



Sept, 2009 Volume 13 Number 10

# The Source Online

The Spencer Community School District Online Newsletter



Photo courtesy of Spencer Daily Reporter

**2009-2010 New Teachers**  
Rachel Hodges, Wade Davis, Rodney Brown, Barb Besch

## SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION SEPTEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>

7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Administrative Offices  
23 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Conference Room B

School Board Candidates:  
Dean Mechler  
David Schlichtemeier  
Bob Whittenburg  
Bill Zinn

Absentee ballots are available from the auditor's office or online at  
[www.co.clay.ia.us](http://www.co.clay.ia.us)

## Flu Vaccine Opportunity for High School Students

FluMist is a needle-free, nasal spray flu vaccine that is being offered to high school students this fall. This vaccine will help prevent seasonal influenza, not H1N1 swine flu (an opportunity for this vaccination may be offered later this fall). The vaccine will only be given to those students who have turned in a parent signed consent form. If you did not pick up a consent form at registration, you may download and print one from the school website:

[www.spenceriowaschools.com](http://www.spenceriowaschools.com) or your student may pick one up in the high school office. The vaccine will be given once it becomes available in September. Watch the website for further details.

## Homecoming Week 2009

Homecoming Week 2009 is September 28 - October 3. The theme is James Bond 009. Coronation is on Thursday, October 1, 7:30 PM. Football game is on Friday, October 2, vs. Sioux City Bishop Heelan, 7:00 PM. Dance is on Saturday, October 3, 9:00 PM - Midnight. Call the High School, 262-1700,



**FUN, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP** along with a great attendance of Staff, Students & Parents at the SMS BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ. Attendees enjoyed a perfect weather evening including a grilled meal, music, beach-ball volleyball and tours of the SMS facility given by 8th grade students. Fun was had by ALL!!! A huge thank you to SMS PAWS for organizing, PSY for the extra help, and Scott Nolte-Y100 for the entertainment.



**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**OPEN HOUSES:**

- Sept. 1 MS 6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 3 HS 7:00 p.m.
- Sept. 21 Fairview 6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 22 Lincoln 6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 24 Johnson 6:30 p.m.

**PICTURE DAYS:**

- Sept. 2 High School
- Sept. 3 Middle School
- Sept. 4 Elementary

**NO SCHOOL DAYS**

- Sept. 7 Labor Day

#### **HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

The Spencer Community School District provides K-12 instruction on human growth and development including instruction on the following topics in accordance with the Iowa Department of Education: human sexuality, self-esteem, stress management, interpersonal relationships, and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

The human growth and development topics are incorporated into the district's K-12 health curriculum, science curriculum, and family consumer science curriculum. Information about the human growth and development curriculum and procedures used for inspecting and reviewing the instructional materials are available upon request.

Students shall not be required to take instruction in human growth and development topics if the student's parent or guardian files a written request with the building principal. Forms for this purpose are available at each building office.

#### **ABUSE OF STUDENTS BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES**

It is the policy of the Spencer Community School District that school employees not commit acts of physical or sexual abuse, including inappropriate and intentional sexual behavior, toward students. Any school employee who commits such acts is subject to disciplinary sanctions up to and including discharge. It is the policy of the Spencer Community School District to respond promptly to allegations of abuse of students by school employees by investigating or arranging for full investigations of any allegations and to do so in a reasonably prudent manner. The processing of a complaint or allegation will be handled confidentially to the maximum extent possible. All employees are required to assist in the investigation when requested to provide information, and to maintain the confidentiality of the reporting and investigating process. The Spencer Community School District has appointed a Level I investigator and alternates, and has arranged for a trained, experienced professional to serve as the Level II investigator. The Level I investigator and alternates will be provided training in the conducting of an investigation. The superintendent or designee shall prescribe rules in accordance with the rules adopted by the State Board of Education to carry out this policy.  
Level II Investigator Angie Ward 262-3345

#### **SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

All members of the Spencer Community School District, including, but not necessarily limited to, the Board, administration, faculty, staff, and students, are expected to conduct themselves at all times so as to provide an atmosphere free from sexual harassment. Any person who engages in sexual harassment while acting as a member of the school community will be in violation of Board Policy 502.10. Violations of this policy by students will be cause for disciplinary action up to and including suspension and expulsion. School employees shall be responsible for promoting understanding and acceptance of, and assuring compliance with state and federal laws and Board policy and procedures governing sexual harassment within the school setting.

