



August
2026
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No. 1

Dakota Prairie Knight Reader

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

A Few Things by Jay Slade, Superintendent



Hello everyone and welcome to August,

I cannot remember a summer as hot or dry as this one. It is so hot out, even my weeds are dying. I want to wish all of our stakeholders whose livelihood depends on agriculture good luck this fall and “may you fill your fields with thick grain and may your storerooms be full”.

A couple of minor changes have occurred since last May that will affect our district and I would like to begin my “A Few Things” memo to discuss those changes first:

1. **Infinite Campus:** Simply stated, Infinite Campus is the new PowerSchool. There are many features that Infinite Campus provide that PowerSchool simply did not and eventually it should be a smoother process. In the meantime, I ask for your patience with our office members as we work through this transition in real time, with real student data. We sent an email out on July 23rd to parents with information on how to activate their parent account. Student registration is scheduled to begin on August 2nd. If you have any questions about registration, please contact Lori Ternquist at lori.ternquist@k12.nd.us. Again, we ask for patience while we work on this change.
2. **\$25 Activity Fee:** Due to the rising costs of gas/drivers/vehicle maintenance, we are asking our stakeholders to help us out by paying a \$25 Activity fee for each event the student chooses to be involved in. There is a cap of \$200 per family. I understand costs for everything are rising, for not only us but our families as well. There is no good time to create a new bill, but I feel this nominal fee will help us continue getting your kids home sooner and safe. If you have been approved for Free or Reduced Meals, the activity fee will not apply to your family.

For my next topic, I would like to address the students:

Enjoy the remainder of your summer, responsibly. Don't work that extra shift – make plans to see a friend. Don't worry about what classes you need or what school supply materials you need – go get ice cream. Some of you have jobs/responsibilities outside of school and I completely understand that, but as soon as August 19th hits, your primary job is being at school and getting good grades. That means getting up early, completing required tasks, and attempting to have an optimistic/positive attitude while you are here. So, try to enjoy these last few weeks of summer break!

For some of you, this year is a transition year. Whether it be from Preschool to Kindergarten or from 6th to 7th grade, or you are new to the district, please know that *Continued on page 2*

**CURRENT &
PREVIOUS
ISSUES
AVAILABLE
ONLINE**

**PRINT COPY
AVAILABLE BY
REQUEST**

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A Few Things continued.

DP staff are here for you. If you have questions, ask. If you have concerns, tell someone you feel comfortable with. If you don't know everything on the 1st day, rest assured you will be fine.

Activities. Believe it or not, Fall Activities are starting soon:

To practice or play all student-participants must have following items to their respective coaches or office personnel. #1 Physical Form signed by a medical professional, #2 Agreement Form signed by parents, #3 \$25 Activity fee.

- ☐ Football and Volleyball practices will be starting prior to the start of the school year. Transportation to practices is the responsibility of the student/guardians while school is not in session. Please reach out to your respective coach for schedule information or if you have transportation concerns.
- ☐ Good luck to all of our Fall activity student participants. Please get out there and support our kids as they represent our eclectic little community. The students notice and it is appreciated.

Bus Driver, I need bus drivers: Please call/email/send a telegram if you are interested in driving bus. It is a great way to supplement income during the winter and you get to work with an amazing group of people.

For my last topic, I would like to introduce our new staff members for the 2026-2027 School Year. At Dakota Prairie High School I would like to welcome four new faces to the staff. Darcy McGee will be teaching Business Education classes and is coming to us from South Dakota where she has many years of teaching experience in a school similar to Dakota Prairie. Isaac Strom will be teaching Junior High Math and is beginning his education career. Madison Wheeler and Emily Putnam will be joining us as paraprofessionals and are also both beginning their career in public education. As far as Dakota Prairie Elementary, I would like to introduce Kayla Leith. She will be taking over Head Cook responsibilities and comes to us with many years of experience working in kitchens in Alabama. Karli Willson is also joining as a paraprofessional. I would like to welcome all of our staff members and wish them a happy and content year with their respective responsibilities.

As always, if you have any concerns/questions/recommendations my door and email are always open. Have a great year and Go Chargers! Go Knights!!

Back to School Open Houses

DP Elementary

Monday, August 17th

5 pm—7 pm

More info on page 29

DP High School

Monday, August 17th

5 pm—7 pm

7th Grade Transition
Meeting @ 6:30 in the
lunch room

Sign up or ask about
the Knight Packs
Program in the office
at Back to School Night

GET PAID AND WATCH EXCITING CHARGERS SPORTS ACTION

If you're interested in helping with any home ball games in McVile this school year, please contact Hunter Sand (Dakota Prairie AD) at hunter.sand@k12.nd.us or 701-345-8233.

You don't need to commit to every game, as some positions have already been filled, but we're always looking for additional help or people who can be available as substitutes when needed. We're currently seeking individuals to assist as line judges for volleyball, run the clock or shot clock during games, referee, keep the official book, or help with football games through announcing or working the chains. Your support is always appreciated!

Payments and Contact Info

We are no longer using E-funds for credit card payments. We will be using Campus Payments, and parents can pay for lunch/fees through the Parent Portal Account.

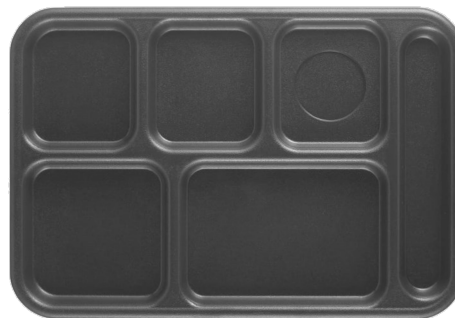
Campus Payments: Payments made online work seamlessly *with your Infinite Campus system data*, providing real-time transaction verification. Includes: fee transactions, lunch deposits, and School Store.

Also part of Infinite Campus is our messaging system. Messenger 2.0 will be used for alerts. Documents may be sent via Apptegy.

2026-2027 Meal Prices

Students must pre-purchase noon lunch and breakfast at the central office at 518 4th Ave PO Box 37, Petersburg, ND 58272 or 101 Nyhus Ave PO Box 337, McVile, ND 58254. Also, families can pay online through e-funds. The link can be found on the DP Website. Call either office for assistance at 701-345-8233 or 701-322-4771. Eating breakfast will not be an excuse for tardiness to class. On late start days no breakfast will be served.

- ⇒ K-12 breakfast costs for students are \$2.35.
- ⇒ Adult breakfast cost is \$3.10.
- ⇒ K-6 student lunch costs \$2.95.
- ⇒ 7-12 student lunch costs \$3.10.
- ⇒ Adult lunch costs are \$4.15.
- ⇒ Extra milk \$0.40
- ⇒ Reduced price breakfast is \$0.
- ⇒ Reduced price lunch is \$0.



The meal accounting system at Dakota Prairie is a pre-paid system, which relies on parents maintaining a positive balance in their student's account. Breakfasts, lunches, and extra milk may be paid for by this account.

If families reach a negative balance of -\$100 at any point of the school year, the account will be turned over to collections. Prior to the balance going negative, emails and notifications will be sent to the family.

Asbestos Notification

TO: Parents and Staff of Dakota Prairie School

FROM: Jay Slade, Superintendent

Date: July 30, 2026

RE: Annual Notification of Asbestos Containing Material

In compliance with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), in August of 2015, EPA performed inspections of our school buildings for asbestos-containing building materials. The inspection findings and asbestos management plans are on file in school administrative office in Petersburg, N.D.

The EPA requires us to perform re-inspections of the asbestos materials every three years. An accredited Inspector/Management Planner performed the AHERA 3-year inspection of our school district in July 2024 and issued a report regarding the results. There were no significant changes in the remaining asbestos at that time.

All asbestos containing materials in our buildings are in good condition and we will continue to manage them in place, as recommended by the accredited management planner. We were last inspected by TRIO Environmental Consulting.

The results of the re-inspection as well as the last 6 months surveillance are on file in the administrative offices of each building. Everyone is welcome to view these documents anytime during the school hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Our Asbestos Program Manager, Jay Slade, is available to answer any questions you may have about asbestos in our buildings.

