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Cedar Rapids Community School District

Thank You for Your Input



We would like to thank the 7,931 staff, parents, and community members who took the time to complete the District's Community Facility Survey! Your input is valuable and will help shape the future of our schools. School Perceptions, a third-party research firm, will analyze the survey data and share its findings with the Board of Education at the May 13th meeting. The findings will help guide the District's decisions on addressing our aging buildings and future facility needs.

News & Updates

CRCSD Celebrates Our Outstanding Volunteers



The Cedar Rapids Community School District held its annual Outstanding Building Volunteer Awards Event on Monday, April 22nd, to recognize community and parent volunteers' invaluable support in our schools. The event celebrated 32 dedicated building volunteers whose contributions ranged from assisting kindergarteners during lunchtime to organizing fundraisers, tutoring students in math and reading, crafting homemade quilts, and managing concession stands. The honorees, ranging in age from high school seniors to senior citizens, collectively gave over 2,200 hours to help make a difference in our schools this year. For a complete list of building honorees and a summary of the wonderful things they are doing in our schools, click here. If you would like to learn more about becoming a volunteer in one of our buildings, click here

Check out the event

Thank an Educator



While we appreciate our educators all year, Teacher Appreciation Week (May 6-10) is a special time to honor the incredible teachers in our schools. Our teachers spend countless hours preparing lessons, grading papers, counseling students, and igniting passions. They are patient, hard-working, and dedicated to the success of every student. In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, CRCSD invites you to join us in celebrating our amazing teachers. Use our Google Form, linked below, to send a note of gratitude and appreciation to our staff. Your messages will be shared with our teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week to remind them of the positive impact they have on our students and community. Students, staff, parents, alumni, and community members are all invited to submit a message to help us recognize the incredible work our educators do.

Share your gratitude

Students Take a Stand for Peace



This week, several schools across the District observed National Youth Violence Prevention Week (April 22-26) with a series of activities to raise awareness of youth violence and promote peace. Stand Up For Peace, a community violence intervention initiative, set up informational tables at Jefferson High School, Washington High School, McKinley STEAM Academy, and Franklin Middle School. The organization, which is a joint partnership between Foundations2, Linn County Public Health, and CRCSD, promoted the importance of peace in their homes, schools, and communities. Students were also given the opportunity to sign a pledge form committing to support peace and non-violence.

With firearms being one of the leading causes of death among children aged 1-19 years old, CRCSD remains dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of its students. By partnering with organizations like Foundation 2 and Linn County Public Health, CRCSD aims to create a culture of peace and empathy in our schools and community.

Images from this week's events

Metro 50th Anniversary Celebration



Metro High School is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. To commemorate this significant milestone, they will hold a community celebration on Thursday, May 30th, from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Students, staff, families, alums, and community members are all invited to attend. Join us for a walk down memory lane as you tour the building and browse through 50 years of memorabilia. There will also be a photo booth, door prizes, and Metro merchandise for sale. Metro 50th Anniversary commemorative t-shirts are available to purchase. For more information, please contact Metro High School.

All-State Visual Art Award



Kennedy High School Senior Amari Jacobo has been selected as one of 22 Iowa high school students to receive an Iowa All-State Visual Arts Award. Presented by the Art Educators of Iowa, these awards recognize outstanding high school artists from across the state. Amari's selection was based on her portfolio of her work, which included ten original artworks accompanied by artist statements, that top Iowa college professors and working artists judged. Amari will be officially honored at an awards ceremony in June, and posters of her artwork will be showcased at the Des Moines Art Festival from June 28th to 30th.

Spring Vaccine and Sports Physical Clinics

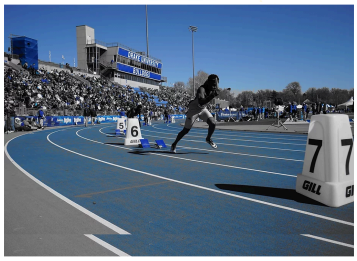


The District's Metro Care Connection is partnering with Linn County Public Health to offer spring vaccine and sports physical clinics over the next few weeks. These clinics are FREE and open to all CRCSD 6th-8th-grade and Washington HS students. Written parental permission is required to participate. Please contact your student's school nurse for more information and to request a parental permission form and paperwork. Below are the scheduled clinic dates and times.

- April 30th - Harding Middle School - 9 AM - 3 PM
- May 2nd - Roosevelt Creative Corridor Business Academy - 9 AM - 3 PM
- May 21st - Washington High School - 9 AM - 2 PM
- May 22nd - Taft Middle School - 10 AM - 2 PM

Please note that the Wilson school nurse will contact families directly to set up appointments as needed, and students at Kennedy, Jefferson, and Metro can make an appointment with the Metro Care Connection nurse practitioner in their school's health office.

