

THE SAYDEL COMMUNICATOR

Big City Opportunities, Small Town Commitment for Students

Superintendent's Message

Mr. Todd A. Martin



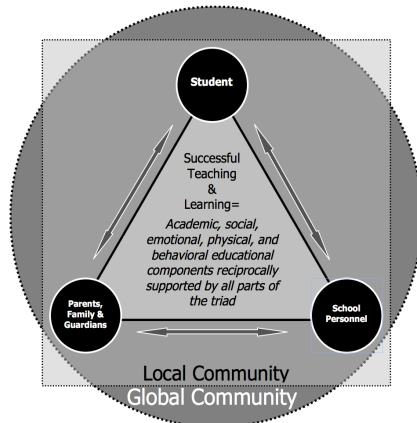
Greetings Saydel Families and Community Members!

As we prepare to dive back into the business of education, we have great hopes and expectations for the upcoming 2022-23 school year. Our mantra for the year is centered around the collective power we hold in working as one; hence "WE ARE ONE." With this mindset, Saydel Staff has a renewed sense of purpose as we plan and prepare to build strong relational capacity, dive into academics and the wellbeing of our students, and work to move our district from "good to great." It has been an especially exciting time as we have new

staff members and leaders across the district which provides excellent opportunities for fresh ideas, enthusiasm, and increased growth potential. If you happen to see new staff members in our buildings, please welcome them to our Saydel family.

"We Are One"

As teaching and learning commences, please work collectively to get to know your child's teacher(s) in efforts to fortify this important triad partnership (see graphic). In this essential partnership, school, parents/guardians, and students work as one to ensure we get the most out of our collective time and efforts, hence one year's growth or more for all learners. At the foundation of this partnership lies trusting and respectful relationships, effective and productive communication, and high expectations for all. With these attributes guiding us, we will undoubtedly make a significant difference in the lives of our youth. Please help us in building, fortifying, and sustaining strong partnerships here at Saydel CSD.



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SCHOOL HOURS

CORNELL ELEMENTARY

8:40 AM - 3:35 PM
 Wed.: 10:10 AM - 3:35 PM

WOODSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

7:45 AM - 2:45 PM
 Wed.: 9:15 AM - 2:45 PM

SAYDEL HIGH SCHOOL

7:45 AM - 2:45 PM
 Wed.: 9:15 AM - 2:45 PM

Each Wednesday all schools begin one hour later for teacher in-service.

MISSION: SERVING THE UNIQUE LEARNING NEEDS OF EACH & EVERY STUDENT



The Saydel Community School District is transitioning to an electronic newsletter. If you would like to continue receiving news updates from the district, please provide your email using the following links.

<https://forms.gle/oFTqxrxx9hFnNqLz6>





THE SAYDEL COMMUNICATOR

Big City Opportunities, Small Town Commitment for Students

Superintendent's Message : Continued from page 1

As we continue to prepare for a successful 2022-23 school year, please help me in recognizing our board members: Julie Jennings, Mike Mortensen, Jennifer Van Houten, Roland Kouski, Chad Vitiritto, Doug Kayser and Gary Christensen. Their dedication and commitments to the Saydel Community is very much appreciated and are great examples of giving back; hence their civic duties. Far too often, we overlook these important roles that school board members play in establishing direction and in preparing our district for future challenges and ultimately successes for our youth. Our school board has been instrumental in the progress our district has made toward the direct benefit of our students and community over the years. For that we are extremely thankful!

In addition to our preparations for a great school year, you will see significant facility improvements at each building campus as a result of our 2021-22 District-Wide Additions and Renovations projects stemming from the bond referendum the community helped us pass in September of 2020. We are extremely appreciative of the overwhelming support and have been working tirelessly to ensure we are being good stewards of the trust you have placed in us with this set of projects over the past 18 months. THANK YOU!

Grounds Master Planning: The district has worked through a revised Master Facilities and Grounds Master Planning process and have plans to move the district toward our goal of 100% renovation to all learning spaces by 2030. We are on pace to achieve this target and are working through summer projects for 2023 and 2024 to continue this trajectory. This is all part of our marketing strategic plan for our facilities and grounds.

Cornell Elementary: New 3rd grade pod. Renovations: remodeling of classrooms in our effort to get Cornell Elementary to nearly 100% renovated we have undergone a massive renovation of the rest of the classrooms and learning spaces, cafeteria, media center, and activity rooms.



Woodside MS: Two new classrooms/activity spaces and new administrative office/secured entrance. Renovations: four classrooms, music/band room, special education classrooms, bus loop, sprinkler system upgrade, and HVAC updates to equipment and internals.



Saydel HS: New fine arts addition, two new math classrooms, and backstage/workshop for auditorium. Renovations: multi-purpose room, counselor suite, dining hall/student union, media center/at-risk classrooms, and HVAC updates to equipment and internals.

We have so much to be thankful for at Saydel CSD, and we are all working hard to continue to improve our organization. Our mantra **"WE ARE ONE"** confirms our commitments to working together to make a difference. The world around us is changing at an ever-increasing rate, and we must continue to grow, change, and improve as we navigate through this journey. We must welcome these challenges in efforts to continue to construct our own future and successes for our community. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions, reach out to us. Go out and make it a great year! GO EAGLES!

Yours in Service,

Todd A. Martin
Superintendent of Schools

Saydel Community School District : 2022-23 School Calendar

July 2022						
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Saydel Community Schools
District Office open M-F 8:00am - 4:00pm
5740 NE 14th St, Des Moines, IA 50313
515-264-0866 (Fax) 515-264-0869

Cornell Elementary School	515-244-8173
8:40am - 3:35pm, Wed. 10:10am - 3:35pm	
Woodside Middle School	515-265-3451
7:45am - 2:45pm, Wed. 9:15am - 2:45pm	
Saydel High School	515-262-9325
7:45am - 2:45pm, Wed. 9:15am - 2:45pm	

Aug 15-16	New Staff Orientation
Aug 17-19, Aug 22	All Staff (TQ Aug 18)
Aug 23	First Day of School
Sep 5	No School - Labor Day
Oct 19	No School - Teacher Work Day
Oct 25	Parent/Teacher Conferences, 2 Hour Early Out
Nov 23-25	No School - Thanksgiving Break
Dec 22-Jan 2	No School - Winter Break
Jan 10	End of 1st Semester, 2 Hour Early Out
Jan 16	No School
Feb 15	No School - Teacher Work Day
Feb 28	Parent/Teacher Conferences, 2 Hour Early Out
Mar 10-17	No School - Spring Break
Apr 17	No School
May 21	Senior Graduation
May 26	End of 2nd Semester, 2 Hour Early Out
May 29	Memorial Day
May 30	Teacher Work Day

Key	
	First Day of School
	No School for Students
	No School for Students & Staff
	2 Hour Early Out
	2 Hour Early Out, End of Semester
	Senior Graduation

January 2023						
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June 2023						
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Wednesday Late Starts: Each Wednesday, every building will begin 90 minutes later (see times above) to accommodate staff professional development and job embedded work.

Conferences: Parents/Guardians will receive regular, ongoing communications per the Saydel CSD Communication Expectations. Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held the week of October 24, 2022 and the week of February 27, 2023.

Total Hours: 1106 (1080 hours State of Iowa minimum requirement)

***Note for Inclement Weather Make-up** (if applicable): reserved dates for additional snow days: April 17, May 30, May 31



Amber Ray Named As Executive Director of Business & Operations

Saydel Community School District has named Amber Ray as its Executive Director of Business and Operations.

Ray has served as Controller at Southeast Polk Community School District for 10 years. In this role, she helped to implement and train staff on a new enterprise resource system and a new banking system. She streamlined various district processes, assisted in improving the district's credit rating and supported district leadership in raising Southeast Polk's solvency ratio from a negative 6.2% to a positive 21.3% in the first six years of her employment.

Prior to Southeast Polk, Ray served as an Associate Internal Auditor and a Capital Projects accountant with Des Moines Public Schools. In these roles, she facilitated open lines of communication with employees in school buildings and district departments while consistently promoting the importance of a team-first philosophy.

Ray earned a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and Business Administration from Grand View College. She passed the CPA exam and earned her license as a State of Iowa School Business Official in 2012.

"I am excited to join the Saydel Community School District and the Eagles family!" said Ray. "I can't wait to work with the district's staff and community to foster Saydel's mission – to serve the unique learning needs of each and every student!"

Ray lives in Ankeny with her daughter Morgan (age 14). Outside of work, she enjoys cooking, walking her dogs, reading, and spending time with her pets, friends and family.



AMBER RAY

Ray officially will begin serving as Executive Director of Business and Operations for the Saydel Community School District on August 8, 2022.

Saydel Introduces New Technology Director

Saydel has welcomed Chris Bieghler as the new Director of Technology where he is responsible for the development, implementation and maintenance of all areas of technology. He directs and provides leadership for information technology functions including user technical support, vendor relationships, data center/server administration, application development, classroom integration, network management/support, project management and budget development. Bieghler also coordinates technology planning and collaboration with district stakeholders.

