



Northwood Kensett Community School District

VIKING DISPATCH

May 2009

Volume 15 Issue 5

From the Office of Thomas K. Nugent-Superintendent of Schools

Recognizing our School Board Members

The Northwood-Kensett Community School District is joining with other communities throughout Iowa to honor its elected school board members during School Board Recognition Week, May 10-16, 2009. This year's theme, "Making Strides in Public Education" recognizes that school board members are community leaders dedicated to ensuring that students learn the skills they need for success.

More than 2,000 men and women serve on local public school boards in Iowa, guiding the education of over 480,000 young people and overseeing a budget of more than \$4.4 billion. Local board members serve four year terms and are elected by the school district community in an election held the second Tuesday of September in odd numbered years. School board members receive no pay but they spend numerous hours making decisions in the best interests of students, parents, and the community. Their reward is the satisfaction they receive from public service and seeing student's achieve academically as well as in co-curricular activities.

Northwood-Kensett Community School District Board of Education

John Anderson	Term Expires 2011
Keith Braun	Term Expires 2009
Larry Hovey	Term Expires 2011
Cindy Pangburn	Term Expires 2011
Don Pangburn	Term Expires 2009

The members of the Northwood-Kensett Community School District Board of Education unselfishly contribute their time and talents towards the advancement of public education. They represent a continuing commitment to local citizen control and decision making in education and they are focused on student achievement. The next time you visit with one of the school board members, take the time to say "thanks for a job well done."

Last day of school is May 29th . Early dismissal 11:50/12:00. No lunch will be served.

Kindergarten Round up and Student Orientation

Kindergarten Orientation and an abbreviated roundup Session is planned for May 1st. Our incoming kindergarten students are invited to spend part of the day with us on May 1st from 8:30-1:00. The classroom teachers and preschool teachers will team up to acquaint them with the classrooms and kindergarten routine. Plan on your children eating lunch with us. The cost of the noon meal is \$1.70 and can be brought to the round up session or given to the preschool teachers. We will also be holding an abbreviated roundup session at 8:30 in the elementary media center for parents that were unable to attend roundup in March. If you were unable to attend the first session, items needed for that day will include document showing proof of age, immunization card and Social Security Card. If you have not already done so, please contact the office if you are planning on sending your child to the Student Orientation, or if you as a parent are planning to attend the abbreviated session of round up at 8:30 am on May 1st.

Individual Highlights:

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From the Office of Thomas K. Nugent Superintendent of Schools **Expenditure of WCDA Funds**

In an earlier issue of the Viking Dispatch, I advised that the Worth County Development Authority (WCDA) has made available a total of \$449,714 to the District which will be distributed in July, 2009. We organized an Advisory Committee to study and implement appropriate policies and recommendations for the expenditure of these moneys and then attained Board of Education approval.

It is important that our patrons be conversant that there are specific categories and regulations for the expenditure of moneys as established by the WCDA. The expenditure of moneys will be as follows:

I. *Physical Plant Operations, Maintenance, Expansion, Green Energy.* Total of \$151,647. Moneys will be expended towards:

- Renovation of high school classrooms
- Install new lights at the football field

II. *Staff Development, Equipment, Technology, Textbooks, Library Books, Support Staff, Instructional Support.* Total of \$125,501. Moneys will be expended for:

- Purchase Career & Vocational curriculum and textbooks
- Professional development opportunities for the staff
- Technology, to include network upgrade, increasing of band width, web based Accelerated Reader
- Purchase a Tractor with Cab & Loader
- Replace Windows and Doors in the Elementary Lunchroom
- Purchase Library Books

III. *Organizational Requests, Fees, Fundraising.* Total of \$99,355. Moneys will be expended for:

- Reduction of book rental fees for K-12 students
- Elimination of planner and towel fees for 7-12 students
- Elimination of student gate charges to home events
- Contribution to the Activity Fund to assist student organizations
- Purchase of musical instruments and athletic uniforms
- Reduction of K-2 milk break fee
- Contribution towards student team camps (grades 9-12)
- Purchase Flash Drive for all students, grades 5-12
- Direct Contribution from WCDA to the PTO and Post Prom

IV. *Teacher Budget.* Total of \$73,209. Each teacher in the district will have approximately \$1,743 to expend for their classroom.

