



MUSTANG MONTHLY™

VOLUME 22
ISSUE 9
May 2021

Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Future.



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

With the addition of Oak View, our newest facility for our seventh and eighth grade students, we are also working to transition the High School/Meadows Campus into a place for our ninth through twelfth grade students to call home. This building will be an educational hub for over 950 students.

We continue to work with FRK architects on the process of making updates to the High School/Meadows campus which was part of the original bond vote in 2018. The updates will take place over the course of the next several years. Renovating and

adding space to this campus helps carry out our 5-12 vision as we continue to grow and expand our course offerings to students.

Maintaining a positive climate and culture, along with focusing on the emotional and social well being of our student body remain our top priorities. We are adding a third high school counselor not only to help address the social and emotional needs of the increasing population of students, but to aid in academics to ensure our 5-12 vision is carried out. There will be a focus to work with students to find a career path that fits their talents.

We are working toward a culture that truly integrates all 9-12 graders. Students will be intermixed among grade levels and not separated by individual grades. We are working to maintain consistency in keeping departments together across the High School/Meadows campus. In addition, we want to foster an environment for all students to join clubs and activities. Statistics show students that are involved in at least one activity not only perform better in the classroom, but are more likely to have better attendance throughout the school year.

The main entrance of the building will be the west side by the auditorium. The west office area of the High School/Meadows campus will house the more academic focused staff where the east Meadows office area will house our student services and counseling department.

The high school adopted a modified block schedule due to social distancing requirements over the course of this school year. We will continue to test this scheduling method in the upcoming 2021-2022 school year with a few adaptations. We will gather data and poll students, parents, and staff regarding the modified block schedule and use that information to determine if this schedule is the right method moving beyond next year.

We look forward to continuing to meet individual students' needs and building lifelong relationships that empowers them to go out and take charge of their future.

Sincerely,
Scott Grimes,
Superintendent



CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

Graduation, Friday, May 28

No Early Out, Wednesday, June 2nd

No School, Monday May 31, Memorial Day

Last day of School, Thursday, June 3

Every Wednesday, 1 PM Dismissal

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Home of the Mustangs



www.dcgschools.com

DALLAS CENTER-GRIMES
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OFFICES
Elementary Offices

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Telephone Number: (515) 992-4343
Fax Number: (515) 992-4076

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

DCG Alumni Jonathan Kimple, '00 spent two years at UNI after graduation and then moved on to Maryland College Park where he received his undergraduate degree. He went on to obtain his graduate degree from Manhattan School of Music and is currently teaching at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana. Before teaching private voice lessons along with secondary instruments as a faculty member at Notre Dame, he pursued a performing career. Jonathan fell into opera performing because of the quality of his loud voice.



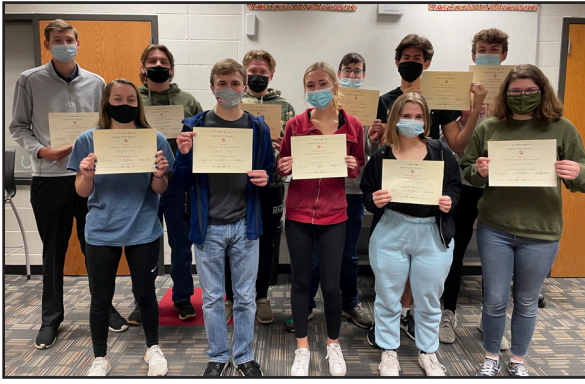
The loudness of his voice along with his stage presence made him well suited for the art form. He was hired right out of graduate school as an apprentice singer with the Santa Fe Opera. He spent two summers there and was completely hooked. During this time he was observing professional singers for the first time and learning what to do, and just as importantly what not to do. After his final summer as an apprentice he went on to make his professional debut with the Virginia Opera. He first worked as a studio artist with the Portland Opera. This journey led him all over the world, from the Minnesota Opera, the Sarasota Opera, to the Opera Theater of St Louis. Kimple remembers, "It was when I went to the Wexford Festival in Ireland that things changed for me. I met my wife, who is also a classical singer. After that, I pursued work that required less travel, and I started doing work with the Metropolitan Opera Chorus in NYC, where we moved from Minneapolis." After the couple had their first child, they moved away from the city, and his wife scaled back on her performing career. She took a job as the head of undergraduate voice at Notre Dame and Jonathan continued to travel back and forth to New York from Indiana for work.

