

Ida Insights

Where Learning Strikes

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT In Anticipation of Fall

Dear Ida Public School Community,

Ida Public Schools will begin after Labor Day unless our lawmakers instruct us differently. Currently we have 2 learning options for our students, Ida Public Schools and Ida Middle College. We are in the process of developing a third option, Ida Virtual Academy.

For our Ida Public School students and Ida Middle College students, we are using the latest information from the CDC, and the State and Federal Governments, to create 4 scenarios for fall. Traditional, Face to Face with Mitigation Conditions, Distance Learning, and a mixture of Face to Face with Mitigation and Distance Learning so we are prepared for social distancing State requirements and possible closures.

The District Advisory Team, which includes parents, is developing the essentials for each scenario and will be working on an Ida Virtual Academy. We will share the latest information from these efforts with you by mid-June, to get your feedback, input, and to hear your needs and concerns. Your input is valuable. Just having to consider something different than what we have known is less than ideal. Change is tough, but we will do our best to provide the best learning environment in each scenario and option for our students and families.

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As we try to predict what these scenarios will involve, two things are clear. We need to offer a 100% distance learning option for families that are not comfortable sending their children to school, even if the CDC and the government give the go ahead. The distance learning option,

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Ida's 2020 Top 10 Seniors

Valedictorian

Jolie Grieser



Jolie Grieser
Valedictorian



Elizabeth Hovest
Salutatorian

"After high school I will be attending Calvin University in Grand Rapids, where I plan to earn a bachelor's degree in nursing. I intend to pursue either a master's or doctorate degree in nursing to become a nurse practitioner with a specialization in pediatrics. I am excited to take part in research, studying abroad, and community service while I attend Calvin. As I continue my education, I will cherish the memories I created at Ida High School. I would like to thank all the people and opportunities that made my time at Ida meaningful."

Salutatorian

Elizabeth Hovest



Hunter
Assenmacher

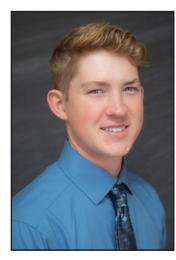


Levi
Breitner

"After I graduate from Ida High School, I will attend Grand Valley State University in Allendale, MI. I plan to pursue a career as a physician assistant practicing family medicine or pediatrics. Ida High School gave me opportunities to be involved within my community and help others through different clubs. I hope to continue my involvement in college and leave my own impact on the lives of others. I am honored to represent my class as this year's salutatorian and thank my family, teachers, coaches, friends, and classmates for helping me succeed in all aspects of my life. I am excited to begin a new chapter of my life and look forward to what the future holds."



Garrett
Diesing



Jonathan
Eby



Alyvia
Fondren



Jillian
Proudfoot



Owen
Schassberger



Michaela
Zangara

to face instruction is offered, will look different than it does during a school closure such as we had this spring. An Ida Virtual Academy could also be an option for these families. We also need to have a fluid system that allows us to seamlessly move our students from face to face instruction to distance learning and back in the event we are allowed to resume face to face with or without mitigation after a school closure is called and vice versa.

For now, I would like our students and families to take it one-day at a time and finish this year strong. Students, continue to strengthen on line capacity and capabilities, maximize your learning and participation, enjoy the social time in virtual opportunities, and allow yourself to develop new skills and mindsets. Parents, continue to let us know your instructional support needs and technology needs as well as any social/emotional challenges we can assist with.

To stay sharp for fall and to help survive this pandemic, I cannot stress enough the influence of literacy (reading and writing). Journaling during these days is therapeutic, it strengthens writing skills and it increases communication skills. Reading is second to none in prep for college and prep for college entrance exams which are also reading endurance tests. Reading is also a way to mentally travel outside of your doors during Stay Home Stay Safe!

As we prepare for fall, we will communicate to you, in a timely manner, the latest scenarios as we all wait for further guidance from our government leaders. Please do not hesitate to email me with questions or concerns. kreps@idaschools.org.

Sincerely,
Sandy Kreps



Tuesday
July 28th, 2020
Graduation Ceremony

Wednesday
July 29th, 2020
*Rain date for
Graduation Ceremony*



By Jennifer Campbell

Red Apple Reading

Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines literacy as, "the ability to read and write". The definition may be simple, but the effects of being literate are huge! To a great extent, a person's literacy determines how successful they will be as well as how easily they are able to navigate the details of everyday life. As parents we want our children to experience this type of success. How can we promote literacy in our homes?

