

# **WASHINGTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

Serving  
Fourth and Fifth Grade Students  
In  
Red Oak, Iowa



## **PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK 2009-2010**

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WASHINGTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

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Bates, Jeannie ..... Counselor/ELO  
Black, Brenda ..... Building Secretary  
Braymen, Jessica .....5th Grade  
Burnison, Jan ..... Media Para-Professional  
Chelsvig, Sue .....4th Grade  
Dukes, Janet .....BD Para  
Ehmke, Stephanie ..... Principal’s Secretary  
Gilliland, Barb ..... Para-Professional  
Goldsmith, Angela..... Para-Professional  
Guerra, Linda..... ELL Translator/Para-Professional  
Guinn, Sandra..... 4th Grade  
Hamernik, Don.....Custodian  
Haufle, Mark.....4th Grade  
Kunze, Sonia..... ELL  
Linn, Michelle.....5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Mann, Lisa.....5th Grade Music  
Martinez, Nita.....4th Grade  
Maurer, Geoff..... Title I  
Maynes, Kelly..... Para-Professional  
Montgomery, Angela.....5th Grade  
Noonan, Susan..... Art  
Rea, Christy..... Instructional Para-Professional  
Redd, Gene.....Custodial  
Sampers, Connie.....Special Education  
Schafer, Melissa.....Special Education  
Smith, Robin.....Para-Professional  
Subbert, Karen.....Physical Education  
Sorensen, Rhoda..... 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> BD Teacher  
Timmerman, Sue .....5th Grade  
Wemhoff, Linnea.....4th Grade Music

## Welcome To Washington Intermediate!!

Dear Parents:

It is with an extreme pleasure to welcome you and your child to Washington School. The purpose of this handbook is to provide you with an overview of the school policies and rules that have been established to provide an environment that promotes the well being of each student along with supporting the individual student educational goals of our school.

Washington School offers many opportunities to its students to develop their interests and abilities. We stress that the most important people in our student's lives are their parents/guardians, relatives, and teachers. We encourage our students to not only listen to them, but also show them the respect they deserve.

Washington Intermediate School provides a student assignment planner to each student at Washington. This planner, when used appropriately, will improve the study habits of each student. Students that learn to use a daily planner to assist in time management and organizational skills will have many successes in the years to come not only in school, but also in their adult careers. We express our appreciation to the Parent-Teacher Organization for their assistance in making this planner available to each of our students. I encourage parents to check the planner each evening for homework assignments and notes from teachers.

Again, it is our pleasure to have you and your child as part of the Washington School family this year. We look forward to meeting each of you this school year. Remember, our doors are always open to parents and grandparents to ***come see the good things happening at Washington School.***

Sincerely,

The Teachers and Staff



## **Mission Statement**

The mission of Washington Intermediate School is to work as a team of families, students, community, and staff in developing the emotional, social, and academic potential of each child.

## **Belief Statements**

- Children are our most valuable asset.
- The family is the primary influence in each child's life.
- Our school needs to be a safe, comfortable environment in which to learn, achieve, and succeed.
- Learners are worth our best effort.
- Learning is a key to success throughout life.
- High expectations result in high achievement.
- Students, family, school, and community share responsibility in the student's education.

## **A Note to Our Students**

Many opportunities are available at Washington to develop your interest and abilities. The most important people in your life during these years are your parents/guardians and teachers. Listen to them – they deserve your respect and in return they will give you respect.

An assignment planner has been given to you to improve your study habits by helping you be organized. By learning to use time and organizational skills now, you will have many successes in the years to come. When you see a member of the Parent-Teacher Organization, thank them for their assistance in making this planner available to you.

Read this handbook and ask your parents and teachers questions about what you do not understand. This handbook is the basis of what is expected of you at Washington.

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

The Washington Intermediate School attendance policy is based on the fact that something important happens in class every day and that the activity or interaction between teacher and student can never be duplicated. In order for the Washington Intermediate School staff to do the best job of educating the students entrusted to them, the students must be in regular attendance. A successful educational program requires the cooperation of the parent, the student to attend regularly, and the staff to be involved at all points in the process. One of the most vital points is that of student attendance. Students arriving late or leaving early are required to sign-in or sign-out at the office.

Every effort should be made to make sure students are at the school on time every day. Students are allowed to enter the building at 8:15a.m. with instructional time beginning at 8:25a.m. Students will be counted tardy if they are not in their classroom at 8:25a.m. A student's unexcused tardiness may be subject to after school detention. Students riding school buses will not be counted tardy if their bus is late.

