

# The Cardinal Comet

CARDINAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

September 2009

## From the Desk of Dr. Shekleton

By the time you are able to read this article, we will have had several days of school. We have been very busy preparing for the upcoming year. Listed below are the new staff members that will be serving the district. Please make them feel as welcome to the district as you have made me feel a part of the Cardinal School Community.

Mr. Rob Campbell, Secondary Principal, Viterbo

Ms. Ami Blaine, Level II, Elementary Special Education, Buena Vista

Mr. Darren Hill, TAG teacher shared with Pekin, Simpson

Mr. Thomas Lamansky, PE shared with Van Buren, University of Northern Iowa

Ms. Lori Steffensmeier, Science, Central College

Mrs. Diane Wakelin, Family and Consumer Science, Northwest Missouri State University

Ms. Stephenie Welch, Level II, Elementary Special Education, Buena Vista

The district is still interviewing for a teacher to handle the 7th and 8th grade Language Arts classes. We plan on having someone hired as soon as possible.

The summer has been very busy with all the maintenance work that has gone on to get the some of the carpeting. Les and Kim have painted many areas. The multi-purpose room has been cleaned and will receive a new coat of paint during winter break or next summer. We have spent time reviewing ways to make the building environment more comfortable. Yg"ctg"kp"vjg"rtqeguu"qh"dg"ikppkpi"vq"rnceg"Łgnf"vkng"ctqwpf"vjg"qwwukfg"qh"vjg"ngg"ogpvtct" building. Mr. Magill has installed several pods of computers in classrooms. Mr. Phillips has spent a great deal of time working on the pre-school program and we still have a few spots open if you know of anyone that wishes to enroll their child in the pre-school program.

At the secondary building, Mr. Bloomquist has painted walls, which look fantastic. The custodians, Dawn, Steve, Terri, and Terri have been very busy cleaning. You can see your the hall tile in several classrooms. The air conditioning has been upgraded in the area of vjg"rtkpekrcnøu"qhŁegø"Vjg"ukfgy"cnm"vjcv"ngcfu"vq"vjg"i{o"ctgc"jcu"dgpp"tgfpqgø"Čnuq."Čnnk- ant Energy replaced a pole in that vicinity. In addition, a culvert by the bus barn has been redone.

The district will receive a new bus this fall partially paid for by a grant. The district was eligible for the grant because we have an anti-idling Board policy. Shelly Hughes has been hired as head cook at the secondary building. We will be recommending three other individuals to the board for hire to round out the Food Service Staff.

Our Middle – Senior High School has been designated as a “School In Need of Assistance” (SINA). Public school districts are required to report academic progress of all students in grades 3 to 8, and 11. Reports include subgroup data and test participation rates in both reading and math. Also included is data on average daily attendance rates and high school graduation rates. All districts/schools are required to annually demonstrate improvement towards the annual goals established by the state in both reading and math. The district will work closely with Great Prairie AEA to develop a plan to revise curriculum and work to improve the core instructional strategies for teachers. Our elementary was removed from the SINA list this past summer.

**The graph below** school years all of our junior class have been required to take the test in order to graduate.

Cardinal summer sports season athletes have garnered some extra recognition. Lindsay Moore has been named to the Iowa Girls Coaches Association Class 1A All-SE Iowa District Softball Team. Also, Lindsay Moore, Chelsea Greiner, Sarah Yeager, Felisha Du- mention team. The following Baseball players received All-District awards: First Team - Colton Millard, Second Team: Jake Scherer, Ryan Giltner, and Coty Ridgeway. Congratulations to each of you.

I would like to thank the Eldon Chapter I of the TTT for providing lunch for teachers and administrators. I feel very fortunate to be working within a school community that has many dedicated teachers, support staff, community members, and students. I encourage each person to become involved as much as possible in the school community. We are here for the students.

Dr. Frank Shekleton, Superintendent  
*Cardinal Community School District*

## ACT: Five Year Trends – Average ACT Scores

Total Tested			English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
Grad Year	District	State	District	State	District	State	District	State	District	State	District	State
2005	13	22,545	19.7	21.5	21.4	21.7	21.7	22.4	21.2	22.1	21.2	22.0
2006	20	22,233	20.3	21.6	20.8	21.8	21.1	22.5	22.9	22.1	21.3	22.1
2007	22	23,016	20.3	21.6	22.0	21.9	22.0	22.6	21.6	22.3	21.6	22.3
2008	52	22,950	16.3	21.9	17.4	22.0	17.8	22.9	17.5	22.3	17.4	22.4
2009	47	22,377	16.9	21.9	17.8	21.9	18.6	22.9	17.8	22.4	17.8	22.4

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# Administration

## Contacts

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### Kirk Magill

Technology Director  
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### Christina Hubbard

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### Winnie Albert and Mary Lynne Marlay

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### Sherry VanBlaricom

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### Tony Fetter

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### Tina Snyder

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### Sara Swanson

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**Elementary** 641-652-3591 or  
641-937-5321

**Middle School/  
High School** 641-652-7531 or  
641-937-5266

### Please direct questions to:

Sherry VanBlaricom  
641-652-7531 or 641-937-5266

## Welcome Back to All Students!

*Submitted by Title One teachers, Mrs. Swope and Ms. Phillips*

This year will bring some changes in the Title program as we will be going to a school-wide Title One this year. More information will follow in the coming weeks. Hope everyone has a nice year and we are looking forward to a great year.

