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Community Consolidated Schools
District 168 Calendar

Administrative Center

21899 S. Torrence • Sauk Village, Illinois 60411
(708) 758-1610 • Fax (708) 758-5929
www.d168.org

Dr. Donna S. Leak
Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Myra Patterson, Director of Instructional Services
Mrs. Sharlyne P. Williams, Chief School Business Official
Dr. Jeremiah Johnson, Director of Special Education
Dr. Jennifer Camilleri, Director of Technology
Mr. Jonath Harris, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds
Dr. Selma McDonald, Interim Human Resources Coordinator
Ms. Monica Miller, Data Coordinator
TBD, MTSS Coordinator
Ms. Kristen Palmer, Bilingual Coordinator

2023

2024



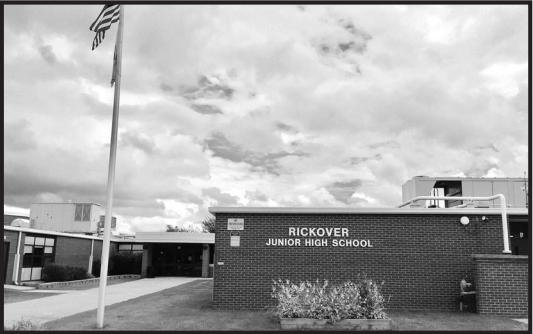
Blossoms Early Childhood Program
1831 E. 215th Place
Sauk Village, Illinois 60411
(708) 758-4762
Fax (708) 758-3382
TBD, Director of
Early Childhood
Mrs. Lisa Hopson, Instructional Leader
Grades Pre-K - ECE



Wagoner School
1831 E. 215th Place
Sauk Village, Illinois 60411
(708) 758-3322
Fax (708) 758-0801
www.d168.org/wagoner
Mrs. Brianne M. Malatt, Principal
Ms. Debra Ford, Assistant Principal
Grades K-2



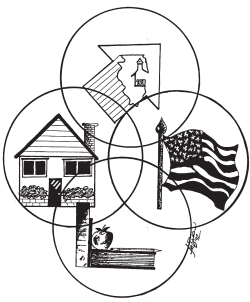
Strassburg School
2002 E. 223rd Street
Sauk Village, Illinois 60411
(708) 758-4754
Fax (708) 758-2202
www.d168.org/strassburg
Dr. Tricia Walton, Principal
Mr. Charles Bintz, Assistant Principal
TBD, Assistant Principal
Grades 3 - 5



Rickover Jr. High School
22151 Torrence Ave.
Sauk Village, Illinois 60411
(708) 758-1900
Fax (708) 758-1601
www.d168.org/rickover
Dr. Kimberly Kimbrough, Principal
Mr. Les Spires, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Tameka Caldwell, Assistant Principal
Grades 6 - 8

CORE VALUES

WE VALUE:



- High expectations knowing that every child can succeed;
- A clearly defined curriculum with a rigorous learning process for every child;
- Highly qualified staff that are ethical, well prepared, and energetic;
- Honoring a sincere culture of respect for self and others;
- The use of technology to promote and enrich the learning process;
- Fiscal responsibility by delivering services in a cost-effective manner;
- A safe and secure school environment;
- Diversity in our educational culture;
- Parental and extended family involvement as it relates to the developmental process of every child;
- Our commitment to build and maintain an ongoing relationship with our community through transparency and openness.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Community Consolidated Schools District 168 is to excel by inspiring, challenging, and supporting every child every day to achieve their greatest academic, social, and personal potential.

VISION STATEMENT

The Vision of District 168 is that all students have skills, understandings and personal characteristics for learning, working, and living fully, including:

- Valuing learning and understanding the learning process;
- The ability to apply problem-solving strategies to a variety of decision making situations;
- Respect for self, others and the environment;
- Communication competency through verbal, non-verbal, and writing skills;
- The ability to use technology for learning and living;
- An understanding and appreciation of the arts as a means of expression and communication.

MEMBERS OF
THE BOARD
OF EDUCATION

TAMMY N. JONES
President

BRANDIE JACKSON-WILLIAMS
Vice President

SENÉ GARRETT
Secretary

MEMBERS

Branard Barrett
Jeffrey Burns
Serena Durr-Jones
Sabrina Fisher

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

The Board of Education and the Administrative Team are supplying this list of emergency numbers for your convenience.

ADULTS

Police 911
Fire 911
Poison Control (800) 942-5969
South Suburban Council
on Alcoholism (708) 957-2854
Department of Children & Family
Services (800) 25 ABUSE
1-800-252-2873
National Runaway
Switchboard. (800) RUNAWAY
1-800-621-3230

Notes:

STUDENTS ONLY

Police 911
Fire 911
South Suburban Council
on Alcoholism (708) 957-2854
Suicide Hotline (312) 996-5535

School Hours

The following are the schedules of the district schools for days on which school is in regular session. If school will not be in session for a full day, you will be notified in advance.

STRASSBURG SCHOOL

8:10 a.m.	Students Enter Building
8:15 a.m.	Tardy Bell Rings / Classes Begin
2:40 p.m.	School Dismissal

WAGONER SCHOOL

8:10 a.m.	Students Enter Building
8:15 a.m.	Tardy Bell Rings / Classes Begin
2:40 p.m.	School Dismissal

BLOSSOMS EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

8:10 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.	Morning Pre K-ECE
12:05 p.m. - 2:35 p.m.	Afternoon Pre K-ECE
8:10 a.m. - 2:35 p.m.	Full Day Pre K- ECE

RICKOVER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

8:00 a.m.	Students Enter Building
8:05 a.m.	Tardy Bell / Homeroom Begins
2:30 p.m.	School Dismissal

EARLY DISMISSAL

1:35 p.m.	Rickover Jr. High
1:50 p.m.	Strassburg, Wagoner, and Blossoms

½ DAY INSERVICE (School Improvement)

11:25 a.m.	Rickover Jr. High
11:25 a.m.	Strassburg, Wagoner, and Blossoms

PARENTS/GUARDIANS RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

THE RIGHT TO A FREE PUBLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION

- Have their child receive a free public school education from kindergarten until age 21, or receipt of a highschool diploma, whichever comes first, as provided by law; 105 ILCS 5/10-20.12;
- Have a child with a disability evaluated and, if found to be in need of special education, receive a free, appropriate education in accordance with applicable laws and regulations; 20 U.S.C.§ 1400, et seq.; 34 CFR, part 300; 34 CFR part 104; 105 ILCS 5/14-1.01, et seq.; 23 Ill. Admin. Code part 226;
- Have a child who is an English Language Learner evaluated, as required by law and regulations; 105 ILCS 5/14-1, et seq. 23 Ill. Admin. Code part 228;
- Have their child learn in a safe and supportive learning environment, free of harassment, bigotry and discrimination.

