

Cokato Elementary

www.dc.k12.mn.us

October 2008



Paragraphs from the Principal...Mrs. Force

September is slipping away! Didn't we just have Open House? We have had a busy month at Cokato Elementary welcoming our returning students, new staff

members, and new students. We have a record number of students enrolled this fall with the following breakdown by grade level:

- Kindergarten 116
- First Grade 100
- Second Grade 100
- Third Grade 100
- Fourth Grade 116
- Grand Total 532

Staff members have enjoyed wearing navy and white t-shirts on Fridays with our "Jog into Learning" theme displayed on the front and back. Staff members all performed "synchronized arm movements" on the stage to the "Rocky Theme" on the first Friday of school to help introduce the students to their goal for this year. As you may know, reading calendars are sent home each month to help tally the number of minutes read by the students. Those who complete the calendar at the end of the month bring it to my office and receive a certificate and a Dairy Queen treat coupon. This year we've set a goal that the student body needs to bring back a total of 3000 signed calendars in order to get someone wet on one of the last days of school! Yes, it appears that the dunk tank or some other means of making an adult wet will be the crowning glory of the year! Thank goodness no one had the idea of kissing a pig or sleeping on the roof! I'll keep you posted on their progress each month. Thanks for helping the kids strive for a goal, and in the meantime, practice their reading skills!

I hope you like the idea Dassel Principal Rob Nudell and I had to provide another way for parents to ask questions and get to know each other. Each building is going to host two meetings throughout the year where parents can come and meet with Mr. Nudell and me. The first meeting will be at Dassel Elementary on October 7 at 2:00 PM in their staff room. Cokato parents are encouraged to attend! We'll make sure the meeting gets done by 3:00 so you can scoot to Cokato and give your children a ride home, if you wish! In December, we'll host the meeting in Cokato. It will be a fun way to get to know other parents in the community and ask questions about anything that's on your mind regarding the elementary schools in our district. I hope to see you on Tuesday, October 7 in Dassel!

Please let us know if you did not receive the "Cokato Elementary Family Handbook at Open House". It contains the "rules of the school", but of great interest is the calendar that lists the events we have planned throughout the year. The biggest change is that Grandparents Day will be held on May 8, which coincides with Mothers Day and the fishing opener weekend. It's a bit later in the year than in the past, but we wanted to stay clear of spring vacation and the Easter holiday as well. That all seems like a long time from now, but time seems to go quickly, doesn't it.

Many of you are regulars at picking up your children in the Parent Waiting Area. Please think of that as a time you could tap on my door and ask me a question. Don't hesitate to call with questions or to e-mail me if you have a concern or a question. I want to make myself accessible to you because we both have your child's well being at the forefront. The school year began wonderfully; let's work together to have this be an outstanding year at Cokato Elementary!

Phy Ed Fundamentals...

Brice Berggren Stacy Sorgatz



As you know we strongly believe in the importance of physical activity, and we would like to emphasize the importance of

physical education class. Of course the other academics subjects are important, but the health and physical activity of the students' body is just as important. Sometimes physical education class gets a bad reputation because of past experiences parents, siblings, or even grandparents may have encountered when they were in school. The good news is that things are different than they were when you were a kid. Math, reading, writing, etc. probably aren't being taught like you (parents) learned as a kid; well the same is true in PE class. PE class is a class that ALL students are engaged in learning, regardless of their existing skills or fitness levels. Yes, the students are moving and playing activities, but there is purpose behind it. Did you know that our school district has a thorough PE curriculum scope and sequence to follow? In addition to learning about different sports, students are learning an understanding how their body's work, how physical activity affects their body, and how daily attitudes and choices towards healthy decision making can effect their life even as an elementary student. It is our hope that when students leave Cokato Elementary they have an understanding of how to take care of their body and take an interest in exercising/moving it daily...whether it is traditional sports activities, or individual activities like juggling, running, biking, etc.

We are fortunate to offer daily physical education to the students. However, your child's need for activity cannot be met only in physical education class. It is recommended that children be aerobically active (increasing heart beat, and making them sweaty) 60 minutes daily. Children should have opportunities for unstructured physical activity during school, like recess and opportunities for physical activity during and after school.

