WELCOME BACK

THE CHESTER FLYER

COOPERATIVELY PREPARING ALL STUDENTS TO SUCCEED

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2026

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday, August 3rd	7th -12th Sports Meeting-5:30
Tuesday, August 11th	6th -12th Class Meetings
Monday, August 17th	Staff In-Service
	Elementary Open House 5pm-6pm
Tuesday, August 18th	Staff In-Service
Wednesday, August 19th	First Day of School-2:30 Dismissal
Friday, August 28th	School Picture Day & Team Sports Pictures
Friday, September 4th	No School
Monday, September 7th	No School

Superintendent- Dr. Kim Kludt Secondary Principal - Julie Eppard Elementary Principal - JoAnn Alverson Business Manager - Reece Simpson

Board of Education - Keith Alverson, Brett Bauman, Jesse Baumberger, Leon Gerry, John Nelson, Brittany Schaefer, Darin Seeley

DR. KIM KLUDT

SUPERINTENDENT

Welcome Back, Chester Area Flyers!

Dear Chester Area School District Students, Families, and Staff,

Welcome to a new school year! On behalf of the Chester Area School District, I am thrilled to welcome everyone back to our schools.

It is always exciting to see the familiar faces of our returning Flyers and to welcome the many new students and families joining our school community. Whether you are returning for another great year or walking through our doors for the very first time, know that you are an important part of the Chester Area family.

One of the best parts of a new school year is seeing our classrooms come alive again. Every Flyer has something valuable to contribute, and we're excited to watch each of you learn, grow, and discover new opportunities. Our goal is simple: we want every student to know they belong here and have every opportunity to be successful. Our teachers, support staff, coaches, and administrators have been working hard to prepare for your return, and we are excited to begin this journey together.

As we start the year, I encourage everyone to embrace new opportunities, challenge yourselves, support one another, and take pride in being a Chester Flyer. Together, we will celebrate accomplishments, overcome challenges, and create lasting memories.

Thank you to our parents and families for your continued partnership and trust. Your support plays a vital role in the success of our students and our schools.

We can't wait to hear the hallways filled with laughter, learning, and Flyer pride once again. Here's to a fantastic school year filled with growth, achievement, and opportunities for every student.

Welcome back, Flyers! We're so glad you're here, and we look forward to an amazing year together.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Kludt Superintendent Chester Area School District

JULIE EPPARD

SECONDARY PRINCIPAL/ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Welcome Back to School!

Welcome to another year at Chester Area School. I hope all of you have enjoyed your summer and are recharged and ready to start another year. I'm excited for another year of positive energy and dedication to excellence in education for our students.

2026-2027 looks to be another incredible and productive school year. Staff has been busy planning and preparing for the upcoming school year so that every student can thrive. With the new year, we are bringing some positive changes. This includes new staff members--Mrs. Boldt (para-professional), Mrs. Cummins (HS math), Mr. McClain (K-12th PE/health), Ms. Olivier (para-professional), Mr. Quenzer (HS social studies), and Mr. Simpson (business manager). These new staff members, along with the others, will be committed to our students' overall well-being!

Parent/Guardian Information:

1. All parents/guardians will need to log in to the parent portal to do the online registration. This is where all updates can be made to address, cell number, email, health issues, or anything else the school needs to know. Parents/guardians also need to fill out Jotform at: https://form.jotform.com/261865478375170.
2. All payments will be made via the parent portal: lunch and any other school payments. If you prefer cash or check, please bring it to the main office.
3. Monday, August 3rd at 5:30 pm, there will be an informational meeting for students going to participate in high school activities (7th-12th graders).
4. 6th-12th grade class meetings will be Tuesday, August 11th starting at (parent/guardians are welcome to attend)
   - 7:30am with 6th graders, --10:30am~10th
   - 8:30am~7th, --11:00am~11th
   - 9:15am~8th, --11:30am~12th
   - 10:00am~9th

Other important information:

