



MUSTANG MONTHLY™

VOLUME 23
ISSUE 1
August/September 2022

Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Future.



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

I know I can speak for the entire team at DC-G, we are SO excited to kick off the 2022-23 school year. Hearing the first bell ring on opening day is one of my favorite moments each year. Seeing our kids run back into the classroom, eagerly awaiting to high five their classmates, and say hello to their new teacher is a truly magical experience. Our staff is so ready for this day!

The first few weeks are such a crucial time in all of our buildings. It's a chance to form a bond with our students and our communities that will shape the rest of the school year.

Our district has developed a powerful relationship with Dallas Center and Grimes. Our goal is to strengthen that bond every single day. We know the importance of our work and we are eager to meet the challenges of a new school year. In each of our buildings you will find a passionate team, anxious to make a difference in 2022-23. Educational magic happens every single day. We are lucky to be DCG!

We know that our communities play an important role in everything we do. I encourage you to celebrate this success with us. From a proud parent, to a smiling neighbor, we all play a part in the daily victories for each of our students. Together, we all define DCG Excellence.

I hope to see you soon! Go Mustangs!

Sincerely,
Scott Grimes

Superintendent

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesday, August 17th - Open House, Optional Kindergarten - Sixth Grade: 4:30-6:30 pm, Seventh - Twelfth Grade: 5:30-7:30 pm

Tuesday, August 23rd - First Day of School

Monday, August 29th - First Day of Preschool

Monday, September 5th, No School, Labor Day

Wednesday Early Outs for September: 7th, 21st

Monday, September 26, No School, Staff Professional Development

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@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.

Oak View/Joan Cundiff, Principal

E-mail: joan.cundiff@dcdgschools.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@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 St., P.O. Box 680

Grimes, Iowa 50111

SILVER CORD

Dallas Center Grimes High School is proud to recognize the volunteer efforts of students through the silver cord program. Students are able to earn this prestigious honor by accruing 120 hours of service during their high school career. This service can be earned both at high school events and throughout the community. Hours can also be earned throughout the summer as well. Students are acknowledged at graduation with a silver cord and a plaque commemorating their efforts. More information can be viewed on the high school website or feel free to contact the high school counselors if you have any questions!



TURF INSTALLED

We are excited about our new turf field at the Dallas Center-Grimes High School Athletic Complex. Our teams and bands have been hard at work on the new surface already!

SCHOOL PICTURE DAYS

Save the date for the following School Picture Days:

Dallas Center Elementary: Thursday, Sept. 8, Retakes, Oct. 12

Heritage Elementary: Tuesday, Sept. 13, Retakes, Oct. 18

DCG Preschool: Tuesday, Sept. 13, Retakes, Oct. 18

North Ridge Elementary: Thursday, Sept. 1, Retakes, Oct. 6

South Prairie Elementary: Tuesday, Sept. 20, Retakes, Oct. 11

Middle School: Thursday, Oct. 6, Retakes, Nov. 3

Oak View: Thursday, Sept. 22, Retakes Oct. 20

High School: Thursday, Sept. 22, Retakes Oct. 20



HIGH SCHOOL

Driving and Parking at the High School

All students are to register their vehicles in the office. A \$5 charge for a parking hang tag is required yearly. All vehicles that are driven to the school must be registered. The hang tag is to be hung from the rear-view mirror of the vehicle and easily observable. If a different vehicle is driven, simply transfer the hang tag to the car driven that particular day. All cars must be parked correctly, with no double parking or "pulling through" parking spots, facing the wrong way.

Parking in the front and back lot is open to all registered vehicles with a student parking tag. Students are not allowed to park in designated staff spaces in the front and back parking lots. These spots are reserved for staff members and visitors.

Please visit the handbook for additional information regarding the policies for driving and parking at the high school.









Senior Photos Don't forget to send in your senior photos to our yearbook team! If your photographer will be sending in your photos, pass this note along to them. Please remember, DC-G would like you to turn in a baby, toddler, and senior photo. If you don't provide a senior photo, we will use the LifeTouch photos they take at school. Photos need to be submitted digitally to Ivy Soener no later than December 22nd. Hard copies of photos will not be accepted! Please include the student's name in the subject of the email.

Yearbooks Waiting for your DCG High School 2021-2022 yearbook to arrive? They will be shipped this fall and handed out in either September or October. The high school Twitter page will have more information once the books arrive. Forgot to order one? Email ivy.soener@dcg-schools.com to ask about extra copies. Keep a lookout for the new link to order the 2022-2023 yearbooks! The cost will be \$60. Thanks for all your support!"

Dallas Center-Grimes Homecoming 2022

"Out of This World"

<p>Homecoming Court Announced September 6th @ 3:00 for Seniors</p> <p>High School class shirts can be ordered at Tees in Grimes (coming soon)</p>	<p>Sunday, September 11th North HS Campus Times TBD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chalk the Walk ➤ Homecoming Games
<p>Monday, September 12th Dress Up Day: PJ Day (Sleep Under the Stars) PJs all day, slippers, sleep mask</p>  <p>➤ Ironman Volleyball Meadows Gym 7:30 PM</p>	<p>Tuesday, September 13th Dress Up Day: BlackOut (Solar Eclipse) Wear black or dark outfit</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Home Volleyball Game vs. Pella Christian ➤ XC Meet @ Newton
<p>Wednesday, September 14th Dress Up Day: Class Shirt Day</p>  <p>Freshmen: -YELLOW- Sophomores: -PURPLE- Juniors: -NAVY BLUE- Seniors: -DARK GRAY-</p> <p>➤ Powder Puff Games DCG Stadium 7:00 PM ○ Non-perishable food or \$1 donation</p>	<p>Thursday, September 15th Dress Up Day: Jersey Day (Space Jam) Wear your favorite jersey or basketball-inspired outfit</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Parade starts at 6:15 in Dallas Center ➤ Court Announcement following parade
<p>Friday, September, 16th Dress Up Day: DC-G Pride! (Space Spirit)</p>  <p>Wear your DC-G red, gray, white</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ High School Pep Rally 2:30 PM ➤ Freshman game: 4:30 PM ➤ Recognition of Court 6:30 PM ➤ Varsity game vs. Norwalk: 7:15 PM 	<p>Saturday, September 17th</p>  <p>Homecoming Dance "Out of this World" 8:30-10:30 Meadows Gym/Commons \$5/person Buy tickets ONLINE Here (Coming Soon)</p>