1. Read to Them – It's never too early to read aloud to your child. In fact, The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends reading to children in infancy! This special time actually promotes healthy brain development and serves to bond parent and child closer together.
2. Read in Front of Them – If parents "practice what they preach" about the importance of reading, it sends a loud and clear message to their kids that reading is, in fact, valuable.
3. Make Space for Reading and Writing – One way parents can make literacy appealing to children is by providing an inviting place to read and write. A desk with pens, pencils, markers and paper nearby will encourage your little one to hone his writing skills. A small bookshelf filled with books, with a comfy beanbag close by, will promote reading.
4. Take Advantage of Windows of Opportunity – Parents should look for natural opportunities throughout the day to support literacy development. Have your kiddo write the shopping list for you, read the traffic signs as you drive, and name all the things in the kitchen that start with the letter P.
5. Be Involved with Homework – If your little one's school-age, then be available to help with homework. Children often feel overwhelmed and unsure about their assignments. Your presence can help to alleviate their anxiety as well as remind them that you place a high value on their education.
6. Visit the Library – <https://www.virtuallibrary.info> Frequent visits to your public library go a long way in nurturing literacy growth in your child. Take advantage of story hours, book borrowing, and other activities offered by your local library branch.
7. Celebrate Successes – Everyone likes a pat on the back every now and then. Be sure to celebrate when your kiddo spells a hard word correctly, finishes her book, or writes her name for the first time!
8. Turn off the Television – Kids often need a little extra encouragement to pick up a book or pencil and paper. Parents can help this process by turning off the television at certain hours of the day. You may be surprised at what your kid finds to do once the TV is off!
9. Play Around with Words – Young children learn best while playing. Make sure you provide toys that encourage literacy development. Remember, these don't need to be the latest tech toys with all the bells and whistles. Simple toys such as ABC blocks and Magna Doodles will offer plenty of learning stimulation!
10. Red Apple Reading Program

Make it a Great Summer!

Sandy Kreps, Superintendent

Throughout this school closure, the seniors stayed on track and overall student participation was 90 to 95 percent. That was not easy and took perseverance and established teacher/student/parent relationships going into the closure. These relationships grew during that time along with a deeper appreciation and empathy for one another. As is life, to find the positives in challenging situations can outweigh the negatives.

We have tried to keep Ida on track amidst the challenges of the closure. Early in March, we were ready to mail a special edition of Ida Insights. As restrictions are loosening, we will mail it at the same time as this Ida Insights so you will receive two at the same time. The special edition will tell you the latest regarding the facility study and the building project. We are continuing the process as explained in those articles.

Instructionally, we are staying on track and evaluating the best modes of instruction. In 2018-2019 our scores at the elementary, which are measured at the end of 4th grade, dropped slightly and we received a low grade in the comparison category. Our comparative grade was determined comparing us to similar schools around the state, none from our county. You can go to the Michigan Department of Education to see those schools. MDE We studied the reasons why our scores slightly dipped and addressed them. The elementary performance was still high enough to receive Reward School status which was



Our Amazing Food Service Staff

earned by 7 elementary schools in the county. Ida High School also was named a Reward School as one of three high schools in the county earning this status. For our annual report from the State, we showed no deficiencies in any area or building. The students and staff, in all buildings, are working hard on curriculum and instruction and were looking forward to measuring the learning that was happening, but testing was suspended for this year due to COVID – 19. We are continuing the course.

I pray for a safe summer for each of you and creative minds to think of new ways to enjoy the days ahead as you create new memories.

Schools of Choice

The Monroe County Schools of Choice Program is offered by the Monroe County Intermediate School District in cooperation with its constituent districts. This program allows parents and students the choice to attend any public school in Monroe County, regardless of where they live.

A student must be released by his/her resident district and be accepted by the choice district. The number of transfers allowed is determined by the space available in each participating district and the space available in each building. Only 1.5% of a district's total student population may be released in a given year. Applications and guidelines for the 2020-2021 school year are available in the Superintendent's Office. Applications must be returned to the resident district by Friday, June 26th, 2020.





