



MUSTANG MONTHLY™

VOLUME 23
ISSUE 6
February 2022

Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Future.



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

There is a demand in today's world to keep up with ever changing technology needs and uses. This is no different for schools and the ways teachers and students use technology is always evolving. Technology is a continued focus in our educational model and we work to infuse technology throughout learning. A positive within the last year is the expansion of our 1:1 program for students from kindergarten to twelfth grade. With a little more than a year under our belts this program is now functioning where students in grades fifth through twelve

take chromebooks home. Kindergarten through fourth graders have access to their own chromebooks each day, however they stay in the classrooms. One of the several benefits of the 1:1 program is that students can easily collaborate from classroom to classroom and tie projects together. Students can be working on a project in math and reinforce those skills in social studies to apply several concepts and gain a perspective of cross connection subject content. Having students understand that the focus is not only math or only social studies, but gain an understanding of how the subjects work together.

This year many classrooms across the district are incorporating Clevertouch systems. These interactive touchscreen displays allow students and teachers to collaborate and work together in the classroom. Up to four students can project and share work with others. Students and teachers are using these in our classrooms to share ideas, projects and interact together. Teachers can save work from their Clevertouch and share the notes to Google Classroom for students to review later. Additionally, there are several interactive components for students to reinforce their classroom learning by showing their knowledge in real time.

With all the new technology the district is also working to protect systems, networks and programs from cyber breaches. We are using a third party to assess our security and are working to apply several of their suggestions throughout the district. From staff training, to new firewalls, and adding multi-factor authentication across the district, we continue to integrate technology in education while implementing the highest levels of security.

With the constantly evolving modern classroom DCG strives to continue to integrate technology. We are working hard to prepare our students to use technology in a way that will benefit them in the future as they move on to the work force, higher education and pursue their passions and interests.

Sincerely,

Scott Grimes

Superintendent



CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesday, February 9th Early Dismissal, 12:30 Oak View, 1 pm All other buildings

Friday, February 18th, No School Staff Professional Development

Wednesday, February 23rd, Early Dismissal, 12:30 Oak View, 1 pm All other buildings

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- DCG Alumni Spotlight
- Course Registration
- District Wide Registration
- Pen Pals
- Preschool
- Activities Update
- Softball Clinic

Home of the Mustangs



www.dcgschools.com

DALLAS CENTER-GRIMES

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OFFICES

Elementary Offices

Patty Morris, Principal/South Prairie Elem.

E-mail: patty.morris@dcdschools.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@dcdschools.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@dcdschools.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@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

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Oak View/Lori Phillips, Principal

E-mail: lori.phillips@dcdschools.com

Telephone Number: (515) 986-0105

Fax Number: (515) 986-3155

1300 SW County Line Road, Grimes, Iowa 50111

Office Hours: 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

High School Office/Scott Blum, Principal

E-mail: scott.blum@dcdschools.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@dcdschools.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@dcdschools.com

Telephone Number: (515) 992-3866

Fax Number: (515) 992-3079

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

Grimes, Iowa 50111

DCG ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



DCG Alumna Lori (Ellerman) Thomas '81 has deep roots in the community. The original Ellermans settled in Dallas Center in the late 1800's. When a job opportunity led her and her family to relocate to Minnesota, it was a shock for many that she moved away. Her deep roots in the community brought her back in late 2013. During the time in Minneapolis, she met lifelong friends and had experiences that they never would

have had, if they hadn't taken a leap of faith and ventured out of Dallas Center.

Lori has worked in agriculture her entire career. What is even more rare is that she has worked for the same company, Syngenta for 35 years. During that time, she's had a variety of roles. Those roles have mostly been in sales and marketing, from market insight/research, managing a customer service team, to sales at a rep level and a manager level, and a number of marketing roles including, customer marketing, advertising and promotion. Currently she works with a team called Field Force Excellence and Training where she works with sales teams and retailers to help with learning and development.

One thing Lori wishes she would have known when she was in high school that she knows now, is the power of setting goals and charting your path to achieve those goals. In addition she says, "Never be afraid to stretch yourself and above all, embrace an appetite for continuous learning." Her favorite thing about DCG, and what led her back to the area, is "the community."

"I've always felt loved and valued in this community," said Thomas. That feeling of a loving community paired with the size and the feeling of being able to try and do anything still seems



to be a reality within our schools.

