



Dallas Center-Grimes Community School

MUSTANG MONTHLY

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Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Future.



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been a great year for our students and staff, not only academically, but from an activity standpoint. As the school year is winding down, I know the achievements students and staff have earned and worked so diligently toward are only going to expand. Academically, the hours and care put into helping students learn and grow is what makes DC-G special. DC-G is a great place to be and I could not be more proud of the hard work and accomplishments put forth by our great students and staff. In my every day when I am visiting buildings, I witness generosity and kindness by our staff and students on a monumental scale. But I am also witness to grace, courage and patience on an individual base's. These things are what are what make #dcgexcellence really shine. I look forward to the fall and am excited to see all the hard work and compassion carry forward into the 2019-2020 school year. Have a great summer!



CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesday, June 4: 7-8 Building and 5-12 Vision Groundbreaking

Thursday, June 5: Last Day of School

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 - Meals for the Heartland Partnership
- DCE Community Garden
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www.dcgschools.com

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ALL SCHOOL REUNION

In conjunction with the Dallas Center Fall Festival and The Dallas Center Sesquicentennial, there will be a reunion of all former students, teachers, and administrators from the Dallas Center, Dallas Community, and Dallas Center-Grimes areas. The gathering will be held at the Middle School Gymnasium in Dallas Center on Friday August 23rd. This event will be non-formal with refreshments. A free will donation is suggested to help cover costs of the event.

Help is needed with one extremely important detail.

PLEASE RSVP! We want to be prepared, so please RSVP by AUGUST 9th. Check out our 2019 All School/All Class Reunion Facebook page. Or contact Buck or Amy.

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204 Percival Ave. Subject Line; 2019 Reunion

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There will be a lot of activities! After our reunion, The Twisted Corn Tavern invites the alum to stop in and continue reminiscing. The Fall Festival will be going strong all weekend. The Sesquicentennial Committee is putting together a Dallas Center Museum. Updates will be posted on Facebook as the time gets near.

BENEFITS AND RESOURCE FAIR

A BIG thank you to all the vendors that help make the DC-G Benefits and Resource Fair a success. There are a lot of moving parts when putting this together, so the thank yous don't stop with just the vendors, but are extended to the custodians at the High School and Meadows for help set up and take down of the event, the high school students that helped unload and load cars and trucks and hand out bags to staff.

Take a look below for all the vendors that participated in this great event.

Anytime Fitness	Iron Horse Wealth Management
Art Happy	Jazzercise in Grimes
AXA Advisors (403b Provider)	Kabel Business Services (Flex Provider)
Back to Health Chiropractic	Keller Williams GDM
Bankers Trust	Legal Shield
Barnes & Noble	LRI Graphics
Bentley Ridge Tree Farm & Nursery	Madison National Life Insurance & LTD
Brenton Arboretum	Mary Kay Cosmetics
Century 21 SRE	Mass Mutual
Charter Bank	Medicap Grimes/Dallas Center
City State Bank	Mercy Clinics Family Medicine Grimes
Cutty's Camping Resort	Office Depot/Office Max
EAP (Employee's Assistance Program)	Precision Family Eyecare
Edward Jones	Raccoon Valley Bank
Fareway Grimes	Re/Max Real Estate Concepts
FinishLine Body & Paint	Revive Chiropractic
Food Depot	Security Benefit
Granger Nursing & Rehabilitation	Spurgeon Manor Retirement Center
Grimes Plaza Veterinary Clinic	State Farm Insurance
Grimes Public Library	Taher
Gustafson Insurance Team	Thompson Financial/National Life (403b Provider)
Horace Mann (403b Provider)	VALIC/AIG
Hy-Vee Waukee	Verizon/Russell Cellular
Inspiring Dance	Vision Bank
Integrated Print Solutions	Voya
Iowa Functional Health	Waddell Reed, Inc.
Iowa State University Extension Office	Wellmark
IPERS	YMCA Waukee

HIGH SCHOOL

Academy Awards

The 25th Annual Academy Awards were held at the High School on May 1st. The night celebrated the best of students in all classes for achievement in academics, character, and leadership in and outside the classroom. Both

band and choirs showcased talented students. There were 14 awards given in the following categories; Agriculture, Art, Business, English, Family and Consumer Science, French, Math, Instrumental Music, Physical Education, Science, Social Studies, Spanish, Technology, and Vocal Music. Seniors gave speeches with their awards, many thanked parents and teachers for their help and support over the years. Several shared their future plans and how their particular classes or teachers influenced their decisions on what to do post graduation.



