

# IDA Insights

IDA PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

Summer 2019



## *Welcome to the 2019-2020 School Year*

School begins for students on Tuesday, September 3rd (Grades K-12). The Ida Public Schools Board of Education, faculty, and staff would like to welcome everyone back, as we begin another exciting year.

### Here are some dates of interest:

Tuesday, August 27th

Professional Development

No Classes

E.S. Open House

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

M.S. Open House

4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

H.S. Open House

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 3rd

First day of school

Friday, September 27th

Homecoming game and festivities vs. Erie Mason

The school starting and dismissal times remain the same as last year. On a regular day, elementary classes will begin at 7:55 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. Middle school and high school students will attend from 8:05 a.m. to 3:10 p.m.

## Athletic Event Yearlong Passes Available

Yearlong passes will be available from the high school office. Family passes (parents and children 21 and younger) will be \$200.00, individual adult passes are \$90.00, and student passes are \$50.00. Available again this year are senior citizen passes. They are \$10 and are for senior citizens living in the district or senior citizens who have grandchildren attending Ida. These passes will admit the holder to all home sporting events for the entire school year. Individual game tickets will remain the same at \$5.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students, with children (4th grade and younger) being admitted free. For freshman-only and middle school contests, adults are \$4.00 and children are \$3.00.

## STAY CONNECTED...

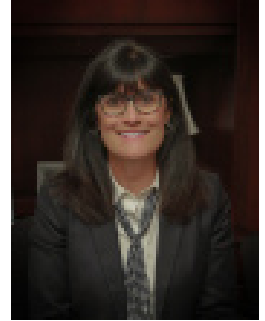
Follow Ida Public Schools on Facebook. Go to our website ([www.idaschools.org](http://www.idaschools.org)) for a plethora of information: links to teacher's class websites, check your child's grades, lunch menus, board meeting minutes, contact information for all staff, download forms, and much more! You can follow our sports teams on Twitter @IdaAthletics.



# A Message from the Superintendent

As the new Ida Superintendent, I will have the privilege to provide opportunities for our students to reach their fullest potential while being a part of a community that I love.

Over the years, it has been my goal, whether as a classroom teacher, guidance counselor, or building administrator, to empower each student to have meaningful and enjoyable school experiences while preparing for the future. Now as a superintendent, my commitment to this goal is even stronger.



It is also my goal, as your superintendent, to take the great things that Ida is already doing to the next level. I believe that the best way to achieve this goal is through partnerships that work together to provide rich learning opportunities.

As parents, I encourage you to embrace the talents and interests you have observed in your child, starting with the early years, and encourage them to communicate these to their teachers, school counselor, service provider or principal. They are all here to help them find their niche and pursue it through their education while offering extra-curricular opportunities that will channel their passions. I also encourage you to read all you can and model to your child the value of reading, whether it be pleasure or educational.

As community members, I encourage you to contact me to discuss how you can partner with us in providing learning opportunities for our students. If Ida Schools is strong, our community is strong as well as our sense of connection to and pride in our students. There is so much to be proud of! We have awesome students!

As students, make it your goal to learn something every day from each class and to learn life lessons from the adults in your life. I encourage you to see the glass half full no matter the challenges. This is the key to happiness. I encourage you to respect and be kind to yourself and the person you are and to not settle for less. By doing this, you will respect and be kind to others. If each of you do this, imagine the potential and goodwill you will unleash individually and as a body of students!

As your superintendent, I will partner with you to help each one of us realize our fullest potential in making Ida Public Schools all that it can be.

Go Bluestreaks!

## Ida Public School Title IX Coordinators

Sandy Kreps 3145 Prairie Street Ida, MI 48140 (734) 269.3110	Chuck Fuller 3145 Prairie Street Ida, MI 48140 (734) 269.9003 x1500
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## REMINDER...SLOW DOWN

The speed limit on Ida Public Schools' property is 10 M.P.H. Please observe this limit when driving on campus. We have a lot of students that travel by foot within the district. Help us to make the safety of our community's children a TOP PRIORITY!



