

Ballard Dimensions

A publication of the Ballard Community School District serving the communities of
Cambridge, Huxley, Kelley and Slater, Iowa



September 2011

Volume 16; Issue 2

From the Desk of the Superintendent

The new school year has begun and we are off and running. I wanted to take a minute to thank our students, parents and staff for making the beginning of the 2011/2012 school year so positive. The district is experiencing an incredible amount of change and everyone with whom I have had contact is taking the growing pains in stride and focusing on the positive. As a district, we have much to be thankful for and the people of the Ballard Schools are on the top of that list.

The new high school is open for school and to the public. There are many things to be completed over the course of the next few months, but the major systems are up and running and classes are taking place. We have been overjoyed with the number of people who have toured the new building at back to school night, or in conjunction with one of our early sporting events. The response from the community has been overwhelmingly positive and we thank all of you for your support.

I did want to take a minute to discuss what is still to be done at the new building. There are quite a few punch-list items—small tweaks or fixes to minor problems. These will be fixed by the general contractor and sub-contractor over the course of the next few months. The major areas still to be addressed are the auditorium and the buffed concrete flooring in the lower and upper classroom areas.

The stage rigging, curtains, and some of the technological components of the auditorium are being completed as we speak. These should be wrapped up within several weeks and the auditorium will be ready for use. We are extremely excited to hold our first concert and musical in the new space.

Both the lower hallway and upper hallway buffed concrete corridors and classrooms need to be addressed by the general contractor and subcontractor to meet the final specifications outlined in the construction contract. This is something that could not be accomplished prior to school starting, if we had any hope of beginning school on time, so will need to be addressed next summer after classes have been dismissed. When done right, buffed concrete is a cost conscious, very low maintenance floor. We are confident that the contractor and subcontractor can provide floors that meet specifications and standards, but will need an extended period of time to get the job done right.

With the completion of the High School and the completion of the addition at East Elementary, all of our buildings will have a handful of classrooms to grow into. It is nice to walk into buildings this fall that are not overcrowded and jam packed with students.

As always, we thank you for your support and hope you have a great school year.

John Speer
Superintendent

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

The School Board Election for all Iowa schools is Tuesday, September 13. Polls will be open from **NOON until 8:00 PM** as in past years. There are three seats up for election this year and each is a 4 year term:

District 1 Tim Erickson is running

District 2 Kirk Peterson is running

At Large Joyce Peterson is running

Standard Fee Waiver Application:

This application must be completed each year.

Filing an application for free or reduced meals does NOT take care of this.

The Standard Fee Waiver Application Form must be filed to get a fee waived or reduced. Students whose families meet the income guidelines for free and reduced price lunch, the Family Investment Plan (FEP), transportation assistance under open enrollment, or who are in foster care are eligible to have their student fees waived. Students whose families are experiencing a temporary financial difficulty may be eligible for a temporary waiver of student fees. Parents of students who believe they may qualify for a temporary financial hardship should print off a waiver form from the Ballard School website or obtain one from the building secretary.

For any student whose family qualifies for any of the criteria that is listed under the full waiver portion of the form, the Driver Education Fee of \$340.00 will be waived. For those students who are approved for the partial waiver, the Driver Education Fee will be \$136.00 per student. The fee waiver, if approved, also applies to the registration/technology fee for all EK-12 students.

Ballard PTO

The PTO would like to encourage everyone to participate in the many activities that we coordinate throughout the school year. We welcome all to attend our meetings; however we know it is not always possible for many to do this. We can still use your help! Please email me at jburnes@ballard.k12.ia.us to be put on our PTO e-mail list.

PTO meets the second Tuesday of the month at the Middle School in the Teacher's Lounge at 6:30-7:30. Here are the dates we will be meeting this year: 9/13, 10/11, 11/8, 12/13, 1/10, 2/21, 4/10, 5/8.

