

# The WILDCAT REPORT

Maquoketa Valley Community School District's newsletter

Web Site: <http://www.maquoketa-v.k12.ia.us>

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January 2021

## Maquoketa Valley's Professional Learning

When the Maquoketa Valley staff started their 2020-2021 school year, we knew things would be different than previous years. We needed to figure out how to teach students in our classrooms, while also teaching students who were learning from home. We also needed to keep everyone safe and healthy within our classrooms and buildings. As each day seemed like a new adventure we were trying to navigate, how did we do all of this? We did it together with the help of all MV's teachers and administration, counselors, our school nurses, paraprofessionals, secretaires, bus drivers, kitchen staff, custodians, students, families, and community members.

For our students to continue to learn, teachers have centered their professional learning on integrating technology into our classrooms, formative assessments, engaging students in their learning, and promoting positive brain health through social emotional support. Teachers are using a variety of technology tools in their classrooms, including but not limited to, Google Classroom, Pear Deck, Nearpod, EdPuzzle, Flip Grid, Jamboard, Kami, Google Drawing, Google Slides, Google Forms, and various apps for the iPads. We have been able to collaborate with the AEA and our own in-house technology experts to find ways to integrate these tools into our classrooms to promote interactive learning for our students. Teachers have also chosen one technology tool they would like to focus on learning for their Career Development Plan and have collaborated with others in the district who are also using that same tool. This has allowed teachers to share student products, brainstorm ideas for implementation, and problem-solve together.

Because schools were closed in the spring, teachers have continued to use formative assessments to determine what the current level of understanding in students. Teachers are then able to use various teaching strategies to fill academic gaps in student learning and also continue to have students learn grade level curriculum. Teachers continue to find ways to engage learners in their classrooms, whether through technology, movement, discussions, and hands-on projects. When students are engaged in the content, they are more likely to remember it and apply it to various areas of their academic and personal lives. Teachers have spent weekly time in their content teams, PLC teams, early-out Wednesdays and also professional development days to find ways to support our on campus and online learners.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

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### Board of Directors

Donna Kunde - Area 1  
Doug Dabroski - Area 2  
Chris Huber - Area 3  
Mike Feldmann - Area 4  
John Zietlow Area 5

**Maquoketa Valley Community School District  
Ensures High Levels of Learning to Empower All Students For Lifelong Success.**

## Maquoketa Valley's Professional Learning

Building relationships with students continues to be our number one priority here at MV. Teachers adapt their classrooms and teachings to support the social-emotional and behavioral needs of students, while also providing positive and corrective feedback to help the student meet their full potential. One aspect of social-emotional learning we have focused on is self-care for adults in the district. Teaching in a different way this year has reminded adults that we need to continue to take care of ourselves so we can continue to take care of our students.

One of the favorite aspects of working with school improvement is being able to be in the classrooms to see what our MV students are learning and how our teachers have embraced the challenges of this school year to continue to do what is best for our students' education. If you could see how hard-working our MV staff is on a daily basis on our campuses, it would bring tears to your eyes, much like it does to me. Our teachers and staff continue to show endless ways they meet the students' academic needs, along with their social-emotional and behavioral health as well. Through my classroom visits I have seen teachers reading aloud novels, facilitating lively discussions with students, using hands-on projects to show their learning, creating art through real-life images, watching real-life events and analyzing how those events shape our current reality, discovering other cultures, having one-on-one conversations with students to support the student in the best way that they need at that particular moment, and students working together in small groups. Each of the classroom visits reminds me what an amazing place Maquoketa Valley is for our entire community.



With winter and the cold weather upon us, we remind you that our building temperatures are set at 65 degrees. Parents are encouraged to dress your children appropriately. It is perfectly acceptable for your child to wear a sweater or sweatshirt in class in order to stay comfortable.

MV reports their school closings and cancellations to 3 TV stations: KGAN (2), KWVL (7), and KCRG (9) by 6:25 am. They also report them to these radio stations: KMCH and KDST. When bad weather hits, please turn to one of these TV or radio stations. Please DO NOT call the school. Their lines will be busy contacting personnel, other schools, bus drivers, etc.

### Text Alert System

The text alert system has been changed. We will be using your information in Power School to alert you. It is important to have your current phone number and email updated. If you have any questions or issues, please call Sarah Lown in the high school office, 563-922-2091.

# SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

## Regular Board Meeting

December 21, 2020

The regular meeting of the Maquoketa Valley Board of Education was called to order by President Donna Kunde at 5:30 p.m. in the High School Library in Delhi, Iowa. All motions carried unanimously unless otherwise noted. Five board members were present. There were six staff members present and one visitors present. The agenda and consent items were approved.