We are intent on not only complying with, but exceeding federal, state, and local regulations in this area. We plan to take whatever steps necessary to insure that our children and employees have a safe and healthy environment in which to learn and work.

PARENT PORTAL ACCOUNT ACTIVATION:

To support effective and efficient communication with our families, DAKOTA PRAIRIE SCHOOL DISTRICT will be utilizing Infinite Campus, our new student information system. An email with step-by-step instructions is being sent to Parent/Guardians to create your Infinite Campus Parent Portal account.

Parents/Guardians of new students to Dakota Prairie School District should contact Lori Ternquist @ 701-345-8233 to fill out the needed forms (Ex: Request for Records) and to start the New Student Registration. This is a new process to us, and Infinite Campus recommends that New Student Registration is done at the school for the 2026-27 school year.



WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT:

Please create your account and update your information by August 2, 2026. Critical information about the start of the school year will be communicated through your Portal account. Infinite Campus Online Registration to update your student(s) information/permissions for the 2026-27 school year will start after August 2nd.

~ UNOFFICIAL MINUTES~

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

DAKOTA PRAIRIE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 1
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026, 7:00 P.M.
DAKOTA PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL
CONFERENCE ROOM & ZOOM

- ◆ Mr. David Blasey—President
- ◆ Mr. Charlie Stein
- ◆ Mrs. Jennifer Rusten
- ◆ Mrs. Nikki Ohnstad
- ◆ Mrs. Anna Halvorson

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dave Blasey with members Nikki Ohnstad, Jennifer Rusten, Charlie Stein in person; Anna Halvorson was present via zoom. Also present were Superintendent Jay Slade, Elementary Principal Jackie Bye via Zoom and Lori Dahl Business Manager.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Motion by Charlie Stein, second by Jennifer Rusten to approve the agenda as printed. All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment No requests

Declaration of the 26-27 school board, the appropriate forms have been filed for Dave Blasey and Jennifer Rusten for their 3-year terms.

The meeting was turned over to Superintendent Jay Slade for the re-organization of the board.

Motion by Charlie Stein second by Jennifer Rusten to nominate Dave Blasey for president that nominations cease, and a unanimous ballot be cast for Dave Blasey as board president. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Dave Blasey Second by Nikki Ohnstad to nominate Charlie Stein for vice president that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Charlie Stein as board vice president. All in favor, motion carried.

The minutes and bills were presented and reviewed.

Motion by Jennifer Rusten second by Anna Halvorson to approve the minutes as printed and the bills for payment. All in favor, motion carried.

The 2025-26 end of year financial report and the June end of year reports were presented and discussed. Motion by Charlie Stein, second by Nikki Ohnstad, to approve the 25-26 financial report and the June financials. All in favor, motion carried.

Superintendent items for discussion: NDSA New Member boot camp opportunity, and Nelson County Cooperative Agreements updates and discussion. Reported on the results of the Lakota board meeting regarding issues for discussion, The pay to play was discussed and the funds collected will be used for shuttle expenses. Also discussed the split of seasons for the athletic directors, Lakota Athletic director will be in charge of fall sports and Dakota Prairie Athletic Director will be in charge of winter and Spring activities as well as the music. Motion by Charlie Stein Second Jennifer Rusten that Lakota be the athletic director for the fall sport, Girls Golf, Football and Volleyball and Dakota Prairie has Winter sports, Spring sports and Music. All in favor, motion carried.

Elementary Principal Report: The large gym floor will be worked on and updated; there were issues with the finish. Updated on landscaping, new signage, and mostly cosmetic work. Staff openings are being interviewed for and the new sound system in the gym has been installed; and is working well.

High School Principal Report: Science Room update, gym floor is done, we have hired 2 paraprofessionals, we are still looking for a science teacher. We have a couple of potential candidates.

Continued on page 6

School Board Minutes continued.

Nelson County JDA began a virtual job fair, July 23rd and would like employers and job seekers to come on and interview, just something to help find staff. Anna Halvorson will provide administration with additional information.

The pledge of securities was reviewed at this time.

Motion by Anna Halvorson, second by Jennifer Rusten to appoint Jay Slade as the authorized representative for all Federal Funds including Title I, II, IV, Hot Lunch and the 21st Century Program. All in favor, motion carried

Motion by Jennifer Rusten, second by Charlie Stein to designate Clay Johnson as the Homeless Liaison. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Nikki Ohnstad second by Charlie Stein to designate Jackie Bye as the Foster Care Liaison. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Charlie Stein Second by Nikki Ohnstad to designate The Lakota American as the official newspaper. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Jennifer Rusten, second by Anna Halvorson to designate First United Bank and Farmers & Merchants of North Dakota as the official depositories for the 26-27 school year. All in favor, motion carried.

The following committees were established.

Buildings & Grounds: Charlie Stein and Jennifer Rusten

Negotiations & Personnel: Dave Blasey and Anna Halvorson

Transportation: David Blasey and Charlie Stein

Finance: Charlie Stein and Nikki Ohnstad

Policy: Jennifer Rusten & Anna Halvorson

Curriculum: Jennifer Rusten and Nikki Ohnstad

Coop Committee: Dave Blasey & Nikki Ohnstad

The budget was presented and discussed.

Motion by Anna Halvorson Second by Jennifer Rusten, to approve the preliminary budget for 2026-27 as presented with revenues of \$6,301,525 and expenditures of \$6,853,930. All in favor, motion carried.

The 2026-27 Student/Parent Handbook was presented for the 2nd reading. Motion by Charlie Stein Second by Jennifer Rusten to approve the 2nd reading of the handbook. All in favor, motion carried.

Next meeting is August 17, 2026, at 7:30 a.m. in Petersburg

Anna Halvorson brought up that she had been approached by a parent with an interest in a football camp for the younger students, also that she has one name interested in helping with the Nelson County Booster Club if we get it established.

Motion by Anna Halvorson, second by Charlie Stein to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.

Letter to Households with Frequently Asked Questions

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Dakota Prairie Public School District offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs are K-12 \$2.35; lunch costs K-6 \$2.95 and 7-12 \$3.10. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is 0.00 for breakfast and 0.00 for lunch.

1. Do I need to fill out an application for each child? No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced price meals. Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: Lori Dahl, Business Manager, P O Box 37, Petersburg, ND 58272, Phone 701-345-8233
2. Who can get free meals? Children in households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits (formerly the Food Stamp Program), or getting TANF, and most foster children can get free meals regardless of your income. Also, your children can get free meals if your household income is within the free limits on the Federal Income Guidelines.
3. Can homeless, head start, runaway and migrant children get free meals? Please call [school, homeless liaison or migrant coordinator] to see if your child(ren) qualify, if you have not been informed that they will get free meals.
4. Who can get reduced price meals? Your children can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Income Chart, shown on this application.
5. Should I fill out an application if I got a letter this school year saying my children are approved for free or reduced price meals? Please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. Call the school at 701-345-8233 if you have questions.
6. I get WIC. Can my child(ren) get free meals? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please fill out an application.
7. Will the information I give be checked? Yes, we may ask you to send written proof.
8. If I don't qualify now, may I apply later? Yes. You may apply at any time during the school year if your household size goes up, income goes down, or if you start receiving SNAP or getting TANF or other benefits. If you lose your job, your children may be able to get free or reduced price meals.
9. What if I disagree with the school's decision about my application? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: Jay Slade, Superintendent, P O Box 37, Petersburg, ND 58272, Phone (701) 345-8233
10. May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen? Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be a U.S. citizen to qualify for free or reduced price meals.
11. Who should I include as members of my household? You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends). You must include yourself and all children who live with you.
12. What if my income is not always the same? List the amount that you normally get. For example, if you normally get \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only got \$900, put down that you get \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but not if you get it only sometimes.
13. We are in the military, do we include our housing allowance as income? If your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. All other allowances must be included in your gross income. If you have other questions or need help, call [phone number].