We are kicking off our Fall Fundraiser with Club's Choice Fundraising. Student packets will be sent home on Friday, September 2. All packets are due **Monday, September 12. DELIVERY DATE** is Tuesday, October 18, 5-7 at Ballard West Elementary.

Hope to see you there!

Jenni Burnes

PTO President

Mr. Maher Receives Patriot Award



Tom Maher, Principal of Ballard Middle School (center) received a Patriot Award from Brett McLain, ESGR Volunteer (left). Maher had been nominated by SFC Jeremiah Cox, (right).

Brett McLain, ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve) volunteer from Ames, presented a Patriot Award Wednesday, Aug. 24, to Tom Maher, principal of the Ballard Middle School, who had been nominated by SFC Jeremiah Cox of the 391st Medical Company (LOG) of the Army Reserve. Maher also signed a Statement of Support for ESGR. Mr. Cox is a Ballard Middle School special education teacher.

Middle School Vocal Music

Hello parents of 6th-8th grade vocal music students!

We are off to a great start at the middle school—learning OPUS selections, our concert music, solfege warm ups, and getting to know each other. Thank you for encouraging your son or daughter to be involved in vocal music here at Ballard.

A few reminders about events coming up:

7th and 8th grade Show Choir (REMIX) will begin morning rehearsals on **SEPTEMBER 27 at 7:15 am**. Rehearsals will be every Tuesday and Thursday morning until the end of January. If you did not receive an information note from your child, let me know.

8th graders will attend an all-day vocal festival in Norwalk on Monday, October 17. They will rehearse in Norwalk all afternoon, and there is a concert that night at 7:00 pm. You are definitely encouraged to attend! I will be giving all 8th grade students an informational letter in the next few weeks.

The first concert of the year will be on Thursday, November 10 @ the High School Auditorium. 6th grade choirs will perform at 6:30 pm, with 7th and 8th graders following at 7:30 pm. It will be wonderful to be in the new space and hear these kids sing!

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Mindy DeVries

515-597-2815 x 132

mdevries@ballard.k12.ia.us

Principal's View

I have been part of the Ballard School District for twenty-two years now and I can honestly say that I never dreamed I would be fortunate enough to be part of an epic event like the opening of our new high school! The past three years have been both exhilarating and exhausting, but thanks to every person that has had a hand in this process we have finally been able to open an absolutely wonderful facility.

I would like to thank the Haila Architecture Group and JP Cullen & Sons for their outstanding work on this project. We developed some very special relationships with people from these organizations and many of the Iowa workers that were hired who took pride in the work that they performed in our facility.

I wanted to take the time to thank all of the patrons of the four communities that make up the Ballard district for your support in passing the bond issue to make this new high school a reality. You placed the needs of our students first and we are grateful for that. Our young adults will most certainly benefit from this facility for decades to come.

I would like to encourage the community to come to events at the new school. You will enjoy plenty of elbow room and experience quality sound systems in air conditioned venues! We had our largest volleyball crowd in years for our season opener and people really seemed to enjoy the new gym. Our coaches and athletes appreciated your support.

These truly are exceptional and exciting times within the Ballard community. We are prepared to assist you with the academic, social and emotional growth of your children as they mature into young adults. We are very proud to serve you. Please do not hesitate to call on us if you need anything.

John Ronca, Principal
Ballard High School



REMINDER TO JUNIOR PARENTS:

A reminder that our Junior Magazine Sales Campaign runs from September 1– September 16. Juniors are required to sell at least 7 magazines if they want to attend our 2012 prom free of charge. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Darren A. Herrold, Junior Class Sponsor

dherrold@ballard.k12.ia.us 515.597.2971, EXT. 2191

News from the Ballard High School Guidance Office

2011-2012 ACT and SAT Testing Dates

<u>ACT testing dates</u>	<u>ACT Registration Deadline</u>	<u>SAT testing dates</u>	<u>SAT Registration Deadline</u>
		October 1	September 9
October 22	September 16	November 5	October 7
December 10	November 4	December 3	November 8
February 11, 2012	January 13, 2012	January 28, 2012	December 30
April 14, 2012	March 9, 2012	March 10, 2012	February 10, 2012
June 9, 2012	May 4, 2012	May 5, 2012	April 6, 2012
		June 2, 2012	May 8, 2012

Registration packets and practice tests are available in the high school guidance office or register online for the ACT at www.actstudent.org the SAT at www.collegeboard.com

The ACT basic fee is \$34.00 and the SAT fee is \$49.00.