Bieghler began working at Saydel on July 1. His position is part of a sharing agreement with Bondurant-Farrar Schools, where he has been employed since 2017. Prior to this position, he served as an Education Program Consultant (Bureau of Information & Analysis) with the Iowa Department of Education from 2015-2017. To begin his career, Bieghler was the Supervisor of Technology for the Newton CSD from 2005-2015.

He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Management Information Systems from Central College in 2001 and went on to receive his Master of Science degree in Management Information Systems from Dakota State University in 2011.

Bieghler resides in Bondurant with his wife Katie and three boys: Ben (11), Sully (10) and Liam (7).



CHRIS BIEGHLER



Meet Saydel's New SRO Officer, Deputy Brittany Worrall

Saydel CSD is excited to welcome Deputy Brittany Worrall as the new School Resource Officer. She officially joins the district this month; however, she been busy this summer attending events and touring Saydel's campuses so she can get acquainted with students and staff. Please introduce yourself when you see her out and about at activities. The following is an introduction from Deputy Worrall.

Hello all! Thank you for the opportunity to introduce myself. I am Brittany Worrall, and I work for the Polk County Sheriff's Office. Starting this month, I will become Saydel's new School Resource Officer.

A little bit about myself, I have an awesome two-year-old son named Grayson with my husband Jake, and we also have a German Shepherd named Echo. I have been with the Sheriff's Office for approximately five years now and have work experience ranging within our jail facility, patrol functions, mentorship to our Cadet and Reserve program and am currently assigned to the Community Relations Division.

I am also a certified instructor for First Aid and CPR, OC, and a car seat installation technician (which I am happy to assist with any car seat questions you or families might have).

My goal is to make a positive impact while building relationships of trust with the many students, families, and staff on a daily basis. Truly to become a School Resource Officer has been a career goal of mine and I am very excited to continue to serve our community while being utilized within the Saydel School District. Please reach out if you have any questions or suggestions for this upcoming year. My email is worallbrittany@saydel.net.



Traci Lust Named As Executive Director of Schools

Effective July 1, 2022, Saydel named Traci Lust as its new Executive Director of Schools. Lust has a proven ability to move student achievement, and she has tenacity and drive to make a difference in our schools. She has an excellent visionary approach to Saydel's collective work, and she has the knowledge and expertise to lead our district toward comprehensive improvement.

With Lust's background and historical understanding of Saydel CSD, TAP, and working with at-risk populations, she is a great fit for leadership at Saydel CSD. She has served as a teacher, dean of students, literacy leader, master teacher, and executive master teacher in her years of service to learners.

Lust said, "I have spent the majority of my life in schools and throughout that journey I have learned from so many

people. I am excited to take all of the lessons that I have learned and use them in my new role as Executive Director of Schools in Saydel. I look forward to using everything I have learned to do my best to help us meet the needs of ALL of our students. Thank you to everyone who has helped me grow into this role! I am honored and grateful for the opportunity."



TRACI LUST



Creating An Eagle Legacy



Saydel High School Principal William Crosby

I am very excited to welcome you to another fantastic year at Saydel High School. We appreciate your time and commitment to our school and to your student's education. I will be serving the Saydel community as the Saydel High School principal. I previously served the Des Moines

community as an associate principal at East High School and before that as an associate principal at Goodrell Middle School and Brody Middle School. I was also a behavior interventionist at North High School and East High School. I started my career at East High School as a physics, earth science and chemistry teacher.

In my personal life, I am married to an amazing woman who is a therapist serving the Highland Park area and I have three wonderful children. My two oldest children will be joining me at Saydel High next year as a sophomore and a freshman. We reside on the NE side of Des Moines just a few miles from the high school with our three dogs. When I'm not at the school, you could see me around the metro supporting my kids in their different activities, at Drake University finishing up my doctorate, or me trying random experiences like joining a curling team.

I'm invested in our community and I truly believe in our district's mission. At Saydel High we strive to embody the district's mission of meeting the unique learning needs of each student. We push each student to create an Eagle Legacy that they, and their family, will be proud of and that others will use as an example to better themselves. We are unable to do this alone and we must build a partnership to serve each of our students.

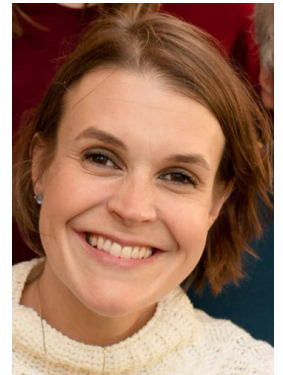
Every great partnership requires great two-way communication. We will communicate extensively with students and parents about student learning and school programs. This communication takes place through our website, PowerSchool, Facebook, Twitter (@SaydelHS), Schoology, etc. We will also communicate weekly and monthly through emails and phone calls. With this in mind, please verify that we have your most updated contact information for your family. Please contact us at any time with any questions you may have, improvements that we can make or assistance we can provide.

I'm extremely excited to partner with some amazing staff members at Saydel High School. In this article, we will introduce the new staff members, including our new Associate Principal, Shannon Mohling. Mrs. Mohling has been an integral part of the Saydel community for years and will be a massive support to the students, staff, and community at Saydel High School as we create a collective Eagle Legacy.

Always remember that your legacy is read tomorrow but it is being written today.

New Saydel High School Staff

Hello! My name is **Shannon Mohling** and I am honored to be the Associate Principal at Saydel High School this year. I currently live in Ankeny with my husband, three kids, and three dogs. This will be my 21st year in education and my 17th year with the Saydel School District. I taught 2nd grade at Cornell for eight years and then I was a reading and math interventionist and a Master teacher at Woodside for eight more. I am excited to see the kids I taught as 2nd graders all those years ago as young adults in the building, and also see all the students I just had at Woodside. I have a passion for Saydel and when I decided to work toward my administrative degree, I knew I wanted to stay with the district. I am so blessed to have been chosen for this role and I can't wait to continue to support the students and teachers in the community I love.



My name is **Spencer Chandler** and I will be teaching math. I grew up in Weiser, ID, where I graduated in 2011. I received my Bachelor's degree in math from Pacific University in 2015. I made a career change and started teaching math at Buhl High School in Idaho in 2017. I moved to Iowa in 2021 from Montana with my wife and dog Sweet Dee. We enjoy concerts, golfing, bike rides and lego building. I haven't taught since 2019 so I'm excited to get back in the classroom. I am excited to be in a small school where I can get to know all of the students and be a positive influence on their lives.



THE SAYDEL COMMUNICATOR

Big City Opportunities, Small Town Commitment for Students



*I'm **Rachel Demastus**, and I am the new high school nurse. I'm from Des Moines and have worked as a nurse for eight years in med-surg, community health, and pediatrics. I enjoy spending time with my family and reading mystery/thrillers. I got to spend a day at Saydel in May getting to know the students and staff, and I am excited to get started!*



people, and visit new places. I am excited to meet the staff and students at Saydel and start this new school year!

*I am **Dylan Harms** and I will be the 9-12 Industrial Technology Education student teacher for first semester and then I will continue as a teacher for second semester. I grew up in Alta, IA. I am currently finishing school at Wayne State College, and this will be my first teaching job and I could not be more excited to be at Saydel! A few of my interests include woodworking, cooking, working out, and anything that involves sports or being outside! I think what I am most excited about is to get the industrial technology program started, which was a big reason for me choosing Saydel.*



*I am **Grant Hamilton**, the new science teacher. I teach biology, HBS, and environmental science. I just graduated from SAU where I swam for four years. I'm interested in golf and working with my hands. I just got married in July. I am looking forward to meeting all the students and getting involved with activities in the school.*

***John Kotz** is my name and I am the new industrial technology teacher. I am coming out of retirement after teaching industrial technology for 31 years. I taught at Perry Community Schools for five years and at Waukee High School for 26 years. I have been married to my wife, Ann, for 32 years. I have coached football, baseball, bowling, and golf. Currently, I am the Head Girls' Golf Coach at Waukee Northwest HS. My hobbies are golf, motorcycling, and boating. I look forward to giving Saydel High School students the opportunity to engage in industrial technology classes. My goal is to make the classes and course activities relevant to various career areas.*



*I am **Shari Hernandez**, the new Family and Consumer Sciences instructor. I am an Iowa native and ISU grad. I am a second-career educator with my first career being in radio and television where I worked in Iowa, Alaska and Southern California. I am married and have a daughter in college. We are active in our community, our church, and play a lot of tennis and now pickleball.*

