

# CLIVE LIVE!



Clive Elementary School ~ 1600 73rd Street ~ Windsor Heights, IA 50324  
Brandon Pierce, Principal ~ 515.633.5800 ~ [www.wdmcs.org/clive](http://www.wdmcs.org/clive)

Issue No. 1

August 31, 2009

## From the Principal's Desk . . .

Welcome Back! We sincerely hope your summer was exciting and an opportunity to relax with your children. The staff at Clive was very busy this summer taking professional development courses, working on advanced degrees, traveling, and spending time with families. We are refreshed, energized, and excited about the upcoming school year.

We strongly encourage each of you to take an active part in your child's education. Continue to look for opportunities to get involved with your child's class, the Parent Teacher Organization, and other school functions. We are extremely proud of the work we do here at Clive and the success of our students. We are excited to welcome so many new families to Clive this year and look forward to working with all of you throughout the year.

The Clive Live is our school newsletter containing important information about school events. The Clive Live is sent home with each child every other Monday throughout the school year. Please take a minute to review the information in the newsletter, and feel free to ask any questions that you may have.

I am very excited to be back at Clive this year working with our outstanding students, staff, and families. My door is always open if you have questions, suggestions, or concerns. Feel free to stop by or call at any time.

Have a great year,

Brandon Pierce, Principal

## Peanut-Conscious at Clive!



Nuts may seem to be harmless little things, but for some, eating even one can cause loss of consciousness and death. Clive Elementary takes the safety of its students very seriously and therefore reminds all families how

important it is to be very careful when packing lunches and sending treats to school. Please try to avoid sending any products that contain peanuts or peanut oil. We also ask that no snacks with peanut ingredients be brought to school for treats or parties. Sending treats with ingredients labeled on the package can help prevent a child from accidentally ingesting a food that can cause serious harm. There are many tasty foods and treats available that do not contain peanuts or peanut oil. Try something new and peanut-free!

## Calendar of Events

Sep. 7	<b>NO SCHOOL—Labor Day Holiday</b>
Sep. 14	PTO Meeting—6:00 p.m. in Media Center
Sep. 18	School Picture Day

### Educational Non-Discrimination Statement

The West Des Moines Community School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability or socioeconomic status in educational programs and activities.

## **Bicycles, Roller Blades, Scooters, & Roller Shoes Safety**



Students in fourth, fifth, and sixth grades may ride their bicycles or scooters to school. Bicycle racks are provided for parking while school is in session, but space is limited. To provide safe walkways for students, all riders are required to walk their bicycle or scooter when they are on school property. Also, students are discouraged from wearing roller blades or riding skateboards to school. However, this is a family decision. Students wearing roller blades or riding skateboards to school are required to take them off when they are on school property. Riding a bicycle or scooter to school is a privilege. Failure to follow the safety regulations established at school will result in loss of the privilege. All students are strongly encouraged to wear helmets when riding their bicycle or scooter.

Roller Shoes continue to be popular amongst our children. These shoes convert easily from shoes to roller skates. We are asking that students do NOT wear the roller shoes to school. We have had difficulties with the shoes damaging the floor and being utilized as roller skates inside of the building. If students choose to wear these shoes they should remove the wheels. I appreciate your support in keeping our school clean and safe.

### **Student Fee Waiver**

Students whose families meet the income guidelines for free and reduced price lunch, the Family Investment Program (FIP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), transportation assistance under open enrollment, or who are in foster care are eligible to have their student fees waived or partially waived. Parents or students who believe they may qualify for a waiver should complete the fee waiver form on the back side of the Free and Reduced Price Meal application. Or, you may contact your principal for a form. Students whose families are experiencing temporary financial difficulty and may be eligible for a temporary waiver should contact the principal for a waiver form. This waiver does not carry over from year to year and must be completed annually.

### **Lunch and Recess Schedule for 2009-2010**

	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Recess</b>
4th Grade	11:35-11:55	11:55-12:15
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	11:45-12:05	12:05-12:25
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	11:55-12:15	12:15-12:35
Kindergarten	12:05-12:30	12:30-12:50
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	12:15-12:35	12:35-12:55
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12:35-12:55	12:55-1:15
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12:40-1:00	1:00-1:20

## **Student Drop Off**

At Clive Elementary we are faced with the challenge of being located on a busy street. We continue to place the safety of our students as our top priority. In order to ensure their safety we do ask that you follow some general guidelines for drop off and pick up of students.

We have the opportunity to drop off students in kindergarten and first grade (along with their siblings) at the south entrance, students in second, third, and fourth grades at the main entrance, and students in fifth and sixth grades behind the building.

