| DECEMBER 2016 |
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Iwant to congratulate our Saber Football Team on an incredible football season this fall. This group worked hard in the off-season as well as during the season to achieve greatness. It was a lot of fun for me to see all of the community support for this group of boys. Again, congratulations and now lets take this winning attitude/spirit into basketball and wrestling!

This year I've had issues with members of the community showing up at school during school hours and walking into classroom while class is in session. I want to remind you to please always check first at the office before going any further in the school. We want our school to be safe, and this is one component of our safety plan.

One of the most exciting additions to our school is now hanging from the middle of our gym. We now have a motorized 12 X 18 American Flag that will be lowered before a variety of different events and before playing/singing the National Anthem. We have had some trial runs with the flag, and it is simply AWESOME! This needs to be on your list as a "must see" soon! Something that has always impressed me about this community is the incredible amount of patriotism that is present. This flag was purchased partly by the school and local organizations, but I have been swamped with people who would like to help donate money to help pay for it. Because of this, I want to allow you to, if interested, donate to help fund the flag. If you are interested, please stop in and give the money to Glenda.


[^0]I want to take time to remind all of you that the Senior Citizen Christmas Dinner is on December 7th starting at 12:00. This grand event is put on by our student council and always proves to be one of the very best things we do each year. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending on the 7 th.

Our pop can shed has been a very successful money- maker for our activity fund. I want to let you know that the shed has been relocated by the sheds and recycle trailer south of the weight room Also, we have had community members call requesting us to pick up their cans. We would gladly do this; just give the high school a call.

## PBIS

## (Positive Behavior Intervention Supports)

You may have heard your elementary child exclaim, "I got a ticket!" Teachers, associates, and staff members are using tickets to recognize positive behaviors. Currently your child's good behavior is being recognized in the TC hallways, the cafeteria and during recess. As the school year progresses, good behavior will also be recognized in the restroom, library, and on the bus. After collecting a specified number of tickets school wide (K-6), the students get a school wide reward.

During the first ten days of school, each class received instruction particularly on hallway expectations. School-wide our school set a goal of obtaining 1,000 tickets in three weeks; the students earned over 1,200 tickets in fifteen days!
 When the students reached the goal, we celebrated with SABER games during Homecoming Week.

During the following weeks, students received instruction particularly on recess expectations. Students continued to receive tickets for positive hallway behaviors and, additionally, received tickets for positive recess behaviors. With two areas to earn tickets, the school set a goal of earning another 1,000 tickets in four weeks. When the students reach this goal, the elementary will celebrated with a movie at the Grand Theater in Knoxville.

Introducing, modeling, and reinforcing positive social behaviors is an important step in our Twin Cedar students' educational experience. Teaching expectations and recognizing and rewarding students for following expectations is a much more positive approach than waiting for misbehavior to occur before responding. Twin Cedars is very excited about our PBIS program! If you have questions, check out the following website: http://www.pbis.org (or call the school and ask for a member of the PBIS team)

## Needs Assessment Survey

Twin Cedars School, with the assistance of the Iowa Association of School Boards, recently completed a needs assessment survey. The survey was placed on our Twin Cedars website and the community, staff and students were invited (through our text messaging system) to respond. Twenty-seven TC staff members, 39 parent/community members and 8 students responded to the survey.

Twin Cedars strengths as identified by the survey include:

1. $85 \%$ of staff have a clear idea of what the district is trying to improve.
2. Most respondents believe that parents are well informed of their student's progress.
3. All staff and $3 / 4$ of parents and students say that the school board can have a positive impact on student achievement.
4. Very strong majorities agree that parents must be partners in education.
$5.70 \%$ of the staff members say that the district has effective leadership teams and they have a voice in decision making.

Twin Cedars areas of improvement as identified by the survey include:

1. Create an urgency and consensus among all stakeholders around the belief that virtually all students can learn at high levels, that barriers can be overcome, and that major improvements can and will be made in student achievement.
2. Place major emphasis on effective instruction, the content and rigor of the Iowa Core Standards, and on active student engagement in the classroom.
3. Continue to improve the assessment system to align to the content and rigor of the Iowa Core Standards.
4. Insure that all stakeholders know how leadership teams are organized and understand how they have a voice in decision making.

