



# CASCADE ELEMENTARY

Cascade Elementary School Newsletter

May 2023

## Message from the Principal

Hello Cascade Elementary families,

The days and weeks can feel long, but the years certainly go fast. It's hard to wrap my head around the idea that it's May and we are wrapping up another wonderful school year at Cascade Elementary.

Reflecting back on this entire year, school felt completely normal again for the first time after the Covid-19 pandemic. While that entire situation was something that we never wanted to experience, I truly believe that in many ways it brought us together, made us more efficient and also created greater value on normalcy for elementary school children.

May is incredibly busy month and we'll go by in the blink of an eye. Classes will be going on field trips, enjoying fun events, and participating in the color run in these closing weeks. We will also be assessing student progress one last time so that we can give an accurate report of each student growth in progress when we send the report cards home on the last day of school.

Preparation for next year is well underway and we will have more exciting news to share as August approaches.

I hope that you have a wonderful month of May and a fantastic summer. Thanks for your continued support of the teachers and staff at Cascade Elementary.

Sincerely,

Dan Wendler

Main Office 563-663-9639

Dan Wendler—Principal, 563-663-9443

Tammy Connolly—Secretary, 563-424-6038

Ashley Botsford—Counselor, 563-258-7609

Cyndi Trumm—School Nurse, 563-663-9341

Website: [http://www.wdbqschools.org/cascadeelementaryschool\\_home.aspx](http://www.wdbqschools.org/cascadeelementaryschool_home.aspx)



# Classroom Spotlight

## PreK

The Prekindergarten classes have worked hard this year to learn so many things. They've learned all about letters, about numbers, and how to be a good friend. They've worked on improving their fine motor skills and building strength in their hands.

Students have had lots of opportunities to practice patience, turn taking and problem solving. Recently the PreK classes have been working on these skills through a farm unit. To celebrate all the growth that the students have made this year, we had a farm themed Family Fun Night. During this event, parents were able to join their child and participate in activities that showed off the many skills they have worked on throughout the year. There were 11 different activities that everyone could enjoy, including playdoh with number cutters, tracing cards, farm books, a math building block game, letter and number puzzles, corn tubs, and a craft activity where kids could make a cow. It was such a fun way to spend time with families and show off some of the fun things we get to do at school with friends.



## Dates to Remember:

### May

- 1—5th Grade Field Trip, Music Program Rehearsal
- 2—Music Program Rehearsal at CHS, Music Program K-2nd grade 6:00 pm, 3rd-5th grade 6:45 pm
- 4—1st Grade Field Trip, 3rd Grade Trip, 4th Grade Field Trip, 5th Grade visit CHS, 5th Grade Band Rehearsal
- 9—PreK Field Trip, 4th Grade State Fair
- 10—Yoga in School
- 11—Color Run
- 12—2nd Grade Field Trip, 4th & 5th Grade Track Meet
- 15—5th Grade Band Performance, Band Assembly for 4th Grade
- 16—Color Run Rain Date, End of Year Celebration and Talent Show, 5th Grade Band Concert
- 17—Kindergarten Field Trip
- 22—Snow Make-Up Day #3
- 23—Snow Make-Up Day #4, Last Day of School, 2 Hour Early Dismissal

## Fechas para recordar:

### Mayo

- 1—Excursión de 5º grado, ensayo del programa de música
- 2—Ensayo del Programa de Música en CHS, Programa de Música K-2 grado 6:00 pm, 3-5 grado 6:45 pm
- 4—Excursión de 1 grado, viaje de 3 grado, viaje de campo de 4 grado, visita de 5 grado CHS, ensayo de banda de 5 grado
- 9—Excursión de PreK, Feria Estatal de 4º Grado
- 10—Yoga en la escuela
- 11—Tirada de color
- 12—Excursión de 2 grado, 4 y 5 grado
- 15—Interpretación de banda de 5 grado, montaje de banda para 4 grado
- 16—Fecha de lluvia de Color Run, Celebración de fin de año y show de talentos, Concierto de la banda de 5 grado
- 17—Excursión al jardín de infantes
- 22—Día de recuperacion de nieve #3
- 23—Día de recuperación de nieve #4, último día de clases, salida anticipada de 2 horas

# Classroom Spotlight

## PreK



Camden and Cruze Bruns with their parents practicing numbers while having fun with playdough.



Ayleen Nava Gonzalez and her sister practicing their writing skills.