This school year we encourage you and your children to take advantage of every opportunity to be active. If you want to help your child learn, don't restrict physical activity; in fact add physical activity opportunities to your child's day. In other words, "move to learn and learn to move."

Recess Running/Walking Club



Every Tuesday during recess 3rd and 4th graders are invited to participate in running/walking the poles of Peterson Park. It is not required and students can come and go as they please (in other words one week they may chose to participate, and not the next). It has been highly accepted by the students. It has been amazing to watch the excitement, effort, and enthusiasm for "running, just for fun." In fact, we have even seen a nice change of attitudes regarding running during physical education class as well.

All participants carry a punch card with them when they go around the poles, then receive 1 punch every time they complete a lap. How they travel around the poles is up to each student (run, walk, skip, etc.), but they will receive a punch as long as they are honestly going around all the poles. After a little measuring, it was determined that it takes about 5 1/2 laps around the poles to equal 1 mile. Can you believe that some students are easily running/walking 4-7 laps around the poles during a recess!!! In other words some students are running over a mile on Tuesday's during recess! As an incentive throughout the year, student can earn prizes for reaching various long-range goals/benchmarks...such as going 5 miles, 10 miles, 15 miles, etc. It's going to be fun to see how many miles some will go by next spring!



Welcome to Our New Staff!!!



Jodi Munson
I was born and raised in Litchfield, MN with two brothers and a sister. While attending Litchfield High School I played piano and

sang in the choir. After going to college at Bethel University, I married my husband Phil. We moved to a farm in Pelican Rapids. Since then we have lived in Atwater, Cannon Falls, and Howard Lake as my husband pursued his career in the turkey industry. I had various teaching jobs in those communities during this time. In 1997 we built a house in Cokato and I started teaching at the Dassel/Cokato Early Childhood Center. When I am not spending time with my husband and our two sons, I enjoy baking, walking, reading, playing piano and scrapbooking.

When asked what she could add to our school family, Mrs. Munson replied: “After teaching preschool in this district for 9 years, I bring a familiar face to Cokato Elementary for the kindergartners and their parents.”



Todd Heinonen
I was born and raised in Hancock, MI. My family consists of my parents and two brothers and three sisters. While attending Hancock

High School I played hockey and golf. After High school I went to college at Finlandia University, graduating in May, 2005. Since graduation, I have worked at Barkell Elementary School in Hancock and taught 3rd grade in Gilbert, AZ.

When asked what he could add to our school family, Mr. Heinonen replied: “I have a great attitude and enjoy being part of a winning team.”



Stacey McCormick
I was born and raised in Litchfield, MN. I have two sisters and one brother. While I was in high school I played volleyball, ran in track, played in the

band and was involved in color guard. I went to college at Minnesota State University, Moorhead. While in college I did a practicum in Berlin, Germany and completed my student teaching in London, England. I enjoy traveling and spending time with my family.

When asked what she could add to our school family, Ms. McCormick replied, “I have positive ideas and a love for teaching! I hope to help my students become life long learners!”



Michelle Melquist
I grew up in the Cokato Community. My family consists of my parents, Duane and Mary Melquist, my brother Damon, and

sister Stephanie Robertson. I am a 2002 DC graduate. While in high school I participated in gymnastics. After high school I attended college in Fargo, ND. In 2007 I graduated from NDSU with a double major in Elementary Education and Child Development Family Science and a minor in Psychology. I started my teaching career in Bird Island, MN teaching first grade. I am thrilled to be back in Cokato and excited to be teaching fourth grade.

When asked what she could add to our school family, Ms. Melquist replied: “I have a love for learning and an appreciation for our schools and our community that I will share and pass on to my students.”



Sam Weber

I grew up in the Howard Lake/Waverly area, and attended HLWW high school. While in high school I played Football and Basketball. I attended

college at the University of Wisconsin-Stout in Menominee, WI. I studied Early Childhood Education and I have a minor in coaching. Activities out of class included playing for the Blue Devils football team, coaching youth basketball, and a student assistant for the women’s basketball team.

Other activities that I enjoy are being outdoors, working on cars, stock car racing, and four wheeling.

I currently live in Waverly, my parents are Mark and Linda Weber, I have one sister Erin (Kyle) Kutz.

