



Dallas Center-Grimes Community School

MUSTANG MONTHLY

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December 2019

Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Future.

EDUCATION FOUNDATION EVENT SURPASSES EXPECTATIONS

The Dallas Center Grimes Education Foundation hosted the second annual Raising Education Dollars (RED) Dinner and Auction on Saturday, November 2, 2019. The Dallas Center and Grimes communities showed up to support and helped make the event an astounding success! Over 150 attendees sported their 'red' attire, and participated in both the silent and live auction along with other fundraisers throughout the night. The result was raising nearly \$55,000 for the evening! Proceeds from the event will be used to move forward with the mission of the Foundation, including funding scholarships and classroom grants. Included in the funds raised is \$25,000 that will be used to award two - \$3,000, four-year renewable RED scholarships designed to help ease the burden for students due to the rising cost of post-secondary education.

Attendees enjoyed an evening that began with a social hour followed by a delicious dinner catered by The Radish. Throughout the evening attendees monitored their bids on over 70 silent auction items. A variety of items were donated for the silent auction including a DC-G Cornhole Bags set, DC-G activities camp certificates donated by some of our high school coaches, home decor, DC-G Mustang and Fillie experiences, golf outings, date nights, and much more!

The evening continued with a great message from Kent Stock. He is most well known for being the coach of the 1991 Norway High School baseball team during their now-famous final season.

Under Kent's leadership in his first year as the head baseball coach, this team defied all odds to win Norway's 20th state title. Kent capped off his talk leaving everyone to reflect on a great question - How do you want to be remembered? In addition, Sonya Harwood, DC-G alumna and a recipient of several scholarships spoke about how helpful having the education foundation scholarship has been as her time is drawing to a close at Iowa State. She shared the importance of education in preparing for a career and also expanding views about life! Sonya was able to have a variety of experiences, including traveling abroad and getting to experience new cultures, partially due to the scholarships she received.

The evening wouldn't have been complete without the live auction, which was run by Auctioneer Jared Chambers, commanding the attention and bids on everything from a beach vacation, to dinner catered by the district's very own Chef Joe! Some lucky bidders went home with a half hog and a new Yeti cooler, and others will be kickin' up their heels at the Jason Aldean concert. Brewery tour in Des Moines in limo-style.

The night wouldn't have been possible without the support of many local businesses, individuals, and all of the attendees. Don't miss out on this annual event - mark your calendar now for November 7, 2020!

Be sure to follow us on Facebook (@dcgeducationfoundation) and Twitter (@dcgedufound) to keep up-to-date with all of the happenings with the Dallas Center - Grimes Education Foundation and see how you can get involved to make a difference for the students and staff within our great district!

Thank you for the continued support,

The Dallas Center - Grimes Education Foundation Board



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Superintendent's Message
- FFA Small Animal Barn
- Meadows Honor Jazz Combo
- Elementary News
- State Cross Country Winners

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CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesday, December 4, 1 PM Dismissal

Monday, December 23 - Friday, January 3, No School Winter Break

DALLAS CENTER-GRIMES
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OFFICES

Elementary Offices

Patty Morris, Principal/South Prairie Elem.
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Telephone Number: (515) 986-4057
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April Heitland, Principal/North Ridge Elem.
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Telephone Number: 515-986-5674
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Diann Williamson, Principal/Heritage Elem.
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Telephone Number: (515) 300-9627
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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@dcdschools.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@dcdschools.com
Telephone Number: (515) 992-4343
Fax Number: (515) 992-4076
1400 Vine Street, P.O. Box 608, Dallas Center,
Iowa 50063
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Meadows Office
Lori Phillips, Principal
E-mail: lori.phillips@dcdschools.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.

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Scott Blum, Principal
E-mail: scott.blum@dcdschools.com
Telephone Number: (515) 986-9747
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2555 W. 1st Street, Grimes, Iowa 50111
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Central Office/Business Office
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Dallas Center, Iowa 50063
Office Hours: 7:00 - 4:00



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

An important component of maintaining a safe and secure learning environment is proactively practicing safety drills to ensure our students and staff understand what to do in the event an emergency situation arises during the school day. In addition to practicing fire drills and tornado drills, our schools also practice lockdown drills.