The District was able to secure a \$10,000 ECR COVID Relief Grant from the Mental Health/Disability Services of East Central Region to help fund several behavioral health projects and to purchase additional cleaning and sanitizing equipment.

Possible drop-off/pick-up changes are being reviewed for the Delhi campus. Discussion regarding adding a sidewalk near the playground in order to make these changes was discussed.

Two open enrollment requests out were approved.

The following personnel recommendations were approved in a motion by Dabroski, seconded by Feldmann:  
Bryan Bruening – resignation as High School Science Teacher effective at the end of the  
20/21 school year

The Board appointed John Zietlow to represent Maquoketa Valley on the Delaware County Conference Board.

The Board approved the 2021-2022 SBRC Modified Allowable Growth for Dropout Prevention. The Board approved the maximum amount allowed by state law.

In discussion items, it was noted that the Speech Department will be doing a pizza fundraiser. Additionally, school property that is located south of the baseball diamond was discussed. Further discussion of this will take place at the January meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

## Legislative Session

December 21, 2020

Following the regular board meeting, the Board met via Zoom in a joint legislative session along with the West Delaware School Board. Representative Lee Hein and Senator Dan Zumbach were also in attendance. Topics of discussion included school funding, funding flexibility, school/student safety, teacher recruitment, mental health and COVID funding.

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.



## **KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP**

Parents of our 2021–2022 kindergarten students, please complete and send a registration form for your child (found in this newsletter) to one of our elementary schools. In order to start kindergarten next year, children must be five by September 15th, 2021.

The following date has been set for Kindergarten Round-up:

### **February 18 .... Earlville Center Only**

**Times are:**

**8:15 - 9:45**

**10:30 - 12:00**

**1:00 - 2:30**

Plans for our Kindergarten Round-Up this year have not been finalized due to COVID19. As more details become available we will share them on the Maquoketa Valley Facebook page. A letter will be mailed to parents of potential Kindergarteners the beginning of February with all the details for Round-Up.

## **MV Fine Arts Boosters**

Join us at the next Fine Arts Booster Meeting,

**Wednesday, Jan 11, @ 6:30 PM** in the

HS Cafeteria

Masks are required.

## **Athletic Boosters Need YOU!!!**

The Maquoketa Valley Athletic Boosters are looking for members who would like to be involved in helping organize and run our events. The Athletic Boosters meet the **first Wednesday of every month** (except July) at 6:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Please consider sharing your time & talents so that we may continue to provide the needed assistance to our athletic programs.

If you, your family, or someone you know lives in the following situation:

- In a shelter, motel, vehicle, or campground
- On the street
- In an abandoned building, trailer, or other inadequate accommodations, or
- Doubled up with friends or relatives because you cannot find or afford housing

Then you, your family, or someone you know have certain rights or protections under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act of 2001.

You, your family, or someone you know have the right to:

Go to school, no matter where you live or how long you have lived there. They must be given access to the same public education, including preschool education provided to other children.

Continue in school they attend before you became homeless or the last school they attended, if that is your choice and it is feasible. If a school sends your child to a school other than the one requested by you, the school must provide you with a written explanation and offer you the right to appeal that decision.

Receive transportation to the school they attend before you, your family, or someone you know became homeless or the last school attended if transportation is requested.

Attend a school and participate in school programs with children you are not homeless. Children cannot be separated from the regular program because they are homeless.

Enroll in school without giving a permanent address. Schools cannot require proof of residence that might prevent or delay school enrollment.

Enroll and attend classes while the school arranges for the transfer of school and immunization records or any other documents required for enrollment.

Enroll and attend classes in the school of your choice even while the school and you seek to resolve a dispute over enrolling your children.

Receive the same special programs and services, if needed, as provided to all other children served in these programs.

Receive transportation to school and to school programs.

When you, your family, or someone you know move, the following should be done:

Contact the district's local liaison for homeless education (School Superintendent, 563-922-2091) for help in enrolling you, your child(ren) or someone you know, to continue in his or her former school. (Or someone at a shelter, social services office, or the school can direct you to the person you need to contact.)

Contact the school and provides any information you think will assist the teachers in helping you, your child(ren) adjust to new circumstances.