## Instruments

I$t$ is that time of year again for the Music Boosters to ask if you have any instruments collecting dust in your possession. We are looking for instruments that you are willing to donate or sell at a price that seems like a donation! We are also in desperate need for music stands (wire stands are just fine!).

Thanks for your consideration.

## Science Happenings

There is a lot happening in the science department this month! Eighth and ninth grade students are beginning to work on science research projects that will be entered into the eCybermission competition which will take place online in February. They will work together in teams of 3-4 students to research topics that are relevant to our community. The first place team will win $\$ 1,000$ per student and continue on to the regional competition. Students compete against students in Iowa that are their same grade. As of right now, Twin Cedars is the only school registered for the 8th and 9th grade!

Mrs. Haage has also created a Donors Choose website to help get some needed resources into the classroom. She is still working to raise funds for a weather station so that students can learn the science behind the forecasts we see on TV. This weather station will not only be a valuable resource at the Junior and Senior High School, but also at the elementary. If you would like more information on the donation process, go to: www.donorschoose.org or contact Mrs. Haage.

Finally, high school students should have brought home information about the wonderful opportunity to travel to Florida this summer. Part of this trip includes visiting the Everglades, swimming with dolphins, and even visiting a turtle hospital. The parent meeting for the trip is set for Thursday, November 17 at 6:00 pm in Mrs. Haage's classroom. The deadline to sign up is December 9. If you are unable to attend the meeting or would like additional information, please feel free to contact Mrs. Haage. Also, if you would like to see more of what is going on in the science classroom, please like our Facebook page (Twin Cedars Science) or follow us on Twitter (@MrsHSci).

## FFA

Monday, November 7th, we had our new member and officer meal. The new members got to learn what each officer does and what their favorite contest is. This sparked interest into some new members about things they can do when they get older. There were funny stories told about favorite trips.

We had our first annual FFA Farm and Home show on the 12th. Thank you to all our vendors and people who helped to make it happen! Also, thank you to everyone who came out and supported us. We hope to do another one next year.


Our FFA chapter is helping out with the Third Grade Rodeo Day. We will have members teaching kids how to rope, run barrels, rounding up the doggies, and learn about branding. And of course there will be a rodeo clown.

Our members are starting their Agriscience Fair projects. There are many excited members who are ready to work hard and hopefully earn gold! These projects may seem simple, but they take many months to complete. They will compete in late March in Hilton Coliseum

This year we are hoping to do a tree decorating contest. Any activity group or individual can purchase a pallet tree from our chapter for $\$ 5$ and decorate it as they wish. These trees will be auctioned off at a home basketball game with proceeds going to the FFA chapter. If you would like to purchase a tree or have any questions please contact Mrs. Johnson.

Save your pop tabs!!! We are collecting pop tabs to take to the Ronald McDonald House in Des Moines. This winter we will have a group of officers take them up to the house and bring some presents to the kids.

We wish everyone a very "Happy Thanksgiving" and don't forget to give thanks for everything you have been given!


## Dear 5th Grade Parents and Guardians,

Ihope things are well. As I stated in an earlier letter, we have been exploring the different instruments in 5th grade music. I have just finished testing your children to see which instrument is the best possible option. There are many different factors that go into the instrument selection process, including the student's interest and ability to create a sound on an instrument. There was some craziness in testing students for instruments this year. If you have questions about the results or feel you child needs to be retested, please let me know! If you did not get a letter with your students results, please let me know asap.

If you and your child decide to participate in band, the preferred method for purchasing new or used instruments is through a reputable music company's rent-to-own program. The benefits include a trustworthy, quality instrument, repair service for damage to the horn (within reason), general maintenance, and the ability to return the horn if the child chooses to discontinue.

BEWARE OF PURCHASING INSTRUMENTS ONLINE, ON EBAY, ON CRAIGSLIST, OR ON A BUY-SALE-TRADE SITE. As with most things in life, if
 it is too good to be true, it probably is. Avoid purchasing instruments made in China, named First Act, from Wal-Mart or Sears, or that are named after birds! Many of these instruments will play decently right out of the box, but will fall apart quickly. They are made of cheap metal and many repair stores refuse to fix these instruments because of how easily they damage or how difficult it is to find replacement parts. Also, even if you are familiar with the most common brands (Yamaha, Selmer, Armstrong, etc.), be careful of false advertising or names that are spelled similarly ("Selner" instead of "Selmer"). When in doubt, show me or take the instrument to a music store to be appraised. Using Craigslist, eBay, or the numerous Buy-Sale-Trade pages on Facebook are good ways of purchasing instruments IF you do your research!

