

Dallas Center-Grimes Community School

Mustang Monthly



"Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Futures"

Volume 19, Issue 7 February 2017





2017-2018 Kindergarten Sign-Up

If you have a child that will be five on or before September 15, 2017...

- 1) Please complete the kindergarten registration. The window for registration is March 1 through March 18, and the kindergarten registration will be found on the district's webpage during that time: http://www.dcgschools.com
- 2) Kindergarten Round Up (where the students come to school for a morning or afternoon) will be held on Thursday and Friday, April 20-21.
- 3) Once we receive all the information, you will receive a mailing at the beginning of April indicating your assigned time, materials to bring, and additional information.
- 4) Kindergarten parents are invited to attend an information meeting while their child is spending time in the kindergarten classrooms.

Kindergarten is an exciting new adventure in a child's life. A child's first year of school provides so many new opportunities: working with letters, sounds, beginning to read, working with numbers, art, music, guidance, physical education, computer lab, and library. They also learn how to get along with others and problem solve.

If you have a child who will be five on or before September 15, 2017, your child should be enrolled in Kindergarten.

We also have a half-day optional kindergarten program for students who are kindergarten eligible but could benefit from an additional year to prepare for full day kindergarten. This program will be at the Heritage building for the 2017-2018 school year. Recommendations will be made to parents regarding their child's placement after round up has been completed.

Please note our existing preschool students will still have school on April 20-21, however Optional Kindergarten and Kindergarten will NOT be in session on those two dates.

If you have any questions, please contact Dallas Center Elementary at 515-992-3838 or South Prairie Elementary at 515-986-4057.

The DCG staff is looking forward to meeting and working with you to make your child's early experience in school a most positive one.

School Schedule at a Glance

Wednesday, February 8 - 1:00 p.m. Early Dismissal for Staff Professional Development

Monday, February 17 - No School for Staff Professional Development

Silent Auction for After Prom

The annual silent auction benefitting DCG After Prom will be Friday, February 3 in the Meadows commons. The auction will be held during the boys' and girls' basketball games vs. Indianola beginning at 6:15 pm. Please come out and support this great event!

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DCG 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.

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.

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: Michelle Wearmouth, 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: aheitland@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

Scott Blum, Principal

E-mail: sblum@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.

Student Assistance Program

Free, confidential program for DCG 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 <u>and/or</u> their parents can make the contact that allows for three visits per year per issue. Call 515-244-6090.

Annual Progress Report

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

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
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
2014-15	95.9%	NA

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

Dropout means a school-age student who is served by a public school district, or accrediowa 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	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
All Students	1.07%	0.72%	0.35%	(8) .89%	(6) .63%	(6) .58%	(4) .37%	(3).3%

Dropout Data By Gender

Group	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Female Students	0.43%	0.74%	0%	(2) .47%	(4) .90%	(2) .40%	(2) .37%	0%
Male Students	1.68%	0.71%	0.68%	(6) 1.29%	(2) .39%	(4) .73%	(2) .37%	(2) .54%

Dropout Data By Ethnicity Race

Group	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
White/Caucasian	0.75%	0.37%	(8) .94%	(6) .67%	(6) .62%	(4) .40%	(2) 0.2%
Black	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	(1) 5.6%
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	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Students with Disability/IEP	0.0%	1.19%	(1) 1.22%	(1) 1.28%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
ELL Students	-	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

2017-18 Preschool Registration

Please read below to learn about the new procedures regarding preschool registration for the 2017-18 school year. Please note, registration will not take place until March 1, 2017.

WHAT DOES THE PRESCHOOL PROGRAM CONSIST OF?

Our curriculum offers a balance of individual, small group, and large group activities with an emphasis on learning centers and child self-selection. The classrooms are planned to stimulate aspects of development by acknowledging each child's individual development, age-related development, and cultural background. Your child will learn by doing, imitating, observing, exploring, examining, experimenting, and questioning in activities and experiences planned according to his or her interests and home experiences. Language and literacy experiences, storytelling and story sharing, creative dramatics, and music are integrated throughout the program as well as numbers, science, and outdoor activities. We also focus on social emotional learning with an emphasis placed upon sharing, belonging to a group, and forming friendships with other children and adults.

HOW OLD DOES MY CHILD NEED TO BE TO ATTEND PRESCHOOL?

For the 3 year old preschool, your child must be three by September 15th, 2017. For the 4 year old preschool, your child must be four by September 15th, 2017.

WHEN SHOULD I REGISTER MY CHILD FOR PRESCHOOL?

The preschool registration window is open between **March 1st and March 18th, 2017**. Registration will still be available after March 18th, but we cannot guarantee a slot for your child. Please note: for the 3 year old program only, limited spots are available and a random drawing will be used for placement.

WHICH SCHOOL BUILDINGS OFFER PRESCHOOL CLASSES?

Heritage Elementary in Grimes, The Grimes Child Development Center (Brighter Beginnings), and Kids Korner in Dallas Center will be the preschool locations for 4 year olds.

Heritage Elementary will be the only location for the 3 year old program.

