



Dallas Center-Grimes Community School

MUSTANG MONTHLY

VOLUME 20
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March 2020

Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Future.



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

The Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) is the accountability test for all Iowa students. The ISASP will be given at Dallas Center-Grimes between April 1st - May 1st, 2020.

The purpose of the ISASP is to provide the district with information that can be used to improve instruction and to help teachers make sound educational decisions about each student's learning. The scores allow teachers to identify each student's areas of achievement and needed areas of improvement. Results from the ISASP are scheduled to be available sometime during the spring/summer of 2020.

Assessments will be administered in the following subjects and grade levels:

Mathematics: Grades 3 - 11, Reading: Grades: 3-11, Language Arts and Writing: Grades 3 - 11 and Science: Grades 5, 8, and 10.

The ISASP is not a timed assessment. At DC-G, students in grades 3-11 will take the test electronically. 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. Visit <http://iowa.pearsonaccessnext.com> for more information. Students should be encouraged to do their best on the ISASP, as they should for all of their school activities. During the week of testing, make sure your child gets as much sleep each night as they normally get on a school night, so they arrive at school ready to put forth their best effort.

A few test tips for parents include; put the test in perspective, tell your child that the test is just one of many ways that the school evaluates student progress. Reassure your child that pre-test jitters are normal.

Everyone gets a little nervous before a test. Explain that even though some questions will be difficult and they won't know all the answers, it is important not to leave an answer blank. It's better to take your best guess rather than leave a question blank. Help your child start test day well rested and with a healthy breakfast. Let your child know that you believe they will do their best, as a positive attitude is contagious. Keep the morning of the test as stress-free as possible, and help them get to school on time.

Calculators are permitted for math (Grades 3-11) and science (Grades 5, 8, 10) assessments.

Electronic calculators are built into the TestNav 8 system. However, students may use their own calculator if they choose.

Locally approved calculators include the TI-30 and TI-84.

These devices are prohibited:

Phone, tablet/computer apps, devices where notes or pictures can be stored, devices with cameras, or internet access. Calculators with CAS (Computer Algebra System) capabilities. No calculators with QWERTY format letter keys.

Examples of prohibited models include the following. This is not an exhaustive list.

Texas Instruments	Hewlett-Packard	Casio
TI-83, TI-84	HP Prime	ClassPad 300, ClassPad 330
(all models)	HP 40G, HP 49G, HP50G	ClassPad 400 HP 48GII
TI-89, TI-92	(all models)	Algebra fx 2.0
(all models)		

I know our teachers and administrators are working hard to prepare students for success not only for the ISASP, but for the future. The ISASP is just one way to measure areas of growth and show where our students excel.



CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

Tuesday, March 10th, 2:30 pm Dismissal P/T Conferences

Thursday, March 12th, 2:30 pm Dismissal P/T Conferences

Friday, March 13th, No School Teacher Comp Day

Monday, March 16 - Friday March 20th, No School Spring Break

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Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Future.



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DALLAS CENTER-GRIMES COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OFFICES

Elementary Offices

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Telephone Number: (515) 986-4057

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Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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Diann Williamson, Principal/Heritage Elem.

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Middle School Office/Jerry Hlas, Principal

E-mail: jerry.hlas@dcdschools.com

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Meadows Office/Lori Phillips, Principal

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2555 W. 1st Street, Ste. 200, Grimes, Iowa 50111

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High School Office/Scott Blum, Principal

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Grimes, IA 50111

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Central Office/Business Office

Scott Grimes, Superintendent

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Dallas Center, Iowa 50063

DC-G EMPLOYEE RECEIVES AWARD



Bob King, DC-G bus driver and Dallas Center resident was announced the winner of the 2020 Healthiest State Individual Impact Award, presented by the Healthiest State Initiative. The award recognizes King's efforts to improve the physical, social and emotional well-being of his fellow citizens. "Bob has volunteered countless hours of time and energy to the betterment of his community. Without him, many of the

health improvement projects in Dallas Center would not have been possible." said Jami Haberl, executive director of the Healthiest State Initiative.

