



MUSTANG MONTHLY™

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Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Future.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



Building projects have progressed across the district in preparation for continued student growth. The administration center is completed and district staff members are working in the new space located in front of the High School/Meadows campus. We are currently on schedule to open the new 7-8 building at the beginning of the 2021 school year, and the updates to the middle school are well underway. The middle school project includes adding a classroom pod, converting classroom to LED, increasing common area space, and adding both a choir room and a multipurpose room. While the majority of work took

place over the summer, several updates are continuing while school is in session.

The district's facility plan continues moving forward to help support our need for additional space, and to bring the 5-12 vision to light. The structures being built and those we continue to renovate help provide new and innovative opportunities for students. Our school can provide students with courses that deepen their learning on topics that interest them enough to potentially become their future careers. From agriscience and computer coding to engineering, and culinary arts, we are the tip of the iceberg in providing programs that have opportunities for expansion. Currently we are community partners with John Deere and Corteva who have supported our efforts to further develop the agriscience program. These partnerships allow both DCG students and neighboring Johnston students the opportunity for expanded coursework and real world experiences within various agriscience fields at our DCG campus.

The future is bright. Thanks to our strong community partnerships and top notch facilities, we are able to offer students a wealth of options that align with the 5-12 vision. This collaborative culture helps cultivate a results oriented future for our students whether that be higher education, an apprenticeship or entering the workforce after graduation. DCG students will be ready for the unknown possibilities in whatever path they choose, because we are able to offer them the vision of unlimited opportunities.

Sincerely,
Scott Grimes
Superintendent



CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

Every Wednesday 1 pm Dismissal

Friday, October 23, End of First Quarter

Monday, October 26, No School - Teacher Workday

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Staff Service Awards
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- New Student Project at Meadows
- Wal-Mart Donation
- Activities Update

Slogan for school here...



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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.

Transportation Office/Jeff Wolfe, Transportation Director

Email: jeff.wolfe@dcdgschools.com

Telephone Number: 515-986-5173

255 SW Jazzwood Dr.

Grimes, IA 50111

Office Hours: 7:00 am - 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

2405 W. 1st Street, P.O. Box 680

Grimes, Iowa 50111

2019- 2020 STAFF SERVICE AWARDS

35 YEARS

JULIE KOPECKY

30 YEARS

PENNY ERICKSON

25 YEARS

ANN MENSING

20 YEARS

MICHAEL LEVENHAGEN

TIMORHY LAUCK

BRYON PEYTON

JANA PEYTON

TERRI SPRAY

15 YEARS

AMANDA CHRISTIANSEN

JOANNA POOLE

TOM CLARK

KARENE ROSENBURY

JENNIFER HAACK

THERESA SANDSTROM

STACY HEIDEMANN

CHRISTINE THOMAS

KELLY JAMES

HEIDI WASHINGTON

DONNA NIEMEYER

KYLIE CALEASE

CHRISTOPHER PAPPAS

10 YEARS

AMBER ANDERSON

CINDY ARMSTRONG

ANITA BROWN

HEATHER FITZGERALD

MICHAEL KLOSTER

CAITLIN SULENTIC

ELIZABETH REELS

LISA SHAFFER

MELISSA WHITE

5 YEARS

CASEY BISHER

KELLY ICE

JORDAN PRESNALL

AGGIE TIGGES

KAREN BOGER

TYLER KASTANTIN

RODNEY ROSHEK

STACIE WALKER

CODY CHARLES

TINA KINNEY

REBEKAH SCHLENKER

MITCH JOHNSON

CHRIS CRANDELL

PAMELA KLUENDER

LAURA SCOTT

ADDREONNA TUCKER

JOEL EITEMAN

BRET LARSEN

LACEY SEDREL

CARA PIEPHO

ANNE FRETT

STEPHANIE MADSEN

SARA SONIUS

SHERI FULLER

ERIC MOHLIS

HEIDI STEGER

STACI OSBORN

JORDAN PAUP

KELLEN SULENTIC

RETIREES

CINDY FORD (31)

MICHAEL LEVENHAGEN (20)

KATHY MOLINE (20)

BARB ROTHFUS (11)

DARWIN YOSSI (23)

HIGH SCHOOL

NCYL Honorees

Two-hundred-twenty-six high school seniors from 23 area high schools were selected by their schools to be a part of the National



Council on Youth Leadership (NCYL).

