

# A Warrior Welcome

## TO NORWALK SCHOOLS





# OUR MISSION

*Our fundamental purpose is to create a rigorous, collaborative and inclusive learning environment for all students so each individual is empowered to pursue a lifetime of personal success in college, career and citizenship.*



## What's Inside

- 03 Kindergarten Information
- 04 Kindergarten Literacy Support
- 05 Middle School Preparation
- 07 Community Support & Resources
- 08 Transportation, Student Fees, Nutrition & Weather/Closings Information
- 09 Construction
- 10 Enrollment Updates

# LETTER

*from the Superintendent*



**D.T. Magee**

Welcome to the Norwalk Community School District where we are focused on creating world class schools for the students, families, and communities we serve! Our district balances high academic expectations and excellent extra and co-curricular activities. The ultimate goal is to address each student's individual learning needs so that our students become future leaders. The communities we serve in NW Warren County are growing and our district is working closely with city and county leaders to facilitate and successfully manage this growth. Learn more about all of the great aspects of NCSD at [www.norwalkschools.org](http://www.norwalkschools.org) and make sure to follow us on Twitter [@NorwalkSchools](https://twitter.com/NorwalkSchools) or [#BeAWarrior](https://twitter.com/BeAWarrior) and like us on Facebook [@norwalkcsd](https://www.facebook.com/norwalkcsd).



D.T. Magee  
Superintendent

## Our Schools 2019-2020

### Oviatt Elementary

Preschool  
713 School Ave  
(515) 981-1005  
[@OviattWarriors](https://twitter.com/OviattWarriors)  
Sheila Taylor, Principal

### Orchard Hills Elementary

K-2nd Grade  
1130 W. North Ave  
Sheila Taylor, Principal

### Lakewood Elementary

3rd-5th Grade  
9210 Happy Hallow Dr.  
(515) 981-1850  
[@LakewoodElem](https://twitter.com/LakewoodElem)  
Jill Anderson, Principal

### Norwalk MS

6th & 7th Grade  
200 Cherry St.  
(515) 981-0435  
[@warriorsNMS](https://twitter.com/warriorsNMS)  
Beth Ward, Principal

### Eastview

8th & 9th Grade  
1600 North Ave  
(515) 981-9655  
[@eastview\\_89](https://twitter.com/eastview_89)  
Dr. Jody Ratigan, Principal

### Norwalk HS

10th - 12th Grade  
1201 North Ave  
(515) 981-4201  
[@Norwalk\\_HS](https://twitter.com/Norwalk_HS)  
Chris Basinger, Principal

\* Starting in the 2020-2021 school year, Oviatt will serve grades Preschool, K & 1st, Orchard Hills will serve grades 2nd & 3rd, and Lakewood will serve grades 4th-5th.



# Oviatt Elementary

Welcome to Norwalk Community School District and Don Oviatt Elementary! Oviatt is a family of learners and leaders. Our goal is to develop a strong foundation academically and socially for each student. This happens by helping each student grow to their potential through a growth mindset and a program developing habits through *Leader In Me* that guides students as learners and leaders.

I love Norwalk and being a Warrior! Norwalk has a small town feel, which I appreciate coming from a smaller community in central Iowa, but is growing which continually pushes me as a learner and leader. It is so exciting!



Sheila Taylor

Orchard Hills/  
Oviatt Elementary Principal



## Best Ways to Support Your Kindergartner's Literacy Development At Home

### Play with Word and Letter Sounds

Perhaps the most important early literacy skill to build in young pre-readers is the ability to recognize, substitute and blend sounds in spoken words. This broad skill, called phonological awareness, includes identifying and manipulating units of oral language – parts such as letters, words and syllables. Children who have phonological awareness are able to identify and make oral rhymes, can clap out the number of syllables in a word, and can recognize words with the same initial sounds like 'money' and 'mother.'

How you can help build phonological awareness at home:

- Help your child think of a number of words that start with the /m/ or /sh/ sound, or other beginning sounds.
- Make up silly sentences with words that begin with the same sound, such as "Nobody was nice to Nancy's neighbor".
- Play simple rhyming or blending games with your child, such as taking turns coming up with words that rhyme (cat – mat) or blending simple words (/d/, /o/, /g/ = dog).

