

CRESTVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS



1020 Eighth Street
West Des Moines, IA 50265

(515) 633-5700
www.wdmcs.org/crestview

John Villotti, Principal
villottij@wdmcs.org

November Activities

Nov. 2	Student Council meeting, 7:30 a.m.
Nov. 2-6	ITBS Testing (Grades 3-6)
Nov. 3	Chess Club, 7:30 a.m.
Nov. 4	Collaboration Day – Early Out School Dismisses at 2:25 p.m.
Nov. 5	<i>“The sky is the limit when we set our sights high.”</i>
Nov. 6	<i>“Success is rooted in the will to persevere.”</i>
Nov. 7	Barnes & Noble Book Fair. Barnes & Noble, 8550 University Ave, WDM, 4-8 p.m.
Nov. 7	Crestview Orchestra Performance, Barnes & Noble Book Fair, 8550 University Ave., WDM, 4 p.m.
Nov. 7	Tiger Choir Performance, Barnes & Noble Book Fair, 8550 University Ave., WDM, 4:45 p.m.
Nov. 10	Chess Club, 7:30 a.m.
Nov. 10	2nd Grade Lego Block Party
Nov. 10	PTC Meeting, Media Center, 6:30 p.m.
Nov. 11	Collaboration Day – Early Out School Dismisses at 2:25 p.m.
Nov. 11, 12, 16	Parent-Teacher Conferences (Grades K-3)
Nov. 12	5th Grade Band Concert, Gym, 7 p.m.
Nov. 17	Chess Club, 7:30 a.m.
Nov. 17, 18, 19	Parent-Teacher Conferences (Grades 4-6)
Nov. 18	Collaboration Day – Early Out School Dismisses at 2:25 p.m.
Nov. 24	Chess Club, 7:30 a.m.
Nov. 24	6th Grade Volleyball Tournament, VHS Gym, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Nov. 25-29	**NO SCHOOL**
	Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 30	Classes Resume

We'd LOVE to hear from you...

1. If your child is sick and will not be at school OR if your child will be late, call the office at 633-5700.
2. If your child will NOT be riding the bus, call Transportation at 633-4923.

It's a HUGE help. Thanks!



Be your best for the ITBS!

The Iowa Test of Basic Skills is being administered **this week – Nov. 2-6** – for third through sixth graders. Here are some pointers to share with your child to help him/her do his or her best:

- **Relax:** There is no way you can study for these tests and there is no way you will know all the answers. Some questions will be easy and some hard — just skip over the difficult questions and go back to them if you still have time.
- **Get a Good Night's Sleep:** Try to go to bed a little earlier the evenings before the tests so you are well rested and can give the tests all your brainpower.
- **Eat a Good Breakfast:** Food is energy. Examples of great brain food are strawberries, blueberries and yogurt.
- **Do Your Best:** Read the questions and all possible answers slowly and carefully, and always listen to the directions given by your teacher.
- **Be There:** Make a special effort to be in school each day the tests are given. If you are absent you will have to make up the tests you miss.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher conferences have been scheduled. Kindergarten through third grade will be Nov. 11, 12 and 16 and fourth through sixth grades are Nov. 17, 18 and 19. All parents should have their conference schedules at this time.

Please be sure to sign and return your conference slip if you have not already done so. Thank you.



And while you're here for conferences...

1. Check out the display of spirit wear in the lobby and get a jump on your holiday shopping. PTC has a variety of Crestview and Valley gear available to order. Order forms will be in the lobby.
2. Visit our collection of LOST AND FOUND items in the lobby. You never know what you might be missing...
3. Crestview's hallways are veritable art galleries with unique and creative student art work on display. Take a stroll down the halls and enjoy the view!



Lunch Accounts

Please try to make sure that your child's lunch account is up to date. Negative balance notes are sent home every Monday. If you receive a notice for your child, please make every effort to bring the account up to date.

The district offers two convenient ways to make payments. PaySchools offers parents the ease of being able to make secure payments online 24 hours a day/7 days a week. You can also sign up to receive notification when your child's lunch account dips below a certain amount. For more information about Payschools, visit the district website at www.wdmcs.org and click on the PaySchools icon. You will need your child's student ID number to set up your account. Please call the Crestview Office at 633-5700 and we will be happy to assist you.