#### **ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION**

The Spencer Community Schools has asbestos management prepared for all school buildings in the district. These plans are available for your inspection Monday through Friday during regular school office hours at the district office and at each buildings' principal office. As a part of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), all district asbestos containing materials are routinely inspected.

Periodic surveillances are conducted every six months to check for damage to the asbestos containing materials. Any damages are identified by properly trained individuals. In addition to periodic surveillances, the buildings are reinspected every three years. The purpose of the reinspection is to have a federally certified asbestos inspector reassess the condition of the material.

#### **RELEASE OF STUDENT INFORMATION**

The Spencer School District collects and maintains records for each student in order to facilitate the instruction, guidance, and educational progress of the student. The records contain information about the student and his/her education and may include the following types of records: identification data, attendance data, record of achievement, family background data, aptitude tests, educational and vocational plans, honors and activities, discipline data, and objective counselor or teacher ratings and observations. The records of each student are located in the school building which he or she is attending.

The following information may be released to the public in regard to any individual student of the school district as needed: Name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, the most recent previous school or institution attended by the student, and other similar information. Any student over the age of eighteen or parent not wanting this information released to the public must make objection in writing within 15 days of enrollment to the principal. The objection needs to be renewed annually.

## Spencer Vocal Music Boosters

### Mission Statement:

To strengthen the substance and quality of the Spencer Vocal music program, assuring Spencer students every opportunity to develop their vocal music skill and to exercise their talents.

### What do the Vocal Music Boosters do?

- \* Help and encourage the Spencer Vocal Music Department and students
- \* Support elementary and middle school vocal music
- \* Provided over 200 Madrigal costumes
- \* Coordinate dinners and decorations for past Pops and Madrigal dinners
- \* Help with show/jazz choir and small group contests
- \* Raise funds for choir trips
- \* Support the music theory class
- \* Award scholarships for summer music camps
- \* Award college scholarships to SHS seniors

### When are the Vocal Music Booster meetings?

Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month in the high school choir room at 5:30 p.m. The first meeting is Tuesday, September 1, 2009. This meeting is a great way to learn about the choir program and the Vocal Music Boosters group. We are always looking for new faces and fresh ideas, so please join us. All are invited!

### How can I help?

You can support Spencer Vocal Music Boosters by being involved!  
Become a Vocal Music Booster member.  
Attend the Vocal Music Booster Meetings.  
Donate an item from our wish list to the music department.  
(Recordable CDs, copy paper, Itune gift cards, extension cords, 9 v. batteries, etc.)

### How can I become a Vocal Music Booster member?

Simply check the level you wish to participate at on the form below.  
Please make checks payable to: **Spencer Vocal Music Boosters**.  
Mail to: Kris McDermott, 1204 11<sup>th</sup> Street West, Spencer, IA 51301.

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### 2009 - 2010 Spencer Vocal Music Booster Membership Form

----- Soloist	\$500 and up	Name -----
----- Duet	\$200-\$499	Business* -----
----- Trio	\$100-\$199	(*if applicable - will be printed in programs)
----- Quartet	\$50-\$99	Address -----
----- Chamber	\$25-\$49	Phone -----
----- Chorus	\$10-\$24	Email -----

----- I would be willing to volunteer my time to help. Please call me when needed.

## **TAILTWISTERS 09-10**

The Tailtwisters Booster Club was formed in 1981 for the purpose of aiding the Spencer Community Schools in maintaining a quality activity program. Funds raised by the Tailtwisters supplement the budget of the Activity Director and benefit all participants in athletic activities currently available at Spencer High School.

The past school year, the Tailtwisters purchased or aided in the purchase of equipment for many of the athletic teams and coaches. We also helped with the expenses of teams that traveled to state tournaments and represented the Spencer Tigers. The fieldhouse benefitted with the installation of sound baffles and a new mixer for the sound system.

The Spencer Tailtwisters would not be able to help with the updates to our school's facilities or the purchase of equipment without our community's and Tiger Fans generous support. 2009-2010 Tailtwister memberships are available at four levels: Regular Member \$15-\$49; Junior Varsity Member \$50-\$99; Varsity Member \$100-\$249; or All-Star \$250+.

