

School Board

Members

President – Kevin White

VP – Cindy Damm

Clerk – Mike O'Brien

Treasurer – Joe Conlin

Mary Arnold

Bill Braun

Julia Hoffman

Free Breakfast & Free Lunch

Summer Program for

Columbus Children

18 & Under

Program continues to August 19

Columbus Middle School

Breakfast served 8-8:30 AM

Lunch served 11:30 – Noon

For more information, please

call Brenda Maier, Food

Service Director, at

920-623-5950.

Student Privacy

District Policy 2416 provides for

privacy of information that could be

obtained from surveys. For certain

surveys, written permission will be

required before they are taken.

Questions can be directed to the

building principal.

Fundraising

The support of schools by

businesses and community members

is greatly appreciated and valued.

Therefore, the District would like to

alert businesses and community

members that the Superintendent

approves fundraisers for the school

district.

School Start &

End Times:

7:50 AM – 3:15 PM

Human Growth &

Development

School Districts that offer human growth

and development instruction are required

to annually provide parents with an

outline. The outline is of the human

growth and development curriculum used

at their child's grade level and information

about how they can inspect curricular and

instructional materials.

If you have a question regarding the

curriculum offered, please contact Loren

Glasbrenner, Middle School Principal at

623-5954

Annual Notices Required by Law

Student Records Policy

The Columbus School District maintains student records for each student attending school in the District. State and federal laws require that the maintenance of such records assure confidentiality. Accordingly, only those individuals or agencies specifically authorized by state and federal law are granted access to a student's records. Exceptions will only be made when the student's parent or guardian, or an adult student, grants permission. Adult students, or the parent or guardian of a minor student, may inspect student records kept by the school in accordance with Board policy and procedures, and may challenge the content if they believe it to be inaccurate or misleading.

Copies of the District student records policy (8330) and procedures are available upon request at the Columbus School District Office, 200 West School Street, Columbus, WI 53925. Regular office hours are 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Complaints regarding student records may be made to the Superintendent. A complaint may also be filed with the Family Policy Compliance Office of the U.S. Department of Education alleging District noncompliance with FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) requirements.

Further, the Columbus School District Board of Education has designated the following student record information as directory data:

- Student's name
- Present address
- Telephone number (unless unlisted)
- Date and place of birth
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight/height, if member of an athletic team
- Dates of attendance
- Photograph
- Awards received

Military Recruiters

Federal law requires the District to

release the names, addresses, and

telephone numbers of high school

students to military recruiters who

request this information unless the

student's parent/guardian has directed

the District in writing not to release this

information to military recruiters.

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act. Each school is required to complete a stringent inspection for asbestos and develop a plan of management for asbestos-containing building materials. Columbus School District shall continue to maintain a safe environment for parents, students, visitors, and employees.

District Buildings were inspected by EPA accredited inspectors and samples analyzed by an independent lab. Based on the inspection, a state approved comprehensive management plan was made for handling asbestos within our buildings. Columbus School District has completed its AHERA 3-Year Re-inspection requirement. The buildings, where asbestos-containing materials were found, are encapsulated or removed. An Operations and Maintenance Program has been implemented. Federal law requires a six-month walk-through of areas containing asbestos. Buildings are re-inspected every three years. Environmental Management Consultants (EMC) is our contractor. Columbus School District maintains a list of materials found in each school building and a description and time table for proper management. A copy is available for review at District Office. To discuss the management of asbestos materials or with a question, EMC is available at (920) 648-6343.

Notice of Student Academic Standards for 2016-2017

The Columbus School District has adopted the Common Core Standards for English/Language Arts and Mathematics, including disciplinary literacy standards in the academic content areas of History, Social Studies, Science and Career/Technical Education. The District has adopted the Wisconsin Model Academic Standards for other areas. Additionally, Discovery Charter School has adopted the Next Generation Science Standards. The District has adopted the Common Core Essential Elements for educating students with significant intellectual disabilities for whom IEP teams determine other standards are not appropriate. These standards will be in effect during the 2016-2017 School Year. For more information, please contact the District office.