I have tried many things with elementary band the last four of years. Because I am only one person, what seems to work the best is spending the first semester setting the student up with his or her instrument and then to officially start band the second semester. If your child starts band in the second semester, it is my expectation that they stay in band for the whole semester. First, this will allow your child to work through some of the early roadblocks that are typically discouraging for beginners. Second, this is to get used to the idea that a "class" at the high school is a semester long and that serious considerations should be given before committing to something.

It is the opinion of the director, Twin Cedars Community Schools, and the Music Boosters that no child should feel like he or she does not belong in band for financial reasons. If you are worried about your child being in band due to the cost, the school has a limited number of instruments that can be used. Students who are on free and reduced lunch will be offered the use of these instruments first. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance.

## Athletic Boosters

## November 2, 2016

Those in attendance: Deb Haselhuhn, Trish McCarty, Kim Roby, Andrea Moore, Heather Dunkin, and Brandy Dunkin
Treasurer's Report: $\$ 26,035.84$ with outstanding bills to pay.
Old Business: We contributed \$500 for the flag in the gym.
Blush Boutique said that she is working on T-shirt items and will let us know in the near future on prices.
Kristen told Trish they were at the 25 minimum so TC flags will be ordered.
Trish asked Ramaekers to get a design for state T-shirts. She showed the design and discussed prices. It was decided to wait and see what they would charge for a shirt.

Deb suggested to send out an all call for T-shirts.
Andrea suggested we purchase another treadmill for the weight room. It was decided that Trish would check with Mr. Roby about getting one to see what would be needed.

Brandy said that she was going to make a schedule for the girls high school and junior high basketball concession stand.

Kim said she would open and close for junior high basketball.
Deb said that she love to do the schedule for varsity and junior high boys basketball.
Trish said that next month we will discuss coaches vs. cancer game.
Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

## Minutes of Meeting <br> Twin Cedars Board of Directors

November 14, 2016
5:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Twin Cedars Board of Directors was held on the above date.

President Steve Gilkerson called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. Directors Kelly Carlson and Ashley Carlson were in attendance. Directors Paul Haselhuhn and Brian Moore were absent. Dave Roby and Kim Roby were also in attendance.

A motion was made by Director A.Carlson and supported by Director K. Carlson to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Director K Carlson and supported by Director A. Carlson to approve the October 10, 2016, regular meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Financial reports were reviewed and filed for audit.
A motion was made by Director K.Carlson and supported by Director A.Carlson to approve the bills as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

## Communications

There was no communication to the board through mail or through citizens.

## Administration Reports

Mrs. Roby shared results of the Needs Assessment Survey. She shared some areas of strength and weaknesses. She also shared a few things that she has learned through the Differentiated Accountability classes that she has taken. The Iowa Youth Survey was taken by 6th 8th and 11th grade, NCRC testing by the 11th grade and ACT Aspire testing will be taken tomorrow by the 10th grade. The Desk Audit is nearly completed.

Mr. Roby reported that the football team had a good season. The Senior Citizen Christmas Dinner is December 7th. High School Christmas concert is December 12th at 7:30. The State Dance competition is on December 1st. Ms. Haage has applied for a couple of grants to try to get some science supplies for the classroom. Nurse Megan did CPR training for coaches last week. She always does a great job with this. The new flag in the gym will be used for the first time on Monday night's basketball game.

Mr. VanderSluis said Parent/Teacher conferences at the elementary were well attended. The Veteran's Day celebration went well on Friday. 16 veterans were introduced and honored. Elementary Christmas concert will be December 12th at 6:00 with a snow date of December 20th. School will be dismissed early on November 22nd. The next board meeting will be held on December 15th due to the Christmas concert on the 12th.

## Old Business

The survey for the parking lot has been done and sent to the architecture. We will go out for bids in January for both asphalt and concrete.

