

George Washington Carver Elementary School



Carver Family News October 2016

What's Happening This Month

- Sept. 29 - Online Conference scheduling opens at 5:00 p.m.
- Sept. 29 - Open House, 5:30-6:30
- Oct. 5 - Buck Wilder author Tim Smith visit, 9:00 a.m., 2nd-5th grade
- Oct. 6 - Olympian Chip Minton Assembly, 9:45 a.m.
- Oct. 7 - Late arrival, 9:40 a.m.
- Oct. 7 - Spirit Day - Popcorn at Lunch Recess (Popcorn is free-provided by PTG and thank you to Mindframe Theater for donating the popcorn.)
- Oct. 7 - Kindergarten Field Trip to Swiss Valley and Asbury Park, 10:15 a.m.-2:45 p.m.
- Oct. 8 - Kids Expo - Grand River Center, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- Oct. 9 - Online Conference scheduling closes
- Oct. 11 - Parent Teacher Group (PTG) Meeting, 6:30-7:30 p.m., in room B208
- Oct. 12 - Picture Day
- Oct. 13 - Book Fair, 3:40-8:10 p.m., room B208
- Oct. 13 - Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:00-8:00 p.m.
- Oct. 14 - Late arrival, 9:40 a.m.
- Oct. 18 - Preschool walking to Asbury Fire Station, 9:30 a.m. and 1:15 p.m.
- Oct. 19 - Book Fair, 3:40-8:10 p.m., room B208
- Oct. 19 - Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences, 4:00-8:00 p.m.
- Oct. 19 - Fund Raiser pick-up, 4:00 Carver Commons
- Oct. 20 - No School
- Oct. 20 - Book Fair, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. room B208
- Oct. 20 - Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- Oct. 20 - Carver Movie Night, details to come
- Oct. 21 - No School
- Oct. 24 - 1st Grade Field Trip to Heritage Center, 11:20 a.m.-1:20 p.m.
- Oct. 24 - Carver Skate Night, Skate Country. 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- Oct. 25 - 2-Valentine Book Club, 11:45-12:15
- Oct. 26 - 2-Maneman Book Club, 11:45-12:15
- Oct. 26 - 5th Grade Field Trip to the Symphony, Five Flags Theater, 10:10-12:00
- Oct. 27 - 2-Budde Book Club, 11:45-12:15
- Oct. 28 - Late arrival, 9:40 a.m.
- Oct. 28 - 2-Tracy Book Club, 11:45-12:15

The mission of Carver School is to: Invigorate the Mind, Invest the Heart, Invent the Future.

A Moment with the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences are fast approaching. Carver will have conferences on Thursday, October 13th from 4:00-8:00 pm, Wednesday, October 19th from 4:00-8:00 pm, and Thursday, October 20th from 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. A recent study revealed that parent/teacher conferences are big stress producers, but I feel they can also be extremely helpful and important to your child. When parents and teachers work together, everyone benefits: students tend to earn higher grades, perform better on tests, attend school more regularly, have better behavior, and show more positive attitudes toward themselves and toward school.

Just as the teacher must prepare for the conferences, so should you. Here are some ideas on how to get the most out of your child's parent-teacher conferences this year.

Talk with your child before the conference.

Ask your child before what she would like you to discuss at the meeting. Say to your child, "We are going to be meeting with your teacher; what will she/he tell me?"

Ask questions.

Come to the conference with a list of questions regarding your child's academic and social issues. Some good questions to ask may include:

What are my child's strongest and weakest subjects?

What can I do at home to extend my child's learning?

Is my child working up to his or her ability? If not, what can we do to change that?

How well does my child get along with classmates?

What is a typical day like?

Share information about your child.

No one knows your child better than you. The more you share about your child – both strengths and weaknesses – the better the teacher will successfully meet his/her needs.

Raise issues of concern.

Plan ahead of time how you will raise issues of concern. Listen to what the teacher has to say in response to the problem. Then work together to find a solution.

Make the most of your time.

Conferences are usually scheduled for twenty minutes. Make the most of that meeting by approaching the conference with a positive, cooperative attitude.