An emergency lockdown may be used in response to a potential or confirmed threat situation occurring inside or outside of a school building. A non-emergency lockdown may occur for a medical condition or as a precaution. Although I cannot share specifics of our lockdown procedures for security reasons, I can share that during an emergency lock down only law enforcement is allowed to enter the school and procedures are taken to ensure the safety and security of students and staff inside our building.

In conjunction with our safety committee every school in our district conducts one lockdown drill per semester for a total of two lock down drills every school year. These drills are in addition to the four fire drills and four tornado drills we practice every school year in support of state regulations and safety protocols. DC-G has a safety committee and is comprised of school leaders, building representatives and school nurses.

What parents should do to prepare for a school emergency?

- Be sure your child's emergency contact information is correct on Infinite Campus. Notify your child's school promptly if this information changes. The people on this list are the only ones that can obtain your child during an emergency. Please contact your building secretary to update your emergency contact information.
- Talk with your child about the importance of remaining calm and following instructions in the event of an emergency.
- Have your child practice his or her full name, address, and phone numbers in order to contact you or other authorized adult in the event of an emergency.

What should parents do during an emergency?

- Do not call the school until notified
- Wait for communication via school communication system
- Tune in to local television or radio stations
- Check district social media sites for possible updates. These include Facebook and Twitter.
- Understand that the district may require families to pick up their children at a reunification site other than their school. In this case, please bring your photo ID. The district will communicate the location of the reunification site through the channels provided above.

What should parents do following an emergency?

- It is important to provide emotional support to a child in the aftermath of a crisis situation.
- Watch for clues that your child might want to talk, but understand that not all children will want or need to talk about these events. Some children may not express their concerns verbally.
- Be aware of signs that children might be in distress, e.g. changes in behavior, anxiety, sleep problems, acting out, problems at school or with academic work.

The safety and emergency related issues confronting our schools and community are serious. We work closely with DC-G Kids Safety group, made up of parents and community members to help proactively keep dialog open between administration to increase awareness of social emotional behavior and mental health needs in our district. Thank you in advance for your cooperation as we continue to work together to ensure the safest environment for our students, staff, and community. Please visit DC-G Kids Safety Facebook page for more information.

HIGH SCHOOL



FFA Small Animal Barn

Corteva™ agriscience has generously partnered with the DC-G FFA and financially made it possible for our students to further their academic education through a hands-on learning experience provided by a small animal barn that is housed on school grounds. Mr. Reis, the Ag Science teacher and FFA advisor, reports that up until now they had been utilizing a small corner

of the school's greenhouse as an extension to his classroom to further educate about ag science classes. They have housed at different times, a small number of rabbits, turkeys, chickens, and ducks. This was a great success with the students, but took up some of the horticulture space so the idea to have their own small animal barn was born.

The FFA Barn, measuring 12 X 16 feet, arrived at the DC-G High School November fifth. It has been placed just west of the greenhouse behind the high school. The location is excellent as it is within easy walking distance from the Agricultural Science classroom. Mr. Reis states this barn will be used for small animals that he teaches about in his ag science classes. Students can also house small animals there for their FFA and SAE projects for the County and State Fair if they do not have space at their homes as many of the ag students reside in town. Mr. Reis wants to extend a special thank you for making this hands-on educational experience possible to Kevin Willey and Jenny Bircherm, both with Corteva. Willey is the Global Sales Effectiveness Lead for Corteva and is also a member of the DC-G Ag Science advisory group and Bircherm is the South Central Iowa District Sales Lead for Corteva and additionally donates seed to the DC-G Ag Science test plot annually.

Wellness Wednesday

DC-G High School is launching a new program to promote mental health and wellness for students and teachers. Rates of stress, depression, anxiety, suicide are rising across the country. We believe that it is important that students can access resources and support within the school to identify and address these needs



early. During one Academic Opportunity time each month, teachers will offer different activities or opportunities to learn different strategies to de-stress and take care of their well being. Students experienced Wellness Wednesday for the first time in early November. Some of the different offerings included: free reading, coloring, positive self-talk, restorative yoga, zentangle drawings, Texas hold em, chess/board games, breathing to music, and many more.

