



Dallas Center-Grimes Community School

# MUSTANG MONTHLY

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February 2020

Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Future.



## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

We continue to move forward with several construction projects throughout the district and I want to keep you informed on our progress.

The administration building, located in front of Meadows, is progressing on time and a completion date is set for August of this year. We are finalizing interior building design details.

A large part of the aesthetic design is making sure that the rich history at DC-G is preserved. When families come to register a student for the first time, or community members come for events, I want to make sure the pride and unity from both Dallas Center and Grimes is evident. We plan to incorporate this rich history by creating an interactive pictorial wall. We will show how our two communities have come together to make our great school district by displaying pictures of past buildings, class composites, and pictures of our significant achievements in academics, activities and athletics throughout the years. We plan to host an open house once the building is complete and are looking forward to sharing this new space with the patrons of our communities. We view this facility as our front porch and want all to feel welcome and gain an understanding of excellence in the district through our rich history.

The 7-8 building is also on track to be completed before the beginning of the 2021 school year. The stairwells, elevator shaft and shell of the gymnasium can be seen from Highway 44. This will be a two-story building. The City of Grimes laid asphalt on the roadway of SW 19th Street to the site. They have also started work on County Line road north to Highway 44.

We continue to make progress with plans to remodel the current middle school. Renovations include adding a new pod which will make space for additional classrooms, opening up the lunch room to make more space for a commons area, and constructing a new choir room. In addition, there will be a new multi-purpose gym for not only our students to use but our communities. These proposed changes will begin in June when the 2019-20 school year has ended. We are excited about these facility projects and are looking forward to the completion dates when the students and community members can benefit from all they have to offer.



## CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesday, February 5th, 1 PM Dismissal  
Friday, February 21st, No School, Staff Professional Development  
Wednesday, February 26th, 1 PM Dismissal

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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

DALLAS CENTER-GRIMES  
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OFFICES

Elementary Offices

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## 2020-2021 ONLINE REGISTRATION

**School registration** opens Online March 1 for the 2020-2021 school year. All existing and new families need to register.

### **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.

### **New Families to the DC-G District**

Follow the steps listed on the district website:  
[www.dcdgschools.com](http://www.dcdgschools.com), registration tab 2020-2021

### **Preschool Deadline**

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, 2020, 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, 2020, register for PreK 3,

(3 year old preschool will be filled by a random drawing)

### **2020-2021 Kindergarten Information**

To project enrollment numbers, please register incoming kindergarten students as soon as possible (starting March 1). If you have a child that will be 5 on or before September 15, 2020, register for Kindergarten (full days) or Optional Kindergarten (half days.)

Please note, you will not pay fees until July 1.

**Parent teacher conferences** will take place Tuesday, March 10th and Thursday, March 12th. Look for an email from the district to sign up for conference times if you have an elementary - 8th grade student. If you have a student is in high school please stop by during the designated times to talk with teachers, advisors and staff. We look forward to sharing the great things your children are doing in class and all the learning that has taken place this school year!

# HIGH SCHOOL



**DC-G alumni** shared their wisdom with the senior class about what their life looks like since high school graduation. Alumni shared what a daily schedule looks like, time management, study tips and

managing finances. These ten alumni brought a variety of backgrounds from two and four year college programs, the Army ROTC, beauty school and apprenticeships. Alumni did a great job talking to seniors about what to expect in a few short months after high school. Alumni that participated include; Lexi Davis-DMACC, Maddie Pebsworth-Iowa School of Beauty, Reagan Comito-University of Iowa, Aaron Burger-Army National Guard, Carter Eischeid-Iowa State University, Rudy Stallman-University of Northern Iowa, Meridith Fiori-Central College, Holly Ellis-Kansas State University, Cole Smith-Waldinger Plumbing, and Royce Murphy-Golden Rule Plumbing



**Golden Plaque Award** Congratulations to Coach Dan James for being selected by the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union to receive the Golden Plaque Award for distinguished coaching in the sport of soccer. Of the hundreds of soccer coaches who have coached the sport, Coach James is only the 8th to have been selected to receive this honor!

