

## THE PRINCIPAL'S POSITION

I would like to welcome everyone to Stewart Elementary School, especially our incoming pre-school and kindergarten students and parents. The 2008-2009 school year is filled with many exciting activities and events, and we welcome your full participation. Parental involvement and engagement is critical to increased student achievements. As research shows, students learn more when parents are involved actively in their child's education. Working together, we can make a positive difference.

I would also like to remind you of the little, yet very significant, things we need to do in order to make Stewart a safe place for everyone.

1. **Sign-In at the Office:** While volunteering and/or visiting Stewart during school hours you must first sign in at the office and wear an orange visitor's badge.
2. **Before School Supervision:** In order to keep the children safe, students should not arrive before supervision begins outside at 7:45.

As a friendly reminder:

Please remain in your car if you are in the Pick up and Drop off lane. You are allowed to wait in the lane if you arrive early, as long as you stay in your vehicle; school personnel may require drivers to pull forward.

You may park your car in a parking lot space.

Load and unload students only on the passenger side of your car.

Please be respectful to those that are assigned with monitoring student's safety and controlling traffic.

No child is ever left unattended.

Melissa Walker  
Stewart Principal

## NOTE FROM THE NURSE

The school year seems to be off to a great start! Please call me at 653-3244 if you ever have questions or concerns about your child. I am willing to give medication from home as long as I have a note stating the correct dose and time that the medication is to be given. We will have nursing students from the University of Iowa again this year, and we will be doing some fun and educational things with the students. We will focus on good health habits that will be important throughout the lives of the children, such as good hand washing, good oral hygiene, healthy eating habits, and the benefits of regular exercise. I am looking forward to another great year at Stewart Elementary. Until next month...

Shelly Hoffman, Stewart Nurse

## STUDENT ASSISTANT COORDINATOR

What is a Student Assistance Coordinator?

- a school person that provides services for all children
- a resource person for all teachers and staff members
- a liaison with outside community agencies and resources
- a consultant
- a coordinator
- a friend

The Student Assistance Coordinator:

- sees children individually
- sees children in small groups
- conducts classroom social skills
- gains information through observation
- consults with parents
- uses the community as a resource
- orients new students to school
- participates in the S.A.T. Team Meeting

Why might a child see the Student Assistance Coordinator:

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| *a school problem   | *a conflict         |
| *a fear             | *being teased       |
| *family changes     | *a happy occasion   |
| *peer relationships | *a behavior concern |
| *family concerns    |                     |

How does a child see the Student Assistance Coordinator?

- |                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| *self referral              | *teacher referral     |
| *parent referral            | *referral by a friend |
| *intervention team referral |                       |

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One service that was started last year to help inform parents was the addition of web access to student grades and newsletters. This link is under construction at this time. I am happy to hear from so many teachers and parents that used the web site for this information. I am sorry for that inconvenience and will have that communication back up and running shortly. Large group social skills lessons will be taught to the kindergarten students and reviewed during class meetings for first, second, and third grade students. Some topics discussed include identifying feelings, the four steps, the D-bugging System, fair ways to choose and play, and the difference between telling and tattling. I will be including the monthly social skills being taught in future Stewart Shuttles. If I can help your child in any way please do not hesitate to contact me. My email is [aasix@washington.k12.ia.us](mailto:aasix@washington.k12.ia.us) or the school number is 653-3244. I look forward to meeting and working with your child.

Student Assistance Coordinator  
Aaron Six

## MEDIA CENTER MESSAGES

Welcome back to school and books and reading! I am so happy to be back in school. We are starting media center classes with talks on book care and what types of books to check out. It takes a while to work everyone into a routine, and with 500 students coming in here, we need a routine!

Remember to send in your General Mills Box Tops for Education and Campbell's Labels for Education. We have collection boxes in the media center so your child can just stop in and drop them off.

We receive 10¢ for each Box Tops for Education we send in. Look for the little rectangles on these brand name products: General Mills, Betty Crocker, Pillsbury, Totino's, Gold Medal, Toaster Strudel, Hamburger Helper, Old El Paso, and Lloyd's. Our first collection will be sent in at the end of October. Since the program began, we have earned a grand total of \$8408.00. Wow!! We have used the money to replace old, worn out copies of favorite books. Check out their website at: <http://www.boxtops4education.com/Default.aspx> Be sure to sign up as a supporter for our school!

We will send in the Campbell's labels at the end of the year and have been "banking" them until we find something big to order out of their catalog. Campbell's

# Stewart Shuttle

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products include these brands: Franco-American, Pepperidge Farm, Swanson, V-8, Pace, and Healthy Request. Peek at their website at:

<http://www.labelsforeducation.com/default.aspx>

Mrs. Bruns is back working with me in the media center and computer lab this year as our associate. She loves kids, books and computers and keeps very, very busy with all three things!

Our book fair will be coming from Friday, October 17, through Thursday, October 23. Watch for more information coming later.

Be sure to share some time reading each evening with your child!

Ms. Kishel  
Stewart's Media Specialist

## IOWA SCHOOL ALERTS

Iowa School Alerts allows you to sign up and receive notifications when a school or school district closes, has a delayed start or an early dismissal. There are two ways to receive notifications: e-mail alerts or cell phone text messaging. Receive e-mail/text message notices when a school or school district delays starting or closes early. With Iowa School Alerts, you can have notifications sent to as many e-mail addresses or e-mail enabled device addresses as you would like.

The district will still make sure that local media outlets are notified, so notices will still be made on the television (Channel 9) and radio (KCII 1380 AM or 106.1 FM). We hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to be directly notified.

## PAYSCHOOLS

### Pay Lunch Fees and School Registration Online

Paying your child's lunch fees and school registration is easy with PaySchools. PaySchools is a secure, online payment processing system that lets you pay by electronic check or credit card. PaySchools allows parents to have easy and convenient online access to purchase and pay for items and fees 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Using PaySchools is easy - just visit the school district's web site, <http://www.washington.k12.ia.us> and click the PaySchools link. Any deposits that are made by 10:00 am will go into your child's account that school day. If you make a deposit after that time, it will be deposited into your family's lunch account the next school day. If you have any questions, please contact Stewart Office at 653-3244.

## POWER SCHOOL PARENT ACCESS

We will have access for parents to log into PowerSchool and the new lunch program to check your children's accounts soon. Be looking for instructions coming home with your student sometime this month.