THE RIGHT TO BE GIVEN ACCESS TO INFORMATION

- Be given access to current information regarding services, which are provided by the school system, eligibility requirements for these services, and how to apply for them (i.e. transportation, food services, health services, English Language

- Learner (ELL) instruction, special education services, etc.);
- Be provided with written information concerning expectations for their children with respect to their educational program, attendance and behavior;
 - Be provided with written information regarding the grading criteria that will be used to evaluate their child’s academic performance;
 - Be assured the confidentiality of their child’s records, in compliance with Public Law 93-380 the Family Education Rights & Privacy Act of 1974; also see District Policy 7:340; also Illinois School Code 105 ILCS 10/);
 - Have their child’s education records sent to another school to which their child has transferred in a timely manner upon written request from that school (contact appropriate building secretary for process.)

STEPS FOR RESOLVING ISSUES/ COMPLAINTS

- Parents/Guardians who have concerns regarding a student’s educational progress should first consult with the teacher;
- If no resolution is achieved, a conference should be arranged with Building Principal;
- If no resolution is reached at that point, parents should make a request to confer with superintendent.

- If still no resolution, the parent/guardian can submit in writing, to the Board of Education, a request for a formal hearing (All steps must be followed accordingly before reaching this level. it should be addressed: Board of Education President, c/o the District 168 Administration Center, 21899 S. Torrence Ave., Sauk Village, IL 60411).

THE RIGHT TO BE ACTIVELY INVOLVED & ENGAGED IN THE EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN

- Feel welcome, respected and supported in their school communities;
- Be treated with courtesy and respect by all school personnel, and to be accorded all rights without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, gender, age, ethnicity, immigration/citizenship status, marital status, partnership status, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability or economic status;
- Participate in regular written or verbal communication with teachers and other school staff and share concerns regarding their child’s academic, social and behavioral progress;
- Visit their child’s school during open house and family night;
- Meet with their child’s teachers and principals in accordance with established procedures;
- Be informed on a regular basis, both

informally and through formal progress reports, of their child’s academic and behavioral progress in school.

ALL PARENTS/GUARDIANS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Sending their child to school to learn;
- Ensuring that their child attends school regularly and arrives on time;
- Being aware of their child’s work, progress, and problems by reading school notices, talking to their child about school, looking at their child’s work and progress reports, and meeting with school staff;
- Maintaining verbal and/or written contact with their child’s teachers and principal about the progress of their child’s education;
- Adhering to all school policies and applicable procedures that pertain to their child’s education;
- Responding in a timely manner to communications from their child’s school;
- Attending all meetings and conferences requested by the school that pertain to their child;
- Entering the school building in a respectful manner, refrain from disruptive behavior and treat all school staff members, students, parents and other members of the school community with courtesy and respect.

STUDENT WELFARE AND CHILD ABUSE

According to Illinois law, a staff member who has reasonable cause to suspect that a student may be an abused or neglected child shall report such a case to the Department of Children and Family Services. In such a situation the staff member will notify the Administrator that a report has been filed. Traditional considerations of confidentiality will not constitute grounds for failure to report such cases.

BICYCLES

Wagoner students **will not** be allowed to ride bicycles to school. Strassburg and Rickover will provide provisions and regulations for students who ride their bicycles to school. Bicycles should be locked up at all times. The school will not assume any responsibility for bicycles which are damaged or stolen while on school property. Parents must exercise their own judgment in allowing their children to ride to school when poor road and weather conditions exist.

OPEN HOUSE

Open House is scheduled sometime during the first grading period. This is a time for the teacher to explain the classroom schedule, disciplinary rules, and academic expectations. It is also a time for each child to “show off” their classroom and school. **It is not a time for individual conferences.** There will be a time set for conferences at a later date. **(See calendar for specific date and times.)**

STUDENT LED PARENT AND TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent - Teacher conferences are held each year. **(Check the school calendar for specific dates.)** Parents may make appointments for additional conferences with teachers, staff, or administrators. Please call school for further information.

LEAVING DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Children are not permitted to leave the school grounds during the school day unless accompanied by an adult, who is listed on their emergency card. The school will make every effort to contact the parents of any illness or accidents occurring at school. We will attempt to notify you at home or work. If you cannot be reached, we will attempt to notify the party you have listed on the Emergency Card.

PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHILD’S EMERGENCY CARD CURRENT AND UP TO DATE. PLEASE NOTIFY THE OFFICE IMMEDIATELY IF YOUR HOME, WORK OR OTHER EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS HAVE CHANGED.

NON-DISCRIMINATION

School District 168 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, age, disabilities, economic status, sexual orientation, religion, ancestry, or any other protected status.

BREAKFAST/LUNCH

All schools have a **Closed Campus** for lunch. (Students are not allowed to leave the building.)

Students eat lunch in the cafetorium. All students receive a free breakfast and lunch. Children may bring their own breakfast/lunch if they desire.

PARENTS RIGHT-TO-KNOW

In accordance with ESEA Section 1111(h)(6) Parents Right-to know, Community Consolidated Schools District 168 is hereby notifying every parent of a student in a Title I school that you have the right and may request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child’s classroom teacher.

This information may include, at a minimum:

- 1) whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- 2) Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualifications or licensing criteria have been waived.
- 3) The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree.
- 4) Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.



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AUGUST 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Registration 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.	2 Registration 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.	3 Registration 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Teachers' institute Day – 3rd Grade Parent Orientation Meeting 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.	15 Teachers' institute Day – PreK Screening	16 PreK Scavenger Hunt Day Transition Day (K, 3rd, 6th and New Students)	17 All Students Return PreK Parent Orientation	18 Wagoner Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	19
20	21 4th/5th Grade Parent Orientation Meeting 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. at Strassburg	22 6th Grade Parent Orientation Meeting 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. at Rickover	23	24 Back to School Bash at Rickover Jr. High School 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.	25	26
27	28 Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m. School Board Meeting 7 p.m.	29 8th Grade Parent Orientation Meeting 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. at Rickover	30	31		

I AM NOT DISCOURAGED, BECAUSE EVERY WRONG ATTEMPT DISCARDED IS ANOTHER STEP FORWARD. ~ THOMAS EDISON

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

The possession, use or distribution of drugs and alcoholic beverages is prohibited on school buses, in school buildings, or on school grounds at all times.

Students found to be in violation of this policy will be disciplined by the building principal. The District will notify the parents or guardians of the action taken and will notify law enforcement officials. In cases of suspension and expulsion, the District will follow procedures required by state law and Board policy.

Disciplinary action could include suspension with a recommendation for expulsion.

VANDALISM

Students are expected to take care of school property as if it is their own. This includes the building, equipment and textbooks. If students mistreat or destroy school property, parents will pay for repairs or replacement. In addition, administrators will seek legal action and press charges.

TRUANCY

The School Board supports the principle that local districts must have the responsibility for matters pertaining to pupil attendance. The Board recognizes that a truant is defined as a child subject to compulsory attendance and who is absent without cause from such attendance for a school day or portion of it.

Valid cause for absence will be illness, family emergency, and death in the immediate family. (A note from the parent must be attached to a funeral notice published in a newspaper noting the kinship of the student to the deceased.) It may also include such other situations beyond the control of the student as determined by the Board. **Vacations are exceptions to this rule (705.06.)**

Vacations are limited to one per year and must be arranged with the building administrator in advance.

