



CRETE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

December 2011
January 2012

Snow Days

Last winter was certainly exciting in the world of superintendents making snow related decisions. The focus in determining a school closure remains as student safety. Predicting the weather in Nebraska is no easy task. The challenge includes weighing the disruption to families and the educational process when changing the routine to a closing of school. I would like to share with you the plans for making this important decision and how information will be communicated.

Technology certainly has assisted with providing real-time information through the use of the internet. School districts also have access to meteorologists to help interpret the data. I have contacts throughout the boundaries of the district which can be used to provide me with information concerning road conditions. These people include county road supervisors, neighboring superintendents and farmers. I also intend to personally travel within the district to determine the severity of the road conditions.

The weather dictates when a final decision is made. If school is to be closed, the information will be sent to the 15 different radio

and television stations listed below. The school website, creteschools.com, will also display the news as well as the school closing hotline, 826-7890 and the Spanish translation at 826-7888.

An immediate notification through our school-wide **ConnectEd** service will enable us to communicate with parents about school closings, emergency situations, and other important issues via voice messages to your family's home, work or cell phones, email and text messages. We will be able to reach everyone in the district within minutes.

Ultimately, the superintendent makes the final decision to close school. Obviously, every parent must make a decision for their family as to the safety of their own children traveling. I'm looking forward to a mild winter with gentle snowfall to provide moisture for the land. I just wish Mother Nature would let me in on her plans!

Kyle McGowan
Superintendent



School Closing Information

School closure notification stations and other numbers.

School webpage: www.creteschools.com
School Closing Number: 826-7890
Spanish Message: 826-7888

TV Channels

KOLN/KGIN TV Channel 10/11
KLKN TV Channel 8
KETV Channel 7
LCCTV Channel 13



Radio AM Stations

KUTT - 1310 AM
KFOR - 1240 AM
KAWL - 1370 AM
KFAB - 1110 AM

Radio FM Stations

KZKX-96 KX - 96.9 FM
BLAZE - 104.1 FM
MY - 106.3 FM
KTGL The Eagle (92.9 FM)
KFGE Froggy - 98.1 FM
KUTT - 99.5 FM



Holiday Music to Enjoy

All concerts are free and open to the public.

- Dec. 8—6:30 p.m. Attend the 4 & 6 grade winter chorus concert and at 7:30 the 7 & 8 grade concert. Both concerts will be held in the high school auditorium.
- Dec. 12—7:00 p.m. The MS/HS school winter band concert will be held in the high school auditorium.
- Dec. 18—2:00 p.m. The HS winter choral concert will be held at Doane College Heckman Auditorium.

Holiday Vacation

December 21 - January 2.

Students will return to school on January 3.

Happy Holidays





Senior Portraits



SENIOR PARENTS! Please submit your senior's portrait for the yearbook no later than **December 20** to Mrs. Wright at the high school. If you have not scheduled your student's senior pictures, you need to do so immediately. If you have concerns about getting this done or submitting a photo, you can contact Mrs. Wright at the high school at 826-5811 and, if needed, she can arrange to have your senior's photo taken. EVERY senior deserves to have his/her special portrait

in the senior section spread of the yearbook. Don't let your son/daughter be left out! Schedule their appointment with your favorite photographer or call Mrs. Wright to arrange for a personal photography session TODAY!

MS/HS Book Fair

The Crete Middle School and High School libraries are hosting a book fair, **Saturday, December 10**, at Barnes and Noble, Southpointe, Lincoln. Proceeds go directly to book purchases for students.

In addition to the purchases of books, movies, music and food, new this year are NOOK purchases. Online orders are accepted through **December 15**. (Ebooks, subscriptions and gift cards are excluded.) Use our school code **10596724** when making your online purchase.



Just say "I support Crete Schools" as you check out.

CHS Yearbook - Great Gift

NEED A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA FOR YOUR HARD-TO-BUY-FOR TEENAGER? 2011-2012 yearbooks can be ordered in the high school office for \$50 cash or check; or, you can go online to the Crete Public Schools website (www.creteschools.com) and click on the link to buy your yearbook online using a credit or debit card. For questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Wright at the high school. If you'd like to purchase *last year's* book, **A Tale of the Cardinals**, there are a very limited number left. Call the high school and put yours on hold (for \$50) today. Get both (this year's on order and last year's to pick up before Christmas) for a discounted price of \$90! Call and ask today! 826-5811, but hurry. Quantities are limited!

Yearbook Ads

Are you a local business owner or know someone who is? We'd LOVE to put your ad in the 2011-2012 yearbook. If you're interested, contact Mrs. Wright at the high school 826-5811 for more information, an ad rate card and some examples. We'd love to help you advertise your business. Thanks for supporting the Crete High Journalism staff!

