



## **FROM THE OFFICE OF THOMAS K. NUGENT, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

### **FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS**

During the summer of 2007, many facility improvement projects were accomplished in the District. These projects were completed with the usage of the district's Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL), School Infrastructure Local Option Tax (SILO) and funds provided by the Worth County Development Authority (WCDA). A listing of the projects and costs are as follows.

Project	Total Cost	PPEL/SILO	WCDA
Architect Fee	14,556	14,556	0
Gym Bleachers	66,405	15,405	51,000
Renovate Cafeteria/Restrooms	135,100	98,623	36,477
Refinish Gym Floor	12,768	5,768	7,000
Kindergarten Doors	3,750	3,750	0
Electrical Upgrade in Gym	459	459	0
Painting of Gym	1,225	1,225	0
Insulate Boiler	6,282	6,282	0
Gym Tarp & Equipment	6,940	6,940	0
Lunchroom Tables	16,337	16,337	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$263,822</b>	<b>\$169,345</b>	<b>\$94,477</b>

I would be remiss if I did not congratulate the voters of the school district community for the successful passage of the PPEL in September. I truly believe that a 67% passage of a tax levy demonstrates outstanding support of the school district by its patrons. Thanks to your continued support, the Board is confident that the goal of addressing facility improvements in the district can be attained with the continual usage of funds from the PPEL, SILO, and WCDA. Currently, the Board is reviewing and prioritizing the district's Big Ticket List to determine projects for the summer of 2008.

The education of our children is as important to the community at large as it is to families with children. And community support, in terms of funding, social programs, and business resources, is vitally important to the success of our school district. On behalf of the district, I want to thank everyone for supporting our school district, and encourage your active involvement in continuing to promote a quality educational program along with quality facilities. Your support is greatly appreciated. It always has been. It always will be.

### **ICAM 2007**

#### **Iowa Collaborative Assessment Module Report**

Northwood –Kensett 11<sup>th</sup> grade students were assessed with work-related mathematics problems (ICAM) last spring.

The ICAM assessment consists of a total of eight multiple-choice questions and four open ended questions. Students were asked to solve work related

math problems using a variety of mathematical concepts and computations; twenty points were possible on the assessment.

All juniors enrolled at N-K were required to take the ICAM. 85% of the 40 juniors were proficient. The proficiency this past spring went up from the previous spring with scored 82%, this is lower than 2005 in which we had our high proficiency level of 91.45%. This is that last year that ICAM's will be used as an assessment in math, we will start collecting data from our MAP testing done school wide.

Facility Improvements/ICAM	1 Counselor News	-	3
High School Musical	2 News from NK	-	5-6-7

**N-K to Present *The Canterville Ghost* By Darwin Reid Payne**  
**November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>** Showtime is 7:00 p.m. both nights



Beware of the Canterville Ghost a.k.a. Sir Simon, a.k.a. Ian Schacht. Use caution, Sir Simon may be masquerading as a cookie jar, a broom, or even become invisible. Mrs. Umney, maid of Canterville Manor, reports having been pinched and hit over the head with a tray among other annoying acts.

Sir Simon is expected to appear on the stage of Northwood-Kensett School on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, along with a group of Northwood-Kensett high school thespians including Alex Rops, Skylar Faust, Kryssiah Hapgood, Angela Hoffman, Emily Werner, Brooke Rolling, and Laura Medlang.

The stage crew has been busy with lights, sound, and scenery. This hard-working crew includes Ashlee Eiler, Kylie Grahm, Laura Tempus, Bethany Rops, Katherine Paggeot, Kathy Porter, Sarah Odom, and Angela Heiken.

Tickets will be available in advance from any cast or crew members, Mrs. Vansteenburg, and Mrs. Marreel, or at the door.

---

**NORTHWOOD-KENSETT PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION BOARD MINUTES**

The N-K PTO meeting was held on September 10, 2007 in the N-K Elementary conference room at 7pm. 7 members were present. Administration member present was Mr. Costello. Teacher present was Diane Hanson.

The treasurer's report was reviewed. Motion to approve the report from Pam Meyer, second by Heidi Rebelein, motion carried.

The Secretary's report was reviewed from the March meeting. Motion to approve the meeting minutes by Renate Tenold, second by Pam Meyer, motion carried.

Discussion was held that a formal "Thank you" should be written to the WCDA for the \$10,000 the PTO received towards the elementary playground project. Discussion was also held regarding putting the playground project in the local papers along with where all of the money has come from. Amber agreed to write the letter and send to the WCDA. A photo of the officers and a picture of the proposed playground will also be put in the newspaper along with a write up about the 3 year project.

