



Dallas Center-Grimes Community School

# MUSTANG MONTHLY

VOLUME 20  
ISSUE 7  
February 2019

Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Future.



## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

We have entered into the second half of the school year and the beginning of heart healthy month of February. The snow is probably causing us a tougher time to get out and exercise our heart. I like to look at it as an opportunity to reflect on the many moments where individuals have shown their love and support in times of need. There are so many people 'exercising' their heart by giving of themselves, their time, their love, and their

strengths when others need an extra dose of a loving heart. This has been seen in so many situations and I want to share the loving hearts of the students, schools, and communities with you.

Our high school had students support a family in need by building a ramp so that their child can easily access the home after a medical condition. Elementary students showed great kindness and heart as they brought in food and supplies for our local food pantry. Throughout the year, students continuously ask how they can help in times when others are struggling or what they can do to help someone out. I know our future is in good hands with these amazing hearts reaching out to help in so many ways.

We have many special hearts working in our communities supporting students and families that have fallen on tough times by ensuring lunches are paid for through an Angel Account so that every student eats at school. By community members donating through the Angel Account, this has raised over \$2,000. There are many local businesses supporting our schools through their continuous donations to the DC-G Foundation, Boosters, and FOFA, along with all of the silent auction items that all greatly support our students.

These are just a few of the many examples of giving your heart to others. To see other hearts in action, check out #dgcexcellence. We at DC-G work to promote treating others as family by showing empathy, kindness, and an open heart for all. I personally want to thank our staff, students, and communities for the support in giving your heart to others.



## CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesday, February 6, 1 PM Dismissal

Friday, February 15, No School

Wednesday, February 27, 1 PM Dismissal

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[www.dcgschools.com](http://www.dcgschools.com)

DALLAS CENTER-GRIMES  
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OFFICES

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## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

2019-20 Online school registration will open March 1 for all students. Families With Students Currently Enrolled at DC-G. Please use your Campus Portal Account to access online registration. You will be able to add a student to your account if you have a child that will be entering the district preschool, kindergarten, or another grade level for the first time.

### Current Families With New Preschool Student

Please register incoming preschool students March 1 – March 18. If you are not registered by March 18th, there is no guarantee that your child will have a spot.

\* If you have a child that will be 4 on or before September 15, 2019, register for Prek 4 (4 year old preschool will be taken until all spots are filled)

\* If you have a child that will be 3 on or before September 15, 2019, register for Prek 3 (3 year old preschool will be filled by a random drawing)

\* Check out the FAQ section at [www.dcschools.com](http://www.dcschools.com) for additional preschool information.

### Current Families With New Kindergarten Student

Please register incoming Kindergarten Students March 1 – March 18 for enrollment purposes.

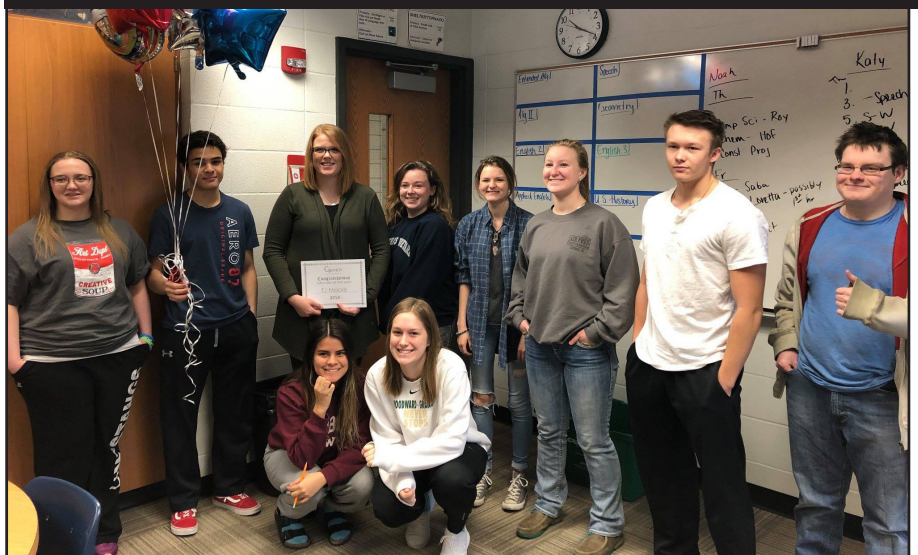
\* If you have a child that will be 5 on or before September 15, 2019, register for Kindergarten (full days) or Optional Kindergarten (1/2 days).