Attention Sophomores and *Juniors*

The PSAT test will be given at Ballard High School on Wednesday, October 12.

*This test is important for **Juniors** because it is the first step in qualifying to be a **National Merit Scholar**.*

*Those wanting to take the PSAT test need to sign up in the guidance office and pay the \$14.00 testing fee by Friday, September 23. **Students who do not sign up for the PSAT by September 23 will not be guaranteed a test.***

Registration Fee Reminder

Registration technology fees are past due.

Parents/Guardians, if you have not paid your child/childrens' fee, please do so immediately.

Mail all payments to:

Peggy Wilson

Ballard Schools

PO Box 307

Huxley, IA 50124-0307

Or pay online through Payschools

Computer/Technology Fee Rates:

West—\$ 10.00

East—\$20.00

Middle School \$20.00

High School \$25.00

Ballard High School Homecoming 2011

Thursday, September 29

Tours of Ballard Middle School and Ballard High School 4:00-6:00 pm

Parade/Grand Opening/Coronation/Pep Rally

The parade will begin at Ballard Middle School at 6:30 pm. Coronation, a brief grand opening celebration and the pep rally will follow at Ballard High school.

Friday, September 30

Tours of Ballard Middle School and Ballard High School 4:00 pm- 6:00 pm

Dollars for Scholars Meal

Ballard High School 5:00 pm-7:00 pm

Juicy Pork Sandwiches and the fixin's

Football game vs. Clear Lake

Freshmen kickoff 4:45

Varsity kickoff 7:30

Saturday, October 1

Tours of Ballard Middle School and Ballard High School

9:00 am- 12:00 noon

Homecoming Dance Grades 9-12

8:00-11:00 Ballard High School Commons

\$4.00 per person

\$7.00 per couple

Alumni/Community Dance Featuring: Standing Hampton

Everyone is Welcome!

Slater Fire Station

Social Hour 8:00 pm-9:00pm; Dance 9:00 pm-1:00am

Admission \$10.00 per person

Includes 1 beverage coupon

"Cherish The Memories, Celebrate New Traditions-Homecoming 2011"

Homecoming T-Shirts 2011

The *NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY* is sponsoring the sale of Homecoming T-shirts.

The 2011-2012 school year is bringing about lots of changes for the Ballard School District. Grade levels have changed in all buildings and we have moved into our beautiful new high school. Our students are off to a great start of the school year. We are planning some special homecoming events to remember the past and celebrate the future.

The homecoming shirts this year will be navy blue and will have this Homecoming theme:

*“Cherish the Memories...
Celebrate New Traditions”
Ballard Homecoming 2011*

Order forms and payment are due by Wednesday, September 7. The T-shirts cost \$13.00 each and will be delivered to the students around September 21.

Youth Sizes

Quantity

Medium _____
Large _____

Adult Sizes

Small _____
Medium _____
Large _____
X-Large _____
XX-Large _____
XXX-Large _____

Number of shirts ordered _____ @ \$13 each. Total Due _____

Name _____ teacher or advisor: _____

Payment must accompany each order form. Check should be made out to Ballard Schools. Please return your order form by Wednesday, September 7. Ballard High School, c/o

Peggy Wilson, PO Box 307, Huxley, IA 50124-0307

Thanks,
Ballard NHS Students

Ballard Music Boosters

Membership Form

Your entire donation supports the band and vocal music programs at Ballard.

Most recently the boosters have helped purchase choir robes and stoles, equipment and instruments for the new building and helped the elementary music classrooms meet their needs.

