



The "PACK" Newsletter February 2012

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HAMMRICH'S HOWL



ATTENTION: Parents of children who will be 4 years old by September 15, 2012. The IKM-Manning Community School District will be conducting a Registration for our 4-year old Preschool Programs and an Early Childhood Screening on February 22nd at the Manning Elementary and February 24th at the Irwin Elementary. Any family who wishes to have their 4 year old attend one of our preschools next fall should call for an appointment at either the Manning elementary office, 655-3761 or the Irwin Elementary office, 782-3126.

This event is a great opportunity for parent to not only sign their child up for preschool but also receive information

on school readiness. The children who attend are taken through different stations that check hearing, vision, along with other general age appropriate development. There is also time given to explore the classroom and meet their teachers. It's a great day for parents and kids!

Both Irwin Elementary and Manning Elementary have preschools that serve students 4 days per week. Irwin Elementary is a full day program (8:20 – 3:20) and Manning Elementary has morning (8:30 – 11:30) and afternoon programs (12:30 – 3:30). Both provide high quality atmospheres using Creative Curriculum as their base and Teaching Strategies GOLD to monitor their progress.

We will also have individuals from our local Area Education Agency present on these two days to answer any questions parents might have concerning their children who are ages birth to three. These consultants are able to provide specific services for that age group and

would be happy to visit with parents if they have concerns.

So mark your calendars and call for an appointment. If you know any families who have children in this age group, please encourage them to participate. This event is a great way for us to get children started on their new adventure into the world of education.

Mrs. Hammrich
Elementary Principal

21st Century Skills

This month I've chosen to focus on some 21st century tools you can use to stay involved and informed as a parent.

Email is a fast and efficient tool for communication between parents and school. If you have email access at home please consider providing your email address to the school. Once your email is entered in our school management system, teachers, secretaries, and the principal can easily send you messages. We also have the ability to send mass communications to all the email addresses we have in our system. This comes in handy in distributing information to parents quickly and without the expense of postage on a letter.

Another useful, electronic tool for parents is our **Online Parent** access. This is a web-based system whereby a parent/guardian may access information from our school information system about their child. They can view attendance reports,

recent report cards, progress reports showing scores on assignments, quizzes, and tests, and update parent/guardian contact information. To receive access to Online Parent, each parent/guardian needs to set up a username and password. Look for a link on our school website (www.ikm-manning.k12.ia.us) that will lead you to instructions on how to set up access. Or you can call Sonia in the high school office. If you already have your Online Parent access set up, take a minute to review your contact information and make sure your information is correct. You can submit corrections right from the web and this would be a great way to get an email address from you or update an old email address we may have in our system.

Finally, with winter fully upon us, now would be a great time to get signed up for our Iowa School Alerts system. (We no longer use Snowcap.) Once registered you can receive text messages and/or email messages about cancellations and postponements of school activities. You'll find links to information about the system and for signing up on our school website.

A note for parents about student cell phones...

Many students now carry cell phones with them and while there are several good reasons why a parent might want their child to have access to a cell phone there also are many ways cell phones can be misused and disruptive in a school environment. IKM-Manning High School has a policy that student cell phones are to be

turned off during school hours and are not to be used in classrooms, halls, study hall, bathrooms, locker rooms, or the cafeteria. Students are allowed to check their phones for messages at their lockers between classes. If your child has a cell phone, your cooperation and support of school policy is greatly appreciated.

Mr. Wall, H. S. Principal

Dr. Ward “In His Own Words”

On January 6th Governor Branstad released the *Recommendations for World-Class Schools* for Iowa. The Brief resulted in a 16 page summation of what was given to the 2012 Legislative Session which puts forth Iowa education on a path of having one of the best school systems in the world. There are over 20 different components to the legislation. I would encourage all our parents and patrons to visit the Department of Education’s website at <http://educateiowa.gov> to review all of the components for this massive overhaul of our education system. The three key areas: great teachers and administrators, high expectations for all and fair measures, more and innovative technology in all classrooms make-up the major context of the recommendations.

A major area of concern not only for IKM-Manning but other districts across the state is our declining enrollment. The number of Iowa students enrolled in Iowa’s public schools for the 2011-12 school year decreased slightly. A total of 473,213 students K thru 12th grade are enrolled state wide. This number represents a decrease of .06 percent or

280 students from last year. This is the 14th consecutive year that enrollments have dropped for Iowa schools. Iowa schools were at their peak during the 1972-73 school year, with over 645,000 students. Iowa has 351 school districts, 218 (62%) showed a decrease, while 129 (37%) reported an increase. Four districts showed no change.

Parents and patrons of the Irwin and Kirkman area need to be aware I will be sponsoring a “Coffee” in the Irwin Elementary sometime during the month of February. The “Coffee” is an opportunity for anyone to come in and have conversation with the superintendent and building principal. We have hosted two of these activities to date and some good questions and conversation have come from these activities.

At the January IKM-Manning School Board meeting the Board voted for the district to leave the Western Valley Conference and become a member of the Western Iowa Conference. The Western Iowa Conference is made up of A-H-S-T, Audubon, Griswold, Missouri Valley, Riverside, Treynor, Tri-Center, and Underwood. Along with IKM-Manning, Logan-Magnolia will also be admitted into the conference.

Please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns. I can be reached at 712-654-2852, tward@ikm-manning.k12.ia.us or just come into the Central Office anytime.