*I'm **Taylor Lux**, the Eagle Academy Coordinator and Post-Secondary Success Coach. I am moving to the high school after two years at Woodside. I live in the area with my husband, Nate, and our pets Blitz and Junie. We enjoy being outdoors, running, biking, walking, catching sporting events, and especially being in and around the water. I am so thrilled to be moving to the high school this year to work with students as they plan for the tough, but exciting transition out of high school. I am hoping to be a helpful resource for all students as they think ahead about what is next for them.*



*My name is **Hailey Mondragon** and I will be the new ELL teacher. I was an ELL teacher at Waterloo West High School for two years. Before that I was teaching English in Panama with the Peace Corps. I love to learn new things, spend time outdoors, be around*

Creating A Legacy: New Staff: Continued on page 8



THE SAYDEL COMMUNICATOR

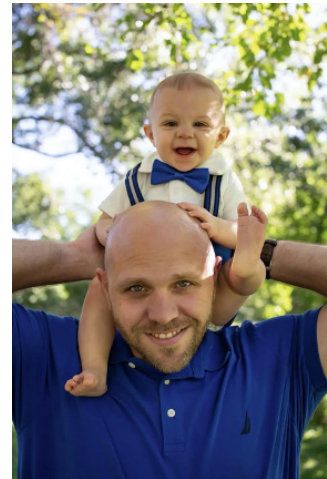
Big City Opportunities, Small Town Commitment for Students

Creating A Legacy, New Staff: Continued from page 7

I am **Caroline Peetz** and I will be teaching English at Saydel! I grew up in Omaha, where much of my family still lives, and after graduating, attended ISU. I then joined the DMPS community at Hoyt Middle School, teaching 8th grade Language Arts, Civics, and Early US History for the first five years of my teaching career. I love reading (of course), spending time with friends and family, and Cubs baseball and Iowa State athletics! I am most looking forward to getting back into an English classroom, especially at the high school level. I've been solely teaching Social Studies for a few years now, and after subbing in many Language Arts classes this past school year, I learned that teaching English is my true passion. Saydel is the perfect place to return to my roots and start the next phase of my career!



My name is **Traca Madren** and I will be teaching special education. I've been a teacher for 24 years from 3rd grade, 5th grade, middle school to high school. I have three grown daughters: one who is married, one engaged, and the youngest is graduating from college. I also have one granddaughter. I love to read, golf, and spend time with my family, friends, and fur babies. I am looking forward to coming to Saydel to make new connections and to reignite my passion for education.



I am **Travis Schott** and I will be a first-year social studies teacher (AP Government and Finance). I'm returning to teaching after a little more than a decade in the private sector. I like smoking BBQ, kayaking, personal finance and football. I student taught and substitute taught at Saydel. I look forward to building a rapport with students, colleagues and the district in general. I also look forward to assisting with athletics in the future.

I'll be the new English Language Arts Teacher. My name is **Mimi Willoughby**, and I have spent the last 15 years working in public education with an emphasis on English Language Arts instruction and serving as an Instructional Coordinator and Program Administrator for alternative teaching and learning pedagogy. I hold a Masters of Transformative Educational Leadership and Administration Endorsement from Iowa State University, a Master's of Secondary Education and Teaching from the University of Colorado, and a Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Rhetorical Communication from the University of Pittsburgh. I have two sons in elementary and preschool. I enjoy spending time with family and friends and traveling. I am excited to collaborate with fellow Saydel educators and collectively focus on and lift up our students' talent!



FLU SHOT CLINIC

SAYDEL DISTRICT OFFICE
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 3 PM - 6 PM

CORNELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 3 PM - 6 PM

SAYDEL MUSIC BOOSTERS

Tradition of Excellence



Sponsorships to the Saydel Music Boosters are available to businesses, individuals, families, and organizations interested in providing financial support to the Saydel Community School District's music program. Expenses covered by the Music Boosters include clinicians (choir & band master classes, drum line & color guard instructors), honor festival expenses, marching band food and props, scholarships, equipment, accompanists, travel for students, awards, and more.

All donations to the Saydel Music Boosters are proudly listed throughout the school year in concert programs for both Woodside and the High School. Sponsors may elect to remain anonymous at their discretion.

All people are welcome and encouraged to attend our monthly meetings, whether a sponsor or not. The meetings take place the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm in the high school choir room, and usually last approximately one hour.

Donations for sponsorships are TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

Detach and return with cash or check made out to SAYDEL MUSIC BOOSTERS



SAYDEL MUSIC BOOSTERS

c/o Saydel High School
5601 NE 7th Street
Des Moines, IA 50313



☐ Platinum Eagle (\$250+) ☐ Gold Eagle (\$100) ☐ Silver Eagle (\$50) ☐ Green Eagle (\$25)

☐ I would like to contribute an additional \$30 to sponsor a student who is unable to pay marching band fees.

Circle appropriate recognition: Business Individual/Family Alumnus

Name _____

☐ Please DO NOT publicize my sponsorship in programs, on the web site, or other publications.

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

(We will not share your email or phone information with any other entity.)

☐ Please contact me at the above number
as a potential volunteer at music events

SCAN HERE
for online
membership
and donation form





Welcome to the 2022-23 School Year



Woodside Middle School Principal Pat Rial

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2022-23 school year. It's hard to believe there are just a few weeks left in the summer. I hope that all of you have had time to spend with your family and friends. I am sure many of you have had sporting activities, been traveling or just hanging out somewhere to stay cool.

As I start my third year here at Woodside, I am excited to build on relationships and enhance the academic and social learning of ALL of our students. I know our staff is as well. If you have had a chance to drive or walk by Woodside, you can see there has been a lot of construction activity. This will continue up until the start of the year. Pick up and drop off locations will be normal. Buses will be on the west side of the building and parent pick up and drop off will be at two locations: outside the main entrance and outside the east side of the building. This will allow us to make pickup and drop off as easy as possible. We are hoping 14th Street will be done by the start of the year.

Students at Saydel have fantastic facilities to enhance their educational experience and LEARNING! While it has been busy outside with construction we have been busy inside with interviewing and hiring new staff members. Here are the new staff members students will meet this fall when the new school year begins.

New Woodside Middle School Staff

Hello! My name is Amy Smith and I am the new 5th and 6th grade School Counselor at Woodside Middle School. I grew up on a farm in Minnesota and my mother was a 5th grade teacher. I got my Bachelor's degree from Augustana University (Sioux Falls, SD) in Sociology and worked for many years in Human Resources as a recruiter and as a Human Resources Manager. When my boys were little, I became a stay-at-home mom for a few years. Then I began working



as a Special Education Associate in their elementary school. It was there that I discovered my passion for School Counseling and I returned to school to get my Master's degree from Buena Vista University in school counseling. I've worked for the past several years at Southeast Polk - Clay Elementary and look forward to working with the students, families, and staff at Woodside. I am married to my husband, Chad, and we have four children. His boys are Tyler (24 and his wife, Rachel) and Aaron (19) and my boys are Matthew (18) and Drew (16). We enjoy time together as a family whenever all of their schedules allow.

My name is Jennifer Wagner and I am excited to be a middle school counselor at Saydel. Middle school students are the perfect combination of childlike imagination, creativity, and intelligent conversation. I was born in Cedar Rapids and spent my elementary years in West Des Moines. We moved to Wisconsin in the summer of '99 and I have been there ever since. I graduated with my Master's in school counseling from Marquette University in Milwaukee. In my free time, I enjoy reading, traveling and spending time with my family. My parents moved back to Iowa during the summer of 2020 and I am really excited to be moving back to be closer to them! They do say home is where your mom is! I can't wait to meet all the students, staff and community members of Saydel. It seems like the perfect combination of a small town district with city opportunities.



Hello! My name is Tasara Hamilton, and I will be teaching 8th grade math. I am an ISU double grad, with a Bachelor's degree in education and a Master's degree in educational administration. I have taught math and/or science for 18 years in Des Moines. I live in the Saydel district with my husband and two boys; one a Saydel graduate and one that will start kindergarten at Cornell in the fall.



THE SAYDEL COMMUNICATOR

Big City Opportunities, Small Town Commitment for Students



Hi, my name is **Madi Moorman**. I will be the 8th grade Science Teacher at Woodside. This will be my second year teaching. My first year, I taught 8th grade science in Centerville, IA. I have also been a coach for high school volleyball and soccer. I love spending time and being active with my family and friends. I am excited to build new relationships this coming school year.



I am **Maryssa Check**, and I will be the new 8th grade Social Studies teacher. I am excited to be teaching Civics this coming school year. This past year I spent my time as the building substitute at Woodside and have enjoyed working with the staff and students. I am looking forward to continuing to grow relationships with the incoming 8th graders and helping them become informed citizens.



My name is **Tricia Dauterive**. I am looking forward to 7th grade math. My teaching career began with Des Moines Public Schools where I taught 6th grade math, Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II, and Financial Math. I enjoy spending time with my three adult children, paddle boarding, kayaking, reading, or listening to podcasts. I am looking forward to sharing my passion for math and learning with Woodside students.



