
Wakefield School News

Volume 16 Issue 2

October 2009

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

2009-2010 BUDGET

Budget request designed to provide students with best possible quality education

On September 14, 2009, the Wakefield Board of Education met to set the budget request for the 2009-2010 school year. State statute states that we hold a hearing for the purpose of patrons to give comment. Each year the school is required to set the budget request from the patrons and set the entire budget prior to September 20. The 2009-2010 total amount of distributions and transfers has been set at \$7,017,401. There are many sources which Wakefield Schools receives revenue. These sources include state, federal, and local funding sources. The total property tax request for 2009-2010 has been set at \$2,106,050 or a decrease of .03% from the 2008-2009 tax request.



The reason for the decrease is related to the 5.93% increase of property valuations for the three counties, Dixon, Wayne, and Thurston, which make up Wakefield Community School. The tax levy for the 2009-2010 school year is \$1.089910 for every \$100 of property valuation or slightly less than last year. The levy is slightly down from last year by less than one cent.

The money collected through state, local and federal funds will be used to provide the best education possible for the students of Wakefield Community School.

Clayton Waddle, Superintendent

Homecoming Week

Oct. 12-16

Coronation Thursday, Oct. 15 – 7:00 p.m.

Principal's Notes

Jason Heitz, Secondary Principal

Helping students succeed

After-school program underway

The 2009-2010 school year is in full-swing. By the time you read this newsletter we will have had parent-teacher conferences (October 1) and are well on our way to finishing the first quarter (quarter ends Oct. 16).

Our After-School Program is also in full swing. Mrs. Sievers will be working with students from **3:45 until 5:00 on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays**. All students are invited to attend these sessions if they need any assistance with schoolwork, or even if they just need the time and place to finish their homework. This time can be especially beneficial for

junior high students who may need help learning study skills that will be essential upon entering high school. Please feel free to call the school if you have any questions about this program.

NOTE: if you receive a letter stating that your child is on "probation" or is "ineligible" he/she may be asked to attend the after school program.

We will try to work with all students to help them stay organized, caught up on homework, study for tests, etc...all of this can easily happen by attending the after school program.

Students recognized for 'positive actions'

The teachers and I are still gathering "Positive Action" slips for the drawings that take place throughout the school year. Each student whose name appears, even once, in the drawing will be recognized, and students whose names are drawn out (approximately 8 names will be drawn) will also receive a special prize. We started this two years ago...ask your children for more details!



Upcoming Events



**Homecoming Week is Oct. 12-16, with CORONATION taking place in the main gym on THURSDAY, Oct. 15, at 7:00 p.m. We are planning a homecoming pep rally in the main gym on Friday, Oct. 16, at 3:10 p.m. *Note: this is the same weekend as the Balloon Festival.*

**The Wakefield Balloon Festival is Oct. 16-18.

**We have a 2-hour late-start on October 19.

**NHS Induction Ceremony is October 21 at 2:40 in the main gym.

Winnebago Public School Native Dance group to perform at Wakefield School

*** Public invited to assembly ***

An assembly will take place on October 7, in which students from Winnebago Public Schools will perform a Native Dance. Students in grades 7-12, as well as parents and friends, are invited to the main gym at 10:00 a.m. on October 7.



The Winnebago Public Schools Native Dance group is made up of youth who are enrolled members of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, and other federally recognized tribes. They have a variety of styles and talents, and each style has a unique background. The dance group wishes to share these with schools in the surrounding area. Their dress/regalia designs, as well as the dance styles being performed, will be described during the assembly.

The performance will last approximately 50 minutes, and the Wakefield students will be engaged with live music from the Winnebago drum group. They will sing for all the dance styles, and each song has a story. Some of these stories will be shared, along with the history and background of the dance group. The program will close with a traditional round dance with the drum singing round dance songs. Wakefield students will be invited to join in at this time.

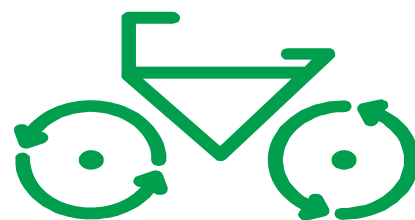


From the Principal's Pen

Jerad Wulf, K-6 Principal

Nice Bike awards promote positive student behavior

It is one of our goals to promote pro-social skills, positive behavior and manners in our daily school operations. This year, the staff at school has implemented a positive reinforcement program to encourage students to make good choices. "Nice Bike" awards are handed out each week by any staff member who would like to recognize students. Our students are really excited about what is going on and are working hard at making good choices at all times. Students who have received an award are:



Charlie Lopez, Hayden Ekberg, Jackson Heitz, Stacy Gallardo, Mindy Demke, Kaya Stark, Danika Dorcey, Shani Ramirez, Avery Hilsinger, Jamie Dolph, Jessica Borg, Raul Salcedo, Rachel Brudigam, Clayton Christensen, Seth Nuernberger, Jasmine Nelson, Jonathon Vega, Rachel Borg, Jeremiah Chase, Ashley Marquez, Brooke Elton, Ella Conley, Daniel Jimenez, Michael Kiewel, Raymond Gatzemeyer, Solomon Peitz, Emmalee Pommer, Caleb Samuelson, Rachel Backman, Israhel

Cruz, Avery Volk, Kristyn Tuttle, Diego Martin, Alejandra Orona, Jennifer Lopez, Cassidy Miner, Vianney Marquez, Breanna Chase, Joseph Ramirez, Gabe Lamprecht, Daniel Lopez, Samuel Heitz, Angelina Nelson, Kaleigh Mattes, Olivia Donner, Rachael Nuernberger, Adrianna Perez, Gabriel Peitz, Tomasa Garcia-Lopez, Austin Brandt, Preston Paulson, Leo Gonzalez, Katy Sowards, Emily Ellis, Elba Olvera, Lizeth Lozano, Tanisha Isom, Brooklynn Blohm, Ben

Chase, Joyce Sherer, Zoe Conley, Alex Sullivan, Josselyn Vazquez, Parker Lehmkuhl, DeLaney Sowards, Carlos Urquidez, Savannah Nelson, Jose Sanchez, Nayeli Vega-Lopez, Lauren Munderloh, Kathy Ibarra, Matthew Christensen, Ben Urbina, Dylon Harder, Cindy Gonzalez, Andrea Lopez, Caage Stickley, Garrett VanderVeen, Laura Ramirez, Megan Muller.