Memberships may be mailed to:

Tailtwister Booster Club

P.O. Box 711

Spencer, Iowa 51301

Memberships may also be dropped off at high school office. Information should include name, address, and phone number.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the community and the athletes who participated in the Gold Card Blitz Night on Sunday, August 23. The athletes exceeded the sales goal we challenged them to. We are very proud of them! If you didn't get a chance to purchase a Gold Card, you may do so by contacting a board member or Roger Johnson at the high school.

Mark your calendars for our annual Football Tailgates to be held September 4 and October 16.  
Look for the Tailtwisters Tent near the north football stadium entrance.

Please consider adding your support for Spencer High School Athletics and becoming a member of the 2009-2010 Tailtwister Booster Club or by purchasing a Gold Card. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Tailtwister Board Members  
Dana Anderson, President  
Steve Rhode, Vice President  
Ann Baschke, Secretary  
Sue Salton, Treasurer  
Susie Baxter  
Tracy Boyd  
Bob Goeken  
Tim Greenough  
Scott Kramer  
Randy Wiemers

### **DEBATE TEAM AT THE FAIR**

The Spencer debate team will be debating the Okoboji/Spirit Lake debate team the first Saturday, September 12th, of the fair. The debate will take place in the 4-H auditorium at 1:30pm. The topic will be Immigration. Please join us for this annual debate which showcases the debate program and why it is an important activity which promotes critical thinking and the ability to look at a topic from both sides.



# PSY Newsletter

*Have You Signed?*

## **The Parent to Parent Pledge**

*Positively Spencer Youth (PSY) is made up of parents and community members who want to make a difference with the Spencer youth. The goal of the group is to change the attitude towards substance use and abuse through prevention and education.*

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### **Future Events:**

**September 15th : 7pm**

*Monthly PSY Meeting*

*Spencer Hospital's Cedar Conference Room (lower level)*

**OUR MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**September 26<sup>th</sup>:**

*Free Outdoor Family Movie  
West View Memorial Park*

**September 30<sup>th</sup>:**

*Free Homecoming movie  
for SHS students  
Spencer 3 Theatre*

*September 2009*

*Volume III: Issue I*

**To reach PSY:**

**580-SAFE**

**info@positivelyyouth.org**

As a parent/guardian we will always ask **WHO** our students are going to be with, **WHERE** our student is going, and **WHAT** our student is going to be doing while they are away from home.

We support each other's efforts to keep our student's healthy, safe and alcohol/drug free.

We will provide only chaperoned, alcohol/drug-free activities and parties for our students and their friends in our homes.

When we go out of town for the weekend, on business, etc. we will leave our students with adult supervision.

We welcome phone calls from other parents regarding activities of our students.

When in doubt, we will call to make sure our students are where they say they will be.

We support elimination of hotel/motel, lake home, and country parties without proper adult supervision.

We support responsible, age-appropriate curfews.

We support the community and school efforts to eliminate the use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs by our students.

**ASK US HOW YOU CAN SIGN THE PLEDGE & MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

**712-580-SAFE**



## Spencer High School - District Calendar Info

### September, 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <b>6:30pm</b> MS Open House @ Middle School  <b>7:00pm</b> Speech & Drama Orientation @ Old MS Auditorium	2 HS Life Touch Pictures @ High School	3 HS Academic Awards Assembly @ High School  HS Open House @ High School  MS Life Touch Picture Day @ Middle School	4 Elem. Life Touch Picture Day	5
6	7 <b>7:00pm</b> Fall Musical Tryouts @ Old MS Auditorium	8 Annual School Board Election  <b>7:00pm</b> Fall Musical Tryouts @ Old MS Auditorium	9 <b>4:00pm</b> Fall Musical Children's Tryouts @ Old MS Auditorium	10 <b>7:00pm</b> Fall Musical Tryouts @ Old MS Auditorium	11	12 <b>8:00am</b> HS ACT Tests @ High School
13	14 SHS Band @ Fair/Veteran's Day	15	16 HS BBB & WR Practices Begin	17	18 NO SCHOOL - FAIR DAY	19
20	21 <b>6:30pm</b> Fairview Open House	22 <b>5:30pm</b> School Board Meeting @ CO Board Room  <b>6:30pm</b> Lincoln Open House	23	24 <b>6:30pm</b> Johnson Open House	25	26 North Central IA Marching Band @ Ft. Dodge
27	28	29	30 <b>12:30pm</b> 12:30 Dismissal/Teacher Inservice			