

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

AUGUST 14, 2023



Dear CPU Families, Staff, and Community Members:

The 2023-24 School Year is just around the corner! It is both an exciting and busy time as tomorrow, Tuesday, August 15, all Center Point-Urbana CSD staff will be back on campus. We will begin Pre-Service with our annual all-staff Welcome Back/Opening Session.

CPU's Mission statement "*..is to develop successful, life-long learners by providing a safe and caring environment, a stimulating curriculum, and a dedicated staff working with supportive parents in a friendly, small-town atmosphere.*"

At the center of our mission is **students** and to accomplish our mission, leadership efforts will focus on a unified vision with staff, families and the community to ensure all students learn at high levels. This vision is supported by many things including—and most importantly—maintaining safe and secure schools.

Several (of many) ways our schools will focus on having safe, secure, and caring cultures in 2023-24 include:

- Use of the Safe+Sound School Violence Reporting Tool **[See Attachment]**
- Maintain secured entrances during the school day
- Forthcoming installation of security cameras and illuminated lighting thanks to a \$200,000 Safety Grant
- Implementation of new K-12 Social Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum

A safe, secure, and caring learning environment, along with a dedicated staff, helps maximize student's learning which, again, is the focus of our mission. How well do our students do? **Attached** are the Iowa School Performance Profiles for our district since 2018. These profiles—along with each year's overall rating—demonstrates how our schools are performing on required measures. While continuous improvement is always the goal, CPU students and schools are performing well overall (as evident by a lot of greens and golds)!

Lastly, on behalf of the district, I want to extend my sincere gratitude to all parents, families, and community members for the tremendous support provided to our schools. It is my unwavering belief that a unified effort by all staff, families, and the community has what made CPU great; it is that same unified effort that will take our schools to the next level in order to ensure our students are successful, lifelong learners. Thank you for your support!

Regards,

John W. Elkin
Superintendent

#CPUNation

Introducing Our School Violence Reporting Tool



Dear Parents and Families:

As part of the Center Point-Urbana CSD's commitment to our students' safety and mental health, we are pleased to introduce **Safe+Sound Iowa**—a free, anonymous school violence reporting tool. Starting this 2023-24 school year, students, parents, teachers and other community members can help identify and provide intervention for students in crisis before they harm themselves or others.

Safe+Sound Iowa is available to K–12 schools statewide at no charge by the Governor's School Safety Bureau. It was developed to help prevent violence, unlawful possession of weapons, self-harm and other forms of victimization and threatening behaviors. Similar programs have been successful in preventing tragedy and saving lives in schools across the country, including Colorado, Pennsylvania and Arizona.

HOW SAFE+SOUND IOWA WORKS

In past school attacks in the United States, 92% of those who noticed concerning behaviors before the events were schoolmates.* Students may not report warning signs due to feelings of anxiety or intimidation, fear of retaliation or not knowing who to talk to. Safe+Sound Iowa removes these barriers with easy, convenient and confidential ways to report safety concerns.

Reports can be made securely and anonymously in a variety of ways:

- CPU's website: www.cpuschools.org > [Student & Family Resources](#) > [School Safety](#)
- Online at SafeandSoundIowa.gov
- Through the **Safe+Sound Iowa mobile app**, or
- By phone at **800-224-6018**.

Trained dispatchers monitor reports 24/7 and immediately engage in two-way communication with those raising concerns. They then reach out to the appropriate local school safety contact, law enforcement or other community partners.

WHERE TO LEARN MORE

Additional information can also be found on SafeandSoundIowa.gov. You can also [download the free Safe+Sound Iowa mobile app](#) on the App Store and Google Play.

Creating a safe learning environment is our highest priority and it starts with early detection of potential threats.

If you have any questions about your child's school and/or safety procedures, please do not hesitate to contact building principals: Mr. Libolt, High School; Mr. Tupa, Middle School; Mr. Hasleiet, Intermediate; and Ms. Tobiason, Primary.

Sincerely

John W. Elkin
Superintendent



Iowa School Performance Profiles

The Iowa School Performance Profiles is an online tool showing how public schools performed on required measures. The website was developed to meet both federal and state requirements for publishing online school report cards.

Center Point-Urbana CSD					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Ranking and Composite Score					
PRI/INT	Needs Improvement 49.05	Commendable 56.04	Commendable 56.04	Acceptable 53.02	Commendable 57.32
MS	Commendable 59.25	High Performing 63.30	High Performing 63.30	High Performing 62.08	Commendable 60.02
HS	High Performing 63.39	High Performing 60.92	High Performing 60.92	Acceptable 52.55	Acceptable 53.61

School Ratings Schools receive ratings based on their overall score. The ratings and corresponding score ranges are as follows:

Rating Category	Score
Exceptional	66.31 and above
High Performing	66.61 – 66.30
Commendable	54.91 – 60.60
Acceptable	49.21 – 54.90
Needs Improvement	43.96 – 49.20
Priority/Comprehensive	43.95 and below