers a more attractive and affordable option.

Message from Principal Horman

"AND ALL AT ONCE, SUMMER COLLAPSED INTO FALL" – OSCAR WILDE

It's hard to believe we have been in school for over a month now. Students and staff have been hard at work getting into the "routine" of school again. It's been a great month and I look forward to what the month of October will bring. Happy fall!

MRS. PETERSEN'S CLASS

Mrs. Petersen's kindergarten class has been having lots of fun learning about apples.



MRS. WEBER'S CLASS

First grade in Mechanicsville has had a great start to the school year. We are learning to write in our journals and partner read.



MRS. ROUSE'S CLASS

Students in Mrs. Rouse's first grade have been learning 'read to self expectations.' Students also completed a science experiment. They made a "fast fall" and a "bobby dropper" with the idea of making the bobby dropper fall slower like a parachute.



MRS. GREEN'S CLASS

The second grade class has been working on our science topic - Animal Biodiversity and Classification.



MRS. JACKSON'S CLASS

We are off to a great start! School is moving along quickly, and we are learning lots and having fun! In reading, we are discussing the main idea and supporting details. We also read and learned about biographies, which included Rosa Parks and Harriet Tubman. In math, we have finished two topics already and have been introduced to rounding to the nearest ten and hundreds. We welcomed Mrs. Fulton to our classroom this school year. She is a student teacher from Upper Iowa University and will leave us in eight weeks. She has been a wonderful addition, we will miss her when she leaves. Homecoming came and went. We loved having the football players come and visit our classroom, thanks for stopping by! We also went on two story walks. Thank you to Meredith at the Mechanicsville Public Library for making these super fun activities for us. We appreciate you!



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Message from Principal Carlson

The year is in full swing at this time. This newsletter will highlight different events that are occurring at the district. As the year progresses, the newness of school is over and we have policies and procedures in full effect at this time. I believe the year is off to a great start, that's a huge credit to the staff that we have in our building!

Academics

We have a busy couple of weeks ahead as MAP Testing is occurring at the school the first week of October. Our schedule will be adjusted during the testing days as we will test first thing in the morning and then run a 2 hour late start schedule for the rest of the day on those days. The second week of October is Parent Teacher Conferences at the district. We will again be using Parent-Teacher Connect to schedule our conferences. We will be having teachers reach out to families to set up specific conferences that they feel are needed but will also allow parents to schedule with whatever teachers they feel they would like to touch base with.

Activities

Fall activities are over halfway completed at this time. Our volleyball team is currently in position to host the first round of the conference tournament as well as potentially a round or two of regional play. They have also defeated the #1 team in the state on two separate occasions this year. Our XC team had their home meet and everything went smoothly at the event. The course was set up very well and we had a lot of staff members helping ensure the event went smoothly. The football team has continued their season and had a very exciting homecoming victory (followed by some amazing fireworks). The young team continues to improve as the year progresses.

Professional Development

During our early out professional development on Wednesdays, we have continued to expand the roles of our teacher groups (Standards Based Grading, MTSS, Social Committee, and PBIS). The groups have been helpful in continuing previous successes that they have had while also pushing new ideas to ensure we are continuing to provide the best possible experience for our students. Other focuses we have had in regards to our professional development are creating a positive working environment for students and staff, standards based grading, informing staff of all the resources and policies/procedures of the district, aligning lessons to standards, reviewing and discussing lesson plans with peers, and much more. A big focus for our building has been focusing on staff successes and things that are going well. I believe this reminds staff of the great things that they are doing each day, even on the more challenging days.

As always,

GO KNIGHTS!



North Cedar FFA Soil Judging Team for receiving 14th place out of 54 teams competing at the SE District Soil Judging Contest in Muscatine!
(l to r) Luke Crock, Hayden Hoefler, McKinley Kash, Kylie Frey



Left: Clancey VanOort placed 4th at our home XC meet.
Right: Hunter Jones placed 1st at our home XC meet.

Superintendent Dohmen's Message *Continued from page 1*

SUPPLEMENTAL STATE AID

Supports setting supplemental state aid:

- At a rate that sufficiently supports local districts' efforts to plan, create and sustain world-class schools;
- For FY 2023, by January 28, 2022; and
- For FY 2024 and future budget years, at least 14 months prior to the certification of the school's district budgets.
- Within the statutory requirements allows districts to make sound financial decisions on programs and staffing levels in order to provide the best possible education to all students.
- By a formula driven method for establishing the supplemental state aid growth rate if it is not set within the statutory requirements.
- That maintains an appropriate balance between using the state's general fund and property tax revenue.

LOCAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND DECISION-MAKING

Supports providing local school boards with decision-making authority regarding methods to accomplish desired educational outcomes. IASB opposes overly restrictive or inefficient limitations which inhibit innovation, efficiency, and the ability of school boards to meet local needs. Local accountability and decision-making include:

- **Student Achievement:** As locally elected officials, school boards should have the ability to set priorities, customize programming, and maximize community strengths to improve outcomes for all students;
- **Accountability & Reporting:** Data collection for state accountability should enhance the ability of school boards to focus on student learning and school improvement. IASB supports streamlining state-level reporting on management operations and eliminating duplicative or inefficient reporting processes;
- **Funding flexibility:** School boards should have the ability to maximize existing resources to meet local needs;
- **Transparency:** School boards should have flexibility to provide public access to records in ways that promote transparency for citizens while balancing the cost to taxpayers; and
- **Flexibility on Health and Safety Emergencies:** School boards should have the ability to make decisions, in partnership with local health officials, regarding the health and safety needs of students, staff, families and the community.

Remember all 33 legislative resolutions would have a positive impact on North Cedar Schools, but these four the Board felt would focus on our current work and vision. Please be supportive and share these with your representatives in the state legislature.

September Board Meeting Highlights

Each month the North Cedar School Board shares a few highlights of our monthly board meetings. These takeaways are messages that the board collectively feels are important for the public to know. Here are the highlights from the September 19, 2022 regular meeting:

- **Welcome New Knights.** Not only did North Cedar welcome several new students this fall, we also welcomed new staff members; many of whom attended our September board meeting. We wish all of our students, teachers, staff and administrators a successful school year.
- **Homecoming.** We enjoyed a successful Homecoming week complete with athletic team victories and a post-game fireworks display. Thank you to the entire North Cedar Community for coming out to support the students and their activities.
- **Facilities Assessment Committee.** Based on recommendations from the SIAC (Student Improvement Advisory Committee), a facilities committee is being formed to formally look at improvements to the district's buildings. Members of the SIAC and other interested district patrons are invited to participate. If you'd like to learn more, please reach out to the superintendent's office.
- **Elementary Boosters.** The board approved formation of an elementary booster group to support additional opportunities for students at the Lowden and Mechanicsville centers. This group will take on some of the projects previously organized by the KCO (Knights Community Organization) and is considering a variety of fundraisers. Look for more communication soon on how you can become involved with this group.

To view the full agenda and attachments of North Cedar School Board meetings, click the Online Board App button at <https://www.north-cedar.org/board-of-education/>. Meeting minutes are also posted online following each meeting.

Principal Horman's Message

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MRS. HENDRICKSON'S CLASS

Mrs. Hendrickson's second grade is working hard on learning the classroom expectations. They have learned how to choose a book that's just right for them and enjoy it in their space.



MS. FULLER'S CLASS

Sixth grade is getting off to a great start. Pictured are students working on reading, writing, and word study during our morning rotations.



MRS. SNYDER'S CLASS

Mrs. Snyder's class was able to bring their stuffed animal to school as a reward for filling their class marble jar. Students earn marbles for following classroom expectations.



MRS. ANDERSON'S CLASS

Some of Mrs. Anderson's students were able to share a story they were reading in their 4th grade class with the 3rd grade students.



MRS. FARRINGTON'S CLASS

Fourth grade had a fun visit from the football players during Homecoming Week. They were very excited to have their picture taken with them. We have also been learning about rock formations in science and did an experiment involving different kinds of lava to see what kind of rocks would form. In Reading, we have been learning about biographies and are getting ready to practice and perform reader's theater plays. We've also been working on geometry in Math. We are experimenting and building different things using legos and tangrams.



MRS. ROLWES'S CLASS

Mrs. Rolwes's fifth grade class has been hard at work. Students have been working in math centers, working together to complete a main idea literacy sort, and sharing a reader's theatre with their class.



MRS. WALKER'S CLASS

Mrs. Walker's students have been learning about apples. The students were able to make inside-out apple crisp for their cooking activity to enjoy and share with the staff.