Sincerely,

Lori Dahl
Business Manager
701-345-8233
lori.dahl@k12.nd.us

**Forms will not be available
until after August 5.**

**On Infinite Campus, check
the Parent Portal for lunch
forms.**

**An alert will be sent when
applications are available.**

The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. The last four digits of the social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We MAY share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2800 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

2026-2027 DAKOTA PRAIRIE SCHOOL DISTRICT 2026-2027

VISION STATEMENT

To provide an innovative educational environment that promotes engagement, empowerment, and excellence.



JULY 2026	DATES TO REMEMBER	JANUARY 2027
1 2 3 4	AUGUST	1 2
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	14TH NESC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	3 4 5 6 7 8 9
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	17TH PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	10 11 12 13 14 15 16
18 20 21 22 23 24 25	18TH PD - TEACHER WORKDAY	17 18 19 20 21 22 23
26 27 28 29 30 31	19TH FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL	24 25 26 27 28 29 30
	SEPTEMBER	31
AUGUST 2026	7TH LABOR DAY - NO SCHOOL	FEBRUARY 2027
1	OCTOBER	1 2 3 4 5 6
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	21ST P-T CONFERENCE: 8 AM to 6 PM NO SCHOOL	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
9 10 11 12 13 14 15	22ND EDUCATOR CONFERENCE - NO SCHOOL	14 15 16 17 18 19 20
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	23RD EDUCATOR CONFERENCE - NO SCHOOL	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
23 24 25 26 27 28 29	NOVEMBER	28
30 31	11TH VETERAN'S DAY - NO SCHOOL	
	25TH EARLY OUT 1:30	
SEPTEMBER 2026	26TH-27TH THANKSGIVING BREAK - NO SCHOOL	MARCH 2027
1 2 3 4 5	DECEMBER	1 2 3 4 5 6
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	18TH EARLY OUT 1:30	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	21ST-1ST CHRISTMAS BREAK - NO SCHOOL	14 15 16 17 18 19 20
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	JANUARY	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
27 28 29 30	4TH SCHOOL RESUMES	28 29 30 31
	18TH MLK DAY - NO SCHOOL: TEACHER PD	
OCTOBER 2026	FEBRUARY	APRIL
1 2 3	12TH WINTER BREAK - NO SCHOOL	1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	15TH PRESIDENT'S DAY - NO SCHOOL	4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17	MARCH	11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	5TH SPRING BREAK - NO SCHOOL	18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30 31	12TH P-T CONFERENCE: 8 AM to 6 PM NO SCHOOL	25 26 27 28 29 30
	19TH SPRING BREAK - NO SCHOOL	
NOVEMBER	25TH SPRING BREAK - NO SCHOOL	MAY
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	26TH LEGAL HOLIDAY - NO SCHOOL	1
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	29TH NO SCHOOL	2 3 4 5 6 7 8
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	APRIL	9 10 11 12 13 14 15
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	9TH NO SCHOOL - STAFF STORM MAKE UP DAY PD	16 17 18 19 20 21 22
29 30	MAY	23 24 25 26 27 28 29
	26TH LAST DAY OF SCHOOL	30 31
DECEMBER	27TH NO SCHOOL - STAFF STORM MAKE UP DAY PD	
1 2 3 4 5	30TH GRADUATION DAY	JUNE
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	End of Quarter 1 (Q1): October 14	1 2 3 4 5
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	End of Semester 1: December 18 (81 Days)	6 7 8 9 10 11 12
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	End of Quarter 3 (Q3): March 24	13 14 15 16 17 18 19
27 28 29 30 31	End of Semester 2: May 26 (93 Days)	20 21 22 23 24 25 26
	STUDENT CONTACT DAYS: 174	27 28 29 30
	TEACHER PD-WORKDAYS: 7 (AUG: 14, 17, 18; OCT 21 1/2; JAN 18; MAR 12 1/2; JULY 1-AUG 14 2 TBD)	
	HOLIDAYS (SEPT 7; NOV 11; JAN 1) 3	
	TEACHER CONTRACT DAYS 184	

MISSION STATEMENT

Provide an innovative educational environment that empowers engaged learners.



WEBSITE NOTIFICATION OF INTERACTIVE DASHBOARD

North Dakota has an accountability system reported through Insights, more commonly referred to as the “Dashboard”. The Dashboard contains reports that display the performance of school districts, schools, and student groups on a set of state and local measures to assist in identifying strengths, challenges, and areas in need of additional support.

North Dakota’s Insights website is designed to help communities across the state access important information about K-12 districts and school – including ours.

The North Dakota Dashboard features easy-to-read reports on multiple measures of school success, including test scores, graduation rates, English Learner progress and attendance.

The Dashboard replaces the former School District Report Card and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) reports.

District Link:

<https://insights.nd.gov/Education/District/32001>

Elementary Link: (3rd-8th grade NDSA Data Included): <https://insights.nd.gov/Education/School/3200156411>

High School Link: (10th NDSA Date Included)

<https://insights.nd.gov/Education/School/3200188263>

Please note, data made available to the public masks or hides data for groups with fewer than 10 students to protect confidential information about individual students.

For questions concerning K-12 education data, please contact the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction. Phone: (701) 328-2260

You may also direct questions regarding our specific district data to:

Jay Slade

Superintendent

Dakota Prairie School District

701-345-8233

Jay.slade@k12.nd.us

Extracurricular Information

PARENT TRAINING RULE MEETINGS

Parents/guardians of students in grades 7–12 whose children plan to participate in extracurricular activities should attend a **Parent Training Rule Meeting** annually, which is offered before the fall, winter, and spring athletic seasons.

These activities are:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Football
- Golf
- Softball
- Track
- Volleyball

These meetings include parents of student managers and statisticians. Handbooks, permission forms, and physical forms are distributed and discussed at the meetings.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

The NDHSAA sanctioned sport programs are required to file a pre-participation health history screening and physical examination with their school office prior to participation on a yearly basis.

This is valid for **one school year**. A physical examination must be completed on or after **April 15** to be valid for participation the following school year.

These forms may be picked up in the office or found online at **NDHSAA.com**.

STUDENT-ATHLETE FORMS AND FEES

Students **cannot** practice, participate, or compete in any extracurricular activity until all forms are completed, signed, and turned into the Office.

Specifically required:

- Physical Forms
- Release of Liability
- Concussion Management Forms

DPHS ONLY: \$25 per-student participation fee for all DP Activities, with a maximum of **\$200 per family**.

ADMISSION CHARGES

Event	Adults	Students and Seniors (Age 55+)
Varsity Athletics	\$10.00	\$5.00
High School Drama Productions	\$10.00	\$5.00

Activity Passes

Pass	Price
Elementary Student (Grades 1–6)	\$45.00
Secondary Student (Grades 7–12)	\$45.00
Adult	\$80.00
Senior Citizen (Age 55+)	\$40.00

Notes:

- Activity passes will **NOT** be sold at the gate the night of the event.
- Lost activity passes will **NOT** be reprinted and must be repurchased.
- Activity passes **MUST** be purchased at your school **BEFORE** the activity begins.

CHAIN OF COMMAND:

Any complaints should be made to the teacher/coach/advisor before moving to the next person in the chain of command.

Activity Issue:

1. Direct Coach
2. Head of Program
3. Activity Director
4. Superintendent (policy/handbook question)
5. Co-op Board and/or School Board (policy/handbook question)

Football schedule on page 12

Volleyball schedule on page 13

Music schedule on page 14

Guidelines for Coach/Advisor Contact

1. Please do not contact coaches/advisors at their homes unless it is an emergency.
2. Please do not confront coaches/advisors during practice/competitions.
3. Please do not confront coaches/advisors in front of students or other parents.
4. Please do not confront coaches/advisors on the day of a contest, either the day before or the day after the contest unless it is an emergency.
5. Please be professional at all times.
6. Please abide by the **24-Hour Rule**, in which parents/guardians involved will wait 24 hours before voicing their concerns through the proper channels.
 - a. The first violation of the 24-Hour Rule will result in a one-game spectator suspension for the parent/guardian.
 - b. If additional violations occur, the parent/guardian could lose all spectator privileges for the remainder of the season and/or school year depending on severity/number of violations.

Coaches/advisors, administrators, ADs, and school board members will not talk to anyone on the phone who will not identify themselves.

Reminder: Extra-curricular activities are a privilege, **not** a right.

