



Dallas Center-Grimes Community School

# MUSTANG MONTHLY

VOLUME 21  
ISSUE 2  
October 2019

Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Future.



## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

With the passing of the bond last fall, this also included an addition and updates to what will be the 5-6 building, currently the middle school. The School Board recently reviewed the schematic design to the 5-6 building. This is the first step in moving forward with the renovation process and beginning this phase of the project.

Ground was broken on the new administration center, which is located in front of Meadows. The house on the property, was used as a training site for local first responders as it was prepared and burned down. The goal for the administration center is to be a place where new and current families get a sense of the tradition and roots that both communities bring together to make our great District. District officials will office out of this location along with being in all schools for instructional purposes. The administration center will be a location for staff trainings, public meetings, as well as registration. The administration center is set to open at the beginning of the 2020 school year.

We are currently on schedule to open the 7-8 facility at the beginning of the 2021 school year.

As we are building our facilities and growing in success in the District we can not do that without a strong foundation of our School Board. Currently, we have five candidates running in the upcoming November 5th election to fill four open seats. The candidates for board director seats are as follows: Tyler Eason, Director At-Large, Ryan Carpenter, Director At-Large, Marco Bejarno, Director At-Large, Kathie Hicok, Director District 4 and Ronnie Wiedman Director District 3.

We are off to an exciting and successful start of the 2019-2020 school year.



## CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesday, October 9th, 1 pm Dismissal

Wednesday, October 23rd, 1 pm Dismissal

Friday, October 25th, End of 1st Quarter

Monday, October 28th, No School

Tuesday, October 29th, Beginning of 2nd Quarter

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Cognitive Abilities Test
- High School News - NCYL
- Middle School & Meadows News - Counselor Connection & Global Goals
- Elementary News - Book Fair
- PTO News - Upcoming FUNdraiser
- Activities Updates

Empowering Students to Take  
Charge of Their Future.



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

## DALLAS CENTER-GRIMES COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OFFICES

### Elementary Offices

Patty Morris, Principal/South Prairie Elem.  
E-mail: patty.morris@dcdgschools.com  
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.  
E-mail: april.heitland@dcdgschools.com  
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/Heritage Elem.  
E-mail: diann.williamson@dcdgschools.com  
Telephone Number: (515) 300-9627  
Fax Number: (515) 300-9627  
500 NE Beaverbrook Blvd., Grimes, IA 50111  
Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Deb Cale, Principal/Dallas Center Elem.  
E-mail: debra.cale@dcdgschools.com  
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: jerry.hlas@dcdgschools.com  
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: lori.phillips@dcdgschools.com  
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: scott.blum@dcdgschools.com  
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: scott.grimes@dcdgschools.com  
Telephone Number: (515) 992-3866  
Fax Number: (515) 992-3079  
1205 13th Street, P.O. Box 512  
Dallas Center, Iowa 50063

## COGNITIVE ABILITIES TEST

This notification provides information about the Cognitive Abilities Test and the uses for the results.

Who takes the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)?

Third grade students in the Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District will take the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) between October 7th - 11th.

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: Measure 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: Measure 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 10 minutes

SECTION 3 - NONVERBAL TEST: Measure 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 show an uneven pattern of relative strength and weakness, 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 for 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, which means 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 contact Angela Dvorak, Director of Student Services, at [angela.dvorak@dcdgschools.com](mailto:angela.dvorak@dcdgschools.com) or your building principal.

# HIGH SCHOOL

**Future and Financial Planning Presentations** A meeting on future planning for College and Career Readiness will take place, Thursday, November 7th at 6:00 pm. Topics will include, DC-G course info, DMACC partnership, and the college admissions process at 7:00 p.m. In addition, a financial planning geared toward seniors will occur covering, the financial aid process and options, FAFSA Information, and the scholarship process. Opportunities for students and parents to join Mr. Twigg, Mrs. Clancy, and Mr. Blum in the High School Auditorium during Parent/Teacher Conferences to learn about future and financial planning will take place as well.