WELCOME DCG NEW STAFF

Dallas Center Elementary

Amber Birkett, Special Education

Heritage

Madison Lanza, Preschool
McKenna Zanders, Fourth Grade
Molly Kremer, Third Grade
Allison Carenza, Kindergarten

North Ridge

Joanna Hammond, Special Education

South Prairie

Julie Pitman, Special Education
Jamie Harmon, Third Grade
Taylor Cook, First Grade
Cara Lichty, Special Education

Middle School

Dianna Slight, ELA/SS
Amy Snowden, Special Education
Kim Flynn, Math/Science
Zachary Krueger, Sign Language Interpreter
Sara Cockrum, 6th ELA/SS
Maya VanDriel, Special Education
Leslie Banwart, Intervention

Oak View

Jolisa Ditzler, Math
Shayla Peters, Social Studies
Kristina Bavas, FCS
Konnor Gifford, Computer Science
Rebecca Brandt, Seminar
Sally Weiland, 7th ELA
Emma Oppenheimer, 8th ELA
Kendra Spoelstra, Special Education

BLOCK SCHEDULES

The daily schedule will look a little different at Dallas Center-Grimes High School this year. Students will be transitioning to a 4 x 4 block schedule. Students will be enrolled in four classes and will attend those four classes only, for either nine or eighteen weeks this year.

Logistics of Block Schedule:

85 minute classes on regular school days; 30 minute lunches

60 minute classes on early out days; 25 minute lunches

5 minute passing times

Students will have 4 class periods per day (could include study hall and/or open campus for juniors and seniors during 1st or 4th)

Band & Choir classes will be offered as "skinny" courses being offered every day for 45 minutes for the entire school year.



These **goals** are just a brief list of some of the academic, mental health, and culture and climate benefits the block schedule will provide:

- More time in class, less transition time(s) during the day
- More time for hands-on activities and more follow through/reflection/conferencing with activities, labs
- Improved attendance/fewer tardies; fewer procedural tasks
- Application activities done directly in class
- Increased opportunities to differentiate, provide intervention/enrichment within the class
- More opportunities for flexibility in schedules, due to students only having to focus on 3 or 4 classes a day
- Opportunities to incorporate social-emotional learning activities
- Increased class time allows for more "real world" experiences
- Better connections with teachers during the longer periods

FROM THE LUNCHROOM

It was a hot and busy summer for Taher. Our staff is so excited to welcome you all back! We are continuing our Harvest of the Month, starting with peaches, sweet corn and mint for the month of August. Taher is also launching a 'Your Food Journey' promotion, more information coming soon! We have also received a new point of sales system. Please make sure to get your students signed up. See you on the 23rd!

OAK VIEW



We are excited to welcome Joan Cundiff as the new principal at Oak View! Joan received her Bachelor of Science in Education and her Master in Education: Culturally Responsive Leadership and Instruction from Drake University. She began her teaching career in Bakersfield, CA and has spent the last eight years in the Des Moines Public School District. Welcome Joan!

Here's a note from the desk of our district's newest principal:

At Oak View, we look forward to building relationships and supporting your 7th and 8th graders. We also work hard to support the social and emotional growth of middle school students. We understand the exciting and challenging time that middle school can be and we are here to help!

Please connect with our team anytime throughout the year for support in academics, social emotional wellness and college or career planning (I know- crazy to think about already but we are here for it!).



You can connect by calling the Oak View office or sending an email.

Principal: Joan Cundiff

Dean of Students: Marc Juergens

School Counselor: Emily Judd

School Nurse: Melissa Scott

New Staff: High School

Luke Hofmann, Math
Steven Cruz-Castro, Spanish
Abbie Kampman, ELA
Rebecca Lambert, FCS
Lucy Peterson, Science
Lucas Menke, Science
Chris Adams, Special Education
Austin Roy, Science
Grant Bohlke, Social Studies

Shared Staff

Leah Mertz, ESOL
Danielle Winter, ESOL



Above - New teachers gather for orientation on Tuesday, August 9.

Foreign Language Trip - Journey through France and Spain with the high school World Language Department in the Spring of 2023. Students will arrive in Paris to start our journey. After a couple days in Paris, we head our way down the western coast of France with stops in Tours, the Loire Valley, Bordeaux and Biarritz. The crew will then head into Spain on Day 7. Our first stop in Spain is in Burgos on our way to Madrid. Once in Madrid we have day trips to Segovia and Toledo. The cost of this trip is \$3700. If you have any questions, would like more information or would like to sign up for the trip, please email laree.hawks@dcschools.com.

TRANSPORTATION

School buses across the country transport millions of kids every year and are, without question, the safest way to get kids to and from school. We transport over 1,600 students per day at DCG and our number one priority is "SAFETY". Transporting kids to and from school takes a team effort to be successful. Parents, kids, and the school all need to work together to provide the safest transportation possible. We want all kids to feel physically and mentally safe while on a school bus.