- Arrive at school on time and come to school. School starts at 8:25! Students need to attend school regularly to help ensure they get the best possible education. If your child is absent or will be absent, you MUST let the office know! (Mrs. Eppard or Ms. Molly)
- Eat properly, get at least 8 hours of sleep, and drink plenty of water
- Come prepared and ready every day.
- MS students will turn in their cell phones at the beginning of the school day and pick them up at the end of the day. HS students will turn in cell phones at the beginning of every class period and get them at the end. IF parents/guardians need to get a hold of their child, they can call the office at any time to get a message to your child.
- 6th-12th graders will continue to use the SmartPass program to leave the classroom.
- Sign up for the parent portal to check on students' grades; students can also sign up to check grades. If you can't remember your username or if you need to sign up, please contact Mrs. Eppard.
- To check out computers/Chromebooks, parents/guardians and students will need to fill out forms and make an online payment ($25 for single or $50 for family). We also would encourage payments for lunch, band rental, laptop/chrome book rental, etc. to all be done online.
- MS Help Time (2:11-2:30) and 9th Hour (2:57-3:27) will be used to provide students with extra help from staff, make up or redo work, or whatever else a student needs. Students should not schedule work or other appointments during the 9th hour/ms help time as this is part of the academic day.

As we begin the new school year, please take time to review school handbooks, important dates, and communication updates. Staying connected through our school website and other communication forms will help ensure a successful year for everyone.

Thank you for the trust you place in the Chester School staff and me! It is a privilege to serve as your principal and to work alongside tremendous staff and students. I look forward to having a great year, where we work together as a team for the betterment of our students!

Let's make 2026-2027 an outstanding year!

Kids First,

Julie Eppard

JOANN ALVERSON

ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

Welcome Back!

I hope everyone has had a fun, relaxing summer and has enjoyed some quality time with family and friends. It's hard to believe another school year is already here! We are so excited to welcome our students back and can't wait to see the hallways filled with smiling faces once again.

We will host our Elementary Open House on Monday, August 17, from 5:00–6:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity for students to meet their teachers, bring in school supplies, find their classrooms, and reconnect with friends. We look forward to seeing everyone there as we kick off another great school year!

Every school year brings new opportunities, and we're excited to welcome a few new faces to our elementary team. Please help us welcome Maren Fischer, our new Title teacher; Ally Drew, who will be teaching Gracevale K-2; Brooke Haman, who joins Rustic Acres in grades 5-8; and Emma Rajewich, our newest paraprofessional. We're excited to have them as part of our school family and know they'll be wonderful additions to our team.

We also have new additions to the building! Time was spent over the summer installing lockers for students in grades 1-5. Having a designated space for coats, backpacks, and personal belongings will help students stay organized while also creating more room in our classrooms for learning materials and supplies. We think this will be a great addition for both students and teachers.

One of our biggest goals this year is to continue building strong readers. We'll keep our focus on Literacy Growth, making sure students have the support and opportunities they need to grow and succeed. We're also excited to continue our WIN (What I Need) time for students in grades 1 and 2. This dedicated part of the day allows teachers to meet students where they are, providing extra support or additional challenges based on each child's individual needs. It's been a great addition to our literacy work, and we're looking forward to another successful year with the program.

I would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has helped prepare for the new school year. Our amazing custodial crew has been working hard all summer long, preparing the school for another great year, and our teachers and staff have spent countless hours getting classrooms organized, decorated, and ready to welcome students back. Their hard work behind the scenes is what allows us to shine. It truly takes a team to get everything ready, and I appreciate the time, care, and dedication each has put into making our school a welcoming place for students.

As always, we're grateful for the partnership we have with our families. Your encouragement and support make a huge difference, and together we can help make this a fantastic year for every student.

We can't wait to welcome everyone back and get another great school year underway. Here's to a year full of learning, laughter, growth, and lots of great memories!