Key Club

Ida Community Key Club participated in many community service projects over the 2019-2020 school year. They had a hat/pj fundraiser at school to raise money to buy toiletries for people living at the Oaks of Righteousness shelter. During meetings students made plarn (plastic yarn made out of recycled plastic bags which is then used to make mats for homeless people to sleep on), helped Habitat for Humanity build a house in Luna Pier, and served dinner at Oaks of Righteousness just to name just a few projects. Any student at Ida High School can attend meetings that are held twice a month on Wednesdays after school from 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm in room 103. Key Club is an international, student-led organization that provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character and develop leadership, it's parent group is the Kiwanis Club based in Monroe.

Bus Drivers Wanted

Are you looking for a job that works with your child's school schedule? We are looking for bus drivers. Please apply in the superintendent's office or contact John Elkins @ (734)269-9003 ext. 4001



Ida Alumni Scholarship

While there was no banquet this year to honor the students who received the Ida Alumni Scholarship they were still awarded. Recipients are pictured here. Hunter Assemacher, Jolie Grieser, and Delaney Burkett.

idaalumnics@yahoo.com • <http://www.facebook.com/IdaHighSchoolScholarship/>

Kindergarten Round Up | 2020/2021 School Year

Due to the Covid-19 crisis, Ida Elementary will conduct its Kindergarten Round-Up in August 2020. Dates will be secured once we receive more information from the state regarding this crisis.

If you have a child who will be entering kindergarten this fall, you are asked to notify the Elementary office as soon as possible, with your child's name, child's date of birth, phone number, parents names, address, and email address.

The state of Michigan recommends that your child be 5 by September 1, 2020. Please email your information to: wehner@idaschools.org. If you need to speak to our office staff, please leave a message for the Elementary office at (734) 269-3605 and someone will get back to you.

A mailing will be sent to parents once dates are secured. Parents will be required to provide:

- Child's original birth certificate
- Immunization record
- Proof of Residency - for residents
- A Physical by their doctor - a green physical form will need to be completed by the parent & doctor (these forms are available online at www.idaschools.org)
- **Hearing & Vision Screening – Available at the Health Dept. or by your own physician.**



NOTE: The parent or legal guardian of children who are turning 5 between September 2nd thru December 1st may enroll their child in kindergarten for the 2020-2021 school year if the parent or legal guardian notifies the school district with written consent.



Tentative date for Prom
July 22nd @
Matthes Tree Farm
Four Timbers Event Center



The Critter Guy

The 4th grade classes invited The Critter Guy, Paul McCormack, to visit our classrooms on February 10th and 11th. Some animals he brought in included a tree frog, ring neck doves, blue tongue lizard, bearded dragon, chinchilla, and an albino chain king snake.





Karen Commet
24 Years of Service

Linda Cousino
24 Years of Service

Mary VanWormer
15 Years of Service

Ida Middle School Student Council

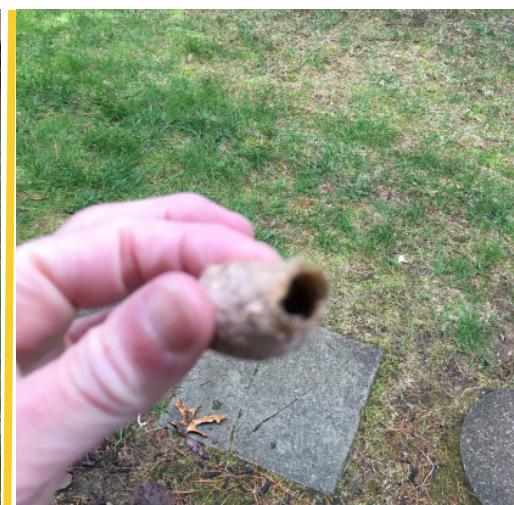
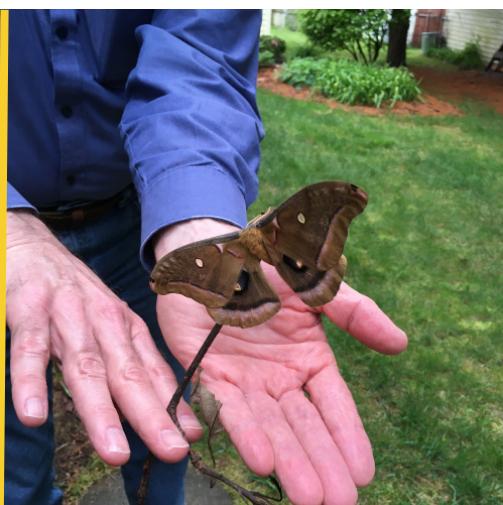


Members of the Ida Middle School Student Council participated in several activites before the school year abruptly ended. Pictured are some students cleaning up the road in the Adopt a Road Program, organizing Crush pop for Valentine's Day, participating in the Ida Parade of Lights, Red Ribbon Pledge sheet winners, and attending a Leadership conference in Frankenmuth.