Additionally, the WCDA will be granting scholarships to every graduating senior who has resided in Worth County during their junior and seniors years with the amount to be announced at a later date.

The Board of Education, Administration, and Staff are greatly appreciative of the WCDA for their commitment and dedication and we look forward to continuing a positive working relationship for the benefit of the school district community.



Nickels For Schools will run indefinitely until otherwise noted. If any future decision is made regarding a change in or ending of the program, notice of this change will be posted on Kemps.com.

Now you can help your school by simply enjoying the great taste of Kemps®. Buy your favorite Kemps dairy products, with specially marked caps or proof-of-purchase symbols, bring 'em to school, and earn money for the things your school needs. Each stickered milk cap or proof-of-purchase symbol is worth 5¢, which your school can turn into books.

You may turn in milk caps and proof of purchase symbols to the Elementary Media Center.

2009-2010 BUDGET

A public hearing for the 2009-2010 proposed school budget was held at 7:00 p.m., Monday, April 13, 2009, in the Elementary Media Center.

The proposed budget for 2009-2010 was published in the April 1st edition of the Northwood Anchor. Listed below is a summary of the property taxes to fund the budget. Copies of the complete budget are available in the board secretary's office in the elementary school.

The General Fund rate is determined by a formula, which is based on the district's certified enrollment of 518.1 students which was taken on October 1, 2008. The budget includes an **Instructional Support Levy**, which is set by the Board, but can be no more than 10% of the district's Regular Program District Cost as determined by the School Foundation Formula. Funding for the Instructional Support Levy comes from three sources, State Aid, Income Surtax and Property Taxes. There is a **Cash Reserve Levy** of \$206,939 to help compensate for money lost due to legislative cuts in state aid, special education deficit, declining enrollment and increased cost of open enrolled out students.

Another component for the budget is the **Management Levy**, which is set by the Board and is used to cover insurance premiums for the district's property and liability insurance. It is also used to pay any unemployment claims that may be filed against the district, and to pay early retirement incentives that are available to employees. This levy generates \$175,000. The **\$.33 Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL)** generates \$65,347 a year. The **Voted Physical Plant and Equipment Levy** will produce \$132,674 in voted PPEL property tax dollars. The **Debt Service Levy** generates \$308,430 a year. Money from this fund is used to pay off \$210,000 towards principal, \$98,030 towards interest, and \$400 agent fees for the bond issue passed in 1997 to be used to reduce the bond for the Elementary and Junior/Senior High School remodeling project. Debt reduction of \$136,000 from the Local Option Sales Tax brings the levy from \$0.89848 to \$0.87077. This bond retires in 2017. The total tax rate per thousand dollars of taxable valuation needed to fund the 2009-2010 budget is \$13.56113, a reduction of \$1.81312 from last year's tax rate of \$15.37425. Someone with a house with a taxable valuation of \$50,000 would pay \$678.06 in school taxes to support the 2009-2010 school budget.

FUND	DOLLARS	RATE	USED FOR
General Fund	\$1,666,912		Salaries, Benefits, Operating Expenses
Instructional Levy	\$ 125,093		Supplies, Equipment
Cash Reserve Levy	\$ 206,939		Special Education Deficit/State Aid Reduction
 Sub Total	 \$1,998,944	 10.74930	
Management	\$ 175,000	.94106	Insurance, Unemployment, Retirement
\$.33 PPEL	\$ 65,347	.33000	Improvement of building/grounds, Building Project
Voted PPEL	\$ 132,674	.67000	Loan Agreement/Infrastructure
Debt Service	\$ 172,430	0.87077	Pay Principal & Interest on Long Term Debt
 GRAND TOTAL	 \$2,544,395	 \$13.56113	

2008 NET TAXABLE VALUATIONS:	\$185,960,311
2007 NET TAXABLE VALUATIONS:	\$182,563,281
2006 NET TAXABLE VALUATIONS:	\$160,289,509

Box Tops for Education Box Tops for Education is a continuing program sponsored by General Mills. The box tops brought to N-K Elementary are used for our K-6 Special Education department. The teachers use the money redeemed from box tops as incentives to help motivate our students. Check the btfe.com website for more information to help earn cash for our special education department.