WHICH BUILDING WILL MY CHILD WILL BE IN?

Grimes students will mostly be placed at Heritage Elementary. A few will be placed at the Grimes Child Development Center (Brighter Beginnings) along with the students who attend daycare there. Dallas Center students will be placed at Kids Korner in Dallas Center. Once the building and section decisions are finalized, families will be contacted by email, letter or phone regarding their assigned location and time.

IF I LIVE OUTSIDE OF THE DC-G SCHOOL DISTRICT, CAN I STILL REGISTER MY CHILD FOR PRESCHOOL?

Resident students of the Dallas Center-Grimes School District and siblings of current open-enrolled students will be considered first for enrollment into the preschool program. If there is room available when school starts, then we may fill the slots with out of district students. Please call the North Ridge office in the meantime to be put on a waiting list, but please do not register online.

WHEN ARE PRESCHOOL CLASSES HELD?

4 days per week – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Morning Class (AM) – 8:10-11:10 AM (3 year olds and a couple of 4 year old sections) Afternoon Class (PM) – 12:15-3:15 PM (4 year olds)

The preschool calendar runs on the same schedule as the Dallas Center-Grimes Community School district calendar regarding vacation days, early outs, and snow days. However, preschoolers will start school one week later than K-12 students. Home visits by the preschool teachers will be conducted during the week prior to their first day. Teachers will contact you to set up a time and/or there will be a sign up sheet at the open house prior to school starting.

CAN I CHOOSE WHICH SECTION MY CHILD WILL BE IN (AM/PM)?

Since we always have more interest for the morning sections, and we need to balance the classes, you are not able to choose a preference at this time. Students attending the major daycare centers such as First Steps, Imagine Learning Center, Tender Years, Traditions, Learning Tree, Tender Hearts, etc. will automatically be placed in the afternoon session.

HOW DO I REGISTER MY CHILD FOR PRESCHOOL?

Please refer to the Registration Webpage and follow the process for either an existing family or a new family to the district.

HOW DO I REGISTER MY CHILD IF I DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO A COMPUTER OR HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS?

There will be registration kiosks available at South Prairie, North Ridge, Dallas Center Elementary, Middle School, Meadows, and DC-G High School. Please come between 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM starting on March 1, 2017.

I HAVE OLDER CHILDREN ALREADY ENROLLED AT DC-G SCHOOLS. CAN I REGISTER THEM ALL AT ONCE WITH MY PRESCHOOLER?

Yes! Please refer to the Registration Webpage and follow the process for an existing family. Just be sure to add your preschool-aged child to the list of students you're registering for the upcoming school year.

WHAT PAPERWORK SHOULD I HAVE READY BEFORE REGISTERING MY CHILD FOR PRESCHOOL?

Existing families with Parent Portal accounts will need a digital copy of your child's **birth certificate** and your child's **immunization record**. (We are hoping this step will be available and ready March 1)

New families will need the paperwork listed above and additionally will need a digital copy showing **proof of residence** (ex: a scanned copy of a utility bill with your name and address.)

WHAT IS THE COST FOR MY CHILD TO ATTEND PRESCHOOL?

The current cost for the 3 year old program is \$175/month plus a \$25 one-time registration fee. However, these amounts could be subject to change.

At this time, the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program funds our district's 4 year old program, and the only cost to parents is the \$25 one-time registration fee. We are unable to fully guarantee this funding for next year.

WHEN WILL I KNOW THE LOCATION AND CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENT FOR MY PRESCHOOLER?

Due to increasing enrollment within our district, you will not find out until mid July at the earliest. You will receive an email, letter, or a phone call once the decisions have been made.

IS MY CHILD GUARANTEED A PRESCHOOL SLOT IF I REGISTER BEFORE MARCH 18TH?

As long as you register online before the deadline, you should be fine for the 4 year old classes. If we have more registrations than anticipated, however, we will create a wait list that will allow us to fill the spots when available. The 3 year old classes are filled by a random drawing system only, so your child is not guaranteed a slot.

I JUST REGISTERED MY PRESCHOOLER. WHY DON'T I SEE THEM IN MY PARENT PORTAL?

Your preschooler will not be visible in your Parent Portal until the 2017-18 school year, which starts July 1, 2017. This is the same reason you cannot pay registration fees for them until July 1, 2017.

WHO SHOULD I CALL IF I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

Please contact April Heitland or Deanna Sandegren at the North Ridge office (515-986-5674) if you have any further questions regarding our preschool program.