King is a founder of Sustaining Active Independent Living in Dallas Center (SAILDC). He also serves on numerous other boards including Dallas Center's Healthy Hometown task force, Dallas Center Rotary, Dallas Center Betterment Foundation and Dallas Center Parks & Recreation Board.

Some of the projects King has contributed his grant-writing and community coordination efforts toward include: a new community garden at Dallas Center elementary school with six raised beds, physical activity opportunities in the Dallas Center community including a new tennis court, pickle ball court and ice rink. King also worked with The Rotary Club and designed and built a shaded set of benches near Spurgeon Manor and the Raccoon River Valley Bike Trail. In addition, King worked with Dallas Center and ordinances were updated to ban vaping in all public areas, a walkability study of the entire community was completed and is now guiding city efforts to improve sidewalks and trails, a Pop Up Produce stand with inexpensive fruits and vegetables now comes to the city monthly in the public library. King responded to the generous award, saying, "This award really belongs to the great people in Dallas Center and the Dallas County Foundation, Rotary 6000 Foundation, United Way, and Prairie Meadows Foundation who all helped provide the labor, matching funds, and ideas that made these activities possible."

Each winner was granted a monetary gift to continue their work focused on improving the health and well-being of their employees, students or citizens. King received \$1,000 which he donated to the Dallas Center Rotary to help build and equip a warming shed to provide loaned ice skates and storage. The Healthiest State Annual Awards were sponsored by Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Hy-Vee, Inc. Nemours Children's Health and HealthPartners UnityPoint Health.

HIGH SCHOOL



National Merit Scholarship Finalist

Rachel Ihde, DC-G senior, is a semifinalist for the National Merit Scholarship. The mission of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) is to recognize and honor academically talented students across the United States. NMSC accomplishes its mission by conducting nationwide academic scholarship programs. The goals of NMSC's scholarship program are to look for students who promote a wider and deeper respect for learning and to encourage the pursuit of academic excellence at all levels of education.

Later this month, NMSC will begin mailing offer letters to the scholarship recipients. Rachel is one of 7,500 students from across the country that have successfully met all requirements to advance to the finals.

Key Club Students vs Staff Basketball Game will take place on Friday, March 27. The DC-G Meadows and High School staff will take on the students in an epic basketball game to raise money for a good cause. The annual Students vs Staff Basketball Game is a Key Club fundraiser for the Thirst Project, which is an international organization focused on building clean water wells in Africa.

Students in grades 8-12 are encouraged to get a team of five together to play in this event. Teams are encouraged to come up with team uniforms or costumes. The cost to play this year is \$5 per player. Sign up at bit.ly/stvsstaff2020 to play. Players and teams can also sign up and pay at the door the night of the event.

The format of this event will be slightly different than previous years. There will NOT be a dinner prior to the game, and there will be NO shirts given to the participants as there have been in years past. There will however be light concessions available at the game. The cost to come and watch this great event and fundraiser will be \$5 (or donation) at the door.

Key Club is a student-led organization that focuses on leadership and service to the community. DC-G Key Club's faculty advisor is Joanna Poole. For more information about the Students vs Staff event or about Key Club, see bit.ly/DCGKeyClub.



The Dallas Center Grimes Education Foundation (DCGEF) hosted the 4th annual RED Breakfast on Friday, February 21st with keynote speaker, Ami Burns of Vermeer Corporation. Ami inspired creative ways to bring awareness and drive passion for STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math) to the students in our community. Vermeer Corporation has established a number of programs and engagements to continue to build the workforce pipeline and encourage interest in the industry. Everything from STEAM days with young students, teacher internships in the summers, and apprenticeships for high school students seeking a career. All from an innovative perspective reaching well beyond their local community. We were also pleased to honor Ami and the Vermeer Corporation with a scholarship in their name to be awarded to an upcoming 2020 DC-G graduating senior. The Senior Awards night will take place on May 20th where this award and numerous others will be presented is just the first of many the DCGEF events has coming in 2020. There are several opportunities to connect with the Foundation and support students within our district throughout the year as outlined below.