General Mills has offered the wonderful program for many years and changes the products periodically, so check all General Mills products for box tops. For example now you may find box tops on Ziploc bags and Kleenex boxes, not just food products.

Please clip Box Tops for Education and send them with or student or take them to the N-K Elementary. Thank you for your help!



Making Strides in Public Education

School Board Recognition Week
May 10-16, 2009

RSVP Recognized Volunteers During National Volunteer Week

During National Volunteer Week, April 19-25th, RSVP of North Central Iowa recognized the efforts of more than 230 volunteers who serve in one of its' five programs across north Iowa. RSVP is a national service program connecting Baby Boomers to unmet community needs. RSVP programs cost \$100-150 per student at no cost to the school district. RSVP leverages funds for the program from United Way of North Central Iowa, state and federal grants, local and private foundations.

RSVP thanks the following volunteers who serve in the Northwood-Kensett School District:

- **Reading Buddies:** Judy Balkenende, Janis Borum, Blanche Hogen, Marcia Kraft, Thelma Krull-Boutelle, Frances Lawhorn, Jo Moretz, Sandra Nitcher, Helen Senne, Dorothy Sherrard, Sharon Sietsema
- **Reading Coaches:** Janis Borum, Myra Greve, Donna Hagen, Gloria Hagen, Marcia Kraft, and Rebecca Parcher

TOM KASTLE, GUEST MUSICIAN

Northwood-Kensett students in grades K-6 took part in a two day Arts in Education Workshop entitled "Sea Shanties: A singing, songwriting, and social studies adventure." Guest performer Tom Kastle gave concerts for students in grades K-3 and 4-6. He also conducted workshops with all students in grades 4-6 on songwriting techniques and the traditional function of shanties and the simple machines used for conducting work aboard ships. Students collaborated to write their own shanties and performed them for their classes during the workshop. Following the workshops, students assessed their own song writing and performance skills using a rubric. As an extension of this project, the 5th graders wrote and performed songs about their reading book *Hatchet* with their teacher Ms. Hagen using the techniques Tom Kastle taught them.

This project is part of an inter-disciplinary unit linking music, language arts, and social studies or history. Students in grades 4-6 are preparing to sing this music and some of their own compositions for their spring concert on Tuesday, May 19, 2009 at 7pm in the Northwood-Kensett Elementary Auditorium.

Vocal music director Nikkole Marreel applied for and received a grant from the Iowa Arts Council as well as a matching contribution from the Northwood-Kensett Community Educational Foundation to help fund this educational project.

Tom Kastle has spent over two decades on the road and on the water as a singer, tall ship sailor and captain, songwriter, and teller of tales, both personal and those steeped in long tradition

As half of the maritime folk duo Tom & Chris Kastle, he toured throughout the United States as well as Ireland, Scotland, Poland, the Netherlands, and New Zealand delighting audiences and producing 11 recordings plus a soundtrack for PBS (WTTW Chicago). After taking most of a year off to captain a tall ship in South Haven, MI, Tom has relocated to Madison, WI and has released his first solo CD, *Across the Centerline*.

In addition to touring, Tom enjoys using song and story in nature and environmental programs and holds a degree in Human Ecology. He has worked with institutions and organizations such as the Inland Seas Education Association, Friends of the Chicago River, the John G. Shedd Aquarium, schools and libraries across the country, and the Hudson River Sloop *Clearwater* founded by Pete Seeger.

Scholastic's Buy One, Get One Free Book Fair will be held Monday, May 4th thru Friday, May 8th. Please check posters and flyers that come home for times.

This Fair is Scholastic's way of saying thank you to our school and putting books in children's hands for the summer. Come join the fun!

