
Wakefield School News

Volume 27 Issue 1

August/September 2019

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

BACK TO SCHOOL!



Welcome to the 2019-20 school year!

▶ *Annual flag raising Wednesday, Aug. 14 at 8:15 a.m.* ◀

Welcome Back to Wakefield Community School for the upcoming 2019-20 school year. I hope all of you have had a fun-filled summer break swimming, playing on traveling teams, grilling, playing baseball/softball, vacationing, working or just enjoying the summer. Summer is an important time for students and staff to get away and rejuvenate for another year of learning.

When you come to “Meet and Greet” on August 12, you will immediately notice a fresh coat of paint on the south walls of the Industrial Technology shop and repainting of the west shop area. The library is sporting a new coat of paint along with Mrs. Eisenmann’s room. Mr. Tietmeyer’s ITE shop has a new saw dust collecting system in the main shop and air filtration system in the west shop. The maintenance crew also repainted the parking lot and handicapped parking stripes and elementary game area.

The summer maintenance crew has also been cleaning classrooms, shampooing carpets and waxing floors throughout both buildings while you were away. Check out the new carpeting in the pit area, along with new carpeting in the classroom’s of Mr. Johnson,

Mrs. Eisenmann, Mrs. Vander Weil, Ms. Simmons, Mrs. Johnson and Mr. McPhillips. We hope you will take pride in the new upgrades and make the most out of your learning opportunities throughout the 2019 – 2020 school year.

This year our theme is “Engaged Critical Thinking!” We are planning to challenge you throughout the year personally, academically, and through extra-curricular activities. Critical thinking frequently involves problem solving too. Learning is not simply memorizing facts and figures but using knowledge to critically evaluate, draw inferences, conclusions, and make decisions.

Challenges will abound throughout the school year and I challenge you to maintain a positive “never give up” learning attitude. I expect each of you to grow through classroom experiences, athletics and student leadership organizations. Becoming “educated” is crucial for your future employment opportunities as well as preparing you to enjoy Nebraska’s “Good Life.”

Preparing for the future requires that you master not only essential core academic skills

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but also essential life skills for success. Wakefield Community School staff is committed to helping you be adequately prepared to be competitive in our ever-changing global society. Providing a high quality education is the key to “empowering” you to take advantage of life’s experiences and opportunities, which we hope will “aspire” you to excellence; in yourself, others, our community, country and world.

I am looking forward to seeing you back at school. I expect to see you engaged in learning whether in the classroom, athletic events or various school activities.

If you have suggestions and ideas to improve our school, my office door is always open to listen to students, parents and patrons.

Mark Bejot, Superintendent

► *New staff members* ◀

Welcome Mr. Matt Farup as the new 7-12 principal. Mr. Farup has considerable experience coming to us from Lincoln Christian High School. Wakefield Community School welcomes Mrs. Samantha Johnson as our new pre-school instructor. She comes to us with previous teaching experience in South Sioux City Schools. Mrs. Kaylen Tunink is beginning her teaching experiences as our new business instructor. Mr. Will Tietmeyer also is beginning his teaching experiences as our new Industrial Technology Education instructor. Ms. Jessi Vavrina will be teaching 4-6 writing and comes to us as a first year instructor who completed her student teaching at Wakefield. Mrs. Brittany Eisenmann completed her student teaching in Allen and will be teaching 4-6 language arts. Mrs. Tiffany Lamprecht comes to us with previous teaching experience in Ponca Public Schools. Mrs. Lamprecht is serving as our new librarian and she will be teaching various specials including Physical Education and Technology.

Additionally, we have two instructors changing teaching assignments for the 2019-20 school year. Mr. Brian Johnson will be teaching 4-6 grade social studies. Mrs. Micaela Hight is moving to third grade.

