



The Knight Times

North Cedar Community School
District

September 2024 Issue

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Superintendent's Message

The 2024-2025 school year is off to a fantastic start! A heartfelt thank you to our students, staff, and families for your dedication and effort in making this possible. Purple pride is shining brightly in our classrooms, hallways, and throughout our communities.



Facilities

The North Cedar staff and Board of Directors are committed to maintaining our facilities and making informed financial decisions. We strive to balance routine and preventive maintenance with updates that reflect the pride we have in the North Cedar Community School District.

Given our aging buildings and grounds, we have focused on critical needs such as roof repairs, tuck-pointing, heating/AC maintenance, and sidewalk improvements. Many of these projects were completed over the summer.

Our bus fleet remains in excellent condition, thanks to recent updates over the past three years. We will continue to operate our town bus stops, which have been a great convenience for our parents and students. Later this fall, we will introduce optional key cards or fobs for our younger students to enhance safety and communication regarding drop-offs.

Communications

We want to remind everyone of the various ways we stay connected with our community:

- The Knight Times: Published monthly on our website and available by mail or email upon request. If you know someone not receiving this, please encourage them to reach out to us.
- Remind: This service provides timely announcements, particularly those related to weather, through mass phone messages, email, and text (if set up).
- Email: General information will be shared via email. Please ensure your email address is up to date in PowerSchool.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. Let's keep the momentum going for a successful school year!

Superintendent Dohmen

Message from Principal Horman

PBIS at North Cedar Elementary

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) is a school-wide framework that aims to create safe and effective learning environments for all students. PBIS is based on the idea that teaching students expected behaviors and providing positive feedback can reduce discipline and improve school climate.



Knight's Creed

I'm a North Cedar Knight
I'm a person of character
I respect myself
I respect others
I respect property
Knight Pride!

School Wide Expectations

We practice school-wide expectations with all students at the beginning of the year and continue to reinforce those expectations throughout the year.

Knight's Creed

We say our Knight's Creed daily after the pledge of alliance to verbally reinforce the expectations.

Voice Levels

We have common language in our voice levels through the buildings as well. Ask your child what level zero is. They'll know!

PBIS Tickets

Positive behavior is reinforced with a ticket system. Students can receive tickets daily from any staff member. Individual tickets are accumulated and turned in for prizes and experiences throughout the year.

Classes can earn "purple tickets" by working together and meeting expectations. When the class has 15 tickets, they get a class prize!

Discipline Referrals

"Young people make mistakes in the process of growing up and that these mistakes provide them with an opportunity to learn (Better Than Carrots or Sticks)." Nobody is perfect. In the process of learning new things, we are going to make mistakes. Mistakes are an opportunity to learn and grow.

As a part of our PBIS system, student referrals will be written for Level 2 and Level 3 behaviors. These would be behaviors that aren't able to be managed within the classroom or require extra adult support. We use these referrals as a data collection tool to further support our students and our overall PBIS system. These student referrals are confidential and only accessed by the At-Risk Coordinator and Elementary Principal.

Behavioral Communication with Families

In order to build a safe and predictable learning environment, positive behaviors are taught, acknowledged, and modeled by school staff. In the event a minor discipline referral is made regarding a child's behavior, parents will be notified via email from the At-Risk Coordinator. This email is for informational purposes only and if further clarification is needed, you may contact the At-Risk Coordinator.

School Wide PBIS Expectations Review

Throughout the year, students and staff review the expectations in the following areas: recess, bus, cafeteria, gym, restrooms, hallway, and classroom.

VOICE LEVELS

3	Outside voice Playground talk
2	Inside voice Table talk
1	Whisper voice Partner talk
0	Silent voice No talk



...Continued on page 5

Message from Principal Carlson

Students and staff are now back in the building and things are going smoothly to start off the school year. Students have adjusted to the new schedule at our building with our Advisory being at the end of the school day. Last week, we began our journey of reeling out Xello (Career and College Readiness) on Wednesday's during Advisory. We are excited about this opportunity for our students and hope to see them take advantage of all the things it is capable of helping them with.