## Preschool News

*Submitted by Heidi Belzer, SEIDA*

As I am writing this excited three and four year olds and their proud, anxious parents are in the building taking part in the early childhood screenings. In just a couple of days they'll begin their educational journey at Cardinal and we'll build on the multitude of things they've already learned from their parents and families. It is an honor to know that the parents entrust us with these young children.

We are so very pleased that we were rewarded the voluntary preschool grant and are able to offer preschool to this community. There are a few openings still available. Contact the school if you have a child that would like to attend.

Another program available to preschoolers and their families is the Family Book Club made available to us through IPTV. These are monthly events that will begin in September. Look for more details in your weekly newsletters.

I know they'll be much laughter and many smiles in the upcoming days. They'll be mixed with a few tears (mostly from the moms)! What an exciting year this will be!

## Now Taking Sealed Bids

Cardinal Community School District is taking separate sealed bids for the 20' x 40' north Cardinal Elementary Portable classroom, and 4 x 4 storage unit 8 ft. tall minimum bid of \$175. Bids should dg"fgnkgtgf"vq"vjg"qhLeg"qh"vjg"uwrgrtkpvpgf"gpv"qp"qt"dghqtg"5<22" pm Friday, September 18, 2009. Bids will be opened at the scheduled 6:30 pm Board meeting on Monday, September 21, 2009. The Board retains the right to refuse any and all bids. The successful bid winner must agree to have the portable classroom removed from the property of Cardinal Community School district on or before Friday, October 9th, 2009. They will also be responsible for all damage to the property of Cardinal Community School district as a result of the removal of the portable classroom. Please contact vjg"qhLeg"qh"vjg"uwrgrtkpvpgf"gpv"vq"xkg y"vjg"rqtvcng"encuutqq o" This building would make an excellent river or lake cabin.

### Submit your bid to:

QhLeg"qh"vjg"Uwrgrtkpvpgf"gpv  
4045 Ashland Road, Eldon, Iowa 52554

## Abuse of Students by School District Employees

Physical or sexual abuse of students, including inappropriate and intentional sexual behavior, by employees will not be tolerated. Vjg"fgLpkvkqp"qh"g o r nq { ggu" hqt"vjg" r wtrqug"qh"vjku" rqnke { "kpenwfgu" not only those who work for pay but also those who are volunteers of the school district under the direction and control of the school district. Employees found in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge.

The school district will respond promptly to allegations of abuse of students by school district employees by investigating or arranging for the investigation of an allegation. The processing qh" c"eq o r nckpv"qt"cmg i cvkqp" y km"dg" j cp fng f"eqpL fgpvkcm { "vq"vjg" maximum extent possible. Employees are required to assist in the investigation when requested to provide information and to o ckpvckp"vjg"eqpL fgpvkcnkv { "qh"vjg"tgrqtvkp i "cp f" kpxguvk i cvkqp" process.

The school district has appointed a Level I investigator and alternate Level I investigator. The school district has also arranged for a trained, experienced professional to serve as the Level II investigator. The Level I investigator and alternate will be provided training in the conducting of an investigation at the expense of the school district. The names of the investigators shall be listed in the student handbook, published annually in the local newspaper and posted in all school facilities.

The superintendent is responsible for drafting administrative regulations to implement this policy.

## Public Conduct on School Premises

If an individual becomes physically or verbally abusive, uses vulgar, obscene or demeaning expression, or in any way interrupts an activity, the individual may be removed from the event by the individual in charge of the event. Law enforcement may be contacted for assistance.

Individuals removed from school premises have the ability to follow the board's chain of command and complaint policies should they choose to do so. The excursion is in effect should the individual choose to appeal the decision of the superintendent. The term "individual" as used in the policy also includes students and employees.

kh"cp"kp f kxfwcn" j cu" dggp"pqvkLgf"qh" gzenwukqp"cp f"vjgtgchvgt"vtkgu" to enter a school building or attends a sponsored or approved: activity, the individual will be advised that his/her attendance will result in prosecution. The school district may obtain a court order for permanent exclusion from the school building or from future school sponsored or approved: activities.

## From the Desk of Activities Director Mr. Fetter

In my last newsletter I mentioned that we would have a few coaching changes and I would let you know what they were this month. Little did I know that a couple of staff members would move on and leave us uetco dnkpi "vq" Lpf" tgrnceg o gpvu" hqt" vj gkt" rqukvkqu0" Pqy "vj cv" vjg" fwuv" jcu" engctgf. "k" co" jerr { "vq" tgrqtv" that I believe we have found excellent individuals to take our teams in the right direction.

