



MUSTANG MONTHLY™

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Empowering Students to Take Charge of Their Future.



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been an AMAZING start to the 2022-23 school year. In our buildings you will see passionate teachers and dedicated students working together every single day. The DCG spirit is alive! We celebrated Homecoming Week in the middle of September. A special shout out to our high school team for their excellent work in coordinating this event! I am so proud of our district and I'm eager to continue this momentum in 2022-23!

In addition to educating your children, I know we have a responsibility to keep them safe. I feel it's important to keep you updated on discussions my team is having about school safety in all of our buildings. Please know, safety is my top priority.

I meet with the Dallas and Polk County Sheriff's Office on a regular basis. This multi-organizational approach is critical to our response plan. We now have secured entrance points to all of our buildings, which includes a video surveillance system. We also have emergency radios available in all of our buildings with a direct connection to Polk and Dallas County. This allows our building administration to open emergency contact with first responders in a matter of seconds.

District administration will also be meeting with the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in the coming months. We will be completing a vulnerability assessment in each of our buildings. This is part of the School Safety Improvement Program. After the vulnerability assessment is complete, we will be able to apply for a \$50,000 grant, per building, to help finance our school safety efforts. I will be working on this project for the better part of the next two school years.

We also have a district Safety Committee. This group features team members from all of our buildings and various departments. The group meets quarterly to brainstorm and discuss topics related to school safety at DCG and issues happening across our country. The committee provides direction on evacuation procedures, drills, and any other emergency situation that arises within the school day.

It's also important to acknowledge and thank our local law enforcement agencies! The services they provide to our district are vital. They respond to our requests in a timely and efficient manner. I am thankful for their dedication to the safety of our students! As always, thanks for being DCG!

Sincerely,
Scott Grimes
Superintendent



CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesday, October 5th and 19th, 1 pm Dismissal, 12:30 pm Oak View

Friday, October 21, End of First Quarter

Monday, October 24, No School - Teacher Workday

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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) 986-4057
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Fax Number: (515) 992-4076
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Oak View/Joan Cundiff, Principal
E-mail: joan.cundiff@dcschools.com
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High School Office/Scott Blum, Principal
E-mail: scott.blum@dcschools.com
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Fax Number: (515) 986-9734
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Transportation Office/Jeff Wolfe, Transportation Director
Email: jeff.wolfe@dcschools.com
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Central Office/Business Office
Scott Grimes, Superintendent
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Fax Number: (515) 992-3079
2405 W. 1st Street, P.O. Box 680
Grimes, Iowa 50111

NEW CHEF

We are excited to introduce our district's new head chef, Jozsef Grull. Jozsef has an extensive food service background and says he's found a passion for serving kids. Say hello to Jozsef next time you see him in the lunchroom! Starting in October, Chef will be starting a rotation at all of our schools to do HOM samplings, getting to know staff and students, and to hopefully present food education in classrooms. Taher also added two additional chefs at the high school this year, Chef Angie and Chef Michael. Our high school kitchens are now offering an Impossible Burger as a daily vegan option and also added back our Chef Line meals.



FACILITY USE REMINDERS



We are incredibly proud of the facilities available for our students across the district. Please make note of the following:

- Our district's public use track is at Oak View. The DCG HS track is available for rental use only.
- At Oak View, please don't park on the track or on the fire lane (the cement path around the school).
- No pets are allowed in/on our facilities.
- Together we can keep our facilities in great condition!

CLASS OF 2035



Class of 2035 - Here's your first look at the DCG Class of 2035. Kindergarten students received an official "Class of 2035" t-shirt last month. We can't wait to watch their journey through our district! Thanks to the DCG PTO for their support!

HIGH SCHOOL



Homecoming Court 2022 - We are so proud of the Dallas Center-Grimes High School Homecoming Court. This group continues to search for ways to make our building better. Congratulations!!

Top row (L-R) - Kris Ditzler, Elle Gannon, Kaden Woody, Madeline Waddingham
Bottom row (L-R) - Mitchell Bridie, Elena Bartak, Ryan Fitch, Meredith McDermott, Hudson Ehlert, Emma Miner, Josh Hendricks, Jilly Janssen



Homecoming Royalty- Meredith McDermott and Ryan Fitch were named Homecoming Royalty during our annual parade. This is a special honor for our senior class. Congratulations to Meredith and Ryan!

Sculpture Class - Students in sculpture class were tasked with taking an object and changing it from its original size. They carved their pieces from foam blocks, covered them in gesso, and painted them to create details and textures. These are just a few of the outstanding results.



"Cream Cheese Bagel" by Serenity Hulsebus



"Button" by Jack Kidd



"Balancing Rocks" by Isaac Cutwright



"Gryzelle's Pencil" by Gryzelle Opog

National Merit Semifinalist -



Congratulations to DCG HS Senior York Meggison on being named a 2022-23 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist. York is one of 16,000 semifinalists from across the country. Congratulations York! We are proud of you!