Discussion about the playground project was also held. Mr. Costello discussed that the next stage of playground equipment should be ordered before the end of the year so that we do not have to pay any unforeseen increases. A motion was made and approved to table the purchase until we know how the fundraiser went. The decision will be made at the November meeting.

Discussion was held about the Halloween parade and the purchasing of prizes. Motion was made by Renate Tenold that she would take care of providing the coloring sheets and Amber would purchase prizes totaling around \$50.00 for the contest. Pam Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion was held about providing the teachers with \$100.00 as it was in the past. It was decided that since WCDA had already provided the teachers with over \$900 each already, that the PTO would not be providing any additional funding at this time.

Discussion was held about having a display out at the Open House on September 27<sup>th</sup> to show how the PTO has spent fundraising money in the past. Motion by Steph Hengesteg to have a display at Open House, and second by Amber Julseth. Motion carried. Brenda Moretz will work on the display. An idea box will also be set out for anyone to throw ideas in for future projects.

Discussion was held on any new ideas or functions that the PTO could sponsor. One idea brought up was to have an open gym for the elementary age children at the High School on Sunday afternoons before the older kids come. The idea being that each child must be accompanied by an adult to get in. Mr. Costello was going to talk with Keith Fritz on this matter to see what the feasibility of this was. Discussion was tabled until the November meeting.

Motion was made for adjournment at 8:30 by Renate Tenold, second by Pam Meyer, motion carried.

Next meeting will be held on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007, at 7pm at the Elementary Media Center.

## **Counselor's Corner**

Mr. Russell Knudson

[rknudson@nwood-kensett.k12.ia.us](mailto:rknudson@nwood-kensett.k12.ia.us)

Greetings from the Counselor's office at N-K. Numerous activities occupy the calendar in the guidance office so far this year. Oct. 17 was the test date for the PSAT (National Merit Test). Sophomores and Juniors participated in this activity. On Oct. 17, the Iowa College Access Network will be presenting tips for college to parents and students in grades 11 and 12.

On November 7 the sophomores will be taking the PLAN test offered by the ACT testing corporation in preparation for their high school and post-high school planning. This assessment is being paid from WCDA funds and will aid every sophomore in making future career decisions.

In February the military will offer the ASVAB test to all juniors. This is an important test because it assesses talents and skills that are not often measured in our public school systems.

The counselor web page is now up and in operation. We are yet working on several aspects of the page so it is far from complete. Check the ACT link to find the testing dates for the remainder of the year.

## **HEART SAVER CPR PROGRAM AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE TO PARENTS OF CHILDREN AGE 0-5 IN WORTH COUNTY**

Worth County Public Health has been awarded funding through Empowerment to provide CPR certification to parents of 0-5 year olds living in Worth County. The American Red Cross "Heart Saver" CPR will be offered to the parents at no charge.

This is a one time session for parents to participate in. The session will be up to 4 hours in length depending on the number of questions by participants. We are taking names of adults who will be interested in the training. This will be provided on a first come first serve basis. Once we have enough participants for a class, sessions will be scheduled. Please contact Worth County Public Health office at 641-324-1741 to be put on the list.

Children will be in a safer environment when parents have knowledge through completion of the Heart Saver CPR program.

Many victims of sudden cardiac arrest have ventricular fibrillation (VF). VF is an abnormal, chaotic heart rhythm that prevents the heart from pumping blood. The only treatment for VF is defibrillation. Defibrillation is a shock that stops VF and allows a normal heart rhythm to resume. When VF is present, prompt defibrillation will increase the victim's chance of survival. With each minute that defibrillation is delayed during cardiac arrest caused by VF, the victim's chance of survival is reduced by 7% to 10%. If defibrillation is provided within the first 5 minutes of a VF cardiac arrest, the victim's chance of survival is about 50%. After 10 to 12 minutes of cardiac arrest there is a very little chance of a successful rescue **unless CPR has been provided**. CPR prolongs the time that defibrillation can be effective, increasing the "window of opportunity" for resuscitation. To increase the victim's chance of survival, you must provide CPR until the defibrillator arrives. Source:

## **Nurses Corner** by Erin Rice

Fall is here and school is back in full swing. In late October, staff and Jr. High/Senior students are scheduled for flu shots. As of now, there have been few illnesses, but cold months are ahead. One of the best ways to prevent sickness is hand washing.

