



Crossroads Park Elementary School  
**COMMUNIQUE**

1050-50th Street, West Des Moines, IA 50266 (515) 633-5600  
www.wdmcs.org/crossroads  
Britt Cameron, Principal

August 31, 2009

**Dates to Remember  
September**



- 1 Sixth Grade Band Lessons Begin
- 2 Fourth Grade Orchestra Parent Open House, 5:30 PM, Indian Hills
- 3 PTA New Volunteer Orientation 9:15 AM
- 4 Bus Evacuation Drills
- 7 Labor Day-No School
- 8 Fifth Grade Band Lessons Begin
- 11 PTA Meeting 9:15 AM
- 14 Instrument Rental, 4:00-7:00 VHS
- 15 Sixth Grade Band Rehearsals Begin, 7:35-8:30 AM, Crestview  
Fourth Grade Parent Orchestra Lesson 7:00 PM, Indian Hills.
- 16 Sixth Grade Orchestra Rehearsals Begin
- 17 Fifth Grade Orchestra Rehearsals Begin
- 18 Grades 6-12 Marching Band Spectacular, Valley Stadium
- 22 School Pictures
- 28 Fifth Grade Band Rehearsals Begin

**PTA NEWS**

Welcome back to everyone! We will be having our first PTA meeting Friday September 11 @ 9:15 a.m. in the Community Room. All are invited and encouraged to attend. Those of you with young children are also welcome. If you are a new family to Crossroads Park this is a good way to get involved. There are committees that need your help.

Diana Augspurger and Sandra Witty  
PTA Co - Presidents

**School Pictures  
September 22**



School pictures will be taken at Crossroads Park on Tuesday, September 22. Picture information/ envelopes for money will be sent home with your child. Please do not send money until the day of pictures. Payment for pictures will be required at the time of photographing. Extra money envelopes will be available in the office.

**FYI**

Principals have been asked to remind parents not to talk on cell phones when dropping off or picking up students at school. Throughout the district, there have been reports of near accidents due to individuals talking on their phones as they were in line to pick up or drop off their child.

Thank You.

**Vital Vote September 8**

We have a chance to ensure that the West Des Moines Community School District stays as strong and vibrant as possible on Tuesday, September 8 with the continuance of a property tax levy called PPEL. This is not a new tax, but rather the renewal of the current levy, which has been in place for over 50 years. PPEL monies can only be spent on infrastructure, such as technology, building maintenance and repair, transportation, and safety and security. For more information contact Becky Hoyng (225-6641) or Janna Abeling (224-6838).

## Support Education & Get Great Savings!

Entertainment coupon books go on sale Friday, September 4, 2009. When you purchase a book, you support the Crossroads Park PTA and your kids, and you get half-off and two-for-one savings on entertainment, restaurants, services, vacations and much more. PTA will retain \$10 of the \$20 for each book sold.

Remember:

- Do you have a small business and would like to have Entertainment Books for sale at your business or office? Pick up books at the office, or contact Lisa Newman (222-9561)
- Internet ordering of out-of-town books. is easy:
  - Log onto the internet and go to [www.fundraising.entertainment.com](http://www.fundraising.entertainment.com) and click on Seller/Student section.
  - Enter our group account #358057.
  - Follow the instructions on the screen and click "Continue".
  - An email message customized with our school's information is sent to the list of email addresses that you enter asking them to support our school.
  - 
  - When an Entertainment Book is purchased from this email, we receive credit.

Watch the kids' backpacks and the Communique for more information about these great offers!

Questions? Call Lisa Newman (222-9561)

## Crossroads Park Communiqué

The Crossroads Park Communiqué is the school newsletter published periodically. It will be sent home with the youngest or only child in the family.

In the Communiqué you will find informational articles about educational issues, classroom activities, upcoming school events, and calendar reminders or changes. Please keep it handy for your reference as a way to keep informed of what's happening at Crossroads Park Elementary.

### Bicycles/Skateboards/Roller Blades Scooters and Roller Shoes

To enhance student safety to and from school, we recommend that only students in grades 4-6 ride their bicycles to school. Wearing bicycle helmets is strongly encouraged by our school. Bicycles are to be walked on school property and parked in the bike racks. The school district is not responsible for students riding bicycles to and from school, and assumes no responsibility for bicycles on the school grounds. Bicycle locks are encouraged. Damage or theft of bicycles should be reported to the local police department.



