

WHOM SHOULD YOU CALL?

As we get into full swing with the 2005-2006 school year, I feel that it is appropriate to share with you the “chain of command” regarding whom you should contact with any questions or concerns. Parents should find this information useful, and actually time saving. As usual, the superintendent is the final link on this chain of command. I have no problem in discussing any concerns with anyone. However, it is very important that all other persons who might be associated with your concern are contacted prior to contacting me. Otherwise, I will simply be referring your concern back to the person or persons that should have been contacted in the first place, and could have likely provided you with the information you were seeking. After exhausting all efforts to work through the chain of command have occurred, you are welcome to contact me. I may be able to assist you with your concern. Then, again, I may agree with and support the information that you received prior to contacting me, thus not being able to give you the exact help that you are seeking. So, what is the appropriate chain of command? Whom should you call first, second, and so forth with your concern? Let’s break this down and take a look.

Concern

Contact Persons in Order

CLASSROOM SITUATION OF ANY KIND – 1) Your Child’s Teacher; 2) Guidance Counselor; 3) Principal; 4) Superintendent at 544-5586; 5) Board of Education.

GIFTED EDUCATION – 1) Teacher; 2) Counselor; 3) Harry Smittle, Gifted Coordinator at 544-5586; 4) Superintendent; 5) Board of Education.

READING RECOVERY – 1) Teacher; 2) Principal; 3) Linda Stepp, Supervisor at 544-5586; 4) Superintendent; 5) Board of Education.

ANY STATE OR FEDERAL PROGRAM - 1) Teacher; 2) Principal; 3) Linda Stepp, Supervisor at 544-5586; 4) Superintendent; 5) Board of Education.

GRADUATION, ACT TESTS, PROFICIENCY TESTS – 1) Teacher; 2) Counselor; 3) Principal; 4) Superintendent; 5) Board of Education.

CURRICULUM OR SHORT-CYCLE ASSESSMENTS – 1) Teacher; 2) Principal; 3) Dee Ann Davis, Supervisor at 544-5586; 4) Superintendent; 5) Board of Education.

BUILDINGS OR GROUNDS – 1) Principal; 2) Bob Strobl, Business Manager at 544-5586; 3) Superintendent; 4) Board of Education.

EMPLOYMENT – 1) Joe Wills, Personnel Director at 544-5586; 2) Superintendent; 3) Board of Education.

PUBLIC PRESCHOOL – 1) Joe Wills, Personnel Director at 544-5586; 2) Superintendent; 3) Board of Education.

HANDICAPPED PRESCHOOL – 1) Laurel Hamilton, Supervisor at 544-5586; 2) Superintendent; 3) Board of Education.

SPECIAL EDUCATION, IEP, IAT – 1) Counselor; 2) Principal; 3) Laurel Hamilton, Supervisor at 544-5586; 4) Superintendent; 5) Board of Education.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION – 1) Counselor; 2) Principal; 3) Richard Shoemaker, Supervisor at 544-5586; 4) Superintendent; 5) Board of Education.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION – 1) Counselor; 2) Principal; 3) Tad Mitchell, Director at 544-2336; 4) Superintendent; 5) Board of Education.

FOOD SERVICE, NUTRITION, LUNCH, BREAKFAST – 1) Principal; 2) Vicki Kratzer, Supervisor at 544-5586; 3) Superintendent; 4) Board of Education.

ATHLETICS – 1) Your child's coach; 2) Athletic Director; 3) Principal; 4) Superintendent; 5) Board of Education.

BUSSING – 1) Principal; 2) Todd Scott, Transportation Manager at 587-2761; 3) Bob Strobl, Business Manager at 544-5586; 4) Superintendent; 5) Board of Education.

I would like to expand just a little on each of the last two categories. With regards to athletics, I have never told a coach whom to play, how long to play them, which plays to run, and the like. I didn't do this when my own children were going through high school and participating in sports. And, I have no intentions of doing this now. For me, it is not

so much about the playing time; it's about learning to work together as a team. It's about overcoming obstacles to reach a goal and learning what each individual's role is in this process. Helping foster this type of development is part of the responsibility of the coach---not the superintendent. Now, if something immoral, unethical, or illegal is going on, then the Superintendent needs to know about it so that appropriate actions can be considered. Just because there is a "rumor" of this type of activity, it doesn't mean that the activity is actually occurring. Sports provide a wonderful outlet for students. Most young people will enjoy sports as long as we adults allow them to do so. It is a fact of sports that not all participants can or will become the "star" of the team. Also, not all will receive equal playing time. Teamwork is the most important thing that a student can gather or learn from sports. Oh, and have fun doing it.

On the subject of student transportation via school buses, I can assure you that our district always does its very best to insure as short of a commute as possible to and from school. We have done some rearranging of bus routes in all three of our attendance areas this past summer due to the elimination of three bus routes through attrition. Why did we eliminate three routes and reorganize the remaining routes? Basically, we did this for two reasons. First, we had buses that were barely half filled to capacity. Second, eliminating a route in each attendance area and following that action with some reorganization allows us to be more efficient with your tax dollars. With our fuel costs nearly doubled at this point from what they were a year ago, I feel that we are being very cautious and protective of your taxpayer dollars in this area. The escalating cost of fuel is going to have a profound impact on each and every aspect of school operations. But,

that's another article. For now, give us a few days to work out some of the kinks with busing. We hope to be able to address any concerns, and will at all times remain in accordance with the law. Thank you.

Charles P. Kimble

Superintendent