

From the Superintendent

I have four topics to discuss in this article. The first is weather cancellations, second, state of the schools report, third, the “Rumor Mill,” and lastly, enrollment. Please take a look at each of these topics and continue to check the website for more information throughout the month.

WEATHER CANCELLATIONS - Now it is time to talk about the weather. Soon it will turn cold and the question will arise regarding school postponement or cancellation due to inclement weather. My decision focuses on whether or not students can safely be transported to school. If we have school and a parent believes that it is unsafe to travel, that parent is free to (and encouraged to) make their own decision.

The information will be provided to media, it is not always accurate due to technical difficulties, or sometimes the stations are overloaded, so utilize more than a single source of information:

- ❖ **INTERNET:** SnowCap: <http://snocaponline.net/main.php> - register to have automatic alerts sent to your mobile phone or email. If you have registered in the past, you will not need to register again.
- ❖ **TV:** KTIV (Channel 4) has its own system and it seems to be the most reliable.
- ❖ **Radio:** Tune to KTCH in Wayne and KNEN, KEXL, & KUSO (US92) all in Norfolk.
 - Click on the “Alert 4 School Announcements” at the KTIV website <http://www.ktiv.com>
- ❖ **WEBSITE:** We will also post the information on the school website. Typically, the banner across the top is where you will find the information. The address is <http://www.wakefieldschools.org>

STATE OF THE SCHOOLS REPORT: Each year, the Nebraska Department of Education releases a report card on each school district. The 2009-2010 State of the Schools Report has data including enrollment, test scores, teacher information, and financial information. The report can be viewed by logging on to our website at <http://www.wakefieldschools.org> and clicking on the State of the Schools Report button.

THE RUMOR MILL: Sometimes employees, students, parents, and other members of the community have a question about the school system but are not sure who to ask for an accurate answer. In those situations, they may send their question to a staff member for a response.

But at other times, information is shared that sounds incomplete or incorrect and, in fact, the information may actually be just a rumor. Or, we may think we know an answer to a question, but the answer is not accurate or complete. When any of these situations occur, it is possible for rumors to get started, spread quickly, and confuse people unnecessarily.

By providing accurate and complete details, all stakeholders will have access to the information required to draw their own conclusions and make their own judgments about the many complex issues affecting Wakefield Community School.

You are able to submit a comment to the superintendent by going to our website at <http://www.wakefieldschools.org> and clicking on The Rumor Mill button.

ENROLLMENT – From the charts below, you can see that the enrollment numbers for the 2010-2011 school year have increased due to the preschool enrollment. The numbers look encouraging for kindergarten next year with an increase to 25-29 potential students. However, Wakefield’s enrollment is down slightly by six students from last year for grades K-12. The enrollment has gone up and down throughout the years, and has ranged from a low of 351 in 1985 to a high of 484 in 2002. We have been able to count four -year-olds in our total student count since the 2008-2009 school year.

Grade	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Pre-K			19	10	8	29
K	27	28	35	36	23	24
1	31	30	29	34	33	27
2	28	29	27	25	33	30
3	38	26	31	25	26	33
4	26	41	26	29	29	26
5	31	30	34	22	29	30
6	29	25	30	34	26	31
7	35	29	29	30	39	28
8	44	35	31	29	31	36
9	42	41	32	29	34	38
10	45	43	39	28	31	34
11	39	44	43	40	28	30
12	36	41	41	45	37	35
12+				1	2	3
ELEMENTARY TOTAL	210	209	231	215	207	230
SECONDARY TOTAL	241	233	215	202	202	204
GRAND TOTAL	451	442	446	417	409	434

