



Welcome Grandparents!

Grandparent's Day

Thanks for coming! The students and staff at CES are glad that you are here to help us celebrate Grandparent's Day! This is a special day for our students and it is you that makes it so. Grandparents are a connection to our heritage and essential members of families and community. We look at Grandparent's Day as a time to share our school with folks across generations.

Relax and enjoy your day. Grandparent's day need not be the only day you visit our school. Many folks will visit their students by having lunch with them in our cafeteria. Others attend our Christmas and Spring Music Programs. Whatever you choose, know that you are welcome in our school.

Below is some information that you may find interesting or helpful.

CES Students Work To Be Respectful, Responsible and Safe

For the last two years, CES students and staff have been a part of the national Positive Behavior Supports program. The program is very popular in Missouri but it looks differently in each school that participates. At CES, we are working every day to help students and staff learn the benefits of being respectful, responsible and safe. If you look around our building, you will see blue signs on the walls that remind us of all the ways to be respectful, responsible and safe. Each sign is an example of one of the lessons our students learn as a part of the program. We try to teach appropriate behaviors to students just like we teach reading or math. These behavior expectations are a part of our curriculum. As a result, we have seen a decrease in the number of serious discipline referrals. Our purpose is to support academic achievement with improved behavior. Just for fun, ask anyone what KHAFOOTY is.

Bond Projects

Students and staff are very thankful to our patrons for the approval of a bond levy extension in the April election. At CES we have been working since then to make many improvements in and around our building.

First, here are some of the projects that you might not easily see:

- **New Roof:** This project began on July 7 and was just completed a couple of weeks ago. Our roof was completely refurbished. The original roof was installed in 1991 and was showing signs of failure. Just look around at the ceiling to see all of the stained tiles where the old roof once leaked (we will replace those tiles soon).
- **Exterior Walls:** Our outside walls have been sealed, caulked, painted, tuck-pointed and/or repaired.
- **Heating/Air Units:** 11 of the 19 rooftop heating and air conditioning units were replaced. These were a part of the original units installed in 1991.
- **Lights:** The fluorescent light bulbs in the original 1991 part of the building and the 1996 addition are no longer manufactured. We will be replacing them in the next month with newer, longer lasting and energy efficient bulbs. This includes the gym and cafeteria. We will also be installing motion sensors in some areas to save more electricity. We will also be receiving a rebate from the power company.
- **Technology:** Our computers and internet service are becoming a greater part of the instructional day at CES. Because of this, we are updating our switching equipment and network bandwidth to accommodate increasing demands.
- **Security:** Over the summer, we had a number of cameras placed throughout the building. These help us ensure that we have a safe and secure environment.

Here are some improvements that are easy to see:

- **Playground:** We are in the final days of our playground project. We will have a rugged, state-of-the art facility for our students and community. Our playground is in constant use during school, on weekends and during countless softball, baseball and soccer games. Each piece of equipment was chosen for its durability, play-value and attractiveness.

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

- **Awnings:** This spring, we will be adding some awnings to the front, east, northwest and west entrances. These will provide protection for our students and staff as they enter and leave the building.
- **Front Door Lock:** Our front door is now continuously locked and monitored during regular school hours. We feel that this procedure keeps our students and staff safer while in the building.

Oriole Strong

Oriole Strong is a new program to our school district. It is our way of building pride within our students and staff for their school. On the first day of the school year, we had a district-wide assembly to kick-off the program. Since then, we have put the elementary students together with the high school students for activities that will help us build a better sense of community and spirit. We have sponsored activities to celebrate homecoming and American Education Week for the entire student body and combined staff. You can keep track of Oriole Strong happenings by checking out the [Concordia R-II Facebook](#) page.

Parent-Teacher Organization

Another way we support our school is through the Parent-Teacher Organization. This group is made up of parents and staff. The PTO raises money to support our programs. Through our yearly Walkathon, Readathon and Carnival, the PTO has provided many things for CES: books, classroom supplies, atomic clocks, stereo equipment, playground equipment and much more. To keep up with PTO happenings browse to the [Concordia R-2 Website](#) and look for [Parent Teacher Organization](#) under the Parents tab. You can also follow activities on the [Concordia Elementary School Parent/Teacher Organization \(CES PTO\)](#) Facebook page.

Services Provided

Besides the regular education provided to all of our students, CES provides the following services to those who qualify:

- Title I Reading & Math
- Special Education Services
- Counseling Services
- Parents As Teachers
- English As A Second Language
- Occupational Therapy
- Free and Reduced Price Meals
- Free and Reduced Tuition Preschool

Activities for Students

At CES we offer a wide range of activities for students that complement their education.

- All students participate in Art, Music, Character Education, Physical Education and Library classes as a regular part of the curriculum.
- Our Science Olympiad teams for fourth-sixth grade students allow children to participate in contests that encourage discovery and build knowledge about scientific principles. This activity takes place outside of school hours.
- Math Relays allow fourth-sixth graders to extend their knowledge of Mathematics while competing with other schools. This group practices and competes outside of the school day.
- Singing Orioles, also for fourth-sixth grades, is an honor choir that provides musical challenges for students. This is also an extra-curricular activity.
- Fifth & Sixth Grade Honor Choir is a select group of students chosen on their musical merits to attend a massed choir of students from over 50 schools in the area.
- Band is a program open to fifth and sixth grade students. The students learn to become proficient on instruments while enjoying music.
- Our Student Council is made up of officers and representatives from the fifth and sixth grades. They gain experience in government while sponsoring and supporting many of the activities at our school.
- Big-Time Basketball is a community program from anyone in Concordia attending the third or fourth grade. It is run by high school students and provides recreational basketball activities on Saturday mornings in January and February.
- Fifth & Sixth Grade Basketball is a competitive organization for boys and girls. Our teams play six to eight games and attend two tournaments.

If you have questions or comments, you are always welcome to contact us.

Joe Beydler- CES Principal

(660) 463-2261 jbeydler@concordia.k12.mo.us

George Vandiver-Director of Special Services

(660) 463-2246 gvandiver@concordia.k12.mo.us

Mary Beth Scherer-Superintendent

(660) 463-7235 mbscherer@concordia.k12.mo.us