



Dallas Center-Grimes Community School Mustang Monthly



“Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Futures”

Volume 18, Issue 8

April 2016

DC-G High School Spring Play - April 29-30

The DC-G High School drama department will present its spring play, Here We Sit by L. Don Swartz on Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Activity passes are accepted. Tickets are available at the door.

Centering around a theme that explores the relationship between the actors and the audience, Here We Sit is an unusual show that offers both the actors and their audience a new perspective on the theater-going experience. Running the gamut from absurdly hilarious to grab-your-hankie serious, the show is made up of sixteen scenes in two acts that literally put the audience in the hot seat.

From a peek inside auditions to tapping into what the audience is thinking, each scene is thought provoking and unique. To help audiences navigate the play's format, playwright Swartz offers Lottie and Bernice, a pair of ladies who loudly rustle snack wrappers and opinions as they narrate the show. These colorful characters are brilliantly played by Jayson Pietzman and Isaac Lodwick respectively. The combination of physical comedy, dramatic dialog and quick transitions has been both challenging and fun for the actors in rehearsal.

Here We Sit could be described as something between the whimsical wit of Monty Python and the dark, satirical comedy of playwright Samuel Beckett. This is a not-to-be-missed theater experience that will leave you both puzzled and amused!

The ensemble includes: Tara Aldrich, Jackson Bridie, Sara Cantrell, Becca Gomez, Kole Hicok, Jared Klaessy, Hannah Livingston, Isaac Lodwick, Mikayla Matteson, Aaron Mensing, Jayson Peitzman, Elijah Price, Will Rothfus, Katie Waddingham, and Claire Wessels. Stage Manager: Ashtyn Chance Assistant: Delaney Smail Tech Managers: Andrew Thompson and Bethany Steilen Directed by Becky Coons



Dallas Center—Grimes Community School District

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Applicants must:

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Email: jeff.wolfe@dcschools.com

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www.dcschools.com & select the **EMPLOYMENT** tab

EEOC Employer

School Schedule at a Glance

Wednesday, April 13 – 1:00 p.m. Early Dismissal for Staff Professional Development

Monday, April 25 – No School for Staff Professional Development

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SchoolMessenger Notification Service

The Dallas Center-Grimes School District is using SchoolMessenger as its Parent Notification system, a leading provider of notification services for parent outreach, emergency broadcasts, and other communications for education.

The SchoolMessenger system is designed to automatically notify parents for reasons that impact the safety and academic performance of students. SchoolMessenger will allow us to enhance our communication with additional features, such as text messages and individual parent control of who receives messages and how they are received.

District Celebrations

At the beginning of the year we had an all staff training day, and staff had the opportunity to share celebrations of the Dallas Center – Grimes School District. Throughout the year, we will be sharing these with you as well, scattered throughout the pages in the Mustang Monthly.

Student Assistance Program

Free, confidential program for DC-G students! The Student Assistance Program has counselors available 24 hours/day and seven days a week for a phone consultation and extensive hours for in person sessions. A student and/or their parents can make the contact that allows for three visits per year per issue. Call 515-244-6090.

Iowa Sex Offender Registry

Many communities in Iowa, including Dallas Center and Grimes, have residents living in the community that are on the Iowa Sex Offender Registry. We are aware of residents living in Grimes and in Dallas Center that are on the sex offender register, although we no longer receive any official notification. We want to make you are aware of the situation so you can discuss it with your child(ren).

The sex offender register is available online at <http://www.iowasexoffender.com/>. Parents are encouraged to be aware of this information by accessing this website. If you do not have access to the Internet, or need assistance in accessing this information, please contact 992-3866. If you are unable to access this information, we will provide the information verbally or send copies of the information in the mail.

Please be aware that this notification is to serve only as a means for the public to protect themselves. Any action taken by anyone against these individuals, including vandalism of property, verbal or written threat of physical harm, or physical assault against these individuals or their family can result in arrest and prosecution.

Nondiscrimination Statement

Students, parents, employees and others doing business with or performing services for the Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District are hereby notified that this school district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), or socio-economic status (for programs) in admission or access to, or treatment in, its programs and activities or hiring and employment practices. Any person having inquiries concerning the school district's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), §504 or Iowa Code §280.3 is directed to contact: Mitzi Chizek, 1414 Walnut St. Suite 200, Dallas Center, Iowa 50063, telephone: 515-992-3866, who has been designated by the school district to coordinate the school district's efforts to comply with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, the ADA, §504 and Iowa Code §280.3.

Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District Offices

Elementary Offices

Patty Morris, Principal/South Prairie Elementary Bldg.

E-mail: pmorris@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us

Telephone Number: (515) 986-4057

Fax Number: (515) 986-4532

500 SW James Street, Grimes, Iowa 50111

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

April Heitland, Principal/North Ridge Elem. Building

E-mail: ahheitland@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us

Telephone Number: 515-986-5674

Fax Number: 515-986-5376

400 N.W. 27th Street, Grimes, Iowa 50111

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Diann Williamson, Principal/Dallas Center Elem. Bldg.

E-mail: dwilliamson@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us

Telephone Number: (515) 992-3838

Fax Number: (515) 992-3467

1205 13th Street, P.O. Box 400, Dallas Center, Iowa 50063

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Middle School Office

Jerry Hlas, Principal

E-mail: jhlas@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us

Telephone Number: (515) 992-4343

Fax Number: (515) 992-4076

1400 Vine Street, P.O. Box 608, Dallas Center, Iowa 50063

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Meadows Office

Lori Phillips, Principal

E-mail: lphillips@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us

Telephone Number: (515) 986-0105

Fax Number: (515) 986-3155

2555 W. 1st Street, Ste. 200, Grimes, Iowa 50111

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

High School Office

Cary Justmann, Principal

E-mail: cjustmann@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us

Telephone Number: (515) 986-9747

Fax Number: (515) 986-9734

2555 W. 1st Street, Grimes, Iowa 50111

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Central Office/Business Office

Scott Grimes, Superintendent

E-mail: sgrimes@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us

Telephone Number: (515) 992-3866

Fax Number: (515) 992-3079

1414 Walnut Street, Suite 200, P.O. Box 512

Dallas Center, Iowa 50063

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Encouraging Positive Behavior Online

Cyberwise.org offers advice for parents. This online safety tool emphasizes the importance of staying knowledgeable about our children's digital activity. Use the tips below to reinforce positive behavior:

- Keep the lines of communication open. This will be your greatest tool in keeping your kids safe online.
- Know what apps are on their phones and tablets.
- Enable a passcode that only YOU know before any app can be downloaded on your child's phone.
- Keep up with the current trends and stay one step ahead.
- Make your kids accountable if any of your rules are broken.
- Follow your kids on their social media accounts- know who follows them and who they follow.
- Be bully aware.

(Cyberwise.org, 2016)

These actions can help your child stay safe and positive online. Cyberwise.org provides additional information, including articles on current social media, information about teen relationships, and more.

Oler, Brittany. "CyberWise | No Grownup Left Behind! Online Safety | Parents/Teachers." *CyberWise | No Grownup Left Behind! Online Safety | Parents/Teachers*. Be Cyberwise LLC, 5 Feb. 2016. Web. 24 Feb. 2016.

Property Tax Levy Review and the FY17 Budget

The Dallas Center and Grimes communities are growing! As the communities increase, so do the schools and this is a sign of a quality educational system. Schools are funded through property tax and state aid calculated on the number of students enrolled.

This count of student occurs in October for the following school year, and much student growth happens after that date which is not funded for the school year. This forces the District to use fund balance to provide education, and levy to replenish those funds in the following year. While all other property tax levies were held at a constant or near constant level, the general fund will experience an increase in FY17. This increase directly correlates with replenishing fund balance which was reduced as a result of increasing enrollment that does not receive on-time funding through the state finance formula.

The following chart show a breakdown of the various elements of the school district's property tax levy in both FY16 (current year) and FY17 (proposed budget year), including the amounts that go to the general fund, debt service, physical plant and equipment, and other areas. You will notice that the PPEL and Debt Service levies remain exactly the same as communicated to the public during the elementary bond issue discussion; however cash reserve levy (replenishment of fund balance) rises \$1.28. Until the Legislature sets school funding (SSA) for FY17, these figures are estimated but the FY17 levy rate will be approximately \$19.12 per thousand of taxable valuation which is an increase of \$1.16 over the previous year. A standard home valued at \$250,000 in the District, after factoring rollback, is estimated to pay \$263 increase in additional school taxes during the FY17 taxation year. If you have further questions regarding the proposed FY17 school budget, you may contact Michelle Wearmouth, Business Manager, at (515) 992-3866.

Professional Development

Teachers in grades 6-12 have been studying how to implement increased literacy in their classrooms. We are asking students to think at higher levels, read complex texts, have high-level discussions, and write more frequently.

The Iowa Core has guided much of our work. The Iowa Core has identified three shifts on which we need to concentrate our literacy efforts across all content areas:

Building knowledge through content-rich non-fiction;
Reading, writing, and speaking rounded in evidence from texts, both literary and informational; and
Regular practice with complex text and its academic language.