Kimple then took on a position at Notre Dame while continuing occasional singing work. He was also able to land a job singing with the Lyric Opera of Chicago chorus, which provided a much shorter commute. The arrival of COVID put a halt on performing last spring and with that the arrival of their second child. "There's still some uncertainty surrounding my singing career due to the pandemic," Kimple says. However he recently accepted and turned down more work with the Metropolitan Opera for next season as they prepare to reopen after going dark for a year and a half.

During Kimple's time at DCG he was involved in everything from marching band, jazz band, jazz choir, student council, honor society, small group/large group speech, improv, theater, soccer, all state choir, and all state speech to name a few. One thing he wants to pass on to others that he wishes he would have known back then is, "I'm so glad I didn't know anything. I probably wouldn't have been so eager to pursue something so difficult and uncertain. Naivete and enthusiasm worked to my advantage in a lot of ways."

Jonathan and his wife, Kiera Duffy, have two children, Wyatt and Aoife (pronounced Eef-uh.) He has become an avid disc golfer in the last decade and is absolutely hooked.

HIGH SCHOOL



Students of the Quarter Congratulations to our Students of the Quarter for the 3rd quarter! A student from each grade level is chosen every quarter for each department who stood out to their teacher as an outstanding DCG HS student. Congrats to all the winners!

Agriculture: Anthony Reha (12), Jonny Iverson (11), and Sam Greiman (10)
 Art: Samantha Streets (12), Derek Roberts (11), and Sheridan Gilster

(10)
 Band: Sierra Sonberg (12), Drew Bissell (11), and Emma Altman (10)

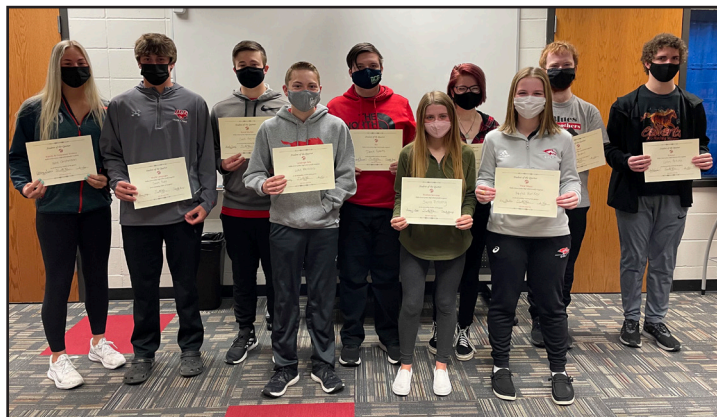
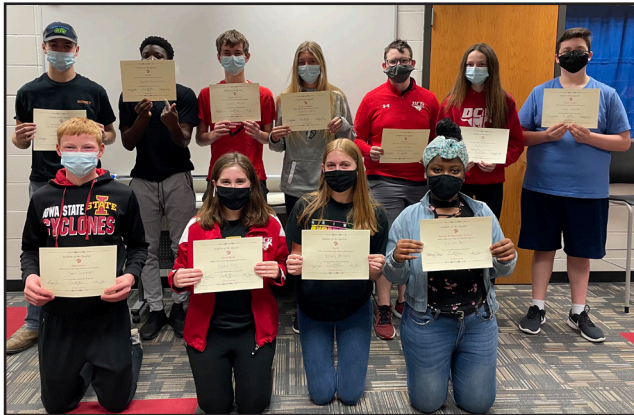
Business: Joe Jansen (12), Ariadne LeBeau (11), and Jacob Dotson (10)

Family and Consumer Science: Shane DeJoodde (12), Katie Christensen (11), and Evelyn Beh (10)

Industrial Tech: Matthew Barker (12) and Jace Chumbley (10)

Language Arts: Gavin Lambert (12), Luke Herbsleb (11), and Tye Comaueux (10)