On November 12, DC-G High School students participated in a Diversity and Inclusion Summit along with Jolie Morgan and Eric Mohlis. The Summit is a result of a partnership with Des Moines Public Schools and Wellmark to provide a space for conversations for schools to connect and be more inclusive. Topics included intersectionality, micro-agressions, the Ouch! protocol, and a panel of LGBTQ students from area colleges during lunch. Each school created action steps from their morning of learning.



On November 2nd Dance Team Senior members Emily Rutter and Briana Helleso traveled

with their teammates to Newton, Iowa and competed in the State Solo Dance Competition. Emily Rutter was recognized and received a Division I Superior Rating. The seniors will compete with their teammates at the Group State Competition in December.

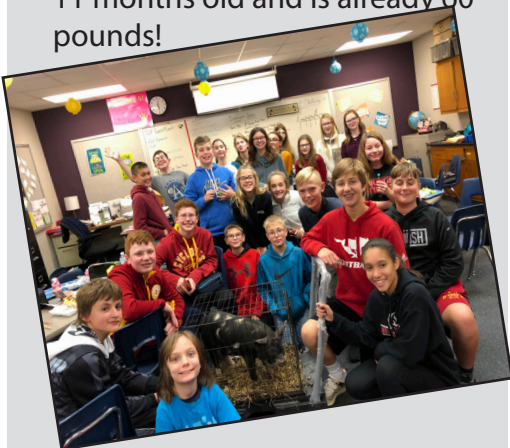
Large Group Speech rehearsals are underway and it is shaping up to be another banner year. DC-G has 130 kids participating in 30 groups - one of the largest Large Group Speech teams in southwest Iowa.

Students are currently rehearsing their pieces for District Contest held on January 25. At district contest, they will perform pieces in the categories of Musical Theater, Improvisation, Ensemble Acting, Radio News and many more. Students who receive a 1 rating from their judge will move on to perform again at State Contest on February 8.

Parent preview night will be held on Friday, January 10 at 6 PM in the auditorium. Come see the pieces the students have prepared for contest. Admission is free.

Department of Agriculture

Jessica Peters from the Dallas County Department of Agriculture came and spoke in Ms. Klunder's room during each lunch period at the end of October. Jessica brought a potbelly pig, named, Buddy. Students learned that female pigs before they are mothers are called gilts. The middle schoolers learned that Buddy loves playing fetch, just like a dog. Buddy is only about 11 months old and is already 60 pounds!



MEADOWS



In late October band students from Meadows traveled to Waukee Middle School for the third annual honor jazz combo day. The following students represented DC-G; Jack Crilly on trumpet, Brady Kinman on trombone, and Nathan Bullock on bari sax. Students are nominated for the honor jazz band by their band directors through Jazz Educators of Iowa.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Sixth and seventh grade Extended Learning Program (ELP) students went on a STEM field trip to Skateland in Des Moines. Throughout the day they had two STEM lessons about how everyday science, math, technology, and engineering affect skating.

The students started with a lesson about the physics of skating. They learned the different factors involved with skating, including velocity, angular motions, and force to name a few. The students then made a makeshift catapult out of popsicle sticks and rubber bands to throw cotton ball. This hands on activity was a favorite. There was a competition to see how far a group of students could launch their cotton balls using certain strategies with their catapult.

The final lesson involved the science of arcade games. This was a lesson about how science, math, and technology can affect how you play arcade games. First the students determined their own reaction times using a ruler drop. In order to do this experiment, they wired an LED light so when one wire touched another, the light would turn on. After some frustrating trial and error attempts, a few groups were able to light the LED light.

ELEMENTARY NEWS

BEST Vision The student's at Heritage Elementary have worked hard since the beginning of the year to be their B.E.S.T!