My name is **Karli Killian** and I am going into my third year as an art teacher. I have a passion for the arts and teaching art has been my dream since I was a little girl. I attended the University of Iowa to study art education and graduated in 2019. In my free time I enjoy creating artwork, reading, and spending time with my friends and family.



Community Resources

If anytime throughout the year, you're looking for resources such as clothing, housing, mental health or financial assistance to support you or your student, check out the link below on the Saydel website. If you're looking for something that's not listed or you have questions, reach out to the social workers at Saydel, and they can help you find what you need!

<https://www.saydel.k12.ia.us/families/community-resources-for-families.cfm>

- Megan Angotti: 515-265-3451 ext. 1127 or angottimegan@saydel.net
- Samantha Kluesner: 515-262-9325 ext. 1126 or kluesnersamantha@saydel.net
- Caleigh Mormann: 515-244-8173 or mormanncaleigh@saydel.net

Supporting Saydel Classrooms

Saydel can always use the following items. If you are able to donate any of these items, they can be dropped off at the Saydel District Office.

- Kleenex
- School supplies
- Gently used youth leggings
- New water bottles
- Old shirts & towels
- Newspapers for art classes
- Gently used sweatpants
- Gently used snow pants & snow boots



SIAC Committee News

Saydel CSD is now forming the School Improvement Advisory Council (SIAC) for the 2022-23 school year. If you are a parent or community member interested in serving on this committee, please contact Beth Vitiritto at the District Office at 515-264-0866; email vitirittobeth@saydel.net. This committee meets three times per year to discuss ideas for improving the district. Community members, students and parents are welcome to attend.



Greetings From Cornell Elementary



Cornell Elementary School Principal Brian Vaughan

It is with great enthusiasm that I welcome you to the 2022-23 school year! This will be my 8th year as your PROUD principal, and I am excited to be building on many of the great skills and strategies each of our students have been learning and applying over the last few years.

I am looking forward to starting the year with continued emphasis on growing as a RULER school. At Cornell we work as staff and students in knowing and understanding how to Recognize, Understand, Label, Express, and Regulate (RULER) our emotions. RULER is an approach to social emotional learning (SEL) that teaches emotional intelligence to people of all ages, with the goal of creating a healthier, more equitable, innovative, and compassionate society.

The ability to label our emotions also helps us describe what we're going through, which helps us get help from others. We can't empathize without being in touch with how we're feeling ourselves, so this language of emotions helps us provide support that matches what someone is feeling, and fosters connections, while allowing us to commiserate and solve problems together. This is the way that we will continue to do business at our school and in return help ALL of our students feel safe and create a comfortable environment for learning.

I am looking forward to a great year ahead, and I am excited to continue to challenge our students to grow as thinkers and problem solvers. These are life-skills that our kids will need as they face challenging problems both academically and emotionally.

New Cornell Elementary School Staff

My name is Abby Smith. I graduated from Upper Iowa University. After graduating, I worked at East High School in Waterloo, IA, with 9-12 graders in the special education classroom. I have two children, a 12 year old daughter and a 4 year old son. We recently moved to the Des Moines area to be closer to family. I enjoy spending time with my children and playing volleyball.



My name is Gillian Woodard and I am a first year teacher. I graduated from ISU with my Bachelor's in elementary education. Outside of school I love to cook and find fun new restaurants to try out. I also love to run and look forward to meeting my goal of running a 10k this year. The Saydel community feels like family, and I am excited to hop on board.



My name is Olivia Husk and I graduated from Graceland University where I studied psychology. I am beginning my Master's program for school counseling as well as mental health counseling, in the fall at Walden University. I am excited to be substitute teaching at Cornell.

I love spending time with my family and friends. One of my favorite things to do is go camping and hiking with my dog. I also enjoy painting, embroidery, and I am now learning how to weave.



My name is Emily Fitzgerald and I am excited to be joining the 3rd grade team at Cornell! I graduated from ISU and I am very passionate about working with children. In my free time I enjoy golfing, reading, and spending time with my family.

I was born and raised in Newton, IA, and I come from a family of teachers. I had the opportunity to student teach at Cornell last year, so I may be a familiar face to some! I loved being a part of the community at Cornell during student teaching and I am so excited to continue this journey. I am looking forward to growing relationships with students and families in the Saydel District.



My name is Danielle Wilkinson, and I will be teaching 1st grade. I am an ISU graduate majoring in Elementary Education. Outside of school, I am a plant mom of 15 and enjoy trying local coffee shops. I am looking forward to being part of the Cornell family.

THE SAYDEL COMMUNICATOR

Big City Opportunities, Small Town Commitment for Students



I am **John Zauche**, the new K-4 General Music teacher. This is my 8th year of teaching. Before coming to Saydel, I taught at Marshalltown, Emmetsburg, and West Bend-Mallard. I received my Bachelor's of Music Education from the UNI and I am currently pursuing a Masters's degree from Drake University. I love to read and I work as a part-time barista.



Along with our new staff, you will also notice some changes within our current staff. They are:

- Ms. Boren will teach kindergarten
- Ms. Crane will be a Special Education teacher
- Ms. Lippert will be teaching first grade
- Ms. Rolf will be teaching fourth grade

Back To School Night: Cornell Elementary will have Back To School Night on August 22 from 4 to 6 PM for 1st through 4th grade students only. This time is for students to find their room, where they will be seated, put their materials away, and say hello to their teacher. Families/students in grades 1-4 will be able to learn who their teacher is by accessing PowerSchool starting on August 1.

School Start Dates: We are looking forward to seeing all of our 1st through 4th graders on August 23, kindergarten students on August 24, and preschool students on September 6.

School Operation Hours :

Doors open 8:30-8:40 AM and school ends at 3:35 PM.

Kindergarten Need-To-Know: Incoming kindergarten students/families will be contacted to set up a 20 minute time for the child to come in and do pre-assessing August 22. Class lists will be assembled based on the assessments, and Back To School Night for kindergarten will be on August 23 from 4:30 to 6 PM. The first day of kindergarten will be August 24.

Use the following link(s) to sign up for Kindergarten Pre-Assessment on August 22. You are signing up for a time, not a specific teacher.



<http://www.schoolbookings.net/code/k7bku>

Preschool Need-To-Know: Incoming 3 year old families will be contacted directly to set up times for home visits between August 23-September 2. Our 3 year olds are NOT able to begin school until this meeting has taken place. Incoming 4 year old families will be contacted to set up times for mandatory home visits between August 23-September 2.

Important Dates

- Aug 1-Log into PowerSchool & learn your teacher (Grades 1-4)
- Aug 22-Back To School Night (Grades 1-4) from 4 to 6 PM
- Aug 22-Kindergarten Pre-Assessment Day
- Aug 23-First Day of School (Grades 1-4)
- Aug 23-Kindergarten Back To School Night
- Aug 24-First Day of School for Kindergarten
- Sept 5-NO SCHOOL (Labor Day)
- Sept 6-First Day of Preschool

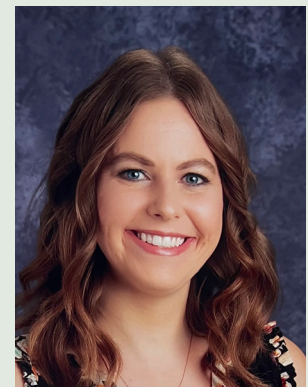
Meet New Cornell Associate Principal Katie Despotovich

Saydel CSD is excited to welcome Katie Despotovich as the new associate principal at Cornell Elementary School. The following is an introduction written by Mrs. Despotovich.

My name is Katie Despotovich. I am so excited to join the Saydel family as Cornell Elementary's associate principal. My educational philosophy is a mix between believing that all students can learn at high levels and that the importance of knowing and having relationships with our students is just as important as knowing the content that we teach.

This fall will be my 10th year in education. I served eight years as a special education teacher with an emphasis on behavior at Woodward-Granger Elementary and Ankeny CSD. Last year I served as a behavior coach for Edwards Elementary in Ames. I received my bachelors in Elementary Education from Upper Iowa University, my Masters in Special Education/Behavior from Morningside College, and my Administrative License from Viterbo University. I am a lifelong learner and strive to never stop growing.

I have been married 12 years to my husband Colby. We have three daughters: Sofia (11), Nadia (10), and Mila (6). In our free time, we love to travel, remodel our old home, and play cards. I am eager to meet and build relationships with the students, families, and community members that make up Saydel's family. Relationships are a big piece of who I am and I believe it takes a village to raise a child. We will work together to ensure each and every student finds a high level of success at Cornell and in life.



KATIE DESPOTOVICH



Grading For Learning (SRG)

Executive Director of Schools Traci Lust

My goal as an educator is to create classrooms and schools where I would want my children to attend. As the mother of two students who are in high school or have recently graduated, standards referenced grading is a practice that is extremely important to me. I understand the value of grades to students as they navigate high school and prepare for life after high school.

