



August 1, 2013

*From the Desk of Tom Wood,  
Superintendent/Elementary Principal*

This is always an exciting time of the year for school employees, parents and students. It seems that summer has just started, but here we are ready to begin another school year. As school begins you will see some changes in our staff.

I am moving into a new role as superintendent and elementary principal. Mr. Moser is now the secondary principal and curriculum director.

I hope you will welcome our newest staff members:

T.J. Olberding, Elementary Special Education  
Scott Bixby, Secondary Special Education  
Andy Klemesrud, Secondary PE and Activities Director  
Sarah Zielinski, Secondary English/Language Arts and Technology Integrationist

We also have some of our veteran teachers moving into new roles:

Christy Holloway, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom Teacher  
Jodi Noga, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom Teacher  
Don Newbury, District At-Risk Coordinator

We were very lucky to land our current teachers in their new roles and also to hire such a talented group of new faces to MSTM. I am really looking forward to the new learning and experience all of these talented individuals will bring to their new roles.

We have so much to be proud of at MSTM, from our success in activities to our academic achievement. My hope, as your new superintendent, is to continue this tradition of excellence. Our focus is on continual improvement in all areas. I will be asking for your help in this continual improvement process. With your voice, support, collaboration and guidance we can continue to make MSTM a successful school and a destination for talented staff members and families looking for a caring community that values education.

I invite you to stop in and see me any time. Let me know what you like about our school, and what needs to be improved. I look forward to working with the students, parents and families that make up our school community.

*From the Desk of Josh Moser,  
Jr. High/High School Principal*

“Summer’s lease hath all too short a date.”  
- William Shakespeare

With the first of August already upon us, our collective grasp on summer is slipping further and further away. The beginning of a school year always brings a sense of newness and hope, yet with feelings of familiarity and excitement. If I calculate it correctly, August 21<sup>st</sup> will be my 31<sup>st</sup> first day of school, yet my hopes and excitement for the upcoming year are as high as they have ever been.

We have three new teachers in the junior high and high school this year: Scott Bixby (JH Special Education); Andy Klemesrud (Physical Education/Activities Director); and Sarah Zielinski (English Language Arts/Technology Integration Assistant). Scott, Andy, and Sarah come to us from a variety of backgrounds and expertise, and they will offer great insight toward our mission of serving students. Please take time to introduce yourself to our new staff members and welcome them to the MSTM family. In other staffing changes, Don Newbury will assume the duties of At-Risk Coordinator. We are fortunate to have him in this role from his years of experience in the district and service as a member of the BAT Committee.

Not all of us had a restful summer; some spent long days and nights working (and playing) hard. With that, I offer tremendous congratulations to our softball and baseball players, coaches, and fans for incredible record-breaking seasons. The softball team made its sixth (6!) consecutive appearance at the State tournament, finishing in 7<sup>th</sup> place. The girls played well as a team all summer and several student athletes received All-District honors. The baseball team found itself in its fourth consecutive trip to Principal Park and finishing the season with a 30-10 record and with many student athletes receiving honors and breaking long-standing records. We have talented and committed student athletes at MSTM, and this is a tradition worth celebrating!

Important Dates for August:

August 12 & 13	Registration (8a.m.-4p.m. and 12p.m.-8p.m. respectively)
August 13	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation (6:00p.m.)
August 20	Open House (6:30p.m.-7:30p.m.)
August 21	First day of school (2:15p.m. dismissal)

August 22 & 23 2:15p.m. dismissals  
 August 29 School picture day  
 August 30 1:00p.m. Dismissal; Varsity  
 Football @ SEW  
 August 31 Varsity Volleyball Tournament @  
 Clarke HS

I am anticipating a successful and positive 2013-2014 school year, full of hope, excitement, challenge, and opportunity. The students, teachers, support staff, and community members are what make MSTM such a great place to be. A reminder to all that my door is always open and I want to hear what you have to say. I can be reached at 641-764-2486, via email [josh.moser@mstm.us](mailto:josh.moser@mstm.us), and through Twitter @blammo33. I also encourage you to read and comment on my blog <http://bluedeveloperprincipal.blogspot.com/> which I will be updating regularly and serve as another vehicle for communication. Go Blue Devils!

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
 May 7, 2013**

The Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District met in special session by conference call, pursuant to law, on Tuesday, May 7, 2013.

Members Present: Nicole Bunch, President, Dean Furness, Amy Harper and together with Superintendent/Elementary Principal Tom Wood and Business Manager Jill Gavin.


