



Time to Start a New School Year

Welcome back to Crete Public Schools! Classes for students in grades K-12 begin with a shortened schedule on both August 11th & 12th. The first Thursday and Friday sessions have early dismissals which vary slightly amongst the three buildings.

Patrons will notice a couple of obvious changes around the district. The first of note is the construction along Iris St. As of this writing, it is impossible to determine the completion date of the project. The inconvenience will be worthwhile as the street will be much safer and sidewalks will be added. The second noticeable change is an additional portable classroom on the elementary campus. Class sizes will remain small with approximately 20 students per teacher in grades Pre-K thru 3rd. In order to maintain this ratio, space was needed. Thanks again to Nestle's for donating the portable classroom to the school.

The summer months are incredibly busy. In addition to serving 325 students in summer school, over 50 teachers participated in professional development training on our campus. Many more faculty members enrolled within various college classes to enhance their skills. An eleven member community team traveled to Emmits-

burg, Maryland in order to participate in a four-day "Multihazard Emergency Planning for Schools." The nationally recognized training is part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The team consisted of Steve Hensel, Gary Young, Josh Page, Jack Oelschlager, Marty Urbanek, Phillip Oelschlager, Bret Schroder, Steve Teget, Jim Moore, Kyle Poore and myself. The sole purpose of the training was to better prepare our school district for emergency responses and assure a safe environment for students and staff. Hats off to a very caring and committed group of professionals.

Parents will always be a child's first teacher and primary advocate. Please do not hesitate in contacting any employee of Crete Public Schools to ask for assistance. We look forward to an exciting and productive school year.

Kyle McGowan
Superintendent
402-826-5855 or
Toll Free 877-826-1011
kylem@creteschools.org



School Starts August 11th

- School will begin at 8:15 a.m. for Elementary, Middle School and High School students.
- Early dismissal at 1:15/1:30 p.m. on August 11th and 12th.
- Starting Monday, August 15th, school will be in session all day with dismissal at 3:15/3:21 p.m.



Mission Statement

The mission of the Crete Public Schools is to develop respectful and productive citizens. Learners will demonstrate academic and communicative skills necessary to navigate new challenges while providing support for their families and communities.

NO SCHOOL
Sept. 5th,
6th, & 30th

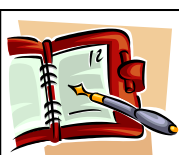
MS/HS News

HS New Student Registration

Students in grades 9-12 who are new to the District should plan to register on **August 2** from 8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m. at the high school. If you have any questions, please contact the office at 826-5811 or 877-826-1019.

HS Orientation & Open House

New student orientation and HS Open House will be held for all parents of students in grades 9-12 on **August 9**. New student orientation starts at 6:30 p.m. and Open House begins at 7:00 p.m. Teachers will be available in their classrooms to give parents an opportunity to meet them, and get an overview of the course work and class expectations. Administrators and counselors will be available in the commons. Lunch money, bus money and any fees may also be paid in the office during open house. **Separate checks must be written for lunch and bus deposits.**



Student planners will be provided for all 9-12 grade students.

Other Upcoming Events

- Aug 15—Start of Fall Practice, GG, CC, VB
- Aug 16—FFA Burger Bash @ Tuxedo Park, 6:30 p.m.
6th Grade Band Mtg, 6:30 p.m.
- Aug 18—Close-Up Parent Mtg, 7:00 p.m.
- Aug 19—5th & 6th Grade Class Party, 3:30 p.m.
Booster Club Fall Sports Kick Off, 6:30 p.m. in HS Commons
7th & 8th Grade Dance, 7:00 p.m.
- Aug 23—Prizm Club Taco Welcome Dinner, 6:30 p.m.
- Aug 24—Senior PALS Training, 12:30 p.m.

MS Open House/Orientation

MS Orientation & Open House will be held **August 9** from 5:00–8:30 p.m.

5:00-6:30 p.m. 5th graders and their parents meet in the gym. Students will then go with their teachers to their classrooms.

6:30-7:00 p.m. **NEW STUDENTS** and their parents will meet in the gym for introductions; students can then pick up their schedules and visit the classrooms.