Sherry Haddox  
Art Teacher  
17 years



Peggy Brancheau  
Bus driver & teacher assistant  
24 years



Leslie Sepesy  
Bus driver & teacher assistant  
24 years

### Picture Days



Elementary: Wednesday, October 2nd

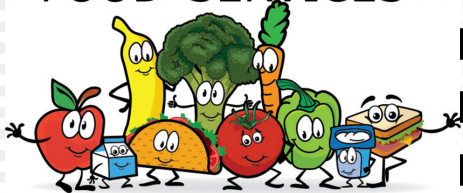
Middle School: Thursday, October 12th

High School: Wednesday, October 11th

Senior Picture & Senior Tribute Ad: Due to HS office Friday, November 1

Capture the memories of the 2019-2020 school year by purchasing a yearbook. Middle and High school yearbooks can be purchased online at [www.yearbookforever.com](http://www.yearbookforever.com). Elementary yearbook information will be included in the edition of Insights.

### FOOD SERVICES



#### Substitutes Needed

Please contact Pam Oberski  
(734)269-9003 x3510  
[oberski@idaschools.org](mailto:oberski@idaschools.org)

#### No time for Breakfast at home?

We've made it easy for your child to enjoy a healthy breakfast at school. Student breakfast is proven to improve student behavior, test scores, and attendance. Don't let your child miss out on the most important meal of the day!

Breakfast is served in all cafeterias:

7:45 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

Price - \$ 1.40

Students with free or reduced benefits are able to take advantage of the school breakfast program also. The cost for a reduced breakfast is \$ .30 and no charge for free meal benefits.

take time for  
**school  
BREAKFAST**



**STOP THE SILENCE  
HELP END THE VIOLENCE**



A hero doesn't necessarily have to wear a cape and tights, maybe a hero speaks up for what's right. Maybe that hero could be you. If you see or hear something that doesn't seem right, you can submit a confidential tip to OK2SAY. OK2SAY allows anyone to confidentially report tips on criminal activities or potential harm directed at Michigan students, school employees, or schools.

A Secret Service study found that in 81% of violent school incidents, someone other than the attacker had knowledge of the plan, but failed to report it because of fear or retaliation or being labeled a snitch. To eliminate that fear and help break the code of silence, the tipster's identity is confidential.

Protect yourself and others by using OK2SAY. Because if you won't, who will?

Submit tips 24/7 online (<https://ok2say.state.mi.us/>), by text (652729), phone (1.855.565.2729), email ([ok2say@mi.gov](mailto:ok2say@mi.gov)), or using the OK2SAY app.

## DISTRICT MEDICATION POLICY

Many students are required to take medications (prescriptions and/or non-prescription) during the school day. There are specific policies adopted by the Ida Board of Education and the state that must be followed in these cases.

- All medications must be brought to the office by a parent and dispensed by the office staff only.
- Students are not allowed to have medications in their possession (to include lockers) or take medications without the supervision of the office staff.
- The medication must be in its original container and be accompanied by written instructions from the student's physician and parent. The required form for providing this information is available in the office.



## BUS SAFETY

Bus pickup times are the same as last year. Students are advised to be at their bus stop 3-5 minutes early.

Reminders for Students:

- Be courteous and cooperative with your driver
- Treat other passengers with respect

Parents, please teach your student the following safety tips.  
Waiting for the Bus:

- Stay a safe distance from the roadway
- No pushing or horseplay
- Stay away from the wheels

Crossing in front of the bus:

- Stop at the edge of the bus
- look right and left
- look at the driver for a signal to cross
- keep watching for traffic as you walk

**ARRIVING SOON  
TO OUR  
NEIGHBORHOOD**

**EF HIGH SCHOOL  
EXCHANGE YEAR  
CLASS OF 2020**

**HOST FAMILIES NEEDED**

HELP US BRING THE WORLD  
TO OUR COMMUNITY



EF High School Exchange Year is looking for new, loving host families for our foreign exchange students. Students will begin school in the Fall of 2020, for one or two semesters. Let me explain how hosting works, and before long you will be prepared for a great adventure getting to know a culturally diverse student who is eager to learn about you. Call Karen Walker, 419-304-7913 to find out more information about this program.

- Smiles on Wheels, a mobile dentist program, will be available to all students attending Ida Public Schools this fall. The program will provide dental screenings, fluoride treatments, and sealants to any student in our district free of charge. There will be representatives attending each of the open houses on August 27th. They will have applications/permission forms and will answer any questions. The Smiles on Wheels services will be provided on the following days: September 17th at the High School, September 18th at the Middle School, and September 19th and 20th at the Elementary School. This will be a great opportunity for all of our students and we appreciate the services of this non-profit organization.