Academics

As stated in the introduction, we have begun the initial roll out of Xello to our students and staff. In the next few weeks, parents should receive a detailed email message showing them how to log in and track the progress of their children in the Xello system as well. The initial roll out went very smoothly for grades 8-12. We had some login errors for the current 7th graders, but we think we have that figured out now. We are excited to offer a rotating exploratory schedule to JH students this school year and hope we are able to allow them to find some new interests in courses through these rotations of classes.

Your child will begin to have grades showing in PowerSchool in the coming weeks. We plan to send out a tutorial of how to utilize PowerSchool to help keep up with your child's grades and attendance.

As a reminder, we are a Standards Based Grading School and students are graded based on showing knowledge of specific standards in their courses. Grades are then converted to the traditional letter grades of A, B, C or F (the letter grade of D is not converted in our grading system with Standards Based Grading). Students have the ability to reassess their knowledge on standards, as well, during Advisory.

Activities

Fall sports are underway. The football team and volleyball team have begun their seasons already and cross country has their first official meet this week. Fall creates a ton of excitement and opportunity for students to be involved at the school. The cheerleaders led a pep rally during our Advisory period on Friday of the first full week of school and did a great job getting the students involved in the assembly. Our homecoming week this school year is the week of October 7th, with the homecoming dance being October 12th.

As always,

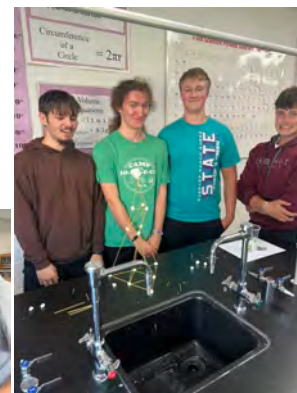
LET'S GO KNIGHTS!

Tanner Carlson

7-12 Principal



Mrs. Brown's Physics class made towers with spaghetti noodles and marshmallows.



August 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 August 19, 2024 regular meeting:

As we approach the start of the 2024-2025 school year, we are thrilled to extend a warm welcome back to each of you. I hope your summer was filled with joy, relaxation, and meaningful experiences. This year, our school community is eager to continue our journey together with renewed energy and dedication. We have been busy preparing for an exciting and productive year, focused on supporting each student's academic, social, and emotional growth.

On behalf of the entire Mechanicsville Elementary School community, we would like to express our deepest gratitude for your generous donation to our Food Service Program from the Class of 1982. Your contribution will make a significant impact on the lives of our students, ensuring that every child has access to nutritious meals throughout the school day.

At the heart of our educational mission is the commitment to fostering a learning environment where every student has the opportunity to succeed. Our goals are centered around key areas that we believe are critical to achieving this vision. By focusing on foundational skills, local decision-making, and the necessary resources, we aim to create a supportive and effective educational system. Below are our IASB starting goals in these essential areas:

- **Student Achievement (Literacy Focus):** Literacy is considered the foundational building block for student achievement and overall success. Emphasizing literacy across all levels ensures students have the necessary skills to excel academically and beyond.
- **Preschool:** Early childhood education is crucial for setting the stage for long-term academic success. Ensuring that preschool programs are robust and effective is a priority.
- **Local Accountability and Decision-Making:** Iowa school boards, elected by the community, play a pivotal role in overseeing public schools. By working closely with parents, communities, and educators, these boards are best positioned to assess and meet the needs of their local students.
- **Parent and Family Engagement:** Engaging parents and families is essential for fostering a supportive learning environment. Collaboration with families helps in tailoring education to meet students' individual needs and enhances overall student success.
- **Supplemental State Aid:** Supplemental state aid is vital for ensuring that districts have sufficient general fund resources. This financial support is a key component in providing quality education and supporting student success across the board.

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 Eichinger's Fourth Grade



North Cedar Elementary Food Service

Breakfast & Lunch with Your Child

Did you know parents can eat breakfast or lunch with their child? Call the office so they can let the food service staff know.