The Moths Have Hatched!

Mrs. Harmon's 6th Grade Science class collected cocoons when they did their ecosystems in the fall and this polyphemus moth hatched earlier this month.





Michigan Child Protection Registry

Are your children safe while online? Michigan families, especially minors, are becoming inundated with advertisements from alcohol, tobacco, pornography and gambling marketers through different internet and cell phone inboxes. Texting their advertisements is the newest marketing effort that many of these companies are using. Thankfully, the State of Michigan offers a free program to stop adult advertisements from reaching e-mails, mobile phones (text messaging ads) and instant messenger IDs. The Michigan Child Protection Registry, like the federal Do Not Call List, is a free do-not-contact service for Michigan's families and schools and can be located at www.ProtectMIChild.com.

As a strong supporter of this registry, we would like to encourage you to sign your entire family up for the registry and inform your friends and colleagues about how they can protect children and families from unwanted adult advertising. To sign up only takes seconds. Just go to www.ProtectMIChild.com and keep your family safe.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Michigan Child Protection Registry?

The Michigan Child Protection Registry was created by the Michigan State Legislature in 2004 as a do-not-contact service for Michigan families. The Michigan Child Protection Registry is a free, state administered program that allows Michigan's families to protect their households from adult-oriented messages.

2. What addresses are eligible for registration?

You can register e-mail addresses, mobile phone numbers (SMS), instant messenger IDs, and fax numbers.

3. What types of adult-oriented messages are my addresses protected from?

Families who sign up their addresses are protected from messages that advertise pornography, tobacco, illegal drugs, alcohol, and gambling. The newest effort for these types of companies is to text their ads to any cell phone numbers they can find.

4. Does the registry only protect children?

No. The Michigan Child Protection Registry can include:

- Family addresses (both adults and children)
- Addresses in a household where a child is present
- School domains (students and educators)

5. How much does it cost to sign up my addresses?

This is a free program offered to residents by the State of Michigan.

6. How do I sign up my addresses?

Registering your addresses is quick and easy. Go to www.protectmichild.com, click "Protect Your Household Addresses", and follow the steps to register your household addresses.

7. How can I send my friends information on how to register?

To send your friends, family, co-workers, and neighbor's information on how to register, simply send them a "refer a friend" e-mail after you register, and an automatic message on the Registry will be sent to their inbox.

8. How often do I need to renew the registration of my addresses?

Registrations last for three years with the option to renew at any time. You will receive a notification e-mail reminding you that the three year time period has expired.

9. Are my addresses safe?

Senders of messages are NEVER given registered addresses. Marketers and companies are required to submit their solicitation lists to the state, where all registered addresses are then removed and returned to the sender.

10. What if I receive an adult message after I sign up my addresses?

If you are contacted with a message to a registered address, you should submit the report to the Division of Consumer Protection. The process is easy and allows you to help the state investigate those companies who are not complying with Michigan's Child Protection Registry Laws.

11. Which state office administers the Michigan Child Protection Registry?

The Michigan Child Protection Registry is administered by the Michigan Secretary of State and enforced by the State Attorney General's Office. Marketers pay a fee of .007 cents for each address they get from the state registry. Funds generated by the program are set aside to fund the Secretary of State's Office in the maintenance, promotion, and upkeep of the program.

Elementary Art Class

The elementary students were given a "Robots" assignment. Students were to create a robot using different things they found around the house. (Crayons, boxes, legos, nuts and bolts.. things like that...)

Molly Hoffman, 3rd grader, created one in her dad's welding shop. Fellow 3rd grader **Jackson Schoolcraft** created one using markers



2020 IHS Academic All-Stars



Reid Benware, Hailey Lambert, and Paige Stein have been chosen as this year's Ida High School Academic All-Stars. Students must have at least a 3.5 GPA to be selected, also taken into account are the student's citizenship, activities, and leadership qualities inside and outside of the school day. Students receive a plaque and a picture along with a Gold Card that allows them and their family free admission to all Ida Events for the next school year.