### Read and Discuss Daily with Your Child

Reading aloud at home with your child is a powerful way to support oral language development and early

reading readiness skills. Research has demonstrated that the most effective read-alouds are those where children are actively involved asking and answering questions and making predictions, rather than passively listening. Try asking your kindergartner questions like this when you read together:

#### 1. Talk about the book

Is this a real story or a made up story? How can you tell? What can we learn by looking at the cover of this book? Where is the top of the book? Where is the bottom? Where should I start reading?

#### 2. Talk about the words

Valiant means brave. Can you tell me who was valiant in the story? How many words can you think of that sound the same as "room"?

#### 3. Talk about the story

How are Max and the Wild Thing feeling in this part of the story? How might the webbed feet help the Wild Thing? What do you think will happen next?

#### Helpful Links

[https://iowacore.gov/sites/default/files/kindergarten\\_parent\\_guide\\_1.pdf](https://iowacore.gov/sites/default/files/kindergarten_parent_guide_1.pdf)

<https://iowareadingresearch.org/resources/web>



### Medications

If your child needs to take a prescription during the school day, the medication(s) need to be in the prescription bottle & please fill out a permission slip on the website:

<https://www.norwalkschools.org/district/departments/student-services/nursing/>

## K-2nd School Supply List

- 12-#2 pencils
- 3-boxes, 24ct CRAYOLA crayons
- 1-two-pocket folder w/fasteners
- 1-pkg EXPO dry erase markers
- 1-CRAYOLA washable markers-10ct
- 2-boxes of Kleenex
- 1-4pack of Play-Doh

- 1-pkg pencil erasers
- 1-Chlorox wipes
- 2-pkg glue sticks
- 1-headphones (child-size)
- A-L (Last Name) 1-box of snack Ziploc baggies
- M-Z (Last Name) 1-box of quart Ziploc baggies
- 1-back pack (no wheels) (standard size to fit a folder)





# Preparing for Middle School

Norwalk Middle School-Where students are engaged and empowered to learn- **We ARE Warriors!**

I am honored to begin my seventh year as the Norwalk Middle School Principal. Our students thrive in an environment that promotes Achievement, Respect, Responsibility and Empathy. Our doors are open to all learners!

I have been in education for 24 years with this being my 10th year in Administration. Welcome to Norwalk Middle School!



**Beth Ward**  
Middle School Principal

**April 2019**  
*5th grade classes will shadow 6th graders for a morning (transportation provided)*

**Throughout The Year**  
*5th graders rotate teachers to simulate a middle school schedule.*

**August 21st 4-6pm**  
*Open House & New Families Meeting*

**August 23rd**  
*First Day of School*

## Enrollment Requirements

- Immunization Record (6th + 7th Gr.)
- TDAP + Meningococcal Current (7th Gr. only)

## We Are Here For You!



**Rachel Chapman**  
Counselor

(515) 981-0435  
[rchapman@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:rchapman@norwalk.k12.ia.us)

One of my favorite aspects of being a Norwalk Warrior is being part of a school community that truly values student achievement and success! I feel privileged to work as a school counselor at the middle school because I get to witness and assist in the growth of our students in many areas of their lives. Each student has a unique set of traits and talents, and my goal is to help each student realize their potential and worth. I'm looking forward to another great school year as a Warrior!



**Chad Wiedmann**  
Student Advocate

(515) 981-0435  
[cwiedmann@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:cwiedmann@norwalk.k12.ia.us)

Welcome to Norwalk Middle School! We are excited to get the year started! Our mission is to grow student achievement, respect, responsibility and empathy. After spending a number of years at Norwalk High School, I am returning to Norwalk Middle School and looking forward to seeing you become a Warrior!



*"Just finished registering my kiddos for next school year. It's hard to believe we've almost been in our new house a year. This year has far exceeded our expectations and hopes. Norwalk Schools are filled with some really amazing teachers, administrators, and best of all FRIENDS! So very thankful we landed where we did, and thankful for all our new friends that have made it feel like home so quickly!"*

- Sara Osterloh, Norwalk Parent

*"I have always appreciated my kids' teachers and all they have done to teach my kids. As I watch my kids grow and develop, I see that they did so much more than teaching them numbers and letters. They taught them about being good citizens, leaders, humans. They taught them to be seekers of knowledge and truth. They taught them responsibility, commitment, honor and drive. And most of all they made them feel loved and like they mattered! Five years ago, I stepped into the educational side of PT and I have gained a completely new respect for what teachers have to do each and every day. The rigor and rules they must follow, the hours, the underfunded budgets, and classrooms, the constantly changing legislation. Doing all of this with kids who are maybe hungry, tired, homeless, have mental health or physical disabilities. And missing time with their own kids. Teachers are my heroes and we have been blessed with amazing ones!!"*