N-K ELEMENTARY MEDIA CENTER



3rd Quarter Northwood-Kensett
Elementary Honor & Merit Roll

Honor Roll **Gr**
(3.50-4.00 Grade Point Avg)

Trace Carman	5
Aliyah Creger	5
Hattie Davidson	5
Kailey Eskildsen	5
Ashlyn Schaefer	5
Katie Schiltz	5
Jenna Schmidt	5
Paije Sletten	5
Nathan Buchanan	5
Samantha Butler	5
Shelby Hagen	5
Rebecka Miller	5
Alayna Oleson	5
Mary Stoneking	5

Merit Roll **Gr**
(3.00-3.49 Grade Point Avg)

Cole Benson	5
Samantha Dokken	5
Mackenzie Dorsey	5
Kristen Eilertson	5
Joshua Einertson	5
Jenna Jorgensen	5
Jaden Lafferty	5
Tayah Lande	5
Shelby Low	5
Misty Miranda	5
Mason Olson	5
Sully Reyerson	5
Dawson Van Ryswyk	5
Trevor Varner	5
Coleby Bratrud	6
Casey Dahlby	6
Marty Hopperstad	6
Tonya Johnson	6
Timen Moretz	6
Erin Riedinger	6
Blake Severson	6
Brandon Severson	6
Kaitlyn Varner	6

**Early Dismissal May 6th
due to Teacher In Service.
12:50-Elementary:
1:00 - Jr. Sr. High School**

NURSES CORNER

Erin Rice

We are at the end of another school year, and I wanted to send out a few reminders before the start of the next school year.

For children that will be **entering kindergarten** next fall your child will need immunizations updated, along with an updated immunization card that should be on file at school. They will also need a dental and lead screening. There is no paper work to turn in for the lead screening, but a dental certificate screening form should be turned in. I gave these forms out at kindergarten roundup. Both the elementary and high school office have copies if a new form is needed. There was also a health form in the kindergarten round up packets that will need to be turned in before the beginning of the school year if it has not already been turned in. The vision cards and physical forms may also be turned in, but are not required.

For all students that will be freshman next year your student will need to have a dental screening done by a dental hygienist or dentist before the start of next year. Dental screening certificate forms will be given at freshman orientation and are also available from the high school office. The exam can be done 1 year prior to August 6, 2009. If your child has gone to the dentist this year and is not scheduled to go again until after the start of the school year your dentist can sign the certificate for that visit.

Reminder for all parents:

Per our student handbook: All medications for your child need to be picked up by an adult the last school day otherwise they will be destroyed.

Also please update us with any health status or medications changes at the start of the school year. This will help us to give better care to your child.

Any questions or concerns please contact me @ 324-1127 or email erice@nwood-kensett.k12.ia.us. Have a great summer.

READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY CELEBRATED

Mrs Hansen, Title 1 Reading

On March 2nd, the elementary school celebrated *Read Across America Day*. We had a variety of activities related to reading. Each classroom had a special reader that entertained the students, by reading to them. The elementary students also watched a performance by the *Stebens Children's Theatre*. The performance was, "Why Mosquitoes Buzz." It was a great performance that entertained not only the students, but also the school staff and community members. A special thank you goes out to all the readers from the community: Connie Hickle, Mary Stumo, Tom Nugent, Myra Greve, Vickie Dokken, Bob Perry, Misty Gomez, Heidi Riedinger, Tom Sculley, Connie Kenison, Deb Rohne, Ken Johnson, Helen Senne, and Tanna Moretz. Thank you to everyone that made this a special day for the students at the elementary. Thank you also to the Northwood-Kensett Community Educational Foundation for providing the Title 1 program with finances for the performance by the *Stebens Children's Theatre*. It is always great to have the community involvement in the school.

Graduating Class of 2009 Congratulations to the graduating class of 2009. Class colors are dark purple and black, Class Flower is a white rose tipped in purple. The Class Motto is "What lies behind us, and what lies ahead of us, are tiny matters compared to what lies in us". Graduation will take place on Sunday May 17th, at 1:30 pm at the Northwood-Kensett High School Gymnasium.