### New Families to the DC-G District

Follow the steps listed on the district website:  
[www.dcschools.com](http://www.dcschools.com), registration tab

**NOTE:** You will not pay fees until July 1. Look for a SchoolMessenger notice in your email this summer as the date nears.

## GRIMES EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR



Congratulations to TJ Moore for winning Grimes Chamber and Economic Development's Educator of the Year! Thank you so much for working as hard as you do for your students! We all appreciate your passion towards education and for bettering our community!

# HIGH SCHOOL

## ACT Test-Prep Seminar

The ZAPS Test-Prep Seminar will be held in the Media Center at DCG High School on Wednesday, March 27th from 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. This ACT prep seminar explains common questions, effective strategies, and test-taking skills. Students who take this course will utilize practice tests and receive take-home study materials. To register or find more information, go to [www.doorwaytocollege.com](http://www.doorwaytocollege.com) or call 877-927-8378; the seminar fee is \$95, and students should register online. Contact Mrs. Bassett or Mr. Twigg at 515-986-9747 for support.

## ACT Test-Prep Materials

This test prep program is offered through the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS). Professional athletes and other organizations fund the program. Through this program, resources are available for \$20.00, which covers licensing, registration, customer support, shipping, or online access fees. Refer to this link for ordering and additional information: [www.eknowledge.com/IAHSAA](http://www.eknowledge.com/IAHSAA). The online program or DVD can be ordered using a credit card or check.

## High School Jazz Bands

The DCG Jazz Bands are off to a great start.

This year is our first year in Class 4A and we placed well at our district competition in December. We are in the toughest class in the entire state, so to come in at the middle of the pack was quite an accomplishment for our first outing. We have also had several students accepted to the 2019 Drake Honor Jazz Band. They include Torrance Dawson, Tyler Halverson, Allison Kinman, Gage Manges, and Rebecca Gomez.



**Honor Band** The following students have been accepted to the Little Hawkeye Conference Honor Band being held February 4, 2019, at Newton High School. 11/12 Band includes Emma Forbes, Kathryn Pagel, Rachel Ihde, Kaylee Ringgenberg, Katrina Saddoris, Rebecca Gomez, Ben Miller, Coby Inisienmay, Gavin Petrak.

The 9/10 Band includes Jenna Skow, Olivia Macumber, Megan Sterbenz, Allison Kinman, Etan Montford, Cale Schmitz, Emma Bell, Torrance Dawson, Jessa Ball, Alex Romig, Max Asman, Anthony Munoz, John Minger, Logan MacConnell.

## Local Scholarships Available

Local Scholarships through Dallas Center-Grimes Community Schools, as well as the Dallas Center-Grimes Education Foundation, will be made available for seniors on Friday, March 1st, with a deadline of Monday, April 1st at 4. The DCG Foundation was formed to provide continued educational opportunities for our students. Information about the foundation can be found, by visiting; <http://www.dcgeducationfoundation.org/>

**NHS Spring Blood Drive** will be on Tuesday March 5th from 12:30-5:30 in the Band Room at the high school. Students may sign up with a NHS member or online through Life Serve or contact, Desiree Lozada at, [desiree.lozada@dcg-schools.com](mailto:desiree.lozada@dcg-schools.com)

## Free and Reduced Lunch

applications are available by visiting, <https://dcgschools.com/free-and-reduced-information/>

## Dallas Center-Grimes Education Foundation

It's a new year, and the Dallas Center-Grimes Education Foundation is excited for all that we have going on in 2019!

Get your tickets for the 3rd Annual R.E.D. (Raising Education Dollars) Breakfast Fundraiser, featuring keynote speaker, Sarah Noll Wilson.

On Friday, February 15th at the DC-G High School, Ms. Wilson will provide education on how to move from I to We: Building Trust One Conversation at a Time.

During her presentation, she'll:

- Explore the neuroscience of trust
- Introduce the concept of "Amygdala Hijacking"
- Explore common "Conversation Types"
- Illustrate conversational blind spots
- Discover and practice simple, but powerful techniques for creating deeper trust in conversations

Purchase tickets at <https://www.dcgeducationfoundation.org/breakfastfundraiser2019>

### MS Jazz Schedule:

Jack Oatts Jazz Festival - February 2 @ Earlham HS

Hoover Jazz Festival - March 2 @ Hoover HS, Des Moines

DCG Jazz Showcase - March 5 @ DCGHS

## MEADOWS

**Drivers Education** The spring program will begin after spring break in March 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 a.m. 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 a 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. Classes will be held in the Meadows Media Center.