When asked what he could add to our school family, Mr. Weber replied: “I am a person that is passionate about seeing young people succeed at all levels. I have many friends and family members in the Cokato community and been involved with community and school events for many years.”



everychild.one voice.

The mission of the Dassel-Cokato PTA is to foster communication

between schools and families as well as supporting children in their work of learning.

The Dassel-Cokato PTA hopes to create a collaborative effort with the schools, community, and parents/guardians to ensure a quality, well-rounded education for the children in the D-C area.

Start the year off right by becoming a Dassel-Cokato PTA member!

The PTA is a group of community members that works to contribute to the schools and the families of children that attend the school.

Being a member of the PTA **WILL** allow you to:

- Be connected and informed about school through PTA involvement & Advocacy
- Contribute to fundraising opportunities for the school
- Influence decisions that affect your child’s learning
- Become more informed about topics that affect our children and their schools (ex: becoming a media-wise parent, childhood obesity, wellness initiatives within the school)
- Receive personal copies of school board minutes and agendas
- Meet other great community members

Being a member of the PTA **DOES NOT** mean:

- You do not have to attend every meeting
- You will not be forced to volunteer many hours
- You will not have to be on a committee unless you choose to

Upcoming Meeting:

Note - Our regular meetings take place in the high school media center on the first Thursday of every month from 6:30-8:00.

**DIFFERENT LOCATION –
COMMUNITY ROOM by PAC
Thursday, October 2, 6:30-8:00,
Community Room by PAC
Meet the School Board Candidates.**

Come and meet the school board candidates and have a question and answer opportunities.

Fund Development Committee meeting - anyone is welcome to attend the Fund Development committee meetings which are held on the third Friday of each month at

7:30 am at the Grounds. We have a meeting scheduled October 17.

If you have any question about the upcoming meetings or would like to simply talk to someone about PTA, please contact our Membership Committee Chair, Tonia Olsen at 275-3275.

You may also write or email at:

Dassel-Cokato PTA
P. O. Box 632
Dassel, MN 55325
chargerpta@yahoo.com

Volunteering.....



Krista Cates
krista.cates@dc.k12.mn.us
286-4100 ext. 1327

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens

can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead - US anthropologist and author

We are off to another busy year in the volunteer office! Volunteer orientation was held on the 18th. Thank you to the parents that were able to attend! If you were unable to attend I still welcome you to get involved in our school. We have many volunteer opportunities throughout the year. I would like to help you find the right fit for you. Volunteering can be anything from volunteering regularly every week to coming in one time for a special event. We also have projects that can be worked on at home. We welcome grandparents to volunteer, too, so pass the word if you know of a retired person that would like to give the gift of their time to our students. The time our volunteers give it truly a gift! Each and every volunteers and what they do is greatly appreciated! Our volunteers help to make Cokato Elementary School a great place to learn! Please contact me if you would like to learn more: Krista Cates 286-4100 ext. 1327 or krista.cates@dc.k12.mn.us

VOLUNTEER PRIZE DRAWING

As a small way to show our appreciation of our Cokato Elementary Volunteers, we will be having a monthly drawing for prizes. Each time you come in to volunteer, please enter your name in the drawing by writing your name on a slip and placing it in the basket by the sign-in sheet in the office. At home volunteers, I will place your name in the drawing each time I send a project home for you. A name will be drawn each month for a prize and winners will be written in the newsletter.

Jen Hoikka is the volunteer drawing winner for September. Jen currently has a 1st grader and a 3rd grader here at Cokato Elementary School. She has been a volunteer here for the past four years working on projects at home. Thank you Jen for all that you have done! We appreciate you!



- A volunteer is needed to come in weekly to work on running copies and other projects for our teachers. You can choose the day. This saves our teachers an amazing amount of time!
- Milk cap counter. As the Kemps and Land O'Lakes milk caps get turned in they need to be separated and counted. This is a task that can be done by an at home-helper.
- Two volunteers are needed for Safety Day on October 9th. You would be helping to make the ID cards for the students that choose to participate.
- Many volunteers are needed to help with the Vision and Hearing Screening on October 10th. No experience necessary! Kelly O'Fallon will train all of the volunteers.
- 2nd grade will be doing bat research books in the media center. Three volunteers will be needed for each class to work with a small group to help them complete their book. It is a fun project!



