



The WILDCAT REPORT

Maquoketa Valley Community School District's newsletter

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

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January 2023

Content Teams at the Secondary Level

"Teacher collaboration in strong professional learning communities improves the quality and equity of student learning, promotes discussions that are grounded in evidence and analysis rather than opinion, and fosters collective responsibility for student success" (McLaughlin & Talbert, 2006). On average, our secondary teachers meet in their content teams twice a month during our Wednesday early out time. These teams brainstorm, collaborate, and learn from each other on how to improve their teaching practices, meet the needs of our students, and continue to make learning relevant and rigorous for our MV students. Their conversations are focused on the four Professional Learning Questions:

- What do we want all students to know and be able to do? (universal instruction)
- How will we know if they learn it? (formative & summative assessments)
- How will we respond when some students do not learn? (differentiated instruction of universal instruction and/or intervention system)
- How will we extend the learning for students who are already proficient? (differentiated instruction of universal instruction and/or intervention system)

Below is an overview of what each secondary content team has been learning and implementing into their classrooms this school year.

Music, Art, & Physical Education (JK-12th grade teachers)

The Music, Art, and PE Content Team has been reading through a book titled *Classroom Management for Art, Music, and PE Teachers*. This book is specifically geared to specialty teachers who have classrooms that operate in a different way from a core classroom. This has given us better ideas for how to set up our classrooms, how certain procedures should look (such as entering and exiting the classroom), how to maximize our instructional time, and how to meet each student at the level they are at.

(Continued on next page)

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Doug Dabroski - Area 2
Pam Overman - 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.**

Content Teams at the Secondary Level

Social Studies & Foreign Language (6th-12th grade teachers)

The Social Studies and Foreign Language Content Team has been focused on promoting positive thinking and inclusion in our classrooms. In order to incorporate best practices and proven methods, we have been exploring a number of resources. In recent history, we have read and discussed blog posts from the "Cult of Pedagogy," and listened to and discussed podcasts from *The Positive Education Podcast*, Angela Watson's, *Truth for Teachers*, and *10-Minute Teacher Podcasts*. We are now reading the book, *The Energy Bus*, by Jon Gordon, and discussing how we can apply the messages in that book to our teaching and relationships. The importance of our work lies in fostering a positive, safe, highly-motivated, and inclusive environment within our classes, which will produce stronger relationships between teacher and student, as well as among peers. The stronger the relationships, the better the efforts put forth, which equates to more success in the classroom and beyond.

Mathematics (6th-12th grade teachers)

The Math Content Team has been reading a book titled, *Mathematics Assessment and Intervention in a PLC at Work™* about assessments and interventions. We have looked at our individual assessments to see if the content standards are being covered, if the point values are appropriate, and if there is a mix of different levels within the test questions. We also discussed FAST (Fair, Accurate, Specific, and Timely) feedback on assessments and what we expect students to do with the assessment after they get it back. The math team has also been working with Sarah Seick, the AEA math consultant, to discuss effective ways to implement homework in the math classroom.

Special Education (K-12th grade teachers)

The Special Education Content Team has been working on and completing AFRIM (Autism Focused Intervention and Resource Modules). Although the modules are geared towards students with autism, the module information and strategies can be used with a wide variety of students. The modules consist of lessons and activities, such as case study examples, videos, and knowledge checks. The team has completed the Cognitive Behavior Intervention and the Visual Supports Modules. The Cognitive Behavior Intervention Module helps educators with teaching students strategies to keep negative emotions or thoughts from escalating. The Visual Supports Module covered how to use a variety of visual supports to help students focus and process information easier throughout their school day. Special education teachers are able to use the learning from the modules to help our students have successful days at school. Along with the modules, the Special Education Content Team is using some content team time to continue to learn how to use and write IEPs (Individual Education Plans) within the new IEP system called ACHIEVE. It has been a team effort between the special education teachers and Keystone AEA staff to learn the ins and outs of the new program.

