



Tiger Talk

Page 1

September/October 2014



Mark Your Calendar

- Aug 29: No School
- Sept 1: No School, Labor Day
- Sept 2,9, 16: Family Sign Class, 5:30-7:00 P.M.
- September 3: Parent/Teacher conferences 1:50-7:30
- Sept 9: 3rd grade literacy activity, more info to come
- Sept 15: Picture retakes
- Sept 22-Oct 10: No school, Fall break
- Oct 14, 21, 28: Family Sign Class, 5:30-7:00 P.M.
- Oct 24: No School, Teacher Professional Development Day
- Oct 27-31: Red Ribbon Week-Love Yourself. Be Drug Free
- Oct 31: Fall Parties, 2:20-2:50 (kindergarten 1:30-2:00)

The Des Moines Public Schools prohibits discrimination in educational and employment programs based on age, race, creed, color, sex, marital status, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability in educational and employment programs and activities. Complaints of discrimination may be filed with the District Compliance Officer at 901 Walnut Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50309, (515) 242-7781.

A Note From Mrs. Kerper

Dear Families,

We have had a great start to the new school year. The Breakfast in the Classroom program has been a wonderful addition for Capitol View. I hope your children are enjoying having breakfast with their classmates. Please remember that students need to arrive BEFORE 8:15 to receive breakfast.

Along those lines, we continue to work on our district goal of 95% attendance every day. While we are not meeting that as often as we should, I am seeing improvement. Last week we hit 98.9% two days in a row and one day with only 3 tardies! That is phenomenal! Hopefully your children have been talking to you about our attendance goals. Children receive a tag for their attendance necklace for each month they have perfect attendance. We will be handing out August tags very soon. In addition, whenever a student earns their second month of perfect attendance they will earn a pair of cool Capitol View sunglasses. After the 5th month they will receive a Capitol View water bottle.



Hopefully your child has a plan that he/she follows EVERY day regarding how to get home. It is helpful to your child and to us if there is a set routine. We understand that on some rare occasions there is an **emergency** or plans need to be changed, but we cannot relay messages on a regular basis. Please make these plans with your child before they come to school and help us to keep instructional time free from distractions. **Also, please sign children out early only in cases of emergency.** Phone calls to classrooms, announcements, and students leaving early can be highly disruptive. In addition, your child will miss a lot of information by leaving just 10 or 15 minutes early. Please help us to protect instructional time.

Parent/Teacher conferences were held on August 27th and will finish up on September 3rd. Your attendance is an essential part of your child's school success. This is an important time to talk with your child's teacher about goals for the year and to plan how school and home can work together to help your child make great progress. Education is a team effort. If you were not able to attend or need to reschedule, please contact your child's teacher. It is important to your child.

I hope your child has settled into the new school year and is enjoying his/her teachers, classmates and learning. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Enjoy the upcoming fall break and beautiful fall weather with your children.

Sincerely,



Be Safe - Be Respectful - Be Responsible

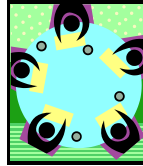
Parent Advisory Group

Monday, September 8th at 5:00-5:45 PM

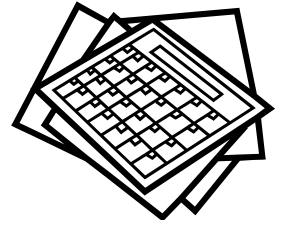
Capitol View Library

Topics will include: School Improvement Plan, Title 1 Funding, Parent Involvement

All parents are welcome to join me in the library on September 8th to hear more about our School Improvement Grant, the Title 1 program, and our School Improvement Plan. In addition, I look forward to hearing your ideas regarding what types of parent events and activities you would find most helpful.



Continuous Calendar versus Traditional Calendar



Capitol View has been studying the impact our continuous calendar has had on reaching our achievement goals. We are finding that starting before most other schools in the district and in the state has had several negative effects.

The staff has discussed this and given feedback. Parents were invited to a meeting on August 7th. We had a great discussion. During conferences on August 27th or September 3rd you should also be given a survey to complete. This will be the final step in gathering information before we make a decision for the 2015-16 school year. Please complete the survey and leave it in the box outside the office. If you have any questions or concerns contact Mrs. Kerper or Mr. Sharkey.

Welcome Visitors

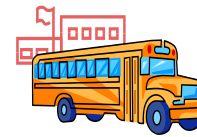
You are always welcome to visit the building, but for the safety of everyone, we ask that you check in at the office first. When you sign in you will be given a visitor badge to wear. This badge lets all staff members and students know that you have checked in at the office. Please stop in and sign out when you leave. Thank you for your cooperation

Bikes on School Property

Just a reminder that bikes, scooters, rollerblades, and other similar items are not allowed on school property during the school day. This includes older siblings who come to pick up young children. It is just not safe with all of the young children outside and the high traffic volume. Thank you for your understanding.