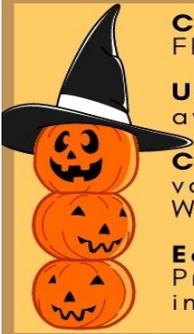




NAVIGATE & EDUCATE



Monthly Newsletter Oct 2022



Community Action Eastern IA: Head start preschool openings, and FREE diapers available.

United Way: Has prepackaged FREE disaster kits, and weather radios available for families. Contact: jennifer.comstock@uweci.org

Cedar County Public Health: Upcoming Flu clinics, bivalent COVID-19 vaccine available. Schedule an appointment or attend "Walk in Wednesdays."

Early Childhood Iowa: Serves families with Children 0-5 years old. Preschool scholarships available; get connected with the Dolly Parton imagination library & more!



Resource Navigator - Emily Smith Call/Text: (563-886-4711) Email: esmith@north-cedarstu.org

Available Food

- **1st Friday** of the Month - 3:30-4:30 Mobile Food Pantry Drive Thru at First United Methodist Church, 607 Lynn St, Tipton
- **1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Tuesdays** of the Month - 4:00-6:00 Food Pantry @ Peace Church, 414 Maple St, Bennett
- **2nd Saturday** of the Month - 10:00-12:00 Food Pantry @ Zion UCC, 402 Main St, Lowden
- **2nd & 4th Wednesdays** of the Month - 3:30-6:00 Food Pantry @ First UCC, 600 Mulberry St, Tipton
- **2nd & 4th Saturdays** of the Month - 11:00-11:45 Shared Blessings Free Meal @ First United Methodist Church, 607 Lynn St, Tipton
- **2nd, 4th Thursdays** of the Month - 6:00-7:00
Bring Photo ID, UMC, 307 E First St, Mechanicsville
- **3rd Tuesday** of the Month - 3:30-4:30 Mobile Food Pantry @ West Branch Fire Dept, 105 S 2nd St, West Branch
- **3rd Saturday** of the Month - 9:00-10:00 Food Pantry Drive Thru at Foursquare Church, 1100 N Hwy 38, Tipton
- **Every Wednesday** - 5:30-6:30 Food Pantry @ St. John's UCC, 320 9th Ave, Clarence



Updated 9/9/22

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month!

This year's theme is "Inspiring Safety In Our Communities." DVIP has several events and activities planned throughout our eight-county service region to build awareness for our services and to highlight our community partnerships.

Oct 7th "inspiring safety in our community Facebook live. Hear from DVIP staff and volunteers about how we inspire safety in our community through advocacy, volunteering, more. We'll be sharing our stories live on Facebook and Instagram every hour on the hour for eight hours. Tune in on Facebook at @iowadvip and on Instagram at @dvipiowa.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

"Babysitting Basics" - OCT (3rd, 7th and 17th) 6pm-8pm "Designed to help youth (ages 11 and up) learn what it takes to be a: responsible, trustworthy, caring, respectful, and safe babysitter." Registration: Greta Bierman, gbierman@iastate.edu, (563) 886-6157. Fee: \$30 @ Cedar County Extension Office, Tipton IA



"Fire up for 4H" - OCT 5th @ 5pm-7pm Fun night of food, games, service projects and prizes. Bring your family and friends, for a fun night, roasting hot dogs, smores, learn about 4h, play games and win prizes. Location: 4H Exhibit Building at the Cedar County fairgrounds.

"Trunk or Treat" October 23rd @ 2pm-3pm @Clarence Senior Living Center Parking Lot 402 2nd Ave, Clarence Vehicles (aka trunks) may arrive & set up between 1:30-1:45pm. Questions- Email: clarenciamainstreet@gmail.com

"Pumpkin Fest": OCT 26th 6pm-7:30pm @ Tipton UCC Church - Totally FREE Event: bounce house, obstacle course, cookie decorating, pumpkin decorating, hot dogs, chips, smores, and more!

"Trunk or Treat": October 30th 1-2:30 P.M. @ Tipton City Park in front of the Aquatic Center. To register your trunk: Email Linda Beck at lbeck@tiptoniowa.org or call 886-4597 by October 20th. "FREE family friendly event. Please arrive at the city park by 12:00 p.m. to set up your trunk and get your costume on. The event needs to be ready to go by 1:00 p.m. Bring your banner/sign for the promotion of your business/organization/church."