Parents Responsibilities:

1. Ensure your child arrives at their bus stop safely and on time.
2. During extreme weather, ensure your child boards the bus safely.
3. Review the Bus Rules and Disciplinary Policy with your child (see rules below).
4. Encourage your child to report any problems they are having to you & their school bus driver.

Bus Driver and School Responsibilities:

1. Ensure the school bus is safe to transport students.
2. Ensure buses run on time. Extreme weather may affect bus STOP times.
3. Ensure there is room on each bus to transport students safely.
4. Ensure all students are safely transported to and from school.

Student's Responsibilities:

1. Arrive at the bus STOP on time.
2. Follow ALL of the bus safety rules.
3. Report any problems you are having on the bus to your school bus driver or teacher.

The bottom line is, we want all students to feel safe while on a DCG school bus, both physically safe and mentally safe. Report safety issues to your school bus driver. If issues continue, contact Jeff Wolfe at jeff.wolfe@dcgschools.com or 515-986-5173 ext 1.

Bus Video Cameras

Dallas Center – Grimes School board has authorized the use of video cameras on school district buses. The video cameras will be used to monitor student behavior in order to promote and maintain a safe environment. Bus camera videotapes may be used in student disciplinary proceedings. Digital video will be retained, only if necessary, for use in student disciplinary proceedings or other matters as determined by the administration. Parents may request to view video of their child, if the video is used in a disciplinary proceeding involving their child.



TRANSPORTATION CONT.

School Bus Rules

1. Follow the instructions of the bus driver.
2. While waiting for the bus, stand in an orderly fashion. Do not approach a bus until the driver signals you that it is safe to board.
3. Do not push or shove when loading the bus.
4. After entering the bus, go directly to a seat and sit down.
5. If your school bus is equipped with a seatbelt, buckle up.
6. Talk quietly with those around you using inside voices; loud or vulgar language is prohibited.
7. Remain seated; facing forward while the bus is in motion.
8. Do not extend your hands, arms or head through the windows.
9. Always be courteous to the school bus driver and to fellow students (keeping hands to yourself).
10. Food and drink will not be allowed on the bus unless permitted by the school bus driver.
11. No glass containers are allowed on the school bus.
12. No aerosol or non-aerosol pump sprays are permitted to be used on the school bus.
13. Pupils must keep sharp objects and feet off the seat. Any damages will be charged to the student/students.

14. Do not throw objects on the school bus.
15. Report problems or concerns to the school bus driver immediately. Never be afraid to talk to a school bus driver. School bus privileges may be suspended if a student fails to follow bus rules or endangers the safety of others on the school bus.

School Bus Routes

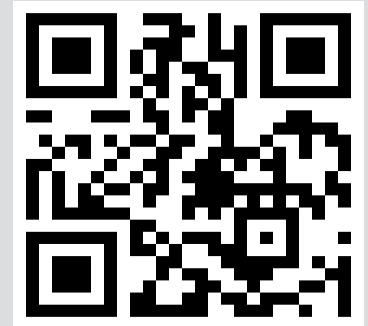
Regular school bus routes for each building are posted on the school website at: www.dcgschools.com. Please check the schedule the week before school starts for any adjustments.

If you can not find your school bus stop, please contact the Transportation Office at 515-986-5173 Ext 3.

Specialized transportation and country routes: Your school bus driver will call you the week before school starts with home pickup and drop off times. If you have not heard from your school bus driver, please call the transportation office at 515-986- 5173 ext 3 for more information.

PTO News Welcome to a new school year! The DCG Elementary Schools PTO would like to invite you to join the PTO. Each building has a PTO group that works hard throughout the school year to shower the students and staff with appreciation. From stocking the teachers lounge to helping with teacher grants there are lots of ways to get involved at the level you feel most comfortable.

To join the PTO go to our website: <https://dcgpto.com> and click the "join the PTO" link. Also, '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



The 2022-2023 PTO District Executive Team

Help Needed, Dallas Center Elementary President
Heather Spooner, Heritage Elementary President
Betsy Bejarno & Nicole Tilstra, North Ridge Elementary Presidents
Jen Ohannesian, South Prairie Elementary President
Danielle O'Neill, Bookkeeping Treasurer
Nancy Baker Curtis, Secretary
Lindsey Weber, Accounts Payable



FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES



DM North at DCG 8/19
North Polk at DCG 8/26
DCG at Bondurant-Farrar 9/2
DCG at Johnston 9/9
Norwalk at DCG 9/16 (HOCO)
DCG at Winterset 9/23
DCG at CB Thomas Jefferson 9/30
Des Moines Hoover at DCG 10/7
Lewis Central at DCG 10/14



Multiple Schools, @ DCG, 8/23
DCG @ Grinnell, 8/27
DCG @ Grinnell, 8/30
DCG @ Indianola, 9/6
Pella Christian at DCG, 9/13
DCG @ Bondurant-Farrar, 9/17
DCG @ Pella, 9/20
DCG @ Nevada, 9/24
Norwalk @ DCG, 9/27
DCG @ Urbandale, 10/1
DCG @ Newton, 10/4
ADM @ DCG, 10/6
Oskaloosa @ DCG, 10/11

