

## The Community of Denver...

Located in Northeast Iowa along Highway 63, Denver, Iowa, is ideally situated near the Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan area, the University of Northern Iowa, and Wartburg College. Denver is an oasis in the Cedar Valley, combining small-town civic pride with all the conveniences of big-city living nearby. With approximately 1,627 residents, Denver has been and continues to be a community that supports excellence in education. District pride is seen in the support offered by parents, businesses, and community members. There is much to be proud of as the school District has continually enjoyed notable successes in academics, athletics, and the fine arts.

As a National Blue Ribbon School for academic excellence, Denver Community School District's commitment to children is evident in the construction of several new educational facilities over the past ten years. Denver High School is a nationally certified PLW engineering school.

Community pride and commitment is also evident in fund raising that generated over 5-million dollars to build a new community library and a sports complex complete with football field, 8-lane all-weather running track, soccer fields, baseball and softball fields, concession stands, paved walking trail, and playground.

Denver Schools offers over 40 hours of dual college credit for free! Postsecondary educational opportunities abound in the area, offering a diverse array of educational and cultural experiences for students and community members alike. Hawkeye Community College, Wartburg College, and The University of Northern Iowa are all located within a 15 mile radius of Denver.

Denver CSD has recently been named Iowa's only National PLC school district in the state. Professional Learning Communities for staff collaboration and student learning are part of the Denver culture.

Recreation to meet a variety of interests is readily available. Willow Run Country Club, four parks, a City Parks and Recreation Program, soccer, swimming pool, paved bike trail, tennis courts, and a city baseball/softball complex invite involvement and a healthy quality of life. Denver residents enjoy the added benefits of Northeast Iowa, including excellent boating, canoeing, fishing, hunting, biking, skiing, and hiking. Downtown Denver is a great place to relax with friends over a cup of coffee.

## The Educational Environment:

The Denver Community School District takes great pride in the educational opportunities it offers its students. The District's rich history of commitment to quality teaching and learning is reflected in:

- \* A dedicated team of teachers and administrators.
- \* Low pupil-teacher ratios which ensure personal attention to each student.
- \* A high percentage of graduates who continue their learning at postsecondary educational institutions. (See the Annual Progress report for more details.)
- \* A comprehensive student activity program to meet a variety of interests and needs.
- \* An emphasis on basic skills as evidenced by high student achievement on academic tests. (See the Annual Progress report for more details.)
- \* All day-every day kindergarten, 4-year-old preschool, and before and after daycare program; a wide range of exploratory classes encompassed in a middle school philosophy; and extensive course offerings at the high school.
- \* Over 40 hours of dual high school/college credit available at the high school for free.
- \* Olweus Anti-Bullying School District

## School Board Goals:

- \* Focus on the continuous improvement of instruction and the learning process to enhance teacher effectiveness and student achievement.
- \* Encourage and promote respect, responsibility and results among students, community patrons and employees.

- \* Maintain fiscal responsibility through the continuous examination of facility, usage and assessments, programming, staffing and funding alternatives.
- \* Strive for effective communication and increased citizen involvement.

#### District Data

The District operates a PK-12 program with enrollments of:

High School 238  
Middle School 160  
Elementary School (PK-5) 350  
Special Education 17  
4-year-old PreSchool 22  
Open Enrollment In 73  
Open Enrollment Out 26.1  
Total Enrollment 774.2 (PK-12)

High School Graduation Rate 100 percent  
ACT average score 22.9  
All day/Every Day Kindergarten  
Exemplary programs in music, drama, speech and athletics  
4-year-old Preschool Program  
Certified PLTW Engineering School  
40+ Free College Dual-Credits available

Average class sizes:

Grades K-2 = 20  
Grades 3-5 = 19.8  
Grades 6-12 = 17.5

16.2  
19.25  
17.5

Gifted and talented, special education, vocational education, career education, hearing impaired, and Junior Achievement programs

Technology is a major emphasis:

- \* All facility has wireless access
- \* Each elementary classroom equipped with iPads
- \* All attendance centers are connected to the Internet
- \* All classrooms are telephone-equipped & Internet connected
- \* All classrooms 3-12 have cable TV access.
- \* 2:1 ratio of students to computers in grades 6-8
- \* 1:1 ratio of students to computers 9-12

District Area 52 sq. mi.  
District Population 3,600  
Certified Staff 58  
Support Staff (including part-time) 34  
Salary Range (teachers) \$52,805.70 - \$81,458.17  
Average Years Teaching Experience (in District) 12.36  
% Master's degree staff = 33% K-12

District Administration.....  
Brad Laures, Superintendent  
Paul Gebel, High School Principal  
Paul Gebel, Middle School Principal  
Amy Sandvold, Elementary Principal

Board of Education.....  
Carter Stevens  
Jeff Schumacher  
**Dave Larson**  
**Heather Prendergast**  
Scott Krebsbach  
Becky Walters, Board Secretary