**Important Upcoming Dates:**

PSAT/NMSQT: Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

Test Date: October 16, 2019

Location: High School Media Center

Cost: \$17

Registration: Register/pay for the PSAT exam beginning Monday, September 16 through October 4th.

Audience: Juniors are the preferred group and will have priority in registration. Sophomores and freshmen are welcome to register if spots are available.

Benefits:

Gain SAT Prep

Enter Scholarship and Recognition Programs

Plan for College and Careers

Explore AP Course Readiness

Receive information from Colleges

Identity Skills for Improvement

Additional Information:

Call 515-986-9747, email [ben.twigg@dcschools.com](mailto:ben.twigg@dcschools.com), or [danie.clancy@dcschools.com](mailto:danie.clancy@dcschools.com), or visit <https://www.collegeboard.org/>.

The Iowa Secretary of State, Paul Pate, held a press conference to unveil the updated Elections 101 curriculum, Suffrage 101, and a new initiative to encourage voter registration. Recently Iowa passed a law allowing 17 year-old students to register to vote. DC-G High School Social Studies teacher, Jack Vanderflucht helped write the Elections 101 curriculum a couple of years ago and was asked to do all the updates this year and editing for its new release. He also provided input and editing for the Suffrage 101 curriculum that was added to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of Iowa's vote to approve voting for women. Dr. Bynum, the former director of the Carrie Chapman Catt Center at Iowa State wrote this curriculum.

Two DC-G students were chosen to participate in the press conference along with Sec. Pate, Dr. Bynum and Mr. Vanderflucht. They were Jaxon Grambrall and Sarah Wittmer, both Rho Kappa members (the national honor society for social studies students). The students had the opportunity to register to vote on camera.



Two-hundred-thirty-five high school seniors from 23 area high schools were selected by their schools to attend the National Council on Youth Leadership's (NCYL) 27th annual Youth Salute on

September 9, 2019, at Drake University.

NCYL is dedicated to recognizing, encouraging and developing the leadership skills of youth. The mission of NCYL is to create public awareness of the importance and power of youth leadership, provide information to help build advanced leadership skills, and encourage community involvement in recognition and support our youth. The Greater Des Moines chapter is facilitated by the Robert D. and Billie Ray Center at Drake University, which offers a variety of public awareness activities and programming, including CHARACTER COUNTS!, a widely used character education program.

Dallas Center-Grimes was represented by eight seniors who were selected by staff members for their leadership skills they have demonstrated both in and out of the classroom. They are Molly Cooney, Owen Curtis, Sarah Frett, Jaxon Gambrall, Cody Hall, Riley Hall, Dawson Leggo, and Buddy Morris.



**DC-G Meadows Jazz** has a large group this year due to a change in the program philosophy. Instead of cutting students to maintain balanced instrumentation we now allow all interested students to participate and learn about jazz. Rehearsals will officially begin on Tuesday, October 8 from 6:45-7:40 at the Meadows Band Room. "I am so excited to get started with these students", said Steve Britt, Meadows Band teacher. Please mark your calendar for our home Jazz Preview on Tuesday, December 10. It's going to be a great year!

**Nutrition Services** A hungry stomach can lead to an unfocused mind. Studies show that good nutrition leads to improved classroom performance, higher test scores, and better behavior. The simple act of feeding kids a healthy school breakfast can have a dramatic impact on their academic, health and economic futures.

Taher and DC-G Schools are proud to offer "Second Chance Breakfast" at both Meadows & the High School throughout the year. Students can stop by the cafeteria to purchase breakfast, which consists of a hot or cold entree, fruit or vegetable, and choice of milk, until 9:00 at Meadows and 10:30 at the High School. We also have hot beverages available at both schools as well as ala cart.