7:00-8:30 p.m. 6th - 8th grade Open House



Teachers will be available to meet students and parents and will provide an overview of the course work and class expectations. Administrators, the school nurse, and the school counselor will also be available in the commons to answer questions. Lunch money, bus money and any fees can also be paid in the office during the evening. (To avoid long lines at Open House, parents are encouraged to drop by the school office in early August to deposit lunch money and pay fees.) **Separate checks must be written for each of the above accounts/fees.**

MS/HS Picture Day

All MS/HS students will have their picture taken on **August 16**. Order envelopes will be sent home with students so parents can place their orders in advance. This is a pre-pay program and satisfaction is guaranteed. Retakes and/or refunds are available.



Parent Meeting

John Baylor, who is well-known for his Test Prep courses, will be speaking to parents in the Crete High School auditorium on **Tuesday, August 16, 2011** at 7:30 p.m. His talk will be "How to Get into the Best College at the Lowest Cost." He will give a similar presentation to juniors and seniors at 2:00 p.m. John will also be available between presentations and after the parents' presentation for individual conferences with seniors and/or parents. He can assist students with mapping out their college admission searches, too. Please see Ms. Stec, counselor, if you would like to schedule a short individual conference with Mr. Baylor.



Student Health

Are your children ready for school? The following are the immunization requirements for students entering school.

NEW FOR 2011-12 SCHOOL YEAR

Effective July 1, 2011.

All students K-12th grade regardless of their current age and grade level must have 2 doses of the Varicella (chicken pox) vaccine. If your child has had the disease, they do not need any Varicella shots. Written documentation (including year) of Varicella (chicken pox) disease from a parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted.

Kindergarten students are required to have:

- 2 chicken pox vaccine (or proof of disease)
- 2 MMR vaccines
- 3 Hepatitis B vaccines
- 3 doses of DPT (one after the child turns 4)
- 3 doses of the Polio vaccine
- A current physical (February 2011 or later)

Students entering 7th grade are required to have:

- 1 Tdap vaccine (Must contain Pertussis booster)
- 2 chicken pox vaccines (or proof of disease)
- 2 MMR vaccines
- 3 Hepatitis B vaccines
- 3 doses of DPT (one after the child turns 4)
- 3 doses of the Polio vaccine
- A current physical (February 2011 or later)

Any student transferring from out-of-state must also have the above vaccines and physical before they are permitted to attend school.

If your child has not received all immunizations, they can be provisionally enrolled as long as they have begun the immunization series prior to enrollment and continue to receive the shots as rapidly as medically feasible.

Head Lice



Head lice is an ongoing nuisance. Please check your children's hair before the first day of school and periodically throughout the year. If live lice are found at school you will be called to pick up your child. They may return to school the next day, having been treated, but **must** be rechecked by the school nurse before they return to their classroom. If you have any questions regarding this process, please call Shannon Kennedy, RN at 402-826-7806.

Administering Medications at School



If your child needs medication during school hours please come to the office. Medication that is ordered by the doctor to be administered three times a day should be given before school, after school, and at bedtime, eliminating the need for it to be given at school. This applies mainly to antibiotics. We are requesting that no daily medications be given at school after 1:30 p.m. Any medication that is to be given after this time can and should be given at home. (This does not apply to "as needed" medications like inhalers and acetaminophen.)

Tylenol, cough drops and any other medications your child may need must be supplied by parents. We cannot administer medicine to any student unless we have a written note from the parents with dosage, time to be given, and signatures. If you have any questions regarding this, please call Shannon Kennedy RN elementary nurse at 826-5822 or 826-7806 or Abbie Page LPN MS/HS nurse at 826-5844 or 826-7792 or you can reach her at the high school at 826-5811 or 826-7782.

Immunization Clinics in Crete

- Blue Valley Community Action Immunization Clinics are held every Thursday from 2:00—4:00 p.m. in the Crete Community Center located at 1410 Main. For more information call 826-2141.
- Public Health Solutions Immunization Clinics, located at 975 E Hwy 33, are held every Monday from 3:00-6:00 p.m. Call 826-3880 for an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome. There may be additional clinics added, call for information.



PLEASE NOTE

If you have any questions or concerns prior to August 11, please call 826-7806 and leave a message and the nurse will return your call. Immunization records and physical forms may be dropped off at any school office or the administration office.