In addition, lunch money can still be dropped off in the office or given to your child's teacher to send to the office. **Please make sure the money is in a sealed envelope with your child's name and the teacher's name on the outside of the envelope.**

School Lunch Prices

Breakfast	\$1.45
Reduced Breakfast.....	\$0.30
Hot Lunch, Yogurt or Salad.....	\$2.35
Reduced Lunch	\$0.40
Adult (Parent) Lunch	\$3.10
Extra Milk	\$0.50
Water 8 oz.....	\$1.00
Second Entrée	\$1.50

A Note from the Nurse re: Head Lice

The incidence of head lice has been increasing over the last few years. The Iowa Department of Public Health has identified this as a community based problem. The resistance of lice to many of the current over-the-counter medications has added to this problem. Individual class notification of head lice is no longer necessary because parents should assume there are head lice in the school at all times. Weekly checking for head lice as part of your child's routine hygiene care must become the parent's responsibility. Due to the large ratio of students per school nurse, parents are able to do a much more thorough and effective job of examining their child's head. Our school nurse or her assistant will be happy to assist you with any questions you may have regarding identification and treatment of head lice. **While head lice are an extreme nuisance, it is very important for parents to understand that head lice do not pose any health hazards.**

Regular School Attendance – Key to School Success

The actor and director Woody Allen once said that a big part of life is "just showing up." You may or may not agree but there is no question that showing up is a very big part of school. Your child can't learn if he/she isn't here. Both you and your child have a responsibility to get them to school.

Studies show that students who attend school regularly:

- **Do better** in reading and math.
- **Are less likely** to drop out. The first step to dropping out is skipping school.
- **Are less likely** to get in trouble outside school. This includes trouble with alcohol or drugs.



Schools where students attend regularly:

- **Are more orderly**, which creates a safer school environment.
- **Have teachers** who are more committed to their jobs and are more likely to engage students in classroom discussions and activities. When students feel like they're part of a group, they are less likely to miss school.
- **Have teachers** who set higher expectations for their students.

The Parent Institute. www.parent-institute.com

Crestview Library Home Page



You'll want to check out the new Crestview library homepage on Destiny, the district's web based automated library system.

Parents and students can use any computer with Internet access to view the Crestview library catalog. You'll also find links to some excellent subscription data bases - free to WDM families. Students have been given the user name and password information they need to get started. Visit our website to find a link to Destiny or log onto www.wdmcs.org, click on the Destiny icon and then click on Crestview. Please contact Mrs. Reynolds or Mrs. Bauder for more information about these services.

Second Grade Lego Block Party

The next second grade Lego Block Party is Tues., Nov. 10. Lego Block Parties are sponsored by WDM After School Programs and donations from Crestview families. Your support is appreciated!



Winter is Coming



Winter weather is quickly approaching. The health and safety of your child(ren) is very important to us. Please make sure your child comes to school each day prepared to go outside for recess.

Students will go outside for recess when the wind chill is above zero degrees. We want to try to get the children out daily when appropriate. They will need all of the basic winter items such as a coat, hat, gloves and when snowy, snow pants and boots, to be comfortable and enjoy themselves. Please be sure to label all coats and hats with your child's name in order to keep track of your winter items.

SCHOOL CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Up-to-the-minute recordings about cancellations, dismissals and closings are available at **633-5555**. The WDMCS hotline is provided as a service for students, parents, staff and community members to call if school must be cancelled or dismissed early due to weather conditions or other emergencies.

ParentLink, the district's emergency notification system, will be used to notify families of cancellations, early dismissals or other emergencies. Calls are made to home phone numbers, cell phone numbers and/or work numbers as provided to the school and entered into the Infinite Campus data system. **If you have made any changes to your contact information, please call the Crestview office at 633-5700 as soon as possible so we can update our database.**

Delay or closing information is also shared with the local media on the following **television stations** KCCI (channel 8), WHO (channel 13) and WOI (channel 5); **FM radio stations** KJJY (92.5), KIOA (93.3), KGGO (94.9), KHKI (97.3), KWQW (98.3), KZZQ (99.5), KSTZ (102.5), KAZR (103.3), KLTI (104.1), KPTL (106.3) and KISS (107.5); and **AM radio stations** KPSZ (940), WHO (1040), KWKY (1150), KRNT (1350), KXNO (1460) and KBGG (1700 – Spanish language).

Student days missed due to school closing will be made up beginning June 3, 2010.

Thanks to All Students Who Helped Make a Difference

A big thank you to everyone in the Crestview community who participated in Make a Difference Week by donating toothpaste, deodorant and Koins for Kids.



Over 200 items were donated by Crestview families and staff. Donations were delivered to the WDM Human Services for distribution to needy families. In addition, our students contributed to the more than \$255 that was collected for Koins for Kids which helps fund scholarships for after school educational programs.

