

# THE FINDLEY FOCUS

Findley Elementary School's Monthly Newsletter

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*"Aim high! Believe! Dream Big!"*

## Mark your calendars!

August 29th—Meals from the Heartland

September 4th—Back to School Night, 4:30pm-6:00pm

October 24th—No School

## WE ARE A PBIS SCHOOL!

(Positive Behavior  
Intervention and Support)

RESPECT Self

RESPECT Others

RESPECT Property

## From the Principal, Barbara Adams

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year! Our school theme this year is "Aim High." We believe that when we aim for high learning goals and make a joint effort to support that work, we will reach or exceed our goals. The next time you walk through our front entrance, take a moment to celebrate our progress from 2013-14 and see how we plan to aim even higher in 2014-15.

Save the Date! You won't want to miss Back-to-School Night, September 4 from 4:30 – 6:00. Come see how Findley's identification as the *Dreamer Academy* (I Have A Dream Foundation) brings unique benefits to our students so that they will be ready for college a career upon high school graduation. Meet with your child's teachers, join the PTO, and share your thoughts and ideas with me. Stop to learn about the "iCount" program, a fun way for students to deposit their Findley Paws and later spend them on school items supplied by John Deere Financial. We appreciate your time and know that your involvement at Findley means a lot to your child's success this year.

Thank you for your patience as we work to keep a smooth traffic flow before and after school. Remember that Oxford Ave is one-way heading north during these times. Drivers, please pull up to the curb in the parent lane that stretches along the west side of the building. Students will remain on the curb until their car arrives in the lane. Traffic may be slow for about 5 minutes.

## Open Enrollment 2015-2016

March 1, 2015 is the last date for regular open enrollment requests for the 2015-2016 school year. Applications are available on [www.DMSchools.org](http://www.DMSchools.org). Please see the accompanying letter for details.

## Websites to Check Out

[FINDLEY.DMSCHOOLS.ORG](http://FINDLEY.DMSCHOOLS.ORG)

*Learn about teachers, activities  
and events at your school.*

[FINDLEYCOUNSELING.WEEBLY.COM](http://FINDLEYCOUNSELING.WEEBLY.COM)

[FINDLEYART.WEEBLY.COM](http://FINDLEYART.WEEBLY.COM)



# FINDLEY'S MISSION:

## *Creating big dreamers and high Achievers!*

### Kindergarten Kicks Off

Kindergarten is off to a great start. Please make sure the students are in bed at a good time every night and that you check their backpacks for important information.

### From the Nurse's Office

Welcome! My name is Cynthia Fuson and I am the school nurse at Findley. I'm anticipating a healthy and safe year at Findley. My hours at Findley are 7:45AM to 3:45PM. Please call me with any questions or concerns.

Good attendance at school is important and often stressed to the students by their parents and teachers. As a parent, it is often difficult to know when a child should stay home due to illness, and when they should be encouraged to attend. These guidelines might help you make a decision.

*A student should be kept home from school if:*

**FEVER:** They have a temperature of 100degrees or above. There should be no fever for at least 24 hours without the use of Tylenol or Ibuprofen before they return.

**VOMITING:** Until vomiting has ceased for at least 24 hours.

**DIARRHEA:** Until diarrhea has ceased.

**CHICKEN POX:** Until all pox are dry and crusted over (usually about 5-7 days).

**STREP THROAT:** Until students have been on antibiotics and without fever for 24 hours before returning to school.

OR if they have been diagnosed with any other contagious disease or condition by a physician.

Sometimes symptoms can be vague or get worse as the day progresses. As a parent, it is often difficult to assess and decide on attendance for the day. If you keep them home and soon see marked improvement, it is permissible to bring them to school. If you send them and symptoms worsen, we will notify you.

Therefore, it is important for parents to keep current work and emergency phone numbers available and updated at school.

- Nurse Cynthia

### Dreamer Academy

The Des Moines "I Have a Dream" Foundation is very excited to share that we have partnered with Des Moines Public Schools to select Findley Elementary as the first Dreamer Academy in Iowa, and only the second Dreamer School in the entire country!

What does that mean for Findley students and families? It means that we are building a school culture of **college and career** to encourage students at an early age to dream big and aim high. We will address barriers that students and families face that often impact school success by working with community partners to provide resources for Findley. For example:

*Free to any Findley parent or guardian: The HiSET, High School Equivalency Test (formerly known as the GED), offered through DMACC. If you or someone you know would like to complete their high school diploma, this is your chance! **Orientation will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 14 at 5:00 PM.** Later this year, DMACC will offer English Language classes for Spanish-speaking adults in the Findley community.*

**COLLEGE SAVINGS ACCOUNTS FOR EVERY FINDLEY STUDENT:** We will send out more detailed information about these, but **please be sure to attend Parent/Teacher Conferences on Oct. 15 or Oct. 22** to sign up for your child's free college savings account, managed and funded by the "I Have a Dream" Foundation and partners. You will earn your first deposit when you register!

You are Dreamer Families at Findley and we believe in Dreamers! If you have questions or want more information, please contact the Dreamer Academy Director, Heather Isaacson, at [heather.isaacson@dmschools.org](mailto:heather.isaacson@dmschools.org) or 515-971-3705.