**Smiles on Wheels**  
501(c)(3)  
**ACCESS TO DENTAL HYGIENE CARE**



## **CURRICULUM CORNER**



### *New Curriculum at Ida*

After adoption at Curriculum Council and board approval, some students will be seeing new textbooks in the fall. The Middle School has purchased the Wonders ELA curriculum after a year of piloting the program for our 5th grade students. This program is a complete language arts program that incorporates reading, writing, grammar, and spelling while covering the ELA content standards with multiple resources for both teachers and students.

The Middle School also received new Saxon Math textbooks for our 6th and 7th grade students due to many errors present in the copies we purchased for the 2018-2019 school year. These replacement books were sent to us free of charge from the publisher. In addition to these textbooks, we also had some High School textbooks rebound and purchased some replacement books as needed at each building.

### *Students Show Growth on Standardized Assessments*

Students and teachers worked very hard this past school year to achieve significant gains on our standardized assessments. The Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA), is used to show student growth with our K-8th grade students. All grade levels scored above the National Norm in both reading and math. STAR reading is also used in these grade levels to get a grade equivalent score. By the end of the year our students consistently have an average overall grade equivalent score higher than their grade level. Our community can be very proud of our Ida students on their academic achievement!

# WOW ! 22 YEARS OF “SAFETY CITY”

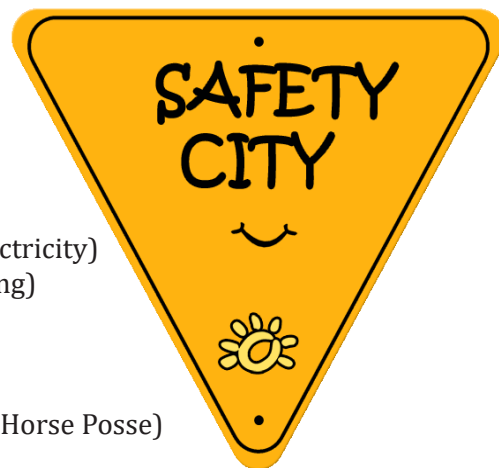
It is with pride that we announce the completion of Ida’s 22nd consecutive “Safety City” program. The program was held June 18th through June 30th. Running for two hours per day, Safety City culminated with a picnic/graduation on the last day. Completion certificates and many gifts were passed out at the event, which celebrated the graduation of 20 preschool and kindergarten children.

During the 10 day program, students were entertained by many guest speakers, who provided practical safety tips for the children. The teacher of the program was Mrs. Alissabeth Fox, and her assistant was Mrs. Carolyn Clark. The student helper was IHS Junior, Athen Wolfenbarger. The director of “Safety City” was Mr. Bert Wagner, the elementary Principal.



## Speakers, Volunteers, Bus Driver, and Helpers

- Rhan Stokes (Railroad/Train Safety)
- Donna Kuti (9-1-1 Dispatch)
- Austin Otto (Tractor Safety)
- State Trooper Jessie King (Stranger Danger)
- Ed Wylie (Bus Safety)
- Ron Eby & Doug Devon (Ida Fire Dept.)
- Carolyn Cato, Heather Adiar, Katie Taylor and DTE’s “Louie Lightning Bug” (Electricity)
- Dena Weyand & Jaden Weyand of Farmers Insurance (Child I.D.’s / Fingerprinting)
- Taylor Welliver, Sandra Butler, & Nicole Balen (Paramedic/Ambulance)
- Deputy Tony Modica & “Eddie Eagle” (Gun Safety)
- Deputy Brett Raymo & “Sarabi” (Animal Control)
- Randy Wallace, Sheri Kalenkiewicz, & Sam Humphreys (Monroe County Sheriff Horse Posse)
- Henry and Marian Timmermann, and “Moxie” the Leader Dog
- Jen West, Lydia Sandefur, Kate Schmidt, Breanna McCullough (Dundee Pool)
- Dr. Gregory Balog, Jane Helmer, Jammie Costello, Sue Suttles, Shelly Conner, Pam Stover, Ella Beaudrie, & Shannon Celina (Dental Hygiene)
- Wendy Hubbard, Bus Driver
- Karen Commet (bus safety)
- Lisa Book
- Dave Eack
- Bob Cherry
- Tony Scott



## Participants

The following are the graduates of 2018 Safety City:

Blake Bacon  
Noah Opfermann  
Lewyn Martin  
Landry Jacks  
Conrad Stotz  
Kinley Wright  
Liam Ellis  
Carwin Ilstrup  
Madison Riffle  
David St. Onge

Noah Watts  
Carver Rhoades  
Avery Nartker  
Karder Foster  
Quinn Parker  
Grace Castillo  
Korrina Lehr  
Andrew Palik  
Eva Lynn  
Lauren Mathe



- Rode the Kettler Kettcars in the Safety City
- Rode in a school bus to pool
- Were visited by “Eddie the Eagle” (gun safety)
- Learned train and railroad safety
- Learned Swimming Safety at the Dundee Pool
- Learned about poison safety and First Aid
- Met and petted a Leader Dog, learning animal safety
- Explored police cars, fire truck, and Animal Control truck & ambulance

## Activities

- Were visited by Ida firefighters
- Learned about Farm Safety/sat in tractor
- Practiced dialing 9-1-1
- Learned about Dental Care
- Were honored at Safety City Graduation
- Rode and fed horses from the Sheriff’s Posse
- Learned Electrical Safety from D.T.E.’s Louie Lightning Bug

## Gifts

Safety City t-shirt, bicycle helmet, coloring & activity books, tooth brushing supplies, daily snacks, a toy tractor, toy fire truck child’s fingerprints for parents, stickers and miscellaneous items, graduation certificate, pictures & first aid kit.



## Contributors

We would like to thank the following businesses who donated to Safety City:

Ida Veterinary Clinic\*\*\*GARST LP Gas, Inc.  
Knabusch Insurance Services, Inc.  
Gino’s Pizza & Substation\*\*\*LA-Z-BOY Foundation  
Ida Farmers Cooperative Co.\*\*\*Leski Wittman Insurance Agency  
Capaul Funeral Home\*\*\*Carter Carpets & Vinyl DBA  
American Legion # 514 Women’s Auxiliary



Ida Key Club International President, Skyler Parker, was awarded a \$500 scholarship from past president of The Monroe Kiwanis Club International, David Thompson. Key Club International is the youth group under the guidance of Kiwanis Club International. Skyler was an amazing leader for the service group. Key Club will be hosting their kick-off meeting on September 11th, from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. in room #103 at the high school. Pizza and pop will be served. This will be the fourth year that Key Club International has had representation here at Ida High School.



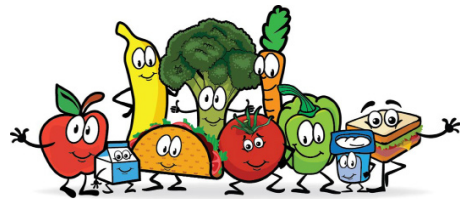
## School Lunch



The 2019 school lunch prices will remain the same as last year. If your child has a food allergy please fill out a medical allergy form that can be picked up at any school office. A new form must be completed each school year, even if there have been no changes. In order for the food service staff to alter from the menu due to an allergy, a form must be completed and signed by a physician. Looking forward to a great school year here at Ida

Public Schools. If you have any questions please contact Pam Oberski, Food Service Director, 734.269.9003 ext.3510 or email [oberski@idaschools.org](mailto:oberski@idaschools.org).

Elementary school student lunch:	\$2.60
Middle school student lunch:	\$3.00
High school student lunch:	\$3.10
Adult lunch:	\$4.00
Milk:	.50
Breakfast for all students:	\$1.50
Breakfast for adults:	\$2.10



### Free and Reduced Meal Price Applications

An application for free/reduced meals is available at each of the building offices or you may print the application from the Ida Public Schools website or pick one up in any of the buildings. PLEASE return the form prior to the first day of school by dropping the application off at a building office or at the Superintendent's office. The applications will be processed in advance so that your children will receive the benefits on the first day of school.

You can deposit money into your child's account by sending cash or a check, made payable to Ida Public Schools, with your student to school. You may send one check to be distributed amongst siblings, but please note how much money should be given to each child. You can also log into MySchoolBucks from the Ida Public Schools website. This allows you to make deposits to your child's account and view their account history.

Please make sure your child has money on their lunch account. The food service staff will only allow students to "charge" a lunch one time. Then your child is notified that they need to make a deposit to their account.

