

# COLO-NESCO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

## **MS/HS**

### **District Office**

Marc Snavelly, Superintendent  
Brandon Kelley, Principal  
919 West St.  
Colo, IA 50056  
(641) 377-2282

## **Elementary**

Marc Snavelly, Principal  
407 N Center Street  
Zearing, IA 50278  
(641) 487-7411



## Welcome to the 2022-2023 School Year,

The 2022-2023 school year will be ramping up soon. I hope everyone is enjoying their summer. The last few school years have been challenging, but I am very proud of all that we have overcome and accomplished. We navigated our way through a couple of years of COVID and putting mitigation strategies in place to keep everyone safe. Last school year, we had to work through the construction delays, and quite frankly, buildings that were a mess. Some of these challenges will still be present as we start the new school year. As far as construction goes, we are doing our best to push things along. Most of the major items will be completed by the time school starts. However, we will likely start the year finishing up many small punch list items in both Colo and Zearing. We are not anticipating that those things will impact our learning environment in any way. I am very proud of the patience that has been on display in our communities as we have worked through construction. In the end, we will have beautiful facilities and will have air-conditioning in both Colo and Zearing. Not many schools can say this.

My hope for the new school year is that we can get this construction project completed and continue to move forward with educating our students at the highest level possible. In the past year, we have made many changes to our curriculum, instruction, and interventions that we use with students to make sure each student is learning and progressing the best that they can. We are monitoring our data and will continue to share that data with you. We will also continue to present this data to the Colo-NESCO School Board three times a year. We have also made some staff changes to make sure the needs of our students are being met as a whole. A few examples include restructuring an At-Risk Position into a PK-12 Dean of Students Position, adding a Preschool/Special Education Teacher, and adding a College and Career Counselor at the High School that will be shared with Ballard and DMACC. The Board also approved a new cell phone policy in July that we believe will help our students progress academically.

To end, I am looking forward to the start of the new school year and my second year here at Colo-NESCO. I know our staff will be ready to go as well. I want to thank you all for making myself and our family feel welcome here. I will assure you that I will keep working hard to move things forward here at Colo-NESCO and make our school the best it can be. If you ever have questions or concerns, I can be reached by email at [msnavelly@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us](mailto:msnavelly@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us). I can also be reached by phone in Colo at (641) 377-2284 or in Zearing at (641) 487-7411. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Sincerely,

Marc Snavelly, Superintendent/ Elementary Principal

# BACK TO SCHOOL NEWS

The Colo-NESCO Community School District is committed to guiding and nurturing the academic, emotional, physical, and social development of all students, while promoting lifelong learning and citizenship in today's rapidly changing world. #RoyalWay

## Changes to the School Nutrition Program for School Year (2022-2023)

Meals will NO longer be available to ALL students free effective at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.



Households may complete an application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals during the 2022-2023 enrollment process. Only students with approved applications will receive free or reduced price meals for the 2022-2023 school year. Families who do not qualify for free meals will be responsible for paying for their children's meals at reduced OR paid rates.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Sheryl Gilmore at 641-377-2282 EXT. 243 or [sgilmore@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us](mailto:sgilmore@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us)

### Breakfast Prices

Preschool	\$1.45
K-4th	\$1.65
5th-12th	\$1.75
Adult	\$2.00

### Lunch Prices

Preschool	\$2.45
K-4th	\$2.90
5th-12th	\$3.00
Adult	\$4.13

## BUS TIMES

**Mondays:** Buses will leave Colo and Zearing at 9:25 am

**Tuesday - Friday:** Buses will leave Colo and Zearing at 7:55 am

Bus drivers will call families with rural pick up times.

Bus Drop Off Information for Zearing will be sent through JMC email once bus routes are finalized. Things will change slightly with the opening of the new building.



# CONGRATULATIONS



WE RECOGNIZED THE FOLLOWING CN  
STAFF FOR REACHING MILESTONE YEARS  
IN 2022:

## 5 YEARS:

DEE CARLSON  
LAKODA SPARKS  
KEN LEIGHTY  
DAVE SULT



## 15 YEARS:

TERESA HILL

## 25 YEARS:

SHERYL  
GILMORE

## 40 YEARS:

KATHY  
BENDIXEN



# From The Desk of Mr. Kelley....



Dear Colo-NESCO Families,

I hope you have had a wonderful summer break and are as excited to start the 2022-2023 school year as I am.