Math: Isabelle Wood (12), Bo Huston (11), and Ava Nichols (10)



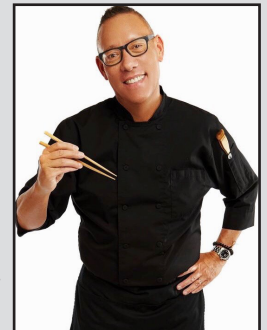
(12), Kaylee Huinker (11), and Emma Foley (10)

PE: Cale Schmitz (12), Taylor Voyna (11), and Jesse Ramirez (10)
 Science: Carson Sump (12), Collin Fortune (11), Daniel Onwuramaka (10)
 Social Studies: Karley Rebik (12), Zach Sigler (11), and Josh Warnke (10)
 Student Services: Max Asman (12), Sierra Pickering (11), and Dylan Jensen (10)
 Vocal: Maddie Myers

DCGEF The Dallas Center Grimes Education Foundation (DCGEF) will honor DCG 2021 seniors during Senior Awards Night to be held Wednesday, May 26. Follow DCGEF on Facebook for more details about this event!

Want to get moving and support DCGEF? We have the perfect event for you! Register for the 18th Annual 5K and Fun Run event to be held June 12 at 7:00 a.m. during Grimes Governors Days. All proceeds of the race will benefit scholarships for DCG seniors and grants for DCG classrooms. There are some great prizes for the winners, including a \$250 DCGEF scholarship to be given in your name! Learn more and register at www.governorsdays.com.

Taher High school students will have the opportunity to experience Japanese Street Food on Thursday, May 6th by trying a Japanese Fried Chicken Rice Bowl. The bowl includes crispy fried chicken, quick pickles, shredded seaweed, spicy mayo, seasoned rice, and salted cabbage. This will be prepared by Japanese Chef John Sugimura. Chef Sugimura is a Japanese-raised, Minnesota-born second generation professionally trained sushi chef. No doubt, students will experience a sensory wonderland when taking the flavors of his authentic Japanese cuisine.



Taher Upcoming May Events
 5th - Cinco De Mayo
 6th - John Sigamura returns to DCG H.S.
 7th - School Lunch Hero Day on May 7th
 13th - International Hummus Day
 28th - National Hamburger Day

Find out more about Taher and their Special Days, along with pictures of the Daily Menu, by following them on Twitter & Instagram @DCGnutrition.

Congratulations to the newest members of the DCG High School National Honor Society. This is an incredible group of servant leaders who will continue to have a huge impact on our communities and school.

New Inductees

Seniors: Ashlee England	Rachel Becker Chase Behnkendorf	Jackson Henrickson	Grace Mernone Emma Miner Elena Nelson Drew Rankin
Juniors: Alex Abens Audrey Anderson Avery Korsching Nicole Luebke Emma Martin Austin Meggers Zack Sigler Kyle Snyder Gavin Todd Taylor Voyna Taylor Wickman	Natali Besch Abigail Bowen Mitchell Bridie Aubri Christiansen Audrey Ellis Ryan Fitch Emma Foley Maya Fritz Elle Gannon Sheridan Gilster Sam Greiman Josh Harestad	Owen Hope Jilly Janssen Brinn Johnson Jackson Kaune Laura Klaessy Kileigh Lachacz Madison Lachacz Lakyn Lamb Bailey Macumber Emma Malmberg Emma Martin Meredith McDermott	Kami Smith Carson Springer Emma Sump Zoey Valenta Campbell Valline Sydney Vaughan Madeline Waddingham Caroline White Kaden Woody
Sophomores: Emma Altman Elena Bartak	Katelyn Harryman Joshua Hendricks Rachel Henrici	York Meggison Brayden Meints Sydney Meints	

MEADOWS

Battle of the Books - Champs

On Saturday, April 10, 2021 Dallas Center-Grimes hosted the annual Battle of the Books competition. Battle of the Books is a competition that showcases students' ability to use reading comprehension in a fun and competitive way. Students in grades 5-8 work together in teams of up to 4 students and read a list of 20 books before the contest. During the contest, 32 teams from neighboring school districts compete head-to-head in a single elimination bracket tournament. The tournament winner this year is a team of 8th grade students from Meadows.