ACADEMY AWARDS



MEADOWS



Holocaust Survivor David Wolnerman and his son spoke to Meadows students about survival of the Holocaust. Wolnerman was a young Jewish boy, raised in a small Polish town, just a few miles from Auschwitz. During World War II, Wolnerman and his family were forced into concentration camps. He was 13 when we entered

Auschwitz and lied about his age, which saved his life. David and his wife are the last Holocaust survivors in Iowa. David's message to students was to "forgive, but never forget." Joel Rankin, Social Studies Teacher at Meadows, was instrumental in coordinating Wolnerman's visit.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

Eighth grade language arts Anne Frett's classes studied the elements of poetry. Students were asked to compose an original poem. Below is a poem written by eighth grader Jill Janssen.

A Message to Society

Isn't it strange?

*How everything we have ever been
taught,*

Is coming back to blow up in our face?

*Remember that pig-tailed girl who
couldn't help staring at her reflection in
the mirror,*

*On her hands and knees pleading to be
accepted by her cruel, evil peers?*

*Or that strong, young boy with the grass
stains clinging to his knees.*

*Who you told had to be masculine, told
him he couldn't cry?*

*Well now they are teens, trying to find
their way in the world.*

*And everything you have taught them
shows they aren't prepared.*

*They are trapped in their own heads, in
their mind, and their thoughts.*

*And the thing they fear most is the earth
shattering word's "you are a disappointment."*

Our reality is just so faltered.

So up in the air, like a kite.

We're as lost as a dog without a collar.

*Being thrown into the world of an adult-
hood like a meteorite.*

*Now all teens minds are a library stacked
to the brim with doubt.*

*Because for so many years you have
preached and sneered.*

*That we need to be just like you, perfectly
perfect.*

*"You have to follow your dreams, but not
if they're foolish."*

*"Be yourself, but you better make sure
'yourself' is coolish."*

*"You have to get enough rest, but how
dare you sleep in."*

*"Live your life while you can, but if you
don't do your homework now, then
when?"*

*By allowing the demons of "but" to seep
into our brains.*

*You have not only poisoned our future
but you have intoxicated our brains.*

*You say we are too old to do half the
things we want to.*

Poem continued on facing page...

Meals for the Heartland In conjunction with DC-G Middle School's World Peace Day and the social studies department, along with their partners from the First Presbyterian Church in Dallas Center and the Dallas Center Ministerial Association hosted a community-wide meal packaging event on Friday, May 10 with Meals from the Heartland.

The students met their package goal of 30,000 meals. Meals will be distributed to families in need around our community, Iowa and the world. The event was held in the gym at DC-G Middle School. Community members of all ages worked to set-up, package, and clean-up. Julie Kopecky, DC-G Middle School Dean of Students stated, "We are very excited about this opportunity to help members in our community! At DC-G MS, we DREAM BIG, think beyond ourselves and today by helping our community."



ISTEP Members of the DC-G Middle School Student Council attended the Iowa Students for Tobacco Education and Prevention (ISTEP) Summit on May 7th. They joined students across the state who are also interested in taking a stand against tobacco and promote healthy living. The keynote speaker was Dr. Victor DeNoble, a former researcher for the tobacco industry, who provided education on the science of drug addiction. Dallas Center - Grimes Middle School students were awarded for their Street Marketing Showdown poster which showcased their work throughout the year including activities during Red Ribbon Week and Through With Chew Week.



ELEMENTARY

Community Garden Students at Dallas Center Elementary (DCE), with the help of a United Way grant have the opportunity to grow in their learning with a community garden. "The community support to make this project happen has been outstanding," said Deb Cale, DCE Principal. From the DC-G Building and Grounds Department, Dallas Center Rotary, Dallas County Master Gardeners, Frog Swale Farm, Graham Construction, Read and Serve Book Club, Spurgeon Manor, Valley View Tree Farm, various community members, and Taher all playing integral roles in helping this project get off the ground.



Students and teachers will use this garden for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) opportunities, building community and to learn about healthy eating. Taher has played a significant role with the garden. They worked with third and fourth graders in choosing what vegetables to put in the garden, helped students plant the vegetables and will be essential in looking after the garden over the sum-