We look forward to serving your children a healthy breakfast and lunch at Ida Public Schools. Our food service department of dedicated employees will be here to ensure that your child eats a well-balanced meal. If you have any questions, please contact Connie Guthrie at (734)269-9003 ext. 4003 or [guthrie@idaschools.org](mailto:guthrie@idaschools.org).



## How can I find out my child's current and future Athletic Schedules?

Go to the school website at [www.idaschools.org](http://www.idaschools.org)  
Click on Athletics  
Click on "Sports Calendar-Schedule Star"  
The monthly calendar appears with a list of events for each day.

To get the full schedule:  
Click on season the sport is played in  
(black area under school name)  
Choose sport & level from drop down menu



-Installed several new 70" Interactive White Board TV's  
-All new network equipment for the district  
-New iPad Carts for the Elementary  
-New Chromebooks Carts for the MS and HS

## ROBOTICS WORLD COMPETITION

Congratulations to 6th graders Kaylea Hall, Wyatt Dirkmaat, Cameron Tross, and Tiernan Strimpel for winning the Promote Award and placing 83/384 at the VEX Robotics World Competition in Louisville, Kentucky this past Spring. Check it out the video they submitted by following the link below. It also happens to explain and show what they did for the three days they attended.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OJs7UX\\_UT4k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OJs7UX_UT4k)



Our Marching Thunder performing at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida over Spring Break last year.





The Ida Public Schools Board of Education updated their policy regarding dogs on school property. Dogs are no longer allowed on school grounds.

## School Closings and Delays

When school must be closed or starting times delayed due to inclement weather or other conditions, a Honeywell Instant Alert will be sent. In addition local radio and television stations are notified.



Parents now have the capability of depositing money for student lunches and pay to play fees online at MySchoolBucks.com.

### Athletic Participation Fee

- A fee of \$100.00 will be assessed per student/per activity in the high school, \$75.00 in the middle school, each family will not be required to pay more than \$400.00. Fees are due and payable one week after the first authorized day of practice for each activity.
- Fees are payable in the appropriate building office and also online at MySchoolBucks School Store.

## 2019-2020

### Board of Education Meetings

At their annual organizational meeting the members of the Ida Board of Education established meeting dates, times, and places for fiscal year 2019. Thirteen (13) of the regularly scheduled meetings will be conducted on the second Monday of the month. All board meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in the high school library, unless the Board determines a more appropriate site is available.

September 9, 2019	Regular business meeting
October 14, 2019	Regular business meeting/ Student enrollment certification
November 11, 2019	Annual financial meeting/ budget hearing
December 9, 2019	Regular business meeting
January 13, 2020	Regular business meeting/ Second annual organizational meeting/ first review of 2020-2021 budget
February 10, 2020	Regular business meeting
March 9, 2020	Regular business meeting
April 13, 2020	Regular business meeting
May 11, 2020	Regular business meeting
June 8, 2020	Regular business meeting
June 22, 2020	Regular business meeting/ uniform budget meeting/end of fiscal year
July 13, 2019	Annual organizational meeting/ Regular business meeting

The Ida Board of Education reserves the right to schedule Special Meetings, or to reschedule or cancel any of the Regular meeting(s) listed above, based on the needs of the school district.

# 2019-2020 IDA PUBLIC SCHOOLS CALENDAR

Tuesday, Aug. 27th

Professional Development Day 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

E.S. Open House 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

M.S. Open House 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

H.S. Open House 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 28th

Professional Development Day 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 2nd

Labor Day - No School

Tuesday, Sept. 3rd

First Day for Students

Friday, Nov. 1st

County-Wide In-Service, no school for students

Friday, Nov. 1st

End of 1st Marking Period

Monday, Nov. 25th

½ Day P/T Conferences K-4 (1-3 and 5-8); 5th grade (1-4)

Tuesday, Nov. 26th

½ Day P/T Conferences K-4 (1-4); 5th-12th (1-3 and 5-8)

Wednesday, Nov. 27th

½ Day

Thursday, Nov. 28th

Thanksgiving Recess-No School

Friday, Nov. 29th

Thanksgiving Recess-No School

Friday, Dec. 20th

Holiday Recess begins at the end of the day

Monday, Jan. 6th

Classes Resume

Wednesday, Jan 15th

Exams Begin

Thursday, Jan. 16th

First Semester Exams – ½ Day

Friday, Jan. 17th

First Semester Exams – ½ Day

Monday, Jan. 20th

No school for students: Professional Development Day (Martin Luther King Day)