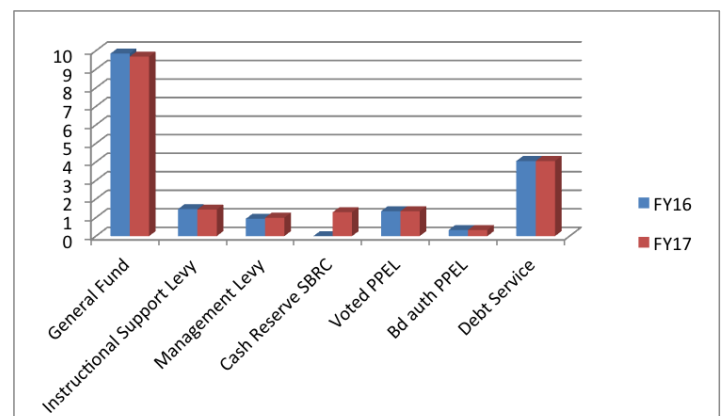
"Purposeful reading, writing, and discussion are integral to quality curriculum – in fact, they constitute the primary means of becoming educated (Rose, 1989; Lasch, 1995). This reality remains true even in our technology-obsessed age."

"...a recent and exhaustive study by David Conley and colleagues reveals that levels of literacy account more than anything for success in college, with the ability to read and write in the academic mode being perhaps the single more important predictor of college success (2007, p.27)." (Leading with Focus, Schmoker, pp. 40-41 2016.)

Our staff understand the importance of this work and collaborating with their colleagues to increase the amount of reading, writing, and discussion that is expected of our students. It is important that we prepare our students to be both college and career ready!

DC-G Mission Statement Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Futures!

The Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District is committed to developing positive, productive, and responsible citizens who are independent thinkers, value themselves and others, and have the knowledge, skills, and desire to be life-long learners. Excellence in education comes from setting high expectations for all and providing the resources needed for every student to excel.



2015-2016 Drivers Education for Dallas-Center Grimes High School and Meadows

We will continue to offer four sessions of driver's education each year, if we have enough interest. The cost at the present time is \$320 for each session. Fees for out of district students are \$375. Students must be at least 14 years old and have a permit to sign up, as well as a signed parent permission slip. Students in grades 8-12 may sign up for each session. Usually the fall and spring session are the busiest. Please call the Meadows school office at 986-0105 to sign up your child for any of these programs. All payments and permission slips should be made or turned in before the first classroom. Payment plans may be arranged with the office. The spring session is already underway. Below you will find information about the summer session.

Summer Session 2016---Our summer program is held during the months of June and July. Class time will begin Monday, June 6 and end on Friday, June 24. Classes will be every day for the first three weeks from 7:00-9:00 a.m. Driving times will be (6) two-hour periods with a driving partner. (Example, a student might drive from 9:00-11:00 a.m. on a Monday). Driving times will be scheduled until 3:30 p.m. and may also be on a Saturday. If you live in Grimes, your child may be picked up at a central location such as Casey's, True Value, or Kum and Go, and then be dropped off there when driving lesson is over. This needs to be prearranged with the instructor. Driving groups will be able to change times with other groups if necessary. Students will draw numbers for driving times the first day of class. They will choose their own driving partner and driving times. Class limit will be 48 students. Home school students are welcome.

Student Assistance Program 515.244.6090

What Is SAP?

The SAP is designed to assist students, families and schools in our partner districts to manage the impact that a wide variety of personal and family problems can have on student behavior and achievement. Many issues can negatively impact a student including those related to family conflict, emotional or mental health problems, limited parenting skills, substance abuse, bullying, and other peer conflict. Services provided include telephone consultation, in-person sessions, and referrals to community resources, if needed.

The Student Assistance Program (SAP) is a here to help you and your immediate family members deal with concerns in your life — by finding solutions. The SAP is available to you 24 hours a day, seven days a week and is strictly confidential.

You can count on the SAP for guidance and support. Call the SAP for issues that interfere with your daily activities, happiness, family stability, or overall wellbeing. Some of the top a SAP counselor can help you with are:

- School performance
- Stress
- Confusion
- Trouble with peers
- Alcohol and other drug problems
- Eating disorders
- Problem gambling concerns
- Dating and relationship issues
- Conflict, bullying or violence
- Depression or suicidal thoughts
- Family concerns

Who will know I used the SAP?

Confidentiality is important to us. Within legal limits, no one will be given any information about your visit without your permission.

Do I have to pay to use the SAP?

No, you can use the SAP for free. You'll receive counseling sessions and 24/7 telephone assistance at no cost to you. If additional resources are needed, the counselor works to ensure referrals are appropriate, beneficial and affordable.

DALLAS CENTER-GRIMES
MUSTANG
GOLF TOURNEY

SPONSORED BY THE DC-G BOOSTER CLUB

DATE: Wednesday, June 8, 2016
TIME: 9:30 announcements/10:00 shotgun start
PLACE: Beaver Creek Golf Course - Grimes, Iowa
FEE: \$55.00 per person - includes 18 holes, cart, door prizes and meal.
FORMAT: 4-person best ball

COME HAVE A GREAT TIME WITH FELLOW DC-G SUPPORTERS!
IF YOU CAN'T PLAY-CONSIDER SPONSORING A HOLE

***Print registration and send to:**
Booster Club Golf Tourney
c/o Scott Heitland
2555 West 1st St
Grimes, IA 50111
Please make checks payable to:
Dallas Center-Grimes Booster Club

2016 DC-G MUSTANG GOLF TOURNEY REGISTRATION

CAPTAIN: _____
EMAIL: _____
TEAM: 1 - \$55.00 _____
 2 - \$55.00 _____
 3 - \$55.00 _____
 4 - \$55.00 _____

I want to be a hole sponsor!

For \$75.00 you or your business can sponsor a hole. A sign will be placed at the hole with your name or your business name. Check the box above and write the name you want on the sign below. You can email artwork for your sign to Scott Heitland - sheitland@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us

Business name on sign: _____

Student Related District Information

This is a summary of the systems used by the district that directly impact parents and students. Each of the following three systems are interconnected and all rely on household and student information being as accurate as possible.

Infinite Campus

Infinite Campus is the district student information system (SIS). Infinite Campus holds all demographic, household, census, and student information. This includes grades, assignments, schedules, reports, behavior, attendance, health records, contact information, and more. Infinite Campus provides information used by the state department of education to track student attendance, behavior, and progress. It is very important that the student and census information in Infinite Campus be as accurate as possible.

There are two parts to Infinite Campus. Teachers and other district staff use the Infinite Campus Application side for student information records. Parents and Guardians use Campus Portal to access their student's information. The Campus Portal link is https://infinitecampus.dc-grimes.k12.ia.us/campus/portal/dallas_center.jsp. Parents with a Campus Portal account can log in to Infinite Campus and view student attendance, some meal information, grades, student schedules, missing assignments and household demographic information. The amount of information will vary based on student's age and grade level. It is important that parents use this access to stay current on their student's academic progress.

A second part of the Campus Portal for parents is the Campus Mobile Portal. This is an app that can be installed on smart phones and tablets for a mobile version of the Campus portal. Notifications are one of the key features of the Campus Mobile Portal. Anytime a change is made to the student's information such as a grade entered or an absence recorded, the parent receives immediate notification (which must be enabled on their smart device). The Campus Mobile Portal is available for Apple and Android platform. To use the mobile portal, a parent must have a user account created in Infinite Campus. There is no cost for this app or to use the mobile portal. When a parent logs into the mobile portal the first time, they will need the portal account username and password described above and a District Code. The District Code is PXFCDZ.

Students can also view the same information as their parent/guardian by logging in to their Campus account. All students in grades 6-12 receive a Campus Portal account. The student is first given the account in sixth grade, but all students are encouraged to set up their account. If a student in grade 6-12 does not have a portal account, they can see a staff member in their specific building's office. Students can also use the Campus Mobile Portal on their smart device.

It is important to set up the security settings found in Campus Portal>Account Maintenance. These settings include entering an email address, which is used to reset your Campus Username or Password. Should you need to do this, click on the orange HELP link on the Campus login portal.

There is a major difference between a Campus student account and a parent's Campus portal account. Parent accounts can see information for all students they are listed as guardian for. Student accounts

can view only the information for that student and not information for any siblings. If you have questions about your account or activating an account, feel free to contact Brian Weidenthaler at 986-0105 or bweidenthaler@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us.

RevTrak

RevTrak is a separate browser application (<https://dcgschools.revtrak.net/tek9.asp>) that connects with your Campus Portal account. By using the Campus Portal account username, you can access RevTrak to pay fees and deposit money in a student meal account. The Campus Portal account must be created BEFORE RevTrak can be accessed. The access to RevTrak uses the Campus Portal account and the/a student's date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY) as the password.