Crayola ColorCycle

Crayola and schools across North America are banding together to help kids understand the importance of their role in protecting the environment. That's why we launched Crayola ColorCycle. Through this initiative, students in K-12 schools across the continental United States and parts of Canada can collect and repurpose used Crayola markers.

ColorCycle is also a great opportunity for teachers and their students to explore eco-friendly practices. Specially developed standards-based lesson plans are available to enrich instruction and promote lively class discussions.

Our elementary is participating in this program. A collection box is located in Mrs. Bunker's office.

4 Easy Steps to an Eco-Cool School!



Engage & Educate

Inform your school administrators or PTO about participating in the ColorCycle program.

Collect & Count

Set up a collection station in your school for used markers.

Pack & Print

Pack markers in a cardboard box. Secure each box with packing tape. Print out a FedEx shipping label.

Ship & Smile

FedEx Ground will pick up the markers — Crayola pays all shipping charges! Finally, smile — you just saved the planet!

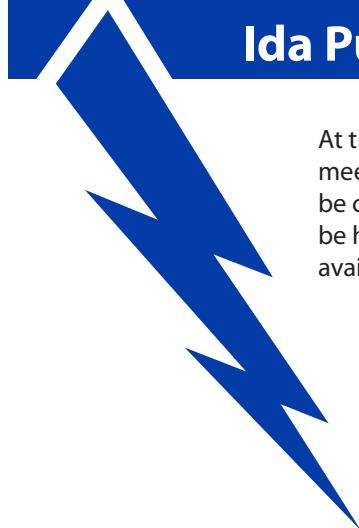
FOOD SERVICE ATTENTION PARENTS

We understand the busy lives we have these days and the need to keep informed on your child's lunch account balance and activity. When you need to find out your child's lunch account balance or purchases, please use the following methods. My School Bucks is available for you to view your child's deposits and purchases. You may also make deposits online. The link to My School Bucks is located on the school website, idaschools.org. You may also call Connie Guthrie at (734)269-9003 ext. 4003 between the hours of 8:00 am & 2:30 pm. Please leave a message on her voice mail if she is not available. You may also send an email to Connie at guthrie@idaschools.org. In the event your child does not have sufficient funds in their account we allow them to charge a breakfast/lunch on that day. But please understand that we need your cooperation in making sure there is a sufficient amount in their account to cover purchases.

Thank you, Ida Public Schools Food Service Program

ATTENTION All Parents/Staff who shop at Kroger

The Kroger Community Rewards Program has become one of Ida Middle School Student Council's primary fundraisers, generating about \$2,000 in donations from Kroger each year. If you have not registered your Kroger Plus card in this program, PLEASE take a few minutes to do so. Log into your account at www.kroger.com, click on the Community link, and then on Community Rewards. Enter the information requested, and select organization number #82257 (for those of you that shop primarily in Ohio-including the Lambertville Store) OR #82424 (for those of you who shop exclusively in Michigan) as the beneficiary. The bottom of your receipts should now say "You requested Kroger to donate to IDA MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL". Even if you don't shop regularly at Kroger, we are asking everyone to PLEASE get registered, as every dollar counts. There is no longer a need to re-enroll, once you've signed up, you're good from now on. This is FREE MONEY and will NOT affect your fuel points!



Ida Public Schools 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. Twelve 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 of Education determines a more appropriate site is available. Remaining meetings:

June 24, 2019

**Regular Business Meeting/
Uniform Budget Meeting/
End of Fiscal Year**

July 8, 2019

**Annual Organizational Meeting/
Regular Business Meeting**

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Assistant Principal*

David Eack
*Middle School
Principal*

Bert Wagner
*Elementary
Principal*

John Elkins
Transportation

Bob Cherry
Maintenance

Chad Baas
Business Curriculum

Sarah Ash
Manager Director

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.