School Meals

Crete Public Schools offers nutritious and satisfying breakfast and lunch meals daily. Breakfast at the middle/high school will begin at 7:40 am and end at 8:00 am. Breakfast for the elementary students will begin at 7:40 am and end at 8:10 am.

MEAL PRICES

Elementary:	Breakfast \$1.20	Lunch \$2.00	Milk/Juice \$.25
MS/HS:	Breakfast \$1.40	Lunch \$2.25	Milk/Juice \$.30

Middle/High School students will use their four digit number to purchase their lunches. Elementary students (K-4) will be scanned off a lunch card when they go through the line. The cashier will check to see that each lunch number belongs to the proper student and the meal purchases will be deducted from their family account.

When an elementary student's account is low, a notice will be sent in their Thursday packet. They will not be allowed to overdraw their account. **WHEN 5th-12th GRADE STUDENTS HAVE A ZERO BALANCE IN THEIR ACCOUNT, THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO MAKE PURCHASES.**

REMINDERS

- There is **NO CASH** accepted in the lunch lines.
- Negative accounts from last year need to be paid prior to the first day of school.
- Money is deposited into a family lunch account. Checks/cash can be brought to any school office before school starts and throughout the year.
- Bonus dollars are offered if larger amounts of cash are deposited.

Deposit	Bonus
\$40.00	\$1.00
\$78.00	\$2.00
\$116.00	\$4.00

- Your family lunch account balance/purchases can be viewed on our website at creteschools.com. Call 826-7886 for your family lunch I.D. and to set up a password to be able to view your account.

**Free/reduced lunch applications
are available in the school offices and on
our website at creteschools.com**

Middle School Lunch and A la Carte Changes

As we encourage students to eat a more balanced diet, several changes have been made to the middle school lunch/a la carte selections.

- The regular meal line will remain the same.
- Hot entrees, chef salads, and cold deli sandwiches previously offered on the a la carte line will now be offered as replacement choices for the regular meal.
- Students will be allowed to purchase additional hot entrees/ a la carte choices after purchasing the regular meal.
- "Extras" (ice cream, chips/crackers, granola bars, fruit snacks, gogurt, etc.) will be offered on a rotating schedule. Students will be allowed these choices after purchasing the regular meal.
- A la carte beverages (water, 100%fruit juice) meet the standards set by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation and will continue to be offered daily. If you have any questions, please contact Jodi Erickson, Food Service Manager, at 826-7725 or 877-826-1019.

Important Notice

Parents can request a limit for a la carte lunch purchases . Please complete the form. Accounts that were flagged last year limiting/blocking a la carte purchases will remain the same unless otherwise notified by a parent.

A LA CARTE FORM

▶ I DO NOT want the following child(ren) to go through the a la carte lunch line:

▶ I would like a limit of \$_____ placed on my child's lunch account:

Student Name _____

Parent Signature _____



Return this form to the Administration Office

Elementary News

Pre K-4th Grade Open House

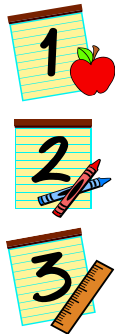


Pre K-4th Grade Open House will be **Wednesday, August 10** from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at the elementary. Families are invited to go directly to their child's classroom that they have been assigned to for the 2011-12 school year. This is an excellent time to drop off school supplies and make the first day of school less hectic. Staff will be available to take money for school lunch accounts and bus accounts. **Separate checks must be written for each of these accounts.** The school nurse will be available to receive physical/immunization records and any medication.

Thursday Packets

Again this year, we will be sending all important notes, memos, and student work home in the student's packet on Thursday. Please look for these and return the packet to the school as soon as possible. If your child loses the first packet, they will need to purchase a new one. These packets can be purchased in the elementary office.

Elementary Schedule



We will again be using a Day 1 through Day 3 schedule for K-4th graders. Your school calendars will outline which day is Day 1,2,3. This year we will start **Day 1** on **Monday, August 15**. The children will know which day they have P.E., Music or Art so that they will bring the proper equipment for P.E. Remember that vacation days do not count as a school day/number. The only days that we don't have school that will count as a school day/number will be when we cancel school because of snow, weather or other related areas.