Lori is married to Mike, DCG Alumni '78 and they have two sons, JW and Dustin. The men in the family enjoy hunting with their German Shorthair Pointers. They are all avid Iowa State Cyclone fans, as Lori, Mike and Dustin are all graduates. Lori is actively involved in the Dallas Center - Grimes Education Foundation and she enjoys being able to reconnect with the district and helping DCG students pursue their next level of learning through scholarships.

HIGH SCHOOL

Student Course Registration

The course selection process for the 2022-23 school year began Tuesday, January 18th. Students worked with their advisors all week to prepare for their selection of courses. Students did a check of their current credits and took a look at what is still needed to graduate. A video was shown to all students walking the different grade levels through what their core requirements will be for the next school year. Students were able to explore their elective options through the course description book and the DCG High School Registration Website. Juniors were given a presentation about the different opportunities available to them outside of DCG including; Des Moines Central Campus, Waukee APEX, School to Work, and DMACC Career Academy. Current freshman and sophomores registered on Monday, January 24th and Tuesday, January 25th. Eighth grade students began the process Thursday, January 26th and will finish with registering in Infinite Campus on Friday, February 4th.



District Wide Registration for the 2022-2023 school year opens online (dcgschools.com) on March 1. If you do not have a computer to complete the registration, a kiosk is available at the DCG Administration Building located at 2405 W. 1st Street, Grimes.

Families With Students Currently Enrolled at DCG:

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 for the first time (preschool, kindergarten, or another grade level.)

Families With Students New to the DCG District:

Follow the steps listed on the district website: www.dcgschools.com, registration tab or quick link.

Preschool Information:

Register incoming preschool students between March 1 – March 18. If you are not registered by March 18th, there is no guarantee that your child will have a spot in the 4 year old preschool program or that your child will be entered into the drawing for the 3 year old preschool program.

*If you have a child that will be 4 on or before September 15, 2022, 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, 2022, register for PreK 3 (3 year old preschool will be filled by a random drawing)

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, 2022, register for Kindergarten or Optional Kindergarten.

Athletic Registration:

Athletic Registration in rSchool for 7th-12th grade athletes will not start until July 1, 2022.

The school will send email reminders as July 1 approaches.

Registration Fees:

Registration fees will not be available for payment until July 1, 2022.

The district will send email reminders as July 1 approaches.



The Seal of Biliteracy is an award recognizing students who attain proficiency in two or more languages, one of which is English, by high school graduation. The Seal of Biliteracy:

- Values language as an asset
- Recognizes the value of language diversity and cultural identity
- Prepares students with 21st century skills that will benefit them in our global society, especially during college and job searches
- Provides recognition and evidence for students' proficiency in two or more languages

To be eligible for the Iowa Seal of Biliteracy, each student must demonstrate proficiency in English and a world language through various assessments. Students who earn the Seal of Biliteracy will be recognized during the graduation ceremony, and the seal will be shown on their diploma and official transcript.

Dallas Center-Grimes Testing Information:

Dallas Center-Grimes will be offering the following time to take the assessments with a proctor present. The school district will cover the cost for administering the initial test, but the students will be responsible for the fees associated with retakes.

Date: April 27, 2022

Time: 1:00 pm

Room: Mrs. Hawks Room

Please contact Mrs. Hawks by April 20th if you would like to sign up to participate in the upcoming testing session: laree.hawks@dcgschools.com