Members Absent: Dave Shutt, Vice President and Wade Gibson

The President called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

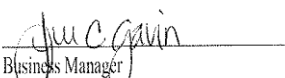
Mrs. Harper motioned to approve the recommendation to hire T. J. Olberding as Elementary Special Education teacher for the 2013-2014 school year, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll call: 3 ayes.

Mr. Furness motioned to approve the recommendation to hire Josh Moser as 7-12 Principal/Curriculum Director for the 2013-2014 school year, seconded by Mrs. Bunch. Roll call: 3 ayes.

Mr. Furness moved to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Harper. Roll call: 3 ayes.  
 Time: 3:05 p.m.

  
 Board President

APPROVED

  
 Business Manager

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
 May 13, 2013**

The Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District met in regular session, pursuant to law, on May 13, 2013.

Members Present: President, Nicole Bunch; Vice President; Dave Shutt, Wade Gibson, Amy Harper and Dean Furness; together with Superintendent Bob Newsum and Business Manager Jill Gavin.

Members Absent: None

- I. Welcome – Board President  
 Mrs. Bunch called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed all guests.
- II. Consent Items
  - A. Approval of Minutes Board President
  - B. Approval of Agenda Board President
  - C. Approval of Bills and Secretary’s Report Board President
  - D. Approval of Hot Lunch and Activity Reports Board President

Mr. Gibson motioned to approve the consent items, seconded by Mr. Shutt. Roll Call: 5 ayes.

- III. Celebrations  
 Mr. Wood announced that tonight was Mr. Newsum’s and Mr. Crozier’s final board meeting with the Martensdale-St. Marys School District. Mr. Newsum stated that it has been a privilege being the district’s superintendent these past three years. Mr. Crozier thanked the board and the administration and stated that he would not have been able to take his new position without the experience that he received these past six years.

Mr. Crozier referred to a letter he received from a parent from a neighboring district praising one of our students at a recent track meet. The letter was published in the May newsletter. The student was Cody Olson!

Mr. Crozier congratulated the boy’s golf team for qualifying for districts. He also congratulated the many track students who will be attending the State Track Meet at Drake later this week. Good luck Blue Devils!

- IV. Public Comments – none
- V. Old Business

- A. Reports Supt. Newsum
- 1) MSTM Music Booster Minutes – April 8<sup>th</sup> and May 6<sup>th</sup> minutes were provided.
  - 2) MSTM Athletic Booster Minutes – April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013 minutes were provided.
  - 3) MSTM PTO Minutes – No minutes were provided.

B. Reports

- 1) Principal's Report Mr. Wood  
Mr. Wood announced that the elementary is now fully staffed for the next school year. Mr. Wood explained the process that he went through in hiring the 7-12 Principal. He updated the Board on the status of the Athletic Director/PE position and English position. He submitted an update on the softball field. The Elementary Fun Run has been rescheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup>. He provided a proposal of estimates for upgrading the technology.

- 2) Principal's Report Mr. Crozier  
Mr. Crozier updated the Board on the Student Council Retreat. The student handbook is still being worked on with a recommendation for approval to the June board meeting. We had 17 students attend the Baccalaureate. The Fine Arts/Academic Awards Night is being held May 13<sup>th</sup>. Graduation will be held May 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00.

The April Students of the Month include:

- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Trinity Fluharty
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Thomas Warden
- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade – Josh Belieu
- 10<sup>th</sup> Grade – Gentry Davidson
- 11<sup>th</sup> Grade – Riley Coates
- 12<sup>th</sup> Grade – Carli Kenyon

- 3) Curriculum Director's Report Mr. Moser  
Mr. Moser introduced several students that have been participating in the Student Learning Community throughout this past year. The students presented to the board members the student learning experience survey they created, the results of the survey, the planning process, an affinity chart that showed the ways to improve the atmosphere of learning, a Gantt chart that categorized and ranked them, and a correlation chart that they used with teachers during several professional development days. The survey gathered information

regarding the least and most important parts of education, what can be improved, and what aspects of education will apply to their future. The students visited a classroom at Urbandale and heard of new ideas of how to retain information throughout the year instead of learning and testing on it and then moving on. The Board thanked the students for their presentations.

Dean Furness asked to be dismissed at 5:43 p.m.

- 4) Superintendent's Report Supt. Newsum  
Mr. Newsum stated the following: "It has been a privilege to serve as your superintendent these past three years and wanted to thank you all for the support and hospitality you've shown me during that time. I've given a great deal of thought about my legacy and how I wanted to leave the education profession. I could not have asked for a more positive and satisfying way to 'ride off into the sunset'. I have many fond Blue Devil memories and will continue to be one of your strongest supporters and advocates."