## Action Items

A motion was made by A. Carlson and supported by K. Carlson to approve authorizing the request to SBRC for Modified Supplemental Amount for Increasing Enrollment for \$33,205 and for Open Enrollment out not in Fall 2015 for $\$ 8,379.80$. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by K. Carlson and supported by A. Carlson to approve Kim Roby as a 504 coordinator for PK-6 and Julie VanDeKieft for 7-12.

A motion was made by A. Carlson and supported by K. Carlson to approve the board policies covering Equal Education Opportunities, Anti-Bullying/Anti-Harrassment, and Grievance Procedure with appropriate clerical edits as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

## Announcements

The next board meeting will be Thursday, December 15th at 5:00.

## Adjourn

A motion was made by Director A. Carlson and supported by Director K. Carlson to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 PM. The motion carried unanimously.

## Winter Concert Dinner

Free will donation!


December 12th, 2016
5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
(Before and during the Elementary Winter Concert)


# Twin Cedars Community Schools Music 

November 10th, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians,
I am writing to inform you of our up coming winter concerts. Our students have been working hard in preparing this year's music and I am very excited for them to show their musical talents!

The elementary and high school winter programs will be on Monday, December 12th in the high school gym. The elementary concert will be at 6:00 pm. Please have your child here by $5: 30 \mathrm{pm}$ to get seated and ready. The high school concert will be at 7:30 pm. High school students will need to be in the band room by 7:10 pm to warm up.

From 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm (or until food runs out), the Twin Cedar's Music Boosters will be providing beef burgers, chips, drinks, and desserts. This is a free will donation dinner. Money earned from this fundraiser will help pay for school instruments, repairs, entry fees, curricular materials, and field trips. Junior high and high school band and choir students who are planning on going to Adventureland (currently scheduled for May 6th OR May 20th, 2017) are required to donate $\$ 5.00$. The past couple of years, donating money was easier than having students bring in items. The money will need to be here by December 12th. We could also use a couple of parents who would be willing to help serve if available!

We had AWESOME attendance for the winter concert the last three years. I encourage you to do whatever you can to help you child attend. It is also nice for your child to dress up a bit to make the occasion special. I would also like to take this time to inform you that there are also spring concerts, which are equally important to you child's music education. We have had poor student attendance in the past. Somethings cannot be helped (illness, funerals, etc.), but somethings can (vacations, non-school conflicts, etc.). Some of our dates have changed. Please look at our new date sheet!

You can now get text messages or email reminders from www.remind.com. If you are interested in this, follow the directions that I have included, or let me know and I can sign you up. Make sure you sign up for the correct list. 7-12 classes have the access code @h9467c and elementary classes have the access code @b33874 (you can text either one of these codes to 81010 to get added to either list).

For 7-12 students, your concert is a required event that is a BIG part of your grade. We have already discussed what are and are not acceptable excuses for missing a concert. Just remember, most excuses are not "excusable" and will result in a poor grade. THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP FOR UNEXCUSED ABSENCES! Additionally, it is expected that you dress up for this concert: NO TENNIS SHOES OR JEANS! Please plan ahead. If you need help finding dress clothes, you can talk to someone to see what is in the Saber Store

Sincerely,

Nathan Smith

## HELP SUPPOHT TWIN CEDARS MUSIC

## ITEM \#3100 <br> - 32 oz Tumblers

- BPA Free
- Virtually Indestructible
- Dishwasher/Microwave Safe
- Made in USA


## TWIN CEDARS ATHLETIC BOOSTERS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please check the membership level that applies to your membership.

## **INDIVIDUAL MEMBER (\$25)

- Right to participate and vote at Athletic Booster meetings


## ** BLUE-LEVEL MEMBERSHIP (\$26-\$99)

- Right to participate and vote at Athletic Booster meetings
- Name in athletic event programs


## ** WHITE-LEVEL MEMBERSHIP (\$100-\$199)

- Right to participate and vote at Athletic Booster meetings
- Name in athletic event programs
- 1 adult admission to a home athletic event of your choice (excluding regional tournaments)
- 1 Athletic Booster T-shirt of your choice


## **SABER SPONSOR MEMBERSHIP (\$200 AND ABOVE)

- Right to participate and vote at Athletic Booster meetings
- Name in athletic event programs
- 2 adult admission to a home athletic event of your choice (excluding regional tournaments)
- 2 Athletic Booster T-shirts of your choice

Annual memberships and their associated rights are applicable to the school year in which they are paid. For example, memberships paid in September 2016 are good until the end of the school year in May 2017.