**DC-G Key Club and FCA** help with Meals from the Heartland Grimes Hunger Fight. For over five years, DC-G Key Club has coordinated the Student Challenge Hour for Meals from the Heartland Grimes Hunger Fight. This year the FCA will be joining in our efforts to help fight hunger. The event will take place this year with the Student Challenge Hour on the evening of Friday, February 21, and the community-wide hunger fight during the morning of Saturday, February 22. Key Club and FCA would like to encourage students who want to package meals for the Student Challenge Hour to form teams of 8-10 people. Students can sign up using the link <http://bit.ly/hunger2020>. Families and community members are also encouraged to sign up to package meals during the community packaging event on Saturday. You can find more information and links to sign up for the community event at <http://bit.ly/GrimesMftH2020>. We are asking all students planning to participate to help fund-raise for the event. The organizers of the Grimes event are hoping to raise \$15,000 which will allow the community to package 75,000 meals! The Student Challenge Hour event is a part of the community event, so the money students raise will help reach the goal of \$15,000. The Meals from the Heartland Grimes Hunger Fight will be held at Grimes United Methodist Church (801 W 1st St), but it is a community-wide event. Anyone in the community is welcome to sign up to package meals for those who are hungry around the world.

## MEADOWS



**Service Learning Carnival** Meadows held its very first "Lets Make a Change" Service Learning Carnival. The Carnival was created to raise money for service learning projects that students choose to adopt for the school

year. A \$5 cover charge allowed students to play games as well as participate in a silent auction. All proceeds from the carnival go to help fund the advisory projects such as: Books for kids, ISTEP (Tobacco Prevention), Art in the Community, and Elderly Outreach. Students work together in Advisory to come up with an idea and then put the pieces together and implement the project. Students work through the process of writing grants and working with the city or other organizations to make their ideas come to fruition.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL

**The DC-G MS Show Choir,** Infinity is in the middle of their competitive season and having a blast. Students participated in the DC-G "Take Two" Show Choir



Invitational on January 24th & 25th, 2020. They continue their competition season by competing at Urbandale's Show Choir Invitational on February 14th, 2020 and close out their season competing at Indianola's Show/Jazz Encounter on February 21st (you can also hear the MS Jazz Band perform)! Their show this year is themed "Fight for Your Life." They want to encourage you to be a Champion in Your Life and Never Give Up Hope! For more information about the MS Show Choir, contact Mrs. Joy Augustine at, [joy.augustine@dcschools.com](mailto:joy.augustine@dcschools.com).



# ELEMENTARY



**South Prairie 5th Grade Jobs** This year at South Prairie, fifth grade students have the opportunity to experience the responsibility of holding a job within the school. Students began the year by filling out an application for up to three available jobs at the school. These

included: greeters, hallway monitors, lunchroom helpers, art room helpers, office assistants, technology managers, and library helpers. Students were then assigned one of their top three jobs. Each class reports to their job for approximately eleven weeks in the morning and afternoon and are supervised by a teacher during their shift. At the conclusion of their employment, an employee meeting is called and outstanding employees are recognized for their service with a certificate. These exemplary employees then have the privilege of training the next fifth grade class on the responsibilities of their position. Students experience the real-life expectations of a job, including reporting on time and demonstrating good work ethic. With this experience, fifth graders continue to develop as leaders and are motivated to be responsible within the school environment.

**Kindergartners at DCE** were greeted back to the school year with a welcome back New Year party! Students were able to have toast for a snack and toasted to friends and family for, more time playing games with moms and dads, unicorns, toys, candy, and good health for everyone! They also painted faces of lions, tigers and bears because they brought in 2020 by Roaring in 20's!



## Meadows and Middle School

**Band** Eighth grade band is currently preparing music for the March 9th 8-12 band concert and April 4th Large Group Contest. The number of honor band opportunities has increased in order to enrich the experiences of students.

Orpheus Middle School Honor Band was held on Tuesday, January 21, at Simpson College in Indianola. Meadows students accepted into this honor band include Ellie Illian, Elayna Patterson, Layne Weber, Willem Bartels, Kyler Willenborg, and Corey Bero-gan-Perez.

