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September 4, 2025

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Listen To The Newsletter

We know you all have busy schedules, we are sharing this important information through a short podcast-style recording. Click the button below to listen to an overview of the newsletter, and then you can dive deeper by reading below!

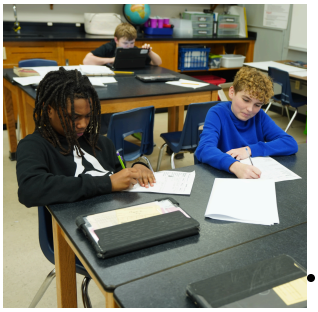
Listen Now

BELIEVE: OUR INCREDIBLE FIRST WEEK

What an incredible start to the school year! Take a look back at the energy, excitement, and learning from our first week.



ATTENDANCE POLICY



We have updated the Student Attendance Policy for the 2025-2026 school year to improve communication, reduce chronic absenteeism, and help students stay on track.

Key Updates Include:

- Medical/Illness-Related Absences - Students are allowed up to 5 medical/illness-related absences per school year without a doctor's note. Starting with the 6th absence, a doctor's note must be provided within 48 hours for the absence to be exempt.
- Notification process - Certified letters will no longer be sent when a student misses more than 12 days in a semester. Attendance notifications will now be sent digitally through Infinite Campus.
- Truancy Notification - At 20% absenteeism, parents/guardians will be contacted via phone, text, and/or email, and a digital letter will be sent through Infinite Campus. The case will also be referred to the county attorney for review and potential legal action.

Excused absences are still counted towards chronic absenteeism and truancy. Exemption reasons are very limited and do not include medical absences. Please review the full policy details using the button below.

Attendance Policy

EXPLORING CAREERS THROUGH JOB SHADOWS

CRCSD students in grades 10–12 can explore future career pathways through job shadows, offered in partnership with Kirkwood's Workplace Learning Connection (WLC). These experiences allow students to spend time with local professionals, ask questions, and see what a career is like firsthand. Whether students are just beginning to explore options or already have a clear career goal, job shadows are a



powerful way to connect classroom learning to the real world, build confidence, and start planning for life after graduation.

Students may apply for one job shadow per application window, with up to three total opportunities per school year. The first application window is now open and will close at 3:00 p.m. on September 17.

Both in-person and virtual job shadows are available, typically lasting between two and four hours. Transportation, if needed, is the student's responsibility. Since opportunities are limited, students are encouraged to apply early.

Job Shadow Opportunities

SAFE & SECURE LEARNING NIGHT

On Tuesday, September 16th, CRCSD will be hosting a Safe and Secure Learning Night at the Educational Leadership and Support Center at 2500 Edgewood Rd. NW, from 5 PM to 6 PM.
Parents and community members are invited to attend to learn more about the district's agreement with the DOJ, the tiers of behavior support for students, and an overview of the district's Safe and Secure Learning Team. The event will also be live-streamed for those who cannot attend.

The district has worked diligently with our school buildings to ensure that we are implementing approaches to student behavior that are evidence-based, positive, and the least restrictive means of responding to each student. As a result, our efforts heavily emphasize prevention and de-escalation strategies such as truly knowing and understanding the reason for individual student behaviors, giving a student choices, listening to a student, and encouraging/collaborating with the student to find a solution.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Ryals Parker, Chief of Area 2, Special Services, and Behavior Supports.

CRCSD IS HIRING

Do you know someone who would make an outstanding CRCSD employee? We still have several open positions available, and we know that our best recruiters are *you*! If you know someone who is qualified and passionate about supporting students, please encourage them to apply today!

You can view our current openings online, which include several key support positions:

- Teachers - Art, Math, & Science
- Paraprofessionals - approximately 45 openings
- Special Education Interventionists
- Substitutes - both long-term and short-term assignments available
- HR Leave Coordinator
- Transportation Drivers

We Believe In Our Students



Congratulations to the Washington Warriors on their hard-fought victory against Jefferson last Friday.



Roosevelt had an amazing time bringing families, students, and staff together at last Friday's Block Party.



The first day of preschool at Truman Early Learning was filled with big smiles, new friends, and excitement for the year ahead!



It was an amazing night for students and parents at the Washington Warrior Walkthrough. They got to meet new principal Theresa Hall, visit with teachers, learn about clubs, and meet with college and career vendors.



On Thursday, Chick-fil-A stopped by Nixon Elementary to greet students and give out breakfast sandwiches to parents. They have also visited other neighborhood schools with gift cards and cookies.



Hiawatha first graders had a great time in the Learning Garden last week. They learned about different plants and flowers. Some kids even picked and ate cherry tomatoes right off the vine.

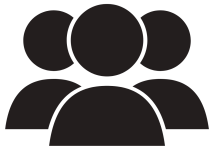
IN THE NEWS

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

- KCRG: Cedar Rapids Community School District celebrates after receiving thousands of signatures in support of bond — Read Here
- Gazette: Washington High School's Class of 1960 celebrating 'founders reunion' — Read Here



Your School's Virtual Backpack



CRCSD Is Hiring! Apply Here



Breakfast & Lunch Menus

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, Educational Leadership and Support Center, 2500 Edgewood Rd NW, Cedar Rapids, IA, (319) 558-2000.

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Jefferson Activities Calendar

Kennedy Activities Calendar

Washington Activities Calendar

Cedar Rapids Community School District
Every Learner: Future Ready

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

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