

FEBRUARY 2026

CR-B COMMUNITY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Guardians,

The safety, well-being, and education of every student in the Coon Rapids-Bayard School District are our highest priorities. We want to assure families that all students are cared for, protected, and supported while attending our schools.

Recently, the district has addressed an increase in reports of threats made between students. Some incidents involve physical altercations, such as pushing or fighting, which are typically addressed through established disciplinary measures, including suspension or loss of privileges. However, any threats involving weapons, such as firearms or knives, are considered extremely serious and require immediate and decisive action.

The increasing use of violent language and imagery in media and online spaces has made it more challenging for staff to distinguish between inappropriate remarks and credible threats. As a result, all reported threats must be evaluated carefully and taken seriously.

We ask for your partnership in speaking with your children about appropriate language and behavior at school. Students must understand that statements or actions perceived as threats carry serious consequences. When a threat is deemed credible, law enforcement will be notified in accordance with district policy. These procedures will be strictly enforced to ensure the safety of all students and to protect the rights of every family.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. We appreciate the trust you place in our schools and remain committed to providing a safe, respectful, and welcoming environment where every student can learn and succeed.

Mr. Ridder

ELEMENTARY

As we move into February, I want to take a moment to thank you for the continued partnership you show our school. Our students are working hard, showing kindness to one another, and growing each day—not just academically, but socially and emotionally as well. Your support at home makes a meaningful difference, and we are grateful for it!

This month, I'd like to share a gentle reminder about the importance of conversations we have with children regarding school-appropriate language and topics. As students grow and are exposed to more media, games, and conversations outside of school, they sometimes bring ideas or language into the classroom that are not appropriate for a school setting. This can include unkind words, pretend talk about weapons, or topics that may feel harmless at home but can be unsettling or distracting at school.

We know that children are naturally curious and often repeat things without fully understanding their impact. That's why we ask for your help in talking with your child about what is and is not appropriate to talk about at school. Simple conversations about using kind words, avoiding jokes or comments about weapons, and choosing topics that help everyone feel safe and comfortable can go a long way.

Our goal is to maintain a learning environment where every Crusader feels secure, respected, and ready to learn. These shared expectations between home and school help students understand boundaries while still feeling supported and heard.

February is also a wonderful time to reinforce values like kindness, empathy, and responsibility. When we work together, we help our students grow into thoughtful, respectful individuals.

Thank you for your continued trust and partnership. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you ever have questions or need support!

Mrs. Sigler



Mindful Media

February Tips & Tricks



Understanding Online Peer Pressure and How Parents Can Help

Teens often feel peer pressure on social media to fit in, stay active, and gain approval through likes and comments. Nearly four in ten teens report what they see on social media makes them feel overwhelmed by drama, and about three in ten report pressure to post content that will get numerous likes or comments. This pressure can lead to stress, anxiety, and self-esteem challenges, especially when self-worth is tied to online feedback. Research indicates that the quality of online interactions, not just screen time, matters most, and teens with stronger self-confidence and a clearer sense of identity are better able to manage these pressures.

Four Ways Parents Can Support Their Teens

1. Talk Openly and Without Judgment
2. Encourage Critical Thinking
3. Set Healthy Boundaries Together
4. Model and Practice Self-Care

To view the entire article, click [here](#).



February is a time to refocus and maintain momentum as we move through the second half of winter. While the semester is still underway, this stretch of the school year often tests consistency and motivation, making strong routines more important than ever.

Attendance continues to play a critical role in student success. Being present each day allows students to stay engaged with instruction, keep up with assignments, and avoid gaps in learning that can quickly compound. We appreciate families making attendance a priority and communicating with the school when challenges arise.

This is also a good time for students and parents to review grades and talk openly about progress, effort, and goals for the remainder of the semester. Small adjustments now, such as improved organization, extra help, or better time management, can have a meaningful impact moving forward.

Our teachers and staff remain committed to supporting students through the winter months. Thank you for your continued partnership and encouragement as we work together to help students stay focused, accountable, and successful.

Mr. Streebin

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YEARBOOK

NEWS FROM THE JOURNALISM ROOM!

Winter yearbook pages are complete, so that means it is going to get warmer, right?! Currently, there are seven yearbooks left at the discounted price of \$55! Once those yearbooks are sold, the price will increase by \$10. Visit jostensyearbooks.com and use the promo code "YRBK10" to save. Now, students are busy finishing up the winter edition of The Quest, CR-B's online newspaper, as well as working on the senior photo section of the yearbook. You don't want to miss out on anything!



Sweet Memories!
Order your Yearbook!
The only way to guarantee
a book is to preorder
The COON RAPIDS-BAYARD H.S.
yearbook is on sale now!

Scan the QR code or go to
www.jostensyearbooks.com



IN THE CLASSROOM

The 2nd grade has been studying erosion and how water can change the land. They used the erosion water table kits that was purchased with the money that was received from winning the Loess Hills Ag in the Classroom Educator of the Year award last year.





February is Random Acts of Kindness Month.

Students in CR-B Creations, an entrepreneurial course, are designing and selling T-shirts as part of their Kindness Project.

For each shirt sold, \$5 will be donated toward creating care baskets for the residents of Thomas Rest Haven.

Through this initiative, students aim to spread kindness and positivity throughout the community while giving back to and supporting local residents.

<https://crb-creations.square.site/s/shop>

Upcoming FFA events:

The week of
February 23rd is FFA Week!

March 7th is District FFA
Contests in Denison

March 8th is Annual FFA
Banquet and Awards Ceremony



Introducing the Crusader Community Pantry

We are excited to announce the opening of our new School Food Pantry, the Crusader Community Pantry, designed to support students, families, and community members who may be experiencing food insecurity.

The Crusader Community Pantry will officially open on Wednesday, February 11, from 3:00–4:30 PM, and will be open every 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, from 3:00–4:30 PM, while school is in session and by appointment as needed.

The pantry is open to any student, staff, family, or community member in need, and there are no income guidelines or eligibility requirements. Our goal is to provide easy, respectful access to food and essential items for anyone who could benefit.

The Crusader Community Pantry is conveniently located off of the school library.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Jenny Muhlbauer, School Social Worker, or Danielle Willenborg, School Nurse.

We are proud to offer this resource as part of our ongoing commitment to caring for our school families and strengthening our community!

