



**MAQUOKETA COMMUNITY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Cardinal Elementary  
1003 Pershing Road  
Maquoketa, Iowa 52060  
Phone: (563) 652-5157

[www.MaquoketaSchools.org](http://www.MaquoketaSchools.org)



Dear Fellow Nesters,

It is with great excitement and enthusiasm that I share this letter of introduction with you. I am both honored and blessed to have the opportunity to lead Cardinal Elementary with the amazing staff, students, and families that I get to serve. Last year we opened the year with the motto, “In The Nest, We Never Rest, Until Our Good Is Better, and Our Better Is Best.” While the times have called for a lot less rest, I am confident that as a school community we are all ensuring that we are making our good better and our better best when it comes to serving all of our students and their needs.

We look forward to the 2020-21 school year and all the amazing opportunities that it holds. At this point in time we are utilizing in person learning, with hybrid plans and remote plans set if the need were to arise. To meet the goal of on-site learning, we have planned additional cleaning, increased awareness of social distancing, training, and health/safety plans. Our District Return To Learn Team has worked diligently to provide expectations and protocols as recommended by our County Healthcare Providers, in addition to the Iowa Department of Education (IDE), Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Students are expected to wear masks on buses, when passing to classrooms via the hallway, and in situations where social distancing may not be possible. Our staff will also be wearing masks, face shields, or both.

I highly recommend that as a family unit, you begin the conversation that school is a safe place to be and that we will work together to continue to keep everyone safe. In order to continue to ease your child into the use of facemasks, please allow time at home to practice and to explore the use of face coverings, especially if your child is riding the school bus. If students are unable to wear a mask due to medical needs, please let us know and provide a doctors’ note.

At this time we are not allowing visitors into our building for any reason. We will happily meet you in the entrance/office area to assist you in any way possible. Thank you for understanding this new protocol. If you do need to interact with one of our Cardinal Staff members, please be sure to have a facemask or covering on.

A couple of other changes that we are implementing this year include having students enter the building all at once at 8:10. We are having the students line up on socially distanced dots on our black top areas, and we are then escorting them into the buildings and directly to their classrooms. After 8:10 we ask that students come in through the front entrance as the exterior doors to the building will be locked. When dropping your student off, please stay in the front of the building as we will be having busses come through the East parking lot, and we want as little congestion as possible. If you need to park we ask that you do this on the street and then walk up. We will be working on some signage to indicate some drop off spots that you can safely park at and will allow your students to stay safe while they exit your vehicle.

**Chris Hoover**  
Superintendent of  
Schools

**Caleb Bonjour**  
Cardinal Elementary  
Principal

**Tara Notz**  
Director of Professional  
Growth & Student Learning

**Chloe Meisner**  
School Counselor



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With us entering the building at 8:10, breakfast will be served and eaten in the classroom. This means that any student can bring a breakfast, just like they can bring a lunch. We do ask that whatever you send, your child is able to open on their own. If they choose to eat school breakfast, they will need to let the teacher know the day before.

We are continuing to eat lunch in the classrooms, and we are currently offering one main course per day with the hopes of expanding to two options once we are back in the flow of things. Again, your student can bring their own lunch from home, but we do ask that they are able to open items in their lunch on their own. Some of those items are tricky and may require some practice at home.

This year we are also continuing to utilize Seesaw and Remind. Seesaw will be our online learning platform and something that we utilize whether we are in school or in remote learning. This app allows students to view videos and share content with our staff, and then allows for the staff to provide feedback. Each student is assigned an ipad and we will begin to send these home in the near future. When we send iPads home, there may not be an expectation of them being used that night. If there is some required learning, the teacher will be sure to communicate this with you via Remind or Seesaw. You can download the Seesaw Family app and register for your student as well. This allows you to see what they are doing in school and leave them a message on what they are doing. As the year progresses we will try to provide more information on how we can all utilize Seesaw more to benefit and support our student learning. Those of you returning to Cardinal are probably fairly familiar with Remind, but for those of you that are new, Remind works as a communication tool for us so that we can send text messages and emails right to you from one application. Remind has also continued to expand and now has a calling feature that can be utilized if needed.

These are just a few things that are changing this year. You may view the attached visual description of a few of our new protocols in place for our new school year. Please understand that these may change as our school year progresses.

Thank you in advance for your understanding, cooperation, and support. You help to make the NEST the incredible and magical place that it is. We here at Cardinal look forward to working with all of you through this historic time together. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via email at [cbonjour@maquoketaschools.org](mailto:cbonjour@maquoketaschools.org).

With Cardinal Pride,

Caleb Bonjour  
Cardinal Elementary Principal

Return to Learn Plan may be found on our website at <https://tinyurl.com/y3c8lrw9>

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**MAQUOKETA COMMUNITY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

612 South Vermont Street  
Maquoketa, Iowa 52060-3460  
Phone: (563) 652-4984

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## **ATTENTION: ALL IN-PERSON LEARNING STUDENTS THURSDAY TO GO MEALS FOR FRIDAY**

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- All K-12 in-person learners will have the opportunity to pick up meals on Thursday afternoon to take home for Friday.
- Meal bags will include a breakfast and a lunch
- Friday cost
  - \$5.05 for elementary students & \$5.25 for middle & high school students
  - \$.70 for students eligible for reduced priced meals
  - FREE for those eligible for free meals
- Payments
  - Upon pick-up, the District will charge your child's food service account. Deposits can be made via the Campus Parent Portal
- Pick-up available at front entrance of each attendance center on Thursday's from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Either student or parent can pick up meal bag. Please ensure pickup occurs only at one location to avoid duplicate charges.

Contact Central Office at 563-652-4984 with any questions.

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

**Chris Hoover**  
Superintendent of  
Schools

**Kristy Haxmeier**  
Business Manager

**Tara Notz**  
Director of Professional  
Growth & Student Learning

**Dustin Cogan**  
Technology Director

**Dan Selzer**  
Director of Transportation  
& Support Operations

OUR MISSION: To ensure all students and staff are learning at high levels.  
OUR VISION: To develop a culture of collaboration and communication that supports continuous improvement for all.