

# BERNARD/CASCADE ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 2

November 2016

Western Dubuque Schools "Better Every Day"

## Principal News

Hello Bernard and Cascade families!

The school year is flying by! I don't think anyone can believe that we are already into November and beginning to think about the holidays!

There has been a lot going on at both schools over the past month! We have been trying to share many of the fun things via our schools Facebook pages. Please like those and follow the fun if you have not already.

Parent teacher conferences are right around the corner! Reminder, the first night was moved to Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> to avoid Election Night. Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> is the second night. Conferences have been scheduled and run from 3:30-7:00 pm each night. We are excited to see you all there.

The building project is progressing nicely at CES. We are still looking at occupying the new wing for a large part of this school year. The roof is now on and has been merged with the old building. They have matched the exterior brick with the rest of the building and are currently working on plumbing and electrical. We have also selected flooring, paint and other cosmetic finishes. If you would like to see drawings or the finishes, please come see me at parent / teacher conferences. We are happy and excited to show them off!

This year we are doing a combined reading initiative with both schools. Teachers are tracking reading minutes in every classroom and we are working towards a total of 550,000 minutes read at home for all of our Cougars. We are off to a fast start having exceeded 104,000 minutes in September! Continue to read at home!

Both schools' PTO organizations have been busy. The BES PTO had a tremendous pizza night fundraiser at the Painted Horse, generating \$219. They also have Scentsy sales coming up and will be hosting a book fair at P/T conferences. The CES PTO has drawings rendered for the courtyard project (pictures included below). We will be focused on rallying funding for this around our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Color Run next May! Thanks to the dedicated parents who work so hard for our kids as part of these groups!



We would like to thank our parents, students, staff and school friends for a great start to this school year! We are in full flow and working to get better every day! As always, please feel free to contact me at any time if there is something you would like to discuss!

Take care,

Dan Wendler  
Elementary Principal

## School Board Public Input Session

The Western Dubuque Community School District Board of Directors is holding a public input session regarding Bernard Elementary as part of the regularly scheduled board meeting which will be held on Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. We encourage all who are available and have input on the future of Bernard Elementary to attend and share their thoughts and feelings.

## PTO News

The Bernard Elementary PTO is hosting a Family Movie Night at Mindframe Theater in Dubuque on Tuesday, November 15. Bernard Elementary students voted between three movie choices and the winner was 'The Lego Movie'. The cost is \$2.00 per person which includes unlimited pop and popcorn. The theater opens at 6:15 p.m. and the movie starts at 6:30.



The Cascade Elementary PTO is having a Pizza Night fundraiser at Happy Joe's in Cascade on Monday, November 7 and Thursday, November 10 from 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. 10 percent of all food orders on those two nights will go to the PTO.



# HAPPY THANKSGIVING



### Dates to remember:

Nov 7 & 10 - Parent Teacher Conferences  
 Nov 7 & 10 - CES Pizza Night fundraiser at Happy Joe's 3:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
 Nov 11 - Veteran's Day Assemblies  
     BES 1:00 p.m.; CES 2:15 p.m.  
 Nov 15 - BES Movie Night at Mindframe  
 Nov 16 - BES & CES Picture Retake Day  
 Nov 18 - 2 hour early dismissal  
 Nov 21-25 - No School

### Fechas Importantes:

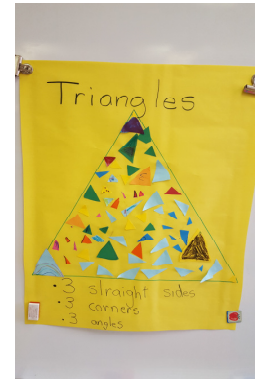
Noviembre 7 & 10 - Conferencias de Padres  
 Noviembre 7 & 10 - Noche de pizza; recaudación de fondos para la escuela a Happy Joes a las 3- 9pm  
 Noviembre 11 - Asamblea del Día de los Veteranos 2:15 p.m.  
 Noviembre 16 - Día de Retomar las Fotos  
 Noviembre 18 - Salida 2 horas más temprano  
 Noviembre 21-25 - No Escuela

## Mrs. Gibbs, Kindergarten CES

The kindergarten classes at Cascade Elementary have been very busy exploring and learning with our new math program! The first couple of units have been full of hands on activities that keep students engaged while building foundational math skills. The first unit started off with getting to know numbers and was filled with games and activities that helped students work on naming and writing numbers as well as building an understanding that a number represents a certain amount.



The second unit has included learning about triangles, rectangles, and circles. One of the favorite activities was making a poster for each shape and cutting out pictures of that shape from magazines to paste on the posters. In this unit students are working on sorting objects, and then sorting those same objects again in a different way! So far students are enjoying the math program, especially all the opportunities they have to play games and work with partners.

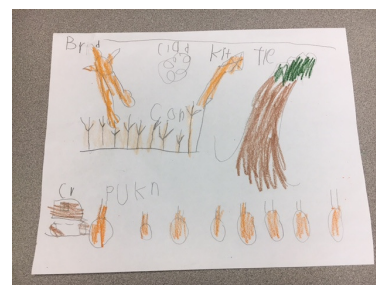
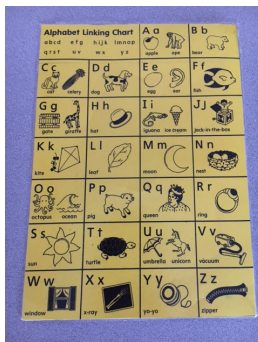


## Mrs. Weitz, Kindergarten CES

The kindergarten students at Cascade Elementary are off to a great start in their classrooms! These past few months, we have been working on building routines, good habits, independence, and positive behaviors.

In Writers Workshop, the kindergarten students have been learning and incorporating strategies to help them write words and draw pictures about things they know a lot about. These strategies

include using letter sounds to stretch out tricky words, using the word wall for commonly used words, and referring to the alphabet linking chart. Most importantly, the students often refer to the story The Little Engine That Could to remind them to never give up even when writing and drawing get difficult... "I think I can, I think I can!" They are all well on their way to becoming independent writers!



## Mrs. Boffeli, Counselor News

### Counselor's Corner

The month of October was a very busy one! On October 6 Cascade Elementary participated in Jam the Van to assist the Cascade Food Pantry. In recognition of Red Ribbon week and drug prevention, students at Bernard and Cascade watched episodes of The Drug Avengers with a follow up discussion and activity to support healthy lifestyles. On October 27 the entire school enjoyed the fall junior high play, Cinderella!

#### Angel Tree Assistance Program with Fidelity Bank and Trust

For the past ten years, I, along with the CHS counselor, have been able to send invitations to all of the families receiving free lunch to participate in the Angel Tree program through Fidelity Bank and Trust. For those who have received an invite and wish to accept, please respond to guarantee participation.

#### Cascade PTO presents Supper with Santa

Come join Cascade and Bernard Elementary families for a night of fun! Supper with Santa is a charitable event to assist the Angel Tree program at Fidelity Bank in Cascade. Local families are recipients of this program. If you are unable to attend the event but would like to fulfill an Angels' needs and wishes, please visit the bank to pick up your angel. More information about Supper with Santa will be sent home with your child in their take-home folder.

#### Knights of Columbus and Coats for Kids campaign

Is your child in need of a winter coat? Knights of Columbus will be distributing new and gently used coats on Nov. 8 from 6:00-7:30 at 1405 Columbus Street.

To learn more about Western Dubuque's School Counseling Services, go to the district website and click on Parent Links-School Counseling Services-School Attendance Center-Links.



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 At-Risk Coordinator, Vicky Coyle, 310 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Farley, Iowa 52046.

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