PLAYING TIME

Playing time will be left to the discretion of the coach. Head and assistant coaches, the Activities Director, other administration, and School Board Members will **NOT** discuss playing time with parents/guardians. If a student-athlete has a concern with his/her playing time, he/she is strongly encouraged to set up a one-on-one conference with the coach to discuss the matter.

Homecoming Week - September 21st-25th

- **Wednesday, September 23:** Coronation - **3:00 p.m.** DPHS gym, Bonfire & Games **7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.** DPHS
- **Friday, September 25:** Homecoming Parade in Lakota – **1:00 p.m.**
- **Friday, September 25:** Homecoming Dance at LHS – **9:00 p.m.** (or immediately following the football game). - **12:00 a.m.**
- **TBD:** Girls 9-12 Powderpuff Game

Homecoming Parade Float Registration (Grades 7–12)

Planning to have a class float in this year's **Homecoming Parade**? Please complete and submit the **Homecoming Parade Float Registration Form**.

Important Information

- **Only one form is required per class.**
- Forms are available:
 - On the **Dakota Prairie website**
 - Outside the **high school office**

Deadline — All forms must be submitted by **September 18, 2026**.

No late forms will be accepted. Classes that do not submit a completed registration form by the deadline **will not be eligible to participate** with a float in the Homecoming Parade.

Submit Completed Forms Using One of the Following Options:

- Return directly to **Mrs. Kratochvil**
 - Drop off in the **school office**
- Email to Courtney.L.Molstad@k12.nd.us
Don't wait—turn in your form early to reserve your class's spot in the parade!



2026-2027 NC CHARGERS FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Varsity Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
August 6	Practice Begins	Lakota	TBA
August 22	Griggs/Midkota-Scrimmage	McVile	10:00 AM
August 21	Midway/Minto	Inkster	7:00 PM
August 28	Cavalier	Cavalier	7:00 PM
September 4	St. John	McVile	7:00 PM
September 11	North Prairie	Rolla	7:00 PM
September 18	Four Winds	McVile	7:00 PM
September 25	Larimore – Homecoming	Lakota	7:00 PM
October 2	New Rockford/S/M – Senior Night	Lakota	7:00 PM
October 9	North Border	Pembina	7:00 PM
October 15	North Star	Cando	7:00 PM
October 24	Playoffs – 1 st Round	TBA	TBA
October 31	Playoffs – 2 nd Round	TBA	TBA
November 7	Playoffs – Semifinals	TBA	TBA
November 13	Playoffs – Championship	FargoDome	TBA

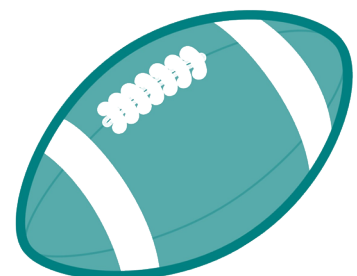
JH & JV Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
August 24	Four Winds (JH & JV)	Lakota	4:30 PM
August 31	North Star (JH)	Cando	4:30 PM
September 8	Larimore (JH & JV)	McVile	4:30 PM
September 21	Midway/Minto (JH & JV)	McVile	4:30 PM
September 28	New Rockford/S/M (JH)	New Rockford	4:30 PM
October 5	Griggs/Midkota (JH & JV)	Cooperstown	4:30 PM

Home Games in Bold

Schedules subject to change depending on weather and road conditions.

Please check each activity's Remind app for schedule changes.





2026-2027 NC CHARGERS VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Time</u>
August 17	Practice Begins	Lakota	7/8/C/JV/V	TBA
August 22	Griggs/Midkota-Scrimmage	McVile	C/JV/V	8:00 AM
August 29	Richland County Round Robin-V	Colfax	V	TBA
September 10	St. John	St. John	C/JV/V	4:00 PM
September 12	Langdon Tournament-JH (2 teams)	Langdon	JH	TBA
September 14	Cavalier	McVile	7/8/JV/V	4:00 PM
September 15	Midway/Minto	McVile	7/8/C/JV/V	3:30 PM
September 21	North Border – Homecoming	McVile	JH/C/JV/V	4:00 PM
September 26	Langdon Tournament-JV	Langdon	JV	TBA
September 26	Griggs/Midkota Tournament-JH	Cooperstown	JH	TBA
September 28	Benson County	Lakota	7/8/C/JV/V	3:30 PM
September 29	Four Winds	Fort Totten	7/8/C/JV/V	3:30 PM
October 1	North Prairie	Lakota	7/8/C/JV/V	3:30 PM
October 3	Newburg/Westhope	Newburg	JV/V	11:00 AM
October 5	North Star	Cando	7/8/C/JV/V	3:30 PM
October 6	New Rockford/Sheyenne	McVile	7/8/C/JV/V	3:30 PM
October 8	Dunseith	Dunseith	7/8/C/JV/V	3:30 PM
October 10	Rolla Invitational Tournament-V	Rolla	V	TBA
October 12	Park River/Fordville/Lankin	Fordville	7/8/C/JV/V	4:00 PM
October 13	Langdon/Munich	McVile	7/8/C/JV/V	3:30 PM
October 15	Griggs/Midkota	McVile	C/JV/V	4:00 PM
October 17	Hatton/Northwood	McVile	JH/C/JV/V	10:00 AM
October 19	Larimore	Larimore	C/JV/V	4:00 PM
October 20	Minnewaukan/Warwick – Senior Night	Lakota	JH/JV/V	4:00 PM
October 29-November 2	District 4 Tournament	Lakota	V	TBA
November 9-12	Region 2 Tournament	Devils Lake	V	TBA
November 19-21	State Tournament	Bismarck	V	TBA

Home Games in Bold

Schedules subject to change depending on weather and road conditions.

Please check each activity's Remind app for schedule changes.





2026-27 NC CHARGERS MUSIC SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
September 16-30	Music Fundraiser		
September 16-31	UND Honor Band Auditions	TBD	TBD
September	VCSU Honor Band	Valley City	TBD
<i>October 21 & 28</i>	<i>Practice Together (2 Wednesdays before)</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
October 30	Halloween Concert	McVile/Lakota	TBD
November	BCN Music Festival	VCSU	TBD
November 13	UJ Honor Band	Jamestown	
<i>November 18 & 25</i>	<i>Practice Together (2 Wednesdays before)</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
December 1	Winter Concert	Petersburg	6:00 PM
January 22-24	UND Honor Band	Grand Forks	TBD
February	VCSU Vocal Festival	Valley City	TBD
March 10	Large Group Music	Carrington	TBD
March 12-15	Music Trip	TBD	TBD
April 8	Small Group Music	Jamestown	TBD
May 1	State Music	Minot	TBD
<i>April 21 & 28</i>	<i>Practice Together (2 Wednesdays before)</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
May 4	Spring Concert	Lakota	6:00 PM

**Home Events in Bold*

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE



Dear Dakota Prairie Families,

We hope this message finds you well!

The **Knights Booster Club** is a parent-run organization committed to supporting our students and school community. Led by a dedicated committee, the Booster Club manages concessions at all *home games*—with the exception of spring sports.

All students in grades 7–12 benefit from the Booster Club's efforts. To ensure the continued success of our programs, we kindly ask that each family serves during their child's time at Dakota Prairie High School.

You will be contacted with the date, time, and any items you may need to bring for your assigned event.

Proceeds from concessions go directly toward enriching student experiences—supporting athletics, fine arts, clubs, and other extracurriculars. In addition, the Booster Club also provides financial support for teachers and staff who request funding for special projects throughout the year.

Your involvement is essential and deeply appreciated. Thank you for helping us continue to provide meaningful opportunities for all Dakota Prairie students.

Warm regards,

Knights Booster Club Committee

Dakota Prairie High School

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Greetings, everyone!

I hope you all have had a rejuvenating and relaxing summer. Prior to having my own kids, I always heard that time flies when you have kids and I always thought it was a cliché. I can now see why people say this!