Drake Relays



Track and field athletes from across the state are competing at the "blue oval" today and tomorrow for the 114th Drake Relays. To follow along with the track and field results as they happen, click here. Congratulations and good luck to all of the CRCSD high school track and field athletes who are participating in this year's event. We look forward to sharing their results in next week's newsletter!

CRCSD Participating Athletes & Teams

- Girls 100 Meter Dash - Duprasia Beets - Washington
- Girls 4x100 Meter Relay - Washington HS Team
- Girls 4x100 Meter Relay - Kennedy HS Team
- Girls 4x400 Meter Relay - Kennedy HS Team
- Girls 400 Meter Dash - Addison Swartzendruber - Kennedy
- Girls 800 Sprint MedleyD - Kennedy HS Team
- Boys 110 Meter Hurdles - Isaiah Skvor - Washington
- Boys 100 Meter Dash - Dawson Dougherty - Kennedy
- Boys 110 Meter Hurdles - Cyrus Courtney - Kennedy
- Boys 110 Meter Hurdles - Ryan Bartels- Kennedy
- Boys 4x100 Meter Relay - Washington HS Team

- Boys 4x100 Meter Relay - Jefferson HS Team
- Boys 4x100 Meter Relay - Kennedy HS Team
- Boys 4x110 Meter Shuttle Hurdles - Kennedy HS Team
- Boys 4x800 Meter Relay - Kennedy HS Team
- Boys 3200 Meter Run - Slader Buckheister - Kennedy
- Boys Long Jump - Jacob Smetzer - Kennedy
- Boys Long Jump - Dawson Dougherty - Kennedy

Glance Around The District



The Student Leadership Team at Taft Middle School organized a 6th grade volleyball tournament. They had a great turnout and crowned a tournament champion team, pictured here.



3rd graders at Johnson STEAM Academy created a warm-up routine for their PE class. They were required to identify the muscles engaged in each exercise and determine the number of repetitions or the duration of each activity.



This week, students from METRO High School participated in a College/Career Readiness Fair organized by school counselors. The event allowed students to explore various options for their future.



Washington High School students in U.S. History class had the opportunity to engage with a panel of local Vietnam War veterans who shared their perspectives, memories, and stories from the conflict.



On Tuesday, 4th graders from across the District visited the Paramount Theatre to participate in the “Orchestra Moves” program. During the event, students listened to and played alongside Orchestra Iowa.



Harding Middle School student Jordyn Velitchkov earned 1st place in the state Optimist Speech Competition and won a $2500 scholarship. She will now be competing in the international competition this summer.



As part of their science lesson about solids, 2nd graders at Erskine Elementary were tasked with constructing a bridge that wouldn't collapse in a windstorm using the materials provided.



Airline pilot Rob Fox talked with students at Roosevelt about the training and education required to become a pilot. He explained the science behind flying and how planes use lift to fly.



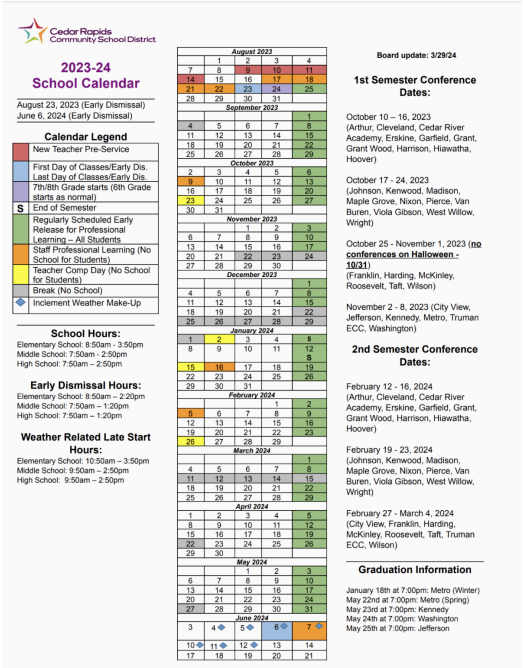
Children's book author Jill Esbaum visited with students at Arthur and Pierce Elementary. She discussed her books and writing process and gave tips to help students enhance their writing skills.

CRCSD In the News

In case you missed it, here are recent news items about or of interest to Cedar Rapids Community School District students, teachers, and parents.

- Gazette: Cedar Rapids school district enrollment analysis to guide facility plans
- KCRG: Washington High School in Cedar Rapids holds 'Stand Up For Peace' event
- KGAN: Cedar Rapids school safety coordinator responds to swatting calls made to the district
- KGAN: Cedar Rapids schools and local groups unite for Youth Violence Prevention Week

District Calendars


Cedar Rapids Community School District

2023-24 School Calendar

August 23, 2023 (Early Dismissal)
June 6, 2024 (Early Dismissal)

Calendar Legend

	New Teacher Pre-Service
	First Day of Classes/Early Dis. Last Day of Classes/Early Dis.
	7th/8th Grade starts (6th Grade starts as normal)
S	End of Semester
	Regularly Scheduled Early Release for Professional Learning – All Students
	Staff Professional Learning (No School for Students)
	Teacher Comp Day (No School for Students)
	Break (No School)
◆	Inclement Weather Make-Up

