



# The Knight Times

## North Cedar Community School District

February 2024 Issue

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### Investing in Our Children's Future

Dear North Cedar Community,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the Iowa School Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL), a vital initiative that directly impacts the well-being of our local schools and, more importantly, the future of our children.

#### Why Support the PPEL?

Passing the PPEL is an investment in the excellence of our educational system. It ensures that our schools are equipped with the necessary resources and facilities to provide a high-quality learning environment for our students.

Our schools are the backbone of our community. They deserve to be modern, safe, and conducive to learning. The PPEL allows us to address critical infrastructure needs, including repairs, renovations, and the integration of advanced technologies that support contemporary teaching methods.

The safety and security of our children should always be a top priority. By supporting the PPEL, we enable our schools to implement necessary safety measures, ensuring that our students learn in an environment that is not only enriching, but also secure.

Education is constantly evolving and our schools must keep pace. Passing the PPEL allows us to prepare for the future by ensuring that our educational facilities are equipped to meet the changing needs of our students and educators.

A strong and vibrant educational system contributes to community growth and stability. Well-maintained schools enhance property values, attract new residents, and foster a sense of pride in our community.



## Message from Principal Horman

### Miss Eichinger's Fourth Grade

Readers theatre and playing in the snow!



### Mr. Helgerson's Sixth Grade



### Mrs. Havill's Second Grade

Mrs. Havill's students are excited to be back in school after winter break. It is so nice to see our friends again! In math, we are working on getting better at our addition and subtraction facts by working on two-digit addition and subtraction. We will be moving on to three-digit addition and subtraction soon, followed by some geometry. In reading, we are working on our fluency and intonation. Skills like inferencing help us to understand what we are reading. Keep reading at home! In social studies, we are finishing up learning about different modes of transportation and how they have changed over time. In science, we are working on the big idea that plants and animals look a lot like their parents. We are so lucky to have the opportunity to have Mrs. Olseen as a student teacher in our classroom. She will be with us through April. Mrs. Olseen says, "I am excited to be at Lowden Elementary School. My husband and I have 5 boys and live in Tipton with my 3 cats. I love to quilt, read, and be outside in warm weather. I look forward to student teaching in 2nd grade and working with your children!" We look forward to having Mrs. Olseen in class with us!

### Mrs. Weber's First Grade

Mrs. Weber's first graders had a busy December enjoying the snow outside and performing at our holiday concert. We celebrated our last day of school in 2023 with a Grinch day! In January, we learned about Martin Luther King Jr. and wrote our own, "I have a dream" wish for others.



...Continued on page 5



## Message from Principal Carlson

Semester two is underway at the Jr./Sr. High School. We had kind of a crazy end to semester one with a lot of weather situations preventing us from finishing out the semester in a timely manner. Students are now into their second semester classes and should be starting to see some grades imported into the gradebook, if they haven't seen them already.

## Academics

The calendar has switched to our second semester courses. We are a couple of weeks in now. Students are working on adjusting to their new classes. We are in the process of finalizing dates for our spring state tests and will be sending out information regarding those in the near future. Report cards will be sent out February 2nd as all of the classes will be completely finalized at that time.

## Activities

Winter sports are nearing the final stretches of their seasons. Adison Musser qualified for girls state wrestling and is competing in Iowa City. Congratulations to her for a fantastic season and career! The boys wrestling postseason begins the weekend of February 10th. The girls basketball teams postseason bracket has been released. Our girls will travel to Highland for their first postseason on February 8th at 7:00 PM. The boys basketball postseason will begin a week after that, but the brackets have not yet been released. JH girls wrestling and JH boys basketball are also in season at this time.

## Professional Development

The last professional development was spent focusing on revisiting our building protocols and procedures for different situations, morning child studies, and then an all district presentation on the 6 effective classroom practices. The all staff presentation seemed to go well and was a nice way of getting our teachers (preschool-12th grade) in the same room interacting with each other and getting to know each other a little better. In the future, we would like to do more things together to get all the staff together.

As always,

**LET'S GO KNIGHTS!**

Tanner Carlson

7-12 Principal

Support the North Cedar Music Department!

# Spaghetti

Dinner Fundraiser

Thurs, Feb 29th; 4:00-6:15 pm  
North Cedar Jr/Sr High cafeteria  
**\$10** for all you can eat  
Take out or eat in!  
Band & Choir concerts to follow

**Buy tickets from any NCHS Music Student!**

Meal includes:

- Spaghetti noodles with meat & red or white sauce
- Salad
- Breadsticks
- Dessert
- Water, milk, lemonade



**NORTH CEDAR FFA**

## BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

**Sunday, February 25th**

**Free Will Donation**

Where: NC High Cafeteria  
When: Feb. 25th, 7:00 - 11:30 am

**Breakfast Served**

Fresh Pancakes  
Edgewood Locker Breakfast Links  
NC FFA Scrambled Eggs  
Milk, Juice, Coffee

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**



## How Can You Help?

1. Participate in the upcoming vote and cast your ballot in favor of the PPEL. Your vote is a direct endorsement of our commitment to the education and well-being of our children.
2. Share information about the PPEL with your friends, neighbors, and community members. The more people understand the positive impact of the levy, the stronger our collective support will be.
3. Attend community meetings, forums, and discussions about the PPEL. Your input and questions are invaluable in fostering a transparent and informed dialogue about the levy.