To be effective, parent/teacher conferences have to be a partnership between the family and the school to see that children are learning to the best of their ability, that they feel safe and supported, and that their parents are well-informed.

I look forward to seeing all of you at conference time.

Sincerely,
Cindy Steffens
Carver Principal

Online Conference Scheduling begins September 29th at 5:00 p.m.



You may go to www.myschoolsystems.com/dubuque/carver to schedule your conference. You will use the same password that you have used in the past for orientation. If you have forgotten your password, please call the Carver Office, (563) 552-4500, and they can assist you.

School Picture Day

Wednesday, October 12

Siebe Studio will be capturing the smiles of our Carver students this year! Order forms were sent home with your student. Students need a completed order form, including payment, at the time their picture is taken.



**Order forms and payment need to be returned
to school on picture day.**



Carver Skate Party

Date: October 24, 2016

Time: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Where: Skate Country

Admission: \$4.00

Quad Skate Rental: \$1.50

In-Line Skate Rental: \$2.50

Instrumental Music News



SAVE THE DATE, BAND AND ORCHESTRA FAMILIES!

Elementary Band and Orchestra Concert

November 14, 6:00 PM – Hempstead High School

Thursday Mailbag



Welcome to the Thursday eMailbag! We will post links from nonprofit community members to which DCSD approval is granted. This will replace sending home flyers in the Thursday mailbag. New links will be posted each week and a reminder email will be sent each Thursday. Distribution of the following publications does not constitute an endorsement by the Dubuque Community School District.

[Grand Opera House 9-29-16](#)

[September 30, Oct 1, 7, 8 presentation: To Kill A Mockingbird](#)

[Dance Marathon Color Run 9-29-16](#)

[October 8th- Registration at 9AM](#)

Dear Carver Families:

We invite you enter the *BOOKANEER BOOK FAIR* at the Carver Scholastic Book Fair this fall. We want you to experience a celebration of reading that provides families the opportunity to get involved in a universal mission: *encouraging kids to read every day so they can lead better lives*. Our Book Fair is part of a reading event that brings to school a wonderful selection of fun, engaging, and affordable books kids want to read. Giving kids access to good books and the opportunity to choose books will motivate them to read more. And like most acquired skills, the more kids practice reading, the better they will read!



Book Fair Dates: **Thursday, October 13** **(3:40-8:10)**
 Wednesday, October 19 **(3:40-8:10)**
 Thursday, October 20 **(8:00-1:00)**

Online Fair Dates: **October 21st through October 30th**

If you are unable to attend in person, you can also help support our school by shopping online. Carver Book Fair online can be viewed at:

<http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/carver>

- All orders ship free to the school about 1 week after the Book Fair.
- Browse an expanded book selection - including Storia eBooks

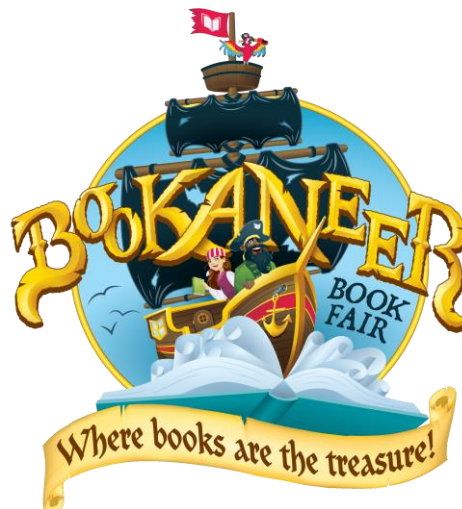
Classroom Libraries

Besides bringing affordable appropriate books to our school library, a goal of our Book Fair is to increase classroom libraries. One way is to purchase and donate a book for your child's classroom in your family's name.

We look forward to having you participate in our Fall Book Fair, and remember, all purchases benefit our school.

SEE YOU AT THE BOOK FAIR!

Mrs. Schmitt / Mrs. Miller



A note from the Health Office:



* If you have a child in Pre-K or Kindergarten and have not yet submitted the necessary medical paperwork (immunizations, physical, vision, dental, etc.), please do so ASAP.