I am excited to be back for another year of learning, fun, and growth. It's enjoyable to welcome back both staff and students into the building. I personally enjoy the fresh faces of the junior high students either entering high school for their first or second go-around. I also enjoy the excitement seniors come with knowing that this is their last year to make a difference and build on their previous skills. A big test for the Senior class is to prepare for their life out the building, but to enjoy the year and set an example for the younger grades.

My number one priority is to ensure that we have a safe building and policies. Last year, our safety committee spent a considerable amount of time working on our policies and procedures regarding evacuations and emergencies. We will continue to work on these as the year continues. Last year I mentioned the same thing and had several suggestions from the public that were implemented into our school.

One big change this year is going to be the implementation of IXL to the high school to already go along with our junior high. IXL is a reading and math program that will supplement our North Dakota standards and our teacher's lessons. It is our district goal to continue to increase our literacy and numeracy skills.

Another big change for the students is going to be in regard to our cell phone policy. Once the state law took effect, we had a variety of options of how to store phones. I told the student body that we would allow them to store their phones in their lockers. However, if this wasn't the case and students had phones on them, then we would have to try something different. Spring last year wasn't good as many phones were confiscated. This year, phones are going to be turned in right outside of the office as soon as a student walks in the door. Once the second bell rings, the phones will be brought into the office for the remainder of the day. Any student arriving late can turn their phone into the office and can also retrieve their phone from the office if they are leaving early. Any student or parent with questions can contact me.

We will continue to carry out our mission statement and I consider it a high honor to be part of the proud tradition of Dakota Prairie and am committed to an institution that is raising respectful, bright students. Thank you all for your continued support and if you ever have a comment or concern, please contact me at the high school.

Cheers to the fall!

Clay Johnson



DPHS Welcomes New Paraprofessionals

My name is Emily Putnam, and I'm excited to be joining the school community as a new paraprofessional. I share life with my amazing partner, Drew Abraham. Together, we have a wonderfully busy blended family with eight children and one grandchild, so there's never a dull moment! Although my roots are in Texas, North Dakota has become my home.

When I'm not working, you'll usually find me cheering on my kids from the sidelines at their sporting events, spending quality time with family, tackling a 3D printing project with my son, or getting lost in a good book.

Best,
Emily Putnam

Hello! My name is Madison Wheeler, and I am excited to be joining Dakota Prairie High School as a paraprofessional this year. I'm originally from Fargo, North Dakota, and graduated from Northern Cass High School. I look forward to getting to know the students, staff, and families while helping support and encourage each student's growth and success. I am a proud mom of two boys who currently attend the elementary school. Outside of work, my family and I enjoy spending our summers at the lake, making memories together, and enjoying the outdoors. In my free time, I love paddle boarding and expressing my creativity through arts and crafts. I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the Dakota Prairie community and can't wait for a wonderful school year!

Homecoming Week is September 21-25

STUDENTS RIDING BUSES:

Your child's bus driver will contact you sometime within the week before school begins to let you know pick up and drop off times. **If you will not be using school transportation please call either school office ASAP. 701-345-8233 or 701-322-4771**



PICTURE DAY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2026

Beginning at 8:45 at the elementary in the small gym. The photographers will then go to the high school when they have finished at the elementary.

Retakes will be scheduled once pictures have been delivered.

SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST GRADES 7-12

Backpack
 Notebooks or loose leaf paper
 Writing utensils
 Colored pencils
 Reusable water bottle
 Highlighters
 One pack of note cards
 Zippered binder or folders
 Gym clothes, shoes, hygiene items (if applicable)
 WIRED headphones or earbuds
 *Bluetooth ones are not allowed

Optional:

Lock for locker
 Calculator
 Planner - provided for grades 7 and 8
 *Recommended for 9-12 as well

The list can also be found on the DP website

Any students taking an agricultural education class in the fall or spring will need to have a pair of closed-toe boots (preferably steel toe), work jeans, and a jacket or sweatshirt to keep at the school for the numerous field trips and projects planned.

7th graders may also need a journal or notebook for English class. This is kept in the classroom and should not be a multi-subject.

DAKOTA PRAIRIE PRESCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

- ☐ **1 Box Crayons**
- ☐ **1 Box Colored Pencils**
- ☐ **1 Box Fine Point Crayola Markers** (not "Super Tip")
- ☐ **1 Box Wide-Tip Crayola Markers Classic Colors**
- ☐ **2 Boxes Kleenex**
- ☐ **1 Package Wet Wipes** (good for hands & face)
- ☐ **1 Box of Quart or Sandwich Size Ziploc Baggies**
- ☐ **1 Container of disinfecting wipes** (any brand)
- ☐ **8-10 large Elmer's brand school glue sticks**
- ☐ **Backpack** (no mini size please)
- ☐ **Extra Set of Clothes** (long pants, shorts, top, socks, and underwear place in Ziploc bag to be kept in child's locker)
- ☐ **1 Pair of Shoes to Be Left at School to Wear Inside**
 (If your child cannot tie shoes-please send shoes with Velcro or slip on)
 Your child will also need another pair to wear to and from school and for outside recess.



DAKOTA PRAIRIE ELEMENTARY SUPPLY LISTS

All K - 6: Please Label these items: 1 Pair of USB-C headphones or earbuds to be used with school issued device. **NO BLUETOOTH** A USB-C charger for iPad during distance learning to be kept at home. 1 Pair of tennis shoes for inside/1 Pair to be worn to and from school ***If your child can not tie shoes they need to have Velcro closures or slip on.**

KINDERGARTEN

PLEASE DO NOT LABEL THESE ITEMS

- ☐ 12 Small Glue Sticks
- ☐ 1 Plastic Pencil Box
- ☐ 1 Box of Gallon Size Zip Lock Bags
- ☐ 2 Containers of Clorox Wipes (Any Brand)

PLEASE LABEL THESE ITEMS

- ☐ 1 Water Bottle
- ☐ 1 Box 24 Crayons
- ☐ 2 Boxes of **Classic Color** Markers
- ☐ 12 Pencils
- ☐ 1 Box 12 Colored Pencils
- ☐ 1 Large Back Pack (To Be Carried Every Day)
- ☐ 1 Blunt Scissors (Child Size)

GRADE 1

PLEASE DO NOT LABEL THESE ITEMS

- ☐ 1 Pkg #2 Pencils
- ☐ 2 Container of Disinfecting Wipes
- ☐ 6-8 Glue Sticks
- ☐ 2 Boxes of Kleenex

PLEASE LABEL THESE ITEMS

- ☐ 24 Count Crayola Crayons
- ☐ 1 Pencil Box or Pouch

- ☐ 1 Pack of Crayola Markers (Wide Tipped, Bold or Classic)
- ☐ 1 Pink Bar Erasers

- ☐ Back Pack (To Be Carried Every Day)
- ☐ Spill Proof Water Bottle (optional)
- ☐ 1 Notebook (Wide Ruled, 1 Subject)
- ☐ 2 Folders (2 Pockets, any design)
- ☐ 2 Highlighters (Any Color)
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ 1 Bottle of White Glue
- ☐ 2 Dry Erase Markers (Black)
- ☐ Colored Pencils (Opt)

GRADE 2

PLEASE LABEL THESE ITEMS

- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ 1 Box Crayons
- ☐ 12 Pencils (#2 Lead, Sharpened)
- ☐ Bag or Box for Pencils and Markers
- ☐ 1 Box of Kleenex
- ☐ 2 Containers of Disinfecting Wipes
- ☐ Markers
- ☐ 1 Ruler with Centimeters and Inches
- ☐ 1 Bottle White Glue
- ☐ 2-4 Glue Sticks
- ☐ Erasers (Pencil Cap or Bar)
- ☐ Colored Pencils

- ☐ 1 Large Back Pack to carry things like snow pants, folder, shoes, etc.
- ☐ 2 2-Pocket Folders
- ☐ 1 Wide-Ruled Notebook

GRADE 3

PLEASE LABEL THESE ITEMS

- ☐ Large Back Pack (to be carried daily)
- ☐ 3 2-Pocket Folders
- ☐ 1 Box of Quart Size Zip Lock Bags
- ☐ 2 Large Glue Sticks
- ☐ 3 Large Boxes of Kleenex
- ☐ Fiskars Scissors for Kids
- ☐ 1 Box of Crayons
- ☐ 1 Set Multiplication Flash Cards (for home use)
- ☐ 4 Large Green or Pink Erasers (No Novelty Erasers)
- ☐ 1 Pack of # 2 Pencils (Sharpen 2 or 3)
- ☐ 1 Box Basic Color markers
- ☐ 1 Containers of Disinfecting Wipes
- ☐ 1 Box Colored Pencils