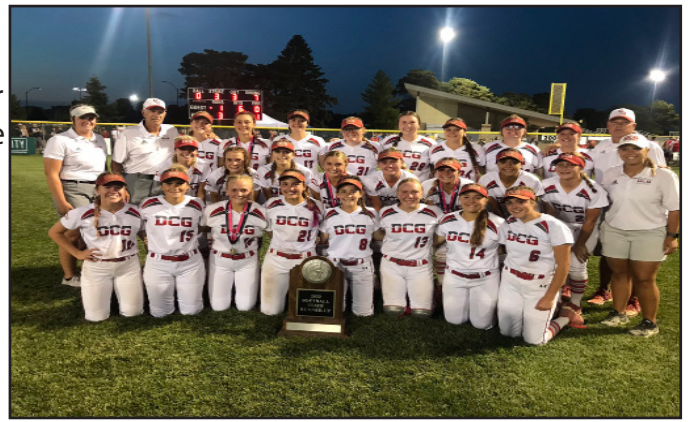


Girls Cross Country

DCG @ Gilbert, 8/25
DCG @ Home, 8/30
DCG @ Marshalltown, 9/8
DCG @ Ballard, 9/12
DCG @ Adel 9/19
DCG @ Kansas University, 9/24
DCG @ SE Polk, 9/39
DCG @ Lakeside Municipal Golf Course 10/6
DCG @ Home, 10/10

ACTIVITIES

Softball The DCG Softball team had a season to remember on the diamond. The Mustangs finished 2nd place in Class 4A. After knocking off Indianola (quarterfinals) and North Scott (semifinals), DCG lost to Winterset in the state championship game. DCG was led by sophomore Aubrey Johansen, Elle Nelsen and Lydia Zaruba at the plate. Johansen was also sensational in the circle. She finished with an 18-3 record! Congratulations to the softball team on a great season! See you next summer!



Baseball The DCG Baseball team finished with a winning record for the fourth straight year in 2022. The Mustangs wrapped up their season with a 21-15 record, including a victory in 18 of their final 25 games. DCG was led by Clayton Campidilli and Dariel Santana at the dish. The duo combined to hit 23 home runs! The DCG program also celebrated a historic anniversary this summer, bringing back the 2012 state championship team (above)!



DCG Booster Club - The DCG Booster Club is holding their annual membership drive for the 2022-2023 activity year. We are excited to kick off our fall sports season! We've got ALL NEW Membership information and options on our website at www.dcgboosterclub.com and you can do a one time donation or a subscription donation (1 time per month for a year).

As a member, you're entitled to a vote at our meetings, receive communications on our meetings and events and MOST IMPORTANTLY support our athletics program for grades 7-12th in the DCG Schools! JOIN US TODAY! THANK

Busy Summer - Several DCG teams held camps recently, including DCG Girls XC (photo right).

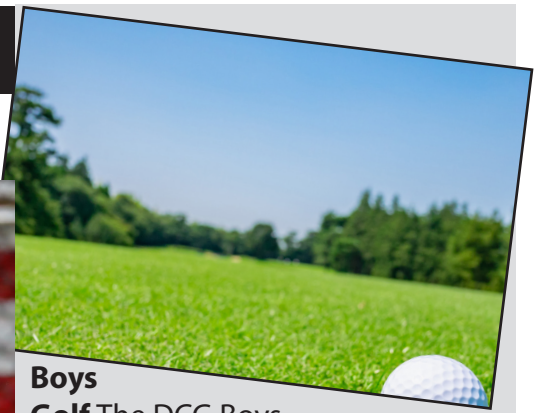


ACTIVITIES

Summer Photos - Thanks to Lens Art Photography for providing photos from the summer sports season.



Friends of Fine Arts - FOFA conducts fundraisers throughout the year to finance costs incurred by K-12 grade that are not traditionally covered by the normal school budget. Additionally, FOFA relies heavily on direct donations of parents, teachers, and all supporters of the Dallas Center Grimes fine arts programs. Every year we count on membership from community members like you to set our students up for a successful school year. Please consider becoming a Member of FOFA, using the QR code to sign up.



Boys

Golf The DCG Boys golf team is on the course this fall for the first time! The Mustangs are now part of Class 4A. The team's first practice was Monday, August 8. The Mustangs will be competing at the Ankeny Centennial Invite on August 15. The 2022 Iowa High School Boys Golf State Tournament will be played at Elmcrest Country Club in Cedar Rapids.



Eagle! Jonathan Howard eagled #8 at Beaver Creek during a practice round!

FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES



Cross Country

Boys Cross Country

- DCG @ Gilbert, 8/25
- DCG @ Home, 8/30
- DCG @ Marshalltown, 9/8
- DCG @ Ballard, 9/12
- DCG @ Indianola, 9/22
- DCG @ SE Polk, 9/29
- DCG @ Lakeside Golf Course, 10/6

ANNUAL AND SPECIAL NOTIFICATIONS

No Tobacco Use

Tobacco use is prohibited in all district facilities, on school grounds, and in school vehicles.

DC-G policy states, "All school district facilities and property, including school buildings, vehicles and land shall be off limits for tobacco use."

The policy continues to state, "This requirement extends to employees, visitors, and students. This policy applies at all times, including school sponsored and non-school sponsored events. Persons failing to abide by this request shall be required to extinguish their smoking material or leave the school district premises immediately and/or be reported to appropriate authorities."

Patrons are asked to abstain from tobacco use on school property. This includes all school activities regardless of the location. We thank you for your continued cooperation.

Student Surveys

No student shall be required, as part of any applicable program, to submit to a survey, analysis or evaluation that reveals information concerning: 1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent; 2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family; 3. Sex behavior or attitudes; 4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior; (used to be "and") 5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships; 6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians and ministers; 7. Religious practices, affiliations or beliefs of the students or student's parent, or 8. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

Parents have the opportunity to opt their child out of the activity. Parents have the following rights: 1. The right of the parent to inspect a survey created by a third party before that survey is administered by the school to students; also must include any applicable procedures for granting the request within a reasonable time; 2. Arrangements to protect student privacy rights when a survey is administered by the school which contains one of the prohibited eight from above, including the right of the parent to inspect the survey; 3. The right of a parent to inspect any instructional material in the student's curriculum, including procedures for granting access within a reasonable time; 4. The administration of physical exams or screenings the school may administer; 5. The collection, disclosure or use of student personal information for the purpose of marketing or selling that information, or providing the information to others for that purpose, including arrangements to protect student privacy in the event of such collection, disclosure or use. (Student personal information is defined as a student or parent's name, address, telephone number or Social Security number.) This does not include personal information collected for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions such as: a. postsecondary institutions or military recruiters; b. book

clubs, magazines and programs providing access to low-cost literary products; c. curriculum and instructional materials used by K-12 schools; d. tests and assessments used by K-12 to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students, or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing these tests and assessments, and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from these tests and assessments; e. the sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school or education related activities; or, f. student recognition program. 6. the right of a parent to inspect the instrument used to collect student personal information before use, including any applicable procedure for granting a request within a reasonable time.

