



Concord Elementary School Newsletter

Principal's News

As the school year quickly comes to an end, allow me to take this opportunity to thank the Concord Elementary School Students, Staff and Parents for making 2018/19 another successful school year.

Thank you...

To the Concord Elementary School Students for: commitment to excellence; sharing your multiple talents and intelligences; showing cooperation and responsibility; and all of your hugs and smiles.

To the Concord Elementary School Staff for: tireless efforts in planning challenging and motivational instruction; high expectations for all students; commitment to ongoing communications with parents; team spirit; and maintenance of a nurturing and supportive instructional environment.

To the Concord Elementary School Parents for: encouragement and support at home; volunteerism at school; ongoing communication with the school staff; and allowing us to work with your wonderful children.

I wish all of the Fourth Grade Students the best of luck and success as they move to Cass Junior High School next year. To those relocating and/or going to different districts next year, I wish you a fond farewell. We will miss you.

On behalf of the Concord Elementary School staff, I wish all of our students and their families a wonderful, happy and safe summer.

It has been another great year. Thank you. It is my administrative honor to serve as your principal. I really enjoy working with the dedicated families of Cass School District 63 and look forward to many years together filled with love and support as we continue our educational partnerships.

Happy Summer,

Laura Anderson, Ed.D.



May 2019

Upcoming Events

- **June 4—**
10:05 a.m. Fourth Grade Clap Out
- **June 4—**
Early Dismissal 11:15 a.m.
- **June 4—LAST DAY OF SCHOOL (NO PM BASE)**

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GOODBYE TO OUR FOURTH GRADERS!



Good Luck at Cass Junior High School!





Our Concord Elementary School Community Garden

Dear Concord Elementary School Families,

As many of you know, through the generosity of the Cass 63 Foundation for Educational Excellence (now CARE), community vendors/organizations, and volunteers, we have been able to enjoy our Concord Elementary School Community Garden. Each spring our Concord Elementary School Students along with our community volunteers plant sensory, butterfly, bird, Native American, reading, and prairie garden areas. And we cannot undertake this garden without the help of volunteers.

As the summer months are soon approaching, we are reaching out to our Concord Elementary School families for volunteers to help weed and maintain our garden. If you are interested in helping our garden in the months to come, please contact Helen Park or Blair Thompson.

Our Concord Elementary School garden thrives and grows by your continued support and care. Thank you for your partnership in making our garden flourish.

Helen Park

HPark@CassD63.org

Blair Thompson

BThompson@CassD63.org





Online Registration

Online registration for the 2019/20 school year is now available on our school website. If you cannot remember your username, please email RegistrationHelp@CassD63.org. If you have any other questions, please call the Concord Elementary School Office at 331/481-4010.

Registration documents along with payment must be received by Tuesday, June 4 if you wish to take advantage of the 2018/19 rates. Beginning on Wednesday, June 5, the student fee will increase to the 2019/20 rate.

If you do not pay by Tuesday, June 4, please be aware that the final deadline for receipt of registration and payments is Friday, August 2.

End of the Year Reminders

✓ Monday, June 3 is a regular, full day of school.

✓ Tuesday, June 4 is the **LAST DAY** of school. Fourth Grade Clap Out is 10:05 a.m. and dismissal is 11:15 a.m.

✓ Tuesday, June 5 there is **NO AFTERNOON BASE** on the last day of school.

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Principal's ABC Recognition

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The purpose of this program is to recognize and support students for demonstrating our school beliefs in strong **A**cademic performance and good **B**ehavior and **C**haracter. The following students were chosen by their teachers for the month of April & May.

KINDERGARTEN

Angus Woodbury

Lukas Habib

Rian Green

Zak Monaco

Benjamin Villadolid

Connor Jackson

Kian Martin

Nikolay Minchev

SECOND GRADE

Tyler Beringer

Violet Duggan

Daren Craddock

Emily Alwin

Aiden Santos

Lev Maksimov

Adriana Gambill

Kyle Avery

Layan Rawda

Elijah Serbus

Beck Cross

Jayden Greab

Cameron Woodward

Katelyn Lepic

James Oakes

Emily Stuckey

Jesus Valle

THIRD GRADE

Ashley Valiathara

Jayden West

Zoe Zerial

Marshawn Wynter

Myana Walker

Madison Walters

Phuong Vu

Aiden Worrall

Tripp Cross

FOURTH GRADE

Christopher Kirov

Cemal Batur

Nina Kremper

Omar Najjar

Yamen Rawda

Nathan Bryant

Lucca Pescatore

Payton Hallman

Jack Nash

Ava Scheirer

Cole Dominguez

Cameron Mitchell

Sandina Lewen

Damian Lopez

Leonardo North

Reece Phillips

Layan Qaddoura

FIRST GRADE

Addi Wells

Julius Zastarskis

Mario Mantucca

Miles Kremper

David Balderas

Landon Fargher

Arjun Patel

Counselor's Corner

Guiding Tips for Smooth Summer Sailing

"It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan."—Eleanor Roosevelt, former first lady of the United States