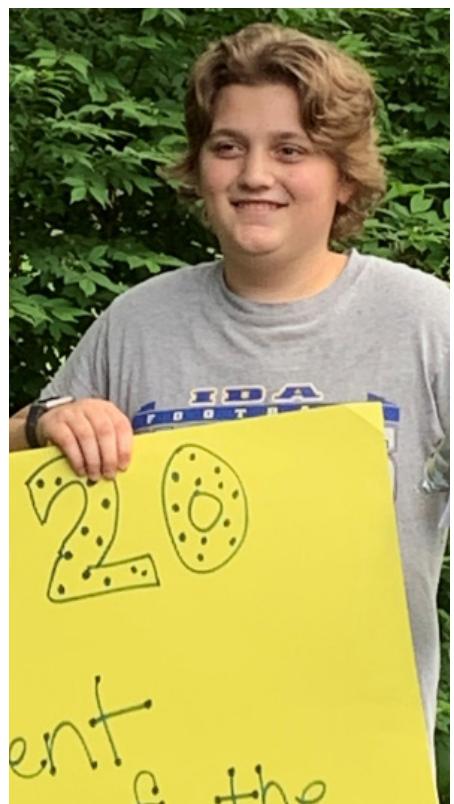
***IDA Insights* is published by the Board of Education of the Ida Public Schools**

Pi Day Celebration

Pi Day is celebrated on March 14th (3/14) around the world. Pi (Greek letter “π”) is the symbol used in mathematics to represent a constant — the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter — which is approximately 3.14159. Due to Pi Day falling on a Saturday, Ms. Gemmel's Algebra classes celebrated Pi Day on Friday the 13th by doing an investigation measuring circular objects around the classroom to discover the number Pi. The students were also given Pi Day stickers to wear and given an extra credit assignment to work on at home which consists of a 20 question scavenger hunt to investigate fun facts about Pi!



IMS Students of the Year
The Student of the Year recognizes a student that has more than just superior grades or test scores. This award goes to students that demonstrate excellence in Academics, Attitude, Character, Motivation, and Work Ethic at Ida Middle School. This award goes to the students that exemplify the total student. This year at Ida Middle School we wanted to focus on more than just strong academics, which is so important, but the other characteristics that make for a fuller individual that will prepare them for high school, college, and the work place. Choosing these outstanding students is not an easy chore, because we at Ida Middle School are fortunate to have a great group of outstanding students. This year's Students of the Year are: Madison Steinman and Seth Breitner





Distance Learning Writing Project
The Funchion Friends of 2nd grade are working hard remotely on their informational writing piece. Students have been gathering research on their favorite animal's appearance, habitat, diet, and interesting facts. They created a picture of their animal in their habitat and shared it by sending an email. Throughout the week the kids meet with Mrs. Funchion on ZOOM to talk about the writing process and share facts about their animal. When students finish their writing project, they will present their masterpiece to their classmates on ZOOM. This is a new learning experience, but the students are up for the challenge. Way to go friends!



6th Grade Science

Mrs. Harmon's 6th grade science class unit titled, "Learning from Living Organisms" allowed student to monitor baby chicks from eggs to hatching.



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
- Student Services Provider: D. Banker 2502

Middle School: 5 – 8

269-2220 or Ext. 2502

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Student Hours: 8:05 a.m. to 3:10 p.m.

- Principal: D. Eack 2500
- Assistant Principal: A. Janssen 2501
- Secretary: B. Rupp 2502
- Secretary: L. Cousino 2503
- School Counselor: J. Butz 2504

High School: 9 - 12

269-3485 or Ext. 1502

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Student Hours: 8:05 a.m. to 3:10 p.m.

- Principal: C. Fuller 1500
- Assistant Principal: A. Janssen 1501
- Secretary: W. Hiteshew 1502
- Secretary: R. Nowak 1503
- School Counselor: K. Riley 1506
- School Counselor: C. Ryan 1505

Central Office

269-3110 or Ext. 4003

Office Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

- Superintendent: S. Kreps 4000
- Secretary: J. Dressel 4002
- Transportation: J. Elkins 4001
- Secretary: C. Guthrie 4003
- Building & Grounds: B. Cherry 4001

Business Office Ext. 5002

- Business Manager: C. Baas 5003
- Bookkeeper: D. Nieuwkoop 5002
- Payroll: C. DuCharme 5001

Special Areas

- **Athletic Director:** T. Leonard 269-3485 or 1504
- **Curriculum Director:** S. Ash HS-1510, MS-2510
- **Food Service Director:** P. Oberski 3510
- **Technology Director:** R. Kisonas 5005
- **School Social Worker:** R. Tinney ES-3036, MS-2520
- **School Psychologist:** T. Stockton ES 3036
MS-2518
HS-1518

Board of Education

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