Let me start with the fall sports. Darren Hill will be the new head football coach with another newcomer, Thomas Lamansky, assisting. Veteran assistant Darren Batterson will complete the HS staff. For the junior high Chad La Rue will return and work with new coach Jordan Buell. Our volleyball program will be lead by co-coaches this year. Jesse Andrews, who was an assistant last year, will share the coaching fwkgu" ykvj "C o c p f c" Vq wgp0" kp" vjg" lwpkqt" jki j "Rcvk" Fwt lkpigt" jcu" ci tggf" vq" vcmg" vjg" vgc o "c p f" y q t m" y k v j" Et { uvcn" Cuej gpdtpgg" kp" jgt" Ltuv" { gct" cu" c" lwpkqt" jki j "eqce j0" Oke jgnng" Cndgtv" yknn" eqce j" qwt" jki j "uejqqn" and junior high runners. In the practices I have observed so far, the athletes seem to have great enthusiasm o " ykvj " qrvk o ku o " twppkpi " jki j # " Vj ku" ku" i tgc v" vq" ugg. " cp f " k" d g n k x g " v j g u g " e q c e j g u " y k n n " f q " c " v g t t k L e " l q d 0

As far as coaching assignments for the other sport seasons I will inform you of those as each season approaches. Several of these fall coaches will be involved in upcoming sports as well.

At this time our football numbers are not as high as we would like. We are doing our best to increase the size of the squad. If we are unable to get adequate numbers we will have to modify, or perhaps cancel the JV schedule. This is obviously a route we do not want to take, but the numbers have to be there to make it work. The volleyball team has good numbers, but we could use a few more for cross country. Hopefully we can get a few kids out and bolster the fall squad numbers after school begins.

We will have about twenty home events again this fall. I hope we can get a solid fan support for our athletes! Come on out and enjoy the performances of our athletes and cheer on the Comets!

Once again I would like to make everyone aware of our procedures for using our facilities. I think overall we did a pretty decent job following the new policy last new. Remember to apply for use with the Activ- kv { " Fktgevqt" qt" c" dwknfkpi " rtkpekrcn" kh" k" c o " wpcxcnkcdng0" Vjgtg" ku" c" hqt o " vq" Lnm" qww" cp f" uk i p" dghqtg jcpf. " with guidelines we will require you to follow. We felt this policy helped us keep better track of who used vjg" hcekknvkgu0" Yg" cnuq" cxqkfgf" o quv" eqp lkevu" vj cv" jcf" jcr rggpf" kp" vjg" rcuv0" Vjgtg" ygtg" qpn { " c" eqw r ng" qh" times I saw someone here that I was unaware of why they were here. I really appreciate your cooperation and patience with this matter.

For the past year or more I have been working with A-Club members looking into possibly doing some y q t m " q p " v j g " f w i q w u " c p f " d c e m u v q r " h q t " d c u g d c m " L g n f 0 " C h v g t " i g v v k p i " c " e q w r n g " q h " d k f u " y g " f k u e q x g t g f " y g " f k f p 0 " j c x g " v j g " L p c p e k c n " t g u q w t e g u " c x c k n c d n g " v q " f q " v j g " y q t m 0 " C " o g g v k p i " y k n n " d g " j g n f " q p " Y g f p g u f c { . " September 2nd at 6:30pm at the high school to discuss the project and ways to cut costs. Any contractors qt" kpfkxkf wcnv" vj cv" ctg" g z r g t k g p e g f " k p " v j c v " v { r g " q h " y q t m " c t g " y g n e q o g " v q " c w g p f 0 " Q w t " i q c n " k u " v q " L p f " r g q r n g " y j q " c t g " y k n n k p i " v q " x q n w p v g g t " v q " f q " v j g " y q t m " c p f " j g n r " w u " L p f " c " y c { " v q " o c m g " k v " j c r r g p " y k v j k p " q w t " L p c p e k c n " resources. If you become aware of this meeting after the fact, you are still welcome to contact me if you want to be involved.

I have also been tossing around the idea of having a golf outing fundraiser for our athletic programs. I know many community members play in a tourney annually in September. I do not want to interfere with this event. I am thinking maybe we could we could set something up in mid October if there is enough interest. I have already contacted a nearby golf course and have the okay to use their facility. It will be on a Sunday and probably be a four-man best shot format. If you would be interested in being a part of vjku. " r n g c u g " n g v " o g " m p q y " x k c " g o c k n " q t " e c m " o g " c v " v j g " j k i j " u e j q q n " c h v g t " 4 < 2 2 r o 0 " Y j g p " k " L p f " q w w " j q y " o w e j " interest there is I will get the information out somehow and put it together. I would like to see it become an annual event. It would be great to get alumni and community members together for some fun and help out the student athletes!

Qpeg" c i c k p " k " j q r g " g x g t { q p g " u w r r q t v u " q w t " u w f g p v " c v j n g v g u " v j k u " h c m n " u g c u q p 0 " T g o g o d g t " o { " q h L e g " k u " c n y c { u " open. Please feel free to come in if you have any questions or concerns about our activities and programs.