December Board Commendations

- Thank you to Beth, Donna, Leona, and Mike (Taher staff at North Ridge) for caring for our students and staff and making the lunchroom at North Ridge such a wonderful environment. North Ridge Staff
- · Thank you to Jeanne Peters and her fourth grade students for presenting at the November Board Meeting. April Heitland
- Thank you to Deanna Sandegren for her hard work to continually improve our preschool registration process. April Heiland
- The Middle School Lego League teams went to competition in Ottumwa, Iowa on Saturday, December 3. Team #1 consisting of Megan Burket, Joshua Berendes, Emily Melton, Keira Stine, Caleb Herman, and Aiden Ahern placed seventh. Team #2 consisting of Jacob Skow, Georgia Rolow, Ethan Lackland, Jesse Ramirez, Alex Jordan, Alec Boblenz, and Jackson Ahern placed nineteenth. Myron Stine coached the teams this year. Pamela Kluender, Middle School ELP coordinator.
- The K-12 teacher librarians would like to recognize our library associates in all buildings: Brianne Kiley at Dallas Center Elementary,
 Patti Moeller at both South Prairie Elementary and North Ridge Elementary, Patty Howard at the Middle School, and Kent Robinson at
 Meadows. Without their tireless work, we know that our library spaces, the collections themselves, and our work with students would not
 flourish. We are grateful for all they do for our colleagues, our students, and us. Sandy Ellis
- I would like to recommend John Maxwell for a school board commendation for helping a school bus driver from another school district with a repair to their bus. Last Saturday evening, during a cold, windy night, the North Polk bus driver could not get the headlights to work on his school bus. John was at the Jazz Band competition in Winterset watching the DCG band. Though I am sure John would have preferred to stay in the auditorium to enjoy the show, he went out to see if he could help them out. John was able to repair the school bus enabling the North Polk students to travel on time and safe back to their school district. John's selfless act is a credit to himself and the DCG school district. He is a good example of the quality people we have in our community and why we are held in high regard. - Keith Belling & Jeff Wolfe
- I want to take moment to thank our Student Council Sponsors, Amanda Nims and Megan Fangman. They do a wonderful job facilitating fifth-graders in leading service projects. We appreciate the personal lunch times they donate in order to help students grow as leaders. Thanks ladies!
 Diann Williamson

Business Fair Coming in April!

Dallas Center-Grimes will hold their fourth Business/ Employee Benefit and Resource Fair on Monday, April 24. Our goal is to connect our employees with our business community. This gives you the opportunity to grow your business and interact with 350 + prospective clients!

We ask that you provide a benefit for our staff, such as discounts at your business, freebies, a drawing for goods or services, or providing a service during the fair for DCG employees. If your business is interested in participating, please contact Chris Thomas at ctho-mas@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us or 515-992-3866.



Branch out. Invite new friends to activities and events. You never know what could come of it!

Contact EFR to get the FREE, confidential help you need today!



EFR EMPLOYEE & FAMILY RESOURCES

515-244-6090 www.efr.org/student-assistance-program

DCG Professional Development

By: Greg Carenza

As the Director of Teaching and Learning for the Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District, I spend a lot of time every day reading and learning about best practice approaches in curriculum, instruction, assessment AND professional development. With the knowledge that teachers are the critical element in the classroom in helping students to learn at high levels, it is important that critical thought is given as to what, as leaders, we can do to ensure that our district professional development supports that same high level of learning for our teachers. The education field is rich in literature and research about what makes for effective professional development and we have worked to incorporate those practices into our own learning here at DCG.

Amongst all those resources, however, I ran across a graphic created by Sylvia Duckworth that serves as a reminder of the keys to ensuring high levels of learning for all teachers and staff.

The graphic, titled "10 Things Teachers Want for Professional Development," offers simple and concise reminders for those who coordinate professional development. This month, and each month through June, I would like to share two the 10 things teachers want in their professional development.

The first tenet of high quality professional development reminds us that "teachers want a voice and a choice in the professional development offered." In the DC-G district, our professional development days are developed and planned by our teacher leadership staff (who have first-hand knowledge of the needs of our teachers) and our district administrators. These teacher leaders are our Curriculum Facilitators and Instructional Coaches who work closely with teachers and staff at each building to support teaching and learning. Collecting input on from our teacher leaders on all aspects of our PD has been a critical part of our planning process. Our teacher leaders make it a priority to understand the needs of our classroom teachers.

The second tenet of high quality professional development tell us that "teachers want professional development that is relevant for their students." As planners of professional development, it is critical that we use data about student performance to guide our work. This data comes from a variety of sources and represents both quantitative and qualitative data as well. As leaders, we must think like our students and find ways to use what we learn in our trainings to encourage high levels of student thinking and application.

The Teacher Leadership and Compensation (TLC) Grant has provided a wonderful framework for ensuring that our professional development is shaped through collaboration amongst teachers, teacher leaders, and district administrators. And, in a continual improvement framework, we constantly look at ways to improve the planning we do for each in-service. I owe a large "thank you" to everyone who has a role in this work! Without their input and support, our professional development would be lacking.

In closing, I look forward to sharing with you more ideas of what teachers want for Professional Development. Be watching for next month's Mustang Monthly for more information!

2016-2017 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 winter session is already underway. Below you will find information about the Spring and Summer sessions.



Spring Session 2017- The spring session will begin after spring break and end in May. There will be a meeting before spring break to hand out information and collect payment. Classroom days are Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 6:45 to 8:00 a.m. Most students will drive during their study hall times. If this can't be worked out, before or after school driving may be arranged. All students who drive during study halls will drive at least once on Saturday for 2 hours in downtown Des Moines. Shuttle bus service from Dallas Center will also be available in the morning to bring students in early for classroom work. Class size is limited to 40 students. Home school students are welcome. Classrooms will be held in the Meadows Media Center.

