

# The Cardinal Comet

CARDINAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

September 2010



Middle School Gold Medalist Josh Stiles getting ready to shoot at 15 meters.

## Incredible Showing!

Twenty-five Cardinal Archers competed at the Iowa Games, taking home 12 of 18 possible individual Medals. Along with their individual honors, the Shooting Comets captured their second straight Iowa Games team championship.

### Elementary Girls

Gold: Allison Metcalf 253  
Silver: Makayla Laughlin 244  
Bronze: Alexis Fisher 231  
Shelby Smith 119

### Elementary Boys

Gold: Colton Carter 269 (11 Tens)  
Silver: Justin Conger 269 (9 Tens)

### Middle School Girls

Silver: Schylar Conger 264  
Courtney Smith 246  
Allisabeth Sloan 241  
Erin Kopp 240  
Kelsey Waddle 236  
Cheyenne Smith 180  
Vanessa Lemke 177

### Middle School Boys

Gold: Josh Stiles 271  
Bronze: Conner McElderry  
Josh Miller 256

### High School Girls

Silver: Mindy Tedrow 272  
Bronze: Katie Conger 264  
Katie Carter 258  
Shelby Lagle 249

### High School Boys

Gold: Montgomery Laughlin 283  
Silver: Brenden Schinstock 269  
Cody Waddle 263  
Trenton Miller 257  
Cody Carter 254

## PSAT Testing Information

The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is a program cosponsored by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). It's a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT®. It also gives you a chance to enter NMSC scholarship programs and gain access to college and career planning tools.

PSAT TEST is scheduled for Wednesday, October 13th in the HS Library for any Junior who would like to take the test. Also the top ten percent of the sophomore class is also eligible to take the test if they wish to pay the \$13 dollar fee (based on seat availability). Juniors get first seating priority for this test. However, sophomores can gain experience and practice their test taking skills a year prior to their junior year test. Contact Mrs. Swanson if you would like to take the test. Sophomores must be invited to take the test by Mrs. Swanson.

### The PSAT/NMSQT measures:

- Critical reading skills
- Math problem-solving skills
- Writing skills

You have developed these skills over many years, both in and out of school. This test doesn't require you to recall specific facts from your classes.

### The most common reasons for taking the PSAT/NMSQT are to:

- Receive feedback on your strengths and weaknesses on skills necessary for college study. You can then focus your preparation on those areas that could most benefit from additional study or practice.
- See how your performance on an admissions test might compare with that of others applying to college.
- Enter the competition for scholarships from NMSC (grade 11).
- Help prepare for the SAT. You can become familiar with the kinds of questions and the exact directions you will see on the SAT.

## Asbestos Information

Cardinal Community School District follows the AHERA (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act) guidelines. We have the current management plans available at each building in the principal's office. A complete set is available in the superintendent's office. If you have any questions with regard to the district's asbestos management plans, please contact Cardinal Community School District, 4045 Ashland Road, Eldon, Iowa 52554 or 641-652-7531.

The mission of the Cardinal Community School is to foster an enriching environment and channel the energies of students to achieve their fullest potential.

# Administration

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Articles are to be submitted in an e-mail, Microsoft word, or pdf file format by the 15th of the month to: sherry.vanblaricom@cardinalcomet.com . Please include your name, title, and school association (Elementary, Middle School, or High School). Photos need to be submitted in jpeg format.

**Please direct questions to:**

Sherry VanBlaricom 641-652-7531  
641-937-5266

## From the Desk of Superintendent Joel Pedersen

A new school year is a time of excitement and anticipation. I certainly look forward to meeting students in the hallways, classrooms and at different outside events. As I look forward to a new school year, I want to mention a few important items that happened over the summer months.

### Intervention Work

I would like to applaud everyone who helped plan the intervention schedules for our students. I firmly believe that if we unite as a community and provide targeted assistance that student achievement will rise. This assistance with positive relationship building will create a positive culture where our students can improve academically.