Pictured from left to right, Alexa Farrell, Marley Eickelberg, Johanna Bonefas, and Ella Christensen.

Each fall, the Appelley Publishing Company puts on a student poetry contest across the United States. There are over \$4,000 in prizes. ELP teacher, Mrs. Kluender, gathers the entries from our middle school students and enters them in the 6-8 grad division. Congratulations to Finley Welch, Evan Friesen, Tye Six, Aubrey Borcharding, Katelyn Daugherty, Eli Holcomb, Hannah Fasse and Marley Eickelberg. A special congratulations to Katelyn Daugherty, Eli Holcomb and Hannah Fasse on earning the honors of having their poems published!

Intro to FCS The Iowa Department of Education hosted a Choose Iowa Culinary Competition for high school students enrolled in a culinary arts class or foods-based course through a school's family and consumer sciences (FCS) program. DCG's ninth grade FCS students along with Taher created a concept for the competition that featured a local food item and followed the USDA school meal guidelines. Through a competitive review process DCG came out to be one of the top 12 recipe finalists with their creation of The Iowa Gourmet Crispito. Students worked to perfect the recipe and submitted the entry earlier this spring. The recipe can be found below:

Gourmet Iowa Crispito

- 1 lb Pulled Pork
- 1.5 T. Chili Powder
- ½ T. Garlic Powder
- ½ T. Cumin
- .75 lbs of Shredded Cheese
- Corn Tortillas - 6 inch



Preheat the oven to 400°F

Shred cooked pork or chop into small pieces. Place the pork, chili powder, garlic powder, cumin, and cheese in a bowl. Stir until combined. Wrap the tortillas in a damp paper towel and place on a plate. Microwave for 1 minute or until tortillas are warm and pliable. Lay out the tortillas on a flat surface and place 1.1 oz pork-cheese mixture in each tortilla. Roll up each tortilla tightly and place the taquitos seam down in a single layer on a sheet pan coated with cooking spray. Spray the tops of the taquitos with the cooking spray. Bake for 15-20 minutes or until crispy and golden brown. *Serve with a side of Mexican Rice or Cilantro Lime Rice.

MIDDLE SCHOOL



Tolerance Week For two decades (and maybe longer), Tolerance Week has been held at DCGMS. This year's Tolerance Week was held April 5-9. A virtual Diversity Awareness Fair that was held on Tuesday, April 6. A kindness tree, appreciation station, Great Kindness Race and advisory activities were held over the week and will be available throughout the rest of the school year.

Eight different speakers presented on April 5 through a zoom platform ranging in topics from culture (American Indian, Jewish Federation and Iran) to disabilities (Iowa Department of the Blind, Different Abilities, Not Disabilities) and civil rights.

ELEMENTARY

Battle of the Books - 2nd Place

DCG hosted the virtual competition this year with teams competing over Zoom. South Prairie's own The Bookworms ended up in second place out of a 30 team bracket of teams from fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grades. This is the best placement of a fifth grade team ever in the competition! They received runner up medals. The Bibliomasters made it all the way to the second round of bracket play. They lost to the eighth grade DCG team, The Turtles, who ended up winning the entire Battle of the Books competition.



North Ridge Ms. Soukup, Mrs. Isaacson class and Ms. Juhnke's classes had the opportunity to do some phonics review outside together with chalk. Students brainstormed words with different long vowels and the "bossy" e at the end (make, bite, poke, etc.) and wrote them in chalk. They then walked around to see what other students came up with and recorded them on their own sheet. They had a lot of fun getting outside and learning.



