

LEARNING & SUCCESS FOR ALL

WEATHER CANCELLATIONS & DELAYS:

Be sure to update your contact information in Infinite Campus to receive weather-related school phone messages and texts. If we start late on a Wednesday, we **WILL NOT** dismiss one hour early.

HUMBOLDT Community School District

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

23 3rd St. N.,

Dakota City, IA 50529

515-332-1330



www.humboldt.k12.ia.us



@OfficialHCSD



@humboldt_csd



Message from Superintendent Jim Murray



I am excited to welcome students and staff back to Humboldt Community School District for a new school year. I look forward to seeing the students' excitement as they begin their first day of school, especially the kindergarteners whose educational experience is just beginning. We have a lot of work to do. Administrators and Teacher Leaders have designed a school improvement plan to support students' needs and raise achievement scores. Our teachers will focus on how we instructionally respond when students do not learn. We'll concentrate professional development on improving instructional planning and incorporating teaching strategies to meet the needs of our English Language Learners, Special Education Students, and others identified through our PLC process. Our facilities are ready for the school year. I hosted a community tour on July 10 and was pleased to have enough people to use a bus when traveling to the different locations. I showed off our impressive facilities, especially the new construction at Humboldt High School and Taft Elementary. Our facilities are much safer. The tour also provided an opportunity to answer questions about our district's enrollment, finances, and the educational opportunities we provide. I can't believe I am starting my fifth year in the district. Time has gone by quickly. I am blessed to have this opportunity to serve as Superintendent of Schools in this fantastic community and school district. I look forward to our fall student activities starting soon. Feel free to approach me anytime to introduce yourself. I welcome your questions and input for improving our school district and my service to all.

Sincerely,
Jim Murray, Superintendent

The Real Deal

I continue to get great feedback from this portion of the newsletter. Our community members don't want to hear that everything is well; they know education is challenging.

- We just received a school bus that was ordered in November 2022. Bus costs have risen from \$106,000 to \$137,000 in four years, and the order-to-delivery span is about eighteen months.
- We replaced the sprinkler system and resodded the football field. We will be careful with the field use this fall and spring. We may utilize our practice field south of Humboldt Middle School and our soccer field on 8th Street a little more strategically to allow the sod to take root. Our first football game on August 30 is away at Spencer, which provides an extra week before use. You'll know why if you hear in the community that we aren't using the field for an event or team.
- The Summer Food Program was a huge success. Our staff provided about 400 students with seven days of breakfast and lunch, including milk. It was very challenging to communicate, organize, and staff. Melinda Busick, Food Service Director, Kayli Lanam, and the rest of our team did an outstanding job.
- A new school year brings some handbook changes. In middle school, students must keep their cell phones in their lockers. At the high school, students may be required to leave cell phones in storage as they enter the classrooms. They can grab them back as they go. A significant change at the high school will be that once the school day has begun, for security reasons, all students will enter and exit the building in the new front office on the north side. That means students will have a longer walk outside to get to and from the parking lot. The administrators are assigning sections of the west parking to each grade level. Students with senior release are assigned parking sections closest to the new office. The handbook changes will provide a better, safer educational experience for all.
- Help wanted! We are still short several special education paraeducators. The pay rate starts at \$15.00 per hour. The benefits are great and it's a chance to make a difference.



Mark Wenzel Twin Rivers Elementary Principal

Hello Twin Rivers and Humboldt Communities! Welcome Back to School!

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! We are thrilled to have our students back and cannot wait to hear all about their summer adventures. As we embark on another year of learning and growth, we are excited to share some updates and improvements we've made to our school.

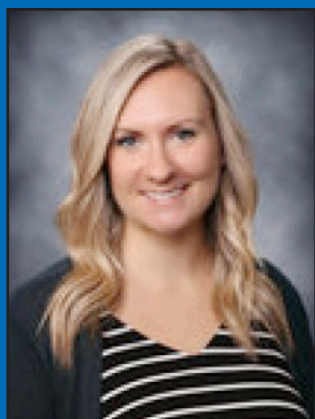
First and foremost, you'll notice a fresh new look to the outside of our building. We've added vibrant vinyl decals on the entrances, making our school more welcoming and visually appealing. Additionally, the children in town have already been enjoying our brand-new swing set, adding more fun to their recess time.

Inside the building, our Special Education room now boasts a new ceiling, creating a better environment for our students and staff. Our custodian and summer helpers have been hard at work, ensuring that the entire school looks fantastic and is ready for the new year.

A big thank you to our dedicated secretary, who has kept everything running smoothly week after week, ensuring that all tasks are in order as we gear up for another successful year.

Our teachers have enjoyed their well-deserved summer break and are now recharged and eager to dive into the new school year. As always, starting a new year comes with its challenges, especially as teachers take on new responsibilities. We have a solid plan in place and are confident in our ability to adapt and improve as we go along.

We welcome everyone back to school with an adventurous spirit and a positive outlook. Let the adventure of 2024-2025 begin—we have missed you all!



Jenna Haselhuhn Mease Elementary Principal Director of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year, Humboldt! I am thrilled to kick off the new school year. After a rejuvenating summer break, we are all set to roll out exciting plans for our students and staff. We will welcome new teachers on August 12th-14th who will participate in our mentoring program led by Kayla Newton. This is a fantastic opportunity for our new staff to familiarize themselves with the district before the rest of the teaching staff returns. New staff will have the opportunity to meet monthly with Kayla to learn about our initiatives and ethics/ professionalism to ensure they successfully transition into their new position.

Additionally, this year, our teachers will participate in professional development geared toward our English Language Learners and Special Education students. We are always working toward continuous improvement, which is one way to ensure we reach all students within our district. We will learn about best practices within the classroom to give all students better access to the curriculum and instruction. We will also learn what productive collaboration looks like between classroom teachers and ELL/ special education teachers.

At Mease Elementary, you will notice we have added decals to the outside and inside classroom windows. This ensures the safety of our students and gives us a little more privacy when guests walk up to the building. Thank you to Northland Auto and Jess Goodenow for organizing and creating eye-catching decals

for us! We will continue to make improvements to our building and classrooms to ensure the safety of all students and staff.

I hope you all had a great summer! Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at our Mease office at 515-332-3578 or by email at Jhaselhuhn@humboldt.k12.ia.us. Have an awesome school year! Go, Wildcats!