See you soon!
JoAnn Alverson
Elementary Principal

WELCOME

MALLORY CUMMINS

HS MATH

Hi my name is Mallory Cummins, and I am excited to be joining the Chester School District. I grew up in Madison, South Dakota, and graduated from Dakota State University with a degree in Mathematics Education. After college, my husband, Brandon, and I moved to Florida for his job, where we lived for six years. During that time, I taught middle school math for five years and 5th grade for one year. Brandon and I have a wonderful two-year-old daughter, Bria, and we are excited to be back in South Dakota near our families. I look forward to getting to know my students and their families and helping make this a successful, engaging, and enjoyable school year!

CHESTER FLYERS

WELCOME

ALEXIS DREW

K-2 GRACEVALE COLONY

Hello! My name is Alexis Drew, and I am excited to be joining Gracevale Colony as the K–2 teacher this year. I am a proud graduate of South Dakota State University and have always dreamed of becoming a teacher. Teaching at Chester is truly a dream come true, and I am eager to begin the school year and make a positive impact on my students.

Outside of school, I enjoy reading, spending time outdoors with family and friends, and the occasional shopping spree. I look forward to getting to know the students, families, and community throughout the year!

WELCOME

MAREN FISCHER

TITLE I

Maren Fischer is entering her 24th year of education. She lives in Ramona with her husband, Michael and their 3 children. Her son, Caleb will be a freshman at SDSU this fall majoring in Civil Engineering. Her son, Nolan is a junior in Madison and her daughter, Harper will be a freshman at ORR. She is very excited to bring her experience and passion for intervention to our title program. She said it feels like coming back home as she spent the first 13 years of her career in Chester and is looking forward to new role in this great district seeing old friends and meeting new ones.

CHESTER FLYERS

WELCOME

BROOKE HAMAN

5TH - 8TH RUSTIC ACRES COLONY TEACHER

My name is Brooke Haman, and although I'm not new to the Chester School District, I'm excited to be stepping into a new role this year as the 5–8 Rustic Acres teacher! I have spent the past four years as a paraprofessional in the Chester School District and have worked as a paraprofessional for the past eight years. I recently earned my Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Dakota State University, graduating this past May. I am a proud 2014 Chester graduate and feel incredibly fortunate to come full circle. I had the pleasure of beginning my own school journey here in preschool, and now I'm excited to have the opportunity to teach in the same district that helped shape me.

My husband, Troy, and I have three wonderful children. Our oldest, Hannah, will be starting kindergarten at Chester this fall, Drew will be attending 4-year-old preschool, and our youngest, Kaysen, is one year old and gets to enjoy daycare a little while longer. He is already proud to be a Flyer!

I'm looking forward to this new chapter and am excited to continue serving the Chester community in my new role. Go Flyers!

CHESTER FLYERS

WELCOME

LORI KAPLER

PARAPROFESSIONAL-HPA

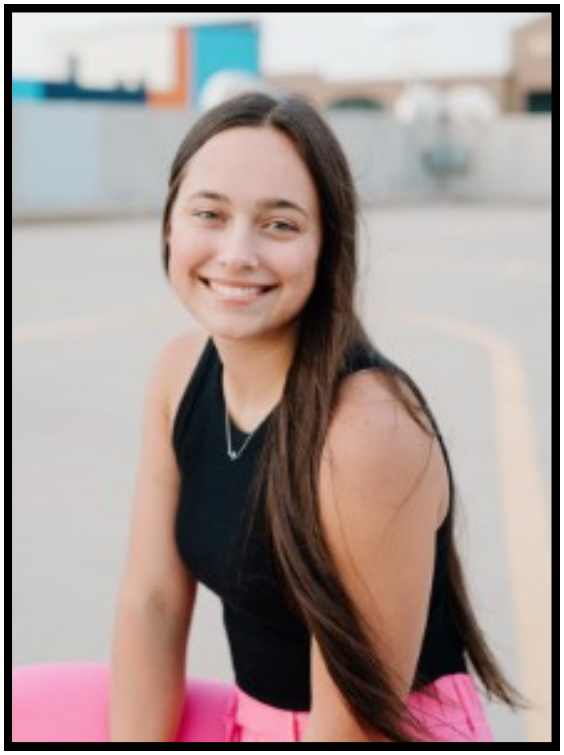
Hi, my name is Lori Kappler, and I am thrilled to be returning to Chester as a Flyer! I have lived in Baltic, SD for 25+ years and am happily married to my husband, Joe. I have two daughters: Kayla, 26, and Kendra, 23. I also have two adorable four-legged friends: Bailey and Bella. Previously, I worked in healthcare as a nurse for 20+ years. I switched to education in 2015, when I joined the Chester School District family. After a brief change of working with elementary students in the Baltic School District, I am happy to return to High Plains Alternative. Some of my favorite things to do include traveling, shopping, reading, exercising, and spending time with my family! Looking forward to beginning a new school year and working with high school students again!