Summer Session 2017- Our summer program is held during the months of June and July. Class time will begin Monday, June 5 and end on Friday, June 23. 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 3:30p.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 the 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 size is limited to 48 students. Home school students are welcome.

HIGH SCHOOL/MEADOWS NEWS

Dear Senior P	arent,
Your child's h year can be fo school-related	igh school career is coming to an end! We know how exciting and busy this time of or you. To assist you in planning the next several months, we have compiled a list od activities of which you should be aware.
Thank you for and the schoo	r sharing your child's life with us at school. Please continue to support your child of through attendance at the senior activities.
Sincerely,	
Scott Blum	
High School P	rincipal
Immediately	arent, igh school career is coming to an end! We know how exciting and busy this time of or you. To assist you in planning the next several months, we have compiled a list of activities of which you should be aware. It sharing your child's life with us at school. Please continue to support your child of through attendance at the senior activities. Turn in baby, childhood, and senior pictures for the senior montage if this has not yet been done. Local scholarship applications are available. Jostens will deliver caps, gowns, and announcements during the lunch period. All local scholarship applications are due. Awards information and final transcript request form due in Deans' office. "Milk and Cookies with Mr. Blum" during advisory in the High School Commons
March 9	Local scholarship applications are available.
March 27	Jostens will deliver caps, gowns, and announcements during the lunch period.
April 14	All local scholarship applications are due.
May 5	Awards information and final transcript request form due in Deans' office.
May 12	"Milk and Cookies with Mr. Blum" during advisory in the High School Commons
May 22	Senior semester assessments. All fines must be paid prior to checkout. Checkout sheet must be turned into the office, with all required signatures, before student leaves.
May 24	Senior Awards Night held at DCG High School Auditorium at 6:30 pm. All scholarships, honors, and awards will be presented.
May 24	Baccalaureate held at DCG High School Auditorium at 7:45 p.m.
May 26	Senior Breakfast held at 8:30 am in the DCG High School Commons.
May 26	Commencement practice will begin at 9:30 am in the DCG High School Gym. All seniors that are participating in commencement ceremonies are required to attend.
May 26	Commencement at Meadows Gymnasium at 7:00 pm

High School Physical Education

By: Adam McDonnell

As part of the High School Physical Education curriculum, students in grades 10-12 get the opportunity to practice yoga. Yoga serves as a great lifelong activity as well as a great way to build strength and flexibility. Another great benefit of participating in yoga at the high school is the relaxation done at the end of each class. Students get an opportunity to disconnect and shut down for 5 to 8 minutes and enjoy some quiet time. This is very important with the busy lives each of our students run. Mental and physical health are two of the most important aspects

of school and PE helps improve these. With the high school curriculum, we try to have a variety of different activities that everyone can enjoy. We have units on games and sports, team sports, individual sports, lifelong activities, and fitness. New units are always being added as we strive to grow the Physical Education to be the best it can.

Peer PE

By: Adam McDonnell

The students in PEER PE had the awesome opportunity to go out to eat at Pizza Ranch and enjoy a little Bowling at Warrior Lanes in Waukee. This was a great way to celebrate the success of both the semester and holiday break. Currently in PEER PE there are 40 students of both special education and general education. We spend a great deal of time working on gross motor skills and building peer relationships. Time is also spent working on fitness skills as well as thinking and problem solving skills. Students are paired in groups of 3 or 4 and work to teach each

other and practice the different skills. The growth of all students involved in this class is simply outstanding! Each day brings new and exciting challenges to work towards. This being our second year of the class, we are always looking for more great opportunities for our students.

Iowa Assessments at Meadows

Students in eighth and ninth grade will be taking the Iowa Assessments from February 6 through February 16. Students will take the reading, math and science tests this year during their regularly scheduled classes.

Please visit with your child at home regarding the importance of these tests. While our primary purpose is to use the scores to determine instruction, the scores are also used to determine student placement into intervention and accelerated courses. Because the scores are used in several ways, it is important that you encourage your child to give his/her very best effort.

Additional reminders include:

- Eat a nutritious breakfast
- Schedule full night sleep
- Bring all necessary materials (number two pencils, scratch paper, calculator)
- Manage your time on each test

Traditionally DCG students score at the top of the state on this test. We plan to continue this trend. While the Iowa Assessment is just one indicator of your child's success in school, the results can influence educational opportunities that may be open to your child. If you have questions about the testing, please contact Marc Juergens, Dean of Students or Lori Phillips, Principal at 515-986-0105.





MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Middle School Peer Partner P.E.

By: Todd Lewis

Peer Partner P.E. is now in its third year at the Middle School. This program is directed towards helping the special needs students with their physical fitness needs and social needs as well. Each student is matched up with a minimum of two peer helpers that work with that particular student throughout the class period. Peer P.E. class is scheduled in with all other P.E. classes on a 6 day rotation.

