

# Cascade Elementary



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Hello Cascade Elementary families!

I hope that your summer has been refreshing as you spent time with your families and hopefully made some memories along that way. We are excitedly preparing for another school year at Cascade Elementary! Our first day of school is Monday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> (Kindergarten to 5<sup>th</sup> grade) and Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> for our new Cougars in Pre-Kindergarten.

We are planning to hold an open house for K-5 students on Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:30 pm. This will allow you to come into the building, meet your child's teacher and drop off their school supplies. Teacher assignments for your child will be available through your Parent Portal account on Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup>.

The USDA is once again providing free breakfast and lunch meals for all students throughout the entire 2021-22 school year. This has been a wonderful support to all families during this time. We encourage as many of you as possible to take advantage of the free breakfast opportunity. Our doors open at 7:40 am and we serve breakfast until 8:00 am. Although meals are free again this year, it is still critical for those in need to file for free or reduced priced meals. This provides Western Dubuque Schools with the necessary funding to continue to provide an amazing product!

As your children return to school this year, there will be several new faces at CES and many familiar faces in different roles than the past. Mrs. Amber Gravel has moved out of the classroom and into our role as Instructional Coach, her primary function is supporting and working with teachers to help them be their best. Mrs. Josey Noonan has moved down to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, Mrs. Kelli Gibbs to Pre-Kindergarten and Ms. Madi McElmeel has moved from 4<sup>th</sup> grade to Kindergarten. In addition to this internal shifting, we have added Ms. Ashley Botsford to our team as a school counselor. For the first time in a long time, Cascade Elementary will have a School Counselor all day, five days per week to support our student needs. We are also welcoming Ms. Morgan Pitz in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, Mrs. Mariah Payne and Mrs. Andrea Johnson as 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers. While much of our staff is new or in a new role, we will continue to strive to meet every child's need and remain an exceptional school with a loving, family culture!

We had two large buildings and grounds projects over the summer. We replaced sixty-year-old windows in the kindergarten rooms with beautiful, updated windows and we are installing a new, rubberized surface to our gymnasium. We can't wait for you to check it out!

Enjoy these remaining days of summer and don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions leading into the school year. We can't wait to have the halls of Cascade Elementary filled with energy and smiles in just a couple of short weeks.

Sincerely,

Dan Wendler  
Elementary Principal