VI. New Business

- A. School Board Recognition Week Supt. Newsum  
The month of May has been designated as Iowa School Board Recognition Month and the district took this opportunity to thank all of the board members for donating their time, talents, and energy in providing the resources and direction for the district.  
**Thanks for all you do!**

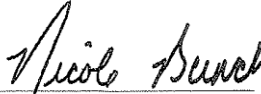
- B. Consider Approval to Ratify the Negotiated Agreement with the MSTMEA Supt. Newsum  
The negotiation team and association went through the mediation process on May 6 and reached a tentative agreement with the association. The Iowa Legislature has not yet set allowable growth rate for 2013-2014 but both sides agreed to a total package settlement that is contingent on whatever the allowable growth rate is set by the legislature. Mrs. Harper motioned to approve the negotiated agreement with the MSTM Education Association for the 2013-2014 school year, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 4 ayes.


- C. Discuss/Approve Audit Services for FY13, FY14, and FY15 Supt. Newsum  
The district received request for proposals from two auditors and the less expensive of the two is the proposal from Nolte, Cornman & Johnson to serve as the district's auditors for the next three years. Mr. Gibson motioned to approve the three-year contract with Nolte, Cornman & Johnson for the fiscal years 2013, 2014, and 2015, seconded by Mrs. Harper. Roll call: 4 ayes.
- D. Approve Personnel Recommendations Supt. Newsum  
Mrs. Harper motioned to approve the overload for the Manda Gibson as golf coach, seconded by Mr. Shutt. Roll call: 3 ayes. Mr. Gibson abstained from vote.  
  
Mrs. Harper motioned to approve Brent Gavin as JH Assistant Baseball Coach, seconded by Mr. Shutt. Roll call: 4 ayes.
- E. Approve 2013 Graduates Supt. Newsum  
Mrs. Harper motioned to approve the 2013 Graduating Class, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 4 ayes.
- F. Discuss/Approve 2013-2014 Registration Fees Supt. Newsum  
Mrs. Harper motioned to approve the \$10 increase in elementary registration fees and keep Junior High and Senior High registration fees the same for the 2013-2014 school year, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 4 ayes.
- G. Discuss/Approve 2013-2014 Lunch Program Fees Supt. Newsum  
Mr. Furness returned to the meeting at 6:33 p.m.  
Mrs. Harper motioned to approve the increased lunch prices for the 2013-2014 school year, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 5 ayes.
- H. Discuss/Approve 2013-2014 Activities Pass Fees Supt. Newsum  
Mr. Furness motioned to approve keeping the activity pass fees the same, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 5 ayes.
- I. Discuss/Approve 2013-2014 Secondary Computer Fees Supt. Newsum  
Mr. Furness motioned to approve keeping the secondary computer fees the same, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 5 ayes.

- J. Discuss/Approve Pepsi Agreement Supt. Newsum  
Mr. Gibson motioned to approve the Pepsi Agreement for the 2013-2014 school year, seconded by Mrs. Harper. Roll call: 5 ayes.
- K. Discuss/Approve Athletic Training Agreement Supt. Newsum  
Mrs. Harper motioned to table the recommendation for Accelerated Rehabilitation Center, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll call: 5 ayes. The Board directed the Administration to request a proposal for a full time physical trainer at all home and away events and practices and for all sports.
- L. Discuss/Approve Benefits Package for Business Manager Supt. Newsum  
Mr. Gibson motioned to approve the benefits package for the Business Manager, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll call: 5 ayes.
- M. Approve Personnel Resignations Supt. Newsum  
Mr. Gibson motioned to approve Josh Moser's resignation as English-Language Arts teacher, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll call: 5 ayes.
- N. Confirm – Next Meeting Dates Supt. Newsum  
06/05/13 – Agenda subcommittee by e-mail  
06/06/13 – No Board Agenda Meeting  
06/10/13 – 5:00 p.m. Board Meeting
- VII. Adjournment

Mr. Gibson motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll call: 5 ayes. Time: 6:50 p.m.

APPROVED

  
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Board President

  
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Business Manager

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**  
**May 22, 2013**

The Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District met in special session by conference call, pursuant to law, on Wednesday, May 22, 2013.

Members Present: Nicole Bunch, President, Dave Shutt, Vice President, Amy Harper and Wade Gibson and, together with Superintendent/Elementary Principal Tom Wood and Business Manager Jill Gavin.