A “chronic or habitual truant” will be defined as a child subject to compulsory school attendance who is absent without valid cause from such attendance for 9 consecutive school days. A chronic or habitual truant who is absent without cause from such attendance for 9 out of the total consecutive school days of the school year will have accumulated sufficient cause in and of the absences themselves to deny that child promotion to the next grade. If your child has too many unexcused absences, you can be charged with a Class C Misdemeanor punishable by up to 30 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

TOYS VALUABLES AND MONEY

Toys, money and other valuable items should not be brought to school except by special arrangement with teachers. The school will not assume responsibility for such items should they become lost, damaged or stolen.

Toys, money and or other items that serve as distractions from the teaching and learning environment will be confiscated.

BEHAVIOR DISCIPLINE

It is the teacher’s responsibility to provide a positive learning environment respectful of each individual as a human being. It is the student’s responsibility to behave in accordance with each school’s discipline policies.

Parents or guardians of pupils who enroll after the beginning of the school year shall be notified of the school discipline policies at the time of registration of their children in the school.

SEARCHES

A student’s school desk and locker are the property of the school. If the school administrator believes the student has placed illegal or dangerous materials or substances in the desks or lockers, the school administrator may search the desk or locker with or without a student’s knowledge or consent. Searches are a means of protecting the health, safety and welfare of the district, its employees, and its students. **(Note: for those who will be attending Rickover, a more definite explanation of the search and seizure policy is given in the “Rickover Jr. High Discipline Handbook”).**

ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE DISTRICT’S ELECTRONIC NETWORK POLICY

A violation of the provisions of this policy may result in revocation of the user’s Internet access privileges. In addition, school disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsions, and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.

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<i>Grandparents Day</i> 10	<i>Patriot Day</i> 11	12 Begin Fall NWEA Assessment Community Chat 5 p.m. at Ad Center	13 Superintendent Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m. at Ad Center	14 Rickover Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	15 Hispanic Heritage Month Begins Strassburg Fall Pictures Wagoner Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	16 Rickover Saturday School 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.																																																																																																			
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OUR GREATEST GLORY IS NOT IN NEVER FAILING, BUT IN RISING EVERYTIME WE FALL. ~ RALPH WALDO EMERSON

CLASSROOM SOCIAL EVENTS

The Board of Education approved a policy to allow three (3) Classroom Social Events at all schools per year:

- ➡ A Fall Social Event (Oct.)
- ➡ A Winter Social Event (Dec.)
- ➡ A Spring Social Event (Feb.)

All “treats” for these social events will be provided by the school district for the children. Children will not be allowed to wear costumes or any type of make-up on any of the social event days. **(Parents and room mothers will not be allowed to distribute any additional treats and prizes to the children.)**

DISCIPLINE

The Board of Education in District 168 has sent a clear message regarding violence and possession of weapons or drugs in our schools. **Each incident is reviewed on a case-by-case basis.** “We will maintain a safe and secure school community for all children and staff that are present in our schools. Any child (or group of children) that violate the above, will be disciplined.”

COMMUNICATION TO PARENTS

Parental contact and involvement are essential ingredients in the educational process of students. Communication must be pro-active, both from the parents, as well as teachers perspective.

Parents and Guardians must take an active role to contact teachers. Teachers will use both formal and informal methods of communication.

Formal communication includes progress reports, report cards and scheduled Parent-Teacher Conferences. Informal communication includes, but is not limited to, the following: telephone calls, written notes, informal conferences, as well as many other contacts such as Friday folders, homework sheets, postcards, etc.

SKYLERT

District 168 has an automated call service that will notify families by telephone of emergency school closings or emergency situations. The calls will be made to the primary phone number given at registration. It is important that you keep these numbers current with the school offices.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING

In the event of severely inclement weather or mechanical breakdown, schools may be closed or starting times delayed. The same conditions may also necessitate early dismissal. School closings, delayed starting times, or early dismissals will be announced over specific radio stations (see below) and TV Stations 2, 5, 7, 9 or 12. In addition the announcement will be made through and auto call, District app, Facebook and Twitter accounts. Reports will be between 6:30 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. If no report is heard, it can be assumed that school will be in session, or remain in session. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL.** Telephone lines must be kept open for emergencies.

Station Listings

WCGO.....AM 1600
WBBM.....AM 780
WJOB.....AM 1230
WGN.....AM 720
WLS.....AM 890
WMAQ.....AM 670
NBC-TV....CHANNEL 5

Also check the district website d168.org for school closings & emergencies.

SMOKING AND TOBACCO USAGE

Using tobacco products in any form is hazardous to the health of students and may present a safety hazard in the school. Smoking tobacco, using tobacco products, and or possessing tobacco materials by students is not permitted on school buses, in school buildings, or on school grounds at any time.

Possession or use of tobacco products by students is in violation of this policy and will be disciplined by the school administrator on a case-by-case basis.

CHAIN OF COMMAND

Education is an ongoing process in which cooperation and communication between home and school is of utmost importance. When there is parental concern regarding a student’s educational progress, the parent should first consult with the teacher. If no resolution is achieved, a conference should be arranged with the building principal. If this brings no resolution, the parent should contact the Superintendent of Schools.

Counts Week

	<table><tr><th colspan="7">September 2023</th></tr><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr></table>	September 2023							S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	<h1>OCTOBER 2023</h1>				<table><tr><th colspan="7">November 2023</th></tr><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3 4</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr><tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr><tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> 	November 2023							S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3 4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
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8	 <i>Columbus Day</i> NO SCHOOL	10	11 Superintendent Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	12 Hispanic Heritage Celebration at 5 p.m.	13 End of Quarter 1 (Early Dismissal)	14 Rickover Saturday School 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.																																																																																																		
15 Hispanic Heritage Month Ends	16 Pre Q2 Assessment Wagoner Book Fair Bus Safety Week	17 Pre Q2 Assessment Wagoner Book Fair Bus Safety Week	18 Pre Q2 Assessment Wagoner Book Fair Bus Safety Week	19 Pre Q2 Assessment Wagoner Book Fair Bus Safety Week Student Led Parent Teacher Conferences Strassburg Parent Coffee Chat 9 .m.	20 Wagoner Book Fair Bus Safety Week Student Led Parent Teacher Conferences Quarter 1 Report Cards Wagoner Parent Coffee Chat 9 .m.	21																																																																																																		
22	23 Red Ribbon/Character Counts! Week Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 pm School Board Meeting 7pm	24 Red Ribbon/Character Counts! Week	25 Red Ribbon/Character Counts! Week	26 Red Ribbon/Character Counts! Week	27 Wagoner Fall Celebration Red Ribbon/Character Counts! Week Blossoms Fall Pictures Eureka Math Night	28 Rickover Saturday School 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.																																																																																																		
29	30 Blossoms Character Counts Week	 <i>Halloween</i> Blossoms Character Counts Week																																																																																																						

SPECIAL SERVICES

Where needed, the schools are able to provide services to assist with special problems and needs of individual students. These services are usually initiated by the school but may also be requested by the parents.

The Special Service team includes a: psychologist, social worker, speech pathologist, nurse, physical and occupational therapist and/or special education teachers.

Anyone having questions concerning Special Education Programs or procedures are urged to contact the principal of their child’s school or the Special Ed Director.

READING SERVICES

The federally funded Title I program is available for qualifying students in first through eighth grade.