## MEADOWS

**Counselor Connection** Welcome Back! We have had an awesome start to our school year and are enjoying getting to know all our Meadows students. As we get further into the year, we wanted to remind Meadows families about the resources available to keep your child organized with their school work and schedule:

**Google: Email, Calendar, and Classroom:** Students should remember to check their email daily. Google Calendar is a great place to stay up to date with classes as well as stay organized. Google Classroom is a central hub for assignments and other classroom information.

**Infinite Campus:** A place for students to track their missing work, grades, assignments. Parents can also have their own login. There is more information on the DC-G Schools website registration page.

**Symbaloo:** Found on the Meadows Website. Each Meadows class has a tile that has more detailed information about the course, the calendar and other resources.

**What I Need (WIN) Time:** During advisory on Thursdays, students can sign up to work with a teacher to receive supports, enrichment and/or ask questions.

Please reach out to your child's classroom teacher or advisor with questions. Because it is still early in the year, we have a lot of options to be able to support you and your Meadows student. You can connect with us, the Meadows counselors, with any celebrations, questions or concerns.

Emily Judd: [Emily.Judd@dcschools.com](mailto:Emily.Judd@dcschools.com)

Marc Juergens: [Marc.Juergens@dcschools.com](mailto:Marc.Juergens@dcschools.com)

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Global Goals Project** Seventh grade social studies students at DC-G Middle School are participating in the Global Goals Project. This project connects over 1350 classrooms from 72 countries around the world as they collaborate to learn and teach about the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Each participating school was assigned one of the SDGs and joined a team with 16 other schools from around the world. DC-G students have been researching their assigned goal, Goal 14: Life Under Water. They are preparing materials to share with their global team which includes middle school students across the U.S. and Canada as well as schools in Albania, France, Italy, Nigeria, and Spain. As each class shares its project, our students will learn about all 17 goals, actions they can take to help achieve each one, and build connections with students around the world.

Our students' projects include digital presentations such as student-produced videos, newscasts, and electronic posters which all partner schools can access virtually and books, posters, and interactive displays which will be mailed to schools in the U.S. and Canada. By the end of September all 17 schools will have shared their work. Students are looking forward to learning from our partner schools around the world.

# ELEMENTARY

**Book Fair** On September 10, South Prairie had a book fair sponsored by the local Grimes McDonald's! Students were allowed to choose one book to take home and keep. That night families were invited to a book event at the Grimes McDonalds. Students were given a free meal, invited to bring their new book and read with their



the book is about.

family while enjoying their meal. Participants enjoyed story book character visits with Grimace and Clifford and in true party fashion a cake was served. In the classroom, students will be sharing which book they chose and give a short report about what



## Parents Night Out

Let the high school girls basketball team watch your children ages 4-4th grade on October 19th from 5:30 - 8:30 pm. The cost is \$15 per child or \$40 per family. All proceeds go the DC-G High School girls basketball program. Kids will enjoy organized games in the gym, movies, popcorn and many other fun activities. Sign up online, <http://gbasketball.dcgcamp.com/babysitting-night-fundraiser.cfm> or contact Coach Jones with questions:

[adam.jones@dcgschools.com](mailto:adam.jones@dcgschools.com)

**PTO News** The PTO's fall FUNdraiser will begin on October 4th and run through October 18th. Students will help raise money for the PTO by completing fun reading challenges on their #DCGReads BINGO board-coming home with each student soon! Family, friends and neighbors can sponsor a reading challenge square for \$5 and students will be encouraged to sell five squares, complete five reading challenges, and earn a BINGO! District-wide incentives and building prizes will be awarded. Get ready to show your support for the good things the PTO is doing by participating in #DCGReads this October!

Box Tops for Education are going digital! You can now submit your box tops via the mobile app. In the new process, submit an image of your receipt and the app will find the qualifying items and automatically credit the funds to our

PTO! Visit [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) for more information. When searching for your school, select "Dallas Center Grimes Elementary" and funds will be divided up amongst the schools based upon enrollment numbers. Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production, but may continue to be found on many products. You can still clip and send unexpired clips to school!