DCG students selected for this honor include: Madison Evans, Riley Feeley, Mackenzie James, Isabel Kidd, Kylie Merical, Jillian Rants, Megan Sterbenz and Ty Walker (not pictured).

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. In lieu of an in-person event, The Ray Center has provided students access to virtual speeches from The Ray Center's Executive Director Scott Raecker, Drake University President Marty Martin and NCYL Chairperson Renee Hardman. 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.

PSAT/NMSQT Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

Test Date: October 14th and October 29th Group B and On-line students will test from 8:30 am -12:15 pm on October 14th. Group A will test from 8:30 am - 12:15 pm on October 29th.

Location: High School Media Center

Cost: \$17

Payment: Bring exact amount in cash or a check made out to Dallas Center-Grimes High School to the main office.

Registration: Register for the PSAT exam beginning Monday, September 28th through Friday, October 9th. A Google form will be sent out on the 28th.

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, or danie.clancy@dcschools.com, or visit <https://www.collegeboard.org/>.

Third Annual RED Dinner and Auction - November 14, 2020 5:00pm-9:00pm

Starting to feel a little stir crazy and looking for an exciting night out? The Dallas Center Grimes Education Foundation (DCGEF) RED Dinner and Auction is the perfect way to fill that need. This event is both a fantastic night out with friends and very impactful in supporting students in the Dallas Center - Grimes Community School District with their education goals. The first two RED Dinners cumulatively raised more than \$100,000 for scholarships. Although we are facing a pandemic, we strive to raise the bar higher to support even more scholarships.

In order to observe social distancing, tickets will be limited and the dinner will be held at Jester Park Lodge. The evening will feature both live and silent auctions, but this year the silent auction will be online and available for bidding even if you are unable to attend in person. Be sure to follow us on social media, where we'll announce the online bidding details in the coming weeks.

If you would like to help raise scholarship funds, but do not wish to attend in person, you can still participate in the silent auction and also use the 'donate' button at the bottom of the RED Dinner webpage to make a direct donation in lieu of making a ticket purchase.

Tickets may be purchased at <https://www.dcgeducationfoundation.org/reddinnerauction>.

MEADOWS

Meadows students who are interested in becoming a news anchor or reporter, have an eye for photography or want to learn more about video production have a new opportunity this school year. Students with these interests are working with Mrs. White and Mrs. Lambert on producing a weekly video that is emailed to 8th and 9th grade students with a mix of news, announcements and fun content. This project was inspired by a way for online students to stay connected with Meadows life, but has turned into a fun newscast for all students and staff. A group of students work together before school each week to plan a theme, get context, and interview others.

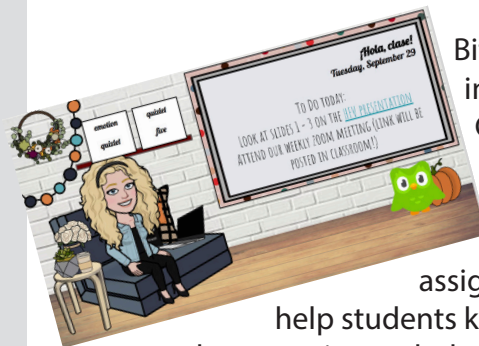
ONLINE LEARNERS

We are proud to highlight some of the learning that is happening through online instruction with our students. Fifth grade students are currently studying ecosystem restoration for their science class. Each student was provided soil and either alfalfa or grass seeds to create their own terrarium as a model ecosystem at home. Students then made observations throughout this science unit to figure out what makes living things thrive in different ecosystems.

Mandalas, a radial design that incorporates symbols telling a story from a certain group of individuals, were the first project that Meadows online art students engaged in. Each online student created a mandala using symbols and colors that represent themselves. As these students continue to create different art forms, they will create a Jamboard to highlight their completed art projects in a virtual display.