Children’s eligibility is also determined by test scores and teacher recommendations.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Title I - money is used for improving reading and/or math skills. The money primarily goes for paying personnel salaries (teachers and teacher aides), and is an organized program offering instructional services which are supplementary to the regular program. The program must apply to youngsters who are educationally disadvantaged as defined by established criteria. In the case of this program, students must be at least six months to a year or more below grade level for remedial reading service.

Title II - Allowable expenditures used in the areas of professional improvement activities on the part of teachers. Other uses include the employment of staff and the reduction of class size.

Districts who participate in the programs must provide parents with an opportunity to comment and share their thoughts about the programs. If you have any questions or comments, please direct them to your child’s principal or Ms. Myra Patterson, Director of Instructional Services.

EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING

School District 168 provides evaluations for children from Birth to five (5) years of age that miss the September 1st cutoff date for kindergarten eligibility. The purpose of the district's screening is to identify student's individual strengths and weaknesses, as related to the child's physical, social, language, speech, hearing, vision, emotional development, and general readiness skills. Family situations are also given consideration for eligibility in the prekindergarten program. Students needing special programming will be enrolled in one of the district's programs.

Please contact Mrs. Tricia Walton, Director of Early Childhood Programs at (708) 758-4762 for more information concerning any of these programs.

B.L.O.S.S.O.M.S. EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

The programs serving children from birth to five (5) years of age in School District 168 is titled B.L.O.S.S.O.M.S. (Building Love Of Self & School Offers More Success). Children from Birth to 3 and 3-5 years are identified through Pre-School Screening results, referrals by school personnel, parents, and Head Start for enrollment in one of the enrichment programs. The **Infant/Toddler** Program serves children from birth through 2 years of age through a home-based program where the enrichment teacher and parent set goals for the child to work on at home. A Baby BLOSSOMS and a Toddler BLOSSOMS play groups meet weekly as a fun way for parents and their children to interact together. The **Infant/Toddler** Program’s phone number is (708) 758-0319. The **Prekindergarten Program** meets five (5) days a week in half-day sessions for children who show eligibility through the screening. An Early Childhood Special Education Program meets 5 days a week in half day sessions for children who need more specialized programming as determined through a more focused evaluation process. The **Parent Center** is located in Wagoner School. It houses the free lending library that includes toys, games, videos, story sacks, etc. for parents to use at home. Play groups for all Infants, Toddlers, and 3-5 year olds and their parents take place each week. These groups are for all families who live within District 168 boundaries. A wide variety of activities are also scheduled throughout the school year such as: Field Trips, Guys "N" Tots Gym Night, Toddlers @ Twilight, Holiday Crafts, Scrapbooking, Family Celebrations, and much more.



October 2023						
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NOVEMBER 2023

December 2023						
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 All Saints Day Blossoms Character Counts Week	2 Blossoms Character Counts Week Wagoner Picture Retake Day Community Fest Rickover Parent Chat 9 a.m.	3 Blossoms Character Counts Week	4
5 Daylight Savings Time Ends	6	7	8 Strassburg Picture Retake Day Superintendent Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	9 1/2 Day School Improvement PreK Parent/Child Activity Day Grandparents/Special Persons Day	10 Veterans' Day Observance Schools Closed	11 Veterans' Day
12	13	14 Community Chat 5 p.m.	15 Rickover Picture Retakes (6th/7th Grade)	16 Strassburg Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	17 Wagoner Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m. Quarter 2 Progress Reports	18 Rickover Saturday School 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving Break No School	23 Thanksgiving Day Thanksgiving Break No School	24 Thanksgiving Break No School	25
26	27 Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m. School Board Meeting 7 p.m.	28	29	30		

WHEREVER THERE IS A HUMAN BEING, THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR KINDNESS. ~ ANONYMOUS

C.H.A.M.P.S. PROGRAM

We are continuing to implement an approach to classroom management and discipline. This approach is called CHAMPS: A Proactive and Positive Approach to Classroom Management.

Within this approach, the focus is on prevention and on teaching expectations to students. In the classroom, every effort will be made to structure for success by creating meaningful activities with frequent variety to engage student interest.

In addition, students will be taught directly how to behave responsibly in each major activity and transition. That is where CHAMPS comes in. C H A M P S s t a n d s f o r Conversation, Help, Activity, Movement, Participation, and Success. We encourage you to ask your child if he or she knows about CHAMPS. Ask when and how students in the class can talk, get help, and get out of their seats. Ask how students in class can demonstrate that they are actively participating. If your child does not know, encourage him or her to ask the teacher - it will give the teacher a chance to review with students how they

can be successful in the classroom.

If you have questions about any of this, please let the teacher know. By working together, families and teachers can communicate high expectations and ensure a successful experience for all students.

FIELD TRIPS

In addition to the educational benefit, field trips are an opportunity for improvement in self-discipline, self-control, consideration for other people, and the experience of learning to behave in a variety of new situations. Parents are notified of all field trips as to location, time, method of transportation, etc. Permission slips signed by the parent or guardian, are mandatory for participation in each field trip.

In those circumstances where special accommodations are deemed necessary, a meeting will be held to discuss necessary accommodations. For more information, see individual school handbooks for specific policies.

Exclusion from Field Trips will result from excessive tardies, absences, medical reasons, academic or discipline problems.

DISASTER DRILLS

All schools have emergency procedures to follow in the event of an emergency or crisis situation. Drills are held routinely to insure that all students and staff know proper procedures. Student cooperation is necessary during these drills. Students are instructed to stay with their assigned classroom teacher and to refrain from talking. Compliance with the building rules during these drills promotes the safekeeping of everyone in the school system.

In the event of a total school evacuation, the following sites within the community have been chosen:

- ➡ District Administrative Center
- ➡ St. James
- ➡ Alternate District 168 Schools
- ➡ Nancy L. McConathy Public Library
- ➡ Edward W. Paesel Recreation Center
- ➡ Bloom Trail Field House



November 2023						
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DECEMBER 2023

January 2024						
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Rickover Saturday School 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
3	4	5	6	7 Rickover Parent Coffee Chat 5 p.m. Family Math Night	8 Pre-K Screening Day – 1/2 Day School Improvement Day Strassburg Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	9
10 Post Q2 Assessment Week	11 Post Q2 Assessment Week	12 Post Q2 Assessment Week Rickover Picture Day 8th Grade	13 Post Q2 Assessment Week Superintendent Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	14 Post Q2 Assessment Week	15 Post Q2 Assessment Week Wagoner Winter Celebration Wagoner Parent Coffee	16 Rickover Saturday School 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
17 Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m. School Board Meeing 7 p.m.	18	19	20	21	22 End of Quarter 2 (Early Dismissal) Blossoms Holiday Magic Celebration	23
24 Christmas Day	25 Winter Break	26 Winter Break	27 Winter Break	28 Winter Break	29 Winter Break	30
New Year's Eve 31						

THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE BEAUTY OF THEIR DREAMS. ~ ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

SCHOOL RECORDS

Student records are in compliance with the regulations of Public Law 93-380, the Family Education Right and Privacy Act of 1974. This law insures confidentiality of student records. Parents and guardians have access to their child’s records. **You may request:**

1. to inspect the student's education records;
2. amendments to those records if they are believed to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's rights;
3. consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's records (except to the extent that the law allows disclosure without consent) and;
4. to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education if they feel that the district is not complying with the law.