WELCOME

JAMES MCCLAIN
PHYSICAL ED/HEALTH

Hello my name is James McClain, and I'm excited to join the Chester School as the new K–12 Physical Education Teacher and Head Football Coach. I recently graduated from Dakota State University, where I competed in football and track & field. Originally from Stockton, California, I'm passionate about helping students discover a love for movement, build healthy habits, and grow in confidence. I look forward to creating a positive environment where every student can succeed, both in PE and through athletics. I'm excited to be part of this community and can't wait to get started!

CHESTER FLYERS



WELCOME

CADENCE OLIVIER
PARAPROFESSIONAL

My name is Cadence Olivier, and I am a junior at South Dakota State University majoring in Psychology. After earning my bachelor's degree, I plan to pursue a doctorate in School Psychology. I graduated from Chester Area School in 2024, and I am excited to return as a paraprofessional. It is a privilege to come back to the school that had such a positive impact on me, and I look forward to gaining valuable experience, building relationships with students and staff, and continuing to grow as I prepare for my future career.

CHESTER FLYERS

WELCOME

ANDREW QUENZER
HS SOCIAL STUDIES

Hi! I'm Andy Quenzer, and I'm excited to join Chester High School as a Social Studies teacher, Assistant Football Coach, as well as Head Track Coach. I am from Hill City, SD but have lived in Madison since 2009. I graduated from Dakota State with a degree in Physical Education in 2013 where I also competed in Cross Country and Track. I live in Madison with my wife, Sarah, our son, Cooper, and our two dogs. Outside of school, I enjoy cooking and cheering on the Minnesota Vikings, the Philadelphia 76ers, and Ohio State football. I'm looking forward to a great year and getting to know my students and the Chester community! Go Flyers!

WELCOME

EMMA RAJEWICH
PARAPROFESSIONAL

Hello!

My name is Emma Rajewich, and I am excited to be joining the Chester School District as an elementary paraprofessional. I recently graduated from Dakota State University in May with a degree in Elementary Education. I actually student taught at Chester this past semester in the 2nd grade classroom! I grew up in Hartford, S.D. with a closeknit family. We enjoy spending time together and cheering for the Minnesota Vikings.

I have always enjoyed working with children and I am excited to support students in their learning this upcoming school year!

CHESTER FLYERS

WELCOME

REECE SIMPSON
BUSINESS MANAGER

Hello! I'm Reece Simpson, and I'm excited to join Chester Area School District as the new Business Manager. I previously served as the Business Manager at Oldham-Ramona-Rutland School District, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue serving students, staff, and communities here in Chester. Growing up in Madison, South Dakota, I've always appreciated the close-knit feel of small-town schools and the incredible support they receive from their communities. My family and I are excited to get to know the Chester community, and I'm looking forward to building relationships with our staff, students, families, and community members. Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with family and friends, following sports, and golfing whenever I can. I'm excited to be part of the Chester Flyers family and look forward to the years ahead!

