STEWART NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2026

YSD Preschool Registration & Open House

Preschool Open House and Registration

The Yankton School District will offer Preschool Open House at TLC on Mon, Nov 23 from 4:30-6:00 PM. This will allow you and your child an opportunity to get a glimpse of the fabulous program we have in the public school system for toddlers aged 3 and 4.

YSD's preschool is tuition free; however, a $50 registration fee is required. Once your child begins JrK or K in the Yankton School District, your registration fee will be refunded. All of our preschool classes are located at Trailhead Learning Center.

Please call 260-5400 to make a reservation for your child, so we can have a name tag ready for you when you arrive.

Early Release/Late Start Information

With winter weather approaching please review with your child their plan after school on an early release weather day. In case of a late start, school begins 2 hours later than normal school would start at 10:35 and breakfast starting at 9:45.

Upcoming Events

- Nov. 5 Parent Teacher Conferences & Book Fair
- Nov. 11 No School
- Nov. 23 Stewart 1st-3rd Concert
- Nov. 23 Preschool Open House
- Nov. 25-29 No School

Contact Info

You are always welcome to stop and visit to say "hi", to get to know me, share great things about your student or bring up any concerns

Email: cody.lukkes@k12.sd.us
Phone: 605.665.5765

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School Reminders

A reminder that the playground is not supervised until 8:15 each morning and breakfast is served from 7:45-8:15. First bell rings at 8:35 followed by the tardy bell at 8:40.

Please pick up students on Walnut Street after school to alleviate any traffic problems with busses in front of the school. Reminder that walkers are dismissed at 3:20 and riders are dismissed at 3:25.

Reminder that if your student is going to be absent from school for the day to please call the main office 605.665.5765 or email your student's classroom teacher letting them know that they will be absent.

Recess and Winter Weather:

The school monitors the weather and wind chill carefully. When it is above 0 degrees wind chill, the children will be outside for the entire recess. When it is 0 -15 below wind chill, the recess will be shortened accordingly. If it is colder, the children will be inside. Please label your child's winter wear with their name or initials. Snow pants and boots are easily mixed up, and it makes it much easier to find the correct owner when they are labeled. Please bring appropriate clothing for the weather: snow pants, boots, hats, mittens, etc. With the weather changing, please send students in appropriate clothing for outdoor activities.

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In Class Today, In Charge Tomorrow

Chronic absenteeism is a serious problem in South Dakota. But what is it? Chronic absenteeism is when a student misses 10% or more of the school year. That's only two days a month – and it adds up. Since the 2018-2019 school year, the rate of chronic absenteeism has nearly doubled in South Dakota.

That's bad, as chronic absenteeism is proven to increase drop-out rates, hurt student grades and can lead to juvenile delinquency. Research also shows that students who don't graduate from high school miss out on lifetime earnings
– making approximately $10,000 less per year than those who receive a high school diploma. Over the course of a lifetime, that adds up. Students' futures start today. And they start in class.

- Build Routines: Daily attendance routines, created at home or in school, can reduce stress for students and families and create a sense of safety and security, especially after chaotic transitions.
- Increase Engagement: Being in school helps students to get to know peers, teachers, and school staff and to create trusting relationships that motivate students to participate in learning.
- Provide Access to Resources: Schools help students and families gain access to basic resources such as meals, physical and mental health services, and fun enrichment activities like sports, clubs, music, afterschool, and summer programs.
- Support Learning: Learning is most meaningful when it is active, social, and allows students to apply concepts to real life situations. Showing up to school regularly helps students engage in learning that builds proficiency in reading and math that will help them to graduate from high school.