Thirty-five students are participating in the middle school jazz program. A few musical selections this year include: "Now What", "As If To Say Goodbye", "Work Song", "Carnival Del Soul", "Oye Como Va", "Woodchopper's Ball." We hope you will come to hear our band this year. Our remaining performance/competition dates are:

Jack Oatts Jazz Festival on Saturday, February 8, at Earlham High School

Indianola Show Jazz Showcase on Friday, February 21, at Indianola High School

Hoover Jazz Festival on Saturday, March 7, at Hoover High School, Des Moines

Jazz Showcase on Monday, March 23, in the Meadows commons

## ACTIVITIES

### The DC-G Cheerleaders

had a great fall season with lots of great Mustang Football, Little Cheer Clinic, team meals, long bus rides, State Competition, All-State Cheer and Honor



Squad. We love cheering for the Mustangs and despite the cold weather enjoyed an extended season. We took two stunt teams to State Cheer on November 2nd. One of the Stunt groups placed 1st in the 3A Stunt category which included Seniors Sarah Frett, Maci Stephens and Jessica McCartan and Sophomores Rylie Reents, Emma Martin and Abby McCartan. Senior Sarah Frett was chosen to be part of the 2020 All-State Cheer team consisting of 28 girls that will perform at the State Boys Basketball Championships later in the spring. Honor Squad was November 21-22, where seniors Sarah Frett, Jessica McCartan and Maci Stephens with several hundred cheerleaders from around Iowa, performed a routine at the half-time of the 1A and 2A Football Championships.



**Large Group Speech** is off to a successful start this year. Thirty-two groups have been busy preparing performances in the categories of musical theater, acting, improvisation, news, mime and many others. One hundred and twenty-five

students in large group speech performed at district competition on January 25, at Johnston High School. They had a great day at the competition, and on February 8, twenty groups qualify to perform at the State Competition at Waukee High School.

# ACTIVITIES

**DC-G Bands** February and March bring many honor band performances as well as the spring high school concert band performance. Students are currently preparing music for the 8-12 band concert on March 9, as well as material for solo/ensemble contests. The fall brought on several honor band auditions and DC-G saw great success. The following students were accepted into the 2020 SCIBA Honor Band Festival: Ryan Fitch, Jessa Ball, Lauren Ihde, Allison Kinman, Cale Schmitz, Kaylee Ringgenberg, Maddison Evans.

Several DC-G students were selected for the Drake Honor Jazz Band which will be held on Tuesday, February 4, at Drake University. The participating students include: Collin Fortune, Drew Bissell, Tyler Halverson, Everett Bartels, Logan MacConnell, and Gage Manges.

DC-G also had students selected to the Iowa State Honor Band, which will be held Friday, February 7, and Saturday, February 8. Students participating include, Ben Miller, Logan MacConnell, and Katrina Saddoris. Graceland Honor Band will also be showcasing DC-G students and the honor band performance will be held Friday, February 7 and Saturday, February 8. Students participating in the Graceland Honor Band include Ajon Ervin, Jessie Ramirez, Anna O'Tool, Kiera Krug, and Dominic Ward.

Our students will also be represented in the Little Hawkeye Conference Honor Band. The performance will be held on Monday, February 10 at Norwalk High School. Students accepted into the 9/10 band include Emma Sump, Aaron Fuentez, Ethan Ibarra, Kaylee Huinker, Anthony Munoz. Students accepted into the 11/12 band include Maddison Evans, Gage Manges, Rachel Ihde, Allison Kinman, Cale Schmitz, Logan MacConnell, Gavin Petrak, Kaylee Ringgenberg, Katrina Saddoris, Ben Miller, and Jason Cline.

The high school jazz bands continue to have an exciting year. Students scored their highest place at the SCIBA 4A District Jazz Competition Tuesday, December 10, placing tenth out of 18 bands. Students recognized as outstanding soloists were Ryan Fitch - trumpet, Tyler Halverson - guitar, Logan MacConnell - drums, and Lauren Ihde - trombone. Jazz One performed at Noce Jazz Cabaret on January 15. Many DC-G families and students were in the audience cheering on our top jazz ensemble.

Remaining jazz competitions include:

Tallcorn Jazz Festival on Friday, February 21, at UNI in Cedar Falls

Summit Jazz Festival on Thursday, February 27, at Coe College in Cedar Rapids

Hoover Jazz Festival on Saturday, March 7, at Hoover High School in Des Moines

Jazz Showcase on Monday, March 23, in the Meadows commons



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Junior, Corryn Wiggins, created this painting in her Independent Art class. Her attention to detail and value is outstanding!



Sheridan Gilster is the Meadows Art Spotlight this month with her acrylic landscape painting. She did an amazing job mixing realistic colors, layering paint, and adding texture to create this realistic painting.