The students have participated in a wide variety of activities this year. These activities include: fitness tests, strength training, basketball, soccer, kickball, noodle tag, bubble dodge, rhythms, with two of their favorites being the parachute and scooters. The peer helpers have been very helpful in adapting each activity to meet the students' individual needs.

The peer helpers do a great job of connecting with the kids and helping them with their social needs as well. We recently had a winter celebration in class where the helpers presented gifts to the students, which was followed up by parachute activities. All had a good time! A special thank you goes out to the twenty-one peer helpers for their efforts:

Alex Abens	Kenna Jackson	Blake Perrin	Skyler Blessman	Jackson Jones
Owen Pries	Megan Davis	Ella Lampe	Brock Renshaw	McKenna Dirks
Hannah Little	Luke Stover	Cole Glasgow	Elle Nelsen	Nate Waknitz
Spencer Hall	Victoria Nerem	Shea Walker	Emma Isenhart	Max Nichols
Bailey Wych				

World Language and Cultures

By: Kristine Jiménez

Learning a new foreign language can be a daunting task! It is often easier for right brain individuals. However, learning a new language is obtainable for all and easier for anyone if...

- ...the new learning is meaningful.
- ...you are given variety of input meeting all learning styles.
- ...you have the right state of mind.

In the foreign language classroom I try to make learning obtainable, enjoyable and engaging. Many times games provide just the right amount of competition to create a meaningful learning situation. Games usually are fun and help ease a student's brain when learning something new.

At the beginning of the quarter, seventh grade students played a variety of games to become familiar with the Spanish and French clothing vocabulary. Some of their favorite bodily kinesthetic games were a clothing relay and the clothesline game. The quarter ended with their Fashion Show project.

The middle school exploratory team was also just given a laptop cart with 30 chrome books to share. This allowed teams in my classes to be more independent during their project by using Google Classroom.







Dallas Center-Grimes Community School

ELEMENTARY NEWS

South Prairie Art Spotlight

By: Danell Duncan

Congratulations to all of the "Artists of the Month" at South Prairie Elementary!



First-grader, Eleanor Steines created this penguin after reading the book, <u>Tacky the Penguin</u>. Through the book and our artwork, the students learned to celebrate our uniqueness.

While studying Vincent van Gogh, second-grader, Saylor Simmons made this brightly colored sunflower painting. Students are now finishing up their pet portraits in van Gogh's style, so look for those next month!

In kindergarten, we had fun using shapes to build snowman faces. Nash Townsend did a great job adding details and a fun expres-

sion to his. Great job to all the South Prairie artists!



Iowa Assessments For Students In Grades Three Through Five

The Iowa Assessments provide detailed information about your child in a variety of important content areas including Reading, Mathematics, and Science.

- The Iowa Assessments help determine how students are performing on the state curriculum as described in the Iowa Core.
- The Iowa Assessments measure student growth and progress from year to year.
- The Iowa Assessments provide information about your child's performance relative to the school, the state of Iowa, and the nation.



We will be giving these assessments during the morning hours on Monday through Thursday (**February 6-16**), so please keep this in mind when scheduling appointments or trips.

Scooter Races at Dallas Center Elementary

By: Kellen Sulentic

The students at DCE just finished up with scooter relays. This activity allowed the students to strengthen their teamwork and communica-

tion skills as well as use different muscle groups. Most of all, it was a great exercise to get their heart rates up! This was a fun unit to teach and the students had a great time, too! Next up at Dallas Center Elementary we will begin our Jump Rope for Heart Unit.



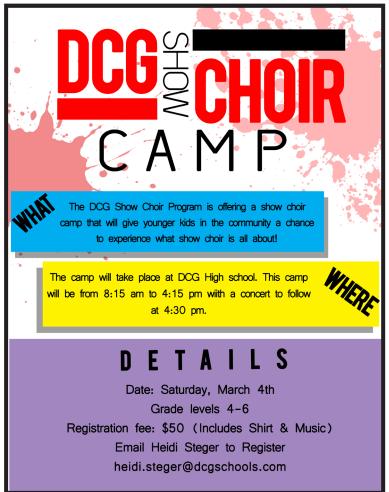
Mrs. Lynnette Yossi Named Grimes Chamber & Economic Development's Educator of the Year

By: Patty Morris, South Prairie Principal

Congratulations to Mrs. Lynnette Yossi on being named Educator of the Year by the Grimes Chamber. Every student and parent who has been in contact with Lynnette Yossi would agree and be able to share a reason why she deserves this honor. She is the first person to greet the students each morning at South Prairie as she assists in the traffic flow during morning drop off. Rain, snow, freezing temperatures, it doesn't matter to her she is always there with that positive face.

Last year when Lynnette had door duty in the mornings, she had the students singing in the morning instead of just standing and waiting. She goes out of her way to make sure each child feels connected and cared for at school. Her PE classes are so much more than just physical education. She weaves in a love for literature as she creates games for students to do based upon a book they read. They are able to practice physical skills while also learning how to get along with others and have fun at the same time.