CTE (7th-12th grade teachers)

The CTE team has been working to bridge the gap between businesses in the MV district and the students who may work at those businesses. This goal has been worked on by setting up and attending tours of each of the businesses, learning what they do and how they operate, and understanding what their expectations are for their employees. CTE teachers have applied this to their classrooms in different ways based on what was applicable to their content area. Cumulatively, each teacher has worked towards how we can teach the employability skills that our local businesses are needing to our students to make them more successful in their future careers, whether those careers are within the MV district or not.

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Content Teams at the Secondary Level

Science (6th-12th grade teachers)

The Science Content Team has introduced a new practice across the grades for the scientific practice of evaluating phenomena through experiments and data. We are using CEER, a writing model for Claim, Evidence, and Explanation of Reasoning. Students often perform experiments and collect data. Now they have learned that a claim is an answer to the question they ran the experiment for. The claim is backed up with evidence and reasoning. As we practice writing the CEER, using a simple template, they connect evidence and reasoning to support their claim. This practice will help them communicate not only scientific ideas but cross-curricular ideas found in history, ELA, and math.

English-Language Arts (7th-12th grade teachers)

The English-Language Arts (ELA) team has focused our learning in several areas so far this year. At the end of the 2021-2022 school year, the ELA teachers felt we needed support in the area of vocabulary instruction, specifically in making teaching vocabulary more relevant and engaging for students. Therefore, in September of 2022, the AEA provided our team with a session on effective vocabulary strategies to use within our classrooms. We walked away with a toolbox full of valuable resources to implement during our unit plans for grades 6 through 12. In October of 2022, we shifted our attention to the topic of trauma. We chose to begin a book study focusing on a nonfiction text called *The Body Keeps The Score* by Bessel van der Kolk. We felt as though learning about trauma and stress and their effect on the body and brain would be beneficial to our work in the classroom. As educators, we understand the importance of connecting with the whole child and value any insight into the social-emotional needs of our



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), KWWL (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

We will be using your information in Power School to alert you. It is important to have your current phone number and email updated. This is used for unexpected early dismissals, late starts and school closures.

If you have any questions or issues, please call Sarah Lown in the high school office, 563-922-2091.

Regular Board Meeting – December 19, 2022 – 5:30 p.m. – High School Library, Delhi, Iowa

The regular meeting of the Maquoketa Valley Board of Education was called to order by President Donna Kunde at 5:30 p.m. on December 19, 2022 in the High School Library in Delhi, Iowa. All motions carried unanimously unless otherwise noted.

Board Members Present – Dabroski, Feldmann, Kunde, Zietlow

Board Members Absent –Overman

Staff Present – Supt. Dave Hoeger, Troy Osterhaus, Brenda Becker, Tiersa Frasher, Jackie Moorman and Erika Imler

Visitors Present – Ella Mensen, Kennedy Rausch, Kayla Otting, Kade Freiburger, Macy Thompson, Trista Elgin, Kansas Berthel, Saige Hunt and Avery Holtz

Motion was made by Zietlow, seconded by Feldmann to approve the meeting agenda as presented. All ayes. Carried.

In a motion by Dabroski, seconded by Feldmann the consent items were approved. All ayes. Carried.

Two open enrollment requests in were approved in a motion by Feldmann, seconded by Zietlow. All ayes. Carried.

The following personnel recommendations were approved in a motion by Feldmann, seconded by Zietlow:

Adrienne Gibbs – employed as Elementary School Counselor

Tiffany Leytem – resignation as Middle School Volleyball Coach

Emily Ludovissy – employed as Middle School Volleyball Coach

All ayes. Carried.

Motion was made by Dabroski, seconded by Feldmann to approve the 2023-2024 SBRC Modified Allowable Growth for Dropout Prevention. The Board approved the maximum amount allowed by state law which is \$186,791. Roll call vote was answered as follows: Dabroski, aye; Feldmann, aye; Kunde, aye; Zietlow, aye. Carried.

Supt. Hoeger gave the board an update on the current facility improvements. The District is currently working with OPN on the football field bleacher project and the Earlville playground equipment project. Other projects discussed were the baseball/softball complex fencing and nets.