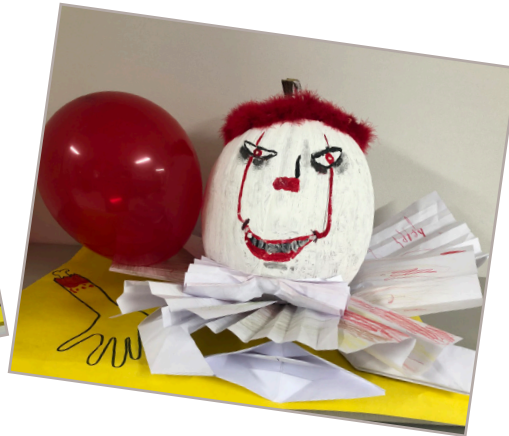
B - Be Responsible

E - Extend Kindness

S - Show Respect

T - Think with an Open Mind

Students earn a Heritage High Five when they are observed demonstrating a behavior that shows they are supporting the B.E.S.T vision. The students were challenged to earn 6,000 Heritage High Fives by the middle of October and they far exceeded this challenge earning 7,218 Heritage High Fives! To celebrate this milestone each class was able to design and decorate their own pumpkin. The pumpkin celebration was held on Thursday, October 31st. Each pumpkin was on display and each class was able to see what the other classes had created and vote for their favorite. The top three pumpkins receiving the most votes were Mr. White's 3rd grade class, Ms. Wambold's 3rd grade class, and Ms. Schaeffer's 1st grade class. Students enjoyed this fun celebration and there were some very creative pumpkins. Congratulations Heritage students and High Fives all around!



Veterans Day

First graders at North Ridge had special a visitor from Sergeant James Leaman and Lieutenant Steven Alcorn for Veteran's Day. The kids loved hearing from these two men and why they chose to serve and protect our American freedoms. We are so thankful for them and all of the men and women who have served and are serving our great nation!



Addie Lane and Landon Anderson are being recognized for being the top girl finisher and boy finisher in the mile run assessment at North Ridge.



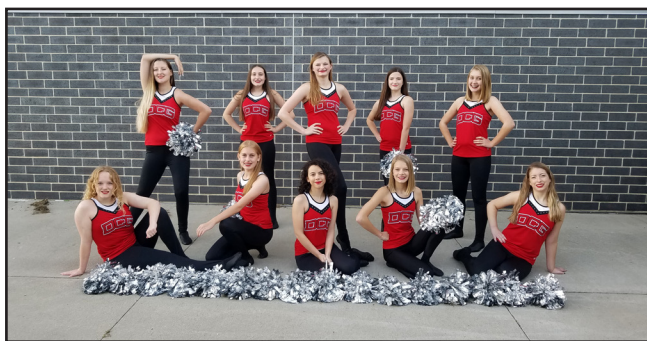


Key Club October and November were eventful months for Key Club! On Halloween, 24 students participated in our annual Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF event, raising \$569.00. The money collected will be given to the Kiwanis ELIMINATE Project, which partners with UNICEF to provide vaccinations to help eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus in developing countries.

The week of November 4th was Key Club Week! Each day was themed differently, starting with Monday's "Show Your K," where students were encouraged to wear their Key Club gear. Tuesday we signed thank you cards to those in the school district who help and support Key Club events. Wednesday, November 6th was the day of our "Dare to Care" service project. We made 20 tie blankets for patients at Mercy Children's Hospital in Des Moines. Thursday was Random Acts of Kindness, where students were given ideas to give back to the world around them. To wrap up the week, students volunteered with Grimes Kiwanis at Fareway and collected food and money for the Grimes Storehouse. Over 500 food items were donated and over \$400 collected.

In the upcoming weeks, Key Club will be making and decorating holiday cards for Kennybrook Village and Spurgeon Manor. For more Key Club updates, follow us on social media @dcgkeyclub.

ACTIVITIES



Dance Team The DC-G Dance Team will be traveling to Wells Fargo Arena to compete in the Iowa State Dance and Drill Team Championships held December 5th-6th. This year's 10 member team will perform a Pom and Hip Hop routine. The team will perform their Pom routine at 5:22pm in

Wells Fargo Arena as part of Class XII Pom and then perform their Hip Hop routine at 6:15pm in HyVee Hall as part of Class VI Hip Hop. Awards will take place that evening in Wells Fargo Arena at 8:45pm. Spectator admission for the team competition is \$10.00 per day. A two-day pass can be purchased for \$18.00. Tickets will be sold at HyVee Hall and Wells Fargo ticket offices. In preparation for the competition the team will be holding a Showcase on Sunday, December 1st in the Meadows Gymnasium at 6:00pm. The showcase is open to the public and free to attend.