The intervention schedule will challenge all of us to do things differently. Our school must do things differently if we are to get different results. I truly believe that if we all commit to supporting this intervention work, good things will happen for our students.

### Summer Maintenance and Cleaning

A big thank you to the janitors who do a tremendous amount of work during the summer months. Learning improves when the buildings are clean and inviting. If you see a janitor, let them know you appreciate their hard work.

There will be a number of new faces at our school this year. Please take a moment and welcome them to Cardinal. I believe that the new additions will strengthen our school programs. In closing, remember to support the Comets this fall. Together, we can make the 2010-2011 school year a success.

Sincerely, Joel Pedersen, Superintendent

## From the Desk of Activities Director Mr. Fetter

School is now underway. Students are working hard in practice and setting their sights on a winning season. There is so much to celebrate at Cardinal. I would like to introduce/reacquaint everyone with our athletic webpage, a site that highlights our student athletes. This month I have put my newsletter on the athletic webpage for all to visit and read. Included in the newsletter will be information about our fall teams and more news regarding the September 19th A-Club Golf Tournament for those of you who are wanting to participate. While you are on the site you can also access fall schedules and see upcoming events. There are past articles, picture galleries and video clips to view from the spring and summer sports in case you haven't had a chance to see them yet.

You access the athletic webpage by clicking on "athletics" when you visit the school's homepage (www.cardinalcomet.com) or you can get there at www.ihigh.gocomets.com. My September article is located under "site news" near the top of the website. I hope you take the time to check out this exciting site this month and throughout the year to stay up-to-date on all of our athletic teams!

*Take that which is coming against you and use it to lift you higher.*

## From the Desk of the High School Student Council

With Homecoming 2010 just around the corner, we would like to inform everyone of the events. We are starting off the week, September 20th, with window, sidewalk, and door decorating after school. Following that we have tentatively scheduled a high school girls powderpuff football game starting at 7 pm on the football field. Tuesday, September 21st, we are having a "white out" at the home volleyball game, everyone please wear white to support the volleyball girls. Wednesday, September 22nd, we will be starting the events at 6pm. The first thing on the agenda will be the parade. The route for the parade will be starting at the bus barn and running on the blacktop top to the elementary building. Following the parade, will be the coronation ceremony and jersey auction on the football field. When the auction is over the band will lead the crowd to start the bonfire. Friday, September 24th is the big game starting at 7pm against Alburnett. Following the game will be a High School Homecoming dance in the cafeteria admission will be \$3 each. Everyone wear red and come out to support the Comets!

### Spirit Week Schedule:

Monday: Hillbilly Day	Wednesday: Hippy Day	Friday: Spirit Day (Red)
Tuesday: White Out Day	Thursday: Twin Day	

## From the Desk of Secondary Principal Cindy Shepherd

The school year is off to a great start. I am very excited to see the students in the hallways again! September is a very busy month with sports getting under way and Homecoming at the end of the month. Make sure you support all of our students participating in extra-curricular activities this year by attending as many activities as possible. Homecoming Week will be September 20th-24th. Please support the Comets by participating in the events during this week. Make sure to locate the Student Council section of the newsletter for more details on the weekly schedule.

During the last week of September all students will be taking the first round of NWEA testing. The tests will run from September 27th- October 8th. It is very important that students are well-rested during this time period and give the tests 100%. This year will be focused on improvement in several areas, and the NWEA tests will be our first measure of academic progress in Reading, Math, Science, and Language.