### Mark Your Calendars:

October 14th, North Ridge PTO meeting and South Prairie PTO meeting at 7pm in each school's library

October 18th, Dallas Center Elementary PTO will host their annual Mustang Mash from 6:30-8:00pm for DCE students and families. More details can be found on the DCE Facebook page.

November 11th, 7pm, North Ridge PTO meeting; Heritage PTO meeting, and South Prairie PTO meeting at 7pm in each school's library. DCE PTO meeting at 6:30pm in the school library.

January 23, 2020, North Ridge and DCE Skate Night from 5pm-8pm at Skateland

January 30, 2020, South Prairie and Heritage Skate Night from 5pm-8pm at Skateland

May 1, 2020, Reading Rocks!

For the most up-to-date information on events and resources, be sure to 'Like' and 'Follow' your elementary school's PTO page on Facebook. We will update these pages frequently with information on upcoming events and student resources. For questions, you can also contact us directly at [dallascentergrimespto@gmail.com](mailto:dallascentergrimespto@gmail.com)

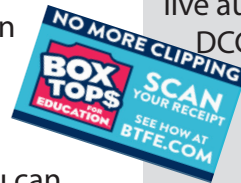


The Dallas Center

Grimes Education Foundation (DCGEF) is excited to announce the second annual (R)aising (E)

ducation (D)ollars Dinner and Auction. The event last year was a great success raising nearly \$50,000 via a silent and live auction to support the DCGEF mission of

facilitating and providing funds for post-secondary education scholarships and grants for use in the K-12 classroom to enhance learning opportunities for students in the district. Join us for what promises to be a wonderful evening with friends supporting the educational needs of our students. Purchase a table or individual tickets by visiting [dcgeducationfoundation.org](http://dcgeducationfoundation.org). We hope to see you there!



# ACTIVITIES

**The DC-G Cheerleaders** have been working hard preparing for weekly football games. They had open gym during the summer to work on building their skills. At Cheer Camp cheerleaders worked on learning all of the cheers and new stunts. The Cheer Squad has also introduced strength training into weekly practice to continue building core strength. Last week they held a Little Cheer Clinic with 50 participants that learned cheers and performed at the home football game. The future of DC-G Cheer looks strong!



**Girls XC** The Fillies have had a busy summer and the start of the school year this fall. The Fillies have competed in four meets thus far. August 29th at Gilbert, placing 2nd, September 3rd, at Home placing 1st, September 10th, at Grinnell, placing 1st, September 16th at Ballard, placing 2nd. The team has also been involved in other fun activities



this year. They traveled to Colorado for Cross-Country camp this summer. They stayed a week in Estes Park to train and work on team bonding. The team also participated in one of their annual community service outings packaging meals for Meals from the Heartland. They also completed their annual Dallas Center to Grimes run where they ran from Dallas Center to Grimes and try to beat the rising of the sun. Give the girls a shout out if you see them running around town. Our Fillie Cross Country team is currently ranked 3rd.

**Marching Mustangs** It is hard to believe that the end of the marching band is coming to a close. To finish up the last part of the marching season, the Marching Mustangs will be competing in four contests this month and performing at two home games.

Following the end of the marching band season, 16 members of the band will be auditioning for membership into the 2019 Iowa High School Music Association All-State Orchestra or Band. Those members include: Rachel Ihde, Senior, Alto Sax; Allison Kinman, Junior, Alto Sax; Cale Schmitz, Junior, Alto Sax; Collin Fortune, Sophomore, Alto Sax; Gage Manges, Senior, Baritone Sax; Dante Chittenden, Freshman, Tenor Sax; Anthony Munoz, Sophomore, Cello; Sierra Mason, Junior, Flute; Logan MacConnell, Junior, Percussion; Josh Ward, Sophomore, Percussion; Ben Miller, Senior, Trombone; Drew Bissel, Sophomore, Trombone; Lauren Ihde, Freshman, Trombone; Kaylee Ringenberg, Senior, Trumpet; Katrina Saddoris, Senior, Trumpet; Ryan Fitch, Freshman, Trumpet.

