



Minooka Community Consolidated
School District # 201

Superintendent - Mr. Al Gegenheimer
Asst. Supt. - Dr. Stephen Palaniuk
304 Mondamin, Suite 120
P.O. Box 467
Minooka, IL 60447
Phone: (815) 467-6121
Fax: (815) 467-9544

Minooka Elementary School
400 Coady Drive
Minooka, IL 60447
Principal - Mrs. Natalie Baxter
Asst. Principal- Mrs. Tiffany Staab
Phone: (815) 467-2261
Fax: (815) 467-1323

Minooka Intermediate School
305 Church Street
Minooka, IL 60447
Principal - Mr. Harold King
Asst. Principal- Mrs. Tiffany Staab
Phone: (815) 467-4692
Fax: (815) 467-3120

Aux Sable Elementary School
1004 Misty Creek Drive
Minooka, IL 60447
Principal-Mr. Sam Martin
Asst. Principal-Mrs. Teresa Miller
Phone: (815) 467-5301
Fax: (815) 467-2166

Walnut Trails Elementary School
301 Wynstone Drive
Shorewood, IL 60404
Principal
Mrs. Kathleen Cheshareck
Asst. Principal - Mr. Rodney Hiser
Phone: (815) 725-9360
Fax: (815) 725-9366

Minooka Junior High School
333 W. McEvilly Rd.
Minooka, IL 60447
Principal - Mr. DJ Skogsberg
Asst. Principal - Ms. Sarah Massey
AP/AD - MAJ (Ret.) William Geasa
Phone: (815) 467-2136
Fax: (815) 467-5087

December 5, 2008

Dear Parents and Students,

Greetings from Minooka Community Consolidated School District 201! I hope all is well with our many families. I am writing today to inform you all about recent developments concerning the school construction in our district and the names for our two new schools.

As you know last fall more than sixty (60) parents and community members met to discuss a plan to address the overcrowded conditions at all of our schools. The committee was presented information related to enrollments, finances, and curriculum. Based on the information presented, the committee developed a plan to address the overcrowded conditions in a most cost effective manner. In February the community authorized the district to move forward with the plan which included:

1. Construction of a new 5th-6th grade school (adjacent to current MJHS).
2. Construction of a new elementary school (at the corner of Black Road and Barberry Way).
3. Construction of an addition to Minooka Elementary School (that will increase the student capacity at the school and provide equivalent library and gym space).
4. Renovation to the current Minooka Intermediate School to convert it to a primary (Pre-k, Kindergarten) center (and allow us to continue to use the nearly 100 year old building for the next 30 to 50 years).

The building construction has been moving forward. As planned, our expectations are to move into the two new schools in the fall of 2009. We also anxiously anticipate the completion of the additions to Minooka Elementary School by the fall of 2009. Renovations to Minooka Intermediate School will be complete by the fall of 2010 when the building reopens as a Pre-K/Kindergarten Center.

"We work best when we work together!"

Our mission in Minooka Community Consolidated School District # 201 is to provide each child in the community with a safe, caring learning environment that addresses the educational needs and potential of each student in a manner that encourages lifelong learning.

Page Two

“Naming of the New Schools Letter”

In September the Board of Education authorized a “Naming of the New Schools Committee”. An open invitation to students, parents, and community members was made to encourage participation in the naming of the two new schools. Many students, parents, and community members participated and we held a committee meeting whose purpose was to narrow the more than 20 suggested names (for each school) down to two or at most three for the Board.

On October 30th at Walnut Trails Elementary School the committee met. The committee unanimously recommended that the Board name the new 5th-6th grade school Minooka Intermediate School. At its November 19th regular meeting the Board unanimously approved the name for the new 5th-6th grade school **Minooka Intermediate School**. The Board also named the Principal for the Minooka Intermediate School, Mr. Harold King.

The committee then narrowed the choices of names for the new elementary school to the following two choices: Jones Elementary School and Prairie Ridge Elementary School. Both names have historical significance in the area. The Prairie Ridge name has significance because of its close proximity to Ridge Road and, of course, the entire area was once a part of the Great Plains, a prairie.

The site of the new school also is located just one mile north of Jones Road and is adjacent to the property that was once the site of the original Jones School, the last one-room school house to consolidate into Minooka CCSD 201. Jones School closed in 1962 after educating children from the area for more than 100 years. After careful consideration, at its November 19th meeting the Board of Education named the new elementary school, **Jones Elementary School**. The Principal for Jones Elementary School was named by the Board as well. Mr. Rodney Hiser will be the new principal at Jones Elementary School.

On behalf of the Board of Education, the Principals of **Minooka Intermediate School** and **Jones Elementary School**, and all of the Minooka Schools community, I would like to thank everyone that invested their time and effort in helping us develop and communicate our current plan, and name our two new schools. Thank you!

Respectfully,



Al Gegenheimer,
Superintendent

“We work best when we work together!”

Our mission in Minooka Community Consolidated School District # 201 is to provide each child in the community with a safe, caring learning environment that addresses the educational needs and potential of each student in a manner that encourages lifelong learning.