The intended audience for grades is students and families, and grades should communicate what students know and can do. Learning is a process and where you finish is more important than where you start or how long it takes to get there. Our goal in Saydel is to serve the unique learning needs of every student, and our grading practices must support this mission.

Based on feedback we have received from stakeholders, we have been reviewing our standards referenced grading practices and procedures.



The guidelines that will remain the same include:

- Daily work will be ungraded practice with feedback.
- Students will have multiple opportunities to demonstrate their learning.
- Current levels of learning will be communicated in the grade book.
- A consistent 4-point grading scale will be used.
- Academic achievement is reported separately from behaviors.
- Scores are based on a body of evidence.
- Achievement is organized and reported by the standard.
- Accommodations and modifications are provided for exceptional learners.

To more effectively meet the learning needs of our students, we will be adding some communication tools to our practice.

1. Each month, families will receive a progress report that will give an overview of their students' current proficiency in each class.
2. We will also be converting student proficiency in individual standards to an in-progress letter grade throughout the course to ensure that communication is clear.

We hope that this will help both students and families know how to better achieve their goals and seek support when needed. We appreciate all of the feedback that we have received from students and families, and we will continue to work to ensure that we are listening and responding to your concerns and that our practices are meeting the needs of our students. Please look for an email with more details on our grading practices as the school year begins.

NO SHOT NO SCHOOL

Meningitis is a life-threatening illness transmitted among teenagers.

IOWA NOW REQUIRES:

All incoming 7th and 12th graders need a meningitis vaccination before fall classes begin.

Schedule an appointment with your health care provider today.

For more information, visit www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health



SAYDEL ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT ATHLETIC PASS

All passes include admission for home games
(excluding tournaments) for the 2022-23 sports season

STUDENT PASS - grades K-12 \$40

SINGLE PASS - \$115

SEASON PASS - \$60

FAMILY PASS - school & college-aged children, parents/guardians \$250

SENIOR NON-RESIDENT - 65+ non-residents to Saydel School District \$60

SENIOR RESIDENT - 65+ Saydel School District resident with proof of residency FREE

ATHLETIC PASS ORDER FORM

Make checks payable to SAYDEL HIGH SCHOOL

NAME(S)	PASS TYPE	QTY.	AMOUNT
	<input type="checkbox"/> Student		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Single		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Season		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior non-resident of Saydel		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Family		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior, FREE resident of Saydel		

Submit to: Saydel High School, 5601 NE 7th Street, Des Moines IA 50313



Special Education Update



Director of Special Education Aimee Rhode

I am excited for the 2022-23 school year to start and to begin great work with students. The district has made some structural changes that have shifted some of my responsibilities. I will be overseeing special education programs and services, 504 plans, nursing services, open enrollment, school registration, bullying/harassment investigations, and Eagles Nest.

Saydel CSD building administrators were trained on McGrath Response System this summer. This is a response system for use with potential sexual harassment and misconduct, discrimination, and bullying incidents. It offered a comprehensive approach to reporting and investigating.

All staff in the district will be trained and empowered to “spot, intervene, record, and report” incidents that may be harassment, misconduct, discrimination, and/or bullying. This training included how to complete an inquiry investigation to determine appropriate next steps and a full investigation. The district is working on updating our policy and procedures around bullying/harassment and developing a handbook for parents so that they are aware of the policy and procedures.

The Iowa Department of Education has implemented a new system in which IEPs will be written by schools. The new system is ACHIEVE and is intended to support IEP teams as they design a program for each individual student, increase opportunities for collaboration and communication between IEP team members, and have one system to house individualized family plans for children birth to 21 with disabilities. Saydel CSD will begin transitioning to ACHIEVE at the beginning of the school year. Things to know as we transition to this new system: Your student’s special education services and procedural safeguards under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) will remain the same within the new ACHIEVE system.

Your student’s next IEP paperwork will look different when it is written within the new ACHIEVE system. The actual transition to ACHIEVE for your student’s IEP will depend on when the next IEP meeting will be renewed which may

not occur until later this school year. At this time, we will go over the new system, what to expect and answer any questions you may have regarding the transition.

Information and training opportunities will be shared with you in the future regarding parent access to the ACHIEVE system.

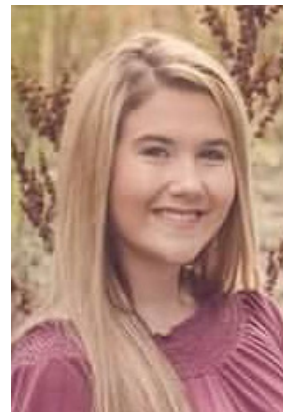
Eagles Nest, Saydel CSD’s before/after school program and summer camp, has been busy with children and activities this summer. Eagles Nest campers go to the pool twice a week and every Wednesday get to bring their “wheels” to camp. The camp has had numerous outings this summer visiting the Art Center, Mini golf at Blank Golf Course, Skate North, Walker Johnston Park, Pump it Up, Airlines, and Blank Park Zoo. They will wrap up summer camp with a prom. Eagles Nest has also made structural changes to leadership. The program will now have two directors who will share responsibilities. We are excited to share that the two directors are Tianna Bresley and Cassie Long.

Bresley will be serving as a director for Eagles Nest. She comes to Eagles Nest with 21 years of experience in early childhood education with the last 13 years as a preschool teacher. In her free time, she likes to spend time with her granddaughter and paint with her daughter. Bresley will be a great addition to the Eagles Nest team and district.



TIANNA BRESLEY

Long will be serving as a director for Eagles Nest. She has worked in child care for five years with the past three years as the On-Site Supervisor of Eagles Nest. In her free time, she enjoys teaching dance classes and spending time with friends and family. She looks forward to building relationships with students and families within our district. We are excited to have Long move into her new position.



CASSIE LONG

If you have any questions regarding special education, please contact me at the Saydel District Office, 515-264-0866 or by email at rhodeaimee@saydel.net.

Cornell PTO *news*

Come join us!
We'd love to have new
volunteers and
members! Parents or
guardians of Cornell
students are welcome!

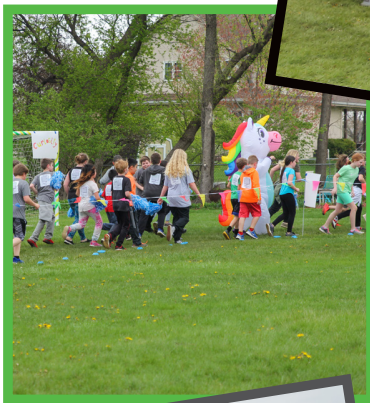
First meeting
September 13, 2022
6:30 @ Cornell

Fun Run!
Thank you to all who
volunteered and
donated last spring!
We've moved the Fun
Run this year to the fall.
Be on the look out for
more information!

For more info
Contact Cindy Hicks in
the office or the PTO
directly at
Cornelleaglespto@gmail.com

Follow us
Stay up to date on
events and fundraisers
by following our
Cornell PTO page on
facebook.

THANK YOU!



The fun run was so fun and such a success
thanks to all of you!
We raised \$14,131 from 21 states!

The Cornell PTO



THE SAYDEL COMMUNICATOR

Big City Opportunities, Small Town Commitment for Students

Saydel Programs & Services



Director of Programs & Services Alex Stubbers

Welcome back to school, Saydel families! I'm excited to start the 2022-23 school year, as this school year will change how I serve our students and families as the new Director of Programs and Services. The programs and services role will include homeless liaison, Title IX, English Language Learners (ELL), Extended Learning Program (ELP), homeschool, equity, at-risk, libraries, counselors, and more.

The summer work began with professional learning for administrators and counselors at PowerSchool University. Our outcome of the training is that we can use PowerSchool, our student information system (SIS), more effectively to provide parents and students with timely updates and feedback. Keep an eye out for upcoming communicators with details on our changes.

Our English Language Learner teachers underwent extensive training on ELlevation, our new platform for tracking student progress. The new platform allows us to easily track student data on multiple assessments, including MAP, ISASP, and the ELPA21. Our ability to have student data pulled together in one location will help us continue to improve our English learners' overall success.



ATHLETE REGISTRATION

Saydel Eagles Online Student-Athlete Registration 2022-23

EASY AS 1-2-3

NEED HELP? CLICK THE 

- 1** Watch Bound Registration video below & login
<https://manager.varsitybound.com/ia/saydel/students>
- 2** Select Find My Student 
- 3** If your student is not listed, select Add Student 



Register

Saydel Community School District continues to receive the McKinney-Vento subgrant this year. This grant allows us to continue to provide services to our homeless students while promoting awareness and sensitivity to meeting the needs of our students. As the homeless liaison for the district, I work with our school social workers, Megan Angotti, Sam Kluesner, and Caleigh Mormann, to help connect families to resources and services.