Academic Teams shine at Northwood Kensett Schools

From the Desk of Mrs. Nagle

2009 Envirothon

Students are tested on their knowledge of general ecology, soils, aquatics, forestry and wildlife. Our team has spent many hours preparing for the regional event at DMACC, with hopes of going on to the state competition at Spring Brook State Park in April.

Co-Captians: Rachel Taylor and Ryan Mueller
Laura Tempus, Justin Peterson, Brianne Kilborn
Kathy Porter, and Laura Medlang

Sixth Grade Math Bee

Sixth graders from across north Iowa competed in the 6th Grade Math Bee at NIACC.

Northwood-Kensett Elementary was represented by Nathan Buchanan, Becka Miller, Samantha Butler and Mary Stoneking.

INVENT IOWA

Northwood-Kensett Sixth Grade:

Top 3 Places at the AEA267 Regional Competition at Southbridge Mall.

Lance Fridley, Glute Cushion
Colby Bratrud, Winter Boot and Glove Dryer
Carson Wright, Cart Divider

These students will attend the Young Entrepreneur Workshop on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at the NIACC Pappajohn Business Center. The Pappajohn Center provides a scholarship for each inventor to attend the statewide Invention Convention in Ames on Saturday, April 25, 2009.

IOWA ENERGY POSTER CONTEST

NK Winners on to state competition:

- #1 Peyton Pangburn
- #2 Chloe Luther
- #3 Ambur Miller

Other local awards:

- Most expressive: Alexis Halbach
- Most creative thought: Zachary Childress
- Most intriguing windmill: Tristan Rothove
- Most artistic: Elizabeth Reinhart
- Best landscape view: Kade Stambaugh
- Best "3D" (three dimensional) view: Makaio Hoch

The Iowa Energy Poster Contest, sponsored by the CEEE and the Iowa Energy Center. By recognizing participants who create an educational poster about energy efficiency/conservation techniques or alternate/renewable energy technologies for Iowa, we hope to educate students on wise energy use and its effect on the environment and economy. The contest encourages students to put their knowledge about energy efficiency into practice.

ITS NOT JUST A DAY, IT'S AN EXPERIENCE

History education is the cornerstone of a quality education. National History Day, Inc. is an education organization that is transforming the way history is taught and learned. National History Day, Inc. helps teachers meet educational standards; disseminates high quality curriculum materials; and sponsors challenging contests that teach students the critical skills they need to be effective citizens in the 21st century. National History Day, Inc. improves education EVERY day.

History Day 2009 Clear Lake Regional Contest
NK Shines in 2009.....

Junior Individual Exhibit

Bryce Pratt - Fred Astaire

Junior Individual Documentary

Jayde Hapgood - Elvis

Brett Olson- Jaques Cousteau

Junior Group Documentary

Kayla Branstad and Logan Benson

Governor Terry Branstad

Junior Individual Performance

Rebecka Miller – Millvenia Dean

Senior Individual Performance

Megan Thofson - Golda

Nick Schiltz – Gareth

Math Club News

The February chess tournament winners were Jake Loken and Colton Wright. The Rube Goldberg project competed in Mankato. It functioned, but did not place.

ACT math help sessions were held in March and we hosted a "Pi Day" celebration. Pi reciting contest winner was Logan Nielsen out to 62 digits! Questions related to pi involving circles were asked and answered by students, grades 7-12. The winner drawn for the question contest was Zach Costello. A silent pie auction raised \$65 for the local manna food bank and \$65 for the club. Top pie was pecan, purchased by Skyler Faust for \$41.

In April, five young women attended the ISU math, science, engineering and technology career conference in Ames. Club members will soon be visiting the 5th and 6th graders to share the Rube video, a couple math games, encourage them to do well in their math and science classes. The club is also hosting four ISU college role models for the upcoming April 20 Project Fair. The activities to be presented are: Gumdrop Towers and Candy Planets. Plus, there will be one more chess tournament!