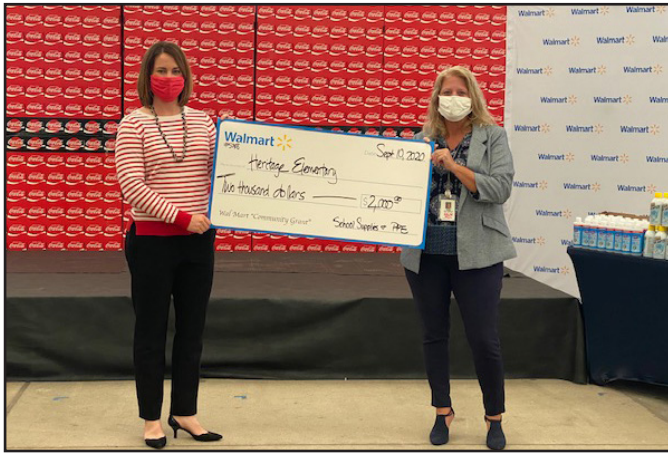


In our online high school anatomy class, students have been studying the long bones of the body. Students were asked to create long bone models at home, but rather than presenting them in person like students in the hybrid model would do, Flipgrid was used for students to explain their model. Flipgrid is a digital tool that teachers and students can use to facilitate video discussions with each other.



Bitmoji Classrooms serve as virtual learning hubs that can be embedded into Google Classroom. Our World Language teachers have created their own Bitmoji Classrooms as a virtual organizational tool that provides clickable links to assignments, games, music, and more to help students know exactly what to do for their independent practice each day.

ELEMENTARY



Donation The Grimes Wal-Mart donated \$2,000 for all four elementary schools, Dallas Center Elementary, Heritage Elementary, North Ridge Elementary and South Prairie Elementary to purchase school supplies and PPE. The money will be split among all four schools to fill in the gaps for materials needed this school

year. "We are very grateful for Wal-Mart's support in helping make this school year successful," said Diann Williamson principal of Heritage Elementary.

PTO

BINGO Each fall, the DCG Elementary schools play a giant game of BINGO to support the PTO. The PTO encourages reading and school spirit to raise funds for DCG elementary schools. Thank you in advance for participating in the 2020 PTO Fundraiser!



We are all virtual this year! Parents or donors can log onto our website, <https://dcgptofundraising.com>, to mark bingo cards for each student or just make a donation. Donors can click to give credit to a specific student. A raffle for some awesome #WeAreDCG gift baskets for students participating will be held on October 25.

Information will go home with elementary students the week of September 28 and can be found on each elementary's PTO Facebook page.

Here are just a few of the amazing things the PTO has purchased with

T-Shirts for incoming kindergartners	Sound equipment for classrooms
Teacher Reimbursement Program	iPads and chromebooks for Special Education
Updated STEAM and STEM materials	Teacher and staff appreciation
Recess and PE Equipment	Game nights
Flex seating for classrooms	Musical Instruments
Teacher meals during conferences	LOTS of books for teachers and students
District school directories	
"Speak out Against Bullying" Assembly	

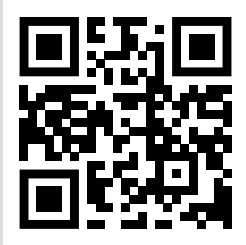
PTO It's a new school year! While school may look different in a lot of homes, it's never been easier to get involved with your school's local PTO as you don't even have to leave your house! Be sure to 'Like' your school's PTO page on Facebook for the most current information on upcoming events, ways to get involved, DCG apparel sales, and student resources. For questions, you can also contact us directly at dallascentergrimespto@gmail.com

Upcoming meeting dates:
 North Ridge, South Prairie and Heritage:
 Monday, Oct 12 at 7PM on zoom.
 Find the link in the Facebook event
 Monday, Nov 9 at 7PM on zoom.
 Find the link in the Facebook event

Dallas Center Elementary:
 Tuesday, Oct 20 at 7PM on zoom.
 Find the link in the Facebook event.
 No meeting in November.