Anti-Harassment and Anti-Bullying Policies Code 105

The Dallas Center-Grimes School District is committed to providing all students with a safe and civil school environment in which all members of the school community are treated with dignity and respect. Bullying and/or harassment of or by students, staff, and volunteers is against federal, state, and local policy and is not tolerated by the board. Bullying and/or harassing behavior can seriously disrupt the ability of school employees to maintain a safe and civil environment, and the ability of students to learn and succeed. Therefore, it is the policy of the state and the school district that school employees, volunteers, and students shall not engage in bullying or harassing behavior in school, on school property, or at any school function or school-sponsored activity, and while away from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school or District.

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, the defined words shall have the following meaning:

• "Electronic" means any communication involving the transmission of information by wire, radio, optic cable, electromagnetic, or other similar means. "Electronic" includes but is not limited to communication via electronic mail, Internet-based communications, pager service, cell phones, and electronic text messaging.

• "Harassment" and "bullying" shall mean any electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or conduct toward a student based on the individual's actual or perceived age, color, creed, national origin, race, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status, or familial status, and which creates an objectively hostile school environment that meets one or more of the following conditions:

1. Places the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or property.
2. Has a substantial detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health.
3. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's academic performance.

ANNUAL AND SPECIAL NOTIFICATIONS

4. Has the effect of substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

• "Trait or characteristic of the student" includes but is not limited to age, color, creed, national origin, race, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status, or familial status.

• "Volunteer" means an individual who has regular, significant contact with students.

Filing a Complaint

A Complainant who wishes to avail himself/herself of this procedure may do so by filing a complaint with the superintendent or superintendent's designee. An alternate will be designated in the event it is claimed that the superintendent or superintendent's designee committed the alleged discrimination or some other conflict of interest exists. Complaints shall be filed within 30 days of the event giving rise to the complaint or from the date the Complainant could reasonably become aware of such occurrence. The Complainant will state the nature of the complaint and the remedy requested. The Complainant shall receive assistance as needed. School employees, volunteers, and students shall not engage in reprisal, retaliation, or false accusation against a victim, witness, or an individual who has reliable information about an act of bullying or harassment.

Investigation

The school district will promptly and reasonably investigate allegations of bullying or harassment. The building principal or person(s) designated by the principal (hereinafter "Investigator") will be responsible for handling all complaints alleging bullying or harassment. The Investigator shall consider the totality of circumstances presented in determining whether conduct objectively constitutes bullying or harassment. The superintendent or the superintendent's designee shall also be responsible for developing procedures regarding this policy.

Decision

If, after an investigation, a student is found to be in violation of this policy, the student shall be disciplined by appropriate measures, which may include suspension and expulsion. If after an investigation a school employee is found to be in violation of this policy, the employee shall be disciplined by appropriate measures, which may include termination. If after an investigation a school volunteer is found to be in violation of this policy, the volunteer shall be subject to appropriate measures, which may include exclusion from school grounds.

A school employee, volunteer, or student, or a student's parent or guardian who promptly, reasonably, and in good faith reports an incident of bullying or harassment, in compliance with the procedures in the policy adopted pursuant to this section, to the appropriate school official designated by the school district, shall be immune from civil or criminal liability relating to such report and to participation in any administrative or judicial proceeding resulting from or relating to the report. Individuals who knowingly file false bullying or harassment complaints and any person who gives false statements in

an investigation may be subject to discipline by appropriate measures, as shall any person who is found to have retaliated against another in violation of this policy. Any student found to have retaliated in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, suspension and expulsion. Any school employee found to have retaliated in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, termination of employment. Any school volunteer found to have retaliated in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, exclusion from school grounds.

Student Records

Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District maintains records on each student in order to facilitate the instruction, guidance and educational progress of the student. The records contain information about the student and his or her education and may include, but are not limited to, the following types of records: identification data, attendance data, record of achievement, family background data, aptitude tests, educational and vocational plans, honors and activities, discipline data, objective counselor or teacher ratings, and observations and external agency reports.

The records of each student are generally located in the school in which he or she is attending. The person in charge of record maintenance for each school building will note in the student's other records any exception. The name and position of the person responsible for maintenance of student records for each school building is listed:

Dallas Center Elementary

Debra Cale/Principal

Heritage Elementary

Diann Williamson/Principal

North Ridge Elementary

April Heitland/Principal

South Prairie Elementary

Patty Morris/Principal

Dallas Center-Grimes Middle School

Jerry Hlas/Principal

Oak View

Joan Cundiff/Principal

Dallas Center-Grimes High School

Scott Blum/Principal

The following persons, agencies and organizations may have restricted access to student records without prior written consent of the parent or student over the age of 18 years. Any other access to student records shall be only upon written consent or upon court order or legally issued subpoena.