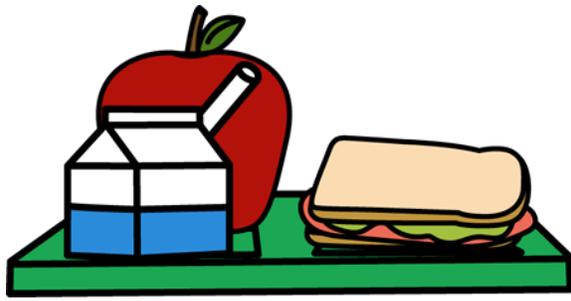


Don't forget to attend "Meet & Greet" on Monday, Aug. 12 – 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Members of the board of education will be serving hot dogs, hamburgers and chips in the school lunchroom to everyone who attends.

During this time students are encouraged to bring their school supplies to their classrooms and meet their teachers. It is also a time for parents to fill out paperwork and deposit money into student lunch accounts.

In the high school, students and adults will be available to assist with new lockers as well as give tours and hand out class schedules.

Bring your whole family to school and show them where you will be learning, growing and demonstrating positive persistence for the next nine months. See you there!



School lunch prices stay same for 2019-2020

The Wakefield Board of Education left school lunch prices the same for elementary and high school students for the upcoming 2019 – 20 school year. Breakfast meals will be \$1.30 for all students and \$2.25 for adults. Lunch prices will be \$3.60 for adults, \$2.70 for students in grades 7 – 12, and \$2.25 for students in grades Pre K – 6. If you wish to purchase extra milk the cost will be 30 cents. High School students have the option again this year to purchase “seconds” of one or all of the offered entries for an additional 50 cents.

The school lunch program is self-supporting and complies with all state and federal school lunch guidelines. Students qualifying for free or reduced meals last year will begin the 2019-20 year receiving free or reduced lunches. However, all students qualifying for free or reduced meals **must reapply** each year during the month of August if you wish to continue receiving lunch at the free or reduced prices. Failure to complete and submit the forms will result in students being charged lunches at the full price rate.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO FILL OUR YOUR APPLICATION FOR FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH. Only one form per family is required. Forms will be available at “Meet & Greet” on Aug. 12 or may be picked up early at either office. Please send the completed form with your student on the first day of school or feel free to drop the form off at either office. Mrs. Lubberstedt at the high school or Mrs. Anderson at the elementary will input your application information and make the qualifying determination.

Drop off, pick up times & school safety

School Entrances

Student safety is a priority issue given the uncertain times we all live. Two door entrances to school will be accessible to the public during the school day. The main entrance doors as well as the southeast

elementary doors are accessible to the public through the door security system. The doors in the morning will remain unlocked until school begins at 8:20 a.m. The doors will reopen for parents to pick up students at 3:30 p.m. each day. Staff will monitor the doors before and after school. When you have business at school simply go to the door buzz in system, identify yourself and the nature of your business, and one of our receptionists will grant you access. We want you to feel welcome to come to school while maintaining a safe and secure learning environment for all students.

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School Parking

Providing accessible safe parking for patrons, staff and students is another concern. We would ask that you not park along the side of the curb in the circle drive or in the elementary parking lot. The elementary area is reserved for school buses and school vehicles loading and unloading children. Do not park along circle drive and leave your vehicle as you block other traffic from picking up or dropping off their children.

If you are planning to pick up your son/daughter from school, please park in the angled parking along the north side of the high school building. Four visitor parking spots have been reserved throughout the day. Please remember that when you visit school to check into the office and pick up a visitors pass. Keeping students and staff safe is everyone's business. Thank you for your cooperation.

Year-long activity passes available



Wakefield Community Schools offers families and students the opportunity to purchase annual passes for sporting events.

The cost for a family pass (two parents and PK - 12 students) is \$140. An adult single pass is \$50 and a student pass is \$30 for the 2019 – 2020 school year. College students will have to purchase a single adult pass. The goal of these three types of year-long passes is to make home events at Wakefield more affordable for students, parents and adults. These passes do not cover NSAA activities.