School Hours:
Elementary School: 8:50am - 3:50pm
Middle School: 7:50am - 2:50pm
High School: 7:50am – 2:50pm

Early Dismissal Hours:
Elementary School: 8:50am – 2:20pm
Middle School: 7:50am – 1:20pm
High School: 7:50am – 1:20pm

Weather Related Late Start Hours:
Elementary School: 10:50am – 3:50pm
Middle School: 9:50am – 2:50pm
High School: 9:50am – 2:50pm

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September 2023

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June 2024

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Board update: 3/29/24

1st Semester Conference Dates:

October 10 – 16, 2023 (Arthur, Cleveland, Cedar River Academy, Erskine, Garfield, Grant, Grant Wood, Harrison, Hiawatha, Hoover)

October 17 - 24, 2023 (Johnson, Kenwood, Madison, Maple Grove, Nixon, Pierce, Van Buren, Viola Gibson, West Willow, Wright)

October 25 - November 1, 2023 (no conferences on Halloween - 10/31) (Franklin, Harding, McKinley, Roosevelt, Taft, Wilson)

November 2 - 8, 2023 (City View, Jefferson, Kennedy, Metro, Truman ECC, Washington)

2nd Semester Conference Dates:

February 12 - 16, 2024 (Arthur, Cleveland, Cedar River Academy, Erskine, Garfield, Grant, Grant Wood, Harrison, Hiawatha, Hoover)

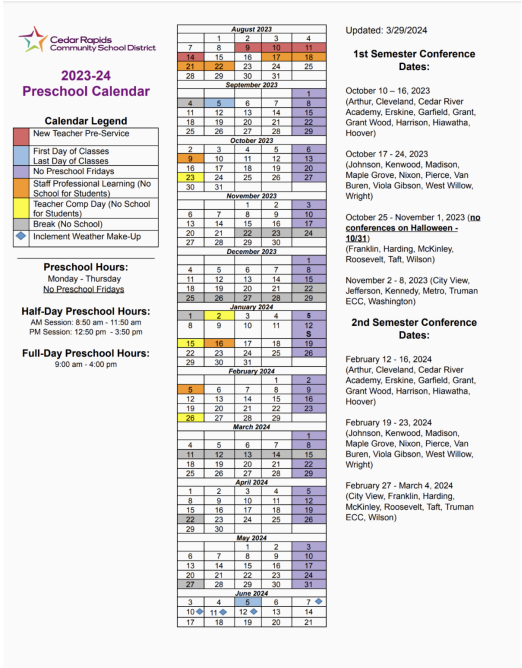
February 19 - 23, 2024 (Johnson, Kenwood, Madison, Maple Grove, Nixon, Pierce, Van Buren, Viola Gibson, West Willow, Wright)

February 27 - March 4, 2024 (City View, Franklin, Harding, McKinley, Roosevelt, Taft, Truman ECC, Wilson)

Graduation Information

January 18th at 7:00pm: Metro (Winter)
May 22nd at 7:00pm: Metro (Spring)
May 23rd at 7:00pm: Kennedy
May 24th at 7:00pm: Washington
May 25th at 7:00pm: Jefferson

[2023-24 School Calendar]


Cedar Rapids Community School District

2023-24 Preschool Calendar

Calendar Legend

	New Teacher Pre-Service
	First Day of Classes Last Day of Classes
	No Preschool Fridays
	Staff Professional Learning (No School for Students)
	Teacher Comp Day (No School for Students)
	Break (No School)
◆	Inclement Weather Make-Up

Preschool Hours:
Monday - Thursday
No Preschool Fridays

Half-Day Preschool Hours:
AM Session: 8:50 am - 11:50 am
PM Session: 12:50 pm - 3:50 pm

Full-Day Preschool Hours:
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

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[2023-24 Preschool Calendar]

Visit our Calendar page

Jefferson High School Activities Calendar

Kennedy High School Activities Calendar

Washington High School Activities Calendar

CRCSD is hiring! View open positions and apply here.

Learn more about breakfast and lunch meals here.

View your school's virtual backpack

Follow us on social media for the latest updates:

Sign up for Future Ready Today

Non-Discrimination Policy

It is the policy of the Cedar Rapids Community School District not to discriminate in educational programs and/or activities on the basis of race, creed, color, gender, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, gender identity, socioeconomic status, national origin, religion, disability, age (except for permitting/prohibiting students to engage in certain activities) or genetic information and in employment opportunities on the basis of age, race, creed, color, gender, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, disability or genetic information. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact Darius Ballard, Chief of Human Resources, Educational Leadership and Support Center, 2500 Edgewood Rd NW, Cedar Rapids, IA, (319) 558-2000.

April 26, 2024

Cedar Rapids Community School District | 2500 Edgewood Dr NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405

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