



# Tiger Talk

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November 2014



## Mark Your Calendar

- Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25 : 4th and 5th Grade Sign Club, 3:00-4:00
- Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25: Girl's Club, 3:00-4:00
- Nov. 7: 5th grade to Hands On Book Fest
- Nov 7: Report cards go home
- Nov. 10 : No 21st Century After School Programming (teacher planning meeting 2nd Monday of every month)
- Nov. 11,18 : Deaf Focus Group Meeting, 4:00-5:00
- Nov. 24-25: No After School Programming (Week of Thanksgiving Break)
- Nov. 26-28: No school, Thanksgiving break
- Dec. 2: 4th & 5th Grade Music Concerts, 5th -5:15. 4th-6:15.
- Dec. 8: No 21st Century After School Programming, teacher planning meeting
- Dec 9: 2nd-3rd Grade Music Concert 3rd -5:15, 2nd- 6:15
- Dec 19: No After School Programming (Right before our Holiday Break)
- Dec. 22 - Jan. 2: winter break, no school

## A Note From Mrs. Kerper

Dear Families,

As explained in prior newsletters and at a parent meeting this year, Capitol View has received a large School Improvement Grant. We were eligible to apply for this grant last year because Capitol View's achievement data over the past several years has been low. We have hired additional staff members to help coach teachers to become even better teachers. We are learning about how to engage all students and encourage total participation in the classroom. We are also implementing new math materials and using lots of technology to enhance our instruction. These are just a few of the things we are working on.

What can you as parents do to help your student's achievement? One of the first things is to get them here every day on time. I know you have been hearing about our attendance goals and our student incentives. Our attendance so far this year has been improved from last year and last year was improved from the year before. So far we have an attendance rate of 96.6%. We must be above 95% and would like to be above 97%. Your children cannot learn if they are not here. Many of you have worked on this as a family and we have students who have greatly improved from last year. However, since fall break our attendance is slipping and unfortunately we have 54 students who have missed more than five days already and several close to ten. Please help us focus on the importance of being at school every day.

Please pay close attention to the calendar at the left. Students do not have school on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. This gives you an early start on enjoying that turkey and pumpkin pie.

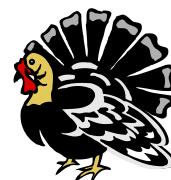
In addition, there are upcoming days where the 21st Century after school program will not be held due to holidays or teacher meetings. Please make note of these if your children attend the program after school.

Talk to your children this month about what they are thankful for and perhaps they can even write a thank you note to someone.

As always, if at any time you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or any other staff member who could be of help to you.

Sincerely,

Marsha Kerper, Principal



## Be Safe - Be Respectful - Be Responsible



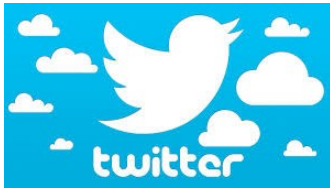
If your child gave you this newsletter, and you have read it from front to back, please fill out this small form and return it to the classroom teacher or the office by Wednesday, November 5th. He/She will be entered in a drawing for a free prize.

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent reading the newsletter \_\_\_\_\_

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.

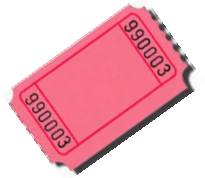


**Mrs. Kerper is Tweeting!**

I just started a Capitol View twitter account so I can share things going on around Capitol View. Please follow me @capitolviewelem

**PBIS Corner**

Capitol View is a PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports) school. We have 3 expectations that we follow every day. At Capitol View, we're safe, respectful, and responsible. Your students earn tiger tickets when they follow these expectations. Ask your student how many tiger tickets they have earned.



**Pastries with the Principal**

Mark your calendar! Stop in the teacher's lounge (Room 113 by the lunchroom) on Friday, November 21st from 8:00-8:45 and enjoy a pastry and juice or coffee. This is a good opportunity to chat with Mrs. Kerper and provide feedback to her on things you think we are doing well and suggestions on how we can serve you and your children better.



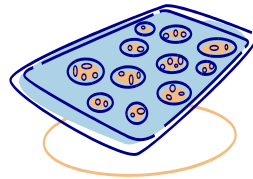
**After School Program**

We will NOT have the after school program on the following dates:

- November 10<sup>th</sup> – Teacher Planning Meeting
- November 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> – Week of Thanksgiving Break
- December 8<sup>th</sup> – Teacher Planning Meeting
- December 19<sup>th</sup> – Right before our Holiday Break

**Fundraiser Items**

Thank you to everyone that participated in the fundraiser and sold cookie dough. We will let you know the results of our sale in the next newsletter. If you have not turned in your orders yet, please do so immediately. Please plan on picking up your items on Wednesday, December 10th from 1:30-5:00.



**Boxtops**

We are collecting Boxtops for Education through General Mills. To check for participating products visit [boxtops4education.com](http://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.



**Dress for the Weather**

Fall is here and that means the unpredictable Iowa weather can surprise us. Please help your children monitor the weather and be certain they dress appropriately to be outside. If you need assistance with warm clothing, please contact Mrs. Shaw or Ms. Dougan.

**Trains, Trains, Trains**

The train tracks near Capitol View are very busy. Many days staff members and students have difficulty arriving at school on time due to a slow or stopped train. While I know we need to allow extra time in the mornings for trains or other interruptions, we should not be expected to plan for regular, extended delays. I have been communicating with the Department of Transportation about this issue. If you are ever stopped by the train that crosses Hubbell and Dean for more than ten minutes you may call 1-800-848-8715 to express your concern. Keep this number in your car. You may also share this number with others living in the area.



**Websites at Home**

Don't forget there are great reading and math websites for students to access at home. Students can practice math facts by using Fastt Math (go through [www.dmschools.org](http://www.dmschools.org), go to the student tab, and click on the SMI Assessment button). Students each have their own personal login/username and password. If your child cannot remember them please let the teacher know and we can send home a new copy. Your child's teacher may have other suggestions as well.



**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.