The Music Boosters offer the following membership opportunities:

_____ **Conductor Membership** **\$100.00**
(includes family admission to all regular music concerts and recognition in program)

_____ **Symphonic Membership** **\$ 50.00**
(includes single admission to all regular music concerts and recognition in program)

_____ **Concert Membership** **\$25.00**
(includes recognition of your support in a concert program)

All funds support the Ballard Music Program.

**Please make checks payable to Ballard Music Boosters.
Mail to: Ballard High School PO Box 307 Huxley, IA 50124-0307.**

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____
(to send your membership card)

***The Ballard Music Boosters Board would like to
thank you for your financial support of the
Ballard Music Department.***

ballardmusic.iowa@gmail.com

Ballard Music Boosters Pizza Supper

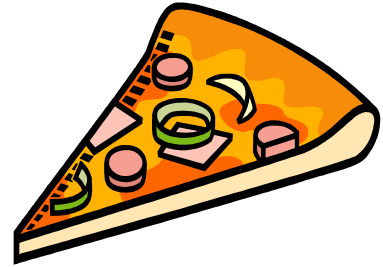
Don't Cook! Let us serve you!

Friday, September 16

5:00-7:00 PM

Ballard Middle School Cafeteria

Pizza Meal \$6.00



All proceeds go to the Ballard band and vocal music programs.

This past year Ballard Music Boosters contributed to the Ballard music programs with the purchase of choir robes and stoles, new instruments and equipment for the transition to the new high school and support to the elementary classrooms as well.

Thank you for your support!

If you are interested in more information or getting involved with Ballard Music Boosters, please email us at ballardmusic.iowa@gmail.com



Ballard Dollars for Scholars Homecoming Meal

Join us for the Annual Fundraiser for

Ballard Dollars for Scholars!

Friday, September 30 5-7 pm

Ballard High School

Juicy Pork Sandwiches and the fixin's plus a chance to tour the new school. See you then!

Student Council News

Is your group or business interested in having a float in this year's Homecoming Parade? If so, please contact Ms. Mein, Student Council Advisor at 597-2971 ext 2197 or via email at cmain@ballard.k12.ia.us.



loans that change lives

KIVA is a microloan organization that allows people to loan as little as \$25 to up and coming business owners and other people in need from around the world.

The Ballard High School Student Council is currently loaning to 4 people;

Ahmed from Jordan, who owns a grocery store

Amparo De Fátima Gutiérrez Cabrera from Nicaragua, who is purchasing building materials for her house

Irene Barrantes Novoa of Costa Rica who has purchased 3 cattle

Medardo of Miami, Florida, who purchased more clothing for his store

For information, please visit www.kiva.org

IASC Honor Council

The 2010-2011 Ballard Student Council was recognized as an Honor Council by the Iowa Association of Student Councils (IASC). According to the purpose described on the IASC website, "the Honor Council program of the IASC is designed to recognize Student Councils who present evidence of having an effective and progressive council organization in a variety of areas. High schools must receive a minimum number of points (80) in order to be recognized by the Iowa Student Council Leadership Conference and to receive an award designating the council as 'Honor Council'." All Honor Councils are recognized at the IASC State Conference on October 24, 2011.

2011 Ballard Youth Football Schedule

Juniors WHITE (Head Coach – Michael Finch)

Sun 9/18 – @ Norwalk Purple (1:30pm)

Sun 9/25 – vs. WDM Bengals (Noon)

Sun 10/2 – @ Carroll Red (Noon)

Sun 10/9 – vs. Ames Black (Noon)

Sun 10/16 – vs. Boone White (Noon)

Juniors GRN/WHITE (Head Coach – Rick Bentrott)

Sun 9/18 – vs. DCG Pewter (1:30pm)

Sat 9/24 – @ WDM Dolphins (3:45pm)

Sun 10/2 – vs. WDM Jags (1:30pm)

Sun 10/9 – @ Boone White (1:30pm)

Sun 10/16 – vs. Roland-Story (1:30pm)