The passes will be sold at the high school office. The regular cost of admission to 2019 – 2020 Lewis and Clark Conference games is \$5.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students. Students participating in a sport will be allowed entrance to home games during the season of participation. Example (fall sports), volleyball and football will get in free only during the fall season.

Family Education & Privacy Act



The Family Education and Privacy Act generally provides that student records are confidential and not available for public release. However, an educational institution may release directory information after notice has been given of the categories of information that are designated for release.

Wakefield Community School will not release the names of students to any person or organization for solicitation purposes. Any person or group requesting directory information must state the purpose for which the directory will be used. Wakefield Community School will release the names and information of students for school related events and activities (activity programs, honor roll lists, school news releases, etc.).

If parents or students do not wish to have their name and information released for these purposes, they should bring a written request to the high school principal.

The above statement will serve as official notice to our parents and students.

Principal's Notes

Matt Farup, 7-12 Principal

New high school principal welcomes in new school year

Welcome back! The 2019-2020 school year represents another year of opportunity and excellence for our students. Each year we focus on challenging ourselves to build upon the expectations of excellence that have been established in the past and this year will be no exception. A school is only as good as the people who fill it and we are very fortunate to have outstanding educators working with our students and to serve such a dedicated and supportive community. We believe that success is always a goal but that excellence is an expectation for our staff and our students every day we walk through the doors.

We are committed to meeting students where they are in their development by providing them with a supportive and challenging academic experience that will help them maximize their full potential on their journey toward college and career readiness. Our hope is that they will accomplish all of this while also connecting to the many clubs, athletics and activities that we have to offer as part of a well-rounded high school experience.

We consistently work to improve our practice by engaging in a continuous improvement process that will strengthen our ability to establish a culture of learning in every classroom and ensure effective instruction is

provided for every student. Our current overarching school improvement goals are:

- Wakefield School students will demonstrate improvement in comprehension by analyzing materials and applying it to their content area.
- Wakefield School students will demonstrate improvement in critical thinking and problem solving across all curricular areas.
- Wakefield School students will improve their character, leadership, and pride in school and community.

Through hard work, effective and creative teaching, and a strong school/community partnership, we will reach our goal to provide a quality educational program that meets the needs of all of our students at Wakefield Secondary School.

Thank you for your continued commitment and dedication to your child's education and to our school.

"Excellence is not being the best; it is doing your best"



From the Principal's Pen

Jerad Wulf, PK-6 Principal

New staff members, changes...

Mrs. Samantha Johnson comes to Wakefield to teach preschool. Mrs. Johnson comes to us with previous teaching experience in South Sioux City Schools.

Ms. Jessi Vavrina comes to us as a first year teacher who completed her student teaching in Wakefield. Ms. Vavrina will be teaching 4-6 writing.

Mrs. Brittany Eisenmann comes to us as a first year teacher who completed her student teaching in Allen. She will be teaching 4-6 language arts. Mrs. Eisenmann has done some coaching for us in the past.

Mrs. Tiffany Lamprecht comes to us with previous experience teaching in Ponca Schools. Mrs. Lamprecht will be our librarian and will be teaching various specials including PE and technology.

In addition to our new staff we have some changes in teaching assignments as well. Mr. Brian Johnson will be teaching 4-6 social studies and Mrs. Micaela Hight will be teaching 3rd grade.

**♥ Welcome to
Preschool!**

*Start dates later for
pre-school students as
teachers make home visits*

School start dates for students in the full-day and half-day preschool programs at Wakefield Elementary School are scheduled later so that teachers can complete required home visits.

Preschool students enrolled in the full-day classrooms of Mrs. Peters and Mrs. Johnson will begin school on Tuesday, Aug. 20. Students enrolled in Mrs. Kaufman's half-day pre-school classroom will start school on Wednesday, Aug. 21.

When your child begins school, please bring them to the main gym no earlier than 7:45 a.m. where staff will be available to supervise children. As a reminder, no student will be admitted without the required immunizations and documents, including a birth certificate. At this time we are unable to ensure an opening without these items due to the number of children who have been placed on our waiting list.