Washington Intermediate School awards perfect attendance certificates to students at the end of the school year. Perfect attendance certificates are awarded to those students that have been in attendance all day (8:25a.m. to 3:15 p.m.) for each of the 180 days in the school year. Parents are encouraged to schedule routine appointments for their students outside of normal school hours/days.

Parents that anticipate their students will be absent for an extended period are to call the school and/or send a note to the office as far in advance as possible. The classroom teacher will provide homework assignments and establish a date for completing these assignments. If your child must miss school due to an illness or injury, please call the office at 623-6630 to report the absence. If no call is received, school personnel will attempt to make contact with the parent. The student is responsible for meeting with their teacher and obtaining homework assignments and a date for when missed work is to be completed and given to the teacher. If the student does not complete the work by the due date, the teacher will give the student a zero for each assignment not completed on time. The student may be subject to after school detention.

### **Parents will be notified of excessive absences (excused and unexcused) in writing as follows:\***

- A letter to the parent will be sent after a child misses **5 days in a quarter**.
- A letter to the parent will be sent requesting a conference after a child misses **8 days in a quarter**. Any and all following absences will require a doctor's note when the student returns.
- A letter to the parent and a copy to the Montgomery County Attorney will be sent after a child misses **10 days in a quarter**. The principal and district may pursue truancy action.

\* Change in handbook made in 2008-09

## ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY INFORMATION

In the event of a serious accident or illness at school, a parent will be called. If you cannot be reached, the persons you have designated, as emergency contacts will be called. Emergency contacts are usually family members or close friends who have agreed to care for your child when you cannot be reached. Please ask these people before listing them, to be sure that they are willing to take this responsibility. Please be sure that the numbers you have given us for home, work and emergency contacts are accurate. *If at any point during the school year this information changes, notify the office immediately so that our information is always correct.* This allows us to provide the best emergency care for your child.

## **ANIMALS (PETS)**

School permission, teacher or principal, must be obtained to bring any animal, insects or reptiles to school. It is necessary that pets be brought to the classroom by a parent, who then waits and takes the animal home.

## **BEHAVIOR PLAN**

The goal of Washington Intermediate School with regard to behavior is to ensure the right of all students to a safe and productive educational environment in which all students may learn the skills and attitudes to develop and mature as responsible adults accountable for their own actions.

Students are expected to govern their actions, taking into account the rights and welfare of others. It is the policy of Washington Intermediate School to require and expect responsible behavior from all students in their dealings with staff members, other students, and visitors. Therefore students are expected to: (a) respect the rights and property of others, (b) listen and follow staff directions without argument, (c) be courteous to others, (d) abide by all rules of the school, the school district, as well as the city of Red Oak ordinances, the Iowa Code including possession, use, or distribution of tobacco products, controlled substances, “look alike” drugs or equipment, and alcoholic beverages, and (e) participate responsibly in educational and extra-curricular activities. This policy and the rules related to it apply to students while on school premises, while attending school or participating in school sponsored events, and while on school buses.

## **BICYCLES**

Riding a bicycle to and from school is a privilege and not a right. Students who fail to follow these will have the privilege of bike riding to and from school terminated and may also be subject to additional discipline.

- Bicycles will be parked in the racks provided or in a designated area.
- Bicycles will be walked while on the sidewalks or school grounds.
- Bicycles will not be ridden or tampered with during the school day.
- Bicycle riders are expected to use bicycle safety rules. Such as: always yielding to pedestrians; riding single file in a straight line; using the proper hand signals; and obeying all traffic rules.

## **BIRTHDAYS**

We welcome a little celebration for a child’s birthday. We do ask parents to use good judgment in what they send. If your child brings a birthday treat, there must be enough for every child in the classroom. If a parent chooses to have a birthday party outside of the school day, the invitations for such a party are to be sent through the U.S. Mail, unless one is given to every boy or girl in the classroom.

## **BOOK CHARGES**

Students losing or damaging schoolbooks or library books beyond use will be expected to pay for them. The replacement cost of new and/or used books will be based on the costs obtained from new or used book catalog pricing information. Charges will be assessed for other misuse of books in relation to its severity.

## **BREAKFAST**

Students eating breakfast at school may enter the building at 7:50 am and proceed to the lunchroom. Serving time for breakfast is from 7:55 am – 8:20 am. If students arrive after 8:20 am they will not be served (the exception will be for a late school bus). Breakfast is not served on late start days. As long as behavior permits, students not eating breakfast will be able to participate in a before school recess from 7:50 – 8:10 am.