The Birthday Table is back. Each month the students with birthdays during that month will receive an invitation to sit at the birthday table in the lunchroom. Each birthday student will be invited to bring a special guest. This special guest can be mom, dad, grandparent, other special person, OR a school friend. The birthday student will need to choose between either a special guest from outside of school (like mom, dad, etc...) OR a school friend. Please not both. If more than one adult or preschool child will be attending please indicate that on the reservation slip that the birthday student will return.

All outside guests will need to bring exact change with them for their hot lunch, \$2.95 for adults and \$1.50 for preschoolers. We need to know the exact count so that enough lunches are made and enough special birthday treats are ordered. The September birthday table will be Tuesday, September 30th. Summer birthdays will be celebrated during their 1/2 birthday month. If you come to join your child for lunch, please sign in at the office and then you can come down to the lunchroom. The lunch times are as follows (kindergarten does not participate):

- 4th grade – 11:40**
- 3rd grade – 11:30**
- 2nd grade – 11:50**
- 1st grade – 12:00**

DQ Kids Night is back for a second year! Every Wednesday is Kids Night at the Cokato Dairy Queen with 15% of ALL sales from 5:00-8:00 being donated to our elementary schools. Artwork will be displayed from a classroom from either Cokato or Dassel Elementary Schools each Wednesday, too. In October, Mrs. Berggren's class will display art on the 8th and Mrs. Kusler's class will display art on the 22nd. Watch your child's Friday newsletters for a reminder of when his/her art will be displayed. Spread the word! Last year the Cokato Dairy Queen donated \$1,112 to Cokato Elementary! THANK YOU Cokato Dairy Queen!



This year we will be holding regular **Box Tops** drawings. To participate, clip Box Tops, have your child write their name and grade on the back,

and then turn them in to the Box Tops collection box in the 2nd grade hallway. Names will be drawn monthly for prizes. Those little Box Tops really add up for our school! Last year we collected 20,056 for \$2,005.60! Thank you for all of your clipping and thanks to Diane Anderson for all of the work she does counting and bundling those Box Tops!

Other ways to save for our school with Box Tops:

- Box Tops Marketplace – Start you online shopping at the Box Tops for Education Marketplace. Start by going to www.boxtops4education.com/ marketplace
- From there choose the many online stores like JC Penny, Kohl's, Barnes and Noble, and many more. You will then go directly to the stores site and when you check out a portion of the purchase will be donated to our school. There is not additional cost to you!
- Sign up to receive the Box Tops newsletter at www.boxtops4education.com. You will

receive the Box Tops newsletter that includes great recipe ideas, ways to earn additional Box Tops for our school, and printable product coupons.

Campbell's Labels for Education – Clip the UPC from participating Campbell's products.



Campbell's no longer accepts only the label front, please trim the UPC with the Campbell's boy on it. These points can be used to purchase playground supplies and other educational items for our school.

Milk Lids – Rinse and save the specially marked Kemps and Land O'Lakes milk caps. Each specially marked cap or proof of purchase is worth 5 cents for our school. They do add up!



Target – Choose Cokato Elementary as your school of choice for your Target Red Card and Target will make a donation to our school for each of your purchases using your card.



You are invited to attend!
Dassel and Cokato elementary
Parent Group
Tuesday, October 7th 2:00
Dassel elementary staff room

Everyone from both Dassel and Cokato is invited to attend. There is no membership or any responsibilities. At each meeting topics that relate to our elementary schools are discussed. It is a great chance to bring up any topics that are on your mind as well. This year, the meeting location will be rotated bi-monthly between the two buildings. The meeting will be done in time for you come back to Cokato to pick up your student from school if you choose to. We hope to see you there!

Upcoming Community Education Events:

To register or for more information call our office at 286-4120 or visit us on line at www.dc.k12.mn.us and click on Community Education

Cosmic Bowling (Gr.K-6)



Do you enjoy bowling? Have you ever bowled in the dark? Come and enjoy an afternoon of bowling under the black lights. Wear something white and see how it glows under the black lights. Trip fee includes transportation, 2+ games of

bowling and shoe rental.