- to school officials within the school district and AEA personnel whom the superintendent has determined to have a legitimate educational interest, including, but not limited to, board members, employees, school attorney, auditor, health professionals, and individuals serving on official school committees;
- to officials of another school district in which the student wishes to enroll, provided the other school district notifies the parents the student records are being sent and the parents have an opportunity to receive a copy of the records and challenge the contents of the records unless the annual includes a provision that records will automatically be transferred to new school districts;

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Notification includes a provision that records will automatically be transferred to new school districts;

- To the U.S. Comptroller General, the U.S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education or state and local educational authorities;
- In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received if the information is necessary to receive the financial aid;
- to organizations conducting educational studies and the study does not release personally identifiable information; to accrediting organizations;
- To parents of a dependent student as defined in the Internal Revenue Code;
- To comply with a court order or judicially issued subpoena (consistent with an inter-agency agreement between the school district and juvenile justice agencies);
- In connection with a health or safety emergency; or, as directory information.

Student records are reviewed and inappropriate material destroyed periodically and, at a minimum, whenever a student moves from the elementary level to the middle school level, from middle school level to the high school level, and when a student transfers out of the district. Those records not of permanent importance are destroyed within three years after graduation or discontinued attendance.

The parents of disabled students, or disabled students over age 18, will be informed when personally identifiable information in the records is no longer needed to provide educational services, and before the information is destroyed. Parents of students under age 18, or over 18 if still claimed as a dependent, and students over age 18 may exercise the opportunity to review educational records of the student, to obtain copies of the records, to write a response to material in the record, to challenge the content of the record on grounds of inappropriateness, inaccuracy or an invasion of privacy, and to have the records explained.

The procedure to be followed in exercising any of the rights under school policies or files may be obtained from any of the aforementioned persons responsible for maintaining student records.

Students and parents may file with the Department of Education, complaints concerning alleged failures of the school district to comply with federal legislation dealing with student records. Correspondence should be addressed to: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Office, Department of Education, Switzer Building, 330 C Street SW., Washington, D.C. 20201.

If you are the parent or legal guardian of a student, you have the right to (1) inspect and review your child's educational records; (2) ask for an explanation of any item in the records; (3) have copies made at a reasonable cost; (4) be informed of types and locations of records being collected or used by the agency; (5) ask for the amendment of any record if you feel it is inaccurate, misleading or violates privacy rights; (6) a records hearing if the agency does not make the requested amendment; (7) give or withhold consent to disclose your child's records; (8) be told to whom information has been disclosed.

Asbestos Notification

Asbestos has been an issue of national concern for many years. The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 (AHERA) was designed to determine the extent of asbestos concerns in the schools and to act as a guide in formulating asbestos management policies for the schools.

The school district facilities have been inspected by a certified asbestos inspector as required by AHERA. The inspector located, sampled and determined the condition and hazard potential of all material in the school facilities suspected of containing asbestos.

The inspection and laboratory analysis records form the basis of the asbestos management plan. Ultimately, though, starting with the 2004-05 school year, all DC-G students attended classes and activities in facilities that are certified as asbestos free. A certified management planner has developed an asbestos management plan for the school district facilities which includes: notification letters, training for employees, a set of procedures designed to minimize the disturbance of asbestos-containing materials, and plans for regular surveillance of the materials. A copy of the management plan is available for inspection in the district office at:
2405 W. 1st Street, Grimes, IA 50111.

Homeless Children and Youth Publication

In accordance with 281 IAC Chapter 33, Iowa Administrative Code, the Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District is required to give written notice to homeless children and families if the district is going to deny access to their educational programs. Homeless children and families may obtain free legal services by contacting:

Legal Aid Society of Polk County 1111 9th Street – 3rd Floor
Des Moines, IA 50314

Phone: (515) 243-1193

In accordance with Chapter 33, Iowa Administrative Code, the Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District encourages homeless children and youth to enroll in school. Mrs. Mary Jane Stites, Director of Student Services, is the identified homeless education liaison. She can be contacted at 515-992-3866.

"Homeless child or youth" is defined as a child or youth from the age of 3 years through 21 years who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes the following:

1. A child or youth who is sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; is living in a motel, hotel, trailer park, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; is living in an emergency or transitional shelter; is abandoned in a hospital; or is awaiting foster care placement;
2. A child or youth who has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
3. A child or youth who is living in a car, park, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station, or similar setting; or
4. A migratory child or youth who qualifies as homeless because the child or youth is living in circumstances described in paragraphs "1" through "3" above.

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Private Instruction (Home School) Students Publication

Private Instruction applies to students between the ages of 6 and 16 (by September 15th) that are using a plan and a course of study in a setting other than a public or organized accredited nonpublic school. It includes competent private instruction (CPI) by a licensed practitioner or a non-licensed person, independent private instruction (IPI), home school assistance programs (HSAP), and non-accredited nonpublic schools. Dallas Center –Grimes does not have a home school assistance program (HSAP.) If you have questions on the options, need help on the forms, or assistance with this information, please contact Deanna Sandegren at 515-992-3866 or go to <https://www.educateiowa.gov/> and search for Private Instruction. Families that are participating in CPI are required to file CPI forms with the district by September 1st of each school year. Only CPI students may dual enroll with the district for the purposes of state testing or participation in academic or extra-curricular activities.

CPI students that do not have an Iowa certified teacher assisting with their educational program, must take an annual assessment. The annual assessment can either be a standardized test or portfolio as a baseline as well as annually. Parents may choose to dual enroll for testing purposes and DC-G will administer the tests if parents wish to use these services. If a portfolio review is chosen, the parent is responsible for finding a portfolio evaluator that is a certified, licensed teacher in the state of Iowa.

Families who are participating in IPI are requested to communicate the names of the students to central office.