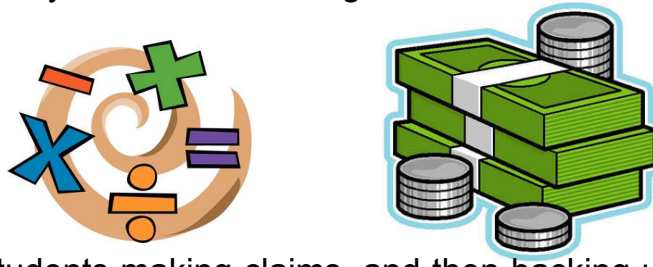
Ask the local liaison for homeless education, the shelter provider, or a social worker for assistance with clothing and supplies, if needed.

If you need further assistance, call the State Coordinator at the Department of Education at 515-281-3966 or the National Center for Homeless Education at the toll-free Helpline number: 1-800-308-2145

## Second Grade News from Mrs. Anderson's Room

It has been such a gift to have our students and teachers learning together in person this year, and the 2nd graders have been learning A LOT!

In math we are currently learning about 3-digit place value. We began the unit working with concrete materials, such as bundles of 100 straws, bundles of 10 straws, and single straws. Then we moved to money in the form of \$100, \$10, and \$1 bills, and now we will move to place value disks with the numbers 100, 10 and 1 printed on them. This will prepare us to start three-digit addition and subtraction in January. We have also been playing games to become more fluent in our basic math facts. Additionally, students participate in number talks where they share their strategies and learn how to respectfully explain and defend their thinking.



In all subject areas, you will see students making claims, and then backing up their claims with evidence. In language arts, students defend their claims using evidence from the text they are reading. Currently, we are reading non-fiction books and learning about text structures and graphic organizers to help better comprehend when reading and organize thoughts when writing. We have also been busy learning many word patterns that will help us decode unknown words when reading and accurately spell unfamiliar words. Recently students have been excited to write independently or with a partner during their freewriting rotation. We learned how we can do “surgery” on our stories - using scissors and glue - when we want to make revisions to our work. The students have been having fun writing some very creative and descriptive stories! (Recently many of these stories involved Old Saint Nick and some elves!)

We have also just started a new unit in science. It is called Insects and Plants. Each student is making observations of their own Brassica Plant. While it is growing, we are going to be dissecting a bean seed to see the embryo inside it. We will also be starting germination trays so that we can see how a plant begins to grow underground, before the sprout first appears. If we are able to successfully pollinate our plants, we will get to see the complete life cycle of the Brassica Plant. This will set us up nicely for learning about the life cycles of other insects, including butterflies, mealworms, and milkweed beetles. We certainly have a lot of exciting things to look forward to in January!

# LOOKING for KINDERGARTNERS

We ask your assistance in compiling our list of children that will be entering kindergarten in the fall of 2021. Remember a child must be five years old on/before September 15, 2021 in order to be eligible to attend Kindergarten or Junior Kindergarten next fall. All of our Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten students attend school at Earlville Elementary. Please list your own youngster and those of any of your friends or neighbors you believe may have not received this newsletter form. Please complete the form and drop it off or mail it to Maquoketa Valley Schools, 226 Prospect Street Earlville, IA 52041. Thank you!

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Boy or Girl

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Father's name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_



## LOOKING for 4-Year Olds

We also need your assistance in compiling a list of children that will be FOUR years old on/before September 15, 2021 in order to be eligible for Maquoketa Valley's Pre-School program to start next fall. All of our Pre-School students attend school at Earlville Elementary. Please list your own youngster and if you know of any other families that have a 4-year-old, please contact them. Simply complete this form and drop it off or mail it to Maquoketa Valley Schools, 226 Prospect Street, Earlville, IA 52041. Thank you!

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Boy or Girl

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Father's name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## **Maquoketa Valley Activity Calendar**

**This can be found on the website. Please check that for all activities. Cancellations will be updated on the Maquoketa Valley Website.**

### **MV Awarded \$10,000 Grant for Behavioral Health Needs**

Maquoketa valley was fortunate to have received a \$10,000 grant awarded from the Mental Health/Disability Services of the East Central Region to fund several behavioral health projects and to purchase additional cleaning and sanitizing equipment. With the money granted we have been able to purchase a wide variety of activities to create "Choice Tubs" for each classroom in grades JK-8th. Board games, STEM activities, and many items from the Challenge to Change program (Mantra Cards, Mindful Moment Cards, Kids Yoga Cards) were purchased. These activities have been selected to promote brain health, increase student engagement, and promote positive social interactions among students. The grant also funded portable regulation stations for our middle and high school students to regulate emotions and behaviors. These carts have been supplied with fidgets, self-care items, and other calming tools for students to use.