The Board will begin discussing ideas for the Academic Excellence speaker. The banquet will be held on Wednesday, May 3rd at 6:30 p.m.

The January board meeting will be moved to January 23rd at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m. in a motion by Feldmann, seconded by Dabroski. All ayes. Carried.

Miss Siddell's third graders

Life in third grade is **snow** much fun!

In Literacy, we are building our ability to read and understand informational texts while also building our knowledge of frogs! We are quickly becoming experts on frogs' adaptations, colors, and how they act. We have been busy writing pourquoi tales and informational paragraphs to share our learning with others. We can't wait to see our hard work come together in our Freaky Frog books!

We are working hard each day in math to learn new strategies for solving multiplication and division problems. Did you know you can use your fingers when multiplying by 9? It's been so fun to watch these mathematicians persevere each day.

We are excited to dive into our next Science kit, Structures of Life. Our first unit will focus on the origin of seeds. We kicked off the unit by cutting open different fruits and vegetables to examine their seeds. See below!



This year, we have been working hard to become ethical people. Along with learning about habits of character during our Literacy time, we are working diligently each day to show kindness and collaborate with our peers.

One of the recent social skills that we have been working on is teamwork. Recently, we found out just how connected we really are with our classmates. Check out our cool yarn web in the picture above!

We hope everyone is staying healthy and warm this holiday season!



KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP

Parents of our 2023–2024 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, 2023.

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

February 16th.... Earlville Center Only

Times are:

8:15 - 9:45

10:30 - 12:00

1:00 - 2:30

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 9th, @ 6:30 PM in the
HS Library



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND SCHOOL AGED YOUTH

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



First Grade Enjoys DEAR Time

Research shows that the biggest predictor of reading success is volume of reading. Knowing this, the teachers at Johnston Elementary implemented daily DEAR time. DEAR is an acronym for Drop Everything And Read. In Mrs. Reicher's room, the timer goes off at 9:28 telling us to drop what we are doing, get it put away, and begin reading. Each day we have a different guest listener join us. Our guest listeners could be Mrs. Arnold, Mrs. Brietbach, Mrs. Teymer, Mrs. Wessels, Mrs. Becker, or any other adults in our building. I've included pictures of each of the groups getting comfy and enjoying their reading time.

-Mrs. Reicher



LOOKING for KINDERGARTNERS

We ask your assistance in compiling our list of children that will be entering kindergarten in the fall of 2023. Remember a child must be five years old on/before September 15, 2023 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 first name _____ Middle _____ Last _____ Boy or Girl (circle one)

Date of Birth _____ Daycare provider _____

Mother's Name _____ Father's Name _____

Address _____ Address _____

Phone _____ Phone _____

Email _____ 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, 2023 in order to be eligible for Maquoketa Valley's PreSchool program to start next fall. All of our PreSchool 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 first name _____ Middle _____ Last _____ Boy or Girl (circle one)

Date of Birth _____ Daycare provider _____

Mother's Name _____ Father's Name _____

Address _____ Address _____

Phone _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Email _____



AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

WHAT IS IT?

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford internet service.

The benefit provides:

- Up to \$30/month discount for internet service;
- Up to \$75/month discount for households on qualifying Tribal lands; and
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet purchased through a participating provider.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

A household is eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program if the household income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or if a member of the household meets at least one of the criteria below:

- Participates in any of the following assistance programs: SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension or Survivor Benefits, SSI, WIC, or Lifeline;
- Participates in any of the following Tribal specific programs: Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal TANF, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, or Tribal Head Start (income based);
- Participates in the Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch Program or the School Breakfast Program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating broadband provider's existing low-income internet program.

TWO STEPS TO ENROLL

1

Go to **AffordableConnectivity.gov** to submit an application or print a mail-in application

2

Contact your preferred participating provider to select an eligible plan and have the discount applied to your bill.

Some providers may have an alternative application that they will ask you to complete.

Eligible households must both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan.