From the Art Room - Check out this still-life drawing from Kaden Woody! Kaden is taking Art I and the class is already creating outstanding works of art! Well done!

Order your Yearbook - Now is the time to order the 2022-2023 DCG High School yearbook! Seniors/Senior Parents -- Consider choosing the "ship to home" option to avoid school pick-up next year. Head to jostens.com to make your purchase. Email Mrs. Soener (ivy.soener@dcschools.com) with any questions.

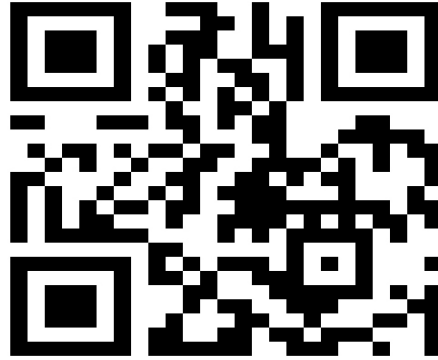
Senior Parents - Baby, toddler and senior photos are also due to Mrs. Soener by December 22!

Homecoming Week at DCG



PTO

The Dallas Center-Grimes Parent Teacher Organization works to support the students, schools, and families of all four of the district's elementary schools. Our areas of focus include raising funds to enhance the educational experiences of our children, supporting student literacy, encouraging school spirit, and sponsoring social activities for families. One of our favorite things to do is provide shirts for our new kindergarten students. How cute did those kids look in the DC-G spirit wear?! These experiences are possible because of the funds we raise. Look for information coming home with your child regarding our upcoming elementary school fundraiser.



Be sure to 'Like' your school's PTO page on Facebook for the most current information on upcoming events, ways to get involved, and student resources. For questions, you can also contact us directly at dallascentergrimespto@gmail.com.



OWL RESCUE

Owl Rescue- Several Dallas Center Elementary students saved the day after they found an owl in one of their soccer nets! After coming back to school from the long Labor Day weekend, these students were quick to help out an owl in need. The students



contacted the DCE school office and they were quick to alert the DNR. It also helps when the DNR officer is a parent of a student in the school. The officer was able to rescue the owl from the soccer net and give it time to rest. When the owl was ready to resume life, the officer released it back into nature. Great job students. Thanks to the DNR for their speedy response!

ELEMENTARY



DCG Develops - York Meggison is spending his Friday mornings with kindergartners at South Prairie Elementary. It's becoming one of the coolest traditions in our district. The program was started to build cross-building ties between our elementary school students and high school students. This tradition started several years ago and the impact that it has had on students both young and old has made a lasting impression. Elementary aged students look up to the high schoolers that come to their rooms on a weekly basis to help with activities, read to the class or help fine tune skills such as learning sight words. The high school students find this experience very fulfilling and learn a lot from the younger students. They enjoy the time laughing, learning and building a relationship with the class. It is fun to watch the younger kids recognize the older students in the band, on the field or court during their respective seasons or activities. Thanks to York and all of the high schoolers involved in this project! You are leading the way!



Lemonade Stand- North Ridge 3rd Grader, Ryan Johnson, (above) hosted a lemonade stand and donated the proceeds to his classroom's fruit stand. \$200 worth of fruit is amazing!! Thanks for helping your classmates Ryan! You inspire us!



5TH ANNUAL RED DINNER & AUCTION

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH, 2022
5 PM - 9 PM
THREE SISTERS BARN

**Raise a
paddle to
raise
scholarship
funds**

Identify the need. It's the purpose of the fund to support the 2023 Fall Festival and the 2023-2024 school year. The fund will be used to support the 2023-2024 school year. The fund will be used to support the 2023-2024 school year. The fund will be used to support the 2023-2024 school year.

2022-2023
dcegeducationfoundation.org



Italy & Greece Parent Meeting

Wed. October 12th

6:30-7:15 pm

HS West Art Room 215

Join us to learn more about the

Art Club Trip Spring Break 2024

This trip is open to ALL DCG
students & parents!



Tour #2547516aj

Questions? Contact danell.duncan@dcdschools.com

Fall Festival - Several members of the DCG staff enjoyed walking in the Dallas Center Fall Festival parade! See you next year!





ACTIVITIES

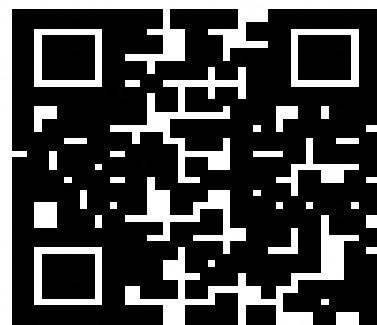


Thunder is Here! DCG's newest mascot has been hard at work this fall. Thunder was introduced to the home crowd on Friday, August 19 at the football game. Thunder celebrated Homecoming Week with all of our students and is looking forward to the winter activity calendar already. Welcome to the DCG family, Thunder!!