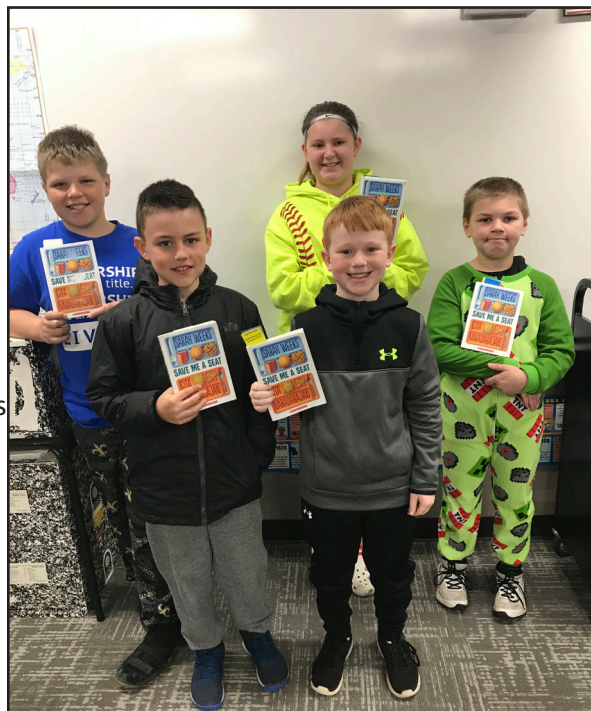


mers months when school is not in session. The harvest from the garden will be used in the cafeteria in the fall to help promote healthy eating with students.

South Prairie Book Club A handful of South Prairie fourth and fifth grade students have been meeting every other week to discuss the book, *Save Me A Seat*. Discussion of the assigned reading and snacks are enjoyed during meeting time. "It has been fun to get to know each other better and talk about a book we have all been reading," said Kellee Andrews. The students want to start a new book and we are making plans to continue it through the summer. Students have been saying the following about Book Club;

"The best thing about Book Club is the friends." (Skyler Swartz)
"My favorite thing about book club was the book and snacks.

"I liked spending time with friends, reading, and the snacks." (Campbell Bowen)
A huge shout out to the South Prairie PTO for giving the grant to purchase books and snacks!



...Poem continued
But the other half we're still too young for.
It's this sharp, shrill, screaming in our ears.
Your words, they stand silently in the corner haunting us for years.
We all have this gut feeling.
But it's not our conscience talking, it's you.
You can never make up your mind.
You are hypocrisy in its highest form of life.
First you are grateful that we made a mistake
That we pushed past our comfort zone,
took a chance.
Then you turn around and shout,
"You could've done better! What was that?"
You see this is why we are so scared to taste ugly, bitter defeat.
Because we know that we could never measure up
To your endless, roaring, expectation oceans you force us to meet.

*The generation before us they think we have it so easy.
Maybe we do, but they didn't grow up in the world we did.
Our normal is the terrifying, life altering, mind numbing things that we hear on the news.
Our normal is not a "can this happen to me?"
Our normal is "when WILL this become my reality?"
Our normal is the admitting voices of our peers, "oh I just did it cause it's cool."
Our normal is the common pressure of our friends, "oh who cares about the rules."
It's all because of the pressures you supply.
Yet these skyscraper morals that you set up so high in the sky,
You don't even live by.*

*So at 14 years old, I will watch the horrid sight that stands before me,
And smell the charcoaled smoke as my chaotic world burns.
For it's you who have put us in this position.
Shoving things at us to learn.
So the next time you go to judge just be careful.
Maybe try to be less forgetful.
Remember that you wouldn't survive a week in our world.
So just be careful with your words.
For they hold more power than the mightiest empire ever would.*

PTO

A HUGE thank you goes out to all of our community members, school staff, parents, volunteers, students, and business sponsors for an incredible night at Reading Rocks 2019! 575 students went home with a brand-new book and thousands of dollars were raised for our elementary schools. It truly takes a village to put on this event and we are incredibly grateful to all those who participated in the evening's events. Mark your calendars for May 1, 2020, for our next Reading Rocks event!

Although this school year is just wrapping up, you can get ready for next year (and save yourself a ton of stress!) by ordering your student's school supplies here: www.educationalproducts.com/ShopPacks. School codes are as follows:

South Prairie "SOU168"

Heritage "HER272"

North Ridge "NOR362"

Dallas Center Elementary "DAL051".

The elementary teachers have fully reviewed the shopping list and we know you will love the peace of mind of knowing your child's school supplies will be waiting for him or her in the classroom on the first day of school. July 7th is the last day to order.

Congratulations to new PTO school presidents, Heather Spooner for Heritage Elementary and Kacey Beyer for Dallas Center Elementary. We are thankful for your energy and passion and can't wait to see the great things you'll do!

We wish everyone a happy and safe summer and look forward to catching up with you in the fall!