## **BULLYING**

### Rules Against Bullying

Created by the students of Washington Intermediate in order to ensure all students feel safe and secure at school.

1. We will not bully others.
2. We will treat other people the way we want to be treated, including people who are easily left out.
3. We will tell a teacher/adult right away when bullying occurs.
4. We will help students who are bullied.

### Stand up to Bullying.....Some Possible Responses

- **Don't react.** Walk away, don't cry, ignore the bully.
- **Smile or laugh.** If you do the opposite of what the bully expects, the bully doesn't have any fun.
- **Communicate.** Tell the teaser calmly how you feel. When you are calm, bullying loses its power.
- **Inform an adult.** If you need help, ask for it. That's not tattling; that's standing up for your self.
- **Create a plan to change the imbalance of power and act peacefully.**

## **CARE OF SCHOOL**

Students who purchase candy or pop off-campus are to consume such items before they enter school grounds. Chewing gum is not allowed in the building or on school grounds. It is our sincere desire that all students take pride in caring for their school building and its surroundings. You are encouraged to keep it as neat and clean as your own home. Students that purposely make a mess are expected to clean it up.

## **CELL PHONE POLICY**

It is the policy of Washington Intermediate School to not allow students to possess or use cell phones while on the Washington campus or school sponsored activities and field trips. Students are allowed to make telephone calls to parents from the school office in the event of an emergency or similar

situation. Students possessing a cell phone at school will have it confiscated and a parent may be required to come and pick it up.

## **CHILD CUSTODY**

In most cases, when parents are divorced, one parent is designated by the court as the custodial parent. Student records will be shared with the non-custodial parent, if the non-custodial parent makes a request for information and provides the school with an address for sending the records. If, in the case of divorced or separated parents, there is a court order that limits any of the rights of one parent, a copy of the court order must be filed in the office.

## **CHILD SAFETY**

If your child is going to have a change in their normal routine, we need a parent note stating what the child is to do. Without a note, your child will be instructed to do their normal routine: ride the bus home, walk to the sitter, be picked up, etc. It is very important for us to know this information for the welfare and safety of your child.

## **CLOTHING AND DRESS FOR SCHOOL**

Student dress or personal grooming is not to interfere with the normal classroom educational process. Parents should be aware of what clothing students wear to school. Items of apparel, which are disruptive to the school or class routine are not acceptable. Examples of unacceptable dress are: clothing which has profane or suggestive wording or drawings (pictures); midriff tops; clothing which is advocating or advertising the use of alcohol, tobacco or drugs; extremely dirty or tattered clothing, unhemmed or torn garments; or biker shorts (spandex) are not permitted. Students who are wearing questionable apparel will be referred to the principal. Students who are wearing unacceptable apparel may be sent home and/or be subject to disciplinary action.

In wet, muddy, and snowy weather children are encouraged to wear weather conditioned shoes or boots or overshoes to prevent wet feet. Overshoes or snow boots are not to be worn all day indoors, students are to wear regular shoes in the school building. During inclement weather adequate outer garments should be worn. Recess will continue to be outside unless the principal and staff determine the weather is inappropriate for all students to be outside. The students will be required to wear the clothing the parent has sent with them to school for recess. The recess supervising teacher may determine that coats and boots are not needed under certain conditions.

## **CONFERENCES**

Parent Teacher conferences are scheduled for October and February. It is of utmost importance that parents meet with their child's teachers. Teachers and parents are encouraged to request additional conferences at any time during the year when there are questions or concerns about a child's progress. In addition to conferences, parents will receive written reports four times a year, at nine-week intervals. Parents should discuss the progress report with their child. If there are questions, contact your child's teacher.