Please make an appointment with your child's principal if you would like to review the records.

HEALTH RECORDS

According to Illinois school law, students must have a new physical examination and immunization record up-to-date upon entering kindergarten and sixth grade by the first day of school. If a student enters any grade from another school system, and the health records are not transferred, the student must obtain a physical examination **before** they will be allowed to register.

All Illinois children in kindergarten, second and sixth grades will be required to have an oral examination. Proof of examination must be presented by May 15th of the school year. Further information is available from the district nurse.

Students enrolling in kindergarten are required by Illinois law to have an eye examination performed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist by Oct 15 of the school year.

Immunizations must be in compliance with Illinois law. All students are to be immunized for measles, rubella, D.P.T., polio, and hepatitis B. New students

coming in from out-of-state must have a physical examination completed within one year prior to entrance into our schools along with an up to date immunization record and must be tested for lead. Any serious health problem that a child has must be brought to the attention of the school.

Any student participating in a sport must have a medical examination **before** tryouts for the activity begins.

MEDICATION

The purpose for dispensing medications in school is to help each child maintain an optimal state of health that may enhance their education plan.

In order for any medication to be dispensed, the parent or guardian must obtain prior approval from the Superintendent of Schools/Designee.

Medication may be dispensed by:

- 1) Health Clerk/Nurse
- 2) Principal/ Designee

Any exception to the above policy must be pre-approved by the Superintendent of Schools.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS AND EXCLUSIONS

All students participate in Health and Physical Education classes which are compatible with their growth, development, and physical conditions. All participants should wear “non-slip” rubber-soled shoes while in the gym. Students at the **Rickover Junior High** should wear school issued gym uniforms.

Physical Education is required by state law, unless excused by a family physician.

HOMEWORK

It is felt that most instruction and school work should be accomplished under the direction of the classroom teacher. Therefore, the work to be completed at home by students is usually the result of not finishing work while at school. Parents should review and assist their child in completing the work.

Special circumstances such as research for a special project may require students to do some work at home or at the local library.

Refer to individual school handbooks for specific policies.

TRANSFERRING SCHOOLS

When transferring your child from our school district, a parent should come to the office of their child’s attendance center as soon as they know they are going to move. The office must know the name of the new school, the parents’ new address, and the exact date the child will be transferring.

A parental signature is required by law on a release of the student’s record. Parents will receive a transfer to be taken to the new school. **The academic records are sent to the new school upon written request from that school.**

		<h1>JANUARY 2024</h1>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
	New Years Day  Winter Break	1 Winter Break	2 Winter Break	3 Winter Break	4 Winter Break	5 Winter Break	6	
7	8 Winter Break Teachers' Institute Day –	9 Students Return	10 Begin Winter NWEA Assessment Superintendent Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	11 Rickover Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	12 Quarter 2 Report Cards	13		
14	15 Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday NO SCHOOL	16 Winter - MAP Testing Begins	17 Begin ACCESS Testing	18	19 Wagoner Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m. Rickover Quater 2 Recognition	20 Rickover Saturday School 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.		
21	22 Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m. School Board Meeting 7 p.m.	23 Community Chat 5 p.m. at Ad Center	24	25	26 PreK Parent/Child Activity Day 1/2 Day School Improvement Day Strassburg Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	27		
28	29	30 Rickover Picture Retakes (8th Grade)	31					

HONOR ROLLS AND AWARDS

Strassburg School has an Honor Roll for the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades on a quarterly basis. To achieve Honor Roll status, a student must maintain a “B” average in all academic subjects, with no grade lower than a “C”.

Recognizing and rewarding good behavior is an important part of the educational philosophy at Strassburg School.

Rickover Jr. High has a **High Honors List** for students with a grade point average of 3.7 to 4.0. To qualify for high honors only two “B’s” are acceptable in any subject area.

The **Honor List** does allow for grades of “A”, “B” and “C” but no grade below a “C”. Honor list is a grade point average of 3.0 - 3.69.

To qualify for **Honorable Mention List**, a student may have a combination of “A”, “B” and “C’s”. The grade point average for Honorable Mention is 2.8 - 2.99. No grade below a “C” is acceptable.

After each grading period, Rickover has an Awards Assembly to recognize students’ achievements at each grade level.

In addition, other special programs and awards are presented at the individual schools throughout the year.

CHARACTER COUNTS!

Community Consolidated Schools District 168 has officially embraced the Character Counts! character development strategy. This includes the Six Pillars of Character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

It is essential for everyone (teachers, school staff, parents, students and community) to teach, enforce, advocate and model each of the Six Pillars of Character all year long. This team approach will enhance the focus and overall structure of character development with our youth.

The CHARACTER COUNTS! Approach to character education doesn’t exclude anyone. That’s why the program and materials are on six ethical values that everyone can agree on - values that are not political, religious, or culturally biased.

PROMOTION / RETENTION


Students are promoted to the next grade level if they successfully meet minimal grade level academic standards.

If a student is in danger of not achieving the academic criteria for promotion, early and thorough communication with the parents and legal guardians is necessary regarding the student’s deficiencies as documented by the teacher. The parents will be given an opportunity to meet with the teacher(s) and principal to discuss their active role in working to reinforce the learning process at home.

Promotion and Retention criteria, which include more specific procedures and time-lines, are available from the building principal upon request.

BULLYING POLICY

“No student shall bully, harass or intimidate another student based upon a student's sex, color, race, religion, creed, ancestry, national origin, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, or other protected group status. The district will not tolerate bullying, including cyber bullying, harassing or intimidating conduct, whether verbal, physical, or visual. The Board of Education realizes that this type of conduct has an effect on a wholesome teaching environment and unreasonably interferes with a student's educational performance."



January 2024						
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FEBRUARY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				End Winter NWEA Assessment Rickover Parent Coffee Chat 5 p.m.	1 Quarter 3 Progress Reports	2 3
4	5	Winter - MAP Testing Ends	6	7	8	9 10 Rickover Saturday School 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
11	12	13	Valentine's Day Superintendent Parent Coffee Chat 9 .m.	14	15	16 17 PreK Screening Day 1/2 Day School Improvement Wagoner Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.
18	Presidents' Day NO SCHOOL	19	20	21	22	23 24 Strassburg Parent Coffee Chat/ Stakeholder Advisory Group 9 a.m. Rickover Saturday School 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
25	Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m. School Board Meeting 7 p.m.	26	27	28	29 Black History Month Celebration 5 p.m. at Rickover	



IF THERE IS NO STRUGGLE, THERE IS NO PROGRESS. ~ FREDRICK DOUGLASS

REPORT CARDS

School District 168 uses a variety of methods for reporting to parents. Informal conferences as the parent comes to school, notes to parents, telephone calls, letters, progress reports, report cards, and parent-teacher conferences are some ways a teacher may communicate with parents.

Report cards are issued four times a year. **(Please check the calendar for the dates.)** Mid-term progress reports are sent midway through the marking periods to alert parents that their child’s work may not be satisfactory. By alerting parents to a deficiency in performance, we hope that parents will assist the teacher in helping the child to raise their grade to a satisfactory level by the end of the marking period.