The first time you use RevTrak, you are guided through a few steps to set up an account. This account is used when you check out at the end of each transaction. This account is built around an email address and a password created the first time RevTrak is used. If you have more than one student attending DC-G schools, you will see all your students listed in one place for fees and meal accounts. Any deposit made to a meal account is immediately available in Campus for use by the student. Once a week a reminder message is sent to the parent/guardian email addresses entered in Campus. The reminder message is sent to any account that has a balance less than +\$8.00. General questions about RevTrak can be addressed to Brian Weidenthaler at 986-0105 or bweidenthaler@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us.

SchoolMessenger

SchoolMessenger is used to contact parents regarding district or building information. If it is a high priority message, it most often comes as a phone call to numbers listed for your family in Infinite Campus. These are often cancellation, late start or early out due to weather but could be used for other emergency information.

General notification messages are sent more frequently and most come from the building level. These may involve a building newsletter or summary of student activities, parent-teacher conference reminders, prom or graduation information or similar topics. If your name and contact information (at least one email address and one phone number) is in Infinite Campus, then you are in the SchoolMessenger system.

It is important that contact information be kept as accurate as possible so important messages reach parents/guardians. If you change cell phone numbers, get rid of a land line for your phone, change jobs which might require a change in work email or work phone number, please contact one of the buildings your student attends and let the office staff know what information should be updated. Text messaging (SMS) is optional and if you want messages sent to text as well as email, let the building office know who it is for and what number should receive text messaging. There are times when messages are sent to both phone and email. IMPORTANT... at the bottom of the email message from SchoolMessenger is a link to opt out of receiving emails from the district using SchoolMessenger. If you select this link, it will place your email on a blocked list. If this was done in error, or you want to be added back to the contact list, contact Brian Weidenthaler at 986-0105 or bweidenthaler@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us.



Annual Progress Report

Each district in the state of Iowa collects various data on their students' performance. This month Drop Out Data, Graduation Rate and K-8 attendance percentage is being shared.

Dropout Data 281--IAC 12.8(3)(a)(4)

Dropout means a school-age student who is served by a public school district, or accredited Assessment nonpublic school, and enrolled in any of grades seven through twelve and who does not attend school or withdraws from school for a reason other than death or transfer to another approved school or school district or has been expelled with no option to return. Dropout data lags by one school year for the purpose of the APR summary to be viewed by the general public.

Dropout Data for All Students

Group	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
All Students	0.55%	1.07%	0.72%	0.35%	(8) .89%	(6) .63%	(6) .58%	(4) .37%

Dropout Data By Gender

Group	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Female Students	0.24%	0.43%	0.74%	0%	(2) .47%	(4) .90%	(2) .40%	(2) .37%
Male Students	0.67%	1.68%	0.71%	0.68%	(6) 1.29%	(2) .39%	(4) .73%	(2) .37%

Dropout Data By Ethnicity Race

Group	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
White/Caucasian	1.11%	0.75%	0.37%	(8) .94%	(6) .67%	(6) .62%	(4) .40%
Black	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Hispanic	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
American Indian	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Others	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Dropout Data By Students in specific subgroups

Group	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Students with Disability/IEP	4.55%	0.0%	1.19%	(1) 1.22%	(1) 1.28%	0.0%	0.0%
ELL Students	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

District Graduation Rate

The percentage of students who graduated with a district diploma compared to the state graduation rate. These data will always be a year behind.

School Year	DC-G Graduation Rate	Statewide Graduation Rate
2005-06	98.20%	90.8%
2006-07	96.91%	90.5%
2007-08	96.1%	88.7%
2008-09	94.5%	87.2%
2009-10	93.75%	88.8%
2010-11	93.53%	88.32%
2011-12	95.87%	89.27%
2012-13	94.20%	89.7%
2013-14	97.59%	90.5%

Average Daily Attendance

The district must report the K-8 district average daily attendance compared with the state average daily attendance. These data will always be a year behind.

School Year	DC-G K-8 Attendance	Statewide K-8 Attendance
2005-06	97.05%	95.80%
2006-07	96.76%	94.87%
2007-08	96.6%	95.72%
2008-09	96.0%	95.84%
2009-10	95.52%	NA
2010-11	95.57%	NA
2011-12	96.00%	NA
2012-13	96.57%	90.30%
2013-14	96.63%	NA

An Instructional Coach's Perspective

By: Rochelle Biegger

"The most valuable resource that all teachers have is each other. Without collaboration, our growth is limited to our own perspectives." – Robert John Meehan (Educator and Writer)

If you've been around a while, you recognize how often things change. Sometimes you wonder if it's just a fad, like the high-waisted, tight-rolled jeans I wore in high school. Sometimes you hope it's a fad, like the big, Aqua Net hair and rattails of the 80's.

In the field of education, much like medicine and technology, we are constantly changing. We are incessant researchers and innovators of best practices. Through professional development, collaboration, and reflection, we are focused on finding better ways to engage our students and improve student learning. By adding instructional coaches, we are even more committed to student achievement.

Coaching has been around for a long time. However, coaching has moved beyond the shiny wood-planked floors of a gym or the turf of a football field. We know athletes and performers value effective coaching, but did you know that many successful CEO's and doctors also utilize a coach? In addition, life coaching is available for anyone looking for fresh perspective in his/her personal or professional life.

Perspective is one of the most valuable things an instructional coach can offer teachers. As coaches, we are not experts, but we can go into a classroom and help teachers see what they cannot. People are not always capable of seeing themselves as others see them. Teachers are responsible for delivering and differentiating a lesson, facilitating a learning activity, and assessing student learning while most likely being the only adult in the room with 25-30 students. As teachers, we might think we give students adequate wait time or ask them thought-provoking questions. We might also think that no one is engaged, or we missed our learning target altogether. But in reality, we cannot possibly see everything when we are in the act of teaching. An instructional coach can offer to look for things a teacher might not see.

People should not think that teachers who utilize a coach are weak or inexperienced. Just as professional athletes always strive for refinement, all teachers should use a coach to continually improve. In fact, many professional athletes employ several coaches to help them. None of the coaches need to be better at playing the sport than the athlete; otherwise, they would be on the golf course or the tennis court earning green jackets and trophies. David Cutcliffe, 2013 National Coach of the Year and head football coach for Duke University, never played college football, yet he has an impressive resume and a solid reputation as a leader in that sport. Likewise, instructional coaches should be leaders who inspire teachers to enhance their craft of teaching in order to continually increase student achievement.

Teachers at DC-G have committed to working as a professional learning community to ensure all students learn. Instructional coaches are important members of this collaborative team. Teachers' willingness to refine their practices and welcome a new perspective will positively impact student achievement. So, the saggy jeans fad will come and go, but instructional coaching at DC-G is here to stay. It is an essential piece of our district's vision of continuous improvement and commitment to student learning.

"Both administration conversations and staff conversations are more mission focused. They are focused on learning and also show true caring about all students and staff." #DCGexcellence

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Senior Parent,

Your child's high school career is coming to an end! We know how exciting and busy this time of year can be for you. To assist you in planning the next several months, we have compiled a list of school-related activities of which you should be aware.

Thank you for sharing your child's life with us at school. Please continue to support your child and the school through attendance at the senior activities.

Sincerely,

Cary Justmann

High School Principal

- | | |
|----------|--|
| March 28 | Jostens will deliver caps, gowns, and announcements during the lunch period. |
| April 15 | All local scholarship applications are due. |
| April 27 | Academy Awards at Dallas Center-Grimes High School Auditorium at 6:30 p.m. |
| May 6 | Awards information and final transcript request form due in Deans' office. |
| May 15 | "Milk and Cookies with Mr. Justmann" during advisory in the High School Commons |
| May 23 | Senior semester tests. All fines must be paid prior to checkout. Checkout sheet must be turned into the office, with all required signatures, before student leaves. |
| May 25 | Senior Awards Night at Dallas Center-Grimes High School Auditorium at 6:30 p.m. All scholarships, honors, and awards will be presented. |
| May 25 | Baccalaureate at Dallas Center-Grimes High School Auditorium at 7:45 p.m. |
| May 27 | Senior Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. – DC-G High School Commons. |
| May 27 | Commencement practice will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the auditorium. All seniors that are participating in commencement ceremonies are required to attend. |
| May 27 | Commencement at Meadows Gymnasium – 7:00 p.m. |

Cellular Biology

By: Stephanie Schemmel

The students in cellular biology are currently studying different types of solutions and the movement of substances across the cell membrane. The goal is for the students to be able to explain the interaction between substances and the plasma membrane. The students started the unit by making observations about eggs that were first placed in vinegar to get rid of the hard outer shell. Then half the students placed their eggs in distilled water and the other half placed them in corn syrup. The students formed a hypothesis about what they expected the egg to look like after 24 hours. The next day they made observations about the liquid and egg. They then placed their eggs in the opposite liquid and again created a hypothesis and waited 24 hours. The students saw the egg shrivel up in the corn syrup and saw the egg swell in the distilled water. After all of their observations we had a concept day, and as a class we came up with an explanation for their observations.