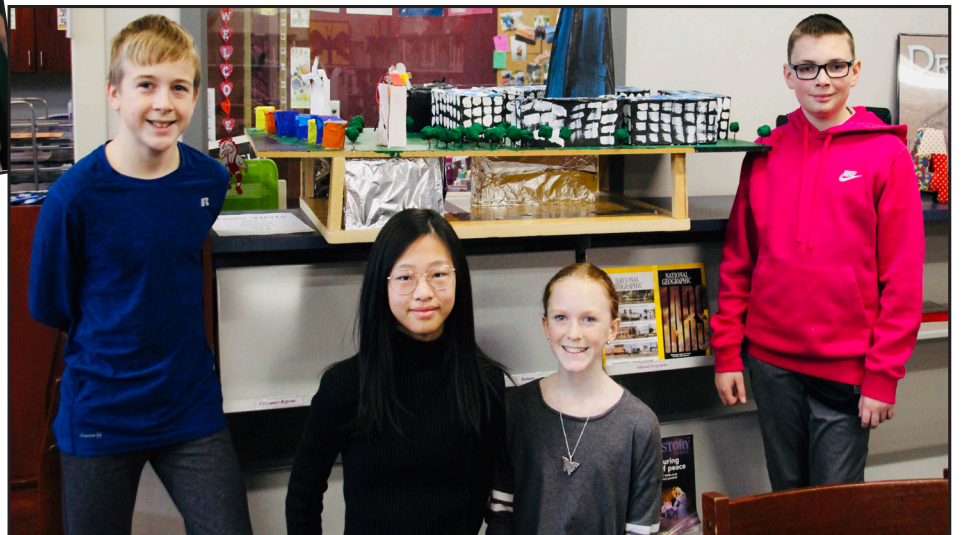
OAK VIEW

This fall, Mrs. Rosenbury's eighth grade advisory at Oak View collaborated with third grade students at Heritage. A mentoring program was created and students exchanged monthly pen pal letters. On Tuesday, December 21, 2021, the Heritage students traveled to Oak View for an introductory visit. The students enjoyed a pizza party and played icebreaker games. The group has plans for continued correspondence and visits for the remainder of the year. An Oak View student said, "I liked this activity because we got to meet our pen pals and they were very fun." This is one of the many ways we work to promote cross building connections and ties to maintain a small district feel.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

DCG sixth graders competed in the Future City Competition. Future City is one of the nation's leading engineering education programs. The program encourages middle schoolers to develop their interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Students are given a problem to solve within a city and challenged to build the city 100 years in the future. The challenge this year was to build a city with no waste or no pollution. Students are given several rules and regulations to follow and create their city along with a written report. DCG 6th graders took four teams to the competition. Results will be announced at a later date.



Taher News Taher guest Chef, Chris Murray, was in our high school lunchrooms recently and prepared Oma's Roasted Pork on pretzel sticks with curried ketchup and potato dumplings. This was paired with a German style bacon braised red cabbage. Our own Chef Phillip made Bramboracky-Potato Pancakes, which is a traditional Czech dish and Chef Jozsef rounded out the menu with Kolaches for dessert. Harvest of the Month featured grapefruit. Elementary students sampled the citrus fruit and were very eager and excited to try it! Although most did not love the strong flavor, the students enjoy trying new foods and expanding their palates. Chef Phillip was able to be in the FCS classes at Oak View. Thanks to the grant from The Iowa Beef Industry Council, he collaborated with Mr. Sawyers, and students were able to prepare beef sliders. The students prepped, seasoned, and baked their own slider. The favorite part by students was tasting the final product!



ELEMENTARY



Ms. Jenn's pre-school classroom recently set up a hot drinks play space. This new playscape center helps students expand their academic and social skills. Preschool focuses on learning through dramatic play. Through play children can grow their

imagination because it gives them the freedom to choose both their roles and the scenario. The new hot drinks play space has been a big hit with preschoolers. Dramatic play provides many social skill development opportunities including taking turns, negotiation, and balancing the needs and rights of self and others. They learn how to assign specific roles such as customers and cashiers either through visuals or previous background

knowledge. Children also develop friendships through play time together.

There are two different types of dramatic play, structured and unstructured. During structured pretend play time, children are given scenarios with specific guidelines, such as playing in a pretend doctor's office or kitchen. Un-

structured pretend play gives children the freedom to choose both their roles and the scenario. Both forms of play are integrated into the preschool curriculum at DCG.

Dramatic play time also incorporates many academic skills that are developmentally appropriate for preschool children. During their center focused play time, students are growing their literacy skills through looking at print and letters on labels and by taking "customer" orders. Additionally, they work on math by counting change and get exposed to social studies concepts of people and how they live. This new space and the spaces used in the preschool classrooms are far more than just play, but a great way for our students to learn and grow.