## **DISCIPLINE**

Effective discipline is necessary for quality education. In order to guarantee your child and all the students in the school the excellent learning climate they deserve, it is essential for the home and school to work closely together in promoting self-discipline, responsibility, and an appreciation of the

rights of others. The teacher is responsible to maintain a quality learning environment and exercise classroom discipline to ensure that all students receive an appropriate education. Therefore, minor disciplinary offenses are the responsibility and obligation of the classroom teacher. When serious or persistent problems arise, discipline may become the joint responsibility of the principal, the guidance counselor, the teacher, and parent/guardian. The principal in accordance with Board Policy, State Statutes, and announced rules will select actions necessary to correct misbehavior. Student discipline may involve:

- Administrative conference
- Parent contact and conference
- Detention beyond school hours (3:15-4:15)
  - Parents will be notified prior to student serving the detention and in order for the parent to make appropriate transportation arrangements
- Suspensions of the student from the regular school program, either at home or at school for up to ten (10) school days.
- Referral to the Student Assistance Team
- Referral to non-school agencies and law enforcement
- Referral to the Board of Education
- Expulsion from school

## **FIELD TRIPS**

The principal must give prior authorization for all field trips and/or excursions. Teachers will inform parents of field trips and/or excursions as they occur throughout the school year. At the time of registration, parents are asked to complete a permission slip allowing students to participate in field trips/excursions. Excursions are walking trips to the public library, middle school, and similar trips that are within Red Oak. Excursions may also include a school bus ride to the athletic fields and Red Oak city parks. If you desire that your child not participate in a particular field trip/excursion please notify your student's teacher in writing. Students not participating may receive a zero grade for the activity unless prior arrangements are made with the student's teacher for an alternate assignment.

## **HARASSMENT/VIOLENCE**

Everyone at Washington Intermediate School has a right to feel respected and safe. Violence is a physical or verbal act of aggression toward individuals or property. Harassment may include name calling, unwelcome touches, and words or actions that make others uncomfortable. If any words or actions make a student uncomfortable or fearful, it immediately needs to be reported to the student's teacher, guidance counselor, activity supervisor, or the principal.

### **If a student feels like he/she is being harassed, the following steps should be taken:**

- Talk to the person harassing you and tell them you expect it to stop. Ask a teacher, counselor or the principal to help you do this if you do not want to do it on your own.
- If it does not stop, tell a teacher, the counselor, or principal.
- You need to write down exactly what happened in your words and give it to the counselor.
- The counselor will look into the harassment and let the principal know what happened.

## **HOURS**

The school day will begin at 8:25 AM and concludes at 3:15 PM. We encourage students to arrive at school after 8:00 AM at which time they should report to the playground or to the gym to eat breakfast. Students will be escorted to the classroom by their teacher at 8:15. Breakfast will be served at 7:55 ~~8:00~~ AM and will not be served after 8:20 AM unless we have a late bus. Breakfast will not be served on late start days.

If parents/guardians wish to pick up a student before dismissal times, they must stop by the office and inform the school of their plans. For the safety of the child, he/she will not be sent out of the building to meet the designated pick-up person. If an adult is not available to come in the building to get the child due to physical disability, special arrangements will need to be made with the principal. Students who walk to and from school should go directly to either destination. Many times school may be dismissed early due to inclement weather or staff development. Please develop and send written plan(s) to the teacher for what your child should do in case of planned and unplanned early dismissal.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

Lost and found articles are placed in the elementary office. Parents and children are encouraged to check the box for lost items. Every effort will be made to return identifiable items. Articles that are not claimed by the end of the school year will be given to a charitable organization.

## **LUNCH**

Students are not allowed to bring pop or any carbonated beverage to school in cold lunches unless the teacher gives the class permission for a special occasion. **Students will not be permitted to share/trade/sell food items provided by the school or brought from home.** Parents are welcome to come to school to eat lunch with their child. Parents that want to eat the school hot lunch are asked to call school prior to 9:00 a.m. in order for a hot lunch to be ordered. We ask parents who bring lunch to eat with their child not to bring pop also. Items sent in a cold lunch should be “child friendly”. Your child should be able to open items sent in their lunch.

## **MEDICATIONS**

Over the counter and prescription medications that need to be taken at school, must be sent in the original container/prescription bottle. The parent/guardian must also include a signed note giving permission for staff to administer the medication along with specific directions.

## **MONEY**

Only money needed to conduct authorized sponsored activities should be brought to school. These might be hot lunch, insurance, book orders, school pictures, etc. Cash should be brought in a sealed envelope with the students name, amount of money and what it is to be used for on the outside of the envelope. Students should pay amounts due upon arrival at school to eliminate the possibility of loss or theft. Washington Intermediate School and its staff are not responsible for money lost.

## **PARENT/TEACHER REQUESTS**

We understand that every student is unique and special; therefore, every attempt will be made to meet each student’s needs. The building principal and elementary teaching staff will take careful consideration in placing each child into a classroom that will best benefit the individual. The

following procedures are used at Washington Intermediate School when parents desire to request a particular teacher for their child.

