



November  
2023  
Vol. 26  
No. 4

# Dakota Prairie Knight Reader

<http://www.dakota-prairie.k12.nd.us>

## A Few Things by Jay Slade, Superintendent



Hello everyone and welcome to November. The month of begrudgingly turning on the heater, shorter days, enjoying the “left-overs” from Halloween, and giving thanks for everyone we hold dear to us. My hope is that school is as synonymous with November as is, roasted turkey, cranberries, and bad football games.

At Dakota Prairie Schools, we ended the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter in mid-October, and by the time this memo is released, we will be a couple weeks into the second quarter. Please inquire as to your student’s grades for Quarter 1. You can access their grades through PowerSchool, or at either DP campus office, or simply by contacting your student’s teacher(s). Please stay up to date on your student’s grades; it’s important. Whether they like to admit it or not, students of all ages need someone asking/caring/being committed to every aspect of their health; mental, physical, and/or academic. By being the “nagging” parent about your student’s grades, you’re showing you care. Disclaimer – you may get a little bit of attitude, but that’s just the fun part!

As some of you may be aware, this is a very important year for Dakota Prairie Schools. Not to bore you with educational jargon but this is year 4 of our 5-year school accreditation review. The school accreditation process happens every 5 years and looks into a variety of topics; such as how the administrative team is managing the district operations, how teachers are conducting day-to-day business in their classrooms, and how a wide variety of resources are being used to assist in the learning process. Over the past 4 years there have been numerous changes and updates. But to simplify it, the process consists of a team (virtual or in-person) who will tour our schools, review how we function based upon state approved rubrics, ask questions from everyone, and determine what we are doing well and what are “opportunities” for growth.

Though this sounds like a daunting endeavor, I have the utmost confidence in our teachers, our staff, and our leadership team. I would like to personally thank, Mrs. Traci Sand and Mr. Brendon Parsley for the countless hours they have put in preparing for this review. I speak from first-hand knowledge that over the course of the past 4 years, there have been yearly significant structural changes to the review process. With every change and reversal of policy, Traci and Brendon have addressed those changes. They continue to be crucial leaders for the entire district leading up to the accreditation review process next year. I truly appreciate the hard work and dedication to DP that they continue to exhibit. My reason for ad-

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dressing this now is simple, I am asking for assistance.

At parent teacher conferences in October, you were asked to complete a survey. I hope you all took the time to complete that survey. Over the course of the next year, we may be asking all of you to help us out by giving feedback on additional surveys or attending various meetings or events. I say in advance, thank you, for the assistance as we build up to this all important review of our school.

Lastly, November brings about two things cold weather and winter events. Please make sure your student has winter gear with them. Whether they are on our busses, driving themselves, or riding with someone, make sure they have winter hats, gloves, jackets. This is especially true for our student participants as they travel all around the state representing Dakota Prairie and Nelson County. If you get a chance please come out and support all of those kids brave enough to participate in their various events or events. Whether it is playing basketball, making your character lovable on stage, or creating something out of a pile of Legos, November is the month it all starts again. Good luck to all of your student participants and as always Go Knights!! Go Chargers!!

## LIBRARY NEWS

*Major: A Soldier Dog* written by Trevor Jones, illustrated by Ming Hai was donated to the elementary library. Thank you to Judy Twete for adding this to our collection, I'm sure the kids will especially love the pictures.

Library books checked at in the first quarter were due October 17th. **Colored overdue book slips may be coming home to help round up some books for return.** Elementary students in grades K-3 are allowed one book at a time, without returning their previous book they are unable to check out a new one. Forth-sixth grade students may have two at a time, and 7-12 may have a total of 5 books.

I prefer to get the book back so others can enjoy it again. If the book is damaged and unusable, I may ask for reimbursement to replace that book. Some titles are easier to replace than others and sometimes the price tag doesn't fit the need. TIA for helping look for missing books.

Keep reading! SJ

## OAP 2023

Dakota Prairie Drama will be performing at Pekin NCAC building on Saturday, November 18th. Check social media for more information.