Please **DO NOT** bring ink pens, trapper keepers, or other large notebooks. Pencil boxes are **NOT** necessary. **Please bring large zip lock baggies to keep supplies organized.**



DAKOTA PRAIRIE ELEMENTARY SUPPLY LISTS

All K - 6: Please Label these items: 1 Pair of USB-C headphones or earbuds to be used with school issued device. **NO BLUETOOTH** A USB-C charger for iPad during distance learning to be kept at home. 1 Pair of tennis shoes for inside/1 Pair to be worn to and from school ***If your child can not tie shoes they need to have Velcro closures or slip on.**

GRADE 4

- ☐ Back Pack (To Be Carried Every Day)
- ☐ Pink Bar Erasers and Pencil Caps
- ☐ 3 Containers of Clorox Wipes
- ☐ 1 Packages of Wide Ruled Notebook Paper
- ☐ 1 Fiskars Scissors (Student Style)
- ☐ 1 Bottle Elmer's Glue-All
- ☐ 1 Ruler with Centimeter and Inch Markings
- ☐ Several Glue Sticks
- ☐ 3 Large Boxes Kleenex
- ☐ 5 2-Pocket Folders, (1 Each in Blue, Green, Yellow, Red, 1 of Choice Color)
- ☐ Pencil Bag with Lots of Pencil
- ☐ Multiplication and Division Flash Cards (To Keep at Home)
- ☐ States and Capitals Flash Cards (To Keep at Home)
- ☐ 1 Box of Markers and Thin Markers
- ☐ 1 Box of Colored Pencils and Crayons
- ☐ 12 Pocket Poly Folder - Red
- ☐ 1 Box of Quart Zip Lock Bags

GRADE 5

- ☐ Back Pack (To Be Carried Every Day)
- ☐ Erasers (Pencil Cap or Bar)
- ☐ #2 Pencils
- ☐ Box/Bag for Markers or Pencils
- ☐ 4 - 2 Pocket Folder
- ☐ Composition Notebook (Journal)
- ☐ 2 Boxes Kleenex
- ☐ 2 Single Subject Notebook
- ☐ 1 Package of Wide Ruled Note Book Paper
- ☐ 2 Containers of Disinfecting Wipes
- ☐ Colored Pencils
- ☐ 3 Glue Sticks
- ☐ 1 Bottle of Elmer's Glue All
- ☐ Scissors

GRADE 6

- ☐ Back Pack (To Be Carried Every Day)
- ☐ Colored Pencils
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Glue Sticks
- ☐ Box/Container for School Supplies
- ☐ Composition Notebook (Journal)
- ☐ 3 Boxes of Kleenex
- ☐ 3 Containers of Disinfecting Wipes
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ #2 Pencils
- ☐ Erasers (Bar and Pencil Cap)
- ☐ 1- 3 5 subject notebook with movable dividers. (See picture for reference)



~ Elementary News ~

From the Desk of Dr. Jackie Bye, Elementary Principal

"Prepare the child for the path, not the path for the child"



Welcome to a new school year at Dakota Prairie Elementary! I am excited to welcome our students and families back, along with new students and families. I excited for a year filled with learning, growth, friendships, and many opportunities for students to Engage, Empower, and Excel in all areas at Dakota Prairie Schools.

As fun as summer can be, there's something special about fall and the return to routine and the energy that comes with a fresh start. I can't wait to see and hear students in the hallways again. Since the beginning of August I've witnessed teachers and staff preparing the beginning of the school year and getting rooms ready to engage students with many learning opportunities.

Once the doors closed on the 2025-2026 school year the work began with many coats of fresh paint and lots of scrubbing and waxing of floors, lockers, walls and windows, among many other items. And boy do they shine! Our custodians Chris and LeeAnn, and extra summer helpers, Tara and Teri have done a tremendous job of refreshing and cleaning the school to welcome you all back.

Strong communication between home and school plays a big role in student success. You can stay connected by checking our school website, reading the monthly *Knight Reader*, and following us on Facebook. The *Knight Reader* will be posted on our website and emailed at the beginning of each month. You'll also receive a REMIND code from your child's teacher to help you stay in touch and up-to-date with classroom happenings. Emailing and/or calling the school is also a great communication tool, and we all love to hear from you.

One of the best ways you can support your child is by building simple school routines at home. Take a few minutes each day to review their take-home folder, go over flashcards, or enjoy a few pages of reading together. Even just 10-15 minutes a day makes a big impact—especially for our younger learners. These small habits lay the foundation for strong study skills in the years ahead.

As we begin the school year, I want to share a little about one aspect of learning that sometimes raises questions and concern for families: the use of digital devices in our elementary classrooms, and why students use digital technology.

Technology is an important part of the world our students are growing up in. Our responsibility as a school is not only to teach students how to read, write, solve problems, and understand the world around them, but also to teach them how to use technology appropriately, responsibly, safely, and effectively, for their future.

Digital devices are tools. Like any tool, they are most valuable when they are used purposefully and in the right amount. We want our students to understand that technology is something they can use to learn, create, communicate, research, and solve problems—not simply something to use for entertainment. **At the same time, technology is not the center of our elementary school day.**

The majority of our students' time at school is spent interacting directly with their teachers and classmates, participating in discussions, working with manipulatives, practicing math problems, and using hands-on materials, practicing skills, writing, reading actual books, and engaging in learning activities away from a screen.

You will still see Dakota Prairie Elementary students:

- Read books and listen to stories.
- Practice handwriting, writing, and vocabulary.
- Work with math manipulatives and other hands-on materials.

- Participate in science experiments and projects.
- Work with classmates and teachers face-to-face.
- Engage in music, physical education, art, and other activities.
- Discuss ideas, ask questions, collaborate, and solve problems together.
- Play on the playground
- Go outside for recess, even in the winter .

We do use -10 degrees as our cutoff for going outside. Either regular temp or windchill. So, get a head start on the snow gear.

HOW MUCH TECHNOLOGY ARE STUDENTS ACTUALLY USING?

Our digital, iPads and laptops, are used for **specific educational purposes**, particularly to strengthen reading and math skills and provide students with opportunities for additional practice and intervention. The approximate use of these programs is:

1. AMIRA &/or INSTRUCT- Reading-Language Arts

Approximately **30-40 Minutes per Week**

AMIRA provides students with individualized reading practice and helps us identify areas where students may need additional support.

2. XtraMath - Math

Approximately **5-10 minutes per day**

XtraMath gives students focused practice with important math facts and fluency skills.

3. Cybersecurity and Typing - Computer Class Laptop Activities

Approximately **50 minutes per week**

Students also receive instruction and practice in areas such as keyboarding and cybersecurity. These are important practical skills that students will need as they continue through school and eventually enter the workforce.

4. NAAVY - State Standards Practice

Approximately 20-30 minutes per week

Used the second semester to practice state standards for proficiency

5. Other Classroom Technology

Technology may be used occasionally within classrooms when it adds value to a lesson. It is **not intended to be the primary method of instruction for our core subjects**. Students might use it for projects or presentations for example.

The amount of time may vary somewhat by grade level, classroom, student needs, and instructional purpose. Our goal is always to use technology **when it improves learning—not simply because a device is available**. Technology, however, is only **one piece of the puzzle**. It **does not replace a highly qualified teacher**, meaningful discussion, hands-on learning, or the experience of sitting down with a good book.

Our students will graduate into a world where digital skills are essential. We want them to leave Dakota Prairie knowing not only how to operate a device, but also how to use technology **responsibly, safely, thoughtfully, and productively**. Learning when to use technology—and when to put it away—is an important skill in itself.

We appreciate your partnership as we work together to prepare our students for both **today's learning and tomorrow's opportunities**. Our goal is to provide a balanced elementary experience where students benefit from the advantages technology can offer while continuing to experience the hands-on, personal, and relationship-centered learning that is so important to our philosophy at Dakota Prairie.