Together, we can ensure that our schools remain at the forefront of educational excellence. Supporting the Iowa School PPEL is an investment in the future success of our children and the continued prosperity of our community. Let's come together to make a positive difference in the lives of our students.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Mark Dohmen  
Superintendent  
North Cedar Community School District

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## January 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 January 16, 2024 regular meeting:

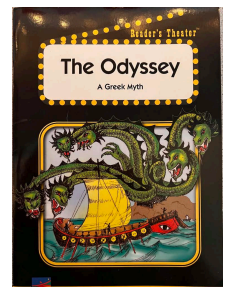
- **Congratulations to Retirees.** Congratulations to our retirees on reaching this significant milestone in your career! Your dedication and service to our school district have made a lasting impact. Wishing you a fulfilling and joyous retirement ahead. Thank you for the valuable contributions you've made throughout the years.
- **Iowa School Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL).** Participate in the upcoming vote and cast your ballot in favor of the PPEL. Your vote is a direct endorsement of our commitment to the education and well-being of our children.

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.



### Miss Drevline's Fifth Grade

In reading, fifth grade has had so much fun learning about myths! We are currently working on our reader's theater, "The Odyssey". In writing, we are very excited to participate in a Global Community Pen Pal Exchange. Students will be paired with another class all the way in Taichung City, Taiwan! In Science, fifth grade has entered a science competition called "Plant the Moon Challenge". The experiment will help NASA scientists identify the best growing conditions for planting on the moon. We are currently working on our experimental design and will be planting in our classroom very soon.



### Mrs. Anderson's Fourth Grade

Fourth grade has been working hard on our reading fluency. Recently we have read some trickster tales and analyzed the tricks characters are playing to try and solve problems. We have also read some poetry to increase the smoothness of our reading. The fourth graders are also working hard on multi-digit multiplication. They are practicing many strategies and using manipulatives to show their thinking. Students are also working hard to talk about their thinking and strategies with their classmates.



### Miss Shindelar's Fifth/Sixth Grade Band

We had 34 fifth and sixth grade students participate in our 5-8 choral and instrumental solo and ensemble festival night at the high school. Students played a solo or ensemble piece in front of a judge and got valuable feedback for how to improve on their instruments. Three elementary students from Lowden were selected as outstanding performers, being well-prepared and having excellent performances: Leah Pruess- fifth grade clarinet, Paul Redhage- sixth grade tuba, and Brandi Hormann- fifth grade trombone. Currently the fifth and sixth grade band students are preparing for our next concert on February 29th.



### Mrs. Jackson's Third Grade

On Wednesday, January 24, we enjoyed a visit from Molly Crock. Molly brought in a hidden gem that her dad found many years ago in the Cedar River. She brought us a mastodon tooth and some arrow/spear heads. We learned so much and it was very interesting, we even got to hold the tooth. Thank you so much Molly!

We enjoyed two more story walks from our local library in town, thank you Meredith! We also read about snow and learned some new facts.

Math is moving right along and we are becoming multiplication and divisions experts. During math rotations we are playing multiplication and division Tug of War. We are also finishing up a set of Math Pockets and will be moving on to a new book. We will be taking a look at fractions next.

We have enjoyed playing in the snow and a few indoor recesses. We have lots of indoor games we enjoy along with Art and Stem time. We really enjoy building things with our tiles!



### Mrs. Rouse's First Grade

We have been learning about secret messages in Science. We explored sending messages with a flashlight and with a paper telephone.



# ***North Cedar Lunch & Activities Calendar***

## ***February 2024***

Calendar is subject to change.

Thurs., Feb. 1:  
Lunch: Chicken Drumstick  
4pm JH Boys Basketball @ Calamus–Wheatland HS

Fri., Feb. 2:  
Lunch: Corn Dog or Cheddarwurst  
4pm JV Boys/Girls Basketball vs Alburnett  
6pm V Boys/Girls Basketball vs Alburnett

Sat., Feb. 3:  
9am State Large Group Speech

Mon., Feb. 5:  
Lunch: Nacho Bar  
4pm JH Boys Basketball vs Midland  
4pm JH Girls Wrestling @ Tipton MS  
5:30pm V. Boys/Girls vs Easton Valley

Tues., Feb. 6:  
Lunch: Elem.: Chicken Nuggets; Jr/Sr High: Chicken Wings  
5:30pm JV/V Boys Basketball @ Prince of Peace