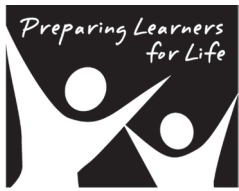
Bicycle riding should be considered a privilege. The bike riding privilege may be revoked if a student does not abide by the school guidelines and/or causes safety concerns.



**Skateboards, scooters, roller shoes and roller blades are not allowed on school property.**

### Get Connected – Free Parent Event

Let us help you put the parenting puzzle together. A free workshop for parents and those connected to students entering 4th - 7th grades. Sponsored by the West Des Moines Community Education Advisory Council. For more information visit [www.wdmcs.org](http://www.wdmcs.org) or call (515) 633-5001.



# Information

WEST DES MOINES

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

August 31, 2009  
www.wdmcs.org

## Board Highlights

At the meeting on Monday, August 24, the Board of Education:

- Heard a report from Valley and Walnut Creek Campus students about the Fast Track Diplomat Camp they attended this summer;
- Held a hearing and approved the easement for the Wastewater Reclamation Authority;
- Held a hearing on the Crestview Elementary School north addition;
- Established a hearing on September 14 for an easement with MidAmerican Energy;
- Authorized Shive-Hattery to provide a proposal for engineering design services to address moisture transmission at Valley Southwoods;
- Accepted as complete the work of six contractors on the Western Hills remodeling project;
- Approved change orders on the Crestview and Indian Hills projects;
- Approved the contract with the University of Iowa College of Nursing for a student nurse practicum;
- Authorized the amendment to the agreement with the Iowa Department of Education to extend a special project contract with a district teacher;
- Approved the lease agreement with Drake University for the Valley graduation ceremonies on May 30, 2010;
- Approved the roster for the Building a Learning Community Committee;
- Denied open enrollment applications received after the deadline.

**Next meeting: Monday, September 14, 2009**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**Learning Resource Center**

## VOTE on Sept. 8 - School Board Election

Four candidates are vying for three seats on the Board of Education: incumbent Jill Hansen and Elizabeth Brennan, Mark Lagomarcino and Veleta Lucas-Empty. Current Board members Susan Moritz and Barbara Burnett are not running for re-election.

Meet the candidates at a forum on:

Tuesday, September 1  
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Learning Resource Center - Community Room.

The candidate forum is sponsored by the West Des Moines Chamber of Commerce.

## PEEL Vote - September 8

Voters will be asked to renew the Physical Plant and Equipment Levy -- \$1.34 per \$1,000 of taxable property value.

Key Facts:

- This levy will NOT increase property taxes, but continue a levy that is already in place.
- This vote is to approve a continuation of the same levy that the West Des Moines Community School District has depended on for more than 50 years.

Funds generated would be used for:

- Building repairs, renovations, additions, and safety improvements
- Purchase of computer systems and other educational technology
- Purchase of school buses

By law, PEEL funds may not be used for educational programs, textbooks or salaries.

**Please remember to VOTE on September 8!** Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

## We're Ready for the Flu Season!

As the school year gets underway, the H1N1 virus is in the news again. Students and staff are taking extra precautions to avoid the spread of all types of flu. The district is following the guidelines in the Polk County Pandemic Influenza Response Plan for Schools.

District staff are expected to take the following precautionary measures:

- Classroom surfaces must be disinfected twice daily with Virex II. This disinfectant just has to be sprayed on desks/countertops, etc. and does not need to be wiped dry.
- Ample time must be provided for students and staff to thoroughly wash hands. Soap and water should impede the spread of germs.
- If access to soap and water is not available, students and staff will use the hand sanitizer that is provided in all schools.
- Food treats brought into the classroom must be eaten in the cafeteria or other common space in each school.

Additional information will be posted on the district web site at [www.wdmcs.org](http://www.wdmcs.org). If you have questions, please contact your school nurse.

## You Are Invited

To a reception honoring retiring and newly elected members of the Board of Education  
Monday, September 14  
6:30 – 7:00 p.m.  
Learning Resource Center.