* Fall is a busy time for routine health screenings in the District, the following are provided here at Carver:

Hearing screening—all students in Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade (November)

Vision screening—Pre-K through 5th grade (October/November)

Dental screening—Pre-K (October)

With these screenings, no news is good news! Parents/guardians will be notified of any abnormal results. Please keep in mind we can also do these screenings at any time if a concern should ever arise.

* Just a reminder if your child has a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea, please do not send them to school. This is our best defense at keeping illness out of the school.

* I believe most physician offices have the influenza vaccine available and are administering it. Any child 6 months and older can receive this vaccine. Often times the influenza vaccine (flu shot) is mistaken for a vaccine that will protect you from the GI or stomach bug. This is not true, the influenza vaccine will only aid in protecting you from influenza.

Influenza Symptoms:

Influenza (also known as the flu) is a contagious **respiratory** illness caused by flu viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The flu is different from a cold. The flu usually comes on suddenly.

People who have the flu often feel some or all of these symptoms:

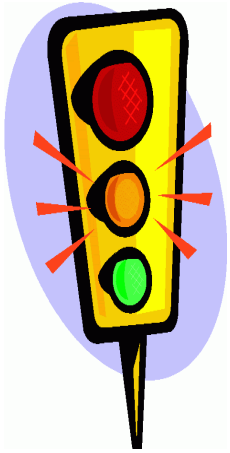
- Fever or feeling feverish/chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue (tiredness)
- Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

* As always, any questions/concerns please let us know!

Kathy McClimon, RN BSN
Carver Elementary Nurse

Robin Noonan
Carver Health Paraprofessional

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



- **CHRONIC ABSENCE**
18 or more days
- **WARNING SIGNS**
10 TO 17 days
- **GOOD ATTENDANCE**
9 or fewer absences

**Build the Habit of
Good Attendance! School
success goes hand in hand
with good attendance!**

Attending school regularly helps students feel better about school and about themselves. Start building this habit during the first weeks of school so your child grows accustomed to attending daily, being on time to school and staying focused on school work so they don't fall behind on daily school work.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two every few weeks
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help a student catch up.

October

Whether your child is in Preschool or High School, regular daily attendance makes a huge difference! Every day, your child is learning something new and valuable! If he/she misses just 1-2 days per month, your child will develop a chronic absenteeism problem! What might your child miss out on at school?



Preschool/Kindergarten: Your child is learning a new word or sound, a new math skill, and is making new friends!

Elementary: Your child is learning a new math skill or science concept! Your child goes from "learning to read" to "reading to learn"! They are learning to become independent, responsible, and are continually learning to work with others!

Middle/High School: Your child is learning about a new topic in Math, Science, and Reading! She/he is connecting with adults and problem solving! They are exploring careers and thinking about what they will do for the rest of their life!

Help your child develop good attendance habits! Our kids are THE FUTURE! It's never too early to start asking your child what he/she dreams of becoming! The sky is the limit! Make every second count!

News from the Art Room

The following fifth grade students painted the fall windows after school:

Sydney Coleman, Brett Graney, Natalie Ramirez, Faith Griffin, Rachel Rhomberg, Mallory Zeman, Kate Duehr, Maya Dirksen, Riana Tugade, Gabbi Anderson, Dylan Boyes, Alex Kirman, and Annabel Blanchard.

They did a wonderful job!



Artsonia Update

Parents, please note that Artsonia has a new policy about parent permission. To view any artwork published after July 2016 you must respond to the e-mail they sent to you on the first of the month to give permission again. If you are having problems seeing your child's artwork, just email me at sdeppe@dbqschools.org.

Thanks!

Mrs. Deppe and Mrs. Lammer

Update from the Carver Office

If we're going paperless, why am I still getting paper?

Our transition to paperless communication is a work in progress. Please understand that when organizations give us flyers that they have already printed, we are not going to be wasteful and throw them away. We distribute them to you and also put a digital copy on our Thursday Mailbag link on the website.

Why put it on the website if paper copies were sent home?

We want to get everyone in the habit of checking the website to find information. If a piece of paper gets misplaced, you now have a place to access what you need. Also, some information is being distributed in digital form only. Please read over all of the items in the online Thursday Mailbag.