Activity #3010

Thursday, Oct. 16 – (MEA Break)

Departure: Cokato Elem: Main Door – 12:20 PM
Dassel Elem. Main Door – 12:30 PM

Return: Dassel Elem. Main Door – 3:05 PM
Cokato Elem. Main Door – 3:15 PM

Fee: \$12

Clay Camp (Gr. K-5)



Instructor: Laura Lounsbury

Pottery and sculpture handmade by your child will truly capture their imagination. Students will be given 1.5 pounds of red and white

earthenware clay and taught basic handbuilding techniques. Glazes are food safe, so projects may include covered jars, baskets, mugs, bowls or a sculpture reflecting your child's interest. The artwork will be fired and glazed by the instructor and returned back to school within four weeks.

Dress for a mess! *Parents – you can register and make a project also!*

Activity #2200A – Dassel Elem.

Tuesday, October 14th
3:15-4:45 PM – Rm. #111
Fee: \$26

Activity #2200B – Cokato Elem.

Monday, Oct. 13th
3:15-4:45 PM – Rm. #TBD
Fee: \$26

Friday Night Out (Gr. 4-6) - \$9

Friday Night Out is a special night for kids! Children will spend their evening swimming in the pool, doing a project or playing games and relaxing at an evenings end with a snack. Parents will have time to catch up on shopping, cleaning, playing or simply relaxing. Maximum 50

Activity #3008B

Friday, October 24th – 6:30-10:00 PM - Movie to be shown: “Goonies”
MS Commons
Fee: \$9

Halloween Cupcakes (Gr. K-4)

Do you love cupcakes? Would you like to learn how to decorate scary or creepy cupcakes just in



time for Halloween? During class, you will create your own scary treats with frosting. All supplies will be provided, including your very own

decoration set to keep and a box to carry home 4-6 decorated cupcakes.

Activity #1007A – Dassel

Thursday, Oct. 23
3:15-4:30 PM – Rm. #111
Fee: \$15, includes all supplies
Registration deadline: Oct. 16

Activity #1007B-Cokato

Monday, Oct. 27
3:15-4:30 PM – Rm. #139
Fee: \$15, includes all supplies
Registration deadline: Oct. 20

Upcoming Adult Classes

Check these out in our brochure or online at www.dc.k12.mn.us and click on Community Education

- Pilates on the Ball
- Mat Pilates
- Self Defense
- Dr. Mom
- Natural Body Wraps for Women
- Decorating on a Dime
- Pottery
- Beginning Crochet
- Square in a Square Quilt
- Asian Cuisine
- Folk Harp Lessons

MEA Break

Do you need something to do over MEA break? Join us at **Charger Kids Club!** We will be having lots of fun and we don't want you to miss out!

Highlights include:

- Cosmic Bowling at Litchfield Bowling Center (bowling under the black lights),
- Pajama day and pizza party,
- messy recipe day and so much more!

Dates: Oct. 16, 17 & 20

Time: 6:00 am- 6:00 pm

Location: Cokato Elementary

Fee: \$25 a day (includes, breakfast, snacks, pizza party and field trip)

Call Jennifer Todnem, Charger Kids Club Site Supervisor at 286-4100 ext. 1334

Love and Logic

Join a **5-week** class to learn effective ways to raise respectful and responsible kids.

Have less stress and more confidence with techniques you can start using right after the first class!!!

Classes will be offered

- Oct. 23 and 30 and Nov. 6, 13 and 20
- From 6-8 pm at the D-C ECFE Center
- Low cost family meal and **FREE** childcare up to age 8 is available
- Registration required
- Register by Oct 21, 2008 by calling 320-286-4120
- \$10.00 fee includes class, workbook and certificate of participation and is payable to the instructor on the first night of class.
- Scholarships are available
- Participants must be residents of the D-C School District or Meeker County

Use the class as a refresher if you've already been using the techniques. If you have the workbook already, the class is FREE!