Their one-act play this year is a drama called *If Only* by Mike Willis. It's about a girl whose been in an accident and left in a coma. Her siblings and friends stop by to visit, but her character remains unseen and unheard as she learns what happened and how it could have been prevented. *Run time 25 minutes.*

Senior student actors Kraysten Brueckner, Heather Peavy, and Sarah Fleshman perform as the lead characters, Sydnee, Max and Mom.





### Shout Out!

Danica Magnus (trumpet), Jayden Collins (Vocal) and Tyra Cree-Beglau (alto sax) will be going to UND October 28<sup>th</sup> to audition for the UND honor festival. They are among hundreds of students from all over the state to audition. Heather (Viola) will go to UND at a later date to also audition. Last year Jordan Ridgway and Hailey Brantner attended the honor festival. Good Luck music students!

**Shout out to Ty and Kee-gen for 'de-creaking' classroom doors because they were noisy!**

**We appreciate you boys!**



### Shout Out!

Dagan Slade was selected to participate in the VCSU Ployhar Honor Band. October 26<sup>th</sup> and 27th.

Music students record them selves and send in an "audition tape" to VCSU. From that VCSU selects students to make full honor band. Dagan will be in a band of almost 90 musicians and she will be one of 4 tenor sax players in the band. This will be a great experience for her. Way to go, Dagan!

### Thank you!

Mr. Jeff Zemek has donated more!! Two trumpets, a violin, an alto saxophone, a snare drum and a set of bells. Thank you for your generosity.



**Thank you to Sheyenne WELCA for their generous donation!**

**It will be used toward the student lunch program.**

## Would you like to celebrate a veteran in your life?

I will be baking cookies to commemorate Veteran's Day, but I need your help! If you know a veteran that would like to receive a small box of cookies to thank them for their service, please let me know! Cookies will be delivered on Friday and Saturday, November 10 and 11.

You can sign up by visiting [bit.ly/veteranscookies](https://bit.ly/veteranscookies) or scan the QR code.



If you have questions, you can contact me at [lily.donohue@k12.nd.us](mailto:lily.donohue@k12.nd.us) or call the high school office at 701-345-8233.

Thank you!

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR PROM DAKOTA PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL PROM SATURDAY, APRIL 6TH 2024 PETERSBURG, ND



## New Holiday in Petersburg

September 29th is now Doris Forde Day in Petersburg, ND. Mrs. Forde, long-time DP staff member, was recognized for her commitment to education and students at Dakota Prairie. Amber Vickaryous, mayor of Petersburg and former DPHS cook, came to the school to deliver the special announcement and hand Doris the certificate. What will we do Sept 29, 2024? Bring your quilt to school day? Forde Bars for all? Wear purple? *Have ideas? Reach out to StuCo.* Congratulations, Mrs. Forde. We love you.



## SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

DAKOTA PRAIRIE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT # 1

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2023, 8:00 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING HELD

VIA ZOOM

- ◆ Mr. Todd Jorde—President
- ◆ Mrs. Sarah Anderson
- ◆ Mrs. Chanda Arneson
- ◆ Mrs. Penny Lippert
- ◆ Mr. David Blasey

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Sarah Anderson with members Chanda Arneson, Dave Blasey and Penny Lippert present. Todd Jorde was absent. Also present were Superintendent Jay Slade, Principals Jackie Bye, Clay Johnson and Lori Dahl, Business Manager.

The minutes, bills for payment and the September financial reports were reviewed.

Motion by Chanda Arneson, second by Penny Lippert to approve the bills for payment, the minutes as printed and the financial reports as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

There was no Activities report this month, there will be an update in November, and a Co-op meeting set to review the volleyball and football seasons.

Ms. Bye reported that the town hall meetings have been set for October 25<sup>th</sup> in Petersburg and McVile on November 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. on both dates. The Title I report will be presented at both meetings. Parent teachers' conferences will be October 16<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. Ms. Bye updated on starting an elementary homework club, the large gym cleaning, boys' and girls' basketball.

Mr. Johnson reported: The contractor will be here this week to work on a breezeway between the gym and weight room, some updates to the weight room and the installation of cameras. State testing went ok and we will need to schedule a makeup day for those who missed the original day.

Mr. Slade requested that anyone who wishes to attend the NDSBA convention let Lori Dahl know as soon as possible.

A tuition waiver and open enrollment form has been received for a student from Dakota Prairie to attend Midkota.

