

Three join district's administrative team



Dan Huffman (left), brings lots of district operations experience, all gained in North Dakota, to his position as Director of Business Affairs.

He budgeted for two of the largest school districts in North Dakota, conducted negotiations, worked with the legislative process, managed cash flow, handled purchasing, supervised construction, developed transportation routes, implemented a district fiber network, and enhanced financial stability.

He has supervised various departments including nutrition services, technology, student information systems, transportation, operations and maintenance, and the business office.

Dan earned a master's degree in educational leadership, and has a bachelor's in accounting, both from the University of North Dakota.

Scott Johnson (right in black)), Director of Teaching and Learning, brings a wealth of experience to his new position in the areas of curriculum and instruction, staff and student development, management, and resource allocation.

Scott spent 19 years in the classroom teaching language arts, mostly at Centennial High School and was on loan to the state for five years working in curriculum and staff development. Upon his return, he coordinated the district's

federal programs for a year and then spent five years as Centennial's Curriculum Coordinator.

Scott earned his principal's license at the University of Minnesota, his master's in curriculum and instruction from the University of St. Thomas, and his bachelor's in language arts and psychology from Bemidji State University.

Glen Stevens is looking for balance as he takes over the principal reins at Centennial Middle School.

Glen graduated from Hammarskjold High School in Thunder Bay, Ontario, earned his administrative license at St. Mary's University, a master's in education at Winona State, and has bachelor's degrees in history, English and secondary education from Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Canada.

His administrative experience has included time as a principal, assistant principal and administrative intern. Most recently he served as assistant principal at Hazel Park Middle School in St. Paul. Glen has taught mostly middle school students in language arts, global studies, arts/communications/English, and earth science/geography/social studies.

Glen aims to make school fun while setting and insisting on high standards. Among his top priorities will be listening; working with staff, students and community members to continue to build on everything that makes Centennial Middle School an excellent place to learn; and remembering everyone's names.



Credit rating reveals sound financial standing

Centennial School District boasts an AA- credit rating from Standard & Poors. That rating is at the top of the 10 ratings categories, which range from AAA Highest Quality and AA High Quality, down to C Highly Speculative and D Junk.

Centennial received an underlying rating of AA- and an enhanced rating of AAA, as reported by the district's financial advisor, Springsted Incorporated.

The enhanced rating comes from the State of Minnesota Credit Enhancement Program, meaning the district is able to use the state rating and the state will guarantee the district's bond payments.

The underlying rating of AA-, signifying High Quality, indicates the positive financial health of the district based on its fund balance, economic base, stable financial profile, and moderate debt burden.

While this paints a positive picture of the district's financial health, revenue pressures are growing in the future, according to Dan Huffman, Director of Business Affairs.

Annual reports available

Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement

Consistent with No Child Left Behind legislation, school districts nationwide publish their Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement yearly to inform their communities regarding continuous improvement efforts and accomplishments.

Centennial's 2009-10 report highlights curriculum and school improvement efforts, along with student achievements on grade 2-7 MAP assessment results. MCA-II assessment data is also included in the report.

Centennial has posted its report on its web site. A direct link can be found on the curriculum site at http://www.isd12.org/district_curriculum/annual_report.htm or call Jane McDonald at 763-792-6186 for a copy.

2009-10 Testing Assessments

Centennial Schools scored above the state average in every grade in reading, math, science and writing and topped nine surrounding districts on the MCA-II and GRAD tests. Go online for the results at http://www.isd12.org/District_Curriculum/assessments/assessment%20results/assessment_results_index.htm or call Jan Kellner at 763-792-6186 for a copy.

Upcoming events

General election Nov. 2

Centennial School Board election

Four residents filed for three open at-large, four-year term school board seats. The following will be on the Nov. 2 general election ballot:

- ▶ Ed Ring
- ▶ Suzy Guthmueller
- ▶ Barbara Regnier
- ▶ John Burns

Refer to the Oct./Nov. *Observer* for candidate profiles and election information.

Legislative Candidate's Forum

A Legislative Candidate's Forum is scheduled for 7 p.m. **Wednesday, Oct. 13** in the District Office Board Room. Eight candidates for the Minnesota House and Senate have been invited to the forum which will include a moderator and audience questions (as time allows). The forum is sponsored by the Centennial Legislative Action Committee and Centennial School District. Look for more information in coming weeks.

Late start on Oct. 12 for grades 1-12



Centennial School District has three, two-hour late starts on Tuesday, Oct. 12, Nov. 16, and Feb. 17, to provide site-based staff development opportunities.

• **Transportation:** 1-12 grade students will report two hours later than their scheduled start time. Buses will run two hours late. There will be no morning ECSE since transportation will not be available to run these routes, but the midday session will be held. All kindergartners will be bused to school close to their normal times. Kindergarten Plus, morning kindergarten, and K-Time Kids Club will run on a normal schedule. Transportation will create separate routes for the late starts and communicate to parents prior to the dates.

- **Morning Kids Club** will run two hours longer at each elementary site to match the late start of the school day and accommodate the needs of Kids Club families. Non Kids Club families may access Kids Club service by enrolling in the program (enrollment fee—\$15), and requesting drop in service, which is available for a fee on a space available basis. Registration information is available on the district web site at www.isd12.org, click on Kids Club.

Note: On Wednesday, Oct. 13, there will be a two-hour late start for Centennial High School grades 11 and 12. The late start allows time for 10th graders to take the PLAN test and 9th graders to work with peer leaders. Busses run at their regular time.