Please welcome our new and transitioning staff members (full biographies will be available in next month's newsletter):

Mrs. Greiner	Technology Coach
Mrs. Peters	At-Risk Coordinator
Mr. Munson	6-8 Science
Mr. Miller	Band
Mr. Harter	HS Science
Ms. Smith	HS Math
Mrs. Gardner	HS English
Mr. Engle	Industrial Technology
Mrs. Hunter	7-12 Special Education
Mr. Chamberlin	Technology Director
Mrs. Elswick	Family Consumer Science/ Special Education

### Important dates to remember in September:

September 1st	Early dismissal Middle School High School 12:50 Elementary 12:40 A-Club mtg 5:30 p.m.
September 6th	Labor Day, No School
September 13th	PTO Meeting 6:00 p.m. Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
September 24th	Homecoming Game VS. Alburnett 7:00 p.m.
September 26th -	
October 8th	NWEA Testing
September 30th	School Pictures

## From the Desk of Elementary Principal Kerry Phillips

The 2010-2011 school year is running full steam ahead. Hopefully, all students are back in the swing of school and have learned the expectations of their new teachers.

The elementary is trying a new six day cycle this year. Due to the rotation provided using this system, the days students have specials such as gym, music, and physical education rotate. This helps because we have more school days off on certain days of the week. If we miss several Fridays and your student has a special class on that day, they fall behind their peers. If we miss a day for any reason, we go to the next numbered day in the cycle. Therefore, if we miss a day due to weather on Monday and that is Day 1, the next day school is in attendance will be Day 2. Teachers will be assisting with this by sending reminders in their weekly newsletter about special classes and the six day cycle.

Students must have the proper footwear to participate in physical education classes. All students are to have a pair of gym shoes to leave at school at all times to better facilitate this rule. If a student does not have the proper shoes to wear in gym, they will have to sit and will not be allowed to participate. It is simply not safe for the student and their fellow classmates when a child does not have the proper footwear to fully support the movement required to take part in physical education activities. Please support us in enforcing this policy to keep our students safe and healthy.

Remember that school will not be in attendance on Monday, September 6th due to Labor Day. Also, remember NWEA MAP testing takes place from September 27th to October 8th. Encourage students to get plenty of rest and to eat a nourishing breakfast each of these days. While this is an excellent habit to practice each day, it is very important during testing to help students to perform to their best ability. School pictures are scheduled for Thursday, September 30th. Thanks for supporting all we do at Cardinal Elementary School. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you ever have any questions or concerns.

### Kids Come First at Cardinal Elementary School!

## From the Desk of Coach Hill

Dear Comets:

It's football season again! Most of us have been anxiously awaiting this time. It should be one of the real fun times in your life. One of our goals is to make this a fun experience for everyone involved in our program. Your attitude will be the single most important factor in determining if it is fun for you. What the season is going to mean to you, depends on your attitude.

Last year we started a new era of Cardinal football. It is up to us to continue and carry out what we have started. We have added several players and our roster now consists of 39 players. We will have a JV schedule this year, which will help improve each and every one of our skills. It is a good problem to not have enough equipment, which by the way, should be here before our towel game.

This year begins the second chapter of our book that will record the history of the 2010 team. We will go from the beginning of August to the middle of November being a team. It will be a legacy that will become an important part of the Comet athletic tradition for all future teams. As our football program continues to grow, we will see other schools attempting to duplicate things that we do. Imitation is a high form of a compliment.

If we accomplish our goals, we will find that our team did the important things right – we will stay together, we will play together, we will fight to the finish. The coaches are extolling the team concept with signs, slogans, and sermons. Some players have fought it, some bought it, and others don't know what they don't know. We must all buy into this philosophy. TEAM must become The Enthusiastic Aggressive Men of Cardinal Comet football. The most important word in football is team. It must become loyalty. It is  
C + C + C + C = C (Character + Conviction + Commitment + Caring = Champions)

We should all be excited and thrilled to have the opportunity to compete on the football field, the class room, and in the community as we represent the 2010 Cardinal Comet Football program.

Until next time, GO COMETS!!!!!!

## How to Address Your Concerns

The following information outline the proper steps to take when you have a concern. No matter what the problem is, take your concern there first. Whether in the classroom, on the bus, or on the practice field, the quickest and easiest solution is usually found with the staff member most directly involved. For more information, please contact the Central Office at (641) 652-7531, ext 201.