LEARN MORE

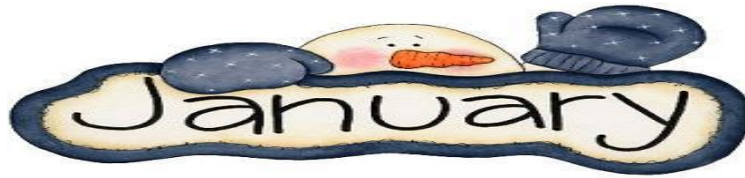


Call 877-384-2575, or



Visit **fcc.gov/acp**





2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 NO SCHOOL TODAY	3 CHICKEN TETRAZZINI WG GARLIC BREADSTICK PEAS APPLESAUCE BREAKFAST PIZZA	4 OUT AT 2:05PM TENDERLOIN ON WG BUN HASH BROWN PATTY BAKED BEANS PEACHES PANCAKE ON A STICK	5 BBQ PORK ON WG BUN CHEESY POTATOES COLESLAW CORN STRAWBERRIES SCRAMBLED EGG/TOAST	6 PIZZA CRUNCHERS MARINARA LETTUCE CARROTS PEARS CRAISINS BREAKFAST CHOICE
9 CHICKEN POPPERS WAFFLE FRIES CORN MIXED FRUIT BROWNIE COMBO ON WG BUN	10 HAM BAKED POTATO CHEESE SAUCE DINNER ROLL BROCCOLI ORANGES CINNAMON ROLL	11 OUT AT 2:05PM HOT DOG ON WG BUN TATER TOTS WINTER MIX PEARS OMELET/CROISSANT	12 MEATBALL SUB CURLY FRIES CARROTS/CELERY APPLES SIDEKICK FRENCH TOAST	13 BOSCO STICK MARINARA YOGURT LETTUCE BLUEBERRIES PEACHES SAUS/EGG/BISCUIT
16 NO SCHOOL TODAY	17 CHICKEN STRIPS DINNER ROLL (9-12) CURLY FRIES CORN TROPICAL FRUIT PEACH CRISP BREAKFAST PIZZA	18 OUT AT 2:05 PM MR. RIB ON WG BUN WEDGE CUTS CARROTS APPLES COMBO ON WG BUN	20 PIZZA DIPPERS MARINARA LETTUCE SIDE KICK PEARS LONG JOHN	20 SUB ON WG BUN SUN CHIPS CARROTS/CELERY APPLES PINEAPPLE BREAKFAST CHOICE
23 GR. CHICKEN ON WG BUN POTATO TRIANGLE BAKED BEANS APPLESAUCE COOKIE PANCAKE ON A STICK	24 SPAGHETTI WG GARL. BREADSTICK LETTUCE ORANGES PEARS OMELET/CROISSANT	25 OUT AT 2:05PM CORN DOG TATER TOTS WINTER MIX STRAWBERRIES FRENCH TOAST	26 WALKING TACO REFRIED BEANS GREEN BEANS RED PEPPER STRIPS RICE MANDARIN ORANGES CINNAMON ROLL	27 HAMBURGER GRAVY MASHED POTATOES BUTTER BREAD COTTAGE CHEESE CHEESY BROCCOLI CRAISINS PINEAPPLE PANCAKES & SAUSAGE
30 HAMBURGER ON WG BUN CHEESE SLICE FRENCH FRIES BAKED BEANS ORANGES BREAKFAST PIZZA	31 WG MAC & CHEESE WG CINNAMON ROLL RASP. YOGURT LETTUCE PEAS APPLES LONG JOHN	SALAD IS OFFERED EVERDAY FOR 7-12 GRADE STRING CHEESE, EXTRA MILK AND SECONDS (EXTRA ENTREE) COST YOU THE PARENT.	THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER. EVERY MEAL IS SERVED WITH A 8 OZ. MILK (9-12)= HS ONLY WG=WHOLE GRAIN	ALL MEALS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANYTIME ATTENTION PARENTS; IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO KEEP A POSTIVE BALANCE IN YOUR CHILDS ACCOUNT AT ALL TIMES

DUE TO SUPPLY CHAIN DISRUPTIONS, ITEMS ON MENU MAY CHANGE AT ANYTIME. THANKS FOR UNDERSTANDING