The audition site for DC-G is Atlantic. Band members have been working all summer and fall to prepare for this audition.



# ACTIVITIES

**Boys XC** The DC-G Boys Cross Country team is off to a strong start in 2019. Despite losing six of their top 11 runners from a season ago, the Mustangs are competing at a high level. To begin the season, the Mustangs headed to the Gilbert meet to run on the always tough Iowa State cross country course. They came away with a team victory, along with four medalists. The next week, they battled at home against a tough field, and finished second to number one ranked Carlisle, and garnered five medals in the different grade level races. On Monday, September 16, the team headed to the Ballard Invite where they were one of eight ranked 3A squads. The Mustangs finished third in a tight team battle, and had three medalists. The team has been lead by sophomore Aidan Ramsey, along with senior Bradley Ramsey, and sophomore Jacob Ewers. Other varsity contributors have been sophomore Owen Pries, junior Dawson Assink, and seniors Gavin Petrak and Jacob Hochstetler. The JV team has only had one scored meet (Ballard) and trounced a tough field by scoring only 28 points, second place was Carlisle, scoring 50 points. Leading the JV at Ballard were, sophomore, Jacob Storey, junior Blake Croushore, sophomore, Cael Wineland, junior Will Augspurger, sophomore Luke Herbsleb, senior Drew Bormann, and junior Harrison Stallman. The Mustangs have three more regular season meets, followed by the Little Hawkeye Conference meet in Norwalk on October 14.

The Mustangs have also enjoyed the chance to be out in the community this year. They assisted with the Grimes Parks and Recreation Run for Fun in the Sun program, and enjoyed bringing their "Honk Project" to the streets of Grimes again this fall. They appreciate the support provided by the DC-G community and look forward to continuing to represent the community and school with pride and class the rest of the season.



**Volleyball** The Fillie Volleyball team is off to a good start for the 2019 season! The team is lead by All-Stater Katelyn Knutsen and three seniors, Kam O'Brien, Ashley Ferguson, and Sam Vos. Knutsen leads the team with 106 kills on the season and averages .61 aces per set. She is followed by Grace Mikota at 89 kills. Leading the setting charge is O'Brien and Kenna Jackson. The defense is rounded out well with Ferguson, Knutsen, and Mikota who

own most of the team's passing stats, while Haylee Hidlebaugh leads the team in blocking averaging .68 per set, and Lexi Protzman with .46 per set.

The upcoming weeks and Saturday tournaments bring a lot of matches for the team to make improvements and make a push for Regionals, and eventually, battle to make the trip to Cedar Rapids and the State Tournament once again this season!

**Mustang Football** has been working hard this season. They came out strong in the first game, but ended up short with a loss to Pella in the season opener. The Mustangs beat Norwalk in double overtime for their first win of the season! They played their home opener against Ballard and came out on top. Zach Brand currently leads in Rushing Yards at 180 yards averaging 5.3 yards a carry with sitting out most of the game at Norwalk and the entire game against Ballard due to an injury. Ty Walker has a 66 percent passing completion in the first three games for a total of 376 yards plus 36 rushing yards. Issac Boley is leading the team in receiving yards at 148 followed by Cody Hall at 76 yards. Luke Busby is leading the team in touchdowns with two so far this season. The defense has been on fire this season, only allowing five touchdowns in three games. Jacob Waldron is leading the team with 20 tackles. Blake Willy is leading the team in sacks with five and Gabe Jorgensen has one interception to lead the team.



Dallas Center-Grimes Schools  
1215 13th Street  
P.O. Box 512  
Dallas Center, IA 50063

Nonprofit Org.  
ECRWSS  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Dallas Center, IA 50063  
Permit No. 5

POSTAL CUSTOMER



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



Senior Trenton Liebe created this artwork in Sculpture class. Students were asked to find an artwork from history that inspired them for the surface design. Trenton's interpretation of Vincent Van Gogh's, The Starry Night, turned out great!