“The high school offers many trips for students to take to different countries. To see the effect on the students and how these trips change them is amazing. One student decided to choose a Spanish major in college after going on one of these trips.” #DCGexcellence

“Capitol Girls” Day For High School Female Students Interested In Government

By: Sydney Wagner, DC-G High School Student

On February 9, 2016 I visited the Capitol Building as a part of the Girl Scouts’ *Capitol Girls* program. One part of this program was meeting a female legislator (Senator or Representative) and accompanying them as they completed their various duties. I was paired with Representative Timi Brown-Powers, a Democrat from Waterloo. It was a little intimidating at first, but Representative Brown-Powers did her best to make sure that I was comfortable.

While I was with Representative Brown-Powers, I attended meetings with lobbyists, a Democratic Education Caucus, and a Treasury and Utilities Board meeting. Each of these duties showed a different aspect of what is required of our state legislators and how they must address their duties. It was a very interesting process to observe because on one end I was able to observe the brainstorming of a potential law, and on the other I was able to witness the discussion of laws already voted on and in place.

After leaving Representative Brown-Powers I met back up with the rest of the Girl Scouts and together we visited the office of Senator Pam Jochum, President of the Iowa Senate. Senator Jochum and several other female senators gave brief descriptions of their duties and then began a discussion about what legal practices we thought were working and which ones weren’t (specifically legislation regarding bullying). Our meeting with Senator Jochum ended right as the Senate began to debate and vote on a bill, so we were able to observe that process as well.

One of our last stops was the office of the Lieutenant Governor where we were able to meet with Kim Reynolds (pictured below with all the girls). It was very interesting to talk to a woman with such an important position in government. She had some great advice for future steps we want to take and possible paths we could take to get there.



This was a very fun, interesting experience that I would recommend for any girl who is even slightly interested in politics and government.

High School Mock Trial

By: Shannon Pagel

The DC-G high school mock trial team completed its 2016 season with a trip to the Des Moines Regional Play-off. The high school had two mock trial teams this year, each composed of eight students. The Des Moines Regional competition was held on February 29. One of DC-G’s teams advanced to the play-off round, held on March 1, where they were defeated by the Valley High School team.

In mock trial students are given a fact pattern for a criminal or a civil case and are asked to prepare the case for trial. The students play the roles of the witnesses and attorneys, develop strategies for arguing the case, learn rules of trial procedure and evidence, and present the case at a regional competition. The activity teaches critical thinking skills, logical analysis, public speaking, drama, and the basics of the American justice system. Most of all, the activity challenges the students to see the fact pattern from both the defendant’s and the prosecutor’s side, and to be able to make an argument for either side, as so few issues in real life are completely one-sided.



The Des Moines Regional competition is made up of almost entirely class 4A metro schools. DC-G was one of only three non-metro schools to compete (the other two being Perry and Waukee), and the only 3A school to advance to the play-off round.

DC-G’s teams this year were made up of three juniors, nine sophomores, and four freshmen, including six members who had never participated in mock trial before. All team members did a great job, and we are very proud of their efforts, dedication, and growth. They are coached by attorneys Shannon Wallace and Kim Cross, and their facilitating teacher is Sandy Barker. Great job, mock trial!

A Breath of Fresh Air

By: Brooke Maine

Students in Anatomy & Physiology are currently learning all about the respiratory system. Some of the topics include how our bodies exchange gases between the air and lungs, what causes breathing, how exercise affects your respiratory system, and the other physiological mechanisms involved in the respiratory system. As a part of this unit, students get to measure their own lung capacity using the Logger Pro computer application and equipment from Vernier. With their data, they analyze their lung volumes and compare them to each other and to the averages for people at their age. Students will conclude the year with an in-depth dissection and analysis of a mink. Through this they will see all of the body systems they have learned about throughout the year and how the body systems work together within an organism.

Students in AP/College Biology are busy preparing for the AP exam at the end of the year. This includes learning about all levels of ecology in our current unit. Students are learning about the sixteen various biomes that make up our ecosystems, how populations and communities interact with each other and the environment, disturbances to ecosystems, and many other topics. Students will finish off the year learning about fungi, plants, and animals.

DC-G Construction House

By: Travis Donahue

The first DC-G construction house to be built in Dallas Center is going really well. This year's crew of twelve students is working very hard to complete the seventh house the program has built. This year's house is a ranch style house with a finished basement. The house is around 1500 Sq. Ft. on the main level, with a two car attached garage. The crew has been working from the beginning of the year to frame the house, set the trusses, shingle, install the house wrap, windows and exterior doors, and complete all the interior framing on the house.

In February and March the students worked with licensed HVAC, plumbing, and electrical contractors to complete all the mechanical work in the house. This gave the students a chance to see how professionals in their field complete the rough-in process for all plumbing, electrical, and heating and cooling of a residential home. We passed the mechanical and framing inspection, which allowed the students to move on to insulating the house. Students prepared everything for the crew to come in to hang and finish all the drywall in the house.

Up next, the crew will mount all the cabinets, doors, and trim in the house. They will also side the outside of the house, including installing the soffit and fascia. Once the inside of the house is painted, the students will then install all the hardwood flooring, tile flooring, and construct the tiled shower in the master bedroom. Finally, the students will build the deck and then clean the house for the new homeowners.

This year's crew is made up of eleven seniors and one junior. This year's crew has proven they are willing to do the work to complete this project, even when more is asked of them. They have fun on the job site while learning some very good skills. I am very proud of the work they have done.

This first house in Dallas Center has proven to be a great opportunity for the DC-G building trades program. For the first time, we sold this year's house during the construction phase. This has given my students and myself the opportunity to work with the homeowners to add some



Gas Laws in Chemistry

By: Kathryn Hopper

In Chemistry, students are learning how gasses behave under various conditions and what happens when a variable is changed. Students began by observing demonstrations of what happens when gasses are placed in specific environments. Moving forward, students learned what variables were being changed and what types of relationships can be observed between two different variables of a gas. Chemistry students also learned how to predict and solve problems relating to the different variables that impact gasses. As students' understanding of gas laws advanced, we returned to some of the initial demonstrations to develop better explanations for what was observed.



personal touches to the house. The result of seven years of building residential houses, and the effort all of the students who have been involved came together to showcase the quality of product DC-G students can produce. I want to take this time to thank all the students who have gone through this program for your hard work and attention to detail. You are the reason this program has had any success.



MEADOWS NEWS

Eight Grade Science

By: Ariana Krueger

At Meadows, students in eighth grade science have been learning about ionic and covalent bonding. Students have been drawing bonds, learning which elements will bond together to make compounds, and even witnessed some “underwater fireworks” to visualize the transfer of electrons during an ionic bond. When discussing covalent bonds, students were introduced to polymers by completing a “dissecting diaper lab.” Students pulled out the polymer (sodium polyacrylate) and were able to see how it could absorb up to 300 times its weight in water!



Prom 2016 - Arabian Nights

By: Amanda Berkley

Preparations have been underway since last fall for the 2016 prom to be held on Saturday, April 23. With the convenience of having an on-site location for the dance, we have decided to come together as a group and transform Meadows into “Arabian Nights.” Grand March will be held in the Meadows gym at 5:00 p.m. Students will be able to have formal pictures taken at this time. All those attending Grand March to view the couples will be charged \$1 at the door.

As soon as students return from spring break, we will be distributing invitations and getting the students signed up for prom. As always, all students need to sign up for prom before attending. This needs to be done by April 21, the day before prom. Any students who are being accompanied by a student outside of the DC-G school district will need inform them to bring an ID the evening of prom. No students over the age of 21 will be allowed to attend our high school prom.

Stuart Alexander Productions will be helping to decorate the Meadows commons for the third year in a row. As always, we welcome any parent volunteers to help with setting up and tearing down. We will need help with setting up decorations Friday night starting at 4:00 p.m. and taking down decorations beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 24.

Please contact Amanda Berkley at aberkley@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us if you can help.



2016 Informational Technology (IT) Update

By: Jeff Motz & Ben Chadwick

The Informational Technology programs at Meadows have had an extremely exciting year and we would like to share two celebrations with our community. Upon completing our FIRST Tech Challenge robotics season, Coach Shayne Rich of Grimes, Senior Product Engineer at John Deere Intelligent Solutions Group, was approved through the *Dollars for Doers* funding to support future opportunities of inspiration in science & technology for students at Dallas Center-Grimes. Shayne and our Meadows’ IT staff have a shared vision of expanding the opportunities students have in the Pre-Programming (Logic Through Robotics) course. In order to make this possible, Coach Shayne Rich has volunteered many hours and left a positive lifelong impact on the students involved in the program.

Our second celebration is to recognize HyperStream Leader Matthew McDonald of Grimes, a leader of recruiting efforts for Principal Financial Group’s IT community. For DC-G, HyperStream is a partnership between Principal Financial Group and our IT related courses; supported by the Technology Association of Iowa (TAI). Our HyperStream initiative takes place in the classroom with the purpose of fostering real-world interaction and project-based learning through hands-on projects and competitions, engaging presentations, and action-packed technology events – all with technology professional mentoring. We have been invited on stage at the 2016 Prometheus Awards in April, an event showcasing Iowa’s brightest successes in technology, to share how our model impacts our students and motivates the future technology talent of Iowa.

Thank you to both Shayne Rich and Matthew McDonald for their continuing support of our programs and all the time and effort they volunteer to support innovation with our Meadows and High School IT classrooms!