I am excited to partner with our families and staff to provide an outstanding learning environment for our students. Our MS/HS building has undergone some great updates over the past year that we are excited to showcase to students and staff as we start the new school year. We are excited to welcome four new teachers to our building this year. Landon Buckridge will be teaching 5th/6th Language Arts. Kelly Matteson will be teaching JH/HS Math. Kim Strunk will be teaching JH/HS Science and Todd Frohwein will be our new Ag teacher. If you get a chance, please welcome them to our district.

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on our new cell phone and electronic device policy that our school board approved during the July board meeting. In an effort to improve instructional learning time for students, the following policy has been implemented.

***Cell phones may be used on school grounds before school, during lunch and passing periods, and after school. Cell phone use is prohibited in classrooms, unless otherwise stated by a teacher for instructional purposes. During the instructional day, cell phones must remain out of sight and in silent mode. Unless explicitly allowed by a staff member, headphones and other listening devices may only be used before school and after school hours, during passing periods and at lunch. If students need to place an emergency phone call during the day, they should request to go to the main office to use an office phone. Any devices which have the capability of taking photographs or videos of any kind, without the consent of the person being photographed or video recorded, are not allowed. Violators may be turned over to law enforcement. Violations need to be reported to a school employee. Photographs and videos are prohibited from bathrooms and locker rooms. The school and its staff are not responsible for any damage to or theft of a student's cell phone. Students and their parents must read the cell phone policy and return a signed copy to the office at the beginning of the school year. Signing the policy acknowledges acceptance. If students violate the school's cell phone policy, the following may occur:***

- **First offense:** The student's cell phone will be confiscated by a staff member and held in the main office until the end of the school day. Before being allowed to pick up their phone at the end of the day, students must discuss and review the cell phone policy with a staff member.
- **Second offense:** The student's cell phone will be confiscated and held in the main office until the end of the school day. The student's parents will be contacted and informed of the refusal to follow the school's cell phone policy. The student's parent/guardian will be required to pick up their phone at the end of the school and a meeting will be held with administration, student and parent.
- **Third offense:** The student's cell phone will be confiscated and held in the main office until the student's parents are able to come to pick it up. Further disciplinary action may include suspension or school board action.

*I look forward to another great school year and feel free to contact me or any of our staff if you have any questions or concerns as the school year gets started.*

Sincerely,  
Mr. Kelley



# BACK TO SCHOOL

## WELCOME NEW STAFF!

Kim Strunk - MS/HS Science  
Kelly Matteson- MS/HS Math  
Landon Buckridge- 5/6 Language Arts  
Todd Frohwein- AG Instructor  
Breann Perisho-Preschool/Special Education  
Tara Hill - Associate  
Megan Dubberke - Associate  
Sherri Ruzek - Business Manager

## Important Dates

Late Start Mondays:

School Start Time is  
10:00 am.

Back To School Night:

Thursday, August 18th  
4:30 pm- 7:00 pm

First Day Of School:

Tuesday, Aug 23rd

### COUNSELORS CORNER:

#### **2022-2023 ACT dates:**

Test date - registration deadline

September 10 - August 5

October 22 - September 16

December 10 - November 4

February 11 - January 6

April 15 - March 10

June 10 - May 5

July 15 - June 16

#### **ATTENTION SENIORS AND SENIOR PARENTS:**

Here is some important information as we head into your senior year:

- As Mrs Kinser is notified of any scholarships, they will be posted on the school website under the counselors tab
- Remember the FAFSA opens on October 1st.

This is very important in receiving scholarships for your child.



## Mr. Frohwein Attends Professional Development Conference

Todd Frohein of the Colo-NESCO Agricultural Education department recently joined more than 200 secondary and post-secondary instructors from across Iowa at the Iowa Agricultural Education Summer Conference held at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny, Iowa, June 27-29, 2022. The purpose of the conference was professional development and to foster sharing of ideas from agriculture programs across the state. The conference was organized and facilitated by the Iowa Association of Agricultural Educators (IAAE).

This year's theme was "Best Practices". Speakers, programming and activities focused on fostering professionalism and communication among agricultural educators. Mini-workshops were held on topics including Agricultural Advocacy, Skills and Leadership CDEs, All In for Ag Education, and Professional Certifications. Learning activities included BriefCASE Training, new teacher mentoring and training, and time to interact with agricultural education professionals from all corners of the state.

IAAE professional organization activities were also conducted during the conference including policy making, the election of new officers, and the recognition of outstanding Iowa agricultural instructors and programs.