Adult breakfast is \$2.75

Adult lunch is \$5.00

Mrs. Weber's First Grade



Mr. O'Connor's PE

Miss Schindelar's Band Lessons



Mrs. Rouse Volunteering in the Lowden Library



Mrs. Jackson's Third Grade

We are off to a great start! It was a hot one, but we made it. We kept cool with indoor recess and lots of water breaks. We are in full swing with math, reading, and writing. We are getting to know each other a little more and we welcomed a new student to our class. We are looking forward to a fun and exciting year and much cooler weather!

Mrs. Green's Second Grade



Mrs. Petersen's Kindergarten



Miss Clark's Kindergarten



North Cedar Lunch & Activities Calendar September 2024

Calendar is subject to change.

Mon., Sept. 2: No School

Tues., Sept. 3: Lunch: Pizza

Wed., Sept. 4: Lunch: Pulled Pork Slider
Picture Day @ Jr/Sr High

Thurs., Sept. 5: Lunch: French Toast Sticks
4pm HS Cross Country @ Iowa City
5:15pm Fresh/Soph Volleyball vs Central City
6:15pm JV Volleyball vs Central City
7:15pm V Volleyball vs Central City

Fri., Sept. 6: Lunch: Breaded Chicken Patty
Cheer Clinic Performance @ Halftime
7pm HS Football vs Maquoketa Valley

Sat., Sept. 7: 8:30am HS Volleyball @ Midland HS

Mon., Sept. 9: Lunch: Orange Chicken
6pm JV Football vs Maquoketa Valley

Tues., Sept. 10: Lunch: Sloppy Joes
4pm Jr. High XC @ Tipton
5pm HS XC @ Tipton

Wed., Sept. 11: Lunch: Hot Ham & Cheese

Thurs., Sept. 12: Lunch: Chicken Drumstick
4:30pm JH Football vs Maquoketa Valley
5:15pm Fresh/Soph Volleyball @ East Buchanan
6:15pm JV Volleyball @ East Buchanan
7:15pm V Volleyball @ East Buchanan

Fri., Sept. 13: Lunch: Corn Dog or Hot Dog
7pm V Football @ Bellevue

Mon., Sept. 16: No School—PD Day
4:30pm XC @ Midland
6pm School Board Meeting @ Stanwood

Tues., Sept. 17: Lunch: Chicken Nuggets
4pm JH Volleyball @ Lisbon HS
6pm JV Volleyball @ Wilton HS
7:15pm V Volleyball @ Wilton HS

Wed., Sept. 18: Lunch: Chicken Alfredo

Thurs., Sept. 19: Lunch: Walking Tacos
3:30pm JH Volleyball vs Midland HS
4:30pm JH Football @ Lisbon HS
5:15pm Fresh/Soph Volleyball vs Midland HS
6:15pm JV Volleyball vs Midland HS
7:15pm V Volleyball vs Midland HS

Fri., Sept. 20: Lunch: Mac & Cheese Bites
7pm V Football vs North Linn (Senior Night before game) @ Stanwood

Sat., Sept. 21: 8am HS Volleyball @ Springville

Mon., Sept. 23: Lunch: Breaded Chicken Strips
4:30pm XC @ Bellevue
5pm JV Volleyball vs West Branch
6pm JV Football vs North Linn

Tues., Sept. 24: Lunch: French Dip Sandwiches

Wed., Sept. 25: Lunch: Elem.: Mini Corn Dogs or Hot Dog; Jr/Sr High:
Chicken Wings

Thurs., Sept. 26: Lunch: Elem.: Personal Pan Pizza; Jr/Sr High: Stuffed
Crust Pizza
3:30pm JH Volleyball vs Marquette Catholic
5:15pm Fresh/Soph Volleyball vs Marquette Catholic
6:15pm JV Volleyball vs Marquette Catholic
7:15pm V Volleyball vs Marquette Catholic