Dakota Prairie Elementary has new and returning staff this year. We are excited to welcome Kayla Leith as our new head cook. Kayla come to us from Alabama where she has many years of food service experience, and she also is returning here to be close to family. We are also excited to welcome a new paraprofessional Karli Willson. Karli has previous para experience and will be a great addition to our resource room staff. We also have someone returning who we are thrilled wanted to come back on a very part-time basis. Sharon Gunderson, who retired from teaching, will be our new ELL Coordinator and Teacher for the District. She will be spending some time at the high school and some time at the elementary. This is a part-time position, so maybe she will even get time to do some subbing.

Thank you, for letting us all be an important part of your child's life. Enjoy the rest of your summer!! As always please reach out if you have any questions, or concerns, stop in, or give me a call (322-4771) or email me at Jackie.bye@k12.nd.us.

Meet the engaging staff waiting to take you and your child on a learning journey:

PRESCHOOL: Sara Corby

KINDERGARTEN: Taylor Sand

1ST GRADE: Courtney Stein

1ST GRADE: Haley Klefstad

2ND GRADE: Courtney Lofstrom

3RD GRADE: Celeste Hamre

4TH GRADE: Kayte Avdem

5TH GRADE: Jason Beglau

6TH GRADE: Amy Olson

SCHOOLWIDE TITLE TEACHER: Melissa Kueber

STUDENT SUCCESS COORDINATOR & SW: Traci Sand

MUSIC: Stephanie Bina

MATH SW & PE: Allison Aaland

K-3 STRATEGIST, PE & AD: Hunter Sand

DIGITAL LEARNING; TECH; & SEL: Stacy Luehring

SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER: Laura Walter

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST: Kristin Brodell

LIBRARIAN-MEDIA SPECIALIST: Sarah Johnson

ELEMENTARY COUNSELORS: Angela Longtin & Dustin Martin

ELEMENTARY UND COUNSELING INTERN: Jonathan Thompson

ELL COORDINATOR-TEACHER: Sharon Gunderson

PARAPROFESSIONALS:

Teri Huso; Tara Johnston; Patty Lippert; Krista Lippert; Anne Fallon; Karli Willson

SECRETARY: Debbie Ajdari

COOKS: Kayla Leith; Vivian Collier

CUSTODIANS: Chris Willert; LeeAnn Loe; Carol Miles

BUS DRIVERS: Jeff Luehring; Lee Brenna; Jim Miles; Carol Miles; Todd Whitman; Linda Luehring;

PICTURE DAY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2026

Beginning at 8:45 at the elementary in the small gym.



PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES GRADES 5-12.

The Athletic Pre-Participation Health History Screening and Physical Examination is valid for one school year. These forms may be picked up in either school office or found on the Dakota Prairie School website, or the NDHSAA website. The forms must be completed and turned in to each athletes respective school office or with the coach before the student may participate in practice. This link will also take you to the form.

https://d2q0tptsfejku7.cloudfront.net/uploads/files/NDHSAA_Physical_Form.pdf

STUDENTS RIDING BUSES:

Your child's bus driver will contact you sometime within the week before school begins to let you know pick up and drop off times. **If you will not be using school transportation please call either school office ASAP. 701-345-8233 or 701-322-4771**



DAKOTA PRAIRIE ELEMENTARY 5TH & 6TH SPORTS

The 5TH & 6TH girls basketball practice will begin on **Monday, August 24**. They tentatively have pictures on Tuesday, August 26. More information will be available at Back to School Night and sent home the first day of school. **Mr. Gus Kueber** will be the girls' coach.

The 5TH & 6TH boys basketball practice will begin the **end of September**. More information will be available at Back to School Night. **Mr. Jason Beglau** will be the boys' coach.

The 5TH & 6Th girls' volleyball is held in the **spring** and practice begins the middle of March. There will be information about volleyball sent home in February 2027. **Cassandra Schock** and **Courtney Stein** are the coaches for 5th and 6th girls volleyball.

**All 5th & 6th Grade Athletes
will need a physical
BEFORE they can practice.**

DAKOTA PRAIRIE ELEMENTARY

VIRTUAL LEARNING SCHEDULE 2026-2027

- 8:00-8:30: OFFICE HOURS
- 8:30-9:10 READING – MATH
 - Student Online ZOOM Contact w/Teacher Classes
- 9:10-9:30 BREAK
- 9:30-10:10 READING – MATH
 - Student Online ZOOM Contact w/Teacher Classes
- 10:10-10:30: BREAK
- 10:30-11:10 SCIENCE-HEALTH
 - Student Online ZOOM Contact w/Teacher Classes
- 11:10-11:30: BREAK
- 11:30-12:10 SOCIAL STUDIES
 - Student Online ZOOM Contact w/Teacher Classes
- 12:10-1:00: DINNER BREAK
- 1:00-3:30: INDEPENDENT WORK TIME &/OR EXTRA CLASS TIME
 - SPECIAL EDUCATION MINUTES – PE ACTIVITIES – MUSIC ACTIVITIES
 - TEACHER HELP TIME –SPECIAL ZOOM TIME ACTIVITIES

VIRTUAL LEARNING**ONLINE ZOOM EXPECTATIONS FOR LEARNING****BE ENGAGED – EMPOWER YOURSELF & YOUR PEERS – BE READY TO EXCEL**

1. Be on Time: Log in a few minutes early so you're ready when class begins.
2. Come Prepared: Have your supplies, homework, and materials nearby.
3. Use Your Real Name: Make sure your ZOOM name matches your school name.
4. Find a Quiet Space: Choose a spot with as few distractions as possible.
5. Cameras On: Keep your camera on so your teacher can see your smiling face.
6. Microphone Manners: Keep your microphone muted unless it's your turn to talk.
7. Raise Your Hand: Use the "raise hand" button or raise your hand to speak.
8. Listen When Others Talk: Give classmates and teachers your full attention.
9. Use Kind Words: Speak respectfully in your words and tone.
10. Stay on Task: Only use your device for the ZOOM class, not for games or unrelated websites.
11. No Eating During Class: Save snacks for break time unless your teacher says otherwise.
12. Dress for School: Wear clothes that are school-appropriate.
13. Follow Class Rules: All in-person school rules also apply online.
14. Be Patient with Technology: If something goes wrong, stay calm and let your teacher know.
15. End the Meeting Politely: Wait until the teacher ends the session before logging off.

DAKOTA PRAIRIE ELEMENTARY

VIRTUAL LEARNING ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

To be accountable to state mandates regarding virtual learning laws (NDCC 15.1-06-04. School calendar - Length... virtual instruction pursuant to section 15.1-07-25.40) schools must develop a way to take attendance on virtual learning days that is comparable to taking attendance on in person school days.

At Dakota Prairie Elementary we will take attendance and students will get credit for a full day of attendance for being on ZOOM for virtual learning days. If a student is unable to be on ZOOM, their attendance can be based on completion of work assigned in replacement of ZOOM. If they do not complete the assignment given for attendance they will be counted absent.

In addition, ALL students may have assignments to complete and turn in to their teacher(s) when they return to school. These assignments may be treated like any other assignment given while school is in session, including the choice boards for phy. Ed and music. If they do not complete the assignments and how they complete the assignment can be reflected in their grade. Students can talk to any of their teachers about the timeline for turning in assignments, including music and phy. Ed choice boards, after virtual learning days.

If your child cannot attend virtual learning day, please notify the teacher via REMIND, or email before 8:30. Your child will be counted absent if you do not contact the teacher. We do understand it is sometimes difficult for children to ZOOM when parents are at work. Or, if there is more than one child at home, it might be difficult for everyone to ZOOM at the same time. If this is the case, still notify the teacher before 8:30, and attendance will be based on completion of any assigned work, including the choice boards for music and phy. Ed. Again, we need to be accountable to the state to be able to count the hours/days of virtual learning, so we need students to be accountable for school work as well.