2015-2016 Basketball Managers

The Dallas Center-Grimes boys basketball team would like to recognize and honor five seniors for their dedication and commitment to our program. Andrew Thompson, Nathan Huff, Emily Burgher, Megan Dillivan and Amber Workman all earned letters for countless hours of folding uniforms, filming games, filling water bottles, and doing statistics. Led by Mary Gerzema, this crew went above and beyond in everything they did. The support and hard work is greatly appreciated. We wish you all the best as you move on to the next chapter of your lives.

2015-2016 DC-G MUSTANG BASKETBALL

- * 11-11 overall record, 5-7 in Raccoon River
- * Top 5 schedule in 3A
- * Led state (3A) in blocked shots as a team with 128 (#6 in all four classes)
- * #10 in state (3A) with 201 steals
- * 131-33 in the last seven years, 80% winning percentage
- * Wins over ADM, Norwalk, Grinnell, Pella Christian, Ballard, Perry
- * Varsity Cumulative GPA = 3.29

VARSIITY LETTERWINNERS

Callen Bertrand
Anthony Jacobson
Dylan Rude
Grant Shivers
Doug Heritage
Blake Schaben
Randy Holm
Trent Pride
Trey Washington
Steve Borneman

VARSIITY "SPIRIT" AWARD

Trent Pride

THE BRODY FREKING "PERSEVERANCE" AWARD

Blake Schaben

STUDENT ATHLETE AWARDS

Freshman – Carter Eischeid and Caleb Rhoads
Sophomore – Steve Borneman and Cole Benson
Junior – Trent Pride
Senior – Anthony Jacobsen

GLOFA Run/Walk 5K & 1 mile

This new event is a 5K or 1 Mile Run/Walk to encourage fitness and have fun on a Friday night. Individuals will be provided glow items to wear as they participate in this evening fitness event. Participants can register to walk or run either 1 or 3.1 miles. Participants are encouraged to dress up & have fun.

Date: Friday, April 15 (Rain date: Saturday, April 16)

Time: 9:00 p.m.

Location: Grimes Sports Complex

Sponsoring Group: FOFA - All proceeds will support the development of a successful fine arts program in the DC-G school district.

Registration forms are available on <http://www.dcgschools.com>. Individual & Family registration options are available. Registrations received before March 30 will include a GLOFA t-shirt including a logo designed by a DC-G high school student. Registrations received after March 30 will NOT include a t-shirt.

GLOFA
RUN 5K
MILE
4.15.2016

VARSIITY SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Steve Borneman

COACHES AWARDS

Freshman – Derek Shanno
Sophomore – Tanner Epple
Junior Varsity – Trent Pride
Varsity – Dylan Rude

VARSIITY MOST IMPROVED

Dylan Rude

LITTLE HAWKEYE ALL- CONFERENCE SELECTIONS

Doug Heritage – 1st Team
Anthony Jacobsen – Honorable Mention
Trey Washington – Honorable Mention

ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE (3.50 Varsity GPA Average)

Anthony Jacobsen
Blake Schaben
Trent Pride

DCG RECORDS BROKEN/TIED

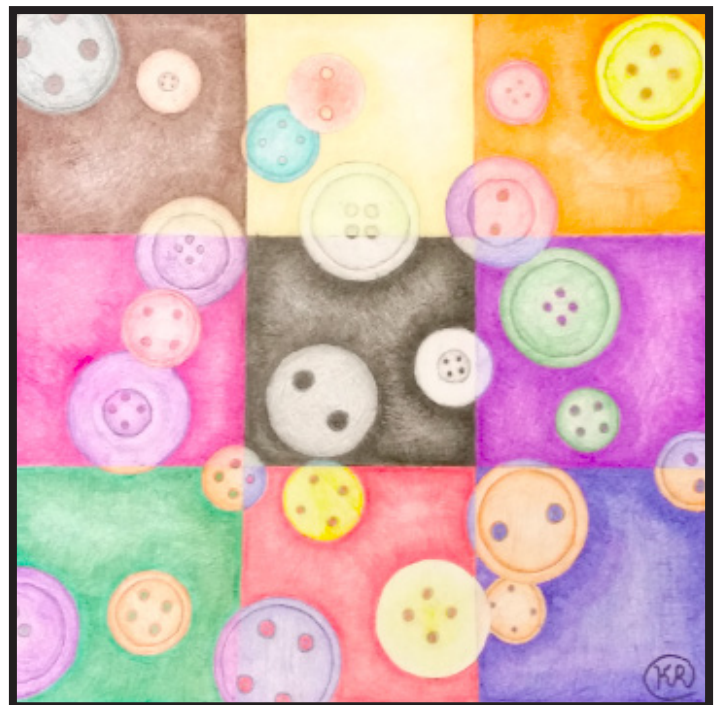
Doug Heritage – 3pters in a season = 55
Doug Heritage – 3pters in a Career = 172
Doug Heritage – 3pters in a Game = 7 (tied)
Doug Heritage – Points in a Career = 1119

"Play Hard, Team Together, Defense Wins"

Meadows Art Spotlight

By: Danell Duncan

In Art II, students were asked to pick an object to draw several times. The students were then assigned to show knowledge of three to five color groups using colored pencil. Katie Rich did a great job using buttons as her subject matter.



MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Seventh Grade Science

One of the district's goals this year is including more reading and writing into the curriculum. Mr. Jaspering and Miss Scott's seventh grade science class has incorporated various activities that implement both reading and writing into the content area. An activity that was used this year happened during the Circulatory System unit. After content instruction occurred over the heart, blood, and blood vessels, students were given a task to pretend they were a red blood cell and describe their journey through the circulatory system. They were required to mention the areas of the heart, what types of blood vessels they were traveling in, and if they were traveling as oxygenated or deoxygenated blood. The following is a samples of a student essays from this activity.

Journey of a Red Blood Cell

By: Emma Wagner

I am a red blood cell. I am carrying oxygen and nutrients throughout the body. My journey starts in the left atrium. I have just come from the lungs, bursting with oxygen and nutrients. I am ready to start my mission. I move into the right ventricle, ready to see where the heart will pump me this time. I received my destination within moments, the right hand. I suppress a shiver. The right hand is one of the most dangerous parts of the body. Many brave red blood cells have gone there and never come back. I swallow my fear and head down the corresponding valve.

After going through proper procedures at the valve, I continue onward through a dark artery. I, along with hundreds of other blood cells, went down artery after artery. Every now and then, I see some white blood cells rush past. I wondered if they were responding to a bacteria alert. Once again, I am reminded of where it is I'm going.

I go on, my nerves twanging like a piece of string. It seems like this journey will never end. I nearly cry from relief when I finally see my destination in the distance, the capillary. That's when it happens, the side of the artery rips open! Then they come in, the bacteria! The white blood cells that are always rushing around called for backup, and then started attacking the notorious bacteria. The red blood cells, me included, fled. Some were sucked out of the rip in the wall while bacteria was attacking others. Those who weren't being attacked ran toward the capillary where we would be safe. I ran faster than I ever had before. More and more white blood cells were arriving. Screams filled the air! It was chaos! All of this seemed far away because my only focus the capillary that was coming closer and closer. Finally, I made it.

I quickly traded my oxygen and nutrients with the capillaries for the carbon dioxide that I would take back to the lungs. I didn't know if the attack had subsided, but I wasn't prepared to go back and find out. I entered the vein that was the quickest way back to HQ (Heart quarters). When I got back, I reported the incident to one of the head blood cells who was just about to make her run. She thanks me, and rushed off to file it. I then entered the right atrium and got pumped into the right ventricle. After getting checked for injuries, I went to the lungs and traded off my carbon dioxide for some new oxygen. It was time to begin a new journey!

Students Perform in SC-ICDA Honor Choir

On February 29, a select group of seventh grade students participated in the South Central-Iowa Choral Directors Association Honor Choir. They spent about four weeks preparing music for the event with Mrs. Wilkins at the Middle School. Students traveled to the DC-G High School where they practiced and performed with the large choir. The SATB Mixed Honor Choir was under the direction of Mr. Eric Mohlis, choral music educator at the high school. The SSA Women's Choir was under the direction of Mrs. Laura Hinspeter, a vocal coach in Central Iowa. That evening they performed a concert for a full auditorium.

Seventh grade students who participated in the SSA Choir were Shaine Bryant, Sierra Mason, Trinity Godfrey, Kylie McCarty, Jenna Skow, Allison Bustamante, Elizabeth Vance, Karlee Rebik, Jordan Smith, Leilani Alaniz, Liz Huber, Nicole Mercial, Cassidy Overbey, Kaylyn Friesen, and Miranda Muhlstein. Seventh-graders who participated in the SATB Mixed Choir were Molly Patterson, Gemma Wood, Raea Henigan, Erin McAninch, Kenzi Fortune, Emma Wagner, Amber VandeKieft, Shara Connelly, Kell Bowen, Carson Sump, Drew Clausen, Jayden Bamberger, Garrett Morris, Blake Willey, and Logan MacConnell.