- Melissa Bice, Norwalk Parent







# Community Supports & Resources

## Numbers You Should Know

District Office (515) 981-0676  
Eastview 8/9 (515) 981-9655  
High School (515) 981-4201  
HS Activities Office (515) 981-4204  
Lakewood Elementary (515) 981-1850  
Middle School (515) 981-0435  
Nutrition (515) 981-9876  
Oviatt Elementary (515) 981-1005  
Transportation (515) 981-0016

## Norwalk Food Pantry

Sponsored by the Norwalk Ministerial Assoc.  
*Hosted out of New Life Lutheran Church*  
4380 Wakonda Drive  
Norwalk, IA  
(515) 285-5965

## Norwalk Student Education Foundation

<http://www.norwalkstudentfoundation.org/>

## Athletic Boosters Club

<https://www.leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?url=norwalkathleticboosterclub>

## Music Boosters Club

<http://www.norwalkmusicboosters.com/>

## UnityPoint Clinic Family Medicine

801 Colonial Cir.  
Norwalk, IA  
(515) 285-3200

## Mercy Clinic Family Medicine

9421 Marketplace Dr.  
Norwalk, IA  
(515) 974-0800

## Norwalk Family Dentistry

1101 Chatham Ave.  
(515) 256-9000

## Dimples Dentistry

2521 Sunset Dr. #2  
(515) 256-1176

## Indianola YMCA

306 E Scenic Valley Ave,  
Indianola, IA 50125  
(515) 777-7746

## Transportation

Let us know your busing needs. There are AM, PM or Roundtrip options available through the on-line registration process. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Carlos or Arlene at the Transportation Department.

Carlos Guerra, Director of Transportation  
[cguerra@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:cguerra@norwalk.k12.ia.us)  
Arlene Kluesner, Asst. to Director  
[akluesner@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:akluesner@norwalk.k12.ia.us)  
515-981-0016

## Nutrition

Lunch accounts will be created through the registration process. A username and password will be provided for you. Free and reduced lunches are available through our website's application on the Nutrition Department's page: <https://www.norwalkschools.org/district/departments/nutrition/>

DeeAnna Serres, Director of Nutrition  
[dserrres@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:dserrres@norwalk.k12.ia.us)  
(515) 981-9876

## Student Fees

Student fees are listed through the online registration process and can be paid online at the time of registration. You can also purchase activity passes for students and additional members for your family.

**REGISTER ONLINE HERE:**  
<http://tinyurl.com/NewFamilyOLR>

Registrar Contact:  
Becky Anthony  
[registrar@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:registrar@norwalk.k12.ia.us)  
(515) 981-0676 ext. 4001

## Weather/Closings Info

School weather delays and closings are posted on [norwalkschools.org](http://norwalkschools.org) and on Norwalk Schools District Facebook and Twitter accounts. Notifications are sent to the email provided in the registration process.

Additional updates are also posted to local channels KCCI and WHOTV.



**REGISTER ONLINE HERE:**  
<http://tinyurl.com/NewFamilyOLR>



# Construction Update

## SERVING A GROWING COMMUNITY

The Norwalk School District is growing and continuing to plan and execute facility improvements to meet the needs of increased enrollment, safety-security, technology and educational programs. The District has a 10-year building maintenance plan and a 15-year Facilities Master Plan.

Currently, the District is focused on three major construction projects:

**New Orchard Hills Elementary-** To address increased enrollment, the District is building a new elementary school on North Avenue, west of Highway 28. The building is designed to service 750 students with 30 general educational classrooms, three large-group intervention classrooms, a STEM classroom, a maker space, in addition to specialty classrooms for students with disabilities, library, regulation-size gymnasium, art and music classrooms. The building is scheduled to open in the fall of 2019 and is scheduled to service 2nd and 3rd grade students.

**Norwalk Middle School Renovations -** The root of this building was originally

constructed in 1972. Since then, the building has received four additions. Current renovations include a career and technical education (CTE) building addition, a new corridor to improve student circulation, renovations of existing classrooms to modernize the areas, and general building improvements for heating and cooling, technology, electrical wiring, ADA and security items.