Lynnette also helped to develop our system of supports to promote positive behavior for our students and continues to be instrumental in planning and implementing these supports. She isn't one who likes to sit and would rather be at recess duty with the students during any free time. She is here for the students and gives her all to them each and every day. You can see that her PE classes are just one amazing piece of what makes Mrs. Yossi an amazing educator.





Father/Daughter Dance

The After Prom Committee will be hosting the Father/Daughter dance, *A Night in Paris*, on March 4, 2017, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the High School Gymnasium. The dance is for school age girls and their dads, step-dads, uncles, grandpas, or brothers from Pre-K through 5th grade. If you have any questions regarding this event, please email DCGAfterProm01@gmail.com.

North Ridge Fourth Grade Concert By: Lisa Tekippe

The North Ridge fourth-graders will be presenting their concert "Rock and Roll Forever" on Thursday, February 9 in the high school auditorium. The doors will open at 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm respectively. All students should meet in the high school cafeteria 15 minutes prior to their performance time.

The schedule for the concert is as follows: 6:00 pm Concert: Hinrichs, Osborn, Tjeerdsma, and Updike 7:00 pm Concert: Kinnick, Peters, and Spray



PTO Update

Upcoming Events

- February 13: PTO Meeting Meadows Library at 7:00
- March 6: PTO Meeting Meadows Library at 7:00
- March 31: Movie Night at South Prairie from 6:00 8:00
- April 10: PTO Meeting Meadows Library at 7:00
- May 5: Reading Rocks Carnival

Planning Committees

While we currently have one PTO for all three elementary schools, we plan to split next year into four Parent Teacher Organizations when the new school is built and Dallas Center-Grimes has four elementary schools. We are looking for volunteers interested in shaping the PTO for their children's school either by being on the planning committee and/or serving as an executive team

member or committee chair person. If you are interested or would like to learn more, please email us at dallascentergrimespto@gmail.com.



Future Fillie Softball Clinic

The 2017 Fillie softball staff and players will be conducting a softball skills clinic for girls in grades third through eighth. The clinic will be held on **Sunday, March 5** at the Dallas Center-Grimes High School gym. The clinic will be held for **grades 3-5** from 12:30-3:00 P.M. Clinic times for **grades 6-8** will be held from 3:30-6:15 P.M. Registration will start 30 minutes prior to the start of the clinic so plan on arriving early so we may begin on time.

The focus of the clinic includes the following: throwing, fielding, outfield and infield defensive play as well as hitting/bunting. Parents and coaches are encouraged to attend the clinic and observe their child or players' participation.

Participants are asked to bring a glove and bat and wear appropriate attire. Please mark your equipment with the players name so we can return it if left at the clinic. **Cost for the clinic is \$30.00** and will include a clinic t-shirt.

The Fillie softball coaches and players wish you well on your upcoming season. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Schlafke at 515-975-5453 (Cell) or 515-992-3784 (Work).

PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION OF THE FORM TO:

STEVE SCHLAFKE at 604 Linden Street in Dallas Center, IA 50063 BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2017.

NAME	GF	RADE	
ADDRESS	_ CITY	TELEPHONE _	

My daughter has permission to participate in the girls' softball skills clinic. I hereby accept full responsibility for her behavior. The DC-G Schools will not be held responsible for accidents or injuries. My daughter is covered by an insurance plan to cover accidents.

PARENT SIGNATURE	
DATE	
T-SHIRT SIZE	

YOUTH SMALL MEDIUM LARGE

_SMALL

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO STEVE SCHLAFKE – DCG SOFTBALL THANKS!!

WE ARE DCG!!

_MEDIUM ____LARGE ____X-LARGE

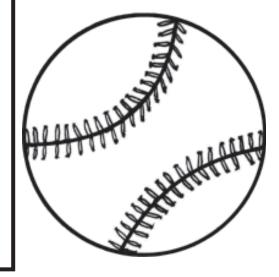
Spring Volunteer Opportunities

Are you looking for a way to help out the PTO? Some upcoming needs we will have

- Teacher appreciation meal during conferences on March 7
- Staff book fairs at all schools on conference days on March 7 and March 9
- Help with food, carnival games, and other carnival needs on May 5 at our Reading Rocks carnival

Congratulations to our Grant Winners!

We recently awarded nearly \$9,000 in grants to our DCG teachers. Twenty-two grants to 24 elementary teachers were awarded to purchase items for their classrooms. Items awarded in the grants will be used to enrich students' educational experiences. All teacher members of the PTO were eligible to apply for the grants, and grant awardees attended PTO meetings in December and January to share how their granted items would be used in the classroom. Congratulations to all of our grant awardees, and thanks to everyone who supports PTO fundraisers and make grants like these possible!