Band Soup Supper & Concert

The Band Soup Supper will be held on **Monday, December 12**, in the high school commons. Three varieties of soup will be available (chili, chicken noodle and potato) along with chili dogs and sloppy joes. Serving will start at 5:30 p.m. and continue until 6:45 p.m. Various music groups will perform as you enjoy your meal. A free will donation will be accepted for this delicious meal to help raise money for the band program.



At 7:00 p.m. that same evening you can enjoy the winter band concert performed by the middle school and high school bands.

Come and enjoy your favorite soup and holiday music!

Thank you for supporting the Crete Middle School and High School band program.



Please remember to dress your students appropriately for the cold weather. All elementary students will continue to have recess outside except for extremely cold days.



Breakfast With SANTA

The FBLA will be hosting "Breakfast with Santa" on **Saturday, December 3** 8:30-10:30 a.m. in the Elementary cafeteria





Notes from the Nurse



We are well into the flu season. Influenza is a respiratory virus that causes fever, headache, fatigue, body aches, cough and sore throat. Influenza is not to be confused with the stomach virus you often hear referred to as "The Flu", which cause vomiting, diarrhea and stomach upset. The most common way that any virus enters our body is via our hands, by touching something that has the virus on it and then touching our eyes, nose or mouth, or by breathing in the virus when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

The best ways you can protect yourself from illness are:

- Wash your hands regularly.
- Eat a balanced diet including lots of fruit and vegetables.
- Drinking plenty of healthy fluids.
- Get at least 8 hours of sleep per night.

Any student who has a fever above 100 degrees, is vomiting or has diarrhea needs to be kept home to rest. They need to be without diarrhea, vomiting or fever for 24 hours prior to returning to school. Do not give Aspirin to children or adolescents experiencing flu-like symptoms; give Tylenol or Ibuprofen only as directed on the packaging. Prevent dehydration by drinking plenty of liquids. If diarrhea, do not give anything to stop the diarrhea unless directed to do so by your doctor. If vomiting, do not eat or drink for one hour following a vomiting episode, then slowly give sips of clear liquids. If these liquids stay down, you may increase the amount of liquids and add light solids, i.e. crackers, Jell-O, soup.

In an attempt to keep the virus from spreading:

- Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze with a tissue, if no tissue available, sneeze or cough into your elbow or shoulder.
- Wash your hands frequently especially after blowing your nose or coughing.
- Refrain from visiting others or attending social events when experiencing flu symptoms.

If you have any questions about the flu, or whether your child is well enough to come to school, please contact your school nurse or your doctor.

Shannon Kennedy RN - 826-7806 or Toll Free 877-826-1017

Winter Vocal Concerts

The Winter Vocal Concert for 4th grade Chorus, 6th grade Choir and 7th & 8th Grade Choirs will be held at the Crete High School Auditorium on **Thursday, December 8th**.



Please note the concert schedule below:

- 6:30 p.m. 4th Grade Elementary Chorus, 6th Grade Choir
- 7:30 p.m. 7th & 8th Grade Choirs

The first concert at 6:30 p.m. will last about 35 minutes. The auditorium will then be cleared and opened for those who want to attend the second concert, which will start at 7:30 p.m. Seating for the second concert will not begin until the doors are opened after the first concert (approximately 7:05). Please feel free to attend both concerts. We're looking forward to seeing you at the concert.

The Senior High Winter Choral Concert will be held Sunday, December 18th at Doane College in the Heckman Auditorium. The concert begins at 2:00 p.m. and will feature the Crete High Concert Choir, Swing Choir, Cardinal Choir and several select soloists. **All concerts are free and open to the public.**

Free Money Available for Crete Graduates



The **\$500 Eunice Bogle Memorial Scholarship** is available for CHS graduates who will be entering **student teaching** during the upcoming school year.

Requirements include: 3.0 cumulative college GPA, recommendations, and college transcript.

For more information contact:

Mrs. Stec at Crete High School - 826-5811 or jeannes@creteschools.org

REMINDERS

LUNCH ACCOUNTS

Please make sure your children have money in their lunch account.

- Reminders will be sent home in Thursday packets to parents of elementary students.
- MS/HS students are responsible for tracking their own account. If account falls below zero, they will not be allowed to eat meals that day.

- Cash or checks may be taken to any of our school offices.



BUS ACCOUNTS



If you are paying for monthly busing, your next payments are due before **December 15** and **January 15**.

Semester payments are due by **January 3**.

If payment is not received by the 15th of the month, students will need to present bus tokens to ride the bus to and from school. (2 tokens per child, per day)

ABSENCES

If your child is going to be absent from school. Please notify the appropriate school office **before 9:00 a.m.**



Elementary - 826-5822 or 877-826-1017
Middle School - 826-5844 or 877-826-1018
High School - 826-5811 or 877-826-1019