Juniors GREEN (Head Coach – Rob Drew)

Sun 9/18 – vs. WDM Dolphins (Noon)

Sat 9/24 – @ WDM 49ers (1:15pm)

Sun 10/2 – vs. DCG White (Noon)

Sun 10/9 – @ Boone Blue (Noon)

Sat 10/15 – @ WDM Packers (1:15pm)

5th WHITE (Head Coach – Chris Deason)

Sun 9/18 – @ Norwalk Purple (3:00pm)

Sun 9/25 – vs. WDM Bengals (1:30pm)

Sun 10/2 – @ Carroll Red (3:00pm)

Sun 10/9 – vs. Ames Black (1:30pm)

Sun 10/16 – @ Norwalk White (Noon)

5th GREEN (Head Coach – Brandon Huen)

Sun 9/18 – vs. WDM Dolphins (3:00pm)

Sat 9/24 – @ WDM 49ers (5:00pm)

Sun 10/2 – vs. Roland-Story White (3:00pm)

Sun 10/9 – vs. _____ (4:30pm)

Sun 10/16 – @ ADM Red (1:30pm)

6th WHITE (Head Coach – Bryan Manfull)

Sun 9/18 – @ Norwalk Purple (4:30pm)

Sun 9/25 – vs. WDM Bengals (3:00pm)

Sun 10/2 – @ Carroll Blue (4:30pm)

Sun 10/9 – vs. Ames Black (3:00pm)

Sun 10/16 – vs. Roland-Story (3:00pm)

6th GREEN (Head Coach – Kent Nessa)

Sun 9/18 – vs. WDM Lions (4:30pm)

Sun 9/25 – @ WDM Jags (2:15pm)

Sun 10/2 – vs. DCG White (4:30pm)

Sun 10/9 – @ Boone (4:30pm)

Sun 10/16 – @ WDM Bengals (2:15pm)

POST-SEASON PLAY 10/22 & 10/23

Times, Dates, & Locations to be announced

Special THANKS to all of the Assistant Coaches for your commitment and passion for our youth!

THANK YOU to our contributors, volunteers &

Board who make Ballard Youth Football possible.

Ballard Volleyball vs. The Big "C"



Support the Ballard Volleyball team and the fight against cancer!

The Ballard Volleyball team is hosting a Cancer Awareness Night on Tuesday, September 27, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. during the game against Boone.

Fundraising activities will include a T-shirt sale, silent auction and bake sale. Donations are also welcome!

All funds raised will be donated to the American Cancer Society.

We hope to see you there!

Questions? Contact Melonie Spear (spear.melonie@principal.com) or Nancy Stolte (stolte.nancy@principal.com)

Ballard Volleyball vs. The Big "C" - T-Shirt Order Form

Black shirt with lavender design
Cost = \$15 each



Your Name: _____

Phone #: _____

QUANTITY	SIZE (Youth S-L; Adult S-XXL)	PRICE
TOTAL DUE:		

____ I'll pick up my shirt at the volleyball game on September 27.

____ I'll pick up my shirt from the following volleyball player: _____

**Orders due by September 13, 2011 Return to Terri Weeks
Makes checks payable to: Ballard Volleyball**

FROM THE PAGES OF THE HUXLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Storytime

Every Tuesday & Wednesday
morning
at 9:30am—
for toddlers & preschoolers—
Come join the fun!



What to do on early-out Wednesdays?

Youth Book Club!

Good books, games and snacks
at the library from 1:00-2:00.
All 3rd-6th graders are welcome!



The Adult Reading Group wants **you** to join!
September 12 at 10:00 we'll be discussing The Heights by Iowa
author and screenwriter Peter Hedges.
Next, the all-Iowa-reads selection: Sing Them Home by Stephanie Kallos



Ballard Kids Club



Before School



Did you know...

We offer free breakfast!