- All request are to be in writing and received by the principal no later than the last day of the school year. Requests received after the last day of school will not be accepted.
- Parents must state the reason(s) for the request.
- First and second teacher preference must be stated.

The school values parent desires but can not guarantee that all requests can be honored. After the building principal and teaching staff creates and posts the class lists, no changes will be made unless there are extenuating circumstances.

## **PARTIES**

Parties are planned and organized in conjunction with the principal's office. Room parties are held to celebrate various occasions and also class successes. Arrangements for these parties will be made cooperatively between teacher, parents, and pupils as the situation permits.

## **PERSONAL PROPERTY AT SCHOOL**

Students are not allowed to bring toys or other objects from home unless the classroom teacher has given them permission. Items that are brought from home should be marked so that they can be easily identified. The school cannot assume responsibility for the loss or breakage of things brought from home. Radios, tape recorders, cell phones, electronic games and similar items are not permitted in school or on the busses. They are expensive and the school cannot guarantee their safety. If a student brings such items to school they will be confiscated and a parent will be required to come and pick it up.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

The physical education department request that appropriate shoes (no flip flops) be worn for physical education class. This is for safety as well as health reasons. Students should wear clothing that does not restrict movement on P.E. days. If a girl wants to wear a dress, she should wear shorts under her dress. If a student needs to be excused from participation in physical education for one class period due to injury or illness, a written parental request needs to be given to the P.E. teacher the day the student is to be excused. We encourage parents to write notes restricting only the types of activities that will aggravate the injury or illness rather than notes that eliminate the student from participating in all activities. If a student needs to be excused for two or more consecutive class periods, a written medical request from a doctor must be given to the P.E. teacher.

## **RECESS**

Research studies have shown that taking a break from a task and moving around in order to get oxygen to the brain will increase one's readiness to learn. Our students go outside (weather permitting) in order to get fresh air and work off some of their energy. Recesses are part of the scheduled school day. All students are expected to participate in recess. Almost always, a child who is too sick to go out for recess is too sick to be in school. In cases of extreme wet or cold weather students will remain indoors. During the winter months, students will participate in outside recess unless the temperature is below zero or the wind-chill is below zero. **Please dress students appropriately.** We will be happy to honor a one-day request for a child to stay in from recess after an extended illness. However, a request from your family physician will be needed for a child to remain inside for an extended period.

## **RETENTION**

The grade placement of any student at the end of the school year for the next school year will be based on the determination of what is best for each child. Parents, teachers, and the principal work together in order to ensure that students achieve to their maximum potential in their school work. In case of any conflict with placement, the principal will make the final decision.

## **RULES**

The staff at Washington Intermediate School strives to provide an excellent learning climate for the students. Rules at school are a fact of life just as laws are in a civilized society. In general students that respect others, respect themselves, demonstrate kindness with words and actions, listen carefully, follow directions, work quietly, not disturbing others who are working, respect school and personal property, and work hard to achieve their fullest potential have already learned to manage their behaviors and therefore will not have difficulty with school rules. Classroom teachers establish individual classroom rules. Building common area (restrooms, hallways, lunchroom, and playground) rules are posted throughout the building. Appropriate consequences will be chosen to address inappropriate behavior in order to nurture the student in what is acceptable behaviors in our society.

## **STUDENT ASSISTANCE TEAM**

Washington Intermediate School recognizes that students can experience a number of personal, behavioral or medical problems, which can have an adverse affect on their behavior, conduct or academic performance in school. The Student Assistance Team (SAT) program is designed to provide assistance to students experiencing any of these problems. Our program has been designed to identify and utilize school, family, and community resources in assisting students to achieve their educational potential. The Student Intervention Team (SAT) will involve appropriate personnel to provide interventions at the earliest possible stage while maintaining the confidentiality of the student.

## **SCHOOL VISITATION**

Parents, grandparents, and adult guests are always welcome to visit Washington Intermediate School. Visitors are required to report to the office first before going elsewhere in the school building or grounds. We encourage visitations except for the beginning and closing weeks and any day proceeding a vacation period. Visits should be arranged one day in advance of the intended visit. We are not able to accommodate students that may be on vacation from other schools.

## **SOLICITATION**

Flyers for distribution to students or staff need prior approval of the principal. Distribution of the flyers is the responsibility of the organization.