### Steps to take when you have a concern within the Cardinal School System

#### Step #1

##### Take your concern to the person closest to the problem.

No matter what the problem is, take your concern there first. Whether in the classroom, on the bus, or on the practice field, the quickest and easiest solution is usually found with the staff member most directly involved.

It's best if you take time to talk with the school personnel regularly, before problems are encountered. Know who your children's teachers are and how they can be contacted. Tell them when things are going well and communicate any concerns you have quickly and openly.

If you call for an appointment to see your child's teachers, why not let them know in advance the general nature of your concern? This gives them the opportunity to ask other staff members for information that might relate to your problem or concern. If a personal visit isn't possible, why not call to state the problem, and during the conversation, offer to call back at a time you both can discuss the situation more in detail.

The concern you or your child faces may be the result of an oversight or a misunderstanding that can easily be corrected once brought to the attention of the staff member most directly involved.

Give them a chance to tackle the problem first.

#### Step #2

##### Present your concern to the next level.

The principal at each building is responsible for supervision of staff within that particular building. The director of transportation supervises all school bus drivers. Each one is an example of the next level of school personnel you should contact if the staff member closest to the problem hasn't been able to satisfactorily resolve the difficulty.

Their ability to help will be improved if you share the steps you've already taken with the staff member closest to the problem. Take time to openly share with them the reasons why you feel uncomfortable dealing directly with the person who is closest to the situation.

Supervisory personnel will rarely have access to the information they need to be of immediate assistance and working through them will often require additional time.

#### Step #3

##### Talk with the Superintendent of Schools.

Sometimes all the best intentions can't solve a problem. When you believe you've taken the problem to the next level but still haven't achieved a satisfactory outcome, the superintendent of schools is the next place to go.

Part of the Superintendent's job requires attendance at area-wide meetings outside the district. As a consequence, a meeting with the Superintendent will probably require some advance planning.

#### Step #4

##### Contact your school board members after other means have been tried.

School board members are elected to represent the interest of all parents and district residents; therefore, you should always feel free to tell them your point of view.

School board members do not, however, have direct authority in day-to-day operations.

All authority is the result of official actions by a majority of the board at meetings open to the public.

The board's primary responsibility is to make policies that guide the school district. Any change in policy requires two readings at two separate public meetings; a procedure that often takes two or more months.

Some policy changes may require substantial public input and consultation with the school district's attorney. These requirements often increase the time required for the board to make a response. So, when should a board member be contacted and what can they do?

##### When to Contact a Board Member:

- After other means to solve a problem have been tried.
- When a policy is being enforced but you believe it results in bad consequences.
- When you believe a policy isn't being enforced.
- When policies or procedures are not enforced fairly for all.

##### A board member may take one or all of the following actions:

- Informally discuss the issue with the superintendent or other administrators to consider whether policies or rules would be changed.
- Request that the board review the specific policies that relate to the situation.
- Propose new policies for the board's consideration.

Unfairness, misunderstanding, hurt feelings, and conflicts are experiences common to us all. When children experience these problems at school it causes difficulty not only for the children, but also for parents, and school staff. How to successfully solve problems at school is what this guide is all about.





## Junior High / High School

### Cardinal High School England/Paris Trip

#### Day 1-2

We had an overnight flight, with very little sleep, across the Atlantic. We arrived in London about noon and our bus broke down on the way to the hotel. We started our adventure a little late with a walking tour to Trafalgar Square and Leicester Square.

#### Day 3

We took a guided sightseeing tour of London to see Piccadilly Circus, Houses of Parliament, the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace, and a tour of Windsor Castle. That evening we attended a theatre production of "Nunsense" in the theatre district of London.