The Girls Cross Country team capped another successful season with their second straight class 3A State Runner Up finish at the State Championship Meet on November 2nd. The Fillies CC team was made up of 40 girls who together had one of the most successful seasons in school history. They were only beaten by one 3A team all season finishing second to the 3A State Champs Ballard at the Gilbert and Ballard Invitationals, while winning the DC-G and Grinnell Invitationals. The Fillies finished 5th in the large 26 team regional Heartland Invitational in Pella only being beat by schools from out of state and class 4A Johnston and Waukee beating six class 4A rated teams. The team finished 3rd at the Southeast Polk meet behind Waukee and SEP. The JV team continued to be one of the best JV teams in the state scoring a perfect score at three different meets this season.

The team won the Little Hawkeye Conference Championship meet for the second year in a row. All seven varsity runners placed in the top 15 earning them All Conference honors; 2nd place Megan S, 4th Hannah L, 6th Miranda M, 11th Kami S, 12th Lara K, 14th Meredith M, 15th Emma A. Following the Little Hawkeye win, the girls won the State Qualifying Meet for the second straight year. All seven varsity runners once again finished in the top 15 earning them Individual State Qualifier honors; 1st place Megan S, 3rd Miranda M, 5th Hannah L, 8th Emma A, 9th Meredith M, 11th Lara K, 14th Kami S. This qualified the team for the State Meet for the 5th consecutive season and 9th in the last 10. The second place finish at the State Meet this year capped a five year run at state of 4th, 7th, 4th, 2nd and 2nd! At the State Meet Megan earned her second straight All State Honor finishing in 4th place, she was also recognized as Elite All State by having a top 15 time across all classes at the State Meet.



ACTIVITIES

Boys Cross Country Unlocked Titles in 2019

Cross Country continues to be on the rise at DC-G! The Mustangs celebrated their state winning season at a banquet on November 11. Despite the departure of six of the top 11 runners from last year, the Mustangs brought home their second Little Hawkeye Conference title, third District title, and their first ever State title! They are one of two teams in Class 3A to finish in the top seven at State each of the last six years. They also won their sixth straight JV Little Hawkeye Conference

title. Additionally, there were 19 additions to the record board! Awards conferred at the banquet were as follows:

- All-Conference: Aidan Ramsey, Bradley Ramsey, Jacob Storey
- All-District: Aidan Ramsey, Bradley Ramsey, Jacob Storey, Owen Pries
- Academic All-Conference: (10th-12th grade letter-

- winner earning a 3.5 GPA or above)
- 10th – Luke Herbsleb, Aidan Ramsey, Isaac Short
- 11th – Eli Followwill
- 12th – Drew Bormann, Sam McGuire, Preston Pellatz,

- respective class:
- 10th- Luke Herbsleb and Aidan Ramsey
- 11th – Eli Followwill
- 12th – Bradley Ramsey
- Group Dynamic Youth Servant Leadership Award: Preston Pellatz

Dawson Assink, Will Augspurger, Eli Followwill, Drew Bormann, Jacob Hochstetler, Bradley Ramsey Thank you to all the parents for their tremendous support and encouragement this season.