Now that school has started, it is a good habit to check your children for lice weekly. Look for white or yellow-brown specks, "nits" that are not easily removed. Dandruff can easily be brushed off of hair. Lice are tiny black specks. They may move. Check your child's entire scalp. Spots to pay special attention to are the back of the head and around ears.

Watch for signs and symptoms. Extreme itching is the main sign, causing inability to concentrate. Lice can be treated with a lice treatment shampoo. It is important to follow instructions on shampoo bottle carefully. Remind children not to share combs, brushes, hair accessories, or hats.

I am excited for the school year. If you ever have any questions or need to report anything to me, don't hesitate to call me at 324-1127 or email at [erice@nwood-kensett.k12.ia.us](mailto:erice@nwood-kensett.k12.ia.us).

## **K-3 Winter Matinee:**

We will once again be hosting a Winter Matinee Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm for those in the community that cannot make it to the evening performance. You are cordially invited to come join us for lunch before the performance on that day as well. Please give Tina a call in the office if you are planning on attending for lunch (324-1127).

RSVP of North Central Iowa, a national service program connecting Baby Boomers to unmet community needs, is happy to partner once again with the **Northwood-Kensett Community School District** for the **Reading Buddies** and **Reading Coaches** programs for the 2007-08 school year. *RSVP celebrates 10 years of sponsorship by Waldorf College this year.*

**RSVP programs cost \$100-\$150 per student at no cost to your school district** & are making a difference in the lives of children in north Iowa. During the 2006-07 school year, more than **200 volunteers** touched the lives of nearly **400 children** throughout **11 school districts**. RSVP, which has been ranked in the top 2 percent out of 755 RSVP programs throughout the nation, coordinates 5 programs in Cerro Gordo, Hancock, Winnebago and Worth counties.

The programs include:

- **Breakfast Buddies:** Breakfast Buddies add conversation to the breakfast menu by talking with students and using active listening skills. Last year, **100 percent** of the **56 students** involved in the mentoring program showed progress in academic performance.
- **Reading Buddies:** Reading Buddies is a one-on-one reading assistance program for elementary students. Last year, nearly **96 percent** of the **218 elementary students** in the Reading Buddies program improved their reading scores by **0.5 grade level or more**.
- **Reading Coaches:** Reading Coaches develop a mentoring relationship with middle school students and utilize the "Six Traits of Reading" strategies as they assist the struggling readers. Last year, teachers reported **80 percent** of the **96 students** who met with Reading Coaches improved by **0.5 grade level or more**.
- **Conversation Partners:** Conversation Partners engage new international students at Waldorf College in English conversation.
- **Academic Coaches:** Academic Coaches assist Waldorf College students who are struggling in class.

Mary Graham, Marketing Coordinator  
RSVP of North Central Iowa  
641-585-8695  
grahamm@waldorf.edu

### Happenings Around the School: National FFA Band

Courtney Davis has been selected to play the trombone in the National FFA Band. Courtney submitted an audition tape and was one of 100 FFA members selected. The National FFA band will perform at the 80th National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana taking place October 24-27<sup>th</sup>.

The mission of the FFA is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

The Iowa Online Advanced Placement Academy (IOAPA) has been established to deliver rigorous Advanced Placement (AP)<sup>TM</sup> courses to high school students across the State of Iowa utilizing Apex Learning on-line technology. AP gives students an opportunity to take college-level courses and exams while still in high school. The focus of IOAPA is on writing, reasoning and study skills.

Northwood-Kensett is one of 231 schools in Iowa that offer IOAPA program. This year students are taking courses in AP Literature and Composition, US Government and Politics and Economics.

### National History Competition

N-K Class of 2007's Christopher Parcher made his fourth journey to the University of Maryland. Chris told the story of the Knights Templar with his Senior Individual Performance.

Students in grades 6-12 are busy researching their topics for the March 1, 2008 Regional History Day at NIACC. The 2008 theme is Conflict and Compromise in History. All topics must be at least 25 years old and relate to a conflict and or a compromise.

### Northwood Kensett Viking Booster Club

will be offering for sale, a Christmas order for sweatshirts, t-shirts and sweat pants, available in grey or navy. There will be a blanket available with the new Viking on this order as well. The deadline for ordering will be December 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be sending order forms home with the elementary kids in the near future, and additional order forms will be available at the high school, Sue's Corner Post and at the Farm Bureau Insurance Office.

**The Northwood Kensett Parent Teacher Organization** would like to say "Thank you" to the WCDA and the N-K Community School District for the \$10,000 grant we received for our elementary playground project.