#### Day 4

We took the excursion to Stonehenge and Bath. Stonehenge was just a group of stones in a field, old, but not that exciting. Bath has the ancient ruins of the Roman Baths and was very interesting. We had some shopping time in London that evening.

#### Day 5

We visited the Tower of London, took a boat trip to Greenwich, crossed the Prime Meridian, and spent time in the center of London.

#### Day 6

We took the excursion to Oxford University and Stratford-Upon-Avon, where Shakespeare was born, raised and died. We were able to see his grave and the home where he grew up. Mrs. Meyer was enthralled!

#### Day 7

We took the train under the English Channel to Paris. We had a guided sightseeing tour of Paris on a bus, followed by a walking tour and shopping.

#### Day 8

We had a walking tour of Paris, a trip to Notre Dame and finishing the day with a boat trip on the Thames and a visit to the top of the Eiffel Tower.

#### Day 9

We flew from Paris to Chicago, only to be informed that all flights to Iowa were canceled due to the weather in Iowa. We hired a bus and drove to the school, arriving there at midnight.











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Save 10 box tops  
UbX`h`YgY`Ug\m  
ZJYbXg`k`J`Ujd°

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

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for helping!**

Every box top you collect is worth 10¢ for your school. For more collection worksheets and projects, go to:  
[www.boxtops4education.com/activitycenter](http://www.boxtops4education.com/activitycenter)





## September Activities Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 No School Board Elections in Even Numbered Years	6 Labor Day <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	7 MS/HS CC @ Van Buren 4:30 PM <b>JV FB vs. WMU 6:30 PM (H)</b>	1 Professional Dev. <b>Early Dismissal 12:40 Elem</b> <b>12:50 MS/HS A-Club Mtg 5:30</b>	2 <b>FS/JV/V VB vs. MSAE (H) 5:30 PM</b> MS/HS CC @ Wildwood Park 5 PM	3 V FB WMU 7 PM Location TBA	4
12	13 <b>JV FB vs. Highland (H) 6:30 PM</b> PTO Mtg 6 PM	14 FS/JV/V VB @ Notre Dame 5:30 PM HS CC @ English Valley Music Boosters 7PM	8	9 MS/HS CC @ Fairfield 5 PM <b>FS/JV/V VB vs. Central Lee (H) 5:30 PM</b> <b>JH FB vs WMU 5 PM (H)</b> <b>JH VB vs. WACO 5 PM</b>	10 <b>V FB vs. Highland (H) 7 PM</b>	11 FS VB @ New London 9 AM
19 <i>Spirit Week Sept 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup></i>	20 JH VB @ Harmony 4:30 PM JV FB @ Van Buren 6 PM <i>Hillbilly Day</i>	21 <b>FS/JV/V VB vs. Moravia (H) 5:30 PM</b> MS/HS CC @ Mt Pleasant 5 PM <i>White Out Day</i>	22 <i>Hippy Day</i>	23 <i>Twin Day</i> V VB Conf. Tourn. TBA 5 PM <b>JH VB vs. MSAE (H) 4:30 PM</b> <b>JH FB vs. Lone Tree (H) 5 PM</b>	24 <b>V FB vs. Alburnett (H) 7 PM</b> <b>HOMECOMING</b> <i>Spirit Day (RED)</i>	25 V VB Conf. Tourn. TBA (must qualify 9/23) MS/HS CC @ Lake Darling/Pekin
26 NWEA MAP Testing Sept. 27-Oct 8th	27 JH VB @ Pekin 4:30 PM	28 FS/JV/V VB @ Holy Trinity 5:30 PM	29	30 <b>School Pictures</b> FS/JV/V VB @ Van Buren 5:30 PM	30 <sup>th</sup> Continued JH VB @ WACO 4:30 PM JH FB @ Danville 5	

### PTO Update

PTO would like to welcome everyone back now that everything is in full swing.

Just a reminder, PTO meets on the second Monday of every month at 6:00pm in the Music room in the High School.