7th Grade Vocal Solo/Small Ensemble Contest

On February 23, seventh grade choir students participated in the Vocal Solo/Small Ensemble Contest at DC-G Middle School. About ninety students sang at the event. Kenzi Fortune & Allison Gibbons earned a division I+ on their vocal ensemble, Blake Willey, Carson Sump and Ryan Huss earned a division I+ on their vocal ensemble and Drew Clausen and Molly Patterson earned a division I+ on her vocal solo. All of these students have been recognized as Outstanding Vocalists in the center. Congratulations to all students who participated!

High Ratings Received at Solo Contest

These six young ladies all received I+ Rating at the DC-G Middle School 7th Grade Solo Contest. Megan Sterbenz and Sierra Mason were selected as "Outstanding Soloists" in their respective center for the evening's contest. Pictured above from left to right in the back row are Megan Sterbenz (Bass Clarinet), Amber VandeKieft (Alto Sax), Shara Connelly (Bb Clarinet). Pictured from left to right in the front row are Maddie Evans (Flute), Molly Patterson (Alto Sax), Sierra Mason (Flute).



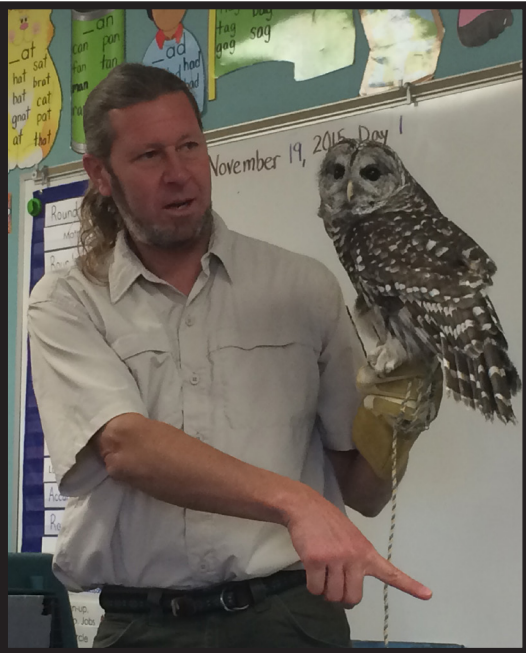
ELEMENTARY NEWS

Spotlight on Science

First Grade Science

By: Alicia Williams

First grade students have covered a variety of topics in science this year. However, the highlight of our year was our guest visitor, Mike

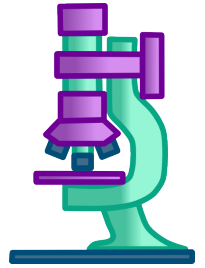


Havlik, a naturalist from Dallas County. He visited each first grade classroom at South Prairie and talked with the students about owls. He even brought one owl for students to observe. He read books and sang songs about owls. It was truly an experience students will HOOT about!!

Kindergarten Science

By: Donna Niemeyer

Spring is full of fun in science! One science unit is "All About Worms." Students learn how worms are important for our environment. We learn facts about worms through books, class discussions, and hands-on exploration. Students are invited to look at the worms with magnifying glasses and to touch them. The students also observe the worms making tunnels and creating homes. Kindergartners use and share their observations through conversations and drawings.



Second Grade Science

By: Becky Noah

Second-graders love science! We started out our school year by exploring what scientists do and learned about insects. Throughout the month of April we will watch caterpillars go through their life cycle and turn into a butterfly.

We continued our scientific exploration by studying Balance and Motion. Twirly birds, zoomers, and spinners are some of the motion activities we did. Balancing items on a stick, including a pencil on its tip, were amazing. We followed that up by creating a mobile that balanced all its pieces.

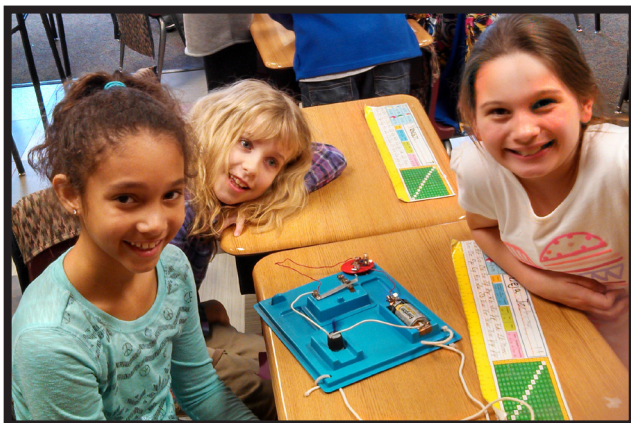
Soon we are starting our Air and Weather unit, which we will do through the remainder of the school year. Air and weather are so much fun to learn about! We learn about weather, air pressure, the water cycle, what meteorologists do, and we even try to predict the weather based on things we have learned. We really enjoy all the fun activities in science.

Third Grade Science

By: Patrice Teigland

Third-graders have been enjoying discovery as they use the "Inquiry Method" during science. Currently the units Movement in the Solar System, and Electricity and Magnetism have kept the students asking questions and discovering answers.

Students are exploring properties of magnets and electrical circuits. They are excited to engage in activities to experiment and discover how to light a bulb, run a motor, and even create an electromagnet as they develop an understanding of movement of electrons in closed and open circuits.



The night sky has always been a subject of interest to young learners. This unit focuses on an understanding of the movements within the solar system. Does the moon change every month? Through models, observation, and experimentation, students collaborate, elaborate, and explain conclusions they were able to discover. If your child looks into the night sky and exclaims, "There's a waxing gibbous!" ask them to explain it to you.

The inquiry approach that is used leads to active construction of meaningful knowledge and makes the learning process more relevant and tangible. Success and retention of information is greater because of the participation in the teacher-guided or student-created activities. Students are active and science is fun in third grade!



Fourth Grade Science

By: Mallory Spray

Fourth-graders have been busy studying the digestive system and the human body. They investigated the steps of the digestion process through eating a snack and making observations of what happened as they ate! Students learned new scientific vocabulary such as esophagus, intestine, and villi. For their summative assessment, they had to describe what would happen as they ate a piece of pizza. Did you know the human body has 206 bones? Students learned the names of many bones. They also learned about different types of bone joints and how muscles, ligaments, and tendons help the body move. Next up, the fourth-graders will study classes of vertebrates and their characteristics.

Fifth Grade Science

By: Lindsey Updike

Students in fifth grade are currently learning about the concept of Motion and Forces. This links to the Iowa Core Physical Science Standard of Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions. This states that students can “support an argument that the gravitational force exerted by Earth on objects is directed down.” Throughout this unit, we explore the concepts of motion patterns, gravity, friction, magnetism, and buoyancy.

To make this unit more interesting and hands-on, fifth-graders will be conducting experiments based on variables. Through our FOSS Science Kit investigations, students will determine relationships between objects and events. This will include observing interactions, dependencies, and cause and effect. During our four investigations, fifth-graders will fling, float, fly and flip objects as they discover these relationships!



North Ridge “Artist of the Month”

By: Kayde Sberal

Fourth-grader Savannah Nelson was awarded “Artist of the Month” for her Aboriginal art inspired painting. The students examined traditional Aboriginal artwork and discussed the symbolism behind the artwork. We also looked into the importance of dots and why they were utilized. Students drew animals and symbols and wrote “dreamings” (traditional Aboriginal stories) about their animals using their imagination.



Dallas Center Elementary Music Concerts

The first and second grade students at Dallas Center Elementary are preparing for their music concert, “Spring Has Sprung” on April 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. Students will perform a variety of songs describing the excitement of the new beginnings of Spring. Students are encouraged to dress up for this performance.

The third and fourth grade students at Dallas Center Elementary are preparing for their concert, “Go West” on April 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. Students have learned about Westward Expansion and will be acting out scenes depicting the many reasons people chose to go west. In addition to telling the story of the Westward movement, students will demonstrate many of their major learning standards in music such as singing in harmony, singing with dynamics and expression, music literacy, and performing instrumental accompaniments. Students will dress to depict Western characters and pioneers for this performance.

Preschool Family Night

This year for preschool family night we had a family dance at North Ridge. The families had fun dancing in the gym. They also took fun family selfies at the selfie station. The preschool students displayed some of their art. The families enjoyed cookies made by the ladies in the kitchen. Thank you to all the families who attended this fun event. Thank you also to the PTO for the grant money to pay for a DJ and the cookies.



Cognitive Abilities Test Parent Notification

This notification provides information about the test and the uses for the results.

Who take the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)?

Third grade students in the Dallas Center-Grimes Community school district will take the *Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)*.

What does CogAT measure?

CogAT measures learned reasoning and problem-solving skills in three different areas: verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal. These skills develop gradually throughout a person's lifetime and at different rates for different individuals. They are good predictors of success in school and are important outcomes of good schooling. *CogAT* does not measure such factors as effort, attention, motivation, and work habits, which also contribute importantly to school achievement.

SECTION 1: VERBAL TESTS: Measures flexibility, fluency, and adaptability in reasoning with verbal materials and in solving verbal problems. These reasoning abilities play an important role in reading comprehension, critical thinking, writing, and virtually all verbal learning tasks.