**Norwalk High School Renovations -** The original section of the HS was built in 1961. The building has received nine additions and one major renovation to existing areas. The current renovations include improvements to CTE classrooms, media center, special education classrooms, guidance offices, some classroom reconfiguration and improved corridor circulation. The goal of renovation at our secondary campus is to create CTE classrooms that match current instructional applications in vocational programs, enhance technology to provide students with global connections and create spaces that invite students to learn in flexibly small group environments.

# Norwalk Schools Enrollment Update

The District is pleased to announce that 2018 student total enrollment in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade has increased by 162.44 students, increasing our resident enrollment from 2831.16 to 2993.6. (The fraction of a student is determined by the total number of Home Schooled students served within our District. School districts provide limited services for Home Schooled students; therefore, school districts receive limited funding for these students.) This resident enrollment is often referred to by the State as "budget enrollment".

A 162.44 student increase factors out to 5.74%. During the past 5 years, the District has been using a 3.25% growth factor to project future enrollment growth. We clearly see this percentage gradually increasing in future years.

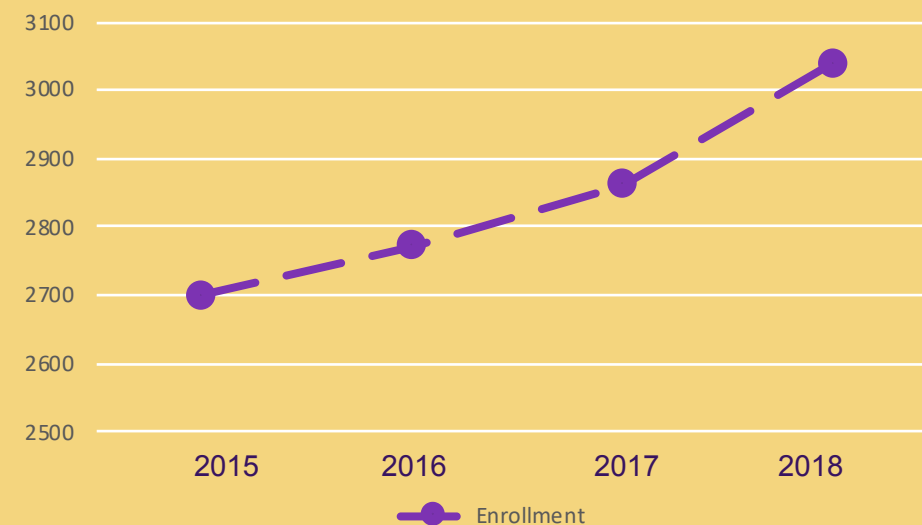
To prepare for the future growth, in 2014, the District commissioned RSP & Associates (RSP) out of Kansas City, MO, a professional demographer, to conduct an enrollment study. Previously, the District relied on locally determined projections that were based on historical trends. RSP collects past enrollment data, demographics of individual households, birth rates, housing trends, projected housing developments, employment data, etc. and runs the data through sophisticated algorithms to determine the enrollment projections. RSP has

projected enrollment trends in Waukee, Johnston, Ankeny, Southeast Polk (SEP), Adel-Desoto-Minburn (ADM) and Dallas Center-Grimes (DC-G) during the past five plus years. The credibility and accuracy of RSP's enrollment is solid because it is based on careful analysis of data specific to each individual school district. RSP's enrollment projections for Norwalk have proven to be spot on until 2018. That is not to say their analytics are inferior. The difference is more related to using older data. The 2018 projections are based off 2016 actual data.

The District has commissioned RSP to refresh the enrollment projections this year using the 2018 fall data. The graph illustrates "resident" enrollment, meaning students that reside within the Norwalk District. The enrollment numbers listed in the chart represent the total students "served" (resident students plus open enrolled students) in the Norwalk District. This type of enrollment increase means the District will need to accommodate 4-5 more classrooms every year. The Board of Directors has established a long-term facilities plan to meet this expected growth trend. With the anticipated rapid growth scheduled for Norwalk Schools, facility and operational planning has become an ongoing process to keep ahead of this curve.



Student Enrollment Increase



### Did You Know?

The Norwalk School District's current student body encompasses students from 10 different countries who speak over 10 different languages!





# LEARNING FOR A LIFETIME

*#BeAWarrior*



**Norwalk Schools**

380 Wright Road  
Norwalk, Iowa 50211

(515) 981-0676