Cokato Elementary

Telephone Extension Numbers

Extension	Staff name
1310	Abrahamson, Jean
1318	Ardooff, Julie
1341	Barton, Mike
1332	Berggren, Brice
1311	Berggren, Gail
1337	Bertram, Jenny
1348	Cardinal, Kristy
1327	Cates, Krista
1339	Chap, Carissa
1334	Charger Kids Club
1320	Conference Room
1346	Custodians
1300	Davison, Mary
1326	Dolan, Mark
1344	Franklin, Rachel
1339	Glur, Kristin
1314	Hanson, Lori
1340	Heinonen, Todd
1333	Johnson, Kathy
1347	Johnson, Lynda
1321	Kaczmarek, Cindy
1323	Kielty, Janie
1307	Kitchen
1325	Kusler, Pat
1345	McCormick, Stacey
1330	Media Center
1343	Media-Comp. Lab
1328	Melquist, Michelle
1313	Meyer, Jen
1316	Motor Room
1312	Moye, Beverly
1356	Munson, Jodi
1329	Nelson, Lee
1306	O'Fallon, Kelly
1349	Multi Purpose
1331	Osterberg, Pam
1352	Pierce, Irene
1319	Resource Room
1335	Searles, Jean
1336	Sickmann, Heidi M/W/F
1338	Snider, Katy
1355	Sorgatz, Stacy
1322	Spires, Amanda
1342	Stangland, Lori
1349	Terpstra, Sarah Tues/Thurs
1315	Weinandt, Ryan
1324	Weber, Sam
1300	Office
1304	Force, Lorene
1305	Health Assistant

Eight Steps to Successful, Happy Read-Alouds

It's a thrill to hear your little one begin to sound out words and read stories — but it can be difficult to listen to his halting pronunciation, missed words, and other mistakes. How can you help him learn without stifling his confidence or turning reading time into a chore? It can be a tough call, but these guidelines will help.

1. **Bite your tongue — most of the time.** If your child is making it through most words, but doing it at a snail's pace, be patient and let her carry on. She needs the practice. Frequent interruptions can interfere with comprehension (and the pleasure of reading).
2. **Speak up for sense.** An exception to the stay-mum rule: Gently correct your child if he alters the meaning of a sentence by skipping or substituting an important word.
3. **Help with stumpers.** If your child encounters a new, difficult word that is key to understanding the sentence or passage he's reading, or that recurs frequently, step in to pronounce and define it for him.
4. **Answer appeals.** When she asks for help, give it. Encourage her to figure words out on her own, but if she's genuinely stumped, come to her aid so she doesn't get frustrated.
5. **Use pictures as helpers.** Reviewing the pictures in a storybook before reading it can give your child an idea of what the text will be about.
6. **Encore!** When he finishes a passage or a story, ask him to read it again. Your interest is a confidence-booster, and the extra practice with familiar text will also boost both his skills and his self-esteem.
7. **Be a drama queen.** When you're the one doing the reading, use lots of expression. Really put on a show! This will encourage your child to do the same when she reads. If she can, you'll know she's understanding the words she's reading, and not simply parroting them mindlessly.
8. **Notice patterns.** If your child repeats the same kinds of errors frequently, mention this to the teacher. A pattern of similar mistakes may be a sign of trouble. The teacher can help you diagnose it and get help quickly.

FROM THE NURSE'S DESK...



Kelly A. O'Fallon, LSN

It's time once again for the annual vision and hearing screening. As always, screenings are done as recommended by the MN Department of Health. Hearing and vision screening will be conducted on students in grades 1 and 3. Grades K and 2

will be screened for hearing only. Of course, we will also include those children in which a vision or hearing concern is brought to our attention by a parent, teacher or student, and those students with a history of poor vision/hearing.

The initial screening will take place on **October 10th**. A re-screening will be held on **October 31st** for those students who did not pass the initial screening. If, at this point your child does not pass, you will receive a referral letter recommending that his/her health care provider see your child. If you do not receive a letter by the beginning of November, your child has passed and no follow up is necessary.

Good vision and hearing is an essential key to learning. It is very important to conduct screenings so that any problems can be detected at an early age. The screening is only an indication to whether a concern may be present. Further evaluation by your health care provider will be needed to determine if a problem exists. If you have specific concerns regarding your child, please call the health office.

I would love to have parent volunteers participate in this event. If you are interested in assisting with screening, please call me @ 286-4204. Training will be provided!



Coming Events:

Oct. 10	Vision and Hearing Screening Grades 1 & 3 Hearing Screening- Grades K & 2
16 & 17 20	No School- Education Convention No School- Teacher Planning/ Staff Development
30	Picture Retakes for all students
31	Vision and Hearing Rescreening

Salutations from the School Social Workers...