Congratulations and Thank You Douglas VanO!

Crestview alum and Valley High School junior, Douglas vanOostenrijk, completed his Eagle Scout project on the grounds at Crestview Elementary. Douglas poured an additional sidewalk leading from the blacktop to the new playground equipment. He also rebuilt the berm on the south side of the blacktop and sowed grass seed to eliminate erosion and keep the mud from sliding down on to the blacktop and sidewalk. Another great improvement at Crestview on Franklin. We can't wait to get back!

Barnes & Noble Book Fair

Don't miss the first Crestview/Barnes & Noble Book Fair Sat., Nov. 7 from 4-8 p.m. The event will be held at Barnes & Noble in West Des Moines (4550 University Ave). The event features two special performances by Crestview students:

♪ **Members of the Crestview Orchestra will perform at 4 p.m.**

♪ **The Crestview Tiger Choir will be featured at 4:45 p.m.**

We hope to see you there!

BARNES & NOBLE
BOOKSELLERS



WEST DES MOINES
COMMUNITY
S C H O O L S

informal

For the Parents of the West Des Moines Community Schools
Office of School/Community Relations

Nov. 2, 2009
www.wdmcs.org

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

At the meeting Oct. 26, the Board of Education:

- heard results of the Iowa Youth Survey from Curriculum Director Dave Blum
- reported on the Western Hills open house, Academic Awards Night at Valley, a visit to first graders at Western Hills and congratulated the fall sports teams
- adopted a resolution designating law enforcement units facilitate the exchange of information per the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- authorized the amendment to the Polk County Empowerment agreement
- conducted a hearing on Valley High School softball and baseball dugout improvements
- approved change orders for Indian Hills and Crestview and the accepted work as complete by a contractor at Indian Hills and Western Hills
- approved the student teaching and practicum agreement with Iowa Wesleyan College
- approved the one-year contract with Parlant Technology to provide ParentLink emergency messaging services
- recognized outstanding accomplishments of district students and staff during board recognition
- reviewed open enrollment applications

**Next meeting: Mon., Nov. 9
7 p.m.
Indian Hills Junior High**

ONLINE LIBRARY SYSTEM

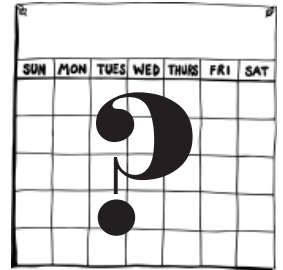
Destiny is a completely web based, automated library system. Parents and students can use any computer with Internet access to view the catalog for their school's library. You can search by keyword, title, author, subject and series. Just click on the Destiny icon to get started. You can find the link on our homepage at www.wdmcs.org.

TAKE A CLASS WITH LEARN_{west}

Don't miss out! There are still several LEARN_{west} classes being offered this fall. We know you'll find something that fits you, whether it's knitting a holiday stocking, pet massage, ballroom dancing, Microsoft Word 2007 Advanced or making a button bracelet. There is a wide variety of classes to take with LEARN_{west}. For a full listing of all LEARN_{west} classes, call 633-5001 or visit our website at <http://www.wdmcs.org/district/commed/learnwest>.

CALENDAR OPINIONS WANTED!

Don't miss this opportunity to offer your opinion on options for the 2010-11 school year schedule. A survey is posted on the district web site (www.wdmcs.org) and will be available until Fri., Nov. 6 at 4 p.m. Three choices are offered, reflecting differing start dates, winter break dates and the last day of school (without weather cancellations).



The district Calendar Committee – staff members and parents – has been meeting for several months to develop the calendar options. The survey of district staff and parents will be used by the committee to develop a recommendation to the Board of Education. The 2010-11 school year calendar will be presented to the Board for approval in early 2010, along with a tentative schedule for 2011-12.

THE GREAT COOKIE WALK



The sixth annual Great Cookie Walk benefiting the Youth Justice Initiative of West Des Moines will be held Sat., Nov. 28 from 9 a.m. to noon at the West Des Moines Christian Church fellowship hall located at 4501 Mills Civic Parkway.

Hosted by the Young Energetic Seniors group of the WDM Christian Church, the Great Cookie Walk is known for fresh, homemade, gourmet holiday cookies. Last year, more than 250 cookie varieties and 1,200 cookies were sold, awarding YJI more than \$4,500. In the past five years, the event has donated more than \$18,000 to YJI, which is a publicly funded, restorative justice program that positively and effectively redevelops young offenders.

Cookie pre orders and additional information are available at www.wdmcc.org/cookiewalk or by calling 515-225-0464.