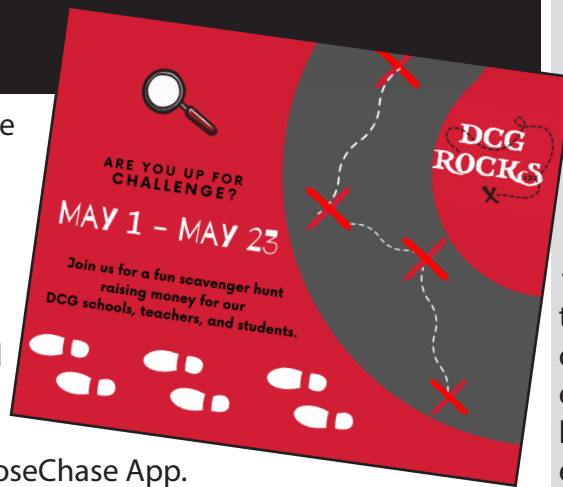
PTO

DCG Rocks Join us in celebrating the virtual scavenger hunt kick-off with on Friday, April 30th at 3 p.m. on Facebook. The scavenger hunt will run from Saturday, May 1st through Sunday, May 23rd.

The DCG Rocks! Scavenger Hunt will consist of fun missions to complete at home and throughout Grimes and Dallas Center using the free GooseChase App.

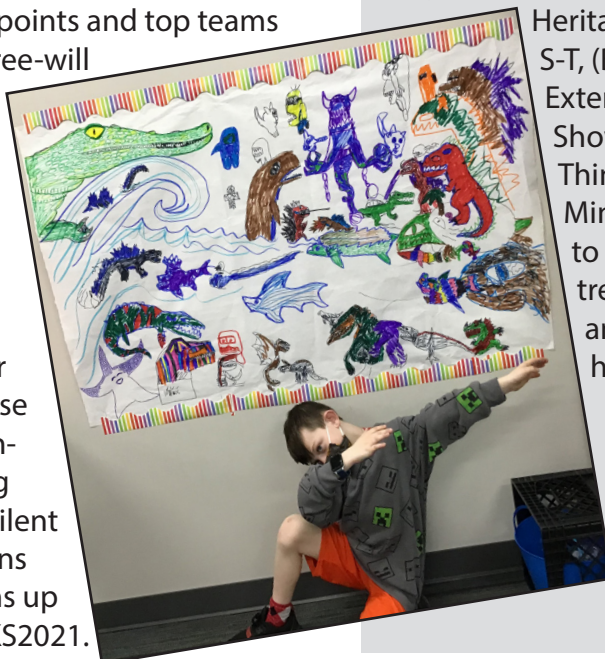
For each mission you accomplish, you will receive points and top teams will win prizes. To participate, this event will be a free-will donation to the DCG PTO. Remember, all money raised through this fundraiser goes directly back into our elementary schools for supplies, equipment, teachers, and more.

In addition, Activity Kits will be available for those unable to participate in the scavenger hunt. If you have a medically complex child, littles that makes participating in the scavenger hunt challenging, or kids who prefer indoor activities, have no fear! These fun at-home kits are a perfect way to feed your sensory seeking child and your little artist while taking part in all the fun. We will also hold our amazing Silent Auction, similar to last year, through the 32 Auctions website May 20th - 22nd. Check out the great items up for grab at <https://www.32auctions.com/dcgROCKS2021>.



Jackson Heideman is a third grade student at Heritage Elementary school in Mrs. Wambold's class. He is a talented artist who aspires to become a paleontologist and artist one day. As part of Jackson's programming, he earns opportunities throughout his day to draw themed murals every week that is aligned with

Heritage's PBIS: B-E-S-T, (Be Responsible, Extend Kindness, Show Respect, and Think with an Open Mind). Jackson likes to create reptiles, trees, dinosaurs and dragons in his murals.



ACTIVITIES



Elizabeth Vance



Emma Altman



Ian Grimes

All State Speech Congratulations to the following students for being named ALL-STATE Speakers for the 2021 DCG Individual Speech Team:
Elizabeth Vance – Acting (Senior)
Emma Altman – Expository (Sophomore)
Ian Grimes – Prose (Sophomore)
Jillian Rants – Prose (Senior)
Tess Meggison – Storytelling (Freshman)
Both the Freshmen and High School Teams made Academic Honors.



Pictured left, Jillian Rants. Pictured right, Tess Meggison.