Sarah Terpstra ... School Social Worker



We are asking parents and guardians to help us prevent truancy this year. According to the State of Minnesota all children should attend school until the age of eighteen and must

until they are sixteen. If a student at Cokato Elementary has three unexcused absences a note and phone call will be made to the parents or guardian of the student. In addition, a referral will be made to Wright County Human Services. If the student has seven unexcused absences a referral will be made to the Wright County Child Protection Department in the category of educational neglect for students twelve and under.

Excused absences would be considered an illness, family emergency, funeral, and religious holiday. Unexcused absences would be sleeping in late, parent forgetting to wake up their child for school, parent not knowing the school schedule, low awareness of the importance of an education, student does not feel like coming to school, student does not like school, student being bullied, babysitting, or parent not knowing the attendance policy. If your child is having difficulties please talk with their teacher or one of the school social workers here at Cokato Elementary. We are here to offer you and your family support. We want each student to like coming to school and to feel good about being here. We like seeing your child each and every day and greeting them with a hug or a high five. All of the staff at Cokato Elementary truly cares about your child and we want to make it the best experience we can for them.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact:

Sarah Terpstra 320-286-4100 ext. 1349
(Tuesday/Thursday)

Heidi Sickmann 320-286-4100 ext. 1336
(Monday/Wednesday/Friday)

- ❖ **Friendship social skills groups are going to begin the week of October 6th. If you are interested in having your child participate in one of these groups please contact their teacher. We will be sending permission forms home soon.**

From the Media Center...

Pam Osterberg



Each classroom has a weekly scheduled checkout time (see schedule below). During this time students are introduced to various types of children's literature and learn how to access materials for

pleasure and information. The weekly visit to the Media Center is much more enjoyable for students if they return their books on time as they are not allowed to check out books until books are returned. Students K-2nd grade are allowed two books, 3rd and 4th grade students are allowed three books. When students are working on a project they are welcome to checkout additional books. Students are invited to stop in and exchange books throughout the week.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
8:15 – 8:35 3 - Barton	8:15 – 8:35 1 - Johnson	9:15 – 9:35 2 - Nelson	
8:35 – 8:55 3 - Stangland	8:35 – 8:55 1 - Searles	9:35 – 9:55 2 - Berggren	
8:55 – 9:15 3 - Glur/Chap	8:55 – 9:15 1 - Weber	9:55 – 10:15 2 - Weinandt	
9:15 – 9:35 3 - Glur/Chap	9:15 – 9:35 1 - Franklin	10:15 – 10:35 2 - Ardoff	
	9:35 – 9:55 1 - Moye	10:35 – 10:55 2 - Kilty	
1:00 -1:20 K - Kaczmarek	12:10 – 12:35 4 - Heinonen	12:10 – 12:35 4 - Bertram	12:10 – 12:35 4 - Kusler
1:20- 1:40 K - Hanson	1:00 -1:20 K - Kaczmarek	12:35 – 1:00 4 - Melquist	12:35 – 1:00 4 -McCormick
1:40 – 2:00 K - Munson	1:20- 1:40 K - Hanson		
2:00 -2:20 3 Dolan	1:40 – 2:00 K - Munson		

Volunteers:

A big thank you goes out to Darlene Prevost and Rhea Langemo for volunteering each week in the media center. Your helping hands are appreciated!