Members Absent: Dean Furness

The President called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Wood recommended to the Board to offer Mr. Wade Gibson a contract as assistant golf coach for the 2012-2013 school year. The position has grown from just volunteering to drive a van to events to taking time off from his job to supervise and coach teams and being at all the practices at separate locations.


Mr. Shutt motioned to approve Wade Gibson as the assistant golf coach for the 2012-2013 school year, seconded by Mrs. Harper. Roll call: 3 ayes. Mr. Gibson abstained from voting.

The board reviewed the new athletic training proposal and requested the new Athletic Director be involved in the process. Mrs. Harper motioned to table the approval of the athletic training proposal until the June board meeting, seconded by Mr. Shutt. Roll call: 4 ayes.

Mrs. Harper moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Shutt. Roll call: 4 ayes.  
Time: 3:10 p.m.

APPROVED

  
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Board President

  
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Business Manager

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**  
**May 28, 2013**

The Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District met in special session by conference call, pursuant to law, on Tuesday, May 28, 2013.

Members Present: Nicole Bunch, President, Dave Shutt, Vice President, Amy Harper, Dean Furness and Wade Gibson and, together with Superintendent/Elementary Principal Tom Wood and Business Manager Jill Gavin.

Members Absent: None

The President called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

- A. Discuss/Approve Physical Education  
Teacher/Athletic Director position  
Mr. Moser reviewed the process of hiring the Athletic Director/P.E. position. They interviewed 2 candidates out of a pool of 40 candidates and both candidates turned down our offers. Mr. Moser and Mr. Wood will view the next set of candidates and have interviews on Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Gibson motioned to table the approval of the Athletic Director/P.E. position, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll call: 5 ayes.

- B. Consider Approval for Classified Staff Contracts  
Mrs. Harper motioned to approve the Classified Staff Contracts, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 5 ayes.
- C. Consider Approval for Administration Staff Contracts  
Mr. Furness motioned to approve the Administration Staff Contracts, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 5 ayes.
- D. Consider Approval for Extra Curricular Staff Contracts  
Mr. Furness motioned to approve the Extra Curricular Staff Contracts, seconded by Mr. Shutt. Roll call: 5 ayes.
- E. Consider Approval for Bus Drivers Contracts  
Mr. Shutt motioned to approve the Bus Driver Contracts, seconded by Mrs. Harper. Roll call: 5 ayes.
- F. Approve Personnel Recommendations  
There were no personnel recommendations to approve.
- G. Approve Personnel Resignations  
Mr. Gibson motioned to table resignations until the June board meeting, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll call: 5 ayes.

Mrs. Harper moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Shutt. Roll call: 5 ayes.  
Time: 12:28 p.m.

APPROVED

  
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Board President

  
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Business Manager

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**  
**June 10, 2013**

The Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District met in regular session, pursuant to law, on June 10, 2013.

Members Present: President, Nicole Bunch; Vice President; Dave Shutt, Wade Gibson, Amy Harper and Dean Furness; together with Superintendent Tom Wood and Business Manager Jill Gavin.

Members Absent: None

I. Welcome – Board President  
Mrs. Bunch called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed all guests.

- II. Consent Items
- A. Approval of Minutes  
Board President
  - B. Approval of Agenda  
Board President
  - C. Approval of Bills and Secretary's Report  
Board President
  - D. Approval of Hot Lunch and Activity Reports  
Board President

Mr. Shutt motioned to approve the consent items, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll Call: 5 ayes.

III. Celebrations  
Mr. Wood thanked the custodial staff for their hard work. They are almost done with cleaning all the rooms and have done a great job so far. Some of our seasonal staff that returns for the summer includes Carrie Wood, Pat Wood and PJ Estell.

IV. Public Comments – none

- V. Old Business
- A. Reports  
Supt. Newsum
    - 1) MSTM Music Booster Minutes – No minutes were provided.
    - 2) MSTM Athletic Booster Minutes – May 8, 2013 minutes were provided.
    - 3) MSTM PTO Minutes – No minutes were provided.

B. Reports  
Mr. Wood introduced Melissa Kaufmann from Jester Insurance. She presented to the board an update on the district's breakdown insurance policy.

A. Principal/Curriculum Director's Report  
Mr. Moser updated the board on upcoming staff summer workshops. Teams of teachers will continue to create and sustain student learning classrooms, work on curriculum and the advisory program. They will continue to focus on student/teacher relationships. Elementary teachers will continue to revise the math curriculum and help new staff members with the new math curriculum over the summer.

Mr. Moser reviewed the survey results of the Student Council Retreat and the additions and revisions of the 7-12 Student Handbook.

