

July 1, 2008

To: Smitty

From: Monty Aldrich

THOUGHTS FROM THE UNIT OFFICE...

NEW PROGRAM WILL BENEFIT PARENTS/GUARDIANS AT NORTH CLAY

In our efforts to improve communication between parents and school, North Clay is instituting a telephone broadcast system called School Reach that will enable the administration to notify all households and parents by phone within minutes of an emergency or unplanned event that causes early dismissal, school cancellation or other incident. This computerized system is able to make thousands of calls within minutes to notify any group desired of an announcement or emergency. This service will be used from time-to-time to communicate general announcements or reminders. We will continue to report school closings due to weather on WNOI 103.9 FM and will use this system as an overlay to the public announcements.

Here's how it works in a nutshell. Parents/guardians will need to give us all emergency contact phone numbers including work, cell, home, etc. where they want to be notified of the announcements. We can call as many numbers as you would like to provide. Some high school students come in to registration by themselves to take care of all fees and paperwork. It is important that parents provide us this information this year so that we may have contact numbers to include you in the calling system. In the time of need, we would deliver a recorded message that will call all of the numbers we receive simultaneously. The service will deliver to both a live answer and answering machines. We do ask that you set your answering machines to answer at four rings or less for this to work properly. No answers and busy signals will be automatically tried twice in 15 minute intervals.

It is important that nobody call the school offices for this information. Those phone lines will need to stay open to communicate this information to everyone. At registration, we will be distributing a letter that explains instructions for this entire system. Hopefully, this will help communicate with all involved any announcements from the school district.

NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR NORTH CLAY UNIT #25 STUDENTS AT REGISTRATION, SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

This year, North Clay Unit 25 will provide registration for all students on Tuesday, August 12, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and on Wednesday, August 13, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The entire registration will be held in the Commons area. Parents/guardians may come to register at any time during these two days. If it is not possible to attend registration, we ask that you call or come in shortly before that time to complete registration.

School will begin on August 20 for all students enrolled. This year, we will begin with a full day of attendance for all students including Kindergarten. Pre-K will begin on Aug. 20 as well. Normal bus routes will begin that day.

REQUIREMENTS TO ATTEND SCHOOL HAVE CHANGED:

- **Pre-K** – bring certificate of live birth, immunization records
- **Kindergarten** – bring certificate of live birth, immunization records, physical exam, dental exam, and vision exam to registration (physical, dental, and vision exams must be current within one year)
- **2nd Grade** – bring dental exam to registration (must be current within one year)
- **6th Grade** – bring physical exam and dental exam (must be current within one year).
Exception: Public Act 95-0422 (**SB 937**), enacted last year, changed from fifth grade to sixth grade the year in which a health examination is required for students. The Alliance initiated a bill this year to clarify that any child who received a health examination before entering the fifth grade for the 2007-2008 school year is not required to receive an additional health examination before entering 6th grade in the 2008-2009 school year.
- **9th Grade** – bring physical exam (must be current within one year)

In addition, Public Act 95-671 (SB 641), enacted on January 1, 2008, requires that all children enrolling in kindergarten and any student enrolling for the first time in school shall have an eye examination.

Students participating in athletics, including cheerleading must have a physical and student insurance, or must submit proof of private insurance coverage before participating.