

# East Central School District

P.O. Box 340  
Miles, IA 52064



December 2011

NEWSLETTER

## **CHANGE TO THE NEWSLETTER**

Due to recent changes to our bulk mailing, we will no longer be mailing out the newsletter to every household in the district. We will still continue to post the newsletter on the website and send a copy home with students. If you would like to receive a copy of the newsletter, please contact Tori at the school-682-7131 or [tcregor@east-central.k12.ia.us](mailto:tcregor@east-central.k12.ia.us) and we will mail a copy to you with our regular mail.

## **School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC)**

Each year, the SIAC team meets twice a year to discuss issues involving the school.

The School Improvement Team is composed of staff, parents, students, and administrators representing the school and community. The School Improvement Team is responsible to: Focus on school improvement, serve as the district's 280.12/280.18 Committee, recommend and review district goals, review annual student achievement and make recommendations, develop/review long range strategic plan for the district, understand the school improvement process, work collaboratively to support the district and students, review the district MCNS/Equity program, review the district three-year Staff Development Plan, assist in district accreditation processes/plans, connect with community businesses and area service agencies in regard to school improvement efforts, address any committee functions required by the Code of Iowa and the Board of Education, conduct and interpret a community needs assessment every five years as well as use annual data to adjust action plans and timelines, maintain records of meetings.

We would like to ask for volunteers to be a part of this committee. If you would be interested in attending the meetings, please contact Tori at the school, 563-682-7131.



## **Book Fair**

The East Central Library will be holding its annual Scholastic Book Fair starting Dec. 7 and ending Dec. 13. The Book Fair will be open in the mornings before school and each class will have time to browse during the week. The Fair will be open the night of Dec. 12 before, during, and after the elementary concert. The new catalog for the fair has many new and exciting selections. Hope to see you there!!

East Central Community School District is an Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer, and does not discriminate in its educational programs and activities' on the basis of race, national origin, color, religion, sex, age, or handicap.

## **School Dates**

Dec. 14—Early Out

Dec. 23-Jan.4—Winter Break

## **First Grade Fall Fun**

First Graders have been busy learning about the fruits of fall. First, we learned about apples, beginning with making our own applesauce for Johnny Appleseed's birthday. We then moved on to pumpkins. We had pumpkin centers in our room where we weighed pumpkins, looked inside pumpkins and even discovered that a pumpkin will float in water. Before Halloween, we went with the rest of the Miles Elementary to Papa's Pumpkin Patch to see pumpkins up close and in the field. A big



Thank You to Papa's for having us and for letting each one of us take a pumpkin home! We ended our fall fruits by comparing what we knew about apples and pumpkins. We found out that apples and pumpkins have a lot in common!

## **National Children's Book Week**

November 14-18 Miles Elementary celebrated National Children's Book Week. Our theme was "Many Books to Love." We read books from the genres of fables, biographies, poetry, fiction and non-fiction. We enjoyed school staff that were "Spotlight Readers" for us, and had dress-up days throughout the week. Lots of good books were read during the week!



## **High School Activity Passes**

Student Activity Passes can be purchased at Northeast high school for \$45.00. Family Passes (includes parents and students in grades K-12) are \$110.00. Ten Punch Activity Passes (good for 10 events) are \$40.00. Senior Citizen Passes are issued in the business office at the Northeast Elementary School.

## **For Sale-Taking Bids**

Chevy Lumina 1999, 4-door, maroon. Mileage 121888. Has a blown head gasket and needs brakes. If you have any questions please contact Lynne Mangler at East Central bus garage 682-7854. Submit bids to Tori Creger at the school.

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**'ROUND THE WORLD AT HOLIDAY TIME  
ELEMENTARY CONCERT (PRESCHOOL-GRADE 6)**

Monday, December 12, in the Miles gymnasium

Matinee/dress rehearsal at 8:45 a.m.

Evening concert at 6:30 pm

The public is invited to attend this holiday concert for Pre-school through sixth graders. These musicians will perform songs of the season from many different countries around the world, as well as some favorite songs from the U.S.A.

There will be a short intermission following the performance of the preschool through third grade musicians.

The second portion of the program will begin with holiday solos by our student pianists. Then the fifth grade band will perform, followed by the sixth grade band, both under the direction of Mr. Creger.

The final segment of the concert will feature musicians in fourth, fifth and sixth grades performing some traditional, and some not-so-traditional songs, under the direction of Mrs. Briegel.

**EC STUDENTS QUALIFY FOR BESTS RECOGNITION**

East Central received the list of students who qualify for the Belin-Blank Exceptional Student Talent Search (BESTS). The report was generated by the Iowa Testing Programs and listed the names of students who received the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile on the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills during the academic year 2010-2011. Thirty-four students who were attending East Central during last school year achieved this distinction in grades three through eight. Brochures providing information to parents were given to current East Central students or forwarded to the Gifted Program teachers at Preston and Northeast for distribution to the qualifiers. This program is offered through the University of Iowa's Belin-Blank Center.

## REGULAR MEETING, NOVEMBER 21, 2011

The Board met in regular session November 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 P.M in the Sabula Building. Members present were Ryan Jargo, Roger Kilburg, Mollie Galusha, Mike Rickords, Jon Wall.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read for approval. Ryan Jargo moved and Mollie Galusha seconded to approve the minutes as read. Roll Call Vote – Jargo-yes – Galusha-yes -Kilburg-yes –Rickords-yes – Wall-yes. Motion carried.

There were no delegations.

The financial reports were presented for discussion. Mollie Galusha moved and Roger Kilburg seconded to approve the financial reports as presented. Roll Call Vote – Galusha-yes – Kilburg-yes – Jargo-yes – Rickords-yes – Wall-yes. Motion carried.