Motion by Chanda, second by Dave Blasey to approve the open enrollment and tuition waiver to Midkota. All in favor, motion carried.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2023, a change may be necessary to accommodate schedules.

Motion by Chanda Arneson to adjourn.

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Business Manager

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Chairperson



## EXPECTATIONS FOR ONLINE LEARNING DAYS

### Grades 7-12

#### Things to Remember:

- It is still considered a school day.
- Attendance and tardies still apply.
- Students must be participating (camera on, properly clothed, appropriate background) to be considered present.
- Students may be kicked out of the meeting and counted absent if they are not following expectations and/or behaving appropriately.
- **For questions (technology, attendance, etc.) contact [clay.johnson@k12.nd.us](mailto:clay.johnson@k12.nd.us)**

#### Student Expectations:

- Bring your computer and charger home every day.
- Do not leave it in your car!
- Make sure your camera and charger work.
- Follow the school dress code.
- Keep your camera on with your face visible.
- Use an appropriate background.
- Participate in the activity/discussion.
- Message teachers within office hours (8:00-9:40 AM and 2:35-3:30 PM.)
- You do NOT have to check in for study hall.

## DPHS REMIND CODES

DPHS Announcements	@dphsann	<b>English 9</b>	<b>@66339gg</b>
7th Grade	@dpgrade7	<b>English 10</b>	<b>@b8cc6h3</b>
8th Grade	@dpgrade8	<b>English 11</b>	<b>@ckha6d</b>
One-Act Play	@dpoap23	<b>English 12</b>	<b>@2674f4</b>
Ms. Hurst's Knight Time	@d762gc3	Close Up 2025	@e2hhgh9
		Yearbook	@9k7d74
		Spring Play	@4f22dk8k



Codes for English 9-12 corrected from September issue.

## College Application Month

Article submitted by Ms. Kelsey Beckstrom

A state-wide initiative to get more seniors to apply to college kicked off October 1st. By participating, our seniors were each given a voucher for one free application to any ND trade school or university. Several students applied to Valley City State University, North Dakota State College of Science, and Lake Region State College.

Seniors can also use a voucher from Trio to apply to additional schools or out of state colleges. Several seniors applied to Northland Community and Technical College in EGF.

Teachers dressed up in their college gear to support area colleges.



## Work-Force Ready Students Tour Businesses

Article submitted by Ms. Kelsey Beckstrom

Students interested in mechanics, welding, auto body, and conducting signed up to tour the Northern Plains Railroad in Fordville. For students who are not planning to attend college, this is a great place to learn on the job.

Students got to sit in the engineer's chair in a salvaged locomotive. Students liked learning about how many tons it can pull and how much horsepower it has.

After touring NPR in Fordville, we briefly toured the new fertilizer facility operated by Co-op. Students also learned the Co-op is one of the few places that accepts and dries sunflowers before trucking them to the sunflower plant in Enderlin.

To end our day in Fordville, we toured the new bridge that is being installed west of town. We had an excellent tour guide, Dylan, from Swingen Construction out of Grand Forks. We learned about bridge stabilization and why they drive pilings 130 feet down into the ground. We also got to see a robotic packer in use.

Swingen Construction let all DPHS students operate the excavator. Students learned how to raise and drop the arm and scoop and empty dirt. Even Ms. Beckstrom drove the excavator. "I couldn't resist the peer pressures!"



~ Elementary News ~

AR Awards August & September 2023

25 Points

Ahnalee Kueber and Mila Watkins

50 Points

Lily Walter and Elsie Arneson

100 Points

Hannah Strand and Harper Yoney

200 Points

Nathlie Olson

2,200 Points and 2,300 Points

Nathan Beglau



The first grade rhythm band have been working on “Freedom March” for the Veteran’s concert November 10th.

*Concert location to be announced.  
Check social media and DP Alerts.*

5th and 6th grade girls basketball showed their support for Hatton Northwood Volleyball team by wearing Thunder Strong warm up shirts when they played Northwood 5/6 GBB.



## ~ Elementary News ~

### Fourth Grade Adopt-a-Cow

Article submitted by Mrs. Kayte Avdem

The 4<sup>th</sup> Grade is participating in the Adopt-A-Cow Program and has adopted an actual live calf growing up on a dairy farm in Hugo, MN.