### About Iowa Association of Agricultural Educators (IAAE)

Agricultural Education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems. For more visit IAAE online at [iowaagteachers.org](http://iowaagteachers.org)

## **Annual Notices**

The following annual notices are all updated and posted on the District Website at [colonesco.org](http://colonesco.org) under the "District" Tab.

The notices include information on the following:

Asbestos

Directory Information

Educational Equity Policy Statement

District Discipline Policy Statement

Harassment & Bullying

Equal Employment Opportunities (Affirmative Action)

Iowa Sex Offender Registry

Military Recruiter Access

Video Surveillance

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act

Homeless Information

Colo-NESCO Community School District Assignments

Open Enrollment

Special Education Delivery Plan

Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Act

School Bus Safety-Kadyn's Law

Teacher Qualifications

Tobacco/Nicotine Free Environment

Use of Video/Audio Cameras on School Buses

Student Records

Code 102.E1 Annual Notice of Nondiscrimination

Code 102.E2 Continuous Annual Notice of Nondiscrimination

Corporal Punishment, Restraint, and Physical Confinement and Detention

## S.M.A.R.T.



Mrs. Niemeyer and Mrs. Breer attended the S.M.A.R.T. training in Rochester, Minnesota this summer. S.M.A.R.T. stands for Stimulating, Maturity through, Accelerated, Readiness, Training. S.M.A.R.T. develops and enhances the physiological readiness skills that children need in order to be ready for and succeed in school. This is a multisensory approach to learning and is FUN!

So our brains learn by seeing, hearing, and touching many things many, many, many times. Using the S.M.A.R.T. principles trains the brain and body to be ready to learn. Our preschool programs have time each day for gross motor activities which helps get the “wiggles out”, but something more important is happening with all this movement. We learned that young children need to move; the movement helps them know where their bodies are. Being still does not! Essentially our bodies need to move in order to learn HOW to be still. Research shows that purposeful, specific and systematic physical movement can affect the brain in a very positive way and dramatic way. We know that all children develop at different rates. We will start where the child is at. So this year you will see more movement in our preschool classrooms!! You will see different activities planned each day with a special focus. Some of these activities are balancing, helicopter spins, hopscotch, pencil rolls, slap tracks, alligator crawls, and a near/far focus. All these activities have a special purpose to enhance the children’s readiness to learn. We are looking forward to trying out these activities this year in preschool! We are also thankful for our school district for providing us with the opportunity to attend this conference. For more information check out the website [www.ACTG.org](http://www.ACTG.org).

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## FCCLA Nationals

Colo-NESCO FCCLA members Cerra Muntz, Annabelle Heller, Taylor Cox, and Jessie Duran and adviser Kelsie Engelken joined more than 7,000 Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) student members, advisers, and guests at the San Diego Convention Center, June 29-July 3 to participate in the annual National Leadership Conference (NLC).

Cerra Muntz competed in the Leadership STAR Event (Students Taking Action with Recognition) and received a Silver medal.

All four members had the opportunity to help with the FCCLA Knowledge Bowl competition as well by being timers and scorekeepers.

The conference provided Colo-NESCO members opportunities for listening to inspiring speakers, attending youth workshops, competing on the national level, and networking with other youth leaders. The theme of this year’s conference was “Make It Count,” which inspired attendees to share how they make it count while exploring career opportunities, developing leadership skills, and growing personally while making a difference in their families and communities.





## Administration & Management

Marc Snavely	Superintendent/Elementary Principal	msnavely@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Brandon Kelley	MS/HS Principal	bkelley@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Sherri Ruzek	Business Manager	sruzek@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Bill Lytle	Building & Grounds	blytle@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Sheryl Gilmore	Director of Food Services	sgilmore@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Jason Sampson	Director of Transportation	jsampson@nevadacubs.org
Kody Asmus	Director of School Improvement	kasmus@nevadacubs.org

## School Board

Joel Niemeyer	President	jniemeyer@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Jon Cutler	Vice President	jcutler@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Justin Walker	Board Member	sjustinwalker@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
John Fuller	Board Member	jfuller@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Brad Kohlwes	Board Member	bkohlwes@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Justin Jedlicka	Board Member	jjedlicka@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Katy McKinney	Board Member	kmckinney@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

Colo-NESCO Community School  
919 West Street  
Colo, IA 50056  
ECRWSS

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Colo, IA 50056

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