Checks should be made payable to Twin Cedars Athletic Boosters and mailed to:
Twin Cedars Community School
C/O Trish McCarty, Athletic Boosters
2204 Hwy G71
Bussey, IA 50044


- Pop Tart

Bacon/Egg/Cheese
Biscuit

French Toast
Donut
Sticks

- High School has a one week rotation with a Pop Tart or Cereal Bowl offered as an alternate.
- There is also Ala Carte available.
- All Breakfast is served with fruit and juice and choice of Milk.
- Menu is subject to change.
- This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

December Lunch Menu ~ 2016

| MONDAY | TUESDAY WEDNESDAY |  | THURSDAY FRIDAY |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All meals served with choice of milk. <br> Menu subject to change. |  | *This institution is an equal opportunity provider* | 1 <br> Chili <br> Hashbrown <br> Cauliflower <br> Dried Cherries <br> Apples <br> Biscuit | 2 <br>  <br> Cheese <br> Grapes <br> Peaches (9-12) <br> Salad <br> Green Peppers <br> Cookie |
| 5 <br> Spaghetti <br> Romaine salad <br> Garlic breadstick <br> Mixed fruit <br> Fruit (9-12) <br> Fresh carrots | 6 <br> Chicken \& cheese <br> quesadilla <br> Fruit crisp <br> Fruit (9-12) <br> Tator tots <br> Red peppers <br> w/dressing <br> Dried fruit mix | 7 <br> Hot beef sundae w/cherry tomatoes Black bean \& corn salad <br> Peaches (9-12) <br> Banana <br> Rice krispie treat | 8 <br> Cheeseburger-in- <br> a-blanket meat <br> w/bun <br> Fresh broccoli <br> w/dressing <br> Baked beans <br>  <br> mandarin oranges <br> Fruit (9-12) | 9 <br> Cheesy garlic <br> bread <br> w/marinera <br> Steamed mixed <br> veggies <br> Salad <br> Fruit salad <br> Fruit (9-12) |
| 12 <br> Corn dog <br> Pears (9-12) <br> Fresh broccoli <br> w/dressing <br> Steamed carrots <br> Peaches | 13 <br> Beef burger w/bun <br> Fries <br> Pineapple <br> California veggies <br> Fruit (9-12) | 14 <br> Chicken/bacon/ranch <br> \& cheese sub <br> Kidney beans <br> Fresh carrots <br> w/dressing <br> Apples <br> Fruit (9-12) | 15 Christmas <br>  <br> Noodles <br> Mashed potatoes <br> String Cheese <br> Hot roll <br> Steamed green <br> beans <br> Pineapple <br> fruit (9-12) <br> dessert | 16 Elem: Cereal bowl HS: BEC bis Little smokies Cauliflower Hashbrown Juice cup Fruit (9-12) |
| 19 <br> Bbq pork w/bun <br> Pork \& beans <br> Mixed veggies <br> Pears <br> Applesauce (9- <br> 12) | 20 <br> Beef veggie soup Bosco stick Fresh cauliflower Mandarin oranges Fruit (9-12) Saltine crackers (912) | 21 <br> Chicken alfredo <br> Broccoli w/cheese <br> Salad <br> Banana <br> Mixed fruit (9-12) <br> Breadstick | 22 <br> Hot dog <br> Corn <br> Peaches <br> Grapes (9-12) <br> Tortilla chips <br> w/salsa | 23 <br> No School <br> Have A Merry Christmas!! |
| $26$ <br> No School | $27$ <br> No School | $28$ <br> No School | $29$ <br> No School | $30$ <br> No School |

## December 2016



## January 2017




[^0]:    It is the policy of the Twin Cedars Community School District not to illegally 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 the district's Equity Coordinator, Brian VanderSluis, Superintendent, 2204 Hwy G71, Bussey, IA 50044, 641-944-5249, bvandersluis@twincedarscsd.org