Submitted by Christian Burnes, Math Club Secretary and Lori Willert, Club Advisor



VIKING BASKETBALL SHOOTING CAMP

WHEN: Friday, June 5, 2009

WHERE: Northwood-Kensett High School Gym

TIMES: 9A.M. -12P.M. 4th thru 12th grade girls
1P.M. – 4P.M. 4th thru 12th grade boys

COST: FREE!!!!!!(For all N-K student athletes)

***** Join the Boy's & Girl's Basketball Staff for a fun day of basketball.**

*****We will focus on the fundamentals of shooting.**

*****If you desire to become a better shooter this camp is a must!!!!!!!**

*****We are excited to work with you, See you June 5th.**

Return the attached form to Coach Cotter or Coach Love by May 22nd.

****** IF you have questions contact: Coach Cotter @ 390-1147**

Coach Love @ 390-0346

Viking Basketball Camp Registration Form

Student Name _____ **Grade(Next YR)** _____

Emergency Contact Person _____

Contact Person Day Phone _____

I will not hold the coaching staff or NK school district responsible for any accident and/or injury that may occur during this camp.

Parent Signature _____

VIKING DISPATCH
NORTHWOOD-KENSETT CSD
 1200 1st Ave. N.
 PO BOX 289
 Northwood, IA 50459
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Bulk Rate
 ECRWSS
 PAID
 Northwood, IA
 50459
 Permit No. 65

RESIDENT

**Northwood-Kensett
 Community School**

PO BOX 289
 1200 1st Ave N.
 Northwood, IA 50459
 www.nwood-kensett.k12.ia.us
 Phone:
 (641) 324-1127 (Elementary)
 (641) 324-2021 (Superintendent)
 (641) 324-2142 (High School)
 Fax:
 (641) 324-1353 EL
 (641) 324-2092
 (641) 324-2174 HS

Administration

Thomas K. Nugent, Superintendent
 Brian Costello, Elementary Principal
 Keith Fritz, Secondary Principal

School Board Members

Keith Braun Larry Hovey
 Cindy Pangburn Don Pangburn
 John Anderson

2009-2010 Northwood-Kensett School Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Events</u>
Aug 6, 7	Registration
Aug 13, 14	In-Service
Aug 17	K-12 Conferences (12:00-7:45)
Aug 18	In-service
Aug 19	Begin 1 st Quarter/Semester
Aug 24	CBC In-service No School
Sept 2	Teacher In-service (12:50/1:00 dismissal)
Sept 7	Labor Day (No School)
Sept 8	Annual School Election
Oct 14	Teacher In-service (12:50/1:00 dismissal)
Oct 16	End 1 st Quarter (42 Days)
Oct 19	Begin 2 nd Quarter
Oct 27, 29	P/T Conf. K-6 4-7:30;7-12 5-9
Oct 30	No School
Nov. 3	Election Day.
Nov 11	Teacher In-service (12:50/1:00 dismissal)
Nov 25	Early Dismissal (1:50/2:00)
Nov 26-27	Thanksgiving Holiday (No School)
Dec 9	Teacher In-service (12:50/1:00 dismissal)
Dec 23	End 2 nd Qtr. (46 days)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Events</u>
Dec 23	End 1 st Semester (88 days) (1:50/2:00 dismissal)
Dec 24-Jan 1	Winter Break (No School)
Jan 1	New Year's Day (No School)
Jan 4	Begin 3 rd Quarter/2 nd Semester
Jan 13	Teacher In-service (12:50/1:00 dismissal)
Feb 10	Teacher In-service (12:50/1:00 dismissal)
Mar 2 , 4	P/T Conf. K-6 4-8;7-12 5-9
Mar 5	No School
Mar 5	End 3 rd Qtr. (45 days)
Mar 8-12	Spring Break (No School)
Mar 15	Begin 4 th Quarter
Apr 2	Good Friday (No School)
Apr 4	Easter
Apr 7	Teacher In-service (12:50/1:00 dismissal)
Apr 30	No School (K-12 Inservice)
May 16	Graduation
May 20	End 4 th Qtr. (47 days)
May 20	End 2 nd Semester (92 days) (1:50/2:00 dismissal)
May 21	Teacher In-service
May 31	Memorial Day (No School)

It is the policy of the Northwood-Kensett Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status in admission or access to, or treatment in, its programs and activities, or in its hiring and employment practices as required by Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504, or Iowa Code, Section 280.3.