Bus Riders



Anytime your child will not be riding the bus after school, PLEASE notify the office with a note or a phone call. This helps us insure the safety of your child and keeps us from unnecessarily holding up the buses and making them late for their routes.

School Picture Retake Day —September 15th

If your child was absent on Picture Day or you were not able to purchase pictures at that time, there will be another opportunity on September 15th. Check with the office to get a new packet. Also, if you were dissatisfied with your pictures, send them back on this day and retakes will be taken for free. Call the office if you have any questions.



21st Century After School Program

We will have three sessions of our programming.

Feel free to contact david.sharkey@dmschools.org with questions.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 3-5 pm

Session 1 - October 13th-December 12th

Session 2 – January 12th-March 5th

Session 3 – March 23d – May 15th

Emergency Information

It is extremely important that you keep the school updated with your current contact information. We must always have current phone numbers and be able to reach you in the event of an emergency. Please contact the school any time you have a change of address, change of work or home phone number or a change in the people listed who have permission to pick up your child. Thank you.

Persons with disabilities who need information about the accessibility to the building or who need sign or language interpreters, please contact Marsha Kerper, Principal, at 242-8402.



Red Ribbon Week 2014

Love Yourself. Be Drug Free

October 27 – 31



Capitol View Elementary School will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week October 27th through October 31st. This year's theme is "Love yourself. Be drug free." Students are encouraged to participate in the following Capitol View activities.

Wednesday, October 29th: "Put a Cap on Drugs! Wear a hat to show we are putting a lid on drugs.

Thursday, October 24th: Wear Red Day Students should wear as much red as they can to show their support of Red Ribbon Week and their decision to not use drugs.

Did you know...

On August 21 and 22 we had 98.9% of our students here. That is a phenomenal attendance rate.

On August 5th we had only 3 students tardy.

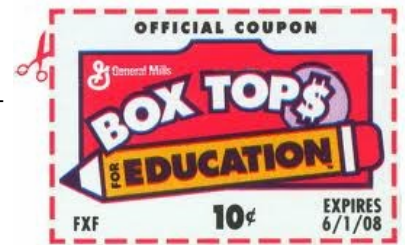


Fall Parties

Capitol View will be celebrating the beginning of a great school year and the formation of new friendships with Fall parties. The parties will be held on Friday, October 31st at 2:20. Kindergarten parties will occur from 1:30-2:00. Students will NOT wear costumes. If you would like to help, please contact your child's teacher. If you are sending treats for the party, be certain to follow district guidelines. Homemade treats are not allowed. Items must be store-bought and individually wrapped items are preferred.

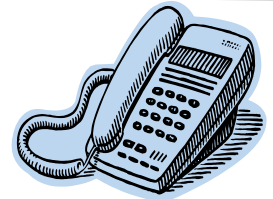
Boxtops

We are collecting Box-tops for Education through General Mills. To check for participating products visit boxtops4education.com. We have the opportunity to earn hundreds of dollars for our school through this easy program. Just ask your friends and relatives to save them and send them to school. We will keep you posted on how much we earn.



Please Call Us!

Don't forget to call in and let us know whenever your child is absent. You can call anytime and leave the information on our voicemail. In fact, it is best if you call before 7:30 A.M. and leave a message. Leave your name and relation to child, child's name, teacher, and reason for absence. This saves us lots of time calling parents. It also can help prevent you from having future problems with our attendance committee due to lack of reporting your child's absences. In addition, **remember to ask for a note from the doctor** anytime your child is at an appointment and send these to the nurse. Thank you for your help.



If your child gave you this newsletter, and you have read it from front to back, please fill out this small form and return it to the classroom teacher or the office by Friday, September 5th. He/She will be entered in a drawing for a free prize.

List names and grade levels of all family members that attend Capitol View:

Signature of parent reading the newsletter _____

Infinite Campus Student/Parent Portal

Des Moines Public Schools uses Infinite Campus as its web-based student information system. The service provides students the ability to access their class related information as well as allowing a parent / guardian the ability to view their children's academic information.

The questions-and-answers below provide additional information about Infinite Campus.

If you are already a student, parent or guardian, and have an Infinite Campus account, you may view the information by going to the following site: <https://sis.dmps.k12.ia.us/campus/portal/desmoines.jsp> or by visiting the Capitol View website and clicking on the parent tab.

Student/Parent Portal FAQ's

What information is available to students and parents within the portal?

- District and School announcements
 - Report cards
 - Attendance Records
 - Assessment Scores
 - Student schedules
 - Transportation Information
 - Lunch Account Balances
 - Online course request for secondary school students
 - Immunization records on file
 - Teacher newsletters
 - Household Information
 - Emergency Contact
- AND MORE...

Who has access to the Student/Parent Portal?

Student's grades 6th through 12th have access. Their login information is available at their respective schools they attend.

Parents/Guardians who have been designated as having legal rights to their children may request a parent portal account. Each parent / guardian will have their **own** unique account that can be used to gain access to student records they have legal rights to.