Fri., Sept. 27:
Lunch: Chicken Bacon Club
7pm V Football @ Starmont

Sat., Sept. 28:
9am V Volleyball

H HIGHLAND 9/30 - FB - 7:00	 MIDLAND 9/19 - VB - 7:15	 HOME TOURNAMENT 9/26 - VB - 8:00
 CENTRAL CITY 9/8 - VB - 7:15	 NORTH LINN 9/20 - FB (SENIOR NIGHT) 7:00	 HOME MEET 9/30 - XC - 4:30
 MAQUOKETA VALLEY 9/8 - FB - 7:00	 MARQUETTE 9/26 - VB - 7:15	 LISBON 10/8 - VB (SENIOR NIGHT) - 7:15
		 POSTVILLE 10/11 - FB (HOMECOMING) - 7:00

NAVIGATE & EDUCATE NEWSLETTER



HI, I'M MS. EMILY
THE SCHOOL
RESOURCE
NAVIGATOR



NORTH CEDAR RESOURCE CLOSET PROVIDING FREE CLOTHING AND HYGIENE PRODUCTS



I connect youth and families with various academic, medical, dental, social/emotional and other support service needs. I provide support, information, assistance identifying options and potential solutions, empowering students and families to set goals and make choices that are right for them. My office is located in the Jr/Sr High School Room 107; however, I work with all North Cedar students and families including those in our elementary schools.



The Goal of the Resource Closet is to: Uplift and empower our North Cedar students and families through minimizing financial barriers to basic necessities, so students can focus on their education.



CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES!
FREE FAMILY FUN!

REPORT TO DUTY AUGUST 31, 2024
5PM - 8PM
OUTDOOR MOVIE AT DUSK
TIPTON CITY PARK (FOOTBALL FIELD)

FREE GIVEAWAYS
FREE ICE CREAM TRUCK
WES THE BALLOON GUY
PHOTO BOOTH

OUTDOOR MOVIE ON 20 FT INFLATABLE SCREEN!

INFLATABLES
SUPERHERO ACTIVITIES
FACE PAINTING
GLITTER TATTOOS

community foundation Cedar County
TIPTON SPA's
HILLS BANK
Liberty communications
CITIZENS BANK
Whitney's Wings
ACT

Available Food

- 1st Friday of the Month** - 3:30-4:30pm Mobile Food Pantry Drive Thru at First United Methodist Church, 607 Lynn St, Tipton
- Tuesdays** - 3:45-5:15pm @ 300 Cedar St. Bennet
- 2nd & 4th Saturday of the Month** - 10:00a-12:00p Food Pantry @ Zion UCC, 402 Main St, Lowden
- 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the Month** - 3:30-5:30pm Food Pantry @ First UCC, 600 Mulberry St, Tipton
- 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the Month** - 11:00am-11:45am Shared Blessings Free Meal @ First United Methodist Church, 607 Lynn St, Tipton
- 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the Month** - 6:00-7:00pm Bring Photo ID, UMC, 307 E First St, Mechanicsville
- 3rd Tuesday of the Month** - 3:30-4:30pm Mobile Food Pantry @ West Branch Fire Dept, 105 S 2nd St, West Branch
- 3rd Saturday of the Month** - 9:00-10:00am Food Pantry Drive Thru at Foursquare Church, 1100 N Hwy 38, Tipton
- Every Wednesday** - 5:30-6:30pm Food Pantry @ St. John's UCC, 320 gth Ave, Clarence
- 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the Month** - 10:00am-1:00pm
- 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the Month:** 3:00-7:00pm, Hein Manor bottom level 807 3rd St. Durant
- Every Monday - 5pm-6pm** Food Pantry @ St. Paul's UCC, 315 North Main St. Wheatland
- 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the Month** - 9:30-10:30am @ St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 102 W. Church St. Oxford Jct.
- Every Friday** - 8:30-10am @ United Presbyterian Church 401 Main St. Lost Nation

DO YOU NEED?

A doctor, dentist, glasses, healthcare, health insurance, therapist, transportation to appointments, food assistance, assistance with rent/utilities, schools supplies, clothing, hygiene products, period care products, help applying for services? Contact School Resource Navigator Ms. Emily

Work Cell (Call or Text): 563-886-4711
Email: esmith@north-cedarstu.org

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

North Cedar Community School District
102 East North St.
P.O. Box 247
Stanwood, IA 52337