Winter is over; spring is in full-swing; and it's time to start looking ahead to summer. The school year provides a structure to family life, and if you don't plan ahead, that structure can quickly unravel during the summer. So how will your kids spend their time? What special thing will you do as a family? Consider these tips for smooth summer sailing!

Tips for all parents:

- Talk as a family about your hopes and dreams for the summer. What kinds of activities do family members want to do that will match your budget?
- Be careful not to let other people's plans (weddings, reunions, get-togethers) dictate your summer plans. Some families block out certain times to ensure that they get some regular family time in.
- Get to know the area around you. Many organizations and communities offer summer activities and camps that may interest your family.
- Find a balance between interesting activities for individual family members to do and family activities.
- Plan to have fun together as a family this summer.

For parents with children ages birth to five:

- Make summer plans for young children that allow them to keep their everyday routines, including naps, snacks, and bedtimes.
- As a family, it's often more strategic to take a week off and have a vacation at home—rather than go away. Instead, do a fun outing each day. Go to the zoo. Go to a children's museum. Go to a park. • Plan enjoyable ways to spend time as a family. Get a sand box. (Or spend time at a nearby beach playing in the sand.) Go for walks, looking for different colors. Go to a nearby playground and play.

For parents with children ages six through nine:

- Check out your school district's summer class offering. Look for activities through community education and also your local parks and recreation.
- With your child, make a list of all their favorite friends. Then create play dates throughout the summer so that your child can see his or her friends.
- Create a balance of activities through the summer so that your child gets physical activity, does something in the arts, has time with friends, spends time with your family, and also has some alone time to explore what he or she likes to do.



Exercise Kids' Minds During the Summer

If students laze away the days of summer without using their minds, they can lose up to a month of learning—especially in reading and math. Stem the summer slide and keep your child engaged with these fun, brain-friendly activities.

Devise a plan. Tell your child that reading and learning activities will be an important part of their summer. Assure them that they'll still have lots of time for play.

Teach mini-lessons. Transform everyday activities into learning opportunities. Children can count change, read directions for a trip, write a shopping list, or calculate a recipe's measurements.

Gather activity books. Give children their own activity book with crossword puzzles or number games customized for their specific age group. Set a "due date" to keep them on track, but let them work at their own pace.

Initiate a writing project. Have your child keep a summer journal, write letters to family members or friends, or craft a play to perform with siblings or neighbors. Or, start a family cookbook with your favorite recipes, instructions, and shopping lists.

Strategize screen time. Educational computer games or apps can engage students' minds, but make sure your child is spending enough time away from the screen. Assign a daily block of time for family members to turn off phones, computers, and the TV, and instead play a board game or read together.

Designate daily reading blocks. Set aside at least 15 minutes a day for your entire family to read. (That means parents, too!) Find reading recommendations by grade level on the American Library Association's book lists (see Web Resources). Organize a summer read-a-thon with goals for each family member, or sign your child up for your library's summer book club.

Go global. Set aside several nights during the summer to have an international evening. Together, cook a meal with recipes from a different nation. Learn basic words in that country's language. Find the country on a map, and together examine a book or article with information on what life is like there.



Sneak learning into family trips. If your family is able to take a vacation during the summer, include stops at zoos, children's museums, or historic sites. Have your child help you plot out the journey using maps and keep a journal along the way. Older children can tally up miles, keep track of expenses, or compute gas mileage.

Get moving. Build physical activity into your child's summer days. Even if he or she can't participate in a local sports league or community-based team, encourage activities such as jumping rope, playing catch, and taking family walks.

For more resources, look to your child's school and your local library or community center for ideas to keep kids' brains buzzing during the dog days of summer.

Web Resources

The **American Library Association** compiles grade-level book lists.
www.ala.org/alsc/publications-resources/book-lists

The **National Summer Learning Association** offers activities, tools, and links.
www.summerlearning.org/?page=activity_resource





SUMMER RULES

HAVE YOU:

- _____ MADE YOUR BED?
- _____ BRUSHED YOUR TEETH?
- _____ BRUSHED YOUR HAIR?
- _____ GOTTEN DRESSED?
- _____ HAD BREAKFAST?