If I have designated only 1 of my students as the Mail Carrier, why am I getting more than 1 copy of the same flyer?

Certain flyers come to us and are only intended for certain grades, such as after-school sports, classes, or outside events. We distribute them to all students in the intended grades.

*If you ever have any questions, please feel free to call the office at (563) 552-4500.
If there is no answer, please leave us a voicemail. Thank you!*

Information from the Counselor's Office



During this rotation of guidance classes, we will be talking about mindsets. Here is some information about mindset that you can use when talking with your children.

Growth Mindset

Is Your Mindset Fixed?

A person with a fixed mindset may do these things:

- Avoid challenges
- Give up easily
- Ignore feedback
- Become threatened by other people's success
- Try hard to appear as smart as possible or as capable as possible



What does Growth Mindset Look Like?

A person with a growth mindset may do these things:

- Embrace challenges
- Give their best effort
- Learn from feedback
- Become inspired by other people's success
- Believe their intelligence can change if they work hard

Information from the Counselor's Office



Dubuque Community Schools offers a Food Pack Program for families who have limited access to food over the weekend. The guidelines for the program are listed below along with eligibility information. If you are interested and could benefit from receiving food packs, please contact Stef Weber at 552-4506. Ms. Weber will submit the eligibility form and will contact you with further information if you are eligible.

The Food Pack Program Dubuque Community School District 2016-2017

What is the Food Pack Program?

The Food Pack Program is an initiative that provides food to children who might have limited access to food over the weekend. Every Friday, selected students at your child's school will receive a small bag of food to take home for the weekend. This Food Pack contains individual servings for the child, not for the entire family. The Food Pack is not meant to be enough food for the entire weekend, but rather to supplement other food within the family's household.

Who is Eligible to Participate?

This program is intended for families with limited income or those families with unique circumstances which make meeting basic needs a challenge. The income guidelines for Free and Reduced School Lunches are a general guideline to help establish eligibility, but families will be considered if there are unique circumstances that make this assistance necessary.

How many children can participate?

Unfortunately, there are only a limited number of children who can participate. Each school has approximately 50 food packs to distribute each Friday.

Does it Cost to Participate in the Program?

There is no cost to participate in the program.

How is the Food Pack Program Funded?

The Food Pack Program is administered by the St. Stephen's Food Bank and is funded through a multi-year grant provided through the John Deere Foundation.

How can I apply?

Fully complete the application on the reverse side of this information sheet and return it to your school as soon as possible.

How will I know if my child has been selected?

Staff at each school will determine eligibility as applications are returned and will place children on the list to receive the Food Packs. If there are more applicants than food available, each school will begin a waiting list, and will pick up new students as other students discontinue the program or as more resources become available. You will receive written notification stating that your child has been approved for the program or that your child has been placed on the waiting list.

If my child is selected, when will he/she begin receiving the food pack?

After receiving notice from the Guidance Counselor that your child has been selected, the first Food Packs will be distributed on Friday before the end of the school day. Selected children will receive the Food Pack every Friday throughout the school year, or on the last day of school for the week should there be no school scheduled on Friday. If family circumstances change and you no longer need this resource, please notify the school office so another child can be selected.

How will my child get the food?

Every Friday the selected children will be given the food bag. The distribution will be made as discretely as possible.

Food Pack Application 2016-2017

This information will be kept confidential and only used to determine eligibility for this program.

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Number in people living in your household: _____

Household Income \$ _____ Per _____
Week Month Year

Income source(s) – *Please check any that you receive.*

☐ Government Assistance ☐ Wages ☐ Other

Parent Name (Please Print): _____ Phone: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Eligibility Guidelines for School Year 2016-17

Income guidelines effective July 1, 2016.

| Household Size | Federal Income Chart | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|
| | Yearly | Monthly | Twice Per Month | Every Two Weeks | Weekly |
| 1 | 21,978 | 1,832 | 916 | 846 | 423 |
| 2 | 29,637 | 2,470 | 1,235 | 1,140 | 570 |
| 3 | 37,296 | 3,108 | 1,554 | 1,435 | 718 |
| 4 | 44,955 | 3,747 | 1,874 | 1,730 | 865 |
| 5 | 52,614 | 4,385 | 2,193 | 2,024 | 1,012 |
| 6 | 60,273 | 5,023 | 2,512 | 2,319 | 1,160 |
| 7 | 67,951 | 5,663 | 2,832 | 2,614 | 1,307 |
| 8 | 75,647 | 6,304 | 3,152 | 2,910 | 1,455 |
| Each additional person: | 7,696 | 642 | 321 | 296 | 148 |