Tuesday, Jan. 21st

Second Semester Begins

Monday, Feb. 17th

No School for students: Professional Development Day (President's Day) (Online PD)

Friday, Mar. 20nd

End of 3rd Marking Period

Monday, April 6th -

Friday, April 10th

Spring Break

Monday, April 13th

Monday after Easter - No School

Tuesday, April 14th

Classes Resume

Tuesday, April 14th

SAT/M-STEP Tentative Test Date (All students report to school) (tentative)

Monday, May 25th

Memorial Day - No School

Monday, June 8th

Exams Begin

Tuesday, June 9th

Second Semester Exams – ½ Day

Wednesday, June 10th

Second Semester Exams – ½ Day

Students Last Day

## IDA SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF IDA PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS TO BRING STUDENTS, STAFF, AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER TO MAINTAIN OUR RICH TRADITIONS.

WE WILL PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH A SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT, AN EXCEPTIONAL CURRICULUM, SKILLS TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE, AND THE MEANS TO BECOME LIFE-LONG LEARNERS.

## Parent Contact Information

It is very important that the school offices have current contact information for your child. Did you recently get rid of your landline? Does the school have a current email address? Do you know who is listed as secondary contacts if you are unavailable? Do you know how to check your child's grades in Home Access Center? For answers to all these questions contact a secretary in the appropriate building.

Elementary School  
(734) 269.3605

Middle School  
(734) 269.2220

High School  
(734) 269.3485

## IDA Insights

published by the Board of Education  
of Ida Public Schools

### Board of Education

**Michael Mero, Jr.**  
Board President

**Tim Janssen**  
Board Vice President

**Matt Darr**  
Board Treasurer

**Heather Schafer**  
Board Secretary

**Andrew Peth**  
Board Trustee

**Jennifer Muir**  
Board Trustee

**Jamie Hunter**  
Board Trustee

### Administration

**Sandy Kreps**  
Superintendent  
of Schools

**Charles Fuller**  
High School  
Principal

**Amy Janssen**  
Assistant Principal  
MS & HS

**David Eack**  
Middle School  
Principal

**Bert Wagner**  
Elementary  
Principal

**Lisa Book**  
Transportation

**Bob Cherry**  
Maintenance

**Pam Oberski**  
Food Service

**Chad Baas**  
Business  
Manager

**Sarah Ash**  
Curriculum  
Director



Ida Public Schools  
3145 Prairie Street  
Ida, MI 48140

Non-Profit Org.  
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PAID  
Permit No. 17  
Ida, MI 48140

# Postal Patron

## *Ida Public Schools Telephone Directory* District (734) 269.9003

### *Elementary School: K – 4* 269.3605 or Ext. 3501

Office hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Student hours: 7:55 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Principal: B. Wagner 3500  
Secretary: J. Wehner 3501  
Secretary: B. Clymer 3502

### *Middle School: 5 – 8* 269.2220 or Ext. 2502

Office hours: 7:15 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.  
Principal: D. Eack 2500  
Assistant Principal: A. Janssen 2501  
Secretary: B. Rupp 2502  
Secretary: L. Cousino 2503

### *High School: 9 - 12* 269.3485 or Ext. 1502

Office hours: 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Student hours: 8:05 a.m. to 3:10 p.m.  
Principal: C. Fuller 1505  
Assistant Principal: A. Janssen 1501  
Secretary: W. Hiteshew 1502  
Secretary: R. Nowak 1503

### *Central Office* 269.3110 or Ext. 4003

Office hours: 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Superintendent: S. Kreps 4000  
Secretary: J. Becker 4002  
Building & Grounds: B. Cherry 4001  
Transportation: L. Book 4001  
Secretary: C. Guthrie 4003

### *Business Office* Ext. 5002

Bookkeeper: D. Nieuwkoop 5002  
Payroll: C. DuCharme 5001

### *Special Areas*

Athletic Director: T. Leonard 269.3485 or 1504  
Curriculum Director: S. Ash H.S. 1510  
M.S. 2510  
Food Service: C. Guthrie 4003  
Technology: R. Kisonas 5005  
School Social Worker: R. Tinney  
ES 3036, MS 2520, HS 1518  
School Psychologist: T. Stockton  
ES 3036, MS 2518, HS1518