Report cards are for the parent or guardian to keep. Only the envelope needs to be signed by the parent or guardian and returned to the classroom teacher.

The schools offer a computerized report card which includes quarterly attendance, grade point averages, and additional comments to parents.

The District report card grades are:

A	Excellent	90 – 100%
B	Above Average	80 – 89%
C	Average	70 – 79%
D	Below Average	65 – 69%
F	Failure	64 – 0%

PARENT AND FAMILY INITIATIVES

Research has shown that parents and families are the single most powerful influence in determining whether a child succeeds academically. Every major research report released in the past year emphasized the role of parents in making the education process a success.

With this important data in mind, District 168 has developed many programs that encourage parents and families to become actively involved in a child’s educational experience. Below are some of the programs available throughout the school year.

- Principal’s Coffees
- Parent Teacher Advisory Committees - Individual Attendance Centers and District-wide
- District Newsletters - sent out periodically throughout the school year.
- Grandparents - Senior Citizens Days
- Parenting Pamphlets / Articles
- Parent Contact (Other than Parent-Teacher Conferences)
- Parent Volunteer Workshops
- Communication Policies — Formal and Informal
- Parent Training Grant
- Gifted Parent and Teacher Meetings

- Title I Parent and Teacher Meetings
- Special Education Parent and Teacher Meetings
- Saturday School Parent and Teacher Meetings
- Parent - Teacher Conferences
- Blossoms Play Group
- Superintendent Parent Coffees

THE 5 ESSENTIALS SURVEY

The 5Essentials Survey results offer a comprehensive assessment of a school’s organizational culture, generating data that allows schools to develop improvement plans and target resources to areas known to be related to increases in student learning and outcomes. The survey also demonstrates that teachers and students can play a crucial role in school reform: What they share about their schools has been demonstrated to reliably predict whether those schools are likely to improve or stagnate.

Illinois is the first state to administer the survey across all schools in its 860 districts. The scores from this norm-referenced survey, meaning school’s survey results will be compared to a specific normative - or similar - group. The 5Essentials survey will be available on the school’s website beginning in January. All parents and stakeholders are encouraged to complete the survey.



February 2024						
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MARCH 2024

April 2024						
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Begin Illinois Science Assessment (ISA)	2
3	4 Casmir Pulaski Day NO SCHOOL	5 End ACCESS Testing Begin Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR)	6 Blossoms Spring Pictures	7 Strassburg Spring Picures Rickover Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	8	9 Rickover Saturday School 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
10  Daylight Savings Time Begins	11	12 Community Chat 5 p.m. at Ad Center	13 Begin DLM Assessment Superintendent Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m. Strassburg Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	14	15 Wagoner Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m. End of Quarter 3 (Early Dismissal)	16
17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m. Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.	19 6th Grade Field Trip	20	21 Student Led Parent Teacher Conferences Rickover Q3 Recognition	22 Student Led Parent Teacher Conferences Rickover Q3 Recognition	23
24	25 No School Spring Break	26 No School Spring Break	27 No School Spring Break	28 No School Spring Break	29 Good Friday  No School Spring Break	30
31 Easter 						

THE PESSIMIST SEES DIFFICULTY IN EVERY OPPORTUNITY. THE OPTIMIST SEES THE OPPORTUNITY IN EVERY DIFFICULTY. ~ WINSTON CHURCHILL

ATTENDANCE

On the morning of your child’s absence from school, you MUST call the school office no later than 8:45 a.m. If your child will be absent for more than one day, please report this fact to the school secretary. If you have not called the office to report your child’s absence by 8:45 a.m., you will be contacted at home or at work to confirm your child’s absence.

At Rickover all students returning to school after an absence must bring a written note explaining the absence, even if you have called the office. It should be dated and signed by parent. Special attendance policies and situations may require a physician’s note.

If your child will be absent for an extended period of time, you may contact the office for a list of make-up work. Please allow us 24 hours notice so that the teacher will have the time to properly complete the list of make-up work. If your child will be absent for a lengthy period of time (more than two (2) weeks), please contact the building principal to make other arrangements.

RESIDENCY

School District 168 will be requiring proof of residency for all students enrolled for the 2018-2019 school year. All parents/guardians will be required to bring in at least three (3). The following forms of identification must indicate the address within District 168 at which the child and the individual registering the child resides and are required for enrollment.

- Category I (One document):
- Mortgage Statement or Payment Book
 - Signed Lease with proof of last months payment
 - Real Estate Tax Bill (current)

- Category II (Two documents):
- Current Water, Gas or Electric Bill
 - Home/Apartment Insurance Papers
 - Drivers License or valid State I.D.
 - Auto Registration or Insurance Policy
 - Current Pay Stub
 - Current Bank Statement

Post office box numbers, telephone bills, and library cards will **NOT** be accepted as proof of residency.

Parents/guardians who are not listed as an owner or lessee on a title or lease must have the person with whom they are residing provide two of the forms listed above for evidence of residency and must accompany the parent/guardian to the District office or school to prove residency.

Each parent/guardian must bring current copy of their health immunization records and your \$25.00 registration fee at the time of registration.

VISITORS

Visitors to our schools are always welcome. It is mandatory that any visitor present themselves to the school office and follow visitor procedures. An appointment allows your child’s teacher to make the necessary arrangements so as not to deprive students of learning as might result from “drop-in” visitations.

Visits by former students must be prearranged by the teacher and conducted after regular school hours.

All visitors must check in at the office and wear the proper identification tag, as per board policy.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

The Board of Education is aware that pests can pose significant hazards to people, property, and the environment. It is, therefore, the policy of the Board to control pests through the management of the best possible means and in conformity with the procedures adopted by the District 168 Board of Education. Parents will be notified of the above on an annual basis.

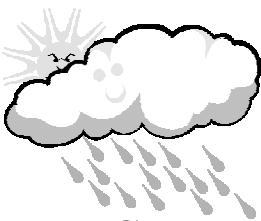
GRADE PLACEMENT

When students transfer from other schools to Community Consolidated Schools District 168 we have found that performance levels do not always match grade placement. In order to ensure the best possible placement for all students who enter our elementary schools, several screening tests are used. These tests measure student achievement in some basic skill areas and help us determine proper placement for all new students.

Screening tests will be administered to new students during the first three (3) days of school or by the next Friday from the student's enrollment date. Should test results indicate a need for changing the student's grade level placement, a parent conference will be conducted within a week to share all data collected with the student's parents. If a staffing is necessary at this time, the principal will give their final recommendation and appropriate grade placement will be made. The final decision regarding the placement of a student will be made by the building principal in accordance with district expectations.

TELEPHONE CALLS

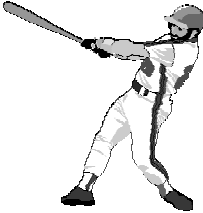
Students are not permitted to use the office telephone except in emergency situations. It is each student’s responsibility to see that all necessary supplies, homework, lunch, etc. are brought to school each day.