Scholarships

March 2, 2020 - Applications available
March 31, 2020 - Scholarship due
High School seniors submit applications through Google Classroom
Alumni submit to;

dcgeducationfoundation@gmail.com
Other DCGEF events include;
Summer Celebrations
Grimes Governors Days: June 13, 2020
Dallas Center Fall Festival: August 29, 2020

5k Race and Parade – Race proceeds for both events benefit the work of the Foundation and we will be marching in both parades. We'd love to see you at both!

Third Annual RED Dinner and Auction
This is the signature fundraising event for the Foundation.

November 7, 2020
5:00 PM

Grimes Community Center Banquet Hall

For more information on the Foundation, or to join a committee, visit www.dcgeducationfoundation.org or email contact@DCGeducationfoundation.org

MEADOWS



Scholastic Art and Writing Awards Winners were announced for the Scholastic Art and Writing awards. Only the very best artists and writers earn awards through Scholastic. It is a very competitive contest as awards are given to the top 15% of all entries grades 7-12. The three award categories include:

Gold Keys are awarded to the top 5-7% of all entries; Silver Keys are awarded to the top 7-10% of all entries;

Honorable Mention is awarded to the top 10-15% of all entries.

Meadows had three award winners this year in the following categories:

M. Grimes: Silver Key (Art: drawing and illustration)

M. Grimes: Gold Key (Art: drawing and illustration)

Ellie Illian: Honorable Mention (Writing: sci fi/fantasy)

The gold key artwork will move on to national judging with a chance for M. Grimes to win an invitation to the national ceremony in New York City this June. All three award winners will be invited to a celebration ceremony at the University of Iowa on Saturday, March 7, 2020. Congratulations to all of our artists and writers who submitted pieces to this prestigious program.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle School Math Laura Scott, middle school math teacher, had a vision for bringing real life experience into the classroom by creating the Mustang Math Cafe. After students completed their percent unit she worked to create a way to put the students knowledge to the test and applying the precepts in a restaurant-like atmosphere. "It's a fun way for the students to assess their skills on sales tax and tips, but it's also fun for them to play 'restaurant' and get a feel for what it would be like to work in the real world," stated Scott. Being able to show students that they are learning real life skills is such an important part of bringing learning alive.



ELEMENTARY

Heritage

Elementary Art

classes created a piece of art that now hangs in the school for all to enjoy. The lower elementary grades used permanent markers to add color to empty plastic drink bottles. Students in the upper elementary helped Art teacher, Amy Cory, cut the plastic bottles into long colorful swirls. These colorful swirls were then woven together into several long strands and then hung in the skylight by the library. It is now a very colorful and bright focal point for the school. Every grade helped, every student had a hand in creating it, and everyone has a reason to be proud of this work of art!



PTO



PTO As a parent-teacher organization, we work hard to raise funds for our elementary classrooms and love helping our teachers provide innovative learning opportunities. This month, we

wanted to share some of the newest opportunities for the students to support reading. At South Prairie, Ms. Mensing's students are loving their new Kindle Fires to use their favorite Lyrics2learn program. Lyrics2Learn combines educational stories with music to make reading practice fun and drive achievement. At Heritage, students in Ms. Webb's class received fun word games and Ms. Heirigs students received new books for the classroom! Speaking of reading, did you know that our annual Reading Rocks event is just around the corner? The PTO is looking for volunteers to help this amazing family event run smoothly. Would you like to donate or sponsor this event? Several opportunities are available. For more information email dcgptoRR@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page.

Third & Fourth Grade Concert:

Dallas Center Elementary third and fourth graders will be performing a concert entitled "Golden Oldies" on Tuesday, March 3rd at 6:30 in the DCE Gymnasium. Please join us while the students show off their music skills.

Disney North Ridge third and fourth grade music concert is March 26th beginning at 6 pm in the North Ridge gym. Students will be performing Disney favorites. Please join us for a great night of entertainment.