Health Run

The Health Run is a daily activity that all elementary students are encouraged to participate in.



All students (grades K-6) are asked to go to the activity center gymnasium every morning to wait for school to start. Students in grades K-3 will complete the health run beginning at approximately 8:00. Students in grades 4-6 will be dismissed to their classrooms to prepare for the school day. 4-6 students will participate in the health run during the school day.

Those who participate and reach significant milestones will receive some sort of reinforcement over the course of the school year. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact the school.

Keeping in touch with families

Wakefield Community Schools uses a mass messaging system to notify parents of changes in school schedules or upcoming activities.

Be sure that Mrs. Anderson has current contact information in order to ensure that you get these messages from the school. Any time you have a change in information, be sure to notify the school so we can keep accurate records.

*~The best gift
students can receive
is a year with a
teacher who truly
believes in them. ~*

Are you ready?

- Do you have all of your school supplies organized and ready to go?
- Do you have safety precautions or procedures in place concerning traffic and strangers?
- Do you have a route to school mapped out whether you walk or ride your bike? Do you know that your bike shouldn't be ridden on school grounds?
- Are you on a bus route? Do you know when and where to wait for the bus to pick you up?
- Do you know what you are supposed to do after school, go to a babysitters or walk home?
- Do you know where to go and what to do if school is let out early due to bad weather?
- Who is your emergency contact person if a parent can't be reached during an emergency? Do you know the number? Does the school have the information?
- Have you made arrangements for the 2-hour early dismissals that are on the school's calendar?

How to contact us

High School Office

402-287-2012

Elementary Office

402-287-9892

Bus Barn

402-287-2943

On the Web

www.wakefieldshools.org



COUNSELOR CORNER

Information for Parents and Students about Graduation,
Scholarships & College, Bullying and more.

By Lori Harding (lharding@wakefieldschools.org)
7-12 Guidance Counselor

The excitement of a new school year is in the air! Even though the summer has gone by much too quickly for most of us, getting back to the familiar routine of school life is sometimes quite welcome. I'm excited for the upcoming school year and all of the opportunities we have for Wakefield students!

Busy year begins soon for Class of 2020

Equipping students with knowledge, skills

The Class of 2020 will soon begin their very busy senior year! I plan on meeting with all seniors individually by early September.

If they haven't already, seniors should begin searching college websites, scheduling college visits, and applying to three to five colleges to keep their options open and qualify for as many scholarships as possible that are specific to each institution.

Students who are unsure about the college application process will be given an opportunity to complete two to three college applications during school the morning of Sept. 4 on our Apply2College Day. During this two-and-a-half-hour period I, and several other staff members, will assist seniors as they complete college applications.

Seniors will also have the opportunity to learn about colleges from a variety of college recruiters who visit our school each fall. I will be giving each senior (and emailing each parent who has given me their email address) a copy of the Counselor Corner monthly updates

this school year. These sheets will list important information and scholarships that come through my office. They will serve as a valuable resource to seniors throughout their senior year.

Seniors who want to take the ACT test again should sign up for either the September, October, or December ACT test. Taking the tests after that time will not help with college specific scholarships.

The financial aid meeting that is sponsored by the EducationQuest organization will be held **Monday, Sept. 16**. Details regarding time and location will be sent home with students and posted on the school's website. At this meeting students and parents will learn more about ways to pay for college including the process of completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). FAFSA applications open Oct. 1. Furthering one's education after high school can be expensive, but there are ways to make it affordable so do not miss this opportunity to learn how.

Meeting with all classes

I plan to meet with all juniors, sophomores, and freshmen in class groups as well as individually during the first semester. As always, students are welcome to stop in and schedule a time to visit with me anytime should they have any questions or concerns. Junior high students will take a careers class with me during 5th period. This class is a quarter-long exploratory class using the Engage curriculum promoted by the Nebraska Department of Education. My role as school counselor is to help equip all 7-12 students with knowledge and skills to meet their academic, career, and social/emotional needs.