Lastly, our administration, counselors, and social workers have been working to systematically align our social-emotional learning (SEL) programming this summer. This work will bring increased awareness of emotions, responses to emotions, and strategies to help students, staff, and community members process emotions. More information will be provided in upcoming Communicators.

Eagles Nest Has Childcare Openings for 2022-23

Cornell Elementary School

- Before school: 6:30 AM - 8:25 AM
- After school: 3:35 PM - 5:30 PM
- Wednesday mornings: 6:30 AM - 9:20 AM

Woodside Middle School

- Before school 6:30 AM - 7:15 AM
- After school 2:45 PM - 5:30 PM
- Wednesday mornings 6:30 AM - 8:15 AM

For information, call 1-515-263-3037



Breakfast and Lunch for all Students


Saydel Community Schools is excited to announce that we will be able to provide FREE meals to all enrolled students during the 2022-23 school year. Saydel is able to offer free meals by expanding its participation in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). CEP allows schools and districts to offer free, nutritious school meals to students through the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. Participation is automatic; families are not required to fill out any forms or applications.

*** Money is required for a la carte, extra milk and milk purchased for lunches brought from home.** Students are not allowed to purchase extra entrees, extra milk and/or a la carte items if the purchase will result in a negative balance in the child's account. All debts must be paid by the end of the school year.


Offer vs Serve

Offer versus Serve (OVS) is a provision in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program that allows students to decline some of the food offered. The goals of OVS are to reduce food waste in the school meal programs while permitting students to decline foods they do not intend to eat. Everything that is menued is offered to students, but they are only required to take 3 components to be a reimbursable meal.


What Makes a School Breakfast



grain




fruit (or vegetable)



milk


Offer Vs. Serve

Choose **at least 3 items** from the four offered, **One must be** a 1/2 cup of **fruit** (or **vegetable**).




The fourth item offered may be another grain, another fruit or veggie, or a meat or meat alternate.


The 5 Components of a School Lunch



meat/meat alternate




grain




milk

Offer Vs. Serve

Choose **1/2 cup fruit**, or **1/2 cup vegetable**, or **1/2 cup combination**, and **at least 2 other components**. Choose all 5 for the best nutrition!



fruit



vegetable



Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for Cornell again this year!

Cornell will be participating in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program for the 2022-23 school year. The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) is a federally assisted pro-gram providing free fresh fruits and vegetables to children. The goal is to create a healthier school environment by offering healthier food choices, expand the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience, and increase children's fruit and vegetables consumption.

Food and Nutrition Contacts

Amanda Durflinger	Food Service Director	durflingeramanda@saydel.net
Cheryl Porter	Cornell Kitchen Manager	portercheryl@saydel.net
Angie Park	Woodside Kitchen Manager	parkangela@saydel.net
Eric Green	Production/ HS Kitchen Manger	greeneneric@saydel.net

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider



Annual Notices to Parents

Each year, various state and federal laws, as well as Saydel School Board policies, require a variety of annual notification to parents. Many of the following notifications can also be found in student/parent handbooks, or on the district website.

Level 1 Investigator: Abuse

It is the policy of the district that school employees not commit acts of physical or sexual abuse, including inappropriate and intentional sexual behavior, toward students. Any district employee who commits such acts is subject to disciplinary sanctions up to and including discharge.

It is the policy of the district to respond promptly to allegations of abuse of students by district employees by investigating or arranging full investigation of any allegation, and to do so in a reasonably prudent manner. The processing of a complaint or allegation will be handled confidentially to the maximum extent possible. All employees are required to assist in the investigation when requested to provide information and to maintain the confidentiality of the reporting and investigating process.

General Education Interventions

Each Local Education Agency (LEA), in conjunction with the Area Education Agency (AEA), shall attempt to resolve any presenting problem or behaviors of concern in the general education environment prior to conducting a full and individual evaluation. In circumstances when there is a suspicion that a child is an eligible individual, the AEA, in collaboration with the LEA, shall conduct a full and individual initial evaluation. Documentation of the rationale for such action shall be included in the individual's educational record.

Each LEA shall provide general notice to the parents on an annual basis about the provision of general education interventions that occur as a part of the agency's general program and that may occur at any time throughout the school year.

General education interventions shall include consultation with special education support and instructional personnel. General education intervention activities shall be documented and shall include measurable and goal-directed attempts to resolve the presenting problem or behaviors of concern. Communication with parents will include collection of data related to the presenting problem or behaviors of concern, intervention design and implementation, and systemic progress monitoring to measure the effects of interventions.

If the referring problem or behaviors of concern are shown to be resistant to general education interventions or if interventions are demonstrated to be effective but require continued and substantial effort that may include the provision of special education and related services, the agency shall then conduct a full and individual initial evaluation.

The parent of a child receiving general education interventions may request that the agency conduct a full and individual initial evaluation at any time during the implementation of such interventions.

Equal Educational Opportunity

Saydel Community School District does not discriminate in its education programs or educational activities on the basis of race, color, gender, national origin, creed, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, religion, marital status, socioeconomic status, or abilities/disabilities in its educational programs, activities, or employment policies as required by Title VI and Title XII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendment, Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Iowa Code #216.9. Students are educated in programs which foster knowledge of, and respect and appreciation for, the historical and contemporary contributions of diverse cultural groups, as well as men and women, to society.

Students who feel they have been discriminated against are encouraged to report it to the school district's Equity Coordinator Alex Stubbers, Director of Programs & Services, 5740 NE 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50313; stubbersalex@saydel.net; 515-264-0866. Inquiries may also be directed in writing to the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319-0201, 515-281-4121 or the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 500 West Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL, 60661.

The district, in its educational program, has a process to assist students experiencing behavior and learning difficulties. Building response to intervention (RTI) teams, facilitated by building administrators and/or school counselors are responsible for this process. Representatives from the area education agency may also assist the district in this process. Parents wanting access to this process should contact the principal or counselor.

Notice Concerning Highly Qualified Teachers/ Professionals

Parents and guardians in the Saydel Community School District have the right to learn about the following qualifications of their child's teacher: state licensure requirements for the grade level and content areas taught, the current licensing status of your child's teacher, and baccalaureate/graduate certification/degree. You may also request the qualifications of an instructional paraprofessional who serves your students in a Title I program or if your school operates a school-wide Title I program.

Parents and guardians may request this information from the office of the superintendent by calling 515-264-0866 or sending a letter of request to:

Saydel Community School District Office
5740 NE 14th Street, Des Moines IA 50313

Saydel Community School District ensures parents will be notified in writing if their child has been assigned or has been taught by a teacher for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not considered highly qualified.



Homeless Students

In accordance with 281 IAC Chapter 33 Iowa Administrative Code, the Saydel Community School District is required to give written notice to homeless children and families if the district is going to deny access to their educational programs. Homeless children and families may obtain free legal services by contacting:

Legal Aid Society of Polk County

1111 9th Street – 3rd Floor, Des Moines, IA 50314
515-243-1193

Chapter 33 of the Iowa Administrative Code defines “homeless child or youth” as a child or youth from the age of three years through 21 years who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence and includes the following:

- A child or youth who is sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; is living in a motel, hotel, trailer park, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; is living in an emergency or transitional shelter; is abandoned in a hospital; or is awaiting foster care placement;
- A child or youth who has primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- A child or youth who is living in a car, park, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station, or similar setting; or
- A migratory child or youth who qualifies as homeless because the child or youth is living in circumstances described in paragraphs “1” through “3” of this section.

Iowa Concussion Legislation

Effective July 1, 2011, Iowa law requires that students in grades 7-12 who participate in extracurricular interscholastic activities including cheerleading and dance must have their parents/guardians sign a copy of the acknowledgement form and return it to their school. Students cannot practice or compete in those activities until this form is signed and returned.

In addition, please note this important information from Iowa Code Section 280.13C, Brain Injury Policies:

1. A child must be immediately removed from participation (practice or competition) if his/her coach or a contest official observes signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion or brain injury in an extracurricular interscholastic activity.
2. A child may not participate again until a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and other brain injuries has evaluated him/her and the student has received written clearance from that person to return to participation.
3. Key definitions:
 - a. “Licensed health care provider” means a physician, physician assistant, chiropractor, advanced registered nurse practitioner, nurse, physical therapist, or athletic trainer licensed by a board.
 - b. “Extracurricular interscholastic activity” means any extracurricular interscholastic activity, contest, or practice, including sports, dance, or cheerleading.

Open Enrollment

Per Iowa Code 282.18 open enrolling is a process that allows parents/guardians residing in an Iowa school district the option of enrolling their children into another Iowa school district.

For more information:

- To obtain an open enrollment handbook, application or for more information, please refer to the Iowa Department of Education website.
- Contact the Saydel District Office with open enrollment questions, 515-264-0866.