Girls Basketball The 2020-2021 girls basketball was the most successful season in program history. Varsity Head Coach Adam Jones states, "I am so proud of the progress that was made throughout the season on all levels!" The team enjoyed the process of getting better each day, fought through uncertain times, and stuck together while focusing on the next game. The Varsity finished the conference season as outright Little Hawkeye Conference (LHC) champions with a 13-1 overall record. The team had a challenging schedule and finished the season 21-3 which ties for the most wins in program history. The varsity team led the LHC in steals, assists, field goal percentage, three point field goal percentage and free throws made. The team did all of this while maintaining an impressive 3.84 combined GPA.

The varsity team had a very early and quick wake up call vs. Ballard in game one of the season. The team learned a lot about where they needed to be in order to compete at that level. In the game against North Polk they came from behind to win and then went on to win 21 out of the next 23 games. In January the team worked at perfecting their roles. By the time February was in full swing the team was peaking and playing their best. This group cared for each other, believed they could beat anyone, and built trust, care, and desire to keep getting better. "This group of girls exemplified what Mustang Basketball is all about. They worked hard and prepared well along with spending time working on being better teammates and mentally tough," said Jones.



ACTIVITIES

FFA The DCG FFA was well represented at the 93 State FFA Conference in Des Moines. Over 5,600 FFA Members and guests were in attendance. DCG had 21 FFA Members from the chapter participate. State Convention activities range from leadership workshops, career fair and leadership state level contests. Conference sessions were held in Wells Fargo Arena with Motivational Speakers and award recognition. The following are the results from the State Convention for DCG Chapter:

Iowa Degree (Highest Degree received by an FFA member in Iowa)

Kennedy Montag and Jessica Norris

Poultry Evaluation Team - Silver Award

Lindy Kramer

Caleb Morris

Sophie Meekma

Marcus Watz

Ag Business Management Team - Bronze Award

Kennedy Montag

Kaitlyn Dalbey

Jessica Norris

Shane Dejoode

Delegates for Business Meeting

Jace Chumbley

Emma Rauschenberg



Exhibit Team - Silver Award

The DCG Display was based off of the work with the FFA animal barn on campus.

Jessica Norris

Kaitlyn Dalbey

Kennedy Montag

Nick Thompson

MUSTANG CROSS COUNTRY CAMP

FOR BOYS ENTERING GRADES 5-12 – \$65 (INCLUDES CAMP SHIRT)

\$10 DISCOUNT FOR MORE THAN ONE REGISTRATION PER FAMILY

AUGUST 5-6, 2021, 8:30 AM -12:00 PM

Coaching Staff: Matt Pries, Josh Saba, & Mark Bennett, High School Boys Cross Country Coaches
Keri McDermott and Kellen Sulentic, Middle School Boys and Girls Cross Country Coaches

FEATURING: Austin O'Brien of Mentally Strong Consulting

2020 U.S. Olympic Trials – Marathon, NCAA Division III National Champion, 3X All-American

Camp takes place at the DCG HS track one day and at the North Grimes Sports Complex the next. Each day includes an age/ability specific workout with 5th-8th grade and 9th-12th graders together. Split learning sessions occur opposite workouts, followed by each day's keynote for all camp participants.



This year's sessions include

- Goal Setting
- "The Power of ESD 1-0" with DCG Football Coach Scott Heitland
- "Building our Horse Power" with Coach Josh Saba
- "Running with Resilience" with Austin O'Brien

→ To enroll, register online at crosscountry.dcgcamps.com

Registrations after July 23 will be accepted, but there is no t-shirt guarantee after that date.



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POSTAL CUSTOMER



www.dcgschools.com



On April 6th, Norwalk schools hosted the Little Hawkeye Conference art show virtually. Each school is allowed to submit up to twenty works. Pictured are all the entries from DCG. Our students represented our school very well, with six ribbon placements and a 3D Best in Show placement! In addition to the success at the conference art show, three DCG students have been chosen as All Conference Artists. Additional congratulations to senior, Jillian Rants; senior, Sierra Sonberg; and sophomore, Jackson Kaune.

On behalf of all the district art teachers, we love helping our students to be creative and find ways to express themselves, and want to thank the community for supporting the visual arts.