Wed., Feb. 7:  
Lunch: BBQ Chicken or Rib

Thurs., Feb. 8:  
Lunch: Chicken Alfredo  
4pm JH Boys Basketball @ Lisbon HS

Fri., Feb. 9:  
Lunch: Pizza  
4pm JH Boys Basketball @ Alburnett HS

Mon., Feb. 12:  
No School  
4pm JH Boys Basketball vs Central City

Tues., Feb. 13:  
Lunch: French Dip  
6pm Elementary Booster Meeting @ Jr/Sr High Library

Wed., Feb. 14:  
Lunch: Chicken Bacon Club or Fish Sandwich

Thurs., Feb. 15:  
Lunch: Homemade Chili  
4pm JH Boys Basketball @ Alburnett HS

Fri., Feb. 16:  
Lunch: Mac & Cheese

Sat., Feb. 17:  
All–State Festival Large Group Events @ Ames  
JH Honor Band @ Clear Creek Amana HS, Tiffin  
9am All State Large Group Speech

Mon., Feb. 19:  
No School  
4pm JH Boys Basketball vs Springville

Tues., Feb. 20:  
Lunch: Crispitos

Wed., Feb. 21:  
Lunch: Popcorn Chicken

Thurs., Feb. 22:  
Lunch: Pork Chop or Salisbury Steak

Fri., Feb. 23:  
Lunch: Burgers

Sat., Feb. 24:  
9am District Individual Speech

Sun., Feb. 25:  
7:30am–11pm FFA Breakfast Fundraiser @ Jr/Sr High Cafeteria

Mon., Feb. 26:  
Lunch: Breaded Savory Chicken  
Tri–Rivers JH Honor Choir Festival

Tues., Feb. 27:  
Lunch: Pork Carnitas

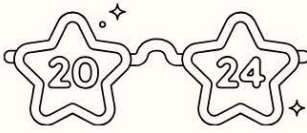
Wed., Feb. 28:  
Lunch: Hot Ham & Cheese or Meatball Sub

Thurs., Feb. 29:  
Lunch: Chicken Tenders  
4–6:15 pm Spaghetti Supper @ Jr/Sr High Cafe  
6:30pm–8pm JH/HS Band & Choir Concert @ Jr/Sr High Gym



# Navigate & Educate

FEBRUARY



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Contact - Ms.Emily: 563.886.4711; esmith@north-cedarstu.org

## Science of Parenting

60 MIN VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS WITH ISU EXTENSION  
Dates: Feb 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th from Noon-1pm  
Intended audience: Adults caregivers of children ages 0-18 years. To sign up, contact: Morgan Newell: mnewell@iastate.edu; (515) 991-5892

**Positive Discipline:** Parents often cite guidance and discipline as their number one concern. This workshop will help you see positive discipline as an opportunity to build positive parent-child relationships.

**Understanding Research and Reality:** How do parents use research to help inform their unique parenting reality? Learn about how parenting realities are different and discover helpful parenting tools and techniques.

**Children's Ages and Parenting Stages:** As kids grow through different ages, parents also go through stages! Learn about those stages, development, and tips for adapting your parenting to your child's age and abilities.

**Understanding Temperament:** Every child is unique, and individual temperament is one of the biggest reasons why! This workshop will introduce the individual temperament traits and explore how your child's temperament can impact their feelings and behaviors.

### Spend Smart. Eat Smart.

<https://spendsmart.extension.iastate.edu/>

Provides tools to help families with meal planning, grocery shopping, and cooking. You will also find over 150 inexpensive and easy to prepare recipes on the website. The website contains videos of featured recipes, kitchen organization tips and basic food preparation techniques. And now you can take Spend Smart. Eat Smart with you to the grocery store! The new, free mobile app puts healthy eating and cost saving tools in the palm of your hand. The new tools on the app include: Unit Price Calculator compares products to determine the better buy; Produce Basics provides information to guide your fruit and veggie choices; and Recipe Finder helps you keep track of your favorite recipes from the website

## CART (CHILDCARE ALLIANCE RESPONSE TEAM) – GRANT WOOD

Provides coaching and consultation of research-based, behavioral intervention strategies rooted in Early Childhood Positive Behavior Supports (EC-PBIS) to childcare providers to support children ages 0-5 experiencing intense behavioral challenges. Children may be referred by childcare providers or families, as this support can be a big help to families who may be in danger of losing their employment if their child is unable to remain in their childcare setting.

## 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 @ Bennett School
- **2nd Saturday** of the Month - 10:00-12:00 Food Pantry @ Zion UCC, 402 Main St, Lowden
- **2nd & 4th Wednesdays** of the Month - 3:30-5:30 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
- **1st and 3rd Saturdays** of the month 10:00-1:00 and **2nd and 4th Wednesdays** 3:00-7:00, Hein Manor bottom level 807 3rd St. Durant



**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.**

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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

**North Cedar Community School District**  
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Stanwood, IA 52337