Upcoming PTO Events:

March 2, 6:30pm Reading Rocks Planning Meeting @ Heritage Elementary
March 9, 7pm South Prairie and North Ridge PTO Meetings
April 6, 7pm Heritage and Dallas Center Elementary PTO Meetings
April 13, District-wide PTO meeting – Election Night 7pm
May 1, Reading Rocks! Event
May 11, 7pm Heritage PTO Meeting

PTO district elections are April 13th. We are looking to fill the following positions for the upcoming school year: North Ridge Elementary president, South Prairie Elementary president, Accounts Payable Treasurer, and District Secretary. To express your interest or find out more about these open volunteer positions, please contact dallascen-tergrimespto@gmail.com

ACTIVITIES



Sophomore, Katey Luebke, created this painting in Painting I class. Students were asked to practice color mixing and matching by studying a professional Impressionist style painting. Katey did an exemplary job!



Cake Auction The Inaugural DC-G Booster Club cake auction took place on February 14th, in the Meadows Gym and Commons. This event was a tremendous success and the Booster Club looks forward to carrying on this new tradition for years to come! Doug Beavers, DC-G Booster Club president stated, "DC-G Activities



Director, Brent Buttjer shared a vision with the booster club officers several months ago about a cake auction fundraiser, and while we had our doubts about how successful this would be, it definitely lived up to what he told us would happen! The community rallied and saw the value in what this means to our kids and showed their support by purchasing a cake. It was a great night and fun for everyone to see all of the creative talents on display from the teams, students, teachers, and coaches that made it happen."



The DC-G community wrapped their arms around this fundraiser and put their creativity on display with seventy-nine cakes that were submitted for judging. Each cake was judged in one of three divisions; Professional, Amateur, and Student/Staff/Team. Ribbons were handed out for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place along with an Honorable Mention category.

There were three live auctions held in the gym with the highest bid coming in at \$2,600! The silent auction took place in the commons along with the cake and ice cream social. The total amount of funds raised was just shy of \$12,500.

Funds raised from the auction will be used to purchase equipment and uniforms for all of our programs offered at DC-G.

The DC-G Varsity Dance

Team held a Youth Dance Clinic on February 6th with a performance on February 7th. Over 30 young dancers in grades 1st-5th attended the practice on Thursday



and then performed at halftime of the Varsity Girls Basketball game on Friday night. All the participants learned a routine and received a special Youth Dancer Clinic t-shirt to wear to the performance and keep.

The DC-G Varsity Dance Team will be holding tryouts for their 2020-2021 teams March 2th-28th. Tryouts are open to any DCG student who will be in grades 9th-12th during the 2020-2021 school year. Email Coach Nedved for details: lorainna.nedved@dcgschools.com

DALLAS CENTER-GRIMES
NHS SHOE DRIVE
APRIL 6-10

*"Something as simple
as a pair of shoes can
make a big difference."*

SOLES4SOULS

Drop new and used shoes at
DCG High School, Meadows,
and Middle School to help
people in poverty.

GIVE SHOES.
GIVE LOVE.

2020 - 2021 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Dallas Center-Grimes 2020-21 School Calendar