We NOW open at 6:30 AM



**Homework help is
available**

**Game challenges
Building challenges
Art & music
All a part of our mornings!**



**Monthly fees as low as \$45 per month
Call Kate at 291-9050 or stop in the
office for an application!**



**Kids Club is a program of
Youth and Shelter Services**

Slater Public Library



School is in full-swing and so are all of the many activities that come with fall. The Slater Public Library will be busy as well with many fun and interesting programs for all ages. Here are some of the activities we have planned.

Story Time

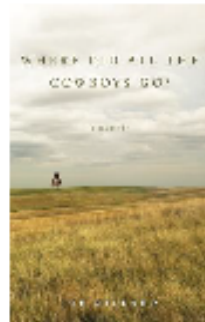
We will have two story times every week starting after Labor Day. Mondays at 10 am will be for toddlers and Wednesdays at 10 am will be for preschoolers. Any age is welcome either day, but the stories and activities will be planned appropriately for the ages scheduled. We have lots of fun singing, dancing, movement with musical scarves, stories, crafts and more! Come join us!

Early-out Program

We will continue our early-out program this year for ages EK-5th grade. There will be two dates in September, the 14th and the 28th. Time is from 1-3 pm. There will be snacks, stories, crafts, games and homework help if needed. This is a free program, but parents will need to stop in and register.

Special "Back to School" Program

Tuesday, Sept. 13 at 6:30 pm we will have author, Dr. Joe Millard here to tell us about his book, *Where Did All the Cowboys Go?* Dr. Millard's book "gives a first-person account of what life was like growing up in rural Iowa in the 1940's" including attending a one-room school house in Greene County from 1941-1950. Come join us as we reminisce and think "back-to-school" on the 13th.



Book Club

We are going to start a book club this fall. The date and time is yet to be determined, but if you are interested, please stop in or give us a call.



Coffee

We have coffee every Friday at 10 am. Come for a good time spent among friends.

Knitting Class

If there is enough interest we will have a 3rd session of our knitting class on Fridays, Sept 9-30 at 11 am. Cost is \$20 for 4 sessions. Please call the library at 228-3558 ASAP if interested. All levels welcome!



United Way of Story County

Being a Big Brother or Big Sister is one of the most enjoyable things you'll ever do. Not to mention, one of the most fulfilling. You have the opportunity to help shape a child's future for the better by empowering them to achieve. And the best part is, it's actually a lot of fun. You and your "Little" can share the kinds of activities you already like to do. For more information, visit <http://www.bbbsia.org> or call (515) 288-

Ballard School District Phone Numbers

Ballard West Elementary (Grades EK-2)

105 E. Main, Slater, Iowa

Attendance Reporting 228-3890
 Office 228-3890
 Fax 228-3892
 Bus Riding Changes 228-3890
 West Kitchen 228-3893

Administration Office

602 N. Main Ave, Huxley, Iowa

Superintendent 597-2811
 Business Manager 597-2975
 Fax 597-2965

Ballard East Elementary (Grades 3-5)

505 W. 4th, Cambridge, Iowa

Attendance Reporting 228-4306
 Office 220-4306
 Fax 220-4310
 Bus Riding Changes 220-4306
 East Kitchen 220-4893

Ballard High School

701 Ballard Drive, Huxley IA 50124

Attendance Reporting 597-2971 (follow prompt)
 Office 597-2971
 Fax 597-2964
 Principal's Secretary 597-2971 (ext 2170)
 Activities Secretary 597-2971 (ext 2138)
 High School Kitchen 597-2978

Ballard Middle School (Grades 6-8)

509 N. Main, Huxley, Iowa

Attendance Reporting 597-2815 (follow prompt)
 Office 597-2815
 Fax 597-2818
 Principal's Secretary 597-2815 (ext 200)
 Activities Secretary 597-2971 (ext 2138)
 Middle School Kitchen 597-2815

Ballard Bus Barn 597-2979

Ballard Website www.ballard.k12.ia.us

District Attendance/Transportation e-mail attend-bus@ballard.k12.ia.us

District Registrar, Peggy Wilson 515-597-2971 ext 2177