WESTERN DUBUQUE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

310 4th Street S.W., P.O. Box 68

Farley, Iowa 52046-9513

Phone: 563-744-3885 Fax: 563-744-3093 Website: www.wdbqschools.org

Jeffory Corkery, *Superintendent* | Mark Frasher, *Business Manager* | Kelly Simon, *Dir. of Curriculum & Instruction* | Tina Brestrup, *Dir. of Student Services*

Bernard Elementary (PK-4)
Phone..... 563-879-3190
Fax 563-879-3193

Cascade Elementary (PK-6)
Phone..... 563-852-3335
Fax 563-852-7322

Cascade Jr./Sr. High (7-12)
Home of the Cougars
Phone..... 563-852-3201
Fax 563-852-7186

Drexler Middle/Intermediate (5-8)
Phone..... 563-744-3371
Fax 563-744-3711

Dyersville Elementary (PK-4)
Phone..... 563-875-8484
Fax 563-875-8265

Epworth Elementary (PK-4)
Phone..... 563-876-5514
Fax 563-876-3208

Farley Elementary (PK-4)
Phone..... 563-744-3308
Fax 563-744-9190

Peosta Elementary (PK-4)
Phone..... 563-588-9010
Fax 563-588-9013

Western Dubuque High (9-12)
Home of the Bobcats
Phone..... 563-876-3442
Fax 563-876-5512

Maintenance/Transportation
Phone..... 563-744-3512
Fax 563-744-9001

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are writing to make you aware of a new state website that provides Iowans a snapshot of how our public schools and school districts are performing in two areas: student proficiency rates and growth toward college and career readiness.

This website will enable users to look up this information for any public school or district, including ours. You may find the new website, http://reports.educateiowa.gov/acr, a good source of information.

The website was developed by the Iowa Department of Education as a first step in meeting a requirement of the 2013 education reform law. This law requires the Department to evaluate and rank schools based on their performance on nine specific measures and to post this information on its website.

This evaluation system is under development, and we expect to see a more complete system this fall. According to the Iowa Department of Education, the system will be rolled out in phases this year and next year. It's important to note that the new website available now does not represent the complete evaluation system. Instead, it represents the performance of each public school and district on two of the nine measures required by the law:

- Student proficiency rates: The percentage of students proficient in math and reading in grades 3-8 and 11 based on state assessment results. Iowa's definition of "proficient" means performing at a basic level. Proficiency does not necessarily put students on the path to college and career readiness.
- Growth toward college and career readiness: The percentage of students who met a growth target needed to be college and career ready. The Department has worked with our state assessment developer to link the Iowa Assessments to the college and career readiness benchmarks defined by ACT. The growth measure sets an expectation that all students will make progress each year and will be ready for college by the end of 12th grade.

The other seven performance measures are: Attendance rates, parent involvement, employee turnover, community activities and involvement, graduation rate, college readiness, and closing achievement gaps.

We believe this information can complement conversations in our community about our work to provide students a great education. However, student performance data only tell part of the story about how our schools are doing. To get the full story, I encourage you to stay connected with our schools as much as possible. Thanks for all you do for our kids.

WESTERN DUBUQUE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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