We would also like to thank all of the students, families, and friends who participated in our annual fundraiser program. A portion of the money raised will go towards the elementary playground project. We really appreciate everyone's involvement. Thank you for helping to make this another successful year.



Your efforts are greatly appreciated not only from us, but our children, our school and our community. Thank you for helping to make this another successful year.

### **STUDENT OF THE MONTH**

The Student of the Month Award is given to our third, fourth, fifth and sixth grade students. One student is chosen from each section every month. The purpose of this award is to promote good citizenship. The criteria for receiving this award is handing in all assignments on time and being considerate of other classmates. Students receive a nice award and get the opportunity to have lunch with Mr. Costello for their achievement.

**September Students' of the Month** include Madison Eilertson (Gr 3) in Mrs. Okerlund's class, Chelsea Boyden (Gr 3) in Mrs. Hill's class, Ashlyn Schaefer (Gr 4) in Mrs. Vansteenburgh's class and Hattie Davidson, (Gr 4) in Mr. Park's Class. Jordan Wright in Mr. Severson's and Brandon Severson (Gr 5) in Ms. Hagen's classroom. Jasmyrn Schmidt (Gr 6) was the recipient for Mrs. Cordle's class and Chandler Capitani (Gr. 6) was Mr. Lease's student of the month for September 2007.

**October 2007 Students' of the Month** include Courtney Wright (Gr 3) in Mrs. Okerlund's class, Nathan Wilder (Gr 3) in Mrs. Hill's class, Jenna Schaefer (Gr 4) in Mr. Park's class, and Joshua Einertson (Gr 4) in Mrs. Vansteenburgh's class. Casey Dahlby (Gr 5) in Mr. Severson's class and Charles Smith (Gr 5) in Ms. Hagen's class. Logan Benson (Gr 6) was the recipient for Mrs. Cordle's class and Zachary Costello (Gr 6) was Mr. Lease's student of the month for October 2007.

If you see one of these students, congratulate them for a job well done.

**Holiday Canned Food Donation Program** Once again we are going to provide our students with a community service project for the holidays. We will be continuing our Holiday Canned Food Donation Program. As in other years, we will not have a gift exchange at the classroom Christmas parties, instead, we will collect cans of food for the local food pantry of Worth County. This is a voluntary program. This has been a wonderful holiday tradition for our students. What a wonderful way to share the spirit of the season. More information will go home with the students as we organize the project.

### **FYI from the Elementary Office:**

#### **LOST AND FOUND** Please write your **LAST NAME**

in sweatshirts, coats, boots, gloves/mittens and snow pants so they can be returned to your child. As it is, we build up an **UNBELIEVABLE** amount of clothing throughout the year, and the busy season is just getting started. Sweatshirts & jackets are an important item of interest, as kids tend to get warmed up and remove sweatshirts at gym or recess, then leave them behind.

**WARM WINTER CLOTHING** With cold weather comes rain and snow, and therefore, students are required to have boots, snow pants, gloves or mittens, hats and warm coats. We do have a few items for emergency use in the nurses office, in case items are lost or forgotten, but would like to refrain kids from relying on this courtesy every day.

**PICTURE RETAKES** will take place on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at both the High School and the Elementary. If you would like your child's picture redone, please return the original package for your child to take to the camera on that day. If your child was absent on picture day and you would like to order a package, payment must accompany child to the camera. I do have order forms in the office if you need one.

#### **RECYCLING OF INK JETS, KEMPS MILK CAPS, BOX TOPS, CELL PHONES AND CAMPBELL'S LABELS.**

Do you have any of the above items lying around? Northwood-Kensett collects the above items and send them in for cash reimbursement for the purchase of books, accelerated reader (reading program) quizzes, and other items that benefit the kids at N-K. If you shop at Target and have specified N-K as your school of choice, a portion of your purchase will come back in cash to the school.

You may send items to school with the kids or drop them off at the Elementary Office, and we will distribute them to the people who process these items. Remember to handle the ink cartridges with care, as they are easily damaged, and they are not worth anything if damaged. We would like to thank you for all that you do to support these programs. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.



## **Check Out the Yearbook Specials**

Buy Your 2008 COLOR Yearbook Today!  
New this year is a full color yearbook and a cover designed by sophomore Jeff Leonard!

The 2008 yearbook is on sale for \$30 until November 8th. Students may purchase the yearbook before or after school from Ms. Nicholls or parents may purchase a yearbook during Parent/Teacher Conferences. Any yearbooks purchased after November 8th will cost \$35 each.