Picture Day



All students in grades K-4th will have their picture taken on **August 17**. Please check for more information in your child's Thursday Packet.

Parent Advisory Council

The Parent Advisory Council has been a great success. If you would like to be involved with this council, watch for sign-up notes that will be sent home in your child's Thursday Packet. The committee meets four times each year - once per quarter at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center on the first Monday of the assigned months. At our first meeting, we will select the topics that will be discussed at future meetings. We want your input so why not come and join in the fun. We would like you to be actively involved in the elementary school.

Volunteers



We would like to invite you to be a volunteer at our school. We continually strive to involve parents, patrons, and senior citizens in our school on a daily basis. If you have some time and would like to be a part of our school family, or have talents that you would like to share, please feel free to contact the elementary office and we will find a home for you in our school. Give it some thought, we would love to have you share with our students and staff.

CCLC

The Crete Community Learning Center (CCLC) is beginning its seventh year of providing after school activities at the elementary school under the direction of Mrs. Ellen Miller. CCLC is for students in grades 2nd-4th with kindergarten and first grade siblings welcome. The program emphasizes academics and homework help with opportunities for enrichment activities.

Currently, CCLC enrollment is open in most grade levels. Parents are welcome to contact Ellen Miller if they are interested in having their children participate in this after school program. Students who were enrolled in CCLC last year may continue to attend.

The first day of CCLC will be held on the first day of school, which is an early dismissal day, **Thursday, August 11th**. However, parents may choose to have their children begin attending on the first full day of school, Monday, August 15th. If you have any questions about CCLC, please contact Ellen Miller, Program Director, at 826-7870 or email ellenm@creteschools.org.





Important Phone Numbers



Administration: 826-5855
Toll Free: 877-826-1011

Elementary: 826-5822
Toll Free: 877-826-1017

Middle School: 826-5844
Toll Free: 877-826-1018

High School: 826-5811
Toll Free: 877-826-1019

Spanish Line: 826-7888
Weather Line: 826-7890



Welcome New Teachers



We are excited to have these professionals join our Crete Public Schools team.

Elementary

Carly Franson—Early Childhood
Bobbi Morse—Grade 1
Mary Rische—Grade 1
Haley Peterson—Grade 2
Meredith Sikorski—Spanish

Middle School

Kari Loecker—8th Language Arts
Danielle Suhr—Cardinal Zone Director

High School

Melissa Casper—English
Drew Rische—Math

Law About Vacations



State law requires districts to notify the county attorney if parents take children out of school for over five consecutive school days. Therefore, when planning vacations during the school year, it is important to communicate with the school.

Student Fees

The Student Fees Board Policy was adopted by the Board of Education on July 8, 2002 in accordance with the state law on student fees. The policy outlines the law and sets the guidelines for student fees and what school supplies can be required that students bring to school. You may find a copy of this policy in your Student/Parent Handbook. Those that qualify for free or reduced lunch may be exempt from these fees in accordance with Section C of this policy. If a parent wants to receive a fee waiver for their child, they must fill out a *Release of Information Form* allowing school officials that are in charge of the free and reduced qualification forms to inform other school personnel that their child qualifies for a fee waiver. These forms can be obtained in the principal's office.

Catch US on the Web

Visit our web page at creteschools.com for:

- Breakfast/Lunch Menus
- School Board Meetings
- Activities
- Weekly Bulletins
- A variety of other school information



Infinite Campus - offers a parent portal as an internet access to your child/children's grades and attendance as well as other important information. If you are interested in obtaining an access code to enter the parent portal, please contact any of our offices to sign up.

Lunch Balances - view your family lunch account balance/purchases. Call 826-7886 for your family lunch I.D. and to set up a password.



Is Your Child Registered?

Thursday, August 11, is the first day of school for students attending the Crete Public Schools. All children who reach age five on or before October 15, 2011 are eligible to be registered for kindergarten. If your child is starting kindergarten or you're new to the district, your child(ren) must be registered before they are allowed to attend the first day.

- Students may register in the elementary, middle school and high school office.
- Current immunization papers and official birth certificate are required when registering. Your child **cannot** begin school unless all Nebraska vaccination requirements are met.