Our calf will not be living in our classroom, but will continue to live on the farm by our host farmer is Andrew Miron from Miron Farms. We will receive monthly updates about the calf that will include information, pictures and videos. These updates will include lessons and activities related to her growth, how it is cared for on the farm, and how milk is produced on the farm.

We are super excited to follow the calf's journey on the farm while learning more about dairy farming and where the milk comes from. We are excited to share Dottie with you! She is a heifer (female) calf from Miron Farm where she will live a very happy and healthy life.

### Solar S'mores

Article submitted by Ms. Amy Olson

The sixth graders have been exploring the sun's energy role within the universe. We built solar ovens and attempted to cook S'mores. Of course, the weather has not

been the most cooperative, or the Sun for that matter! North Dakota wind!! We still had fun creating this lab project and are going to try cooking other things at home. The S'mores still tasted great uncooked!!!



## ~ Elementary News ~



### First and Second Grade Go to the Pumpkin Patch

Article submitted by Ms. Haley Klefstad

A rainy start to the day couldn't keep the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders from enjoying another exciting field trip to Nelson's Pumpkin Patch. We bundled up and departed on the "fancy bus" at the start of the school day. The students (as well as teachers and parents) loved exploring, wagon rides, climbing, and playing all over the patch! It was a quiet ride on the way home....lots of fresh air and activity resulted in some sleepy kids!



### First Grade Visit with McVile FD

Article submitted by Ms Haley Klefstad

The first graders of Dakota Prairie were surprised by a visit from members of the McVile Fire Department. They got to hear the sirens, watch demonstrations of the hoses and fire extinguishers, and take a closer look at the control panels on the top of the truck! Thank you to Clay and Johnathon for taking the time stop by!



**SCHOOL CONCERTS**  
**2023-2024**

**Dakota Prairie Elementary Concerts**

**Veteran's Day Concert- November 9, 2023 Location TBA**

10:00 Grades: PK-6

**Christmas Concert-December 20, 2023 Location TBA**

10:00 Grades PK-3

**Midwinter Follies-March 19, 2024**

7:00 Grades 4-6

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation & Musical Performance -April 26, 2024**

7:00 Grade 6

**Spring Concert-May 16, 2024**

7:00 Grades 1-5

**Kindergarten Graduation & Preschool Spring Concert- May 21, 2024**

10:00 Grades Pk & K

**Due to the ongoing gym project at the elementary school, the Veteran's Day concert will be moved to a different venue. Please watch for communication from us about that change.**

**Depending on the progress of the gym, we may need to also change the venue for Christmas concert. We will know more about this towards the end of November. Please watch the December Knight Reader for that update.**

**Dakota Prairie High School Concerts**

**Christmas Concert—December 12, 2023**

7pm @ High School

**Spring Concert—May 14, 2024**

7pm @ High School

## November 2023

Nov 1—McVille Town Hall Meeting @DPE 6pm

Nov 5—Daylight Savings Time Ends

Nov 8—School Board Meeting

Nov 9— Elementary Veterans Day Concert 10am

Nov 10—No school: Veterans Day

Nov 23-24—No school: Thanksgiving

Please check the Dakota Prairie Home Page for  
the most current Activities Schedules

<https://www.dakota-prairie.k12.nd.us>

## Future Dates of Interest

Nov 10—No school: Veterans Day

Nov 23-24— No school: Thanksgiving

Dec 21—End of First Semester

*Dec 22—Start of Holiday Break/Snow Day*

**Jan 3—Back from Holiday break**

Jan 15—No school: Teacher PD

Feb 19—No school: Presidents Day

Feb 29-Mar 1—No school: Spring Break

**Mar 11—Parent Teacher Conferences @ Elem**

Mar 14-15 — No school: Spring Break

Mar 29— Easter Break

*Apr 1—Easter Holiday/Snow Day*

May 23—End of Second Semester

**May 26—Graduation**



**Dakota Prairie School District**

**Box 37**

**Petersburg, ND 58272**

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Comments may be made in writing or by calling 701-345-8233 during school hours.

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Dakota Prairie  
Course Descriptions