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
DC ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST MENU		1 CEREAL CINNAMON TOAST FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE MILK - Variety	2 DOUGHNUT YOGURT FRUIT JUICE MILK	3 CEREAL MINI MUFFIN FRESH FRUIT MILK
6 BRE AKFAST CEREAL MUFFIN FRUIT, FRESH ASSORTED MILK - Variety	7 BRE AKFAST PIZZA FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE MILK	8 CEREAL COOKIE OR STICKS FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE MILK - Variety	9 PANCAKES SMOKIES FRUIT JUICE, ASSORTED MILK - Variety SYRUP, PANCAKE	10 CEREAL TOAST W/SUGAR & CINNAMON FRUIT SAUCE MILK - Variety
13 POP TARTS TRIX YOGURT FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE MILK - Variety	14 CEREAL MUFFIN FRUIT JUICE, ASSORTED MILK - Variety	15 BRE AKFAST OMELET TOAST FRUIT JUICE, ASSORTED MILK - Variety	16 NO SCHOOL	17 NO SCHOOL
20 NO SCHOOL	21 APPLE STREUDEL STICKS CHEESE STICK FRUIT JUICE MILK	22 CEREAL MUFFIN FRUIT, FRESH ASSORTED MILK - Variety	23 FRENCH TOAST STICKS SMOKIES FRUIT JUICE, ASSORTED MILK - Variety	24 CEREAL TOAST/JELLY FRESH FRUIT MILK - Variety
27 CEREAL TRIX YOGURT FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE MILK - Variety	28 WAFFLE STICKS SMOKIES FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE MILK - Variety	29 CEREAL TOAST W/SUGAR & CINNAMON FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE MILK - Variety	30 DOUGHNUT TRIX YOGURT FRUIT JUICE, ASSORTED MILK - Variety	31 CEREAL MINI MUFFIN FRESH FRUIT MILK - Variety



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
DASSEL-COKATO LUNCH MENU		1 GOULASH FRENCH BREAD LETTUCE SALAD/DRESSING FRESH FRUIT MILK - Variety	2 GRILLED CHICKEN PATTY ALFREDO NOODLES BREAD STICK FRESH FRUIT MILK - Variety	3 <u>HOMECOMING LUNCH</u> HOT DOG W/BUN SAUERKRAUT BAG OF BAKED CHIPS VEGGIE STICKS SPECIAL TREAT MILK - Variety
6 FRENCH TOAST STICKS SMOKIES TRI TATER ORANGE SMILES FRUIT JUICE, ASSORTED MILK - Variety	7 HAMBURGER ON A BUN LETTUCE & TOMATO SAVORY FRENCH FRIES VEGETABLE CHOICE FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE MILK - Variety	8 SUPER NACHOS W/ FIXINGS SEASONED CORN FRESH FRUIT SCHOOL MADE BAR MILK - Variety	9 GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH TUNA SALAD SANDWICH TOMATO SOUP FRESH VEGGIES AND DIP FRESH FRUIT MILK - Variety	10 MEAT & GRAVY MASHED POTATOES SEASONED MIXED VEG. DINNER ROLL FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE MILK - Variety
13 POPCORN CHICKEN AUGRATIN POTATOES SEASONED PEAS BREAD CHOICE FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE MILK - Variety	14 SPAGHETTI W/ MEAT COLESLAW SEASONED GREEN BEANS FRESH FRUIT MILK - Variety <i>ms & Dassel only hs & Cokato on Wed.</i>	15 MINI CORN DOGS SAVORY FRENCH FRIES BROCCOLI AND CHEESE BREAD CHOICE/milk FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE <i>MS & Dassel HS & Cokato on Tuesday</i>	16 NO SCHOOL TODAY EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE	17 NO SCHOOL TODAY EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE
20 NO SCHOOL TODAY STAFF DEVELOPMENT	21 CHEESE BREAD W/ PIZZA SAUCE LETTUCE SALAD FRESH FRUIT MILK - Variety	22 CHICKEN STRIPS MAC AND CHEESE SEASONED PEAS FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE MILK - Variety	23 HOT HAM & CHEESE/BUN BATTER BITES CARROT STICKS FRESH FRUIT CHOICE MILK - Variety	24 SLOPPY JOE ON A BUN SAVORY FRENCH FRIES SEASONED GREEN BEANS FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE MILK - Variety
27 PIZZA SEASONED CORN FRESH FRUIT MILK - Variety	28 COUNTRY FRIED STEAK MASHED POTATOES COUNTRY GRAVY SEASONED CARROTS TEA BISCUIT FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE MILK - Variety	29 CHOW MEIN/NOODLES RICE COLESLAW PINE APPLE/MANDARIN ORANGES FORTUNE COOKIE MILK - Variety	30 CHICKEN PATTY ON A BUN POTATO SMILES SEASONED GREEN BEANS FRESH FRUIT MILK - Variety	31 MR. RIBLET ON A BUN POTATO ROUNDS FRESH VEGGIES AND DIP FRUIT SAUCE CHOICE MILK - Variety