How to establish a Student/Parent Portal account?

If you do not have an activation key please contact the office. As a privacy and security precaution, we will request you to provide some form of ID. We will give you an activation key and directions.

As a parent, do I need my own account or can I use my child's account?

All parents are strongly encouraged to set up their own account. Only a parent account has the privilege to update household information as well as the ability to view all children in a household from a single place. Parents also have the added benefit of receiving district and school wide announcements.

Is my information secure while I view them within the Student/Parent Portal?

Infinite Campus uses SSL (secure socket layer) encryption technology to ensure data is protected while information is in transit. It is similar to what the banking industry is utilizing.

How often is information updated in the Student/Parent Portal?

Attendance information will be updated daily. Grades are updated by your child's teacher(s).

How do I report errors or request update to my information?

Please contact the office.

Is there a mobile app to access Infinite Campus on the go?

Yes, Infinite Campus App is available for download for your iPad, iPhone, iPod and Android devices:

1. Launch the Campus App, select Settings and Enter this District ID: JQZPSD
2. Enter your Campus Portal Username and Password.

School Boundaries Changing

In order to better serve our students and meet the needs of our schools, Des Moines Public Schools adopted new **attendance** areas for our elementary schools. These changes were unanimously approved by the School Board on May 6, 2014. The most significant and positive result in almost every case is that the attendance areas of our elementary, middle and high schools will now better align, creating a more consistent "feeder system" throughout the district. You can view the new boundaries at <http://www.dmschools.org/elementary-school-attendance-areas/attendance-area-map/>

What does this mean for elementary education in Des Moines? Several good things:

- More neighborhood students will be able to attend their neighborhood school
- Enrollment will be better balanced between our school buildings
- Our school buildings will be better utilized
- Elementary schools will be more aligned with our secondary schools

Out of 15,500 elementary students in Des Moines, approximately 8% could be impacted by these proposed changes. However, most will have the option to "grandfather" this change, making the actual number much less.

These changes go into effect for the 2015-16 school year and will affect incoming kindergarten students. Students that are already attending a school have the option to remain in the school under the "grandfathering clause."

2015-2016 School Year PATRON NOTIFICATION

Between District Open Enrollment Iowa Administrative Code 281-17.3(2)

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

DEADLINES:

March 1, 2015 is the last date for regular open enrollment requests for the 2015-2016 school year.

September 1, 2015 is the last date for open enrollment requests for entering kindergarten students and those students falling under the "good cause" definition for the 2015-2016 school year. To insure that the transfer of individual students does not adversely affect the diversity plan of the District, certain limitations to open enrollment have been established. **Parents of kindergarten students are therefore encouraged to make application requests prior to March 1, 2015.**

APPEALS:

Within 30 days of a denial of an open enrollment request by the DMPS Board of Education, a parent/guardian may file an appeal with the state board of education only if the open enrollment request was based on repeated acts of harassment or a serious health condition of the student that the district cannot adequately address. All other denials must be appealed to the district court in Polk County.

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY:

In most cases, a high school student who open enrolls is **ineligible** for **varsity** athletic competition during the student's first 90 consecutive school days of enrollment in the receiving district. Some, but not all, exceptions to this general rule of ineligibility are as follows:

The sending district does not offer the sport in question.

The sending district was dissolved and merged with one or more other districts.

The sending district whole-grade shares with another district for the student's grade level.

TRANSPORTATION:

Parents/Guardians of students open enrolled from another school district are eligible for transportation assistance if the household income of the parent/guardian is at or below the federal poverty guidelines for household size. The two districts must be contiguous. Assistance may be in the form of actual transportation or in the form of a cash stipend. Information regarding transportation eligibility and a complete copy of the District's open enrollment policy and procedures may be obtained from the Open Enrollment Office, 1301 Second Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50314

Capitol View Elementary Parent Involvement Survey

Capitol View Elementary is a Title I school. The federal Title I program provides funding for qualifying schools for such things as supplies and supplemental educational services. In addition, there is a small amount of funding earmarked for parent involvement. We welcome your input to help us make our program best fit your needs. Please complete the survey below and return this page to the school office. Thank you.

Circle the answer that best fits your needs.

1. What type of programs would you like to see us offer at school for parents?

- A. Information on how to help your child with reading
- B. Information on how to help your child with math
- C. Information on the Iowa Core Curriculum and the grade level expectations
- D. Other ideas. Please list:

2. What time of day works best for you to attend these programs?

- A. In the morning during the school day
- B. In the afternoon during the school day
- C. After school at 3:15 or 3:30
- D. In the evening at 5:00
- E. In the evening at 5:30
- F. In the evening at 7:00

3. Would you attend a session just for parents?

- A. Yes
- B. No

Please explain:

4. Do you prefer sessions in which your children are included?

- A. Yes
- B. No

Please explain:

5. Please list any ways we can support you in your efforts to support your child's academic and social success at school. (This might be in the form of books, materials, support, trainings, or other.)