WELCOME

AMANDA SMITH
PARAPROFESSIONAL-HPA

Hi! I am Amanda Smith. Some of you may already know me, from either teaching in the elementary for four years, growing up in Chester, or because of my five children. My husband, Kelcy, works as a computer programmer/data scientist. I am so happy to be back working at Chester after an eleven-year hiatus staying home with my kids. I am ready to make connections with students again and look forward to a great year!

CHESTER FLYERS

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Missing a day of school here and there may not seem like much, but absences add up!

WHEN A STUDENT MISSES 2 DAYS A MONTH...

They will miss
20 DAYS a year

They will miss
30 HOURS of math
over the school year.

They will miss
60HOURS of
reading & writing over the
school year.

They will miss over
1 YEAR of school by
graduation

WHEN A STUDENT MISSES 4 DAYS A MONTH...

They will miss
40 DAYS a year

They will miss
60 HOURS of math
over the school year.

They will miss
120 HOURS of
reading & writing over the
school year.

They will miss over
2 YEARS of school by
graduation.

It's the RULE...
SHOTS before SCHOOL!

6th Grade Immunizations:

- **Tdap*** *(Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis)*
- **MCV4*** *(Meningococcal)*
- **HPV** *(Human Papillomavirus)*
- **Flu** *(Influenza)*

VACCINATE YOUR 11-12 YEAR OLDS

For more information, talk with your family physician or your local community health nurse about these and other vaccinations your preteen should receive.

School entry **REQUIREMENT for South Dakota 6th grade students.*

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

doh.sd.gov | 1-800-592-1861

Revised 07/16/2021

Annual Asbestos Notification

To: Parents, Staff and Students of the Chester School District
From: Designated Person Dan Duenwald SD #10673
Date: August 2026

In compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protectiona Agency (EPA) Asbestos Emergency Response Act (AHERA) in the summer of 1998, we performed inspections of our school buildings for asbestos containing building materials (ACBM). The inspection findings and asbestos management plan have been on file in the school administration office since that time.

The EPA requires us to perform re-inspections of the ACBM every three years and six month surveillances each year for any change in the the condition of the ACBM. An accredited management planner reviewed the results of the re-inspections and recommended actions we should take to safely manage the ACBM in our buildings.

The ACBM in this school is in good condition and we will continue to manage them in place as recommended by the accredited management planner. We plan on taking whatever steps are necessary to ensure your children and our employees have a healthy and safe enviornment to learn and work in.

The results of the most recent inspection performed July of 2025 are on file in the school administration office. Everyone is welcome to view these anytime during normal school hours (Monday through Friday 8:00am-4:30pm). The Asbestos Designated Person Dan Duenwald, is available to answer any questions you may have about ACBM in our school at 605-233-0010

Notice of the Chester Area School District's Destruction of Special Education Records

Date Posted: 6/18/26

Special Education records that have been collected by the Chester Area School District related to the identification, evaluation, educational placement, or the provision of Special Education services in the district, must be maintained under state and federal laws for a period of five (5) years after Special Education services have ended for the student.

Special Education services end when any of the following occur:

- the student is no longer eligible for services,
- the student graduates,
- The student completes his or her educational program on June 30th of the school year he or she turns 21,
- The eligible student or their parent/guardian revokes consent for special education services in writing; or
- The student moves from the district.

This notification is to inform parents/guardians and former students of the Chester Area School District's intent to destroy the Special Education records of students whose Special Education services ended on **June 30th, 2021** or prior. These records will be destroyed in accordance with state law unless the parent/guardian or eligible (adult) student notifies the school district of their intent to collect the identified records prior to the date identified below.

After five years, the records are no longer useful to the district, but they may be useful to the parent/guardian or former student in applying for Social Security benefits, rehabilitation services, college entrance, etc. The parent/guardian or eligible (adult) student may request the records in writing or in person at the following address:

Chester Area School District

Attention