Handbooks & Board Policies

Each year handbooks and School Board policies are posted on the district website at www.saydel.k12.ia.us. Parents are strongly encouraged to review the handbook and policies of the Board of Education with their student so both understand the regulations and expectations of the district for students. Handbooks include many important annual notices and information about policies students and their parents are responsible for knowing and understanding. Ignorance of the contents of the handbooks and policies of the Board of Education excuses no one from complying with these regulations.

Corporal Punishment, Restraint and Physical Confinement and Detention

State law forbids district employees from using corporal punishment against any student. Certain actions by district employees are not considered corporal punishment. Additionally, district employees may use “reasonable and necessary force, not designed or intended to cause pain” to do certain things, such as prevent harm to persons or property. State law also places limits on district employees’ abilities to restrain or confine and detain any student.

The law limits why, how, where, and for how long a district employee may restrain or confine and detain a child. If a child is restrained or confined and detained, the district must maintain documentation and must provide certain types of notice to the student’s parent. If you have any questions about this state law, contact your student’s school. The complete text of the law and additional information is available on the Iowa Department of Education website: www.educateiowa.gov.



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THE SAYDEL COMMUNICATOR

Big City Opportunities, Small Town Commitment for Students

Annual Notices: *Continued from page 21*

Use of Video Cameras On School Vehicles/Property

The Saydel Community School District Board of Directors has authorized the use of video cameras on school district buses and sites. The video cameras will be used to monitor student behavior to maintain order on the school buses to promote and maintain a safe environment. Students and parents/guardians are hereby notified that the content of the real and electronic files may be used in a student disciplinary proceeding. The contents of the files are confidential student records and will be retained, if necessary, with other student records.

Section 504 – Notice of Rights

Section 504 is a federal statute that prohibits discrimination based upon a disability. Section 504 covers eligible students for accommodations that enable them to work or learn. The great majority of academic accommodations should take place in the general education classroom. A school team knowledgeable of the student determines, with evaluation data, if the student meets eligibility criteria.

Saydel Community School District does not discriminate in its educational programs and activities on the basis of a student's disability. If it has been determined that your child has a qualifying disability for which accommodations may need to be made to meet his/her individual needs as adequately as the needs of other students, as a parent, you have the right to the following:

- Participation of your child in school district program and activities, including extracurricular programs and activities, to the maximum extent appropriate, free of discrimination based upon the student's disability and at the same level as students without disabilities;
- Receipt of free educational services to the extent they are provided to students without disabilities;
- Receipt of information about your child and your child's educational programs and activities in your native language;
- Notice of identification of your child as having a qualifying disability for which accommodations may need to be made and notice prior to evaluation and placement of your child and right to periodically request a re-evaluation of your child;
- Inspect and review your child's educational records, including a right to copy those records for a reasonable fee; you also have a right to ask the school district to amend your child's educational records if you feel the information in the records is misleading or inaccurate; should the school district refuse to amend the records, you have a right to a hearing and to place an explanatory letter in your child's file explaining why you feel the records are misleading or inaccurate; and
- Hearing before an impartial hearing officer if you disagree with your child's evaluation or placement; you have a right to counsel at the hearing and have the decision of the impartial hearing officer reviewed.

It is the policy of the Saydel Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identify and

socioeconomic status (for programs), in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to the policy, please contact Equity Coordinator Alex Stubbers, Director of Programs and Services, 5740 NE 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50313; 515-264-0866; stubbersalex@saydel.net.

Student Records

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. They are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the district receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to contest placement of a controversial record in the student's education records. Parents or eligible students may ask Saydel Community School District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate, misleading or a violation of the student's right to privacy. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the district decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent of eligible student, the district will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a meeting with a district employee who is not directly interested in the outcome. Additional information regarding the meeting procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when they are notified of their right to the meeting.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. An exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the district as an administrator, faculty member, staff member, member of the Board of Directors, or others acting on their behalf who the superintendent has determined to have a legitimate educational interest in obtaining access to information in a student's education records. This may include outsourced law enforcement and security units contracted with the school district. A legitimate educational interest exists when the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the district will disclose education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
4. The right to inform the district that the parent or eligible student does not want the district's designated directory information, as defined below, to be released to the public. To object to the designation and release of certain student records as directory information, the parent or eligible student must notify the principal in writing, prior to August 1 of each school year (or two weeks from the date of enrollment in the district if



such enrollment occurs after August 1), of the information not wished to be released. This objection to the release of directory information must be renewed annually.

Examples of school or media publications include; but are not limited to:

- A playbill showing our student's role in a drama production
- The annual yearbook
- Honor roll or other recognition lists
- Graduation programs
- Sports activity sheets such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members
- Newspaper articles or television news stories
- Photos, podcasts, videos or information posted on the district website
- Athletic or activities team photos or class photos
- Website articles

Directory information means information contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. The Saydel Community School District has designated the following student information as directory information:

- Student's name
- Curriculum (major field of study)
- Section/Team
- Year in school
- Participation in recognized organizations, activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Degrees, awards and honors received
- The most recent educational institution attended by the student
- Photographs, audio recordings and video recordings of the student
- Date of attendance at the school district (general periods of time during which an individual attended or was enrolled in an educational agency or institution)
- Student work

Any information not designated by the district as directory information will be considered an educational record under FERPA and may not be released to the public without parental or eligible student consent. Two federal laws require local school districts receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the school district that they do not want their student's information disclosed to the military recruiters without their prior written consent. (1) If you do not want the district to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the district in writing by August 1.

5. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is: *Family Policy and Compliance Office U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-4605*

6. The district may share information contained in a student's record with officials of the juvenile justice system if such information will assist in their ability to serve the student. These laws are: Section 9528 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7908), as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (P.L. 107-110), the education bill, and 10 U.S.C. 503, as amended by section 544, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (P.L. 107-107), the legislation that provides funding for the Nation's armed forces.

Your student's information will be used as defined above unless you choose to opt-out.

If you have no objections to use of your student's information as defined above, no further action is necessary and you do not need to fill out the form.

If you object to use of your student's information as defined above and you do not want your student's directory information included in class lists, yearbooks, school programs, brochures, athletic programs, newspaper articles, and other publications such as are noted above, please request and fill out the opt-out form. The form should then be returned to your child's school no later than August 1.

Student Media Interviews

During the course of the school year, students may be interviewed from time to time by newspaper, television, radio or other reporters in regard to projects, activities and other school events. This is considered a part of the district's directory information consent policy (Student Records), along with photos, video, audio recording and other media.

If you object to your student being interviewed in this manner, you should deny Photo Use Permission in your student's profile in PowerSchool and electronically sign the photo status update.

Parents' Role During Emergencies

The best action parents can take in an emergency is to stay close to their phone and email and to monitor local radio and TV reports for regular updates and instructions.

- Do not report to your child's school during emergency situations. Law enforcement officials will not allow entry to the school site during a lockdown or shelter-in-place.
- Avoid calling the school or the district offices during the emergency.

Notification and Communication: The school district is committed to providing parents and guardians with the latest and most accurate information available. In most cases the district will post information on the district website. In some forms of emergency, the district may also send automated phone and email messages and use news media outlets to distribute information.

Parents should monitor official emergency information updates using the district's website, automated call/text system, and local media. In today's world, students will be texting and calling parents immediately. Be aware that information you receive from your child may not always be accurate as they may only have a portion of the information; ensure the information you are using

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THE SAYDEL COMMUNICATOR

Big City Opportunities, Small Town Commitment for Students

Annual Notices: Continued from page 23

is official and comes directly from Saydel Community Schools.

- **Emergency notification system:** The automated calling/email/text system used by the school district can store a primary home phone and email address, as well as up to four additional phone numbers per parent and one additional email address per parent.
- **School emergency response protocols:** A school crisis can take a number of forms including an environmental event, such as a chemical spill or gas leak; a weather emergency, such as a tornado warning; or an intruder in or near the school. The nature of a school crisis dictates whether school officials will put in place a lockdown, shelter-in-place, evacuation, or any combination of two of these protocols, as a means to ensure the safety and well-being of students and staff. To ensure timely communication, please make sure your contact information at the school is up to date.

Asbestos Notification

Asbestos has been an issue of concern for many years. The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 (AHERA) was designed to determine the extent of asbestos concerns in the schools and to act as a guide in formulating asbestos management for the schools. The school district facilities have been inspected by a certified asbestos inspector as required by AHERA. The inspector located and determined the condition and hazard potential of all material in the district's facilities suspected of containing asbestos.

A certified management planner has developed an asbestos management plan for the school district facilities which includes: notification letters, training for employees, a set of procedures designed to minimize the disturbance of asbestos-containing materials, and plans for regular surveillance of the materials.



Durham Bus Drivers Welcome Students Back to School

Durham Bus Services welcomes students back after a great summer! Pictured from left to right: Ben Allen, Sherry Harper, Gale Grant, Joan Vonk, Beatriz Zuniga and Robyn Neades. These drivers are committed to getting students to school safely, on time and ready to learn. You can track your students' bus with the Durham Bus Tracker App. You can contact the bus barn with any questions at 515-335-5707.