Rowyn Stepp showing off her cow craft!



Jack Bode and Connor Edens enjoying books together!

# Classroom Spotlight

## PreK



Milla Demus and Quincy Brindle working on following directions creating a cow craft together.



Kaden Bildstein working on his fine motor skills while coloring with his dad.



Dakota Strang proud of her cow dot paint.



John Curoe working on pattern blocks.

# Nurse's Page

## Planning Ahead

### **Pre-K**

Physical  
Immunizations

### **Kindergarten**

Physical  
Immunizations  
Dental  
Vision

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**\*\*\* Immunizations\*\*\***

***MUST receive BOTH Tdap and Meningococcal PRIOR to start of school\*\*\****

### **9<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Dental screening

### **12<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**\*\*\*Immunization- Meningococcal\*\*\***

### **7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

Sports physicals for all student athletes

Please contact your medical provider or the building's school nurse with any questions

All forms can be found on our district website. Link to forms provided below:

<https://www.wdbqschools.org/DocumentsandDownloads1.aspx>

## --- PTO News ---

### Color Run:

Your Cascade Elementary PTO is excited to hold our annual Color Run Fundraiser on May 11<sup>th</sup>. This fundraiser provides us with the ability to support various experiences and projects at Cascade Elementary. We look forward to continuing to host community events, fund field trips for classes, and help provide building and playground improvements.

This year we are excited to help purchase additional playground equipment for the new early childhood/PreK playground.



Thank you for all your support and help making this fundraiser successful! It is so fun to watch the excitement surrounding the event.

### PTO Meetings:

Please consider attending a PTO meeting. We generally meet the second Wednesday of each month. We will have at least one more meeting this school year and will continue meeting at the beginning of next school year.

We value the input of our CES parents and appreciate having different perspectives at our meetings.

### PTO Officers:

Kendra Kedley --President  
Stephanie Zalaznik -- Vice President  
Jody Noonan – Treasurer  
Lisa Aschtgen - Secretary

### Teacher Appreciation Week May 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>



Take a minute to thank a teacher this week or month. A simple email, note, or card showing your appreciation can mean a lot!

# Counselor's Corner

It has been a wonderful year full of growth and excitement! I appreciate your collaboration to best support and meet your child's highest potential in their social and emotional well-being as well as their academics. As you enter the summer months, I want to provide helpful resources to have a safe and enjoyable summer. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns.

## **Summer Activities:**

[ISU Summer Programs 2023](#)

[Kids Summer Camp & Enrichment 365 Ink Magazine](#)

[Cedar Rapids Summer Camp 2023](#)

[Camp Kaleidoscope-Summer Grief Camp](#)

[Cascade Public Library Facebook page](#)

## **Food Opportunities:**

[Resources Unit](#)

Bernard food pantry at the old Bernard School

Anyone who needs food can visit on the **first or third Wednesday of any month** or call Resources Unite at 563-581-2850 to arrange pickup between weeks.

[River Bend Foodbank](#)

Cascade Food Pantry

St. Matthias food pantry is open every Saturday from 10:00-11:00. Located in the basement of the parish offices. Sign in with your name, number of people in your home and your zip code for our record keeping purposes. All are welcome!

[Dubuque food pantries](#)

## **Other Resources:**

[211](#)

[Call or text 988 Suicide and Crisis Hotline](#)

Have a wonderful summer!

Ashley Gansen

563-258-7609

[Ashley.gansen@wdbqschools.org](mailto:Ashley.gansen@wdbqschools.org)

# Counselor's Corner

Looking to build Social and Emotional learning from home? Take a look at these fun, interactive SEL apps available to use at home! Social Emotional learning is essential for a child's development in areas of self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and decision-making! Key benefits of social emotional learning are the ability to identify feelings, increase coping tools, self-regulate, build better relationships and so much more! Explore these apps and find the power of social emotional learning!

## SEL Apps

1. [Harmony Game Room](#)
2. [Wisdom](#)
3. [Moshi](#)
4. [iTouchiLearn Feelings](#)
5. [David Duys website-school counseling apps](#)
6. [Teach Thought](#)
7. [Common Sense Media](#)
8. [Scholastic](#)
9. [Calm](#)
10. [Smiling Mind](#)

**Non-Discrimination Policy Statement:** It is the policy of the Western Dubuque County Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact the district's Equity Coordinator at 310 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Farley, Iowa 52046 or 563-744-3885.