This year we are asking all parents that use the main entrance to use the entire loop behind the building before exiting in the front. This will help the traffic flow and eliminate traffic from backing up along 73<sup>rd</sup> Street. Parents are asked to use the inside lane (closest to the building) for loading students. The outside lane should be used for exiting the parking lots in both the main lot and the south entrance. The outside lane should not be used for loading students.

With your help and assistance we can successfully get our students to and from school with minimal disruption to anyone's schedule and our students will be safe!

## **Early Dismissal & Collaboration**

As you know, each Wednesday throughout the school year students will be dismissed at 3:10 PM. The early dismissal allows time for teachers to collaborate and engage in professional development. This year the Clive teaching staff will be working on our goal of increasing students' reading achievement. This will be done by studying best practices in the area of reading and implementing them in our classrooms. We will continue to focus on meeting the individual needs of all of our students to help them reach their maximum potential. In addition to our work in the area of reading, teachers will also be working on the implementation of our new math curriculum EveryDay Math for math instruction in grades kindergarten through sixth.

## **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.

## Your Children's Safety

It is very important that we take all the necessary precautions to prevent any problems from happening to our children. We are asking parents to cooperate with the school in the following ways:

1. We would like for you to phone the school office if your child is going to be absent on that day.
2. If your child will not be following his/her regular schedule at dismissal time, a note needs to be turned into the office or a phone call made to the school.
3. Your child needs to check into the office upon arrival if he/she is late to school or are leaving school early for some reason.
4. If you need to pick up your child, please check in with the office and then your child's classroom, so that we know with whom the child is leaving school.
5. Please assist us by checking in the office when coming into the building. For student safety, all doors except the main entrance will be locked at 9:15 each day.

The Clive staff will do everything that is possible to protect all of our students and to make this a safe year for our children.

## Clive Connections—Your PTO @ Work

It's funny.

It's exciting.

It's fun.

Students look forward to it.

Teachers love it (ask them!).

And you can make it happen.

***It's Clive's Talking Canvas program.***

You will be amazed how inspired and motivated the students are to talk about art! This program introduces students (and parents!) to a collection of artwork, but the primary purpose is to provide an opportunity for students to apply critical thinking skills and practice expressing their opinions. Your child's class needs your participation if they are going to have a Talking Canvas program this year. *Classes without a parent volunteer or team of volunteers miss out.*

If you're a returning volunteer, welcome back! Let me know which classroom(s) you plan to work with this year and you can get the ball rolling.

If you're considering becoming a volunteer, be in touch and let's talk. This program is very flexible schedule-wise, and there's lots of support available this year for new volunteers. Try something new and have a chance to do something wonderful for our kids!

Thanks!

Kristi Reck

(Talking Canvas coordinator, 2009-10)

[michaelreck@mcleodusa.net](mailto:michaelreck@mcleodusa.net)

270-0392



**Clive Staff for 2009-2010**

Counselor	Simonne Stricker	Reading	Rachael Binder Connie Seery Anne Olson
Secretaries	Susan Woodard <b>Shannon Hodges</b>	Spanish	Amy Murphy Brenda Rohr
Nurse	Katie Schulte	Music	Brenda Kirschman Bill Bird
Health Asst.	Cheryl Miller	Band	Greg Simmons
Kindergarten	Nikki Kock Amy Miller Abby Boruff	Orchestra	Jeanne Caldwell
First Grade	Becky Burger Tonia Kautz Julie Fitzgerald	Physical Ed	Denny Barton
Second Grade	Sharon Hart Cari Rothfus Shana Olson	Media	Laura Swessinger
Third Grade	Heather McConnell Kristin Shell Nic Hoover	Media Asst.	Connie Johnson
Fourth Grade	Nancy Nervig Courtney Reel Jackie Manderfield	Kindergarten Asst.	Alissa Beisner Cindy Miller <b>Tracy Dollison</b>
Fifth Grade	Barb Drustrup Julie Pargeon	First Grade Asst.	PJ Hurley Lindy Van Dike Mary Fowler
Sixth Grade	Diane Darling Maria Steffen	Special Ed Asst.	Deb Knapp Jill Raine <b>Margaret Valin</b> Tonya Hardt <b>Jill Crees</b> <b>Michael Sciorba</b> <b>Ashley Trueblood</b>
Special Ed	<b>Misty Zahrt</b> Peggy Ostrander Dawn Dillivan Lindsey Bingham	Pre-School	Jessica Stille <b>Lea Abel</b>
ELP	Jill Watrous	Pre-School Asst.	Shawnda Rogers <b>Julie Cairo</b> PJ Hurley Tina Cowley
ESL	Crys Messer Leah Taylor Kelly McCulley <b>Sonya Coy</b>	Nutrition Services	Teresa McCabe
Title I Math	Micah Rayner	Custodians	Michael Sheeder Jeff Potter
Art	Jan Hutchison	<b>*New to Clive School</b>	



# 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.