B. Superintendent's Report  
Mr. Wood presented to the board results of his interviews of the staff members. He informed the board that Mr. Newsum will be hosting his

last Communications Committee on June 25<sup>th</sup>. After the meeting Mr. Wood and Mr. Moser will conduct the Quality Support Committee.

Mr. Wood requested to conduct a board retreat/workshop to preview the upcoming year, work with the board to set goals and review roles and responsibilities of school boards and superintendents. He has been working with IASB in this process. July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 p.m. was for this meeting.

set

Mr. Wood presented to the board a proposal and estimate submitted by the Music Boosters requested new risers and acoustical shells for the music program. The Facilities Committee will review the request at their next facilities meeting and determine the condition of the current risers.

VI. New Business

O. Discuss/Approve Equipment Breakdown Insurance  
Supt. Wood  
Mr. Gibson motioned to approve the Equipment Breakdown Insurance for one more year for the 2013-2014 school year, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll call: 5 ayes.

P. Discuss/Approve Technology Purchase  
Supt. Wood  
Mr. Shutt motioned to approve the technology purchase recommendation for elementary and secondary labs and to replace secondary laptops from CDW-G, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll call: 5 ayes.

Q. Discuss/Approve JMC Contract  
Supt. Wood  
Mr. Gibson motioned to approve the JMC Computer Service Web Hosting Contract for the 2013-2014 school year, seconded by Mr. Shutt. Roll call: 5 ayes.

R. Approve IAEP Contract  
Supt. Wood  
Mr. Furness motioned to approve the IAEP contract for the 2013-2014 school year, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 5 ayes.

S. Discuss/Approve Transportation Request  
Supt. Wood  
Mrs. Harper motioned to approve the transportation request from Adam and Jennifer Troll to allow the Indianola CSD school bus to enter the MSTM district to pick up their student, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll call: 5 ayes.

T. Discuss/Approve Athletic Training Agreement  
Supt. Wood

Mr. Furness motioned to approve the athletic training agreement with Accelerated Rehabilitation Center for the 2013-2014 to be paid out of the activity account, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 5 ayes.

U. Approve Personnel Resignations

Supt. Wood

Mr. Shutt motioned to approve resignations of Kim Burns, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher; John Amfahr, track coach; Don Hatcher, track coach; Deb Roff, para-educator, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll call: 5 ayes.

V. Approve Personnel Recommendations

Supt. Wood

Mr. Furness motioned to approve Christy Holloway, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher; Sarah Zielinski, English Language Arts Instructor and Technology Integrationist; Andrew Klemesrud, Physical Education Instructor and Activities Director for the 2013-2014 school year, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 5 ayes.

W. Approve Secondary Student Handbook 2013-2014

Supt. Wood

Mrs. Harper motioned to approve the 2013-2014 Secondary Student Handbook, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 5 ayes.

X. Closed Session – Personnel

Supt. Wood

Mr. Shutt motioned to go into closed session to discuss a personnel issue, seconded by Mr. Furness. Time: 6:55 p.m. Mr. Shutt motioned to go out of closed session, seconded by Mrs. Harper. Time 7:13 p.m.

Y. Confirm – Next Meeting Dates

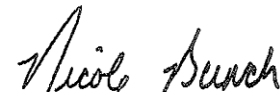
Supt. Wood

07/03/13 – Agenda subcommittee by e-mail  
07/04/13 – No Board Agenda Meeting  
07/08/13 – 4:00 p.m. Board Meeting

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Shutt motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Harper. Roll call: 5 ayes. Time: 7:20 p.m.

APPROVED

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Board President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Manager

It is the policy of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices.

There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the district's Equity Coordinator.

MSTM's Equity Coordinator is Josh Moser, secondary principal. His address is MSTM Community School, 390 Burlington, Martensdale, Iowa 50160. His phone number is 641-764-2686 and his email address is: [josh\\_moser@mstm.us](mailto:josh_moser@mstm.us)

*The Martensdale-St.Marys District Newsletter is published by the last day of the preceding month.*

*The newsletter is available for pickup in the Superintendent's office and the Jiffy station, both are located in Martensdale.*

*You may also view it on the <http://www.mstm.us> website. Questions or concerns may be addressed to:*

**Mrs. DePauw**  
**Martensdale-St.Marys**  
**Elementary Office**  
**390 Burlington Ave.**  
**Martensdale, Iowa 50160**  
**or by email**  
**[brenda\\_depauw@mstm.us](mailto:brenda_depauw@mstm.us)**

**Office: 641-764-2470**  
**Fax: 641-764-2100**