Homecoming Week

Sept. 27–Oct. 2



Monday, Sept. 27—Coronation, 7 pm, PAC
Thursday, Sept. 30—Bonfire, 8 pm
Friday, Oct. 1—Pepfest, 2 pm, white gym; parade, 4 pm; football game, 7 pm
Saturday, Oct. 2—High school dance, 8–11:30 p.m.

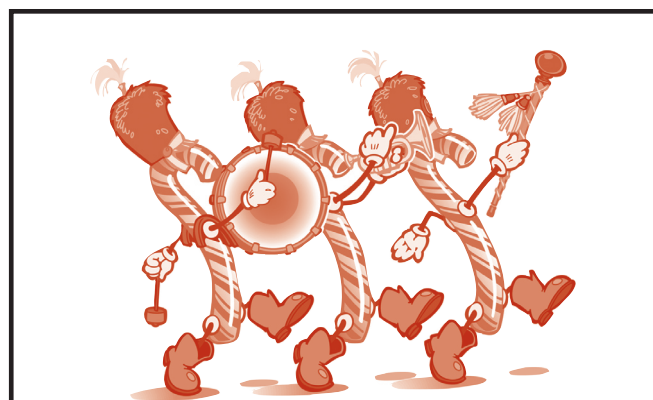
Reach for the Stars Gala

Enjoy dinner, student entertainment, raffles and auctions at the eighth annual Centennial Area Education Foundation (CAEF) gala Friday, Oct. 15 at The Seasons at Bunker Hills, 12800 Bunker Drive, Coon Rapids. The event runs 6–10 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person if purchased before Oct. 1; \$60 after Oct. 1.

Formerly called Harvest Fest, the event has been renamed the Reach for the Stars Gala. Auction items are being sought as well as sponsorships from area residents and businesses.

Last year CAEF raised over \$9,000 which was used to enhance the educational experience of students and staff in the Centennial School District.

Information on ticket ordering is on the CAEF website at www.caefoundation.org or questions can be directed to Renee Dietz at rdietz2@msn.com or 763-784-8877.



18th Annual Band Booster Holiday Bazaar

9 a.m.–3 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 23

Centennial Middle School

Crafts, raffle, auction, and food

Centennial Schools

OCTOBER 2010

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

On-Line account info and payment options at www.PayPams.com at no charge. Free and reduced meals available for qualifying households. Lactose free milk available upon written request. *Acorn Squash is from Vine Valley Farms in Stewart, MN; **fresh Beet Chunks are from Malamen Gardens in Cedar, MN

4
Super Cheesy Maxstix
Al Dente Pasta with Red Sauce
Oven Ready Potatoes
Good-4-U peas
Seasonal Fresh Fruit

11
Whole Grain Lowfat Mini Corndogs
Baked Potato Half
Wheat Dinner Roll
Whole Kernel Corn
Variety of Fruit

18
Oven Fresh Italian Dunkers
Choice of Pasta with Marinara Sauce
**Garden Fresh Beet Chunks
Variety of Fruit

25
Legendary Shrimp Poppers
Land o Lakes Macaroni and Cheese
Whole Wheat Dinner Roll
Seasoned Green Beans
Variety of Fruit

5
Whole Grain Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza
Multi-Grain Breadstick
Mixed Green Salad
Variety of Fruit

12
Whole Grain Grilled Cheese Sandwich
*Acorn Squash Chunks
Mixed Green Salad with Dressing
Variety of Fruit

19
Tyson Chicken Tenders
Fluffy Mashed Potatoes/Gravy
Mini Corn Cobbette
Wheat Dinner Roll
Autumn Crisp Apples

26
Oven Fresh French Toast Sticks/Syrup
Pork or Turkey Breakfast Sausage
Hash brown Stix
Chilled Applesauce
100% Fruit Juice

6
Build Your Own Beefy Burger on Bun
Sliced Tomatoes
Sliced Onions
Lettuce Filets
Confetti French Fries
Variety of Fruit

13
SALAD BAR DAY
Jennie-O Turkey Deli Meat and/or Egg or Cheese Choices
Multigrain Breadstick
Fresh Fruit
Animal Crackers

20
MASHED POTATO BAR
Choice of Toppings
Whole Wheat Pretzel Rod
Fresh Mixed Green Salad/Dressings
Variety of Fruit

27
Sec: Ling's Mandarin Orange Chicken
Fluffy Brown Rice
Oriental Vegetables
Whole Wheat Dinner Roll
Pineapple Fruit Cup
Elem: School Planned

1
All Beef Farmland Hot Dog on a Bun
Alexia Tri-Potato Medley
Garden Salad/Drsng
Variety of Fruit

8
Knorr's Golden Cheese and Broccoli Soup
Deli Jennie-O Turkey Sandwich with Fixings
Smile Potatoes
Variety of Fruit

15
School Made Taco Grande Pizza on Boboli Crust
Mixed Green Salad with Dressing
Variety of Fruit

22
NO SCHOOL

29
Birthday Bash
Batty Chicken Nuggets
Sweet Potato Puffs
Wheat Dinner Roll
Mixed Salad/Dressing
Fruit/ Harvest Cookie
Swirled Pumpkin Cup

Cold entrée choice in elementaries. Alternate lines available in secondary buildings. All meals include milk. Menu subject to change. Products have been made in district kitchens or food production plants where milk, eggs, soybeans, tree nuts, peanuts and other ingredients are used. Pine Tree Orchard Apples offered at all sites.

Lunch Prices

Elem: \$2.20/day
Sec: \$41.80/mos
\$2.40/day
\$45.60/mos
Entrée: \$1.95
Milk: \$.45
Non-Student/Adult: \$3.40