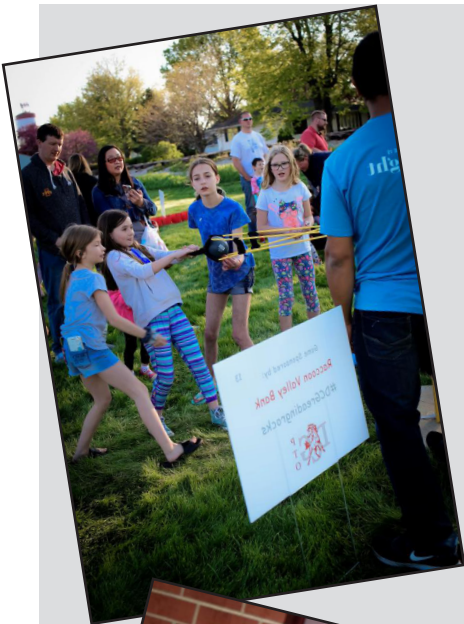


ACTIVITIES

Girls Track The DC-G Girls Track Team completed a great 2019 season. They had a team of 44 this year. The Fillies placed 1st at the ADM Coed, Ballard Relays, Fillie Invite, Carroll Coed, and the State Qualifier meet hosted by DC-G. The girls finished 3rd behind Pella and Indianola in the tough Little Hawkeye Conference meet. The girls qualified for twelve events in the state meet



on the Blue Oval at Drake Stadium. Those events included; the 4X800, the Distance Medley Relay, 800 Meter Run (two qualifiers), 1500 Meter Run, Long Jump, 100 Meter Hurdles, Shot Put, 3000 Meter Run, the Shuttle Hurdle Relay, the 4X100, the 4X400 and the Sprint Medley Relay. The 4X800 team set a new record at the State Meet with a time of 9:42:83 which got them a fourth place finish. The Fillies placed 9th as a team in Class 3A with 27 points. DC-G sophomore, Megan Sterbenz, earned four medals at state, two in relays and two individual events. The girls track team is coached by Rich Kloster.



ACTIVITIES CONTINUED



Girls Golf A jump for joy! The DC-G Girls golf team made it to state for the first time in school history. The girls had an outstanding

season setting records for the lowest team score in a 9-hole and 18-hole tournament. The DC-G girls went undefeated as a team in the regular season. They are taking their first swing at a state title at Coldwater Golf Links in Ames. The girls golf team is coached by, John Klaessy.

Boys Soccer Last year was the first time that DC-G boys had qualified for the state tournament since 2009. There was a large graduating class and the team came into this season with only five players with varsity experience. What could be termed as a "rebuilding" year quickly turned into a successful season as various players stepped up to fill roles and gain valuable varsity minutes. DC-G boys were ranked 8th in the state during the pre-season and continued to be recognized as a top 10 team in the state week after week, topping out at 4th during weeks five and six during the season. The regular season record was 12-4 and earned a first round bye in the sub-state pairings. The Mustangs won the sub state semi-final match against Winterset 3-0. The team will be fighting for a State Appearance again this year. The team is led by senior captains Noah Webster and Brennon Woody. Brennon is a returning 1st team All State goalkeeper. Noah Webster is a returning All Conference player and attacking center midfielder and is our leading scorer on the season. Both Noah and Brennon will be continuing their soccer careers in college. Noah will be heading to Iowa Central and Brennon will be heading to Wartburg College. The leadership between those two and our other senior soccer players have been a huge contributor to success this year. They have continued to come together as a team on and off the field. The boys have instilled pride in the program, in each other, and are helping to build a DC-G soccer legacy that will trickle down to the younger players in the community. Tremendous talent and success is also showing in the JV program and will be looking for several of those boys to step up over the years to fill roles and positions to continue to keep DC-G soccer as a top high school program in the state.



Baseline Concussion Testing Jerod Torrey will be doing pre-season baseline concussion testing for all 8th-12th Football players and all 9th-12th Volleyball players on July 17th at 3:00 pm. Testing will be done in the High School.



The DC-G Girls Cross Country team will be hosting the 3rd annual youth cross country camp on August 15 and 16, 2019. Camp will be held from 8:30 AM-11:00 AM both days. Girls who are entering grades 4-8 are invited to participate. The cost of the camp is \$50 and includes instruction and a camp t-shirt. There is a \$10 sibling discount. Campers will participate in team building activities, learn distance running fundamentals, discuss cross country strategies, and participate in workouts. The camp is staffed by coaches Heather Every and Justin Droppert. Register Online at dgcamps.com

Mustang Boys Cross Country camp for those entering into grades 5-12 will take place August 8-9 from 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM. Camp cost is \$65; there is a \$10 discount for more than one registration per family. Dr. Jason Bauer, Iowa Hawkeye basketball player, 1995-99 who joined as a walk-on to become a starter will be at the camp to talk about dedication, compassion, and guts. To enroll, register Online at www.dgcamps.com



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On Saturday, April 6th, 36 students in 5th, 6th, and 7th grades traveled to Winterset to compete in the Battle of the Books reading competition. Teams of four read a list of 20 books and competed against teams from across Iowa by answering questions from the books. DC-G students were represented from Heritage, South Prairie, and the Middle School. Congratulations to Tess Meggison, Evin Jerry, Alex Pries, and Sam Watkins for winning the 64 team competition!