The monthly bills were presented for discussion. Mike Rickords moved and Roger Kilburg seconded to approve the monthly bills as allowed. Roll Call Vote – Rickords-yes – Kilburg-yes – Galusha-yes – Jargo-yes - Wall-yes. Motion carried.

Mike Rickords moved and Ryan Jargo seconded to approve the agenda with no additions. Roll Call Vote –Rickords-yes – Jargo-yes – Galusha-yes – Kilburg-yes - Wall-yes. Motion carried.

### Supt.'s report:

- School Facility Planning Committee;
- Sidewalk repairs;
- ABLE Meeting & IASB Convention;
- Possible EC dates for EC/NE Feasibility Report presentation;
- Possible Big East Conference changes;
- Building maintenance items;
- Academic awards-HS volleyball team (44 girls) had a combined average GPA of 3.67, receiving the Distinguished Achievement Award;
- Maquoketa Community Services donation of \$225.00;
- Announcements-the December 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting has been moved to 5:00pm.

There was no old business to discuss or act upon.

After discussion, the approval of purchasing lunchroom tables was tabled.

Mollie Galusha moved and Roger Kilburg seconded to approve the purchase of the 2012 Grand Caravan SE for \$21,147.00 from Brad Deery. Roll Call Vote – Galusha-yes – Kilburg-yes – Jargo-yes – Rickords-yes – Wall-yes. Motion carried.

Acting on the recommendation to request additional allowable growth for “At Risk” was tabled.

Mike Rickords moved and Roger Kilburg seconded to approve the recommendation to request additional allowable growth due to open enrollment figures in the amount of \$23,532.00. Roll Call Vote – Rickords-yes – Kilburg-yes – Galusha-yes – Jargo-yes – Wall-yes. Motion carried.

After discussion, the options for liquidating school items no longer needed was tabled. Staff will start compiling an inventory of what items would be considered.

Roger Kilburg moved and Ryan Jargo seconded to approve the support of Kady's Law with a letter from the Board to legislators encouraging stiffer penalties for stopped school bus violations. Roll Call Vote – Kilburg-yes – Jargo-yes – Rickords-yes – Galusha-yes – Wall-yes. Motion carried.

After discussion, no action was taken regarding the student activities transportation request.

Being there was no further business to discuss or act upon Ryan Jargo moved and Roger Kilburg seconded to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call Vote – Jargo-yes – Kilburg-yes – Galusha-yes – Rickords-yes – Wall-yes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

# East Central Schools

682-7131 – Miles

687-2427 – Sabula



The East Central School District has signed up to take part in a new notification system offered by the State of Iowa called “Iowa School Alerts.” **This program gives parents, the media and others the opportunity to sign up to receive e-mail notifications directly when we have cancelled classes, or will be dismissing early or starting late due to weather or other factors.** This service, which was developed by IT staff at the Department of Administrative Services, is **free of charge** to you and the school. The State funded the development of this program through the IOWAccess initiative, which seeks to bring more e-government services to the people of Iowa. And because the system is funded and operated by the state, you can be assured that your e-mail addresses will not be sold to anyone and you will not receive advertisements or spam due to enrolling in the program.

Here’s how you can take advantage of this free service & sign up for e-mail alerts:

1. Click on “Sign Up!” in the Main Menu at <https://schoolalerts.iowa.gov>. This will take you to the “Enterprise A&A” screen for the State of Iowa. If you already have an account with the State (say, for another online application), there’s no need to create another one.
2. Follow the on-screen instructions to enter your name and e-mail address, and create secret questions and your password. This step involves obtaining a code from an e-mail sent to you to confirm your registration.
3. Once you have created and confirmed your account registration, you will be taken back to the School Alerts site where you can click on “My Subscriptions” to add the school districts/buildings you would like to receive notices for. Once you’ve selected a school, you are asked to enter the e-mail addresses or cell phone addresses where you would like notifications sent. You can add as many e-mail addresses as you’d like! (Please note that some wireless services providers may charge you for receiving e-mails or text messages. You are responsible for those charges.)

We will still make sure that local media outlets are notified when there’s a change in our classes so notices will still be made on the television and radio, but we hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to be directly notified as well!

If you have any questions about signing up for Iowa School Alerts, please contact Neil Gray or Pam Koch at school ([ngray@east-central.k12.ia.us](mailto:ngray@east-central.k12.ia.us) or [pkoch@east-central.k12.ia.us](mailto:pkoch@east-central.k12.ia.us)) or e-mail [schoolalertsinfo@iowa.gov](mailto:schoolalertsinfo@iowa.gov)

## **Open Enrollment**

**Open enrollment to another district can be rescinded at any time. It doesn’t matter if a student has been registered in another district or starts the school year in another district— parents/guardians have the right to re-enroll their child in their school district at any time. To rescind one’s open enrollment, parents/guardians simply need to notify the resident district in writing.**

## **Elementary Pictures**

Visit the East Central website at [www.eastcentralschools.org](http://www.eastcentralschools.org), and view new pictures of what has been happening in the Elementary since school started!

## **UNSCHEDULED EARLY DISMISSALS**

If it becomes necessary to dismiss school early because of hot weather, snow, water problems, boiler failures, or any other unforeseen circumstances; we will notify area radio and TV stations. Please discuss your plans with your children as you make arrangements for their supervision. The following radio and TV stations are notified: KROS & KLNT Clinton, KCLN Clinton, KWQC Davenport, KMAQ Maquoketa, WCCI FM Savanna, WMT radio Cedar Rapids, and School Alerts.