North Cedar Lunch & Activities Calendar

October 2022

Calendar is subject to change.

Mon., Oct. 3:

Lunch: Pizza

Picture Day for Elementary

4:15pm Cross Country @ Bellevue

6pm JV Football @ Alburnett

Tues., Oct. 4:

Lunch: Elem.: Beef Tacos; Jr/Sr High: Pork Carnitas

4pm Jr. High Volleyball @ Easton Valley

5:15pm HS Volleyball @ Easton Valley

Wed., Oct. 5:

Lunch: Hot Ham & Cheese

1pm Early Dismissal–PD Day

7pm Booster Meeting @ Jr/Sr High Cafe

Thurs., Oct. 6:

Lunch: Homemade Lasagna

4pm Jr. High Volleyball @ Lisbon

4:30pm Jr. High Football @ Starmont

5:15pm HS Volleyball @ Lisbon

Fri., Oct. 7:

Lunch: Chicken Patty

7pm Varsity Football vs Columbus @ Stanwood

Sat., Oct. 8:

7am-7pm RitterSing Music Festival @ Wartburg

Mon., Oct. 10:

Lunch: Orange Chicken

4:30pm Jr High Football @ North Linn HS

6pm JV Football vs Columbus @ Stanwood

Tues., Oct. 11:

Lunch: Quesadillas

1pm Early Dismissal–Parent/Teacher Conferences

4pm Cross Country @ North Linn HS

4:15pm Jr High Cross Country @ Iowa City Kickers

Wed., Oct. 12:

Lunch: Chicken Drumstick

Thurs., Oct. 13:

Lunch: Elem.: Mini Corn Dogs or Cheddarwurst; Jr/Sr High:

Hot Dog or Cheddarwurst

1pm Early Dismissal–Parent/Teacher Conferences

4pm HS Volleyball Conference Tournament @ TBA

4:30pm Jr. High Football vs East Buchanan

Fri., Oct. 14:

No School

7pm Varsity Football @ Wapello HS

Sat., Oct. 15:

10am Volleyball Conference Tournament @ Central City

Mon., Oct. 17:

Lunch: Walking Tacos

6pm School Board Meeting @ Stanwood

Tues., Oct. 18:

Lunch: Elem.: Chicken Nuggets ;Jr/Sr High: Breaded Dill

Chicken Bites

7pm HS Choir Concert @ Debbie Harms Theater, Clarence

Wed., Oct. 19:

Lunch: BBQ Rib or Pulled BBQ Chicken

1pm Early Dismissal–PD Day

Thurs., Oct. 20:

Lunch: Chicken Alfredo

12pm Jr. High Tri-Rivers Honor Band

Fri., Oct. 21:

Lunch: Pizza

Sat., Oct. 22:

7am - 7pm IHSMA All-State Auditions @ Washington

Mon., Oct. 24:

No School

Tues., Oct. 25:

Lunch: Salisbury Steak

Wed., Oct. 26:

Lunch: Elem.: Crispitos; Jr/Sr High: French Dip Sandwich

Thurs., Oct. 27:

Lunch: French Toast Sticks

Fri., Oct. 28: Savory Breaded Chicken Breast

Mon., Oct. 31:

Lunch: Elem.: Corn Dog or Hot Dog; Jr/Sr High: Crispito

The mission of North Cedar Community School District, in partnership with its community and staff, is to ensure a safe and caring environment for each student, providing the essential knowledge, values, skills, and attitudes to create lifelong learners who are responsible, contributing, and productive citizens in a changing and increasingly diverse world.

Everything we do at NCCSD is for our students, and we encourage them all to take part in the enrichment and extracurricular opportunities for which they are eligible.

- Athletics for junior high school and senior high school students
- Fine arts activities for 5th through 12th graders
- Extracurricular clubs and organizations for junior high and senior high school students
- Counseling services for all grades

An active, supportive community strengthens NCCSD. Parents and patrons who elect to get involved and support our students and their activities aid the district.

- Athletics Boosters bolster our student athletes and the athletics programs
- Encore Club supports our fine arts programs
- Knights Community Organization fosters the relationships between parent, student, staff, and community
- North Cedar Education Foundation provides financial support to help broaden the district's education opportunities

Postal Customer

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