## **TRANSPORTATION and BUS RIDING**

Parents can help in the safe transportation of students by instructing their students that:

- The driver is in charge of the pupils and the bus. Students must obey the driver cheerfully and promptly.
- Students must be on time at their pickup point.
- Students should not stand in the roadway while waiting for the bus.
- Classroom conduct is to be practiced by pupils while riding in the bus, except for ordinary conversation. No “horseplay” permitted.

- Unnecessary conversation with the driver is prohibited.
- Students must remain seated at all times.
- Students will not extend arms or heads out of the bus windows.
- The drivers will not discharge riders at places other than a student's regular drop off point unless the parent authorizes the school to do so.

Failure to follow the above regulations may result in suspension from the school bus. The bus driver will handle disciplinary problems when possible. The driver may refer the student to the transportation director when necessary.

## **TITLE I**

A Title One class is available at Washington Intermediate School. This is a federally funded program designed to supplement regular instruction. Title One Classes are conducted both in the general classroom and/or as a small separate classroom with a certified teacher. The reading groups are kept small and usually no group has more than five students. Each student's needs are diagnosed and teaching is planned in accordance with these needs. These certified teachers will also aid with instruction in the regular classroom.

## **TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY**

It is the policy of the Red Oak Community School District that parents of participating children shall have the opportunity to be involved jointly in the development of the district plan and in the district's review process for the purpose of school improvement. Recognizing that parental involvement is the key to academic achievement, we seek to involve parents in an effective home-school partnership that will provide the best possible education for our students. The district provides coordination, technical assistance and other supports necessary to aid in the planning and implementation of parent involvement activities. The district encourages parent involvement and supports this partnership through providing information about standards and assessments; providing training and materials for parents to help their children, educating school personnel about involving parents and the value of parent contributions, and developing roles for community organizations and businesses to work with parents and schools.

1. This jointly developed and agreed upon written policy is distributed to parents of participating Title I children and all parents in targeted assisted buildings through the Parent Handbook, which is distributed to every family at the time of registration.
2. Two annual meetings are held, for all parents of participating children, both public and private. Additional meetings with flexible times shall be held throughout the year and be determined by parent suggestions. All K-5 elementary buildings will hold two annual meetings, one in the fall and one in the spring. Notification will be sent in the building newsletter.
3. Parents are given assistance in understanding the Title I requirements, standards and assessments through the annual meetings and/or parent-teacher conferences.
4. Parents receive and explanation of the school's performance profile, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the expected proficiency levels in the annual progress report submitted to the local newspaper for publication, through individual reports given to parents at conference time, and through progress reports.
5. Parents who have students in targeted assisted buildings are informed of and involved with their child's participation in the Title I program. They also are informed about the curriculum, instructional objectives and methods used in the program. This information is delivered through newsletters, conferences and the annual meetings.

6. Parent recommendations are encouraged and responded to in a timely manner. Verbal or written responses will be given for all recommendations.
7. Parents will be involved with the planning, review and improvement of the targeted assisted programs. The vehicle used will be the School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) or the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). If the Title I program is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, they may submit comments to the building principal, SIAC or PAC.
8. A jointly developed school/parent compact outlines how parents, the entire school staff and students all share responsibility for improved student achievement. The compact also describes the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve our local high standards. It is included in the parent handbook and is reviewed at the annual meeting.
9. The Title I program provides opportunities for parents to become partners with the school in promoting the education of their children both at home and at school. Parents are given help monitoring their student's progress and provided assistance on how to participate in decisions related to their student's education. The school also provides other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as requested by parents. Parents are encouraged to participate as volunteers in the school setting. Individual conferences will also be held upon request.
10. The school continues to coordinate and integrate, to the extent feasible and appropriate, the parent involvement policy and other programs and activities within the district. Transitional information for students moving from third grade to fourth grade and fifth grade to sixth grade will be provided to teachers, prior to the end of the current school year. An annual evaluation of this parental involvement policy shall be conducted to determine its effectiveness. Findings will be used to design strategies for school improvement and revision of policies. The annual spring meeting will serve as the site for the discussions of program adjustments.

Providing all Red Oak Community School District children with equal access to quality education is of primary purpose. It is crucial that all partners (students, parents, educators and community) have the opportunity to provide input and offer resources to meet this purpose. As these partnerships are mutually beneficial, developing cooperative efforts will ensure improved academic achievement for all students.

**Red Oak  
Community School District**

**Serving  
PK – 12 Grade Students  
In  
Red Oak, Iowa**

**District Wide  
Parent/Student Handbook  
2008 - 2009**