The Baxter Community School District is located in beautiful rural central Iowa and exemplifies Midwestern values by providing excellent educational opportunities for all students. Baxter is an attractive, friendly town that is centrally located between four metropolitan areas: Des Moines, Ames, Marshalltown, and Newton. This forward thinking community is a proud example of what can be accomplished when community members collaborate in preserving and promoting quality of life in small, rural town Iowa, which centers around a quality PreK-12 education system and progressive partnerships. Join us in Baxter for a personalized family experience, founded on strong relationships; thus preparing our youth for bright futures.

**OUR MISSION:**

*Teaching for today and tomorrow; one student at a time.*

**OUR CORE VALUES:**

- Excellent teaching is the most important factor in student success
- Open and honest communication is necessary
- Yesterday’s solutions won’t solve tomorrow’s problems
- Embrace change and encourage creativity
- Approach our work and learning with passion and play
- Nurture teamwork through collaboration, opportunity and continuous learning
- Everyone benefits through strong community and school partnerships
- Being and developing leaders with character
- The power of positivity

**IN MORE EFFECTIVELY FULFILLING OUR MISSION, BAXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS COMMITTED TO TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION ACROSS LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS.**

**TRENDING:**

My children love going to @BaxterSchools. They love their teachers, their coaches and their friends.

All the staff @BaxterSchools from the principal to the custodians know my daughters name, talk to her and make her feel a part of something. I have had great open communication with every teacher.

I love that the @BaxterSchools teachers recognize their abilities and challenge them. Everyone has been very welcoming even though we are from out of town.

@BaxterSchools kids seem to all get along good. Very comfortable learning environment and great teachers.

Each teacher @BaxterSchools has gotten to know our children as individuals and worked with their strengths to help them achieve goals. When sending the kids to school each morning I feel happy knowing they are going to a place where they feel loved.

Our boys are more motivated about school and are challenged at school. The @BaxterSchools teachers have been very helpful when they have struggled in class. They have made a lot of friends. Our boys tell us often that there is discipline in the classroom and the kids are more respectful than at their previous school--good learning environment.
**BAXTER CSD STRATEGIC PLAN:**

The strategic plan emphasizes ongoing commitments to ensuring students graduate from Baxter Community School District ready for college, career, and entry into the workforce or military. Our students will graduate with deep academic knowledge in the core subjects, the arts, 21st Century Skills/Universal Constructs, and Career Education; thus preparing learners for the complex world and workplace of “today and tomorrow.” Our work will not be complete until all students are achieving at the highest of levels and are fully prepared to successfully compete in a global society. To that end, we have pledged to personalize each student’s educational experience as it relates to his or her unique strengths, interests, and areas of growth.

**A SOLID FOUNDATION:**

Baxter Elementary, with its family-like atmosphere, takes pride in preparing our young people for the future. Students in grades K-5 acquire basic skills taught at a level appropriate to their individual ability. All skills, critical for scholastic success, are taught through a blend of traditional methods balanced with effective technology integration and current “best-practice” instruction, including differentiated instruction at all levels. Students are the focal point of a district-wide emphasis on interactive concept and skill development through the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports Program (PBIS).

**TOWARD THE FUTURE:**

Baxter middle school students, in addition to core areas of study, participate in exploratory programs consisting of classes in art, speech, agriculture, computer, library science, and family and consumer science and benefit from a team-oriented instructional approach. Senior high students are offered a solid college-preparatory program as well as many opportunities to extend their learning through the DMACC Career Academy, online courses, and postsecondary experiences.

The middle school and high school staff are committed to promoting growth through individualization and differentiated instruction through a Multi-Tiered Systems of Support. Multi-Tiered Systems of Support offer all students, from deficient to gifted students, interventions to promote growth with all learners. Students in grades 6-12 receive support and assistance in life skills, social skills, and positive self-esteem through the strong relationships adults build with students each and every day. Furthermore, our 1:1 technology initiative has enhanced the teaching and learning experience for all learners at Baxter Community School District.

Students must earn 50 credits from a combination of core subjects and electives for graduation. They are encouraged to participate in: visual arts, performing arts, business education, foreign language, agriculture, and family and consumer science, as well as a full range of rigorous, co-curricular offerings.

**TARGETED STRATEGIES:**

- Collaborative Partnerships & Relationships
- Competency-Based Education
- Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum

**TOP 6%** WHERE BAXTER CSD LANDS IN THE STATE FOR OPEN ENROLLED STUDENTS WHICH EQUATES TO NEARLY ONE QUARTER OF OUR TOTAL ENROLLMENT.

**80%** OF BAXTER HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION, EITHER FOR A FOUR-YEAR DEGREE OR IN TECHNICAL/VOCATIONAL TRAINING.
CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

Baxter Community School District recognizes how significant developing the whole child is in preparing our youth for their futures. With a district emphasis on student engagement, over 90% of Baxter 6th-12th grade students participate in one or more co-curricular activities which include: instrumental (band) and vocal music, drama, speech, drill team, National Honor Society, FFA, as well as several club opportunities.

90% OF BAXTER 6TH-12TH GRADE STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN ONE OR MORE CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES INCLUDING MUSIC, SPEECH, DRAMA AND FFA

ATHLETIC OFFERINGS:

- Football
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Wrestling
- Soccer*
- Cross Country
- Golf*
- Baseball
- Softball
- Track
- Cheerleading

*Shared Athletics

ATHLETIC PROGRAMMING:

Students attending Baxter Community School District have ample opportunity to participate in a full menu of athletics to further develop life long skillsets. Our facilities include a sports complex with football and soccer fields, 8 lane all-weather track, and baseball and softball diamonds. Additionally, we have two competition size gymnasiums, a wellness center, and weight room located on our central campus.
CONTACT US:

Todd A. Martin  
Superintendent  
tmartin@baxter.k12.ia.us  
641.227.3102

Rob Luther  
High School Principal  
rluther@baxter.k12.ia.us  
641.227.3103

Josh Russell  
Elementary Principal/Curriculum Director  
jrussell@baxter.k12.ia.us  
641.507.1121

Baxter Community School District  
202 E. State Street  
Baxter, Iowa 50028

Our Mission: Teaching for today and tomorrow; one student at a time.