In addition to the student regulation stations, four teacher relaxation stations have also been created. Each building will have a relaxation station in their teachers' lounges with fidgets, calming tools, and teacher resource books to promote positive brain health.

With the remaining funds from the grant we were able to purchase four RYOBI cordless, handheld, electrostatic sprayers, one for each of our attendance centers. These sprayers will be used by our custodial staff to enhance our current cleaning and sanitizing efforts.

# JANUARY 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b>ATTENTION PARENTS:</b> IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO KEEP A POSITIVE BALANCE IN YOUR STUDENTS ACCOUNT AT ALL TIMES</p> <p>(9-12) = HS ONLY WG = WHOLE GRAIN</p>	<p><b>THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.</b></p> <p>EVERY MEAL IS SERVED WITH A 8 OZ. MILK</p> <p>ALL MEALS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANYTIME.</p>	<p><b>PARENTS: YOUR CHILD CAN RECEIVE 1 FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH EVERYDAY THIS SCHOOL YEAR.</b></p> <p>SECONDS (EXTRA LUNCH ENTREE), EXTRA MILK AND STRING CHEESE COST YOU THE PARENT.</p>		<p>1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO SCHOOL TODAY</p>
<p>4</p> <p>TENDERLOIN ON WG BUN TRI TATER BROCCOLI PEARS</p> <p>BREAKFAST PIZZA</p>	<p>5</p> <p>CHICKEN TETRAZZINI BREADSTICK PEAS PEACHES</p> <p>WAFFLES</p>	<p>6 OUT AT 1:05PM</p> <p>PIZZA BREADSTICK MARINARA CORN FRUIT COCKTAIL</p> <p>SAUS/EGG/MUFFIN</p>	<p>7</p> <p>CHICKEN NUGGETS MASHED POTATOES BAKED BEANS STRAWBERRIES</p> <p>WG CINNAMON ROLL</p>	<p>8</p> <p>MEATBALL SUB STEAK FRIES CARROTS APPLES</p> <p>PANCAKE ON A STICK</p>
<p>11</p> <p>CHICKEN STRIPS WG DINNER ROLL (9-12) FRENCH FRIES MEXICALI CORN STRAW. APPLESAUCE</p> <p>OMELET/CROISSANT</p>	<p>12</p> <p>SUB SANDWICH SUN CHIPS CELERY APPLES</p> <p>LONG JOHN</p>	<p>13 OUT AT 1:05 PM</p> <p>CORN DOG TATER TOTS GREEN BEANS PEARS</p> <p>PANCAKES/SAUSAGE</p>	<p>14</p> <p>MR. RIB ON WG BUN STEAK FRIES BAKED BEANS ORANGES</p> <p>FRENCH TOAST</p>	<p>15</p> <p>BOSCO STICKS MARINARA CARROTS PEACHES</p> <p>BREAKFAST CHOICE</p>
<p>18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO SCHOOL TODAY</p>	<p>19</p> <p>COUNTRY FRIED STEAK W/GRAVY MASHED POTATOES CORN APPLESAUCE</p> <p>COMBO/WG BUN</p>	<p>20 OUT AT 1:05PM</p> <p>PIZZA DIPPERS MARINARA CARROTS APPLES</p> <p>WG CINNAMON ROLL</p>	<p>21</p> <p>GRILLED CHICKEN ON WG BUN TRI TATER PEAS &amp; CARROTS PEARS</p> <p>WAFFLES</p>	<p>22</p> <p>SPAGHETTI GARLIC BREAD BROCCOLI ORANGES</p> <p>OMELET/TOAST</p>
<p>25</p> <p>CHEESEBURGER/ WG BUN FRENCH FRIES MIXED VEGETABLES STRAWBERRIES</p> <p>BREAKFAST PIZZA</p>	<p>26</p> <p>ORANGE CHICKEN WG RICE STEAMED BROCCOLI PEACHES</p> <p>PANCAKE ON A STICK</p>	<p>27 OUT AT 1:05PM</p> <p>PANCAKES SAUSAGE PATTY SMILEY POTATOES YOGURT ORANGES</p> <p>FRENCH TOAST</p>	<p>28</p> <p>MAC &amp; CHEESE BREADSTICK CELERY APPLES</p> <p>SAUS/EGG/MUFFIN</p>	<p>29</p> <p>PIZZA BREADSTICK MARINARA CARROTS PEARS</p> <p>BREAKFAST CHOICE</p>