Our summer program is held during the months of June and July. Class time will begin Monday, June 3rd and end on Friday, June 21. Classes will be every day for the first three weeks from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Driving times will be (6) two-hour periods with a driving partner. (Example, a student might drive from 9-11:00 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 the driving lesson is over. This location must 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.

\*All payments and permission slips should be made or turned in before the first class. Payment plans may be arranged with the office.

**9-10 Concert Band** Students performed great during our recent winter concert. We are now preparing for our Band concert March 4, as well as solo/ensemble contest April 4. Selections include; Korean Folk Song, Shenandoah, Metamorphosis, Forged in Fire, Invictus and Time Piece.

**8th Band** is currently preparing music both for the Band Concert on March 4, the Large Group Band Contest April 13 and our solo contest May 6. Selections include; On the Merrimack, Covington Square, All the Pretty Little Horses, and Mazama.



**DC-G Middle School Jazz** - We have lots of interest in our jazz program and currently trying to accommodate 35 hard working students! Rehearsals began in October. We meet every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday to prepare for music competitions. Come hear us this year!

# MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Achievement Award** The Chinese Association of Iowa's Achievement Award Selections Committee has chosen the honorees for the 2018 Iowa Chinese Achievement Awards. Dallas Center - Grimes Middle School has been nominated and selected as one of the honorees for The Leadership in Diversity Award. The Leadership in Diversity Award recognizes individuals and organizations that demonstrate outstanding creativity, commitment and effectiveness in promoting diversity in the State of Iowa. This award was given based on the student council organizing activities including; Unity Day, Wear Blue Day and Tolerance Week. Tolerance Week includes Mix It Up Day, advisory activities and the Diversity Awareness Fair. The fair has been held for almost twenty years and includes speakers from various countries, religions and experiences. Other diversity and service projects include Adopt-A-Grandparent with Spurgeon Manor, a local nursing home, Peer P.E. and Peer Helpers with our special needs students. The seventh grade social studies staff concludes the year with World Peace Day. World Peace Day is a culmination of a second semester research project on a world issue. The students present their information at booths along with how Iowans can provide assistance. DC-G Middle School uses these events and service projects to help students grow as productive citizens in the community.



**Amplify** is a new Science curriculum being used at the sixth grade level this year. Amplify Science integrates technology thoughtfully and intentionally, in a way to reflect how 21st-century scientists and engineers use technology to enable their investigations and explorations. It helps students to think and act like real scientists and engineers today by using state-of-the-art digital tools. In addition, students work on reading scientific text writings, discussing scientific arguments, and engaging in hands-on learning.

## IOWA STATEWIDE ASSESMENTS

### Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress Update

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) legislation requires that states annually assess all students on achievement of grade-level, state adopted standards in reading, mathematics and science. To meet the requirements of the legislation, Iowa school districts and buildings must report assessment results for all students in reading and mathematics in grades 3 through 8 and one grade in high school.

The Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) replaces the Iowa Assessments as the accountability test for all Iowa students. The test, developed by Iowa Testing Programs (ITP) at the University of Iowa as per the Iowa Legislature, will be given at Dallas Center-Grimes between April 1st - April 19th.

Unlike the previous assessment, the ISASP will not be timed. At DC-G, students in grades 3 - 5 will take the paper/pencil version of the test and students in grades 6 - 11 will take the test electronically. District training regarding the ISASP will be provided to all teachers and students. Both teachers and students will be able to review sample questions through the PearsonAccess Next website. Sample test questions for each subtest at each grade level can be found at <http://iowa.pearsonaccessnext.com/test-prep/>. We encourage parents to review sample test questions through this website to gain a better understanding of the expectations of our students. Test results will be available to districts sometime during the fall of 2019.

Visit <http://iowa.pearsonaccessnext.com> for more information.

## ELEMENTARY

**Literacy Grant** Kathy Morrow, kindergarten teacher at North Ridge Elementary was awarded a \$30 grant from Nu Alpha Gamma Chapter, to help provide non-fiction subject matter informational texts to her kindergartens. "It is easy to tell from her application that she is passionate about her project," stated, Sue Leslie, Chairperson from the Nu Alpha Gamma Chapter. We had an outpouring of requests and were only able to fund two \$125 grants, but hope this smaller grant will provide her with the seed money she needs to begin to implement her project.