The 2020-2021 PTO District Executive Team
 Kacey Beyer, Dallas Center Elementary President
 Heather Spooner, Heritage Elementary President
 Betsy Bejarno & Nicole Tilstra, North Ridge Elementary President
 Jen Ohannesian, South Prairie Elementary President
 Danielle O'Neill, Bookkeeping Treasurer
 Nancy Baker Curtis, Secretary

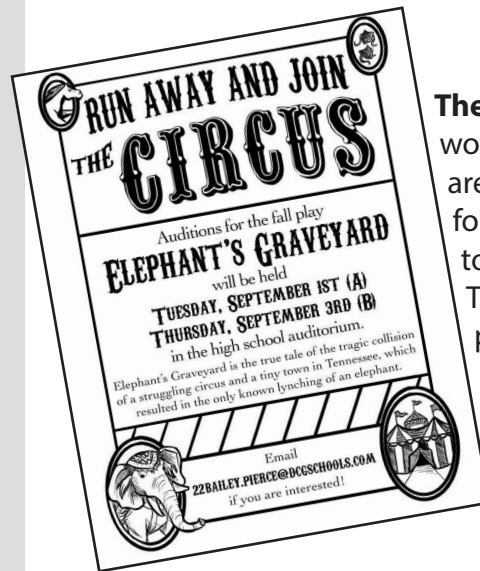
FOFA Do you miss seeing the band, show choir, plays/musicals, and many of the other fine arts activities? We do, too! To ensure that these activities remain strong, we need your help. FOFA is the fine arts booster club and we're unable to fundraise how we normally do. Any donation is appreciated and will go directly to student scholarships, purchasing costumes and equipment, and supporting our fine arts teachers. We also take employer contribution matches so if your company offers this please think of us. FOFA is led by parents whose hearts are filled seeing their kids perform. If you'd like to donate, or join us, please go to www.dcgfofa.com.



Booster Club Retiring Booster Club members include: Gina Knudsen (sec.), Kara Gannon (vp), Doug Beavers (president). Dani Versluis & April Dameron who have been handling the booster club apparel for years have handed off the apparel duties to Danielle Carlson & Laura McConnell.

ACTIVITIES

Marching Mustangs forged the field for the first time this year on Friday September 25th in our football game against Norwalk. They displayed a beautiful halftime show. Their hard work, dedication and determination to continue to persevere through the unknowns is evident.



Theater Our Theater program is hard at work as they continue to be creative. They are so unbelievably dedicated to performing a show this fall. We can not wait to witness what their talents on stage. Their play "Elephants Graveyard" will be performed October 31st and November 1st. Limited seating and social distancing will be met.

Football The Mustangs are off to a 4-0 start to their 2020 football season. They have been victorious over Pella,



North Polk, Perry and Norwalk. The Mustangs will face off against long-time rivals the ADM Tigers this coming Friday, October 2nd at home. The game will start at 7PM. Mustangs will finish their district play on October 9th at Winterset. More information will be coming on the play-off season as brackets for the road to state are announced.

ACTIVITIES



at Fort Dodge. The girls will run at 3:30 PM and the boys will toe the line at 4:00 PM. Both teams are anxiously awaiting the assignment of their district sites

Cross-Country The Mustang cross-country teams have had a competitive start to the season. The boys are ranked first in the state team rankings while our girls hold a solid second behind Ballard. There have been some changes to the state meet format for cross-country as we approach the end of the season. State cross-country will now be held on Friday October 30th



Volleyball The Mustang Volleyball team is moving up the rankings. They are now ranked 12th this month in a talented field of 4A volleyball teams. They are currently 6-3 on the season and 4-0 in conference play. The Mustangs will continue their journey to a conference title having Pella, Norwalk and Newton left on their conference schedule. District play will begin on October 20th our opponent is TBD at this time.



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Graphic Design class cultivated their creative skills by submitting designs for this year's homecoming class shirts. Senior, Alyce Gambrall, came up with the selected design to go along with the "road trip" theme!