High School/Middle School Fall Sports Check-Out Schedule



Parents and Players of All Fall Sports

The Booster Club will host a Fall Sports Kickoff dinner at **6:30 p.m. on Friday, August 19**, in the High School Commons. Following there will be a parent/player meeting.

- Discussion on general activity procedures.
- Meet the coaches.
- Check out all the Booster Club has to offer.

◆ Boys' & Girls' Cross Country - Grades 7-12

Coach: Kyle Royuk - 474-4236
Practice: August 15, 4:00 p.m.

◆ Football - Grades 10-12

Coach: Chuck McGinnis - 826-3933
Practice: August 8

◆ Football - Grade 9

Practice: August 15

◆ Girls' Golf - Grades 7-12

Coach: Scott Johnson - 826-5811
Practice: August 8, 4:00 p.m. at
College Heights Golf Course

◆ Girls' Softball - Grades 9-12

Coach: Shawn Carr - 826-5844
Practice: August 8, 4:00 p.m. at softball field

◆ Volleyball - Grades 9-12

Coach: Jill Oltman
Practice: August 15, 4:00 p.m.

◆ Middle School Sports

Meetings/check-out for all middle school sports will take place during the first week of school. Listen for specific times and dates in the daily announcements.

R E M I N D E R

All students must have a physical before they can practice. All forms must be returned to the office and an activity pass and participation fee paid before checking out for any sport. (Forms are available in the high school office.) Personnel will be available to accept fees starting August 1, M-F, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Ticket Prices & Passes for Sporting Events & Activities

Crete Public Schools offers many sporting events and other activities throughout the school year. The charge for varsity athletic events is \$5.00 for adults and \$4.00 for K-12 students. All students in grades 7-12 are required to pay an activity participation fee if they are participating in athletics, speech, cheerleading, dance, vocal music, or instrumental music. A student's first activity fee is \$35.00, which includes an activity pass. Every activity fee thereafter is \$15.00. Non-participants of activities may purchase an activity pass for \$25.00 which will admit them to all home extracurricular activities except the fall play, spring musical, invitational tournaments, conference tournaments, or district/state events. Activity pass prices are as follows: students--\$25 for non-participants; college student--\$25; adults--\$50; family--\$110. A family pass includes parents and all children in the household in grades K-12. Children under age 5 are admitted free of charge. A family pass does not replace the activity participation fee for students. Resident senior citizens, age 65 or older may apply for an athletic pass at the Crete High School Activities Office. The pass is free and is offered in appreciation for the many years of support of our school programs.



Booster Club button photos for *all* sports will be taken at the MS/HS Open House on **August 9** in the high school commons and at the Fall Sports Kickoff on August 19.

Bus Transportation

Crete Public Schools contracts transportation services with First Student Transportation Service. Effective in 1998, all families living within four miles of school including those within the city limits will pay a fee if they use transportation services. Outlined below is the fee schedule and pick-up locations for children living in the city limits. Bus transportation forms are available in the school offices. **Payment or purchase of tokens must be made prior to use of bus transportation.**

PLEASE NOTE —DUE TO THE INCREASE COST IN FUEL THERE WILL NOT BE A REDUCED PRICE FOR RIDING ONLY A.M., ONLY P.M. OR LESS THAN 5 DAYS A WEEK.

The transportation fee schedule is as follows:

Monthly (9 months, Aug-May, Due on the 15th of each month)

\$20/month/one student in family=\$180/year
 \$30/month/two students in one family=\$270/year
 \$40/month/three students or more in one family=\$360/year

Option Students:

\$250/year-one student
 \$325/year-two students
 \$400/year-three or more

Semester:

\$80/semester/one student in family=\$160/year
 \$120/semester/two students in family=\$240/year
 \$160/semester/three students or more in family=\$320/year

Year:

\$150/year/one student in family
 \$225/year/two students in family
 \$300/year/three students or more in family



For those who ride occasionally, we will charge **\$1.00 per ride (\$2.00 a day)**. We will sell tokens in \$20.00 packets. A student will pay **one token one-way** to or from school (**2 tokens per day**).

Students inside the city limits will be picked up at the following locations. Times for pick-up and drop-off will be determined after we know who plans to ride the bus. All students living outside of the city limits but within 4 miles will be picked up at the same location as last year.