Thank you to Mr. Buttjer, Ms. Waymire, Brenda Smith, and Betsy Grove for their help at the high school. And thank you to the Booster Club for its support of our team in a variety of ways! Finally, the team is looking forward to building on the success they've had! Next year promises to be exciting, and we



- Gavin Petrak, Bradley Ramsey, Drew Storey, Miles Wyllie
- Academic All-State: (senior, State Qualifier or top 30 at District, 28 ACT, 3.8 GPA): Bradley Ramsey
- IATC Senior All-Star Meet Selection (run faster than 17:50 during senior year): Jacob Hochstetler, Bradley Ramsey
- Student Athlete Award
- Winners for highest GPA in

- Most Valuable Team Member: Bradley Ramsey
- Most Improved: Luke Herbsleb, Zach Ross
- Coaches Award: 9th – Sean Hochstetler
- JV – Will Augspurger
- Varsity – Blake Croushore
- DC-G Sportsmanship Award: Tyler Lindsay, Gavin Petrak, Aidan Ramsey
- 2019 Captains: Aidan Ramsey,

invite you to be a part of it – keep an eye on opportunities for young runners with the boys 5th-12th grade Mustang Cross Country Camp as well as the Run for Fun in the Sun Camp through Grimes Parks and Recreation. We all appreciate the awesome support of the Dallas Center-Grimes communities!

The 2019 Mustang football team

finished at 9-2, state quarter-finalists, and rated #4 in the Radio Iowa poll and #7 in the Des Moines Register poll. Led by a dedicated senior class, the Mustangs captured their 5th district title and playoff appearance in the last seven years.

This year's squad was led by one of the top defensive units in the state in Class 3A giving up a stingy 10.5 points per game. Leading the defense were All District players: Jayme Augusma, Jacob Waldron, Blake Willey, and Nic Lawton. Earning honorable mention all-district were: Trenton Liebe and Gabe Jorgensen. The defense pitched two shut-outs on the season and three other games where they limited their opponent to one score including first round playoff opponent Harlan. The offense was not to be over-

looked! In one of the most productive statistical seasons on record, the offense was led by All District players: Ty Walker, Isaac Boley, Caden Grimes, and Cody Hall. Earning honorable mention were: Dillon Belzer and Zach Brand. The Mustang offense twice eclipsed the 40-point mark and entertained the Mustang faithful with explosive plays on a regular basis.

- Varsity Offensive MVP: Isaac Boley
- Freshman Coaches Award: Trevor Hamil
- Varsity Defensive MVP: Jayme Augusma
- JV Coaches Award Of-

fense: Huston Halverson

- Varsity Special Teams MVP: Zach Needham
- JV Coaches Award Defense: Spencer Hall

The coaching staff and players would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of the people in Grimes and Dallas Center who came out to support our team during the season. A Friday night at the stadium is truly a community

event and the energy that you bring makes it the best place to play every year. We are grateful for the support that you show us each season.

We look forward to being back on the field with you in 2020 as a strong nucleus of players will return for the Mustangs. It will be an exciting season as a new district and a new schedule will bring some new teams to town.



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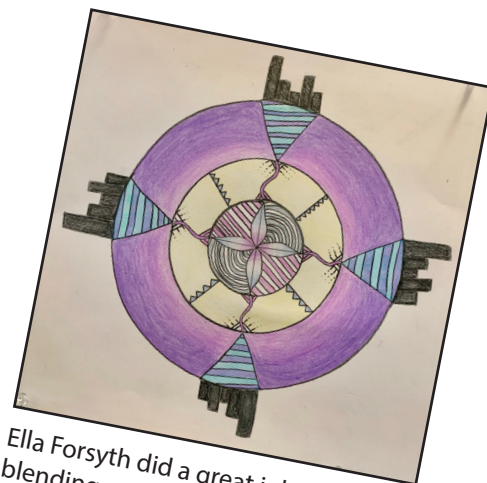
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In Drawing I class, students were given the opportunity to showcase their talents with oil pastels, by drawing the textures of an animal of their choice. Junior, Sierra Sonberg, not only did an outstanding job with textures, but also nailed the aspect of creating an interesting composition.



Second grader, Ryann Millage, created this dog portrait painting. Students learned how to look closely and combine shapes to create a realistic picture. Students also contributed to their community by bringing awareness to the needs of animals at the local shelter. Children first chose an adoptable animal's image to replicate, then pictures of the finished pieces were offered to the shelter in hopes of helping their animals find a home. These students demonstrated excellence through their perseverance and commitment to bettering their communities!



Ella Forsyth did a great job of blending and shading colored pencils in her mandala. The black rectangles, creating a skyline on the outside of her mandala, represent Boston, where she has been before and loved.