*Inspiration gets you going – dedication keeps you going!*

## Regular Schedule

### Middle School

1st period 8:20-9:05  
2nd period 9:08-9:53  
3rd period 9:56-10:40  
Advisory: 10:43-11:03  
4th period 11:06-11:51  
1st lunch 11:06-11:26  
2nd lunch 11:28- 11:48  
3rd lunch 11:50- 12:10  
5th period 11:54-1:04  
6th period 1:07-1:52  
7th period 1:55-2:41  
8th period 2:44-3:30

### High School

1st period 8:20-9:05  
2nd period 9:08-9:53  
3rd period 9:56-10:40  
Advisory: 10:43-11:03  
4th period 11:06-12:10  
1st lunch 12:20-12:40  
2nd lunch 12:42-1:04  
5th period 12:13-1:04  
6th period 1:07-1:52  
7th period 1:55-2:41  
8th period 2:44-3:30

### One Hour Late Start (Every Wednesday)

#### Middle School

1st period 9:20-10:00  
2nd period 10:03-10:43  
3rd period 10:46-11:26  
4th period 11:29-12:29  
MS Advisory 11:29- 11:49  
1st lunch 11:29-11:49  
2nd lunch 11:49- 12:09  
3rd lunch 12:09- 12:29  
5th period 12:32- 1:32  
6th period 1:35-2:12  
7th period 2:15-2:52  
8th period 2:55-3:30

#### High School

1st period 9:20-10:00  
2nd period 10:03-10:43  
3rd period 10:46-11:26  
4th period 11:29-12:29  
1st lunch 12:32- 12:52  
5th period 12:32- 1:32  
2nd lunch 12:52- 1:12  
HS Advisory 1:12-1:32  
6th period 1:35- 2:12  
7th period 2:15-2:52  
8th period 2:55-3:30

### 12:50 Dismissal

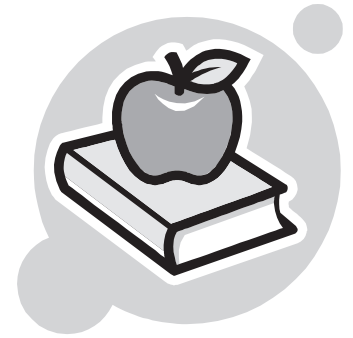
#### Middle School

1st period 8:20-8:48  
2nd period 8:51-9:19  
3rd period 9:22-9:50  
4th period 9:53-10:21  
5th period 10:24-10:52  
6th period 10:55-11:20  
7th period 11:23-11:48  
1st lunch (6th) 11:28- 11:48  
2nd lunch (7th) 11:51-12:11  
3rd lunch (8th) 12:10-12:30  
8th period 11:51-12:50

#### High School

1st period 8:20-8:48  
2nd period 8:51-9:19  
3rd period 9:22-9:50  
4th period 9:53-10:21  
5th period 10:24-10:52  
6th period 10:55-11:20  
7th period 11:23-11:48  
8th period 11:51- 12:50  
HS lunch 12:30-12:50

## How to Address Your Concerns



The following information outline the proper steps to take when you have a concern. No one should be afraid to speak up. The staff member most directly involved. For more information, please contact the Central Office at 863-874-9753.

### Steps to take when you have a concern within the Cardinal School System

#### Step #1

##### Take your concern to the person closest to the problem.

It is best if you take time to talk with the school personnel regularly, before problems are encountered. Know who your children's teachers are and how they can be contacted. Tell them when things are going well and communicate any concerns you have quickly and openly.

If you call for an appointment to see your child's teachers, why not let them know in advance the general nature of your concern? This gives them the opportunity to ask other staff members for information that might relate to your problem or concern. If a personal visit isn't possible, why not call to state the problem, and during the conversation, offer to call back at a time you both can discuss the situation more in detail.

The concern you or your child faces may be the result of an oversight or a misunderstanding that can easily be corrected once brought to the attention of the staff member most directly involved.

It is best if you take time to talk with the school personnel regularly, before problems are encountered. Know who your children's teachers are and how they can be contacted. Tell them when things are going well and communicate any concerns you have quickly and openly.

For more information, please contact the Central Office at 863-874-9753.

#### Step #2

##### Present your concern to the next level.

The principal at each building is responsible for supervision of staff within that particular building. The director of transportation supervises all school bus drivers. Each one is an example of the next level of school personnel you should contact if the staff member cannot help.

Their ability to help will be improved if you share the steps you've already taken with the staff member closest to the problem. Take time to openly share with them the reasons why you feel uncomfortable dealing directly with the person who is closest to the situation.

Supervisory personnel will rarely have access to the information they need to be of immediate assistance and working through them will often require additional time.

#### Step #3

##### Talk with the Superintendent of Schools.

Sometimes all the best intentions can't solve a problem. When you believe you've taken the problem to the next level but still haven't achieved a satisfactory outcome, the superintendent of schools is the next place to go.