ANNUAL NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Saydel Community School District offers career and technical programs in the following areas of study:

- Business, Finance & Marketing Management
- Human Services
- Applied Sciences, Technology, Engineering & Manufacturing

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GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

It is the policy of the Saydel Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact: Equity Coordinator: Alex Stubbers, 5740 NE 14th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50313, 1-515-264-0866.

Students, parents of students, employees, and applicants for employment in the school district have the right to file a formal complaint alleging discrimination. The district has policies and procedures in place to identify and investigate complaints alleging discrimination. If appropriate, the district will take steps to prevent the recurrence of discrimination and to correct its discriminatory effects on the Complainant and others.

A Complainant may attempt to resolve the problem informally by discussing the matter with a building principal or a direct supervisor. However, the Complainant has the right to end the informal process at any time and pursue the formal grievance procedures outlined below. Use of the informal or formal grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies. Please note that informal processes and procedures are not to be used in certain circumstances (e.g., sexual harassment and sexual assault).

Filing a Complaint

A Complainant who wishes to avail himself/herself of this grievance procedure may do so by filing a complaint with the equity coordinator(s). An alternate will be designated in the event it is claimed that the equity coordinator or superintendent committed the alleged discrimination or some other conflict of interest exists. Complaints shall be filed within 180 days of the event giving rise to the complaint or from the date the Complainant could reasonably become aware of such occurrence. The Complainant will state the nature of the complaint and the remedy requested. The equity coordinator(s) shall assist the Complainant as needed.

Investigation

Within 15 working days, the equity coordinator will begin the investigation of the complaint or appoint a qualified person to undertake the investigation (hereinafter "equity coordinator"). If the Complainant is under 18 years of age, the equity coordinator shall notify his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) that they may attend investigatory meetings in which the Complainant is involved. The complaint and identity of the Complainant, Respondent, or witnesses will only be disclosed as reasonably necessary in connection with the investigation or as required by law or policy. The investigation may include, but is not limited to the following:

- A request for the Complainant to provide a written statement regarding the nature of the complaint;
- A request for the individual named in the complaint to provide a written statement;
- A request for witnesses identified during the course of the investigation to provide a written statement;
- Interviews of the Complainant, Respondent, or witnesses;
- An opportunity to present witnesses or other relevant information; and
- Review and collection of documentation or information deemed relevant to the investigation.

Within 60 working days, the equity coordinator shall complete the investigation and issue a report with respect to the findings. The equity coordinator shall notify the Complainant and Respondent of the decision within 5 working days of completing the written report. Notification shall be by U.S. mail, first class.

Decision and Appeal

The complaint is closed after the equity coordinator has issued the report, unless within 10 working days after receiving the decision, either party appeals the decision to the Superintendent by making a written request detailing why he/she believes the decision should be reconsidered. The equity coordinator shall promptly forward all materials relative to the complaint and appeal to the Superintendent. Within 30 working days, the superintendent shall affirm, reverse, amend the decision, or direct the equity coordinator to gather additional information. The Superintendent shall notify the Complainant, Respondent, and the equity coordinator of the decision within 5 working days of the decision. Notification shall be by U.S. mail, first class.

- The decision of the Superintendent shall be final.
- The decision of the Superintendent in no way prejudices a party from seeking redress through state or federal agencies as provided by in law.
- This policy and procedures are to be used for complaints of discrimination, in lieu of any other general complaint policies or procedures that may be available.
- If any of the stated timeframes cannot be met by the district, the district will notify the parties and pursue completion as promptly as possible.
- Retaliation against any person, because the person has filed a complaint or assisted or participated in an investigation, is prohibited. Persons found to have engaged in retaliation shall be subject to discipline by appropriate measures.

My Student Assistance Program (SAP)

What is a Student Assistance Program (SAP)?

An SAP is here for you when you and your immediate family members are dealing with life's challenges.

You can count on your SAP for guidance and support when it comes to assessing your concerns and developing strategies for addressing any of the following:

- *School-life balance*
- *Family or relationship issues*
- *Emotional issues*
- *Alcohol and drug-related issues*
- *Other issues that interfere with your daily living, happiness, and overall well-being*

CONFIDENTIAL

NO COST

24/7 ACCESS

What Does My SAP Provide?

TELEPHONE CONSULTS

- Phone lines open **24/7/365**
- Phones answered by a **masters-level clinician**
- Make as many calls as needed (**no limit**)

IN-PERSON COUNSELING

- Receive up to **three (3) FREE in-person counseling sessions**
- After 3 sessions, referral options may be provided

How Do I Use My SAP?

It's **easy**. It's **free**. It's **confidential**.

Call 515.244.6090

Together, we will identify steps you can take to resolve whatever challenge life is throwing your way. We're here to help!



EFR EMPLOYEE & FAMILY RESOURCES

Saydel Community School District

Call **(800) 327-4692** to Access Your Benefit

Employee Assistance Program

Get To Know Your Benefits

Your Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides a variety of counseling, consultations, resources, and coaching benefits for you and your family members. Your EAP benefits are **cost-free** to you, **confidential**, and available **24/7/365**.

We Can Help With:

- Stress Management
- Relationship Concerns
- Personal Growth
- Anxiety or Depression
- Legal Issues
- Identity Theft
- Tax Questions
- Elder Care
- Financial Concerns
- Budgeting and Debt

EAP Benefit Summary

Phone-Based Support

unlimited

Call us any time you have an issue, concern, or question. You have 24/7 access to masters-level clinicians.

In-Person or Telehealth Counseling

6 sessions per issue per year

Arrange in-person counseling sessions with a licensed mental health therapist near your home or work. Each family member is eligible.

Telephonic Life Coaching

6 sessions per year

Speak with a life coach and receive tailored advice on matters involving time management, work-life integration, goal setting, communication skills, and other areas of personal growth.

Telephonic Financial Consultation

1 30-min session per issue

Speak with a financial professional about each separate issue, and access a free financial check-up, financial library, and a variety of other financial tools by visiting efr.org.

In-Person or Telephonic Legal Consultation

1 30-min session per issue

Meet with a licensed attorney with expertise in your area of need. Visit efr.org for more information regarding retention and self-help legal documents.

Eldercare Resources

as needed

Access information, referral resources, and support involving the care for an aging family member.

Childcare Resources

as needed

Receive childcare resource referrals where locally available. All referrals are state licensed/certified childcare providers.

Identity Theft Resolution Services

as needed

Receive assistance with restoring identity and good credit from a highly trained FCRA certified fraud resolution specialist or licensed attorney.

Additional Benefits

provided regularly

Stay up-to-date by reading our monthly newsletter, watching our webinars, and/or completing self-assessments. Visit efr.org for more information.

Life Happens. We're Here to Help.

Get Connected:



505 Fifth Ave, Suite 600

efr.org

SAYDEL COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
5740 NE 14TH STREET
DES MOINES IOWA 50313

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
DES MOINES, IOWA
PERMIT NO. 57

ECR WSS EDDM
POSTAL CUSTOMER

SAYDEL SCHOOLS:

Cornell Elementary School Grades PK - 4
5817 NE 3rd Street, Des Moines, IA 50313 (515-244-8173)
Brian Vaughan, Principal
Katie Despotovich, Associate Principal

Woodside Middle School Grades 5-8
5810 NE 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50313 (515-265-3451)
Patrick Rial, Principal
Amanda Christensen, Associate Principal

Saydel High School Grades 9-12
5601 NE 7th Street, Des Moines, IA 50313 (515-262-9325)
William Crosby, Principal
Shannon Mohling, Associate Principal
Levi Hunerdosse, Director of Activities/Community Ed

Saydel District Office
(Adjacent to Woodside Middle School)
5740 NE 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50313 (515-264-0866)

Todd A. Martin, Superintendent of Schools
Amber Ray, Executive Director of Business & Operations
Traci Lust, Executive Director of Schools
Alex Stubbers, Director of Programs & Services
Aimee Rhode, Director of Special Education
Amanda Durlinger, Director of Food Services
Dr. Kristi Powers, Director of Human Resources
Chris Bieghler, Director of Technology
Kelly Bell, Director of Buildings & Grounds

SAYDEL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Julie Jennings, Board President
Michael Mortensen, Board Vice-President
Gary Christensen II, Board of Director
Doug Kayser, Board of Director
Roland Kouski Jr., Board of Director
Jennifer Van Houten, Board of Director
Chad Vitiritto, Board of Director

Superintendent: Todd Martin
Board Secretary: Beth Vitiritto
Board Treasurer: Amber Ray

School Board meetings are held at the
Saydel District Office on the second
Monday of each month at 6 PM



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If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the district's **Equity Coordinator, Alex Stubbers, Director of Programs & Services, 5740 NE 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50313; 515-264-0866; stubbersalex@saydel.net.**

Office for Civil Rights, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison Street,
Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661.