Test 1: Verbal Classification	10 minutes
Test 2: Sentence Completion	10 minutes
Test 3: Verbal Analogies	10 minutes

SECTION 2: QUANTITATIVE TESTS: Measures quantitative reasoning skills; flexibility and fluency in working with quantitative symbols and concepts; and the ability to organize, structure, and give meaning to an unordered set of numerals and mathematical symbols. These reasoning skills are significantly related to problem solving in mathematics and other disciplines.

Test 4: Quantitative Results	10 minutes
Test 5: Number Series	10 minutes
Test 6: Equation Building	12 minutes

SECTION 3: NONVERBAL TEST: Measures reasoning using geometric shapes and figures. To perform successfully, students must invent strategies for solving novel problems. They must be flexible in using these strategies and accurate in implementing them.

Test 7: Figure Classification	10 minutes
Test 8: Figure Analogies	10 minutes
Test 9: Figure Analysis	10 minutes

Why will the CogAT be administered?

- Teachers will use *CogAT* scores to help students learn more effectively. For example, if a student's results shows an uneven pattern of relative strength and weaknesses, the teacher can provide challenging opportunities for the student to do the kind of thinking he/she does best (building on the student's strengths). The teacher can also provide support the development of a student's relative weaknesses.
- The school district will also use the *CogAT* test results to help identify academically gifted students.

What will the results look like?

CogAT is nationally normed; a student's test performance will be compared with the test performances of other students throughout the nation who are the same age. Each student will be given results by national age percentile rank, for verbal reasoning ability, quantitative reasoning ability, and nonverbal reasoning ability. A *CogAT* Composite score will be derived from the results on the Verbal, Quantitative, and Nonverbal tests. The Composite national age percentile rank is a general statement of a student's reasoning ability. A parent report will be sent home to each family. If you have questions about this assessment, please call Heather Nerem at 986-5674



April Activity Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<p>9:00am Golf-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Norwalk</p> <p>5:30pm Soccer-B/JV Away vs. Nevada</p> <p>7:00pm Soccer-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Nevada</p>	<p>Vocal Solo/Ensemble Contest</p> <p>FOFA Night</p> <p>8:30am Golf-G/JV/Varsity Away vs. Norwalk</p>
	<p>3</p> <p>All State Individual Events Speech Contest at UNI</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Ames</p> <p>4:45pm Soccer-G/9th Grade Away vs. Valley</p> <p>6:00pm Soccer-G/JV Away vs. Valley</p> <p>7:30pm Soccer-G/Varsity Away vs. Valley</p>	<p>4</p> <p>State Jazz Band Festival</p> <p>4:00pm Golf-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Woodward Granger</p> <p>4:00pm Golf-G/JV/Varsity Away vs. Woodward Granger</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-G/7th Grade Away vs. Urbandale</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/7th Grade Away vs. Urbandale</p> <p>4:45pm Soccer-B/9th Grade Pella</p> <p>5:00pm Track & Field-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Adel DeSoto Minburn CSD</p> <p>5:00pm Track & Field-G/JV/Varsity Away vs. Adel DeSoto Minburn CSD</p> <p>6:00pm Soccer-B/JV Pella</p> <p>7:30pm Soccer-B/Varsity Pella Community</p>	<p>5</p> <p>LHC Art Festival</p>	<p>6</p> <p>4:00pm Golf-G/JV/Varsity Winterset</p> <p>4:15pm Golf-B/JV/Varsity Norwalk vs. Multiple Schools</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-G/7th Grade Urbandale</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/7th Grade Urbandale</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Indianola</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-G/8th Grade Johnston vs. Multiple Schools</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/8th Grade Johnston vs. Multiple Schools</p> <p>6:00pm DC Elem Concert Grades 1/2 and 3/4 @ DCG HS Auditorium</p>	<p>7</p> <p>SWCC Jazz Choir Festival</p> <p>5:00pm Track & Field-G/JV/Varsity Ballard</p> <p>5:30pm Soccer-G/JV Gilbert</p> <p>7:00pm Soccer-G/Varsity Gilbert</p>	<p>8</p> <p>TBD Soccer-B/Varsity Away vs. Urbandale</p>
	<p>10</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Norwalk</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/7th Grade Dallas Center-Grimes HS vs. Multiple Schools</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-G/JV/Varsity Away vs. Norwalk</p>	<p>11</p> <p>4:15pm Golf-G/JV/Varsity Away vs. Pella</p> <p>4:15pm Golf-B/JV/Varsity Dallas Center-Grimes HS vs. Multiple Schools</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-G/8th Grade Away vs. North Polk</p> <p>4:45pm Soccer-B/9th Grade Away vs. Norwalk</p> <p>5:30pm Soccer-G/JV Norwalk</p> <p>6:00pm Soccer-B/JV Away vs. Norwalk</p> <p>7:00pm Soccer-G/Varsity Norwalk</p> <p>7:30pm Soccer-B/Varsity Away vs. Norwalk</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Dismiss at 1:00-Staff Development</p> <p>LHC Math Day @ Central College</p>	<p>13</p> <p>4:00pm Golf-G/JV/Varsity Away vs. Adel DeSoto Minburn CSD</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/8th Grade Away vs. Urbandale</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-G/JV/Varsity Away vs. Waukee</p> <p>4:45pm Soccer-G/9th Grade Johnston</p> <p>4:45pm Soccer-B/Varsity Away vs. Des Moines Roosevelt</p> <p>6:00pm Soccer-G/JV Johnston</p> <p>6:15pm Soccer-B/JV Away vs. Des Moines Roosevelt</p> <p>7:30pm Soccer-G/Varsity Johnston</p>	<p>14</p> <p>FOFA Glo-Fa Run @ DCG Stadium</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Adel DeSoto Minburn CSD</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/7th Grade Away vs. Winterset</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/8th Grade Away vs. Winterset</p> <p>6:30pm 8/9 Musical @ DCG HS Auditorium</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30am Soccer-G/Varsity Dallas Center-Grimes HS vs. Multiple Schools</p> <p>6:30pm 8/9 Musical @ DCG HS Auditorium</p>
	<p>17</p> <p>2:00pm Golf-G/JV/Varsity Away vs. Bondurant-Farrar</p> <p>4:00pm Golf-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Ballard</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/8th Grade Away vs. Adel DeSoto Minburn CSD</p> <p>4:45pm Soccer-G/9th Grade Away vs. Ankeny Centennial</p> <p>4:45pm Soccer-B/9th Grade Newton</p> <p>5:00pm Track & Field-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Waukee</p> <p>6:00pm Soccer-B/JV Newton</p> <p>7:30pm Soccer-B/Varsity Newton</p>	<p>18</p> <p>4:15pm Golf-G/JV/Varsity Away vs. Grinnell</p> <p>4:15pm Golf-B/JV/Varsity Oskaloosa vs. Multiple Schools</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-G/8th Grade Away vs. Urbandale</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-G/7th Grade Away vs. Urbandale</p> <p>4:45pm Track & Field-G/JV/Varsity Dallas Center-Grimes HS vs. Multiple Schools</p> <p>5:00pm Track & Field-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Ballard</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:30pm High School Academy Awards @ DCG HS Auditorium</p>	<p>20</p> <p>4:00pm Golf-B/JV/Varsity Adel DeSoto Minburn CSD</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-G/8th Grade Away vs. Nevada</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Waukee</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-G/7th Grade Away vs. Nevada</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/8th Grade Away vs. Carlisle</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/7th Grade Away vs. Carlisle</p> <p>5:00pm Track & Field-G/JV/Varsity Away vs. Carroll Community</p> <p>5:30pm Soccer-B/JV Gilbert</p> <p>7:00pm Soccer-B/Varsity Gilbert</p>	<p>21</p> <p>4:30pm Soccer-G/9th Grade Away vs. Newton</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/7th Grade Away vs. Perry Community</p> <p>5:00pm Soccer-B/9th Grade Johnston</p> <p>5:30pm Soccer-G/JV Away vs. Newton</p> <p>6:15pm Soccer-B/JV Johnston</p> <p>7:00pm Soccer-G/Varsity Away vs. Newton</p>	<p>22</p> <p>SCIBA MS Large Group Band Contest @ DCG HS Auditorium</p> <p>8:00pm-11:00pm Jr/Sr Prom @ DCG Meadows 8/9 School</p>
	<p>24</p> <p>No School Professional Development</p> <p>4:00pm Track & Field-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Valley</p> <p>4:30pm Soccer-B/9th Grade Away vs. Adel DeSoto Minburn CSD</p> <p>4:45pm Soccer-G/9th Grade Away vs. Johnston</p> <p>5:30pm Soccer-B/JV Away vs. Adel DeSoto Minburn CSD</p> <p>6:00pm Soccer-G/JV Away vs. Johnston</p> <p>7:00pm School Board Meeting @ DCG - Northridge Elementary</p> <p>7:00pm Soccer-B/Varsity Away vs. Adel DeSoto Minburn CSD</p>	<p>25</p> <p>4:15pm Golf-G/JV/Varsity Pella Christian vs. Multiple Schools</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Woodward Granger</p> <p>5:30pm Soccer-G/JV Oskaloosa</p> <p>5:30pm Soccer-B/JV Away vs. Oskaloosa</p> <p>7:00pm Soccer-G/Varsity Oskaloosa</p> <p>7:00pm Soccer-B/Varsity Away vs. Oskaloosa</p>	<p>26</p> <p>4:30pm Soccer-G/9th Grade Away vs. Adel DeSoto Minburn CSD</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-G/7th Grade Away vs. Woodward Granger</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-B/7th Grade Away vs. Woodward Granger</p> <p>4:45pm Track & Field-B/JV/Varsity Dallas Center-Grimes HS vs. Multiple Schools</p> <p>4:45pm Track & Field-G/JV/Varsity Away vs. Clarke Community</p> <p>5:00pm Soccer-B/9th Grade Away vs. Johnston</p> <p>6:00pm Soccer-G/JV Away vs. Adel DeSoto Minburn CSD</p> <p>6:15pm Soccer-B/JV Away vs. Johnston</p> <p>7:30pm Soccer-G/Varsity Away vs. Adel DeSoto Minburn CSD</p>	<p>27</p> <p>1:00pm Golf-B/JV/Varsity Away vs. Winterset</p> <p>4:30pm Track & Field-G/8th Grade Away vs. Winterset</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Adventureland MS Band Contest</p> <p>10:00am Soccer-B/JV Grinnell</p> <p>11:30am Soccer-B/Varsity Grinnell</p>	