Dallas Center Grimes Lunch Menu

In addition to our daily entrée choices, we also offer a sandwich and/or salad **February**

3

(10

MONDAY



TUESDAY



WEDNESDAY

Roasted Hot Dog OR Homemade Chili in a Bread Bowl OR Chef Salad OR Deli Sandwich

Roasted Corn ** Rice Krispie Bar**

OR Tater Tot Casserole

OR Yogurt Pack Calico Beans

THURSDAY

2

9

(16)

(23)

(2

National Kiwi Day BBQ Rib Sandwich OR Chicken Waffle Sandwich OR Taco Salad OR Deli Sub Breakfast Potatoes *Fresh Kiwi*

FRIDAY

Italian Meatball Sub

OR Mexican Pasta Bake OR Crispy Chicken Salad OR Yogurt Pack

Lemon Garbanzo Bean Salad

HOM ~ Blueberries Pancakes with Blueberry

Topping, Scrambled Eggs OR Biscuit and Gravy and Scrambled Eggs OR Chicken Caesar Salad OR Deli Sandwich Breakfast Potato Casserole

HOM ~ Cloves

Pineapple Clove Glazed Ham. Dinner Roll **OR Homemade Meatloaf** Soft Pan Roll OR Turkey BLT OR Deli Sub Cinnamon Sweet Apples

Breaded Chicken Patty

OR Chef Salad

Cheeseburger on Bun OR Penne Pasta with Italian Meat Sauce

OR Taco Salad OR Deli Sub Garden Green Beans French Bread Pizza

OR Tuna Melt

OR Crispy Chicken Salad OR Deli Sandwich Roasted Cauliflower

Roasted Hot Dog

OR BBQ Chicken Sandwich OR Chicken Caesar Salad OR Deli Sandwich Savory Baked Beans

Pizza Parlor Pizza

(13

(20)

27

OR All American Burger

OR Turkey BLT OR Deli Sub Garlic and Herb Broccoli **Brownie**

HOM ~ Leeks

(14)

(28)

Hot Ham Bagel Sandwich

(15

(22

(1

OR Chicken Leek and Penne Pasta **OR Chef Salad** OR Deli Sandwich Garden Green Beans

Chicken Nuggets and Soft Pan Roll OR Philly Flatbread

OR Taco Salad OR Deli Sub Cheesy Mashed Potatoes No School

(17

(24

(з

French Toast Sticks Sausage Patty OR BBQ Riblet

OR Chicken Caesar Salad OR Deli Sandwich Breakfast Potato

(21) Popcorn Chicken Bites

OR Roast Pork and Gravy Soft Pan Roll OR Turkey BLT OR Deli Sub Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Soft Pan Roll

Cheese Bread with Marinara Sauce OR Italian Meatball Sub OR Chef Salad

OR Deli Sandwich Savory Baked Beans Creamy Coleslaw

Pulled Pork Sandwich

OR Southern Chicken and Biscuit Sandwich OR Taco Salad OR Deli Sub Garden Salad with Dressing

Tortilla Chip Day

Beefy Nachos with Homemade Cheese Sauce OR Crispy Fish Sandwich

OR Crispy Chicken Salad OR Deli Sandwich Roasted Corn

Homemade Meatballs & Gravy over Rice, Roll OR King Ranch Cheesy Chicken over Rice. Roll OR Chicken Caesar Salad OR Deli Sandwich **Glazed Carrots**

Tasty Chicken Tenders, French Bread Slice OR Cheese Calzini

OR Turkey BLT OR Deli Sub Garlic Mashed Potatoes

Menus are subject to change without notice. This institute is an equal opportunity provider

Ash Wednesday

Toasted Cheese Sandwich and Tomato Soup OR Breaded Chicken Patty & Tomato Soup **OR Chef Salad** OR Deli Sandwich

Dr. Suess Birthday

Soft Shell Tacos with Lettuce Cheese & Salsa OR Roasted Hot Dog

OR Taco Salad OR Deli Sub Spiced Pinto Beans " Harvest Bar"

Cheese Pizza Slice

OR Cowboy Burger

OR Crispy Chicken Salad OR Deli Sandwich Roasted Broccoli

PRICES

\$2.60 Regular Reduced \$0.40 Adult \$3.50

HARVEST OF THE MONTH



EXTRA INFO

Milk choice of 1% White, Skim or Chocolate Skim is included with lunch. Entree Salads are served with Dinner Roll For questions or comments, contact Food Service Office at 515-986-9747 x 162 or email dsevenich@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us



www.taher.com

Follow us on Twitter @dcgnutrition for daily menu postings.

Note: Weekly breakfast menus are posted on the website.

February Activity Calendar

	_			_		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 4:30pm Basketball- B/7th Grade Adel DeSoto Minburn @ ADM High School 4:30pm Basketball- B/8th Grade Adel DeSoto Minburn @ Dallas Center-Grimes High School 6:00pm DC Elem Sth Grade Band Concert @ Dallas Center Elementary Gym 7:30pm Basketball- B/JV Southeast Polk @ DCG-Meadows Gym	3 4:45pm Basketball- G/JV Indianola @ DCG-Meadows Gym 4:45pm Basketball- G/9th Grade Indianola @ Dallas Center-Grimes High School 6:00pm Basketball- B/10th Grade Indianola @ Dallas Center-Grimes High School 6:15pm Basketball- G/Varsity Indianola @ DCG-Meadows Gym 7:30pm Basketball- B/9th Grade Indianola @ Dallas Center-Grimes High School 7:45pm Basketball- B/Warsity Indianola @ DCG-Meadows Gym OF DGG-Meadows Gym OF DGG-Meadows Gym OF DGG-Meadows Gym DGG-Meadows Gym DGG-Meadows Gym DGG-Meadows Gym DGG-Meadows Gym DGG-Meadows Gym D DCG-Meadows Gym	4 Booster Club Basketball Tournament @ Multiple locations Jack Oatts Jazz Festival at Earlham Large Group State Speech Contest 10:00am Basketball- B/9th Grade Indianola vs. Multiple Schools @ Indianola High School
5	6 LHC Instrumental Concert 4:30pm Basketball- B/8th Grade Norwalk © Dallas Center- Grimes High School 4:30pm Basketball- B/7th Grade Norwalk © Norwalk Middle School 4:35pm Basketball- B/7th Grade Pella Christian @ Pella Christian @ Pella Christian @ Pella Christian By DCG- Meadows Gym 7:00pm Basketball- B/1V Des Moines Roosevelt @ Des Moines Roosevelt High School 7:15pm Basketball- B/10th Grade Pella Christian @ Dallas Center-Grimes High School 8:15pm Basketball- B/9th Grade Des Moines Roosevelt @ Des Migh School	4:30pm Basketball- B/8th Grade Johnston MS Purple @ Johnston Middle School 6:15pm Basketball- G/Varsity Pella Christian @ Pella Christian High School 7:00pm FOFA Meeting @ High School Band Room 7:45pm Basketball- B/Varsity Pella Christian @ Pella Christian High School	8 Dismiss at 1:00-Staff Development	9 80wling 4:30pm Basketball- B/7th Grade Indianola © Indianola Middle School 6:00pm Basketball- B/9th Grade Pella @ Pella High School 6:00pm Basketball- G/9th Grade Pella @ Pella High School 6:30pm Northridge 4th Grade Concert @ DCG HS Auditorium 7:15pm Basketball- B/10th Grade Pella @ Pella High School	Urbnadale Show Choir Contest 4:45pm Basketball- G/JV Pella @ DCG- Meadows Gym 6:15pm Basketball- G/Varsity Pella @ DCG-Meadows Gym 7:45pm Basketball- B/Varsity Pella @ DCG-Meadows Gym	11 Show Choir at Benton Booster Club Basketball Tournament @ Multiple locations 9:00am Basketball B/JV Norwalk @ Norwalk High School 12:00pm Wrestling- Varsity TBA @ TBA
12	4:30pm Basketball- B/7th Grade Fort Dodge @ Dallas Center-Grimes Middle School 4:30pm Basketball- B/8th Grade Southeast Polk Middle School 7:00pm Basketball- B/JV Waukee @ Waukee High School - Field House		7:00pm Basketball- G/Varsity TBA @ TBA	4:30pm Basketball-B/7th Grade Marshalltown @ Dallas Center-Grimes Middle School 4:30pm Basketball-B/8th Grade Ankeny Centennial @ Dallas Center-Grimes High School 4:45pm Basketball-B/9th Grade Urbandale @ DCG-Meadows Gym 6:15pm Basketball-B/10th Grade Urbandale @ DCG-Meadows Gym 6:30pm South Prairie 2nd Grade Concert @ South Urbandale @ DCG-Meadows Gym 7:45pm Basketball-B/Varsity Urbandale @ DCG-Meadows Gym	17 Pella MS Show Choir Contest South Central MS Honor Choir @ DCG HS Auditorium No School Professional Development	7:00pm Basketball- G/Varsity TBA @ TBA
19	20 TBD Basketball- B/Varsity TBA @ TBA	21 4:30pm Basketball- B/8th Grade Waukee Timberline @ Dallas Center-Grimes High School 7:00pm Basketball- G/Varsity TBA @ TBA	Bowling 22	23 4:30pm Basketball- B/8th Grade Ames @ Ames Middle School 6:00pm DC Elem Sth Grade Music Concert @ DCG HS Auditorium 7:00pm Basketball- B/Varsity TBA @ TBA	24 Show Choir Banquet	25 Tall Corn Jazz Festival at Cedar Falls District Individual Events Speech Contest
26	27 1:00pm ICDA 7/8 Grade Concert @ DCG HS Auditorium 7:00pm School Board Meeting @ DCG High School 7:00pm Basketball- B/Varsity TBA @ TBA	28				

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POSTAL CUSTOMER



Dallas Center Elementary Art Spotlight By: Amy Cory

At DCE the fifth-graders have been working on optical illusions. Here are a few pieces from Mrs. Behnkendrof's class. Their work is amazing. Fifth grade students also learned to use a compass and rule out lines.

The fourth grade classes have been working on positive and negative space. Here are a few pieces from Mrs. Lawton's class. I love the organic shapes they came up with. Fourth grade will be working in clay for their next unit, and I can hardly wait!



Meadows Art Spotlight By: April Busch

This month's artist spotlight is Hartman Meints. He demonstrated excellent color mixing, proportion, and composition in his final project. Great work Hartman!