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Medication Policy

Parents/guardians are reminded that any medication taken by students during the school day must have a new authorization form completed each school year. Over the counter medications require the signature of the parent/guardian. Prescription medications require the signature of the parent/guardian and the signature of the prescribing health care provider. All medication should be in the original container. Forms are available in each of the building offices. Call the School Nurse at 623-5954 with questions.

Youth Options Program

School Districts are required by section 118.55(8) of the state statutes to provide information about the Youth Options Program to students in grades 9, 10, and 11. For more information, contact the high school office.

Homeless Children/Youth

The District has resources to help families and students who find themselves in a situation where they may be homeless. Please contact Brian Johnson, Student Services Director at 920-623-5950.

Definition of Homeless Children and Youth

The term 'homeless children and youth' means school-aged individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence due to economic hardship.

Special Education

Referral Process

The Columbus School District is required to evaluate a child for eligibility for special education services. A request for evaluation is known as a referral. When the district receives a referral, the district will appoint an Individualized Education Program (IEP) team to determine if the child has a disability, and if the child needs special education services. The district locates, identifies, and evaluates all children with disabilities who are enrolled by their parents in private (including religious) schools, elementary schools and secondary schools located in the school district.

A physician, nurse, psychologist, social worker, or administrator of a social agency who reasonably believes a child brought to him or her for services is a child with a disability has a legal duty to refer the child, including a homeless child, to the school district in which the child resides. Before referring the child, the person making the referral must inform the child's parent that the referral will be made. Others, including parents, who reasonably believe a child is a child with a disability may also refer the child, including a homeless child, to the school district in which the child resides. Referrals must be in writing and include the reason why the person believes the child is a child with a disability. A referral may be made by contacting Brian Johnson, Student Services Director. Mr. Johnson can be reached at 920-623-5950.

Child Find Confidentiality Notice

The Columbus School District is required to locate, identify, and evaluate all children, with disabilities, including children with disabilities attending private schools in the school district, and homeless children. The process of locating, identifying, and evaluating children with disabilities is known as child find. The school district has a special education screening program to locate and screen all children with disabilities who are residents of the district and who have not graduated from high school. Upon request, the school district will screen any resident child who has not graduated high school to determine whether a special education referral is appropriate. A request may be made by contacting Director of Student Services Brian Johnson at 920-623-5950.

The information from screening is used to determine whether a child should be evaluated for a suspected disability. When school staff reasonably believes a child is a child with a disability, they refer the child for evaluation by a school district Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team. This notice informs parents of the records the school district will develop and maintain as part of its child find activities. This notice also informs parents of their rights regarding any records developed. The school district gathers personally identifiable information on any child who participates in child find activities. Parents, teachers, and other professionals provide information to the school related to the child's academic performance, behavior, and health. This information is used to determine whether the child needs special education services. Personally identifiable information directly related to a child and maintained by the school is a pupil record. Pupil records include records maintained in any way including, but not limited to, computer storage media, video and audiotape, film, microfilm, and microfiche. Records maintained for personal use by a teacher are not available to others and records available only to persons involved in the psychological treatment of a child are not pupil records.

Non-Discrimination

It is the policy of the Columbus School District that no person be denied admission to any public school in this District or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extra-curricular, pupil service, recreational, or other program or activity because of the person's sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, religion, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or handicap as required by §118.13 Wis. Stats. This policy also prohibits discrimination as defined by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (gender), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (race and national origin), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

The District encourages informal resolution of complaints under this policy. However, formal complaint resolution procedure is available to address allegations of violations of this policy in the Columbus School District. Any questions should be directed to: Brian Johnson, Student Services Director at 920-623-5950.