March 2024						
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APRIL 2024

May 2024						
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<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	April Fool's Day 1	2 Students Return Wagoner Spring Pictures	3	4 Rickover Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	5	6
7	8	9	10 Wagoner Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m. Superintendent Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	11 Rickover 7th Grade Field Trip	12 Wagoner Spring Art Show Strassburg Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	13 Rickover Saturday School 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
14	15	16 Begin Spring NWEA Assessment	17	18	19 End Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) Quarter 4 Progress Report	20
21	Earth Day 22 Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m. School Board Meeting 7 p.m.	23	24	25 Rickover Career Day	26 PreK Parent/Child Activity 1/2 Day School Improvement Day	27 Rickover Saturday School 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
28	29	30 End Illinois Science Assesement (IAR) Spring MAP Testing Begins				

THE UNSELFISH EFFORT TO BRING CHEER TO OTHERS WILL BE THE BEGINNING OF A HAPPIER LIFE FOR OURSELVES. ~ HELEN KELLER

STUDENT FEES

Each student will be issued textbooks and workbooks which will remain the property of School District 168. These textbooks and workbooks are to be returned at the close of the school year or upon transfer out of the district. When books are lost or become useless through damage, the cost of replacement will be assessed to the student.

There is a \$25.00 school fee for the 2019-2020 school year. Fees are due at registration or a payment plan must be established.

All fees/fines paid after **April 1st** must be paid in cash.

Parents will be held responsible for replacing the cost of the lost or damaged books, as well as paying all school fees.

School District 168 will use a collection agency to assist in this process. If a parent or guardian cannot pay the fees as established by the Board of Education, the parent may apply for a waiver. A complete explanation of this waiver of fees may be obtained from your child’s building administrator.

HEART DEFIBRILLATORS

The Board of Education has purchased heart saving devices for each school. The district staff has been trained on the proper use of this device in case of an emergency.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Students who live the designated distance from school are transported by bus in accordance with Illinois law. Students should be on time at their assigned stop and may be expected to show a bus pass.

Any “Non Mandated By Law” student that requests transportation service (because of temporarily being incapacitated/injured) will be charged a fee of \$20.00 per day, with two weeks of advance payment submitted **before** services are provided. All requests must be previously approved by the Chief Business Officer and will only be granted if space is available.

Cooperative, responsible behavior is expected of the bus riders. Students who disrupt other passengers and/or the driver may have their bus riding privileges suspended.

Disruptive behavior may include:

- throwing objects and/or littering
- getting out of one’s seat while the bus is in motion
- fighting and/or not keeping one’s hands and feet to one’s self
- shouting and/or profane language
- possession of smoking materials
- gross misbehavior
- snowballing or hitching rides on the outside of buses
- eating on the bus
- sexual harassment

Building administrators or designee will determine the consequences of improper bus behavior. If a student is suspended from the bus, it is the parent’s responsibility to see that their child is in attendance at school for the length of the suspension.

Behavior at the bus stop is not within the domain or the responsibility of the school district.



April 2024						
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MAY 2024

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Rickover Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	3	4
Cinco de Mayo 5	6 Staff Appreciation Week	7 Staff Appreciation Week	8 Staff Appreciation Week Superintendent Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m. End DLM Assessment	9 Staff Appreciation Week	10 Staff Appreciation Week PreK Screening 1/2 Day School Improvement Rickover 8th Grade Trip End Spring NWEA Assessment	11
Mother's Day 12	13 Rickover 8th Grade Spirit Week	14 Rickover 8th Grade Spirit Week Community Chat 5 p.m. at Ad Center	15 Rickover 8th Grade Spirit Week Rickover 8th Grade Awards Night 5 p.m.	16 Rickover 8th Grade Spirit Week Rickover 8th Grade Picnic	17 Rickover 8th Grade Spirit Week Rickover Graduation 6 p.m. Strassburg Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m. Wagoner Parent Coffee Chat 9 a.m.	18
19	20 Strassburg School Spirit Week Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m. School Board Meeting 7 p.m.	21 Strassburg School Spirit Week Blossoms End of Year Celebration Spring MAP Testing Ends	22 Strassburg School Spirit Week Multicultural Festival PreK Transition Conferences	23 End of Quarter 4 (Early Dismissal) Students End Strassburg School Spirit Week PreK Transition Conferences	24 Teachers' Institute Day	25
26	Memorial Day 27 NO SCHOOL	28	29	30	31	

HONESTY IS THE FIRST CHAPTER IN THE BOOK OF WISDOM. ~ THOMAS JEFFERSON

DRESS CODE

Appearance

The attitude and behavior of the student body are influenced by student-appearance. With the cooperation of parents, the school administration will encourage all students to dress in attire that is in compliance with the school dress code. Any styles of dress or grooming deemed by the Principal and/or designee that appear to be disruptive to the educational process or could constitute a threat to the safety or health of a member of the school community, may not be worn. Time missed from class due to dress code violations will be unexcused. Guidelines for appropriate dress/grooming include, but are not limited to, the following:

All Students:

- 1. No tattoo, or method of grooming (hairpicks, rattail comb) may display.
- 2. No hats or headgear (bandanas, do-rags) may be worn inside the school building. These items must be removed immediately upon entering the school building, and may not be put on, or carried, until exiting the building at the end of the school day unless cleared by an administrator for religious or medical reasons.
- 3. Outdoor apparel such as coats, jackets, sunglasses, outer vests, gloves, and scarves are to be stored in the student’s locker during the regular school day and may not be worn or carried to class.
- 4. Students are expected to wear all attire properly by keeping appropriate snaps, hooks, buttons, buckles, etc., fastened.
- 5. Students may not display or wear pocket chains and/or other metal objects that may be unsafe.
- 6. Large purses are not allowed. Exceptions will be made for medical concerns at the administration’s discretion.
- 7. Students cannot wear pants or shorts that hang below the natural waist (“slouching”).
- 8. Loungewear and/or pajamas are not acceptable school attire.

- 9. Leggings, opaque tights and/or nylons are not to be worn alone. Jeggings, pajama pants, yoga pants, exercise wear, etc. are **not** allowed. No spandex-wear of any kind.
- 10. Belts must be worn at waist level.
- 11. Belts must be worn with all pants that have belt loops. Belt loops cannot be cut off to comply with this rule. Belts must not have any metal except for the buckle.
- 12. No clogs, sandals, flip flops, wedges, platforms, high heels, animated shoes (wheels or lights), etc. House shoes and/or slippers are not allowed.
- 13. If snow or rain boots are worn to school because of inclement weather, students must bring the appropriate shoes and change into them at school.
- 14. Haircuts/carvings which display inappropriate patterns, signs, symbols, letters or names are prohibited.

The following consequences will be implemented when any student does not conform to the District Dress Code:

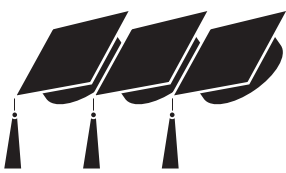
- 1st Offense: Call home for change of clothes and warning.
 - 2nd Offense: Call home for a change of clothes and a lunch detention in ISS.
 - 3rd Offense: Call home for a change of clothes and receive a 1 hour detention.
 - 4th Offense: Further insubordination will result in a Saturday School.
- Further offenses may result in additional consequences which will be given at the administrator’s discretion.