PTO News The DCG Elementary Schools PTO have been busy awarding teacher grants. Teachers that applied were granted items to support learning for our mustang learners. Preschoolers at Heritage were excited to receive a light table for sensory play. Numerous grades in every building were granted new high interest books for literature circles and book clubs. Special education teachers learned about the science of reading from their Decoding Dyslexia conference and applied for de-codable readers to engage their struggling readers. Several grade level teams purchased on-line subscriptions to supplement grade level learning and STEM reading materials to extend the curriculum. Oh, and let's not forget about all the new recess and PE equipment. Students in every school and every grade level are benefiting from the generosity of our community, thank you! The DCG Elementary Schools PTO would like to invite you to join the PTO at any time. There are lots of different ways to get involved and at a level you feel comfortable. Reach out to your principal or to join the PTO go to our website: <https://dcppto.com>. Click the "join the PTO" link. For questions, you can also contact us directly at dallascentergrime-spto@gmail.com



ACTIVITIES



Girls wrestling became the 11th sanctioned sport for the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union, which will officially take place at the start of the 2022-2023 season. The announcement came at the first Girls State Wrestling Tournament that took place in Iowa City on Saturday, January 22nd. DCG was number one in the state for participating in girls wrestling this season with 21 ladies on the team. The group had a successful first season and took 16th out of 158 teams at the state tournament. DCG brought home two medals, Halley Beudet placed sixth and Miranda Finn took home an eighth place finish. To date, 58 schools have committed to sponsoring girls wrestling programs in Iowa.

The latest data from Trackwrestling.com shows 1,018 girls participating in high school wrestling, represented by over 185 Iowa schools. Iowa becomes the 34th state association to sanction girls' wrestling.



Speech The DCG Large Group Speech team had a stellar day at the District Competition on January 22. The high school (10-12) team advanced all 17 of their groups to State Competition. The freshman team took 9 events and advanced 4 of their groups on to State. The team consists of 26 groups in a wide variety of categories including musical theater, improvisational acting, and TV News. These kids surmounted many obstacles



this year but their wide variety of talents led them to a great day at District Competition. State Speech will be on February 5th at Valley High School.

ACTIVITIES



SOFTBALL

FUTURE DC-G MUSTANG SOFTBALL CLINIC 2022



SOFTBALL

The 2022 DCG HS Softball staff and athletes will be conducting a softball fundamental skills clinic for girls in grades third through eighth. Cost for the clinic is \$30.00 and includes a clinic t-shirt.

Sunday, March 6 at the Dallas Center-Grimes High School gym

Grades 3-5 from 12:30-3:00 P.M.

Grades 6-8 from 3:30-6:15 P.M.

REGISTRATION: begins 30 minutes prior to the start of the clinic. Please plan to arrive early so we can begin on time.

CLINIC FOCUS: throwing, fielding, outfield and infield defensive play, hitting & bunting
Parents and coaches are encouraged to attend the clinic and observe their child or players' participation.

PARTICIPANTS BRING: a glove, bat, and wear appropriate attire
Please mark your equipment with the player's name so we can return it if left at the clinic.

QUESTIONS: Contact Steve Schlafke at (515) 975-5453

.....
(Please return this portion of the form to Coach Steve Schlafke)

606 Hickory Ct Dallas Center, IA 50063 or email form to steve.schlafke@dcgschools.com

Send check or pay by Venmo at Steve-Schlafke

DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2022 to ensure a t-shirt

Name _____ Grade _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____

Select participant T-shirt size:

YOUTH ___ Small ___ Medium ___ Large

ADULT ___ Small ___ Medium ___ Large ___ X-Large

My daughter has permission to participate in the girls softball skills clinic. I hereby accept full responsibility for her behavior. The DC-G Schools will not be held responsible for accidents or injuries. My daughter is covered by an insurance plan to cover accidents.

PARENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE: _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: STEVE SCHLAFKE, DCG SOFTBALL

Dallas Center-Grimes Community School
2405 West. 1st St.
P.O. Box 680
Grimes, IA 50111

Nonprofit Org.
ECRWSS
U.S. Postage Paid
Dallas Center, IA 50063
Permit No. 5

TM

POSTAL CUSTOMER



www.dcgschools.com



Ty Mikkelsen



Will Kline

Drawing I students finished the semester by completing a "doodle drawing". They were asked to create a drawing that showed overlap and pattern while creating original characters. Ty and Will did a superb job with the assignment!

Grace Mernone did an excellent job of creating depth in her painting by using value and contrast in her landscape painting.