Households: *Your children may qualify for reduced or free price meals if your household income falls within the limits on this chart.*

If your income is greater than the guidelines listed above, are there other circumstances that make this food pack necessary to provide adequate food to your child over the weekend?

To be completed by the school:

Eligible: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Program Participation: ☐ Receiving Food Pack ☐ On Waiting List

Date Received and Processed by the School Office: _____

8th

Over 50 booths of
information
for families with
children of
all ages!

Saturday, October 10

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Grand River Center

Dubuque, IA

Free Admission • Free Activities

Family entertainment throughout the day including:

Balloon Artists • Musical Performances
Dance Demonstrations • Make-and-Takes
Large Inflatables • Crafts and Games!
Free Valuable Family Resource Guide

Produced by: Dubuque County Early Childhood
563.588.1620

For more information, go to
www.dcearlychild.org or

find us on Facebook - "Kids Expo - Dubuque County"

Dubuque County

Health services available for children:

A Collaboration of:



Dubuque County
EARLY CHILDHOOD



Dubuque
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

- Immunizations
- Oral health screenings
- Lead testing
- Vision checks
- Developmental screenings!

For immunizations and lead tests only,
make appointment through the VNA at 556-6200

Thank you to our sponsors who make this event possible:



JOHN DEERE



Bronze Star Sponsors:
Four Oaks/Parents as Teachers
Dubuque Area Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse
Every Child Every Promise

Shining Star Sponsors:
Alliant Energy
American Trust
NICC Dyslexia Tutoring & Reading Program
Dubuque Bank & Trust

Iowa Tests of Progress (ITP) are given to students in grades 3-5. The dates have been set and we wanted to give you a heads up so we can minimize the number of students absent on test days.

The dates for ITP (Iowa Tests of Progress) will be **November 7, 8, 9, 10 and 14.**



The DCSD policy on animals in the classroom:

Live animals will not be allowed in school district facilities except under special circumstances and only for an educational purpose. The Dubuque Community School District acknowledges its responsibility to permit students and/or adults with disabilities to be accompanied by a “service animal” in its school buildings, on school vehicles, and at school functions to ensure that individuals with disabilities are permitted to participate in and benefit from district programs, activities and services, and to ensure that the district does not discriminate on the basis of disability.

Carver has numerous students who are allergic to dogs or have a fear of dogs due to traumatic past experiences. To keep all our students healthy and safe we are asking families to keep dogs at home and do not bring them onto school property without prior permission.

CARVER BUSINESS PARTNERS



Kohl's Department Store
2595 NW Arterial
Dubuque, IA 52002



Red Robin Gourmet Burgers
2775 NW Arterial
Dubuque, IA 52002



Hy-Vee Food Store
2395 NW Arterial
Dubuque, IA 52002



National Mississippi River
Museum & Aquarium
350 East Third Street
Port of Dubuque, Iowa 52001

Anti-

Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination

Assurance Statement Any form of harassment, bullying, or discrimination can be devastating to an individual. Therefore, the Dubuque Community School District will not tolerate harassment, bullying, or discrimination based upon a trait or characteristic of a student, staff member, volunteer, or applicant for employment including, but not limited to, age, ancestry, color, creed, familial status, gender identity, marital status, national origin, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, political belief, political party preference, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status. The school district requires all agencies, vendors, contractors, and other persons and organizations doing business with or performing services for the school district to subscribe to all applicable federal and state laws, executive orders, rules and regulations pertaining to contract compliance and equal opportunity- School Board Policies #1001/#1005.

Any person having inquiries about this statement or the district's compliance with regulations implementing Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 or Iowa Code Section 280.3 is directed to contact: The Forum, 2300 Chaney Road, Dubuque, IA 52001 (563) 552-3000.