



CASCADE ELEMENTARY

Cascade Elementary School Newsletter

September 2022

Message from the Principal

Dear Cascade Elementary families,

2022–23 school year has been one of the smoothest starts to a year that I can remember. We have assembled an amazing staff who was incredibly prepared to make the first few days of school fantastic. I also do not remember a year recently that was not significantly interrupted with heat related early dismissals, which was a very nice way to get into the school routine.

Please be reminded that we will continue to dismiss early at 2:00 PM every Wednesday throughout the school year. Our teaching staff is engaging in professional learning around Professional Learning Communities, Culture, Student Centered mathematics and Social Studies. This time is incredibly important to us growing and developing our skills to provide the best possible education for your children. I am incredibly confident that this learning time together will produce an even better educational product than we had been providing.

Our amazing Cascade Elementary PTO will be kicking off the year on Wednesday, September 14 with initial meeting at 6:45 PM. The meeting will be held in the cafeteria here at Cascade Elementary. Meetings typically land on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:45 PM. We would love to have new parents join this group to help provide input, plan and support some really great student and family opportunities throughout the school year.

We look forward to another great school year. We are incredibly thankful for the family and community support as we continue on our path from good to great.

If you ever have questions or would like to discuss anything please do not hesitate to reach out. My office phone number is 563-663-9443. I can also be reached by email at Dan.wendler@wdbqschools.org.

Sincerely,

Dan Wendler
Elementary Principal

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



Classroom Spotlight

2nd Grade

Welcome back! The first weeks of school have been great! Students and teachers are all getting to know each other and we are making many different connections. One thing we will continue to do this year will be morning meetings. This is a time when we will build a strong sense of community, and set children up for success socially and academically for the day. New this year 2nd graders will live by our classroom values, such as respectful, responsible, happiness, kindness, and having fun. Second grade is excited to start digging into math, reading and writing. We are anxious to see how much each and every student will grow this year.



Dates to Remember:

September

5—No School, Labor Day
14—Yoga in Schools
20—Picture Day

October

12—Yoga in Schools
13—Jam the Van (more info to come)
24-28—Red Ribbon Week (more info to come)

Fechas para recordar:

Septiembre

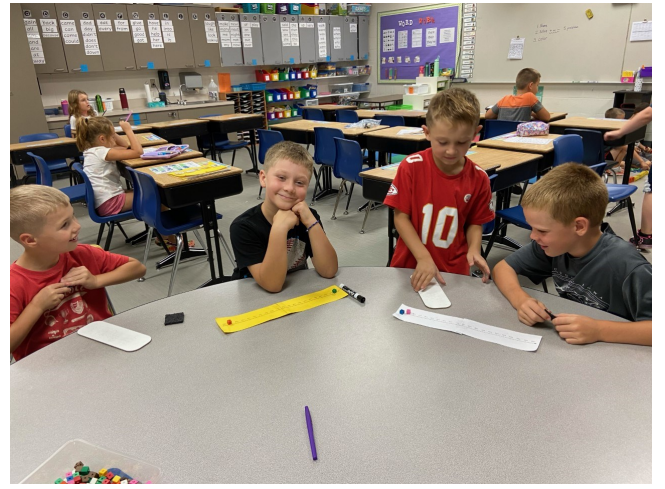
5—No escuela, Día del Trabajo
14—Yoga en las escuelas
20—Día de la Imagen

Octubre

12—Yoga en las escuelas
13—Jam the Van (más información por venir)
24-28—Semana de la Cinta Roja (más información por venir)

Classroom Spotlight

2nd Grade



--- PTO News ---

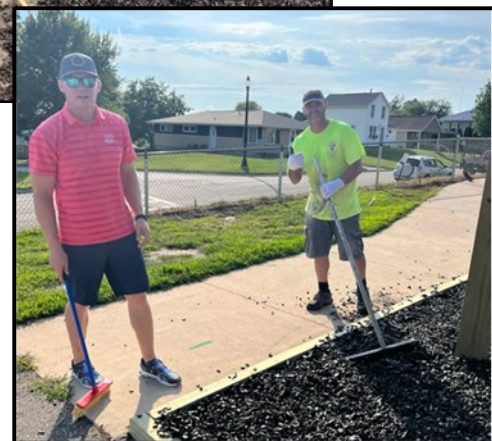


New Playground Equipment:

We are so excited that the new playground equipment has been installed and is ready for student use. We decided to upgrade the playground surface to rubber chips and are thrilled with the results.

We continue to be so grateful for all the parent and community support that we receive each year to help provide experiences and fund projects for the students of Cascade Elementary! This project was possible due to the 2022 Cascade Elementary Color Run fundraising efforts.

Thank
You



A special THANK YOU to the following parents and volunteers that helped spread the rubber chips at the new playground:

Joe Larkin, Jeff Engesser, Jacquie Manternach,
Lauren & Bryan Trumm, Kendra & Adam Kedley,
Lisa & Aaron Aschtgen, Steph Zalaznik, Gail Schmidt,
and Phil (Hummer) Otting



Next Meeting—Wednesday, Sept. 14th

6:45 pm at Cascade Elementary

Please consider attending a PTO meeting. At the next meeting we will be discussing our upcoming events and goals for this school year. We encourage new ideas and are always open to feedback.

PTO Officers:

Kendra Kedley – President

Stephanie Zalaznik – Vice President

Mary Finzel – Treasurer

Lisa Aschtgen – Secretary

Counselor's Corner

Welcome back Cascade Cougars! I am so excited to begin another school year. We understand that coming back to school after a long summer break can be a little scary or nerve racking. This is a common part of a child's development and can occur when a child separates from their parents or guardians. I have included a few books below to help support and ease separation anxiety in children.

[The Kissing Hand](#) by Audrey Penn

[Llama Llama Misses Mama](#) by Anna Dewdney

[Bye-Bye Time](#) by Elizabeth Verdick

[The Invisible String](#) by Patrice Karst

[Wemberly Worried](#) by Kevin Henkes

[Oh my Baby, Little One](#) by Kathi Appelt

[When Mama Comes Home Tonight](#) by Eileen Spinelli

[A Little Spot of Anxiety](#) by Diane Alber

[Anxious Ninja](#) by Mary Nhin

[Please Explain Anxiety to Me](#) by Laurie Zelinger and Jordan Zelinger

Please reach out to Ms. Botsford with any questions, comments or concerns.

Email: ashley.botsford@wdbqschools.org • Phone: 563. 258.7609

Weekend Backpack Food Program

Backpacks include extra food items for breakfast, snacks, and other meals. They will be distributed on Fridays to students at school.



Please contact Ms. Botsford for more information or questions!

563-258-7609 | ashley.botsford@wdbqschools.org

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 4th Street SW, Farley, Iowa 52046 or 563-744-3885.