PLUS

- _____ 20 MINUTES OF READING
- _____ 20 MINUTES OF WRITING
- _____ CLEAN UP ONE ROOM
- _____ PLAYED OUTSIDE FOR 20 MINUTES
- _____ MADE/BUILT SOMETHING CREATIVE
- _____ HELPED SOMEONE IN THE FAMILY

THEN YOU CAN USE ELECTRONICS



Summer Learning, Summer Fun: Making the Most of Summer Vacation

Summer vacation can be a great time for learning. You can help your child enjoy healthy, safe and fun activities – and avoid being bored; develop new skills; and prepare for the next school year. Here are some ideas:

- Go to the library every one to two weeks. The summer program at the Indian Prairie Library has a lot to offer students this summer.
- Encourage reading! Try to read to your child or have your child read to you every day.
- Have your child plan a picnic. Bring some books to read, too.
- Encourage your child to keep a list of the new words he or she learns this summer.
- Give your child a pad of paper or a notebook to write and draw in all summer long.
- Call your local parks and recreation department for information about swimming lessons and other activities.
- Help your child find books and magazines on topics that interest him or her. Hold a summer sports festival. Have relay races, throwing contests, etc.
- Visit a national, state or local park or forest. Have your child draw pictures or write about the trip.
- Have your child help you measure and mix ingredients when you cook or bake.
- Help your child make a graph of daily temperatures or times of sunsets or sunrises for a week.
- Make a sundial. (Put a pot of dirt or sand in a sunny area. Place a stick in the pot.) Each hour, mark where the stick's shadow falls.
- Record family stories about past summer vacations. Have your child write them down or use a tape recorder.
- Ask your child to help you with outdoor chores.
- Take a nature walk. Ask your child to describe what he or she sees, hears, smells, and feels.
- Set a quiet time for reading each evening.
- Provide supplies for creating a board game (paper or cardboard, dice or a spinner, etc.)
- Ask your child to teach you a song or dance, or make one up together.
- Help your child draw a map of your neighborhood or park. Use it to go exploring together. Add new discoveries to the map.
- Help your child find library books about places where your ancestors lived.
- Make a family time line. Draw a long line on paper. Mark down births, graduations, and other family dates.
- Ask your child to use different units for measuring (footsteps or body lengths, for example). Make a game of it.





Summer Learning, Summer Fun: Making the Most of Summer Vacation (continued)

- Have your child help you shop for and make a special meal.
- Ask your child to help you plan a family trip to the beach, forest, park, etc.
- Attend a community event. Check newspapers and bulletin boards for ideas.
- Have your child draw pictures of some of the characters and places he or she has read about recently.
- Ask your child to tell or read you a bedtime story.
- Search for birds and bugs. Have your child draw pictures of them.
- Ask a librarian to help you find children's stories about people who use their imagination at work (artists, scientists, etc.)
- Visit a farmer's market or a farm stand. Compare sizes, weights and prices with your child.
- Read a story to your child. Have your child retell it in his or her own words – or make up a new ending.
- Visit an art, science, or history museum.
- Have your child write a letter about something that he or she experienced this summer. Mail it to a friend, relative, or former teacher.
- Watch how the moon changes. Help your child find books about the moon and stars.
- Keep a nutrition journal for a week. Help your child list everything he or she eats.
- Plant a garden together. Record the garden's progress throughout the summer – measure plants, draw pictures, count the eatable components, etc.
- Visit a zoo. Help your child read the signs for each exhibit.
- Have your child use water and a brush to write on the sidewalk. Then watch the words disappear.
- Have a cookout and have your child “take orders,” then tell you how many of each item to cook.
- Help your child write a shopping list. At the store, ask him or her to compare prices to find the best buys.
- Help your child answer his or her own questions through research. For example, “How do airplanes fly?”
- Ask your child to help you plan a day trip. Read road signs and maps along the way.
- Encourage your child to find fun ways to exercise every day.
- If your child plans an organized sport, focus on effort and sportsmanship, not the score.
- Help your child make frozen pops using fruit and 100% fruit juice.
- When you go grocery shopping, have your child check the nutrition labels. Look for foods low in fat, salt(sodium) and sugar.
- Help your child go through last year's clothes. Together, write a list of any new items he or she may need for school.
- Give your child newspaper flyers to check for sales on school supplies.
- Do a crossword puzzle together.
- Help your child decorate bookmarks or book covers.