Yours In Education,
Dr. Ward, Superintendent

Registration for Pre-School

4-Year-Old Manning Preschool
Registration for fall of 2012,
along with an Early Childhood
Screening for children
ages birth to 4 years.

Call 655-3761 to schedule an
appointment

Wednesday, February 22, 2012

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Manning Elementary Building

Or

Friday, February 24, 2012

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Irwin Elementary Building

Online Parent Access to \sqrt Lunch Status

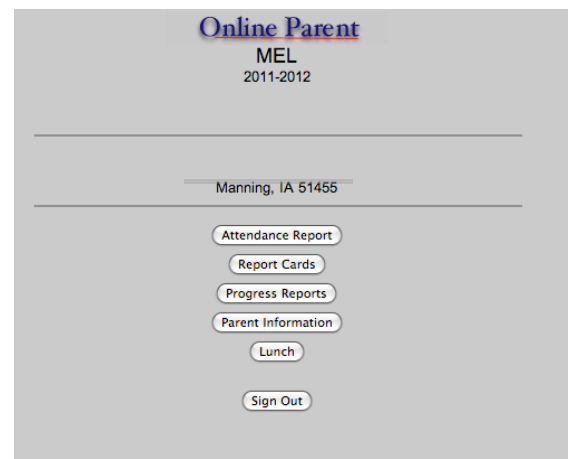
Parents, did you know you can check your student(s)' lunch account status online? All K-12 parents with Internet access can take advantage of this service. The online parent access website gives you information in regards to your student(s)' lunch account, attendance, and grades (4-12). It also allows you to update your contact information so the school can keep its database current.

To sign up you must contact the building office for each school that your child(ren) attend(s).

1. Call the IKM-Manning High School office (655-3781) or Manning Elementary office (655-3761) or Irwin Elementary office (782-3126) or IKM-Manning Middle School office (654-2852) to provide an email address and request a parent username and password
2. You will receive an email confirmation when your account has been set up
3. Log on to the district website (<http://www.ikm-manning.k12.ia.us>) and on left side of screen click on Online Parent Access under District Information. Click on the link to your student(s)' school and sign in using your parent username and password or go directly to the following address

<http://www.ikm-manning.k12.ia.us/OnlineParentAccess.html>

Once logged on you will see a list of options to choose from.



Online Parent		
MEL Lunch Mon 01/16/12		
<u>Account</u>	<u>Balance</u>	Account Transactions
[Redacted]	\$43.05	
<u>Student</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>Balance</u>
[Redacted]	469	\$0.00
[Redacted]	518	\$0.00
Student Lunch Transactions		
Student Lunch Transactions		

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Under Lunch — Balance will show and you can select account transactions, to see when your student(s) get(s) juice, milk, extra servings, breakfast, lunch, deposits, etc based on the amount charged.

Online Parent			
MEL Parent Lunch Transactions Mon 01/30/12			
<u>Account:</u>	[Redacted]	<u>Current Balance: \$16.95</u>	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Transaction</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
		Display All Transactions	
	Prior B		6.10
01/09/2012	[Transf	-0.30	5.80
01/09/2012	[Transf	-2.25	3.55
01/10/2012	[Transf	-0.30	3.25
01/10/2012	[Transf	-2.25	1.00
01/11/2012	Deposit Check # 8007	50.00	51.00
01/11/2012	[Transf	-0.30	50.70
01/11/2012	[Transf	-2.25	48.45

Elementary Prices:	MS/HS Prices:
<i>Daily</i>	<i>Daily</i>
•Breakfast: \$1.50	•Breakfast: \$1.50
•Lunch: \$2.25	•Lunch: \$2.50
•Milk/Juice: 30¢	•Milk/Juice: 30¢
	•Xtra Entrée: \$1.25
	•Xtra Side: 50¢
<i>Reduced:</i>	<i>Reduced:</i>
•Breakfast: 30¢	•Breakfast: 30¢
•Lunch: 40¢	•Lunch: 40¢
<i>Extras may be purchased if funds are available in student's account</i>	<i>Extras may be purchased if funds are available in student's account</i>
•Milk/Juice: 30¢	•Milk/Juice: 30¢
	•Xtra Entrée: \$1.25
	•Xtra Side: 50¢
Please note that even if your student(s) are on free lunch status, he/she must have funds available in his/her account in order to purchase any extras. This includes: milk/juice, entrée, and/or side.	
•Free/Reduced lunch applications can be picked up at any school office at any time of the year.	

Elementary Schools Celebrate the 100th Day of School!

January 19th marked the 100th day of school. Students with perfect attendance were presented with certificates.



Irwin Elementary

Front row: L to R - Sarah Christensen, Grace Andersen, Andy Maynard, Jackson Wuebke, Hailey Berns, Maguire Clouse. Back row: Jessica Christensen, Montana Rhodes, Charles Ball, Keira Beam, Lucy Borkowski, Chris Birks

Manning Elementary

Aubrey Alexander, Kate Stangl, Ryan Koch, Reagan Grau, Aden Stangl, Payton Behrens, Hollie Blum, Devin Snyder, Katelyn Wittrock, Macie Doyel, Cooper Perded, Kate Stangl, Brody Chapman, Mabel Langel, Alyssa Danner, Ben Langel, Ty Jasa, Dylan Snyder, Kamryn Leslie, Cody Girard, Zach Willenborg, Treyton Upton, Lauren Danner, Skylar Kroeger