ACT testing help available

Regarding ACT testing, our school provides students in grades 8 through 12 with very valuable study materials through On To College. Students can work their way through lessons and quizzes in each of the ACT test subjects or pick and choose specific topics. Students who put the time and effort into learning how to take the ACT, as well as

acquiring necessary subject knowledge, will improve their test scores, which almost always results in more scholarships awarded. Encourage your children to use these resources!

Tips to start the school year

Get involved – When students are involved with extra-curricular activities, such as sports, drama, and career service organizations, it helps promote belonging. Encouraging involvement in organized school activities fosters teamwork and a sense of place, which ultimately leads to confidence.

Know when to seek help. – After the first couple of weeks, if students are having extreme anxiety or are abnormally worried about school, ask for help. Many students will exhibit uneasiness and a decrease in self-esteem, but adjustment problems lasting longer than a few weeks may require special help.



DATES TO REMEMBER:

Aug. 12 – Meet and Greet at 5:00 p.m.

Aug. 14 – First day of school for students

Aug. 16 – Last day to register for the Sept. 14 ACT test (w/o paying late fee)

Sept. 4 – Apply2College Day for seniors from 8:15 to 10:15 a.m.; Jostens here to distribute senior and sophomore order forms at 10:15 a.m.

Sept. 11 – Jostens here to collect orders from seniors and sophomores at 9:45 a.m.

Sept. 10 – ASVAB test for all juniors

Sept. 14 – ACT test

Sept. 16 – Financial Aid meeting for seniors/juniors and their parents at 6:00 p.m.

Sept. 27 – Last day to register for the Oct. 26 ACT test (w/o paying late fee)

I'm looking forward to another great school year! Please contact me anytime if you have any questions by email (lharding@wakefieldschools.org) or phone (402-287-2012).

School offers online payments

Wakefield Community Schools offers **online payments** for your convenience. Our partnership with **e-Funds for Schools** (EFS) will allow you to make payments from your checking account, debit card or credit card. The following items are available for online payments:

- Lunch/Breakfast
- iPad Insurance
- Activity Pass
- Yearbook
- PE Uniform

Parents can access the EFS system from the school's website (www.wakefieldschools.org). The EFS site is secure and uses industry standard data encryption. The district does not request or keep records of family checking or credit card account information.

Convenient, saves time and makes payments easy!



PAYMENT PROCESS

Before starting, be sure you have your Student's ID Number available from either the elementary or high school office.

1. Visit the www.wakefieldschools.org website.
2. Click **E-Funds** under the Search box.
3. You will be asked if you want to **Fund Lunch** or **Pay for Optional Fees**.
4. You now have the option to **Continue as Guest, Login** or **Create an Account**.
 - When creating an account, you will need to use the student's last name and ID Number to link your student to your account. Add multiple students at this time if you have more than one child. Click **Add Students**.
 - Once all students have been added, click **Continue on Home**. You are now ready to make a payment.
5. If making a lunch payment, enter payment amount. If you have multiple children, you can enter total payment on one child and the amount will be applied to your family's account.
6. If paying optional fees, select a student > and choose from the options available for payment.
 - You will still need to complete the District iPad Protection Plan and Student Pledge for iPad Use forms and return to the high school office.
 - You will need to pick up your Activity Pass at the high school office.
7. **Add to Cart**.
8. When you have completed your payments, click **Begin Checkout**.
9. Choose a payment method.
 - When paying with a credit card, you will be charged a \$2.65 convenience fee.
 - When paying with a direct debit from your checking account, you will be charged a \$1.00 convenience fee. If your payment is returned for Non-Sufficient Funds, you will be charged a \$15.00 NSF fee.
10. You can set up recurring payments by changing the frequency.
11. Your total will be displayed, click **Pay Now**.