The senior parents will have the option to place a baby picture next to their child's senior picture in the yearbook for only \$10.00. As you are choosing your photo, keep in mind that the photo will be reduced in size (exact size will be determined later), so up-close photos will turn out better. Please have the photo ready to turn in when purchasing this option. This option will be available until April 4th at the same price.

Senior pictures are due Friday, April 4th to Ms. Nicholls. One picture will be used for the yearbook, one for the composite, and one for The Northwood Anchor. The same pose may be used for all three. Digital photos are preferred. The photographer may e-mail the photos to Ms. Nicholls or send them on a CD.

If there are any questions, please contact Ms. Jennifer Nicholls by calling the high school or sending her an email at [jnicholls@nwood-kensett.k12.ia.us](mailto:jnicholls@nwood-kensett.k12.ia.us)

## **Greetings to all musicians and music supporters!**

Nikkole Marreel, Vocal Instructor  
The students at N-K have been working hard on music every day. They are well on their way to preparing some outstanding holiday music! Here are some important dates for you to know.

The following concerts will be held in the elementary auditorium:

Thursday, December 6—5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band and Jr High Band & Choir Concert 7PM

Thursday, December 13—Kind.-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Christmas Concert 6:30PM

Thursday, December 13—High School Band & Choir Christmas Concert 7:30PM

This concert will be held at Lutheran Retirement Home and Southbridge Mall  
Tuesday, December 18—5-6 Chorus--Ret. Home & Mall Christmas concert 2 & 4pm

I hope to see you at one or all of these fine musical events. If you have questions, please call me at school 641-324-2142 or email me [nmarreel@nwood-kensett.k12.ia.us](mailto:nmarreel@nwood-kensett.k12.ia.us).

---

## **CORN BOWL INSERVICE**

The Corn Bowl Conference held its second annual Conference Inservice on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The focus of the inservice was on Technology and had a direct correlation to our district goals. The Conference Inservice was designed to assist teachers with the use of technology in their lesson plans and provide them with the opportunity to brainstorm with grade and subject alike teachers within the Corn Bowl Conference.



---

## **Kemps Nickels for Schools is teaming up**

with us once again on our new adventure. Welcome back to a very new and exciting school year. Kemps has extended their program through our 2007-2008 school year, however, they have removed the eligible caps from the gallon size milk. You may cut the 5 cent emblem from the sour cream and other dairy items as well.. Please join us on our new adventure for the 2007-2008 by continuing to collect Kemps milk caps. We want to thank-you for your continued support. The proceeds are used to buy new library books and AR quizzes for the children of N-K.



**VIKING DISPATCH**  
**NORTHWOOD-KENSETT CSD**  
 1200 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. N.  
 PO BOX 289  
 Northwood, IA 50459

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

## RESIDENT

### Northwood-Kensett Community School

PO BOX 289  
 1200 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N.  
 Northwood, IA 50459  
[www.nwood-kensett.k12.ia.us](http://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

#### DATES OF INTEREST:

**November 2:** Picture retakes at both Elementary and Jr. Sr. High  
**November 2 & 3:** High School Musical (Elementary Gym)  
**November 6 & 8:** P/T Conferences Grades K-6 4:00-7:30; Grades 7-12 5-9 pm  
**November 9:** No School  
**November 14:** Teacher In service Early Dismissal 12:50 & 1:00 pm  
**November 21:** Early Dismissal 1:50 Elem and 2:00 High School  
**November 22-23** No School Thanksgiving Holiday  
**December 6:** Music Concert (5-8 Band & JH Choir)  
**December 12:** Teacher In Service Early Dismissal 12:50 & 1:00 pm  
**December 13:** K-3 Christmas Concert – 6:30pm; HS Band & Choir Concert 7:30  
**December 21:** End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter, End of 1<sup>st</sup> Semester  
**December 24-28 ; January 2:** Winter Break (No School)  
**January 21:** Teacher In-service (No School)  
**February 12 & 14:** P/T Conferences Grades K-6 4:00-7:30; Grades 7-12 5-9 pm  
**February 15:** No School  
**February 27:** Teacher In service 12:50 & 1:00 Dismissal  
**March 17-21:** Spring Break No School  
**April 9:** Teacher In service Early Dismissal 12:50 & 1:00  
**May 7:** Teacher In service Early Dismissal 12:50 & 1:00  
**May 21:** Last day of School (Provided we have no snow days)  
**Early Dismissal 11:50-12:00 (No lunch will be served)**

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.