Open Enrollment Notification Publication

Open Enrollment is the process by which parents/guardians residing in an Iowa district may enroll their children into another Iowa school district under the terms and conditions of Iowa Code section 282.18 and 281–Iowa Administrative Code 17. House File (HF) 2589 eliminates the previous March 1 deadline for open enrollment. This change allows parents/guardians to apply for open enrollment at any time without the need for good cause. The receiving district may deny an open enrollment request if one of the following applies:

- The application violates the district's insufficient classroom space policy,
- The district does not have the appropriate special education program,
- The application would adversely affect the district's implementation of a court-ordered desegregation plan, or
- The student has been expelled or suspended.

Equal Educational Opportunity

Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District does not discriminate in its education programs or educational activities on the basis of race, color, gender, national origin, creed, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, religion, marital status, socioeconomic status, or abilities/disabilities in its education programs, activities or employment policies as required by Title VI and Title XII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendment, Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Iowa Code #216.9. Students are educated in

programs which foster knowledge of, and respect and appreciation for, the historical and contemporary contributions of diverse cultural groups, as well as men and women, to society. Students who feel they have been discriminated against are encouraged to report it to the school district Affirmative Action Coordinator, Ms. Mary Jane Stites via email at maryjane.stites@dcgschools.com. Inquiries may also be directed in writing to the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, IA, 50319-0201, (515) 281-4121; or the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 500 West Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661

Fees

The district charges fees for certain items, such as textbook rental, and other items in accordance with state law and guidance from the Iowa Department of Education. Students whose families meet the income guidelines for free and reduced price meal, the Family Investment Program (FIP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), transportation assistance under open enrollment, or who are in foster care are eligible to have their student fees waived or partially waived. Students whose families are experiencing a temporary financial difficulty may be eligible for a temporary waiver of student fees. Parents or students who believe they may qualify for fee waivers can pick up waiver forms in any school office or can be downloaded from the school's website. This waiver does not carry over from year to year and must be completed annually.

Military Recruiter Access

Under federal law, DCG must provide military recruiters your child's name, address and telephone number, without your prior or written consent. Parents of secondary school students have a right to request that their child's name, address and telephone number not be released to a military recruiter. Parents/Guardians may request that information not be provided by completing the form that can be found on the school's website, www.dcgschools.com or by calling 515-992-3866. Please return the form to the Superintendent's Office, 2405 West 1st Street, Grimes Iowa 50111.

Release for Student Information

Student directory information is designed to be used internally within the school district to assist certified personnel.

The principal or person in charge of each attendance center may release the following types of information to the public, where appropriate, keeping in mind the privacy of the student and the student's family and the totality of the surrounding circumstances:

- Student's name
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports

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- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Photograph
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended

If you choose not to allow any information to be released, please complete the appropriate form and send it to Superintendent's Office, 2405 West 1st St., IA 50111. The form can be accessed on the school's website, www.dcgsschools.com, or by calling 515.992.3866. Please understand that by completing and signing this form, no information can be released, including athletic or music programs, plays, the district newsletter, etc. Release of information on the district's website does not allow for the identification of individual students' contact information.

Level 1 Investigator: Abuse

In compliance with the child abuse policy passed by the State Board of Education, the Dallas Center-Grimes Schools designate the following as investigators of physical and sexual abuse of students by school employees:

Level I Investigators for Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District are:

Primary Investigator:

Mrs. Mary Jane Stites, 515-992-3866

Alternate Investigator:

Mrs. Lisa Clayberg 515-992-3866

Level II Investigators will be an official(s) from outside the district's regular staff. The primary investigator will examine reported incidents of physical and sexual abuse of students by school employees. She/he will review all allegations and determine whether a Level Two referral is warranted. The investigator must notify local law enforcement authorities in cases of proven serious physical and sexual abuse.

The investigator must also give a copy of the report to the employee's superintendent. All proven cases of abuse by certified employees will be reported to the Iowa Professional Teaching Practices Commission. Counseling services for the student will be arranged upon request from the parents or student.

Communicable and Infectious Diseases

Students who have an infectious or communicable disease are allowed to attend school as long as they are able to do so and their presence does not pose an unreasonable risk of harm to themselves or does not create a substantial risk of illness or transmission to other students or employees. If there is a question about whether a student should continue to attend classes, the student shall not attend class or participate in school activities without their personal physician's approval. Infectious or communicable diseases include, but are not limited to, mumps, measles and chicken pox.

Free and Reduced Lunch/Breakfast

Families that meet federal guidelines can qualify for free or reduced breakfast or lunch. Forms to make application for free or reduced lunches may be picked up in any one of our school offices or can be downloaded from the school's website. These forms must be completed annually. These can also be completed on the Infinite Campus Parent Portal.

Iowa Sex Offender Registry Publication

Many communities in Iowa, including Dallas Center and Grimes, have residents living in the community that are on the Iowa Sex Offender Registry. We are aware of residents living in Grimes and in Dallas Center that are on the sex offender register, although we no longer receive any official notification. We want to make you aware of the situation so you can discuss it with your child(ren).

The sex offender register is available Online at <http://www.iowasexoffender.com/>. Parents are encouraged to be aware of this information by accessing this website. If you do not have access to the Internet, or need assistance in accessing this information, please contact 992-3866. If you are unable to access this information, we will provide the information verbally or send copies of the information in the mail.

Please be aware that this notification is to serve only as a means for the public to protect themselves. Any action taken by anyone against these individuals, including vandalism of property, verbal or written threat of physical harm, or physical assault against these individuals or their family can result in arrest and prosecution.

Corporal Punishment, Restraint, and Physical Confinement and Detention

State law forbids schools employees from using corporal punishment against any student. Certain actions by school employees are not considered corporal punishment. Additionally, school employees may use "reasonable and necessary force, not designed or intended to cause pain" to do certain things, such as prevent harm to persons or property.