Teacher Qualifications

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) requires schools to offer parents with children in Title I schools additional information about the teaching staff each year. Specifically, you have the right to ask for information about:

- The professional qualifications of your child's classroom teacher, including:
- ☐ whether the teacher has met Wisconsin licensing criteria to serve the grade assigned,
 - ☐ whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency/provisional status, and
 - ☐ the undergraduate and graduate field of study of the teacher.

The professional qualifications of a paraprofessional providing services to your child.

To get the information, you may call the Director of Curriculum and Instruction at 920.623.5950 for additional information.

August, 2016

Message from Superintendent

2016-17 A Time for Learning

At the beginning of every school year, we welcome staff back for the school year with many activities. We introduce new staff, we review policies, practices, and annual safety training procedures.

This year, the staff will be participating with the Columbus Police Department, Fire Department, Columbia County Sheriff's Department, Columbus Community Hospital and Lifestar EMT's in a full scale emergency drill on August 24th. Smaller scale version drills will take place at the elementary school and middle school in the morning and the full scale drill will occur at the high school in the afternoon. Community members will see rescue vehicles, police vehicles, and personnel all around the buildings on August 24th for this drill. The buildings will be closed on this day for the in-service training so all our staff may participate in the activities. Training and preparation are paramount for all the personnel involved. If you have any questions regarding staff in-service, please feel free to contact me.

Finally, this newsletter details many notices required by law. We apologize for the lack of informational articles regarding teaching and learning. We will provide more articles beginning with the September newsletter.

Looking forward to 2016-17,
ANNETTE DEUMAN



this issue

Launching A New Legacy/School Safety P.1

Annual Notices Required by Law P.2

Additional Notices Required by Law P.3

Upcoming Events P.4

Launching A New Legacy!



A Community Conversation about the future of Education in the Columbus School District

The Columbus School Board is hosting a community conversation regarding education in our District. The purpose of the event, led by consultant Drew Howick of Patina Solutions, is to engage the Columbus School District's stakeholders in conversation that will create a shared understanding and a clear vision of our future in education. A small team of community members have been meeting since May designing this three day event, customizing it to fit Columbus School District and our community.

The event will be a gathering of community members, parents, students, teachers, business leaders, government officials and others. Any one from the community who is interested in participating in the event is encouraged and welcomed to attend. If you choose to participate, we need you to commit to all three sessions. Please see registration RSVP information below.

During the three day event (October 6, 7 & 8), we will explore and analyze the past, present and future of our school district. Your thoughts, ideas and input will guide the future direction of Columbus School District.

Where: Kestrel Ridge Golf Club | 900 Avalon Road | Columbus

When: Thursday, October 6 from 5:30 – 9 PM;
Friday, October 7 from 5:30 – 9:30 PM; and
Saturday, October 8 from 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Attendance at all three days is required to participate.

RSVP: Pam Zander | pzander@columbus.k12.wi.us | 920.623.5950.

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Upcoming Events

August, 2016

- 8 School Board Meeting – City Hall – 7 PM
- 15 School Board Retreat – Superintendent's Office – 6:30 PM
- 22 School Board Meeting – City Hall – 7 PM
- 23 – 25 In-Service Days for School Staff
- 30 – 31 Work Days in Classrooms
- 31 Columbus Elementary/Discovery Charter & Columbus Middle School Picture Day
- 31 Open House at Columbus Elementary & Columbus Middle Schools – 2 – 7 PM



September, 2016

- 1 First Day of School Kindergarten through Grade 9
- 2 First Day of School for Grade 10 – Grade 12
- 5 Holiday – Labor Day – No School
- 12 School Board Meeting – City Hall – 7 PM
- 19 Columbus High School Picture Day *(retake day on October 26)*
- 19 TENTATIVE – School Board Retreat
- 21 Late Start – Classes Begin at 10 AM
- 26 School Board Meeting – City Hall – 7 PM
- 28 Parent/Teacher Conferences at High School 5- 8 PM



Mission

Columbus School District empowers students to be community, career, and college ready.