Student Discipline

Student Expectations

At all times and in all circumstances, students are expected to be safe, be responsible and be respectful. To provide a productive, orderly and positive learning environment for all, District 168 relies upon CHARACTER COUNTS CHAMPS, Second Step and SEL as a framework for behavioral and academic expectations. The District utilizes a combination of philosophies that include but are not limited to restorative practices.

- Students are expected to follow the discipline guidelines established by the Board of Education Policy.
- Students are expected to respect the rights and property of every member of the school community.
- Students are expected to engage in learning and respond appropriately to the instructions and directions of all adults in the school community.
- Students are expected to play safely on the playground equipment and use the equipment properly.
- Any form of harassment, aggressive behavior, and/or bullying will not be tolerated. Students may not exhibit physical aggression, including rough play such as tackling, wrestling, pushing, hitting, play fighting or retaliation.
- Use of profanity/inappropriate language is not acceptable.
- Buying and selling of items is not allowed on school grounds.
- Cellular phone and smart watches must be kept powered off and out of sight throughout the school day. All other electronic devices should not be brought to school.
- SMART watches should be used for time keeping purposes only.
- Toys are not allowed in school.
- The use of skateboards, scooters, skates hover-boards, and wheelies are not permitted on school grounds.




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JUNE 2024

July 2024						
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9	10	11	12	13	Flag Day 	15
Fathers Day 16	17	18	Juneteenth 19	20	21	22
23	24 Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m. School Board Meeting 7 p.m.	25	26	27	28	29
30						

TELL ME AND I FORGET; SHOW ME AND I REMEMBER; INVOLVE ME AND I UNDERSTAND. ~ ANONYMOUS

HELPFUL PARENT SUGGESTIONS

Help Your Child Become a Successful Reader

Do you know how children become good readers? They read. The more a child reads, the better he or she will become. Of all the things you can do to help your child at school, the most important thing you can do is to make sure your child spends time reading. This short article will tell you why it is important that you encourage your child to read, and give you some ideas for doing so.

What We Know:

- ➡ Almost every time your child reads a book, he or she learns something about people, a place, a topic, or an idea. What is learned becomes your child's background information. The more background information a reader has, the easier it is for him or her to understand new information.
- ➡ Reading increases the vocabulary. The more your child reads, the more words he or she learns. Children who read widely can learn the meanings of thousands of new words each year.

How Can You Help:

- ➡ **Make books available at home.**
Plan trips to the library or the book store. Give books for special occasions.
- ➡ **Find out your child's interest.**
Help him or her find books to support this interest. Children will read if they have books that interest them and are appropriate for their reading level.
- ➡ **Set aside quiet time for reading.**
Set aside 10-15 minutes each day for reading - after dinner, before bedtime, or at some other time during the day. Of course, there will be some days when this just isn't possible. That's all right, but you might try to spend a little extra time the next day.
- ➡ **Read aloud to your child.**
Being read to is a treat that all children - and even adults - can enjoy. Take turns. Sometimes you can read to your child, and sometimes he or she can read to you. It's a great way to share time and interests.
- ➡ **Be a reading model.**
Let your child see you reading for pleasure. Seeing how much you enjoy reading will help your child see that reading can be fun to do.

The Writing Process

Stories, poems, reports, articles - students do a lot of writing in school. Studies have shown that a good way to teach writing is through a series of steps modeled on the process that "real" writers use to develop their ideas.

Professional writers don't expect to express their ideas perfectly the first time they write them. Instead, they go through a process of rereading and revising to improve their writing.

Stages of the Writing Process

- Prewriting - thinking of ideas to write about.
- Drafting - putting ideas down on paper without worrying about mistakes in spelling, grammar, or punctuation.
- Revising - reading the draft; having a conference with classmates or the teacher to get ideas on how the writing could be improved; making changes so that all the ideas in the writing make sense.
- Proofreading - correcting grammar, punctuation, and spelling.
- Publishing - sharing the finished piece in some way with others.

In an effort to get all their ideas written down, students often write first drafts that include mistakes in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and organization. As they revise and proofread, they will be refining their work. They will notice some errors and correct them by themselves. In conferences the teacher and their classmates will point out errors the writers have not noticed.

How You Can Help

Check with your child's teacher.

Ask what you can do to help your child's writing efforts.

Help your child think of ideas to write about.

Talk together about your child's interest, friends, goals, hobbies, or favorite things (books, movies, clothes, television programs.)

During the revising stage, read or listen to your child's writing.

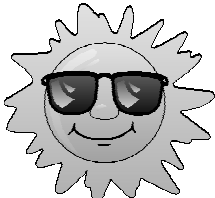
Focus on the ideas. Point out something you really like. Ask questions about anything that isn't clear. This helps your child see what to change to make the writing clearer.

Don't be critical.

Let your child experiment with the process of writing and expressing ideas. Your child's teacher will guide spelling, grammar, and punctuation changes. Look for improvement from month to month, not perfection. Comment on the positive aspects, not the negative.

Read or listen to your child's finished writing.


Comment on your child's writing. Praise improvements. Let your child know that you think his or her writing is important. If your child would like to share his or her writing at home, try putting it on the refrigerator or in another common area. So that you and your child are able to see the progress that he or she makes over time, you might want to keep a scrapbook of your child's writings.



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JULY 2024

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SUCCESS USUALLY COMES TO THOSE WHO ARE TOO BUSY TO BE LOOKING FOR IT. ~ HENRY DAVID THOREAU

SUPERINTENDENT’S MESSAGE

Dear CCSD 168 Parents and Guardians,

It is such a privilege to continue serving the families and stakeholders of Sauk Village as the Superintendent of Schools for Community Consolidated Schools District 168.


It is hard to believe that we are right around the corner from the beginning of a new school year! All the excitement in gearing up to welcome our children back to our buildings and the promise of a successful year to come! We have been busily preparing for the 2023-2024 school year with enthusiasm and excitement! While we are in the “ost-pandemic”phase, we will still remain diligent in the many areas we have learned over the past few years:

- Monitoring and maintaining heightened standards of sanitization.
- Usage of technology in the myriad of educational manners we have developed.
- Attention to student and staff social and emotional well-being.
- Enhanced communication with our families on an ongoing basis via phone blasts, Facebook, Twitter, website, live feeds and print materials

As we prepare to welcome students back to school in August, our Administrative Team has been working diligently to prepare for our opening! We have been working to renovate the Science Lab at Rickover this summer. In June, we broke ground on the expansion of our Blossoms Program. We will be adding classrooms, a multi-purpose space, and a new playground for our youngest scholars. Our goal is to open up more spaces to give opportunities for the many families we have on our wait list now. Our district has been designated to receive additional dollars through the State’s new preschool grant.

As embedded in our mission statement our role is to *inspire, challenge and support every child every day to reach their greatest academic, social, and personal potential*. Know that we are ready to continue the work needed to truly transform Community Consolidated Schools District 168 into one of the top school districts in the nation! We look forward to seeing the 2023-2024 school year! Follow us on Twitter and Facebook, #d168excels.

We are District 168 Strong!

Sincerely,

Dr. Donna S. Leak
Superintendent of Schools



July 2024						
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AUGUST 2024

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NO DREAMER IS EVER TOO SMALL; NO DREAM IS EVER TOO BIG. ~ ANONYMOUS