Regular physical activity helps the body function better.

Dallas Center Grimes Elementary Breakfast Menu

April 2016

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY



Breakfast Pizza **4**
OR
Choice of WG Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Canned Fruit
Milk

Blueberry, Banana or French Toast Bread Loaf **5**
OR
Choice of Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Apple Juice
Milk

Pancake Sausage **6**
OR
Choice of Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Fresh Fruit
Milk

Biscuit & Gravy Bites **7**
OR
Choice of Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Orange Juice
Milk

Bosco Stick **1**

OR
Choice of Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Fresh Fruit
Milk

Breakfast Pizza **11**
OR
Choice of Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Canned Fruit
Milk

Eggo Mini Pancakes or Eggo Mini Waffles **12**
OR
Choice of Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Apple Juice
Milk

Pancake Sausage **13**
OR
Choice of Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Fresh Fruit
Milk

Eggo Mini Chocolate Chip French Toast **14**
OR
Choice of WG Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Orange Juice
Milk

Cinni Mini's or Cinnamon Roll **8**
OR
Choice of WG Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Fresh Fruit
Milk

Breakfast Pizza **18**
OR
Choice of WG Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Canned Fruit
Milk

Blueberry, Banana or French Toast Bread Loaf **19**
OR
Choice of Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Apple Juice
Milk

Pancake Sausage **20**
OR
Choice of Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Fresh Fruit
Milk

Biscuit and Gravy Bites **21**
OR
Choice of Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Orange Juice
Milk

WG Long Johns **15**
OR
Choice of WG Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Fresh Fruit
Milk

No School **25**

Eggo Mini Pancakes or Eggo Mini Waffles **26**
OR
Choice of Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Apple Juice
Milk

Pancake Sausage **27**
OR
Choice of Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Fresh Fruit
Milk

Bosco Stick **28**
OR
Choice of WG Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Orange Juice
Milk

WG Donut Holes or WG Long John **22**
OR
Choice of WG Cereal
Graham Crackers

Vegetable Selection
Fresh Fruit
Milk

PRICES	
Regular	\$1.60
Reduced	\$0.30
Milk	\$0.45
Adult	\$1.80
Extra Entrée	\$1.25

HARVEST OF THE MONTH

Mango
Spring Peas
Nutmeg

EXTRA INFO

Milk choice of 1% White, Skim or Chocolate Skim is included with lunch.
For questions or comments, contact the Food Service Office at: d.sevenich@dc-grimes.k12.tx.us or call 515 986-9747 ext. 162





Regular physical activity helps the body function better.

Dallas Center Grimes Elementary Lunch Menu

April 2016

MONDAY



TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

Chicken Tenders with WR Roll 4
Mashed Potatoes
Cravin Crasin Salad
Ham Pinwheel

Broccoli Florets
 Cherry Tomatoes
 Seasonal Fruit

Hamburger on WG Bun 5
Side Salad
Birthday Cake
7 Layer Salad
Deli Sub

Pinto Beans
 Baby Carrots
 Cauliflower
 Seasonal Fruit

Chicken Patty Sandwich 6
Broccoli Salad

Popeye Salad
Munch-Able

Romaine Lettuce
 Cauliflower
 Seasonal Fruit

Cheese & Pepperoni Flatbread 7
Bean-a-Licious
Chef Salad
Deli Sandwich

Cherry Tomatoes
 Celery Sticks
 Seasonal Fruit

Macaroni & Cheese 8
Peas

Crispy Chicken Salad
Yogurt Pack

Side Salad
 Celery Sticks
 Cherry Tomatoes
 Seasonal Fruit

Pancakes with Sausage Patty 11
Tri Tator

Chicken Caesar Salad
WG Chips, Salsa, Cheese Cubes

Baby Carrots
 Cauliflower
 Seasonal Fruit

Stromboli w/ Marinara 12
Mixed Vegetables

Turkey BLT Salad
Deli Sub

Black Beans
 Radishes
 Seasonal Fruit

Rotini w/ Meat Sauce 13
Green Beans

Chef Salad
Munch-Able

Tomato Slices
 Celery Sticks
 Seasonal Fruit

Throw Back Thursday 14
Chicken and Cheese Quesadilla or Crisпитos

Taco Salad
Deli Sandwich

Baby Carrots
 Broccoli Florets
 Seasonal Fruit

Hot Ham & Cheese Flatbread 15
Roasted Broccoli

Chicken Caesar Salad
Pretzel Bites with Cheese Cubes

Black Beans
 Pepper Medley
 Seasonal Fruit

Hotdog on WG Bun 18
Tortilla Chips

Chicken Caesar Salad
Turkey BLT Wrap

Kidney Beans
 Cauliflower
 Seasonal Fruit

Soft Tacos 19
w/ Lettuce, Cheese, Salsa
Potato Ole

Crispy Chicken Salad
Deli Sub

Chopped Lettuce
 Cherry Tomatoes
 Celery Sticks
 Seasonal Fruit

Cheese Bread with 20
Marinara Sauce
Glazed Carrots

Chef Salad
Pretzel Bites with Cheese Cubes

Broccoli Florets
 Celery Sticks
 Seasonal Fruit

Philly Burger 21
Oven French Fries

Cobb Salad
Deli Sandwich

Kidney Beans
 Cherry Tomatoes
 Seasonal Fruit

Pizza Parlor Pizza 22
Garlic Herb Broccoli

Chicken Caesar Salad
Yogurt Pack

Baby Carrots
 Cauliflower
 Seasonal Fruit

No School 25

Popcorn Chicken 26
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
WG Dinner Roll

Cravin Crasin Salad
Ham Pinwheel

Baby Carrots
 Cauliflower
 Seasonal Fruit

French Toast Sticks 27
Ham Slice
Breakfast Potatoes

Popeye Salad
Munch Able

Baby Spinach
 Celery Sticks
 Seasonal Fruit

Beefy Nachos & Homemade Cheese Sauce 28
Calico Bean Bake

Chicken Caesar Salad
Deli Sandwich

Cauliflower
 Tomatoes
 Seasonal Fruit

Pizza Dippers with Marinara Sauce 29
Roasted Broccoli

Crispy Chicken Salad
Honey Mustard Wrap

Baby Carrots
 Garbanzo Beans
 Seasonal Fruit

PRICES

Regular	\$2.50
Reduced	\$0.40
Milk	\$0.45
Adult	\$3.45
Extra Entrée	\$1.85

HARVEST OF THE MONTH

Mango
 Spring Peas
 Nutmeg

EXTRA INFO

Milk choice of 1% White, Skim or Chocolate
 Skim is included with lunch.
 For questions or comments,
 contact the Food Service Office at:
 d.sevenich@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us
 or call 515-986-9747 ext. 162



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POSTAL CUSTOMER



Dallas Center Elementary Art Spotlight

By: Linda Korpanty

Pictured below are a few clay samples from fifth grade students at Dallas Center Elementary. These samples represent the lesson of adding 3D additives to the clay body, with the additives becoming an emerging part of the product created.



South Prairie Art Spotlight

By: April Busch

Second-graders have been working on underwater fish scenes in art. First they used library books and learned how to use shape and blending of colored pencils to create realistic fish drawings. Next, they thought about Eric Carle's paper making process as they had fun experimenting with watercolor techniques. Then they will share with the class and compare and contrast techniques and styles.



Middle School Art Spotlight

By: Vicky Myers

The Middle School art spotlight this month is on our Art Club. This group of seventh-graders have met every Tuesday after school during third quarter. They have had fun creating paintings, drawings, ceramics, sculptures and other personal expressions of their art skills. Well done Art Club!