*CONGRATULATIONS ON MAKING
GREAT CHOICES!*

Parent involvement vital to student success

Parent/Teacher conferences at Wakefield Community School were scheduled to take place on October 1. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to come and visit with your child's teacher. Research shows that children whose parents are actively involved with their education achieve at higher levels in school. Parents and teachers that work together greatly enhance a student's ability to do well in school. Together, they can share insight with each other and create plans that can be implemented in both school and home. When parents and teachers work together, children develop a positive attitude toward school, feel proud of their achievements, and simply enjoy school to a much greater level. Again, thank you for your dedication to our school community and to the success of our students.



Plan to visit the Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the Wakefield Library Media Center during the week of Sept. 28 through Oct. 2. The Book Fair will also be open after regular school hours during Parent/Teacher Conferences, which gives you an excellent opportunity to stop in and see if there is any reading material you can add to your child's home library.



From the counselor's desk

By Branis Knezevic,
K-12 Guidance Counselor

Tri-State Area College Fair is October 4 in South Sioux City

Don't miss the opportunity to visit with representatives from nearly 100 state and regional colleges during the Tri-State Area College Fair **Sunday, October 4 from 12:30-3:00 pm** at the Marina Center in South Sioux City.

The College Fair, sponsored by EducationQuest Foundation, Siouxland Area High School Counselors and Northwest Area Education Agency, will also feature financial aid presentations.

Follow these tips to help you make the most of your College Fair visit:

Before you attend, determine which colleges you want to visit ([a list is available](#) in the College Fair article at [EducationQuest.org](#)).

Prepare a list of questions to ask the college representatives. Ask about deadlines for admission, scholarships and financial aid.

Prepare pre-printed labels with your name and address to stick on information cards at college booths where you want additional information.

Attend a financial aid program at the College Fair to learn about types of aid and how to apply.

If you have questions about the Tri-State Area College Fair, contact the EducationQuest Omaha office at 888.357.6300.

New tools will help you find the right fit for college

Check out the updated [College Profiles](#) at [EducationQuest.org](#) to research colleges in Nebraska and across the country that are the best fit for you.

By using *College Profiles*, you can search for schools based on location, size, school type, cost, major, activities and services for students with disabilities. Your search results page will list colleges that match your criteria and provide a link to more information about the school.

Video demonstrates college selection process – and shoe shopping!

In our newest EducationQuest video, "Find the Right Fit," high school seniors Maya and Mike demonstrate how searching for the right college is like shopping for a good pair of shoes. Available at [EducationQuest.org](#), [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#), this 10-minute video provides college selection guidance and tips.

Seniors...have you visited your top colleges?

If you haven't done so already, visit your top college choices **soon** as application deadlines will start hitting this fall. Follow these tips for a successful visit:

Contact the admissions office at least two weeks in advance to schedule your visit. Make appointments with an admissions representative, financial aid counselor and a faculty member in the area of study that interests you.

Check out the college Web site before your visit. Most college sites have a section for prospective students where you can learn about the school's admissions process, types of

majors, student services and employment opportunities. You might even be able to schedule your visit online.

Visit while school is in session. You won't get the true flavor during breaks or finals week.

Get a feel for the campus. Hang out in the student union, find coffee shops with wireless Internet access, eat in a restaurant close to campus or attend athletic or cultural events.

Ask LOTS of questions. See the EducationQuest *College Prep Handbook* or Web site for [good questions to ask](#).

Winning the scholarship game

Follow these tips to increase your chances of earning scholarships:

Don't pay for scholarship searches! Use free search sites including [ScholarshipQuest](#) at **EducationQuest.org** with over 2,000 state and local awards. Scholarship resources are also available at your local library and at the EducationQuest offices in Kearney, Lincoln and Omaha.

Visit your guidance counselor weekly for information about local scholarships.

Get organized. Place scholarship applications in deadline order and prioritize each award. Local and college-specific scholarships deserve top priority because you're more likely to earn them.

Continually update your activities, honors and volunteer or paid jobs using the [Activities Resume](#) at **EducationQuest.org**.

Earn the best possible ACT/SAT scores by taking the exams in the spring of your junior year and again in the fall of your senior year.

Use quality references such as a teacher, coach or counselor. Encourage them to write specific examples of your leadership skills. Give them advance notice and a specific deadline.

Get an early start on essays. Describe your interests, hopes for the future, and leadership abilities – but be sure to tailor your essay to the scholarship topic.

Pay close attention to grammar, spelling and neatness. Ask at least two people to proofread your application.

October “To Do” List

Complete these tasks during October to stay on the right college-planning track.

Juniors and Seniors:

___ Attend the Tri-State Area College Fair October 4 from 12:30-3:00 p.m. at the Marina Center in South Sioux City.

Seniors:

- ___ Schedule campus visits.
- ___ Narrow your college choices and be aware of application deadlines and criteria.
- ___ Register by September 18 for the October 24 ACT.
- ___ Register by October 1 for the November 7 SAT.
- ___ Register by October 30 for the December 5 SAT.
- ___ Register by November 6 for the December 12 ACT.