	M	T	W	TH	F	DAYS	2020-2021	EVENTS
Aug	3	4	5	6	7			
	10	11	12	13	14	0/0	Aug 11,12,13	New Teachers Orientation
	<17>	<18>	<19>	<20>	21	0/0	Aug 17,18,19,20	All Day Staff Prof.
	24	25	26	27	28	5/5	Aug 24	School Begins - Option K thru 12
	31					1/6	Aug 27	1st Day of Preschool
Sept		1	<2>	3	4	4/10	Sep 2	1:00 Early Dismissal - Staff Prof.
	7	8	9	10	11	4/14	Sep 7	Labor Day - No School
	14	15	<16>	17	18	5/19	Sep 16	1:00 Early Dismissal - Staff Prof.
	21	22	23	24	25	5/24		
	<28>	29	30			3/27	Sep 28	No School - Staff Development Day
Oct				1	2	2/29		
	5	6	<7>	8	9	5/34	Oct 7	1:00 Early Dismissal - Staff Prof.
	12	13	14	15	16	5/39	Oct 21	1:00 Early Dismissal - Staff Prof.
	19	20	<21>	22	23	5/44	Oct 23	End of 1st Qtr (44 days)
	<26>	27	28	29	30	4/48	Oct 26	No School-Teacher Workday
Nov	2	3	4	5	6	4/52	Nov 2	2:30 Early Dismissal K-12 P/T Conferences
	9	10	11	12	13	5/57	Nov 5	2:30 Early Dismissal K-12 P/T Conferences
	16	17	<18>	19	20	5/62	Nov 6	No School - Tch Comp
	23	24	25	*26*	27	2/64	Nov 18	1:00 Early Dismissal - Staff Prof.
	30					1/65	Nov 25-27	No School-Thanksgiving Break
Dec		1	2	3	4	4/69		
	7	8	<9>	10	11	5/74	Dec 9	1:00 Early Dismissal - Staff Prof.
	14	15	16	17	18	5/79		
	21	22	23	24	*25*	2/81	Dec 23-Jan 1	No School - Winter Break
	28	29	30	31		0/81		
Jan					*1*	0/81		
	4	5	6	7	8	5/86	Jan 4	Classes Resume
	11	12	13	14	15	5/91	Jan 15	End 2nd Qtr (47days) Semester (91 days)
	<18>	19	20	21	22	5/96	Jan 18	No School-Staff Development Day
	25	26	<27>	28	29	5/101	Jan 19	Beginning of 2nd Semester
							Jan 27	1:00 Early Dismissal - Staff Prof.
Feb	1	2	3	4	5	5/106		
	8	9	<10>	11	12	5/111	Feb 10	1:00 Early Dismissal - Staff Prof.
	15	16	17	18	<19>	5/116	Feb 19	No School - Staff Development Day
	22	23	24	25	26	5/121		
Mar	1	2	<3>	4	5	5/126	Mar 3	1:00 Early Dismissal - Staff Prof.
	8	9	10	11	12	4/130	Mar 9 and 11	2:30 Early Dismissal K-12 P/T Conferences
	15	16	17	18	19	0/130	Mar 12	No School-Compensatory Day
	22	23	24	25	26	5/135	Mar 15-19	No School - Spring Break
	29	30	<31>			3/138	Mar 31	End of 3rd Qtr (47 days)-1:00 Early Dismissal
April				1	2	2/140		
	5	6	7	8	9	5/145		
	12	13	<14>	15	16	5/150	Apr 14	1:00 Early Dismissal - Staff Prof.
	19	20	21	22	23	5/155		
	<26>	27	28	29	30	5/160	Apr 26	No School - Staff Development Day
May	3	4	5	6	7	5/165	May 12	1:00 Early Dismissal - Staff Prof.
	10	11	<12>	13	14	5/170	May 28	Graduation
	17	18	19	20	21	5/175	May 28	End 2nd Sem (89 days)/End of 4th Qtr(42 days)
	24	25	26	27	28	5/180	May 28	Last day with no snow days.
	31						May 31	Memorial Day
June		<1>	<2>	3	4		June 1	No School-Teacher Work Day
	7	8	9	10	11		June 2	No School-Teacher Work Day

LEGEND	
::	New Teacher Days
▭	Qtr. Begins
<>	Staff Prof.
▭	Qtr. Ends
**	Holiday
▭	No School
▭	P/T Conf Early Out 2:30
▭	Early Out
SchoolTimes: Start Time 8:10 End Time 3:15	
Please Note	
Snow days may be added to the end of the school year. The following is an additional day that may be considered for snow make-up day: April 26 - Staff Prof. day or two days of planned spring break.	
176 student contact days, plus 4 Prof. Dev. days to provide for 180 school days.	
Graduation Date: May 28th	
Special Contract Days - Staff	
Aug 17	Teacher Workday
Aug 18	Collaboration Day
Aug 19	Staff Development Day
Aug 20	Staff Development Day
Sep 28	Staff Development Day
Oct 26	Teacher Workday
Nov 06	Teacher Comp Day
Jan 18	Staff Development Day
Feb 19	Staff Development Day
Mar 12	Teacher Comp Day
Apr 26	Staff Development Day
June 1	Teacher Workday
June 2	Teacher Workday

School Board Approved January 27, 2020

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POSTAL CUSTOMER



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**2020 District FB
Assignment: 3A/8**

**ADM - DCG - DM Hoover
Norwalk - Perry - Winterset
(schedule coming in March!)**



**BE A PART OF THE
"HIGH FLYING"
EXCITEMENT!**