Also, if you would like to a room mother, would like to know what PTO does for the school or become a member please don't hesitate to call one of the PTO Board Members.

Veronica Pickrell, President ..... 641-799-0293  
 Kristie Durlfing, Vice President ..... 641-777-6162

Carree Pumphrey, Treasurer .....641-919-3118  
 Heather Bennett, Secretary ..... 641-980-9797

Don't forget that you can read the minutes from past meetings on the Cardinal Comet website. Just click Parent Teacher Organization and then what month you would like to read.

## September Lunch Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 DONUT/SAUSAGE FRUIT MILK  SAUSAGE GRAVY/BISCUIT COOKED CARROTS FRUIT MILK	2 PANCAKE WRAP FRUIT MILK  HAMBURGER PATTY/BUN CORN FRUIT MILK	3 CEREAL/YOGURT FRUIT MILK  SAUSAGE PIZZA GREEN BEANS APPLESAUCE MILK
6 NO SCHOOL	7 NUTRIGRAIN BAR/YOGURT FRUIT MILK  HOT HAM/BUN BAKED BEANS FRUIT MILK	8 EGGS/BAGEL FRUIT MILK  LITTLE SMOKIES MACARONI & CHEESE PEACHES MILK	9 FRENCH TOAST/SYRUP FRUIT MILK  SOFT SHELL BEEF TACO CORN APPLESAUCE MILK	10 CEREAL BAR/YOGURT FRUIT MILK  BEEF & BEAN BURRITO RICE/SALSA FRUIT MILK
13 CEREAL/TOAST FRUIT MILK  RAVIOLI BREAD & BUTTER/CORN FRUIT MILK	14 EGGS/BISCUIT FRUIT MILK  CHICKEN PATTY/BUN MIXED VEGGIES FRUIT MILK	15 BLUEBERRY MUFFIN/YOGURT FRUIT MILK  TOMATO SOUP/CRACKERS ICE CREAM FRUIT MILK	16 BREAKFAST PIZZA FRUIT MILK  SPAGHETTI/MEAT SAUCE GREEN BEANS/GARLIC TOAST FRUIT MILK	17 CEREAL/SAUSAGE FRUIT MILK  CREAM CHICKEN & BISCUIT PEAS FRUIT MILK
20 CEREAL BARS/EGG FRUIT MILK  CORN DOG COOKED CARROTS APPLESAUCE MILK	21 PANCAKE WRAP FRUIT MILK  CHICKEN NUGGETS MASHED POTATOS FRUIT MILK	22 CEREAL/TOAST FRUIT MILK  TURKEY SUB GREEN BEANS/CHEESE SLICE FRUIT MILK	23 POP TART/SAUSAGE FRUIT MILK  HAMBURGER/BUN CORN MIXED FRUIT MILK	24 SAUSAGE GRAVY & BISCUIT FRUIT MILK  PIZZA LETTUCE SALAD FRUIT MILK
27 NUTRI GRAIN BAR/EGG FRUIT MILK  CHICKEN NOODLES MASHED POTATOES/BREAD FRUIT MILK	28 FRENCH TOAST/SYRUP FRUIT MILK  HOT DOG/BUN CORN FRUIT/DESSERT MILK	29 EGG OMELET WITH CHEESE FRUIT/TOAST MILK  BBQ RIB/BUN BAKED BEANS PEACHES MILK	30 DONUT/SAUSAGE FRUIT MILK  WAKLING TACO RICE FRUIT MILK	<b>*Menu subject to change</b>  <b>*Milk served daily</b>  <b>*We are an equal opportunity provider</b>

Putting the world of technology in the hands of students today!



The Cardinal School District distributed this special edition to fulfill it's obligation of keeping parents and the community informed. The Cardinal Comet was designed, printed and distributed at an approximate cost of 52¢ per issue, a very inexpensive way to meet this goal.

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**PAID**  
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