If you do not have WIFI, or a way for your child to access the internet, or data, or a hotspot, for virtual learning days please inform your child's teacher of that early in the year so a packet of work can be sent home with your child on virtual learning days to be completed and returned to count as attendance.

Thank you all for your support on these days. It is a great option to have interaction on storm days, rather than trying to find other times to make up missed days of school. Our students have become very adept at ZOOM and they do a great job with their ZOOM classes on virtual learning days.

We do understand there can be extenuating circumstances that come up at any time in people's lives. Please communicate these with your child's teacher and/or Dr. Bye if they will interfere with your child virtual learning expectation for a particular time.

21ST CENTURY KNIGHT ACADEMY

OPPORTUNITIES for the **2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR**

MORNING PROGRAM

IS AVAILABLE BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

TIME: 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

AGES: PRESCHOOL TO 6TH GRADE

AN OPTION FOR FAMILIES WHO NEED CHILDCARE BEFORE SCHOOL

★ STUDENTS MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND. ★

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

BEGINS ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH FOR KINDERGARTEN-6TH GRADE

DAYS: TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

TIME: 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM

SHUTTLE TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE

REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT OR CAN BE SENT HOME WITH STUDENTS THE FIRST WEEK.

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT
HALEY KLEFSTAD | haley.klefstad@k12.nd.us

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Dakota Prairie Elementary

Monday, August 17, 2026

5:00-7:00

Visit Teachers
& Classrooms

Come and visit teachers and classrooms at any time that works for you. Drop off school supplies, pick up schedules, calendars, handbooks.

Debbie will be available if you want to get ahead on any lunch or preschool bills.

In the Big Gym: SW Title & 5th-6th Activities Information 5:30-7:00 with Dr. Bye.

In the Lunchroom: 5th-6th Band Information 5:00-7:00 with Ms. Bina.

Thank you to Penny Lippert & Family for the donation of the saxophone, trumpet and trombone to the Dakota Prairie Elementary Music Program! We greatly appreciate your generosity!

Thank you

Acceptable Use Policy

1. General Guidelines

All users will be issued a district-owned device (e.g. laptop, or tablet) intended for educational and professional use.

Devices remain the property of the school district and must be returned in good condition at the end of the school year, upon withdrawal, or upon request.

Users are expected to bring the device to school/work fully charged each day and treat it with care.

2. Acceptable Use

Devices are to be used for purposes directly related to teaching, learning, and educational communication, including:

- ⇒ Accessing digital textbooks and curriculum materials.
- ⇒ Completing assignments, research, assessments, and school/work-related communication.
- ⇒ Engaging in school-approved platforms such as email, LMS, or collaboration tools.
- ⇒ Participating in district-sponsored training or instruction.

5. Device Care

- ☐ Devices should be kept in protective cases when not in use.
- ☐ Devices should not be left unattended, exposed to extreme temperatures, or subjected to physical damage.
- ☐ Lost, stolen, or damaged devices must be reported to the school immediately. The cost will be the responsibility of the individual/family.

Special Note for Elementary Students:

- ☐ The first instance of accidental damage will not be charged to the family.
- ☐ Any intentional damage or subsequent accidents will result in financial responsibility for repair or replacement.

3. Unacceptable Use

The following uses are not permitted for any user (students or staff):

- Accessing, creating, or sharing offensive, obscene, threatening, or discriminatory content.
- Cyberbullying, harassment, or any form of threatening behavior.
- Attempting to bypass or disable security software, content filters, or management settings.
- Downloading or installing unauthorized software, apps, or browser extensions.
- Sharing account credentials or attempting to access another person's account or data.
- Using devices for personal entertainment (games, videos, social media, or memes) during instructional/work time unless approved by a teacher or supervisor.
- Damaging, altering, or defacing the device or accessories.
- Intentionally wasting network resources.
- Other uses deemed inappropriate by the administration.

Parent Teacher Conference Dates

Wednesday, October 21: 8:00-6:00

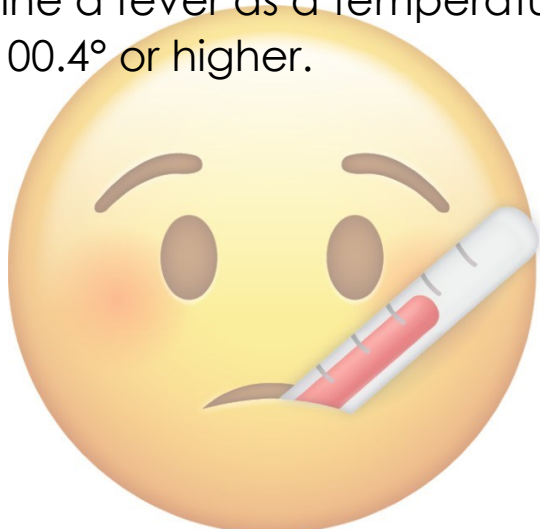
Friday, March 12: 8:00-6:00

In Person & ZOOM Availabilities

High School teachers will be at the high school; elementary teachers at the elementary.

Sign Up Genius will be utilized for parents to choose the option that best fits their schedule.

Students are required to be fever free, and vomit free for 24 hours prior to being allowed back into the school setting. DP Schools define a fever as a temperature of 100.4° or higher.



DPHS Grade Scale

2026-2027

Letter Grade	Percentage Range	GPA
A	100-92.5	4
B	92.4-84.5	3
C	84.4-76.5	2
D	76.4-69.5	1
F	69.4-0	0

No changes were made to the grade school for this school year. DPHS adopted Lakota's grade scale in Summer 2024 for consistency within the co-op for eligibility purposes.

E-Learning Schedule

Dakota Prairie High School

8:00 -9:40	Teacher office hours
9:45-9:55	Knight Time
10:00-10:25	1st hour
10:30-10:55	2nd hour
11:00-11:25	3rd hour
11:30-11:55	4th hour
12:00-1:00	Lunch Break
1:05-1:30	5th hour
1:35-2:00	6th hour
2:05-2:30	7th hour
2:35-3:30	Teacher office hours

August 2026

August 17—School Board Meeting @ 7:30am
Back to School Night 5-7pm
(both buildings, simultaneously)

August 19—First Day of School

August 21—Picture Day
starting at elementary 8:45

September 7—No School: Labor Day

**PLEASE CHECK THE DAKOTA PRAIRIE HOME PAGE
FOR THE MOST CURRENT ACTIVITIES SCHEDULES**

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

Future Dates of Interest

August 19—First Day of School

September 7—No school: Labor Day

October 21—No school: PT Conferences 8 am-6 pm

October 22nd and 23rd—No school: Ed Conference

November 11—No school: Veterans Day

November 25—Early out @ 1:30 pm

November 26th and 27th—No school: Thanksgiving

December 18— Early out @ 1:30 pm

December 21st through January 1st—No school

January 4—School Resumes

January 18—Professional Development

February 12—No school: Winter Break

February 15—No school: Presidents Day

March 5—No school: Spring Break

March 12= No school: PT Conferences 8 am-6 pm

March 19—No school: Spring Break

March 25, 26, and 29—No school: Easter Break

April 9—No school: Staff Storm Make up Day PD

May 26—Last Day of School

May 30—Graduation



**Dakota Prairie School District
Box 37
Petersburg, ND 58272**

*Frequency of Publication
Information:*

Dakota Prairie Knight Reader is published monthly during the school year by Dakota Prairie School District, except for the summer months when a June/July and August issue appear. The main office for the district is located at 518 4th Ave. Petersburg, ND 58272.

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

Discrimination
and Harassment
Grievance
Procedure

Nondiscrimina-
tion and Anti-
Harassment
Policy

Title IX Sexual
Harassment
Grievance
Procedure



Dakota Prairie
Course Descriptions



Dakota Prairie does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, or age, in its programs or activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The Dakota Prairie Superintendent has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies. (Supt. Jay B. Slade, P.O. Box 37, Petersburg, ND, 58272, 701-345-8233, jay.slade@k12.nd.us).

Title IX Coordinator: Dakota Prairie Superintendent – District Office Phone Number 701-345-8233 (Supt. Jay B. Slade, P.O. Box 37, Petersburg, ND, 58272, 701-345-8233, jay.slade@k12.nd.us).