Westwoods (1 or 2) Elementary School 20th & Main 16th & Boswell	Blue River Meats Middle/High School 22nd & Hawthorne 20th & Boswell	1st & Grove Country Club 24th & Ivy 24th & Boswell	Armory Fairchild & Iris Crete Plaza E Hwy 33
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Town Bus Stops within the District

Denton-Community Center Sprague-Church	Hallam-Methodist Church	Kramer-Community Center	Martell-Post Office
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▶ **Bus transportation forms are available in the school offices and on our website at creteschools.com** ◀

**Student
Accident/Health
Insurance Coverage**

Often parents have the misconception that accidents and illness occurring at school are covered by Crete Public School's insurance plan. We would like to remind parents that it is their responsibility to have health insurance coverage for their children.

The Crete Public School District **does not** provide any type of health or accident insurance for injuries incurred by children at school. If your child is not covered by a health insurance plan you may want supplemental insurance. As a service to our patrons, a supplemental insurance plan from Student Assurance Services (SAS) will be sent home with students. Costs for this plan are included within the literature. We encourage all families to have health/accident coverage.



Special Programs Office 826-5228

For questions or to find out if you qualify for any of the following programs, contact the Special Programs Office at 826-5228 or the direct numbers listed below.

- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- GED (High School Equivalency)
- Citizenship Classes
- Migrant Family Literacy
- Migrant Education Program/Out of School Youth Program
- Even Start/Migrant Even Start Family Literacy
- Young Parent Program

Jan Sears	826-7898
Connie Lentell	826-7987
Fabiola Dimas	826-7896
Cheryl Feeken	826-7896
Josie Filipi	826-7894
Maricela Flores	826-7894
Stephanni Renn	826-7895
Patti Pagel	826-7895

GED Classes

Do something good for yourself and finish your education! GED classes meet on a morning or evening schedule. Charges include a \$20.00 registration fee and a \$50.00 testing fee. Please call Jan Sears at 826-7898 for more information.

Volunteers Needed

Crete Public Schools Adult Education Program is looking for adult volunteers to assist in the ESL and ABE/GED classrooms! No experience is necessary, but individuals must have:

- a high school diploma,
- good command of English,
- the ability to speak clearly and hear well, and
- a willingness to assist adult students, some of which could have learning disabilities.

Volunteers need patience to allow students to achieve on their own and a positive attitude. Volunteers work closely with instructors and may be asked to teach small groups of students or give individual instruction. Volunteers may assist with attendance, testing, and other classroom duties. Schedules are flexible. If interested, please contact Cheryl Feeken in the Special Programs Office at 402-826-5228 or cherylf@creteschools.org

An Important Message To All

If You Suspect Something is Wrong
Early Intervention Can Help!
Babies Can't Wait!

If you suspect that your child isn't developing as he/she should, it's important to get another opinion as soon as possible to see if a problem really does exist. You can turn to a variety of places for help: doctors, health clinics, school districts, and community agencies.



While some professionals may believe that a child will outgrow a problem, it's better to provide help early to make sure that the child has a better chance of success. Many children do not "outgrow" a problem - they may need extra help called early intervention.

Your school and the ESU #6 Preschool Interagency Coordinating Council have a service called Child Find designed to identify children (birth to age 3) who may be at risk for learning and could benefit from special services. Children who display trouble with learning, moving, playing, hearing, seeing, and talking may qualify to receive free assistance.

If your child is found eligible for services, an Individual Family Service Plan will be developed by you, the parent, and the people who will help you meet your child's special needs. The program will build on your child's strengths and improve areas of weakness. The program will provide support, encouragement, and assistance for you in working with your child.

Make the call that really counts. A professional will be happy to discuss your concerns about your child's development. Call a Services Coordinator at: Educational Service Unit #6, P.O. Box 748, Milford, NE 68405, 800-327-0091 or 402-761-3341.

Early Intervention Can Make A Difference!

Attention former Crete Public Schools Students:

If you were a student at Crete Public Schools **AND** in a Special Education Program and graduated in May 2006, your records are available to you at the Superintendents office, 920 Linden Avenue.

If you would like them, please call or stop in and request them. If you do not want them, they **will be shredded on October 1, 2011**. If you have questions, please feel free to call 826-5855 for assistance.