Choir Update - Our high school choirs are off to a great start! The high school vocal music program consists of five curricular ensembles: Bass Clef Choir, Treble Clef Choir, Concert Choir, Bella Voce, and DCG Singers. Our 9th Grade Choirs (Bass Clef & Treble Clef) have started preparing music for their first concert while several get ready to audition for the ICDA Opus Honor Choirs. Concert Choir is putting together several pieces for the first concert with a record number 60 members in the choir! Bella Voce and DCG Singers participated in choir retreats in August in order to learn music and bond with their fellow members. Many members of DCG Singers attended the Wartburg Meistersinger All-State Camp this summer to prepare for auditions later in October. In a few short weeks of school, our students have already shown a commitment to excellence in their craft while having a lot of fun in the process! We could not be more excited for the possibilities ahead.

FOFA (Friends of the Fine Arts) helped raise \$17,000 for new uniforms for all five of our choirs. This was a huge endeavor and something our choirs have needed as we continue to grow in numbers and quality. We look forward to showing them off at our first concert. The high school choirs will perform on Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00pm in the High School Auditorium. This concert is free to the public and will feature all five of our choirs in their first official performance of the year! We invite everyone to join us for a one hour concert that is sure to entertain!

FOFA - FOFA is the fine arts booster club and we are seeking donations. Any donation is appreciated and will go directly to student scholarships, purchasing costumes and equipment, and supporting our fine arts teachers. Follow the QR code (right) to learn more about FOFA at DCG!



ACTIVITIES

Softball Awards The DCG Softball team was honored with the IGHSAU Distinguished in Academic Achievement Award, honoring teams with a GPA between 3.25-4.0!

Individual honors/awards

State Tournament All-Tournament Team

Aubrey Johansen, Macee Reiling, Bella Mulder, Olivia Huston

All-State Recognition

Elle Nelsen - 1st Team, Aubrey Johansen - 1st Team, Macee Reiling - 2nd Team, Reese Burke - 3rd Team

All-District Recognition - Class 4A SE Iowa Region - Elle Nelsen and Aubrey Johansen

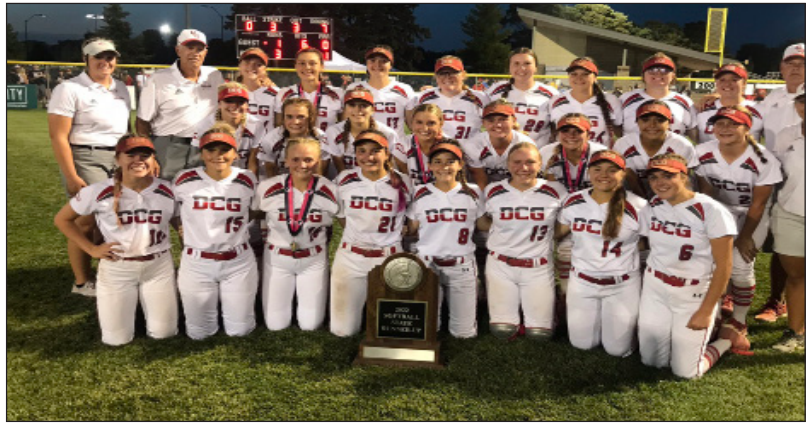
LHC Academic All-Conference - GPA 3.5 or higher and letterwinner

Elle Nelsen, Lauren Wyllie, Grace Johnson, Abby Osborn, Zoey Valenta, Reese Burke, Summer Campbell, Amelia Ehlert, Aubrey Johansen, Tess McGuire, Brantley Praska, Macee Reiling, Camila Rodriguez, Haylee Uhl, Jenna Morrison

LHC All-Conference Athletic Awards

1st Team - Elle Nelsen - IF (unanimous), Aubrey Johansen - P (unanimous), Macee Reiling - IF, Reese Burke - Utility (unanimous) - 2nd Team - Camila Rodriguez - P (unanimous) and Olivia Huston - OF

Honorable Mention - Lauren Wyllie and Bella Mulder



Thanks DCG Booster Club! - The DCG Booster Club was honored to present a check for \$100,000 to our DCG Activities Department at the homecoming game! This was all made possible from your donations and sponsorships! This community is amazing and we thank you for all your support!

Don't forget to stop by the DCG Boo-Tique October 9th from 4-7pm at the High School Stadium. Shop from local vendors, grab dinner and celebrate fall!

You can also find out more information and our volunteer opportunities at our website <https://www.dcgboosterclub.com>.

Joy Project The DCG Boys Cross Country team has one of the most powerful traditions in our area. The Mustangs celebrated year nine of the Joy Project this fall. They spent one evening on the sidewalks of Highway 44. Each runner (plus Thunder) held a message of positivity for everyone to see. The night was full of honks and smiles. Thanks for sharing your joy with us!



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475 strong! DCG staff gathered on the football field to take a photo before the first bell rang in the 2022-23 school year. We are proud of this team and excited to watch them make an impact in our district this year!!