**Pizza with the Principal** Students from Dallas Center Elementary are selected weekly by their teachers to enjoy Pizza with the Principal on Friday's, based on showing PRIDE behavior in and outside of the classroom. PRIDE stands for, Problem Solve Together, Recognize & Honor Differences, Interact Respectfully and Responsively, Demonstrate a Growth Mindset, Expect Excellence.

## PTO NEWS

As a parent-teacher organization, we work hard to raise funds for our elementary classrooms and help our teachers provide innovative learning opportunities. One of our favorite areas of funding are Teacher Grants. This month we are sharing a few of the great things that our teachers are doing with PTO funds!



Miss Dooley's 1st graders are expanding their reading skills and learning about a variety of topics at the same time.

### PTO Upcoming Events

February 11 – South Prairie, North Ridge, Heritage, and DCE PTO meetings from 7-8 pm in each school's media center.

February 22 – North Ridge PTO Family Game Night at 6:30 pm.

March 11 – South Prairie, North Ridge and DCE PTO meeting from 7-8 pm in each school's media center.

"The leveled books donated to our classroom through the grant have given my students more opportunities to read books at their own reading level. My students have loved reading the fiction and nonfiction books, about all different kinds of topics! They can all find a book they are interested in. These books will affect many other 1st graders in the future!"

Mrs. Updike's 4th graders are busy designing, building, and problem solving with their new STEM materials.



# ACTIVITIES



**Key Club** The DCG HS/Meadows Key Club has been busy over the last few months. In October, club members went door-to-door during Beggar's Night and collected \$1247.94 for Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF, which is working to eliminate neonatal and maternal tetanus around the world. The first week of November was national Key Club Week around the world. Members met and made 47 fleece tie blankets for

patients at Mercy Children's Hospital.

December brought bell ringing for the Salvation Army Red Kettle at Fareway in Grimes throughout the month. Members also got together to make holiday greeting cards for residents of Kennybrook Village in Grimes, and Spurgeon Manor in Dallas Center. Small groups of members then delivered the cards personally to spread holiday cheer.

January brought fundraising for the support of Meals from the Heartland Grimes Hunger Fight. This year the Key Club is fundraising for that event by challenging each member to raise at least \$25. The fundraising event is Friday, February 22. The community packaging event is Saturday, February 23. The event will take place at the Grimes United Methodist Church. A sign-up link to package meals can be found by visiting [grimesumc.com](http://grimesumc.com) or Facebook. This is a community event, please join us to package meals for hungry children around the world. As the Key Club looks forward to the rest of the year, we plan to have our annual Students vs Staff Game and Dinner after spring break. This is our biggest event, and we encourage all community members to join us for that night! Look for the date and time in your March Mustang Monthly

**The DC-G Large Group** speech team had over 100 kids preform at the district competition in January at Perry High School. Students are now busy preparing for State Large Group Speech at Valley High School on February 2.



At State Contest, the student groups will compete in musical theater, improvisation, short film, and other acting categories, hoping to receive a division I rating from the judges.

**Fillie Softball** Staff and athletes will be conducting a softball skills clinic for girls in grades 3-8. The clinic will be held on Sunday, March 3 at the Dallas Center-Grimes High School gym. Third - fifth grades will go from 12:30-3:00. Clinic times for grades 6-8 will be held from 3:30-6:15. Registration will start 30 minutes prior to the start of the clinic. Plan on arriving early so we may begin on time. Clinic focus includes; throwing, fielding, outfield and infield defensive play and hitting/bunting. Parents and coaches are encouraged to attend the clinic and observe their child or players' participation.

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. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Schlafke at 515-975-5453 (Cell) or 515-992-3784 (Work)

**Champions Rise** DC-G football will be offering several camps this summer for all ages. Future Mustang Football Camp for children entering grades 3-6 in the fall will take place August 5-6. Middle School Football, for children entering into 7-8 in the fall will be offered August 19-20/22. High School Football Camp for those entering grades 9-12 in the fall will have camp August 5-8. Register for all camps at [www.dcgcamp.com](http://www.dcgcamp.com) or visit <http://dcgbackpack.blogspot.com/> for more details.

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## POSTAL CUSTOMER



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Anna Kelly, art student at Meadows, did a great job blending and layering acrylic paint to create a realistic landscape.



Senior Dakota Miles created this work during her Independent Art course using ink and watercolors.