State law also places limits school employees' abilities to restrain or confine and detain any student. The law limits why, how, where, and for how long a school employee may restrain or confine and detain a child. If a child is restrained or confined and detained, the school must maintain documentation and must provide certain types of notice to the child's parent.

If you have any questions about this state law, please contact your school. The complete text of the law and additional information is available on the Iowa Department of Education's Web site: www.iowa.gov/educate.

Student Lockers and Desks

Student lockers and desks are the property of the school. As such, they should not be considered private or confidential. Locker/desk inspections without prior notice may be conducted periodically throughout the school year and when conducted, the students will be present for the inspection. Student lockers/desks may also be searched in compliance with the board policy that regulates search and seizure.

ANNUAL AND SPECIAL NOTIFICATIONS

Senior Year Plus

Through Senior Year Plus (SYP), school districts are provided with a variety of options to enhance students' high school experience. Enacted by the legislature in 2008, SYP was created to provide increased and more equal access to college credit and advanced placement courses. Courses delivered through SYP provide students the opportunity to take a rigorous college curriculum and receive, in many cases, both high school and college credit concurrently.

SYP includes: Postsecondary Enrollment Option (PSEO), courses delivered through sharing agreements between community colleges DC-G (concurrent enrollment), enrollment in college courses independently as a tuition-paying student, and Advanced Placement courses. It is important to note that students must demonstrate proficiency on the Iowa Assessments in reading, mathematics, and science to participate in SYP programming (with the exception of CTE courses.)

Human Growth and Development

The school district provides students with instruction in human growth and development. Parents may re-view the human growth and development curriculum prior to its use and have their child excused from human growth and development instruction. Parents should contact the principal if they wish to review the curriculum or to excuse their child from human growth and development instruction.

Board Support of Discipline Procedures

The Board of Directors of the Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District hereby confirms its intent to support the school discipline policy, to support staff that enforces the discipline policy, and to hold staff accountable for enforcing the discipline policy.

Health Records and Finding Medical Help Publication

In keeping adequate health histories, we are better able to evaluate, understand, and be responsive to your child's individual needs. Please contact the school nurse regarding any developments concerning your child's health. This would include hospitalizations, all medications (type, amount and time given), fractures, all recent diagnoses of medical conditions and any other medical information that would be pertinent to the student's performance and attendance.

If you are a new resident and do not have a doctor or dentist, you may call the Polk County Medical Society (288-0172) or the school nurse who will be glad to give you assistance. The Des Moines Health Center (244-9136) also provides medical and dental care for all eligible children from six months to 18 years of age.

Identification of Gifted and Talented Students

The district has an approved process for identifying students to receive services in the gifted and talented program. Part of the identification process allows parents to nominate their child for this program. If you would like additional information about the gifted and talented selection process, or would like to nominate your child, please contact your building principal or talented and gifted instructor of your school.

Notice to Parents Regarding Teacher Qualifications

Parents/Guardians in the Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District have the right to learn about the following

qualifications of their child's teacher: whether the teacher has met state licensing criteria for the grade level(s) and subject area(s) taught; whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or provisional status through which state licensing criteria have been waived; the undergraduate degree major of the teacher, and any graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, including the field of discipline of the certification or degree; if your child is provided services by paraprofessionals, their qualifications. Parents/Guardians may request this information from the Office of the Superintendent by calling 515-992-3866 or sending a letter of request to the Office of the Superintendent, 2405 W. 1st Street, Grimes, Iowa 50111

Early Graduation

Students may graduate early if the course work required for graduation under board policy "Graduation Requirements" has been fulfilled. Students interested in graduating early should contact the high school guidance counselor for an application form and details. Please refer to Board Policy 505.1. Students who graduate early cannot participate in any of the school activities, except for prom and commencement.

Healthy Kids Act

In May of 2008, Governor Culver signed the Healthy Kids Act. This act has three major parts: nutrition guidelines, CPR education and physical activity. Nutrition guidelines go into effect July 2012 and changes have been made in the vending machines and in the breakfast and lunch programs. All students are required to take a course leading to certification of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). DC-G has integrated this training into the Health class, with CPR being taught to all freshmen and seniors that have not taken the training at this time. The final area is physical activity. All physically able students in grades K-5 are required to engage in physical activity for a minimum of thirty minutes per day. This requirement will be met with recess and PE. All physically able students in grades six through twelve shall be required to engage in a physical activity for a minimum of one hundred twenty minutes per week. This requirement can be met through PE and school sponsored activities that involve physical activity, as well as non-school sponsored activities, including a home exercise program. All students in grades 6-12 are required to complete a physical activity contract and return to the school stating other activities in which the student is involved.

Vaccines

According to Iowa law, parents must be permitted to submit a religious or medical exemption for their child to attend school and/or daycare centers if their child is not fully up-to-date on their vaccinations. There are many reasons, including religious and medical, that may cause parents to decide not to follow the recommended CDC childhood vaccination schedule.

Iowa Code, Chapter 139a.8(6) and Iowa Administrative Code, 641-7.7(139) outlines the immunization requirement for Iowa children attending licensed childcare centers and/or elementary or secondary schools. This code states students shall submit one of the following: Iowa Department of Public Health Certificate of Immunization, Certificate of Immunization Exemption – Religious Exemption, or Certificate of Immunization Exemption – Medical Exemption.

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

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www.dcgschools.com



Book Club - Over the summer, students at Oak View and the high school had the opportunity to participate in a book club that brought together learners from many grades, with varied reading interests. Students voted on and chose different books to read, including Iowa Teen Award nominees and graphic novels, and met to talk about themes and characters. Sessions included a guest speaker, crafting activities, games related to the storylines, and even a macaroni and cheese buffet related to one of the books!