Part of the Superintendent's job requires attendance at area-wide meetings outside the district. As a consequence, a meeting with the Superintendent will probably require some advance planning.

#### Step #4

##### Contact your school board members after other means have been tried.

School board members are elected to represent the interest of all parents and district residents; therefore, you should always feel free to tell them your point of view.

School board members do not, however, have direct authority in day-to-day operations.

The board's primary responsibility is to make policies that guide the school district. Any change in policy requires two readings at two separate public meetings; a procedure that often takes two or more months.

Some policy changes may require substantial public input and consultation with the school district's attorney. These requirements often increase the time required for the board to make a response. So, when should a board member be contacted and what can they do?

Some policy changes may require substantial public input and consultation with the school district's attorney. These requirements often increase the time required for the board to make a response. So, when should a board member be contacted and what can they do?

##### When to Contact a Board Member:

- When you have a concern that has not been resolved through the staff member most directly involved.
- When you have a concern that has not been resolved through the principal or other school personnel.
- When you have a concern that has not been resolved through the superintendent of schools.
- When you have a concern that has not been resolved through the superintendent of schools and you believe it is in the best interest of the children to bring it to the attention of the school board.

##### A board member may take one or all of the following actions:

- Refer the concern to the appropriate staff member.
- Refer the concern to the superintendent of schools.
- Refer the concern to the school board.
- Refer the concern to the appropriate agency.

How to successfully solve problems at school is what this guide is all about.



# Elementary

## From the Desk of Elementary School Principal Kerry Phillips

Wow! We are off to a great start. The little problems that occur at the beginning of each new school year are solved, and the elementary is running as smoothly as a new combine. The building has had many updates and improvements over the summer. Vjgtg"ctg"chgy"okpqt"fgvcknu"vq"Łpkuj."dww"vjgug"yknn"pqv"kpvgt-fere with student learning. We will continue to focus on student achievement and increasing the meaningful use of technology in our classes. Another focus will be to increase parent involvement in our building. This issue will be studied, and the staff will be creating some creative methods to help involve parents at the elementary.

Have you noticed how differently people deal with change? Some people look for the positive and understand change usually does not happen without good cause. Why would a group of people work diligently to make change happen, if it were not for some meaningful cause, reason, or predicted outcome? Simply put, they probably would not work to create change just for the sake of creating it. Other people always seem to be able to Łpf"hcwnv"kp"ejcpi"g"Vjg{"r"qkpv"qww"cmn"rquukdng"rkvhcnnu"cpf"cp{"shortcomings they can imagine. They create problems and do all they can to protect others from the ills of the change taking place around them. We are very lucky at Cardinal Community School District. We have board members who embrace any change that ku"dgpgŁekcn"vq"vjg"eq o o wpkv{"0"Qwt"uvchh"ku"eqpuvcvn{"nqqmkpi"for ways to improve our school and what we can offer students. Vjg"eq o o wpkv{"ku"xgt{"uwr"rqtvkxg"cpf"ku"y kmmkp i"vq"ucetkŁeg"vq"provide what is best for Cardinal children. One of the best ways to become more accepting of change is to gain more information. Also, it is great to get involved in the change. Ask questions of those involved. Make an attempt to see if there is a way for you to become an active participant. Stay positive and proactive. We welcome your input and involvement in all the great things taking place at Cardinal Elementary School.

Our new preschool rooms are up and running. We are offering three-year-old preschool through a full partnership with SIEDA Head Start and grant funding. Cardinal Elementary also has a partnership with SIEDA to offer a morning and afternoon four-Łgct/qnf"rtguejqqn"rtqi"tc o"Łxg"fc{u"c"yggm"0" Cpqvjgt"encuutqq o"offers two sessions of preschool to four-year-old students each school day through our Voluntary Four-Year-Old Preschool Grant. Currently, we are able to offer all this to parents without charge. Our preschool program is top notch, and we doing all we can to offer our students a good start that will carrying them on as a successful student in the years ahead. We appreciate all the support offered to us through this change.

Thank you for allowing us the privilege of educating your students. It is not a task we take lightly. We have a simply wonderful staff at Cardinal Elementary School, and I look forward to each work day. We have a great group of students and supportive parents in our community. Please contact me if you ever have any questions or concerns.

***Kids Come First at Cardinal Elementary!***

## Tech Bytes

### Supervised?

Would you let your underage children go to Tokyo, New York or Alaska without you or someone to supervise them and protect them, without an itinerary and no backup plan? Would you let them go to Amsterdam or Las Vegas or to a gentlemen's club at all? Would you encourage them to go out and discuss their private nkxgu"ykvj"eq o rngvg"uwtcpigtua"K"co"c"rctgpv"qh"Łxg" wonderful kids, and my answer to these questions is an emphatic NO WAY! Not on my life, and especially not on theirs. It is my duty to protect and edify them and do my best to keep them from harms way.

Do you let your children have unsupervised time on your personal computer at home? Do you have internet?

If you answered yes to both of these questions, then you need to re-evaluate your child's activities! If you answered yes to these questions you have let them explore the WORLD without protection. Vegas and Amsterdam don't hold a candle to the great WWW (World Wide Web). You have let them run around the Y Y Y."cpf"gzrqugf"vjg o"vq"uq o g"qh"vjg"o quv"rtqmŁe."undiluted and potentially pornographic content in the entire world! Even if they are not looking for it, just one y tqpi"ugctej"kp" Iqqing."cpf"vjg{"ecp"Łpf"vjg o ugnxgu"immersed in a world that they never knew existed. Sex, violence, drugs, bomb-making, hate crimes, racist groups and many other forms of propaganda are marketed heavily over the internet. Is this the material that you want your kids "stumbling" upon, or deliberately searching for?

What about Facebook, or MySpace? Do you know what types of people that they are talking to and sharing their secrets and feelings with, sharing their pictures and listing all their favorite things with? Are {qw"gpvktgn{"eqpŁfgp"vjcv"vjgug"rgqrg"ctg"cmn"rgtuqpcn"acquaintances? I bet not! If you let your kids use the computer unrestricted, and they have MySpace or Facebook accounts you have no idea who they are in communication with, and I'd bet neither do they!

Follow me down another lane of the information superhighway. Messengers like Yahoo, SKYPE, and MSN are great tools, and provide us with the ability to communicate with anyone that has an instant messaging account and an internet connection...for free! This is really awesome technology. I can IM (Instant Message) my brother in France, in real time for free. It is how o cp{"qh"qwt"Łi jvkpi"jgtqgu"kp"ktcs"cpf"qvjgt"rncegu"kp"the world communicate with loved ones back home. How tremendous is that? You can in fact hook up headphones, webcams, and microphones, and see each other, and talk without ever typing on the keyboard. You can share pictures, documents and even software. Game

*By Kirk Magill, Technology Coordinator*

consoles like XBOX and PlayStation are internet ready and are often used for online interaction. Accessing the Internet on telephones, and other mobile devices is becoming more and more mainstream for IM and other forms of communication.

BUT...unless you are completely sure who you attract into your circle of contacts, you may have also just met the next Charles Manson. These sick individuals through the anonymity of the internet, can be promoting him or herself as a sweet little 17 year old girl or boy, and wondering when and where he can meet your daughter or son. They are enticing our naïve children with years of experienced lies into a very real, very dangerous place... all right under our noses. Being a parent with young mkfu"vjku"vgttkŁgu" o g."cpf"kv"u j qwnf"uectg" {qw"vqq#"Wug" your imagination...if you can see in your mind's eye the worst scenario, so can the bad guys. They are hunting our sons and daughters, lurking out there for them, luring them into the trap! All this scary stuff is real! Don't lie to yourself...it is the here and the now. You see it more and more on the nightly news; reports of child pornography and internet predators.

There are measures that you can and must take to avoid these things happening to you and your loved ones. Some very simple steps can be made to secure your computer from being a portal to the nasty side of the WWW.

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supervise. (Take it with you to work if you need to)  
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have them share them with you. If they won't then  
they are hiding something from you.  
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are? (Do they spend the night at a friend's house and  
spend the entire night on the computer?)

I urge you to take measures to protect yourself and your children. If you would like more information about how to accomplish this please feel free to contact me by email. K"ecp" o cmg"uw i i guvkqu"htq" {qw" o qtg"urgekŁecnn" {cpf"jgnr" {qw"Łpf"kpqht o cvkqp"htq o" c"tgkcdng"uqwtg"Łh" {qw"qt" {qwt" kids have been threatened or harassed or if someone has shared lewd or obscene content with you or your children you can report this to the NCMC's CyberTipline at 1-800-843-5678 or [www.cybertipline.com](http://www.cybertipline.com).

## From the Desk of School Counselor Linda Andersen

### Welcome Back!

We are so glad to have your children here at Cardinal Elementary! Some of you are familiar to our district and are getting acquainted with new neighbors, bus routes and new school rules. We hope you and your children are enjoying Cardinal and being a part of our community.

I base my guidance lessons during the year on the Six Pillars of Character if Character Counts! These six pillars are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. There have been many studies showing that students do better in the classroom when they get along with others and feel better about themselves. It is also my belief that childhood is a time to learn and grow, and that means making some mistakes along the way. Our school strives to be a place where we help guide your children in their choices - choices that are positive for them and for those around them.

Cardinal Elementary is also a PBS, or Positive Behavior School. Your children will know this as Cardinal Conduct. This program helps children feel good about their positive choices with the focus on encouragement for good choices and not just punishment for poor choices. A pat on the back often teaches us more than a penalty. Feel free to call or come in any time with questions or concerns. We are here for you and your children.

## No Child Left Behind – Parental Rights

Parents/Guardians in the Cardinal Community School District have the right to learn special endorsements for grade level/subject area taught, and baccalaureate/graduate of the Superintendent, 4045 Ashland Rd, Eldon, Iowa 52554.

## Open Enrollment Deadlines

Parents/Guardians considering the use of the open enrollment option to enroll their child/children in another public school district in the State of Iowa should be aware of the following dates:

**September 1:** Deadline for open enrollment requests for students entering kindergarten

**March 1, 2010:** Last date for regular open enrollment requests for the 2010-2011 school year.

Parents/Guardians of open enrolled students whose income falls below 160% of the federal poverty guidelines are eligible for transportation assistance. This may be in the form of actual transportation or in the form of a cash stipend. Please mark item #16 on the

sending districts.

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## Elementary Computer/Library News



Can you believe we are well under way into yet another school year? It is always fun to see how much the students have grown and changed in just a few short months over the summer. Fall is such a busy and exciting time of the year for students and teachers, but everyone seems to be getting back into the swing of things. I have already seen many students in the library to check out books so that they may get busy reading and doing their AR tests. The little students are always eager to get started reading. We have many great little readers here at Cardinal Elementary and they work very hard in improving their reading skills. Reading is not always an easy thing for students to learn, but it really is fun to watch them improve over the school year just simply by practicing their reading skills every day. It really is heartwarming to see how hard they work and how proud they are of themselves when they do so well.

## Music News

Submitted by Mrs. Koch

Welcome back! It is exciting to be beginning my third year here at Cardinal. I hope the preschool through 8th grade students have enjoyed making music and had fun in the process. I know I have! With this new year brings changes in the music department, too. Preschool and Kindergarten classes will have a new music teacher. Julie Garrels, will be traveling from Van Buren and spending two afternoons each week with these classes. We welcome Julie and I, personally, am so thankful that she is here.

VanderLinden at the end of last year came additional responsibilities for me. Mr. VanderLinden did a wonderful job with the high school choral students and I am very grateful for his mentorship and support these past two years.

The elementary students will once again be using the Music Express magazine as a basic for music study. This year's content continues the Broadway theme with "The Beat Goes On". Parents can look forward to another rousing concert based on this theme in March.

Stop by the high school music room and see the Elvis bulletin board. I decided to make an acronym out of his name and create a motto for this year:

**E**-ffort  
**L**-aughter  
**V**-ision  
**I**-nspires  
**S**-uccess

Effort to show it takes work, laughter because it should be fun, vision because there must be a plan, inspiration because sometimes lightning strikes, and success because who doesn't love coming out on top?

## From the Desk of Secondary Principal Robert Campbell

The school year is off to a wonderful start. Football, Volleyball and Cross Country are now in full swing. We have many students participating in all of our extra-curricular activities that we offer at Cardinal. Statistics show students who are involved have an increased chance of academic success. If your child is not out for an activity this fall please encourage him/her to participate in activities this winter and spring. The week of September 21st is Homecoming Week. We have home volleyball games on both the 10th and 22nd of September. This year, we play BGM for our Homecoming football game on Friday, September 25th. Please plan on attending the various games during the week to show your support for our school.

As we continue to increase the expectations of our students at Cardinal, we are encouraged about the progress our students continue to display. This school year about 1/3 of our juniors and seniors are taking at least one dual credit class. Many of our students take classes via the ICN network, but most of our students are able to take classes at the IHCC campus in Ottumwa. Several students are currently enrolled in programs that will help them complete the IHCC program less than one year after graduating from high school. Upon graduation from IHCC, these students will have the opportunity for job placements in positions that have starting salaries ranging from \$35,000 to \$60,000. We hope to see a continued increase in the number of students taking advantage of these opportunities. We also have several students taking AP classes in English and Calculus. These classes are considered the most rigorous classes high school students can take. An example of one senior's schedule starts with an IHCC class followed by Spanish IV, AP Calculus, AP English, Physics, Anatomy, and Advanced Chemistry. This is quite a load for any student, but it is the type of schedule we want to see more and more of our seniors take advantage of. The days of students taking very few challenging courses during their senior year are almost over at CHS. We are building a foundation at the elementary and at the middle school that will enable all of our students to take full advantage of the rigorous course work our high school provides. We are excited about preparing our students for success in advanced academics, technical training, and the workplace. It is our goal to provide all Cardinal graduates with the best possible opportunities for a bright future.

Ask questions about what is going on at CMS and CHS. I encourage you to become involved in our school and welcome your correspondence and ideas for the good of Cardinal Schools. You may reach me at (641) 652-7531 or at rob.campbell@cardinalcomet.com . Thank you for your involvement and support. I look forward to working with you.

## From the Desk of Coach Hill

It's Football Season again. Some of us have been anxiously waiting this time. It should be one of the real fun times in your life. One of our goals is to make this a fun experience for everyone involved in our program. Your attitude will be the single most important factor in determining if it is fun for you. What the season is going to mean to you is UP TO YOU. No one can make it fun for you. No one can make you happy. Those are feelings that you produce within yourself. For some people hard work is not fun. It can be but one must have the proper state of mind for hard work to be fun. This season will be what we make it.

We are beginning to write a book that will record the history of the 2009 team. We will go from the "before" to the "after". From the middle of August to the middle of November time span, we must go from being just a football team to being a football TEAM. This transition is not a monopoly that belongs solely to the 2009 Cardinal team. It will be a legacy that will become an important part of the Comet athletic tradition for all future teams, and, with the imaginative innovations of other coaching staffs, it can be a formula that will produce the rewards of the true value of athletics for other schools as well. As our football program continues to grow we will see other schools attempting to duplicate things that we do. Imitation is a high form of a compliment.

As we come together the "before" of the 2009 version and more concerned about their own playing time and stats than about their parts in the TEAM scheme. There may be some players who do not believe in their fellow

players or coaches or the philosophy of the program. These are serious problems that must be overcome in the "before" phase if we are to be successful as a TEAM.

The important things right- we will stay together, we will right now, we have some real good players, and some average players. How we create a "great TEAM" from a bunch of players with good to moderate talent, who suffer from many of the same individualistic problems that plague today's "I and Me" society will be paramount to the success of this TEAM.

For the young men making comprising the 2009 Comets, becoming a TEAM will take time, it won't be easy or smooth, and it won't come quickly. But it can come to pass and will be celebrated by all when it does. We can accomplish our goals and "WE WILL GET INTO THE PLAYOFFS, WHATEVER IT TAKES." It will take average players making the above average plays. More importantly it will take an even greater amount of mental effort and maturity for the TEAM to realize and actualize the TEAM vision and concept.

From "before" to "after," a TEAM will be made if we believe in coaches, coaches who believe in players and coaches who believe in coaches. As a TEAM, we must do the most important things right, we must play and work together, therefore we will win. I am excited with the opportunity to help start the journey of successful football TEAMS at Cardinal Community Schools.

## Building Self-Esteem

*"Nothing succeeds like success." In other words, if your child feels like a success, he or she can build on that strength-leading to further success.*

### Quick tips for building self-esteem

1. Tell your child you love and support him or her without condition. Tell him or her, and let your child know that you will get through the smooth times-and the hard time-TOGETHER!

2. Encourage your child to become involved in our school and welcome your correspondence and ideas for the good of Cardinal Schools. You may reach me at (641) 652-7531 or at rob.campbell@cardinalcomet.com . Thank you for your involvement and support. I look forward to working with you.

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Does your child understand that you love and support him or her without condition? Tell him or her, and let your child know that you will get through the smooth times-and the hard time-TOGETHER!

## Cardinal Archery Wins Gold at Iowa Games

The Cardinal Archery team once again, showed they are a force to be reckoned with as they competed at this summers Iowa Games on Saturday. With many outstanding performances that saw the Comets bring home 6 individual medals (3 Bronze, 2 Silver, 1 Gold) within the 6 archery divisions, the Comets brought home the Gold posting a team score of 3085 besting Silver Medalist, Diagonal, Iowa which post a score of 2966. "These kids are amazing! Due to summer vacations, involvement in other sports, and summer jobs, we didn't believe we could get a team together in time to compete at the Iowa Games. The coaching staff of Jeff Conger, Wade Lindner, Richard Metcalf, Cort McFarland and Richard Smith did their very best to contact all of our archers and put a team together consisting of elementary to high school students which would compete within the high school division at this event. Amazingly, many of these students have been practicing at home throughout the summer and their dedication showed."



**Back row:** Katie Conger, Erin Franklin, Stephanie Hart, Cody Carter, Katie Carter, Montgomery Laughlin, Damon McFarland,  
**Middle row:** Shelby Lagle, Josh Stiles, Vanessa Lemke, Brianna Roberts, Courtney Smith, Schylar Conger  
**Bottom:** Shelby Smith, Allison Metcalf, Cheyenne Phillips, Conner Glosser, Colton Carter, Justin Conger, Mindy Tedrow

## INDIVIDUAL STANDINGS

### Elementary Female

Gold	271	Krya Ellis	Central City
Silver	250	Allison Metcalf	Cardinal
Bronze	245	Kayla McDonald	Alburnett

### Elementary Male

Gold	276	Zackary Bisinger	Alburnett
Silver	269	Gary Thompson	Lake Mills
Bronze	260	Lane Ruby	Diagonal

### Middle School Female

Gold	280	Tymbrie Snobl	Alburnett
Silver	275	Schylar Conger	Cardinal
Bronze	260	Shelby Lagle	Cardinal

### Middle School Male

Gold	273	Cody Carter	Cardinal
Silver	271	Hunter White	Spencer
Bronze	269	Ken Weaselhead	Diagonal

### High School Female

Gold	282	Steffanie Bisinger	Alburnett
Silver	267	Erin Krei	Spencer
Bronze	266	Katie Conger	Cardinal

### High School Male

Gold	268	Bryan Tewes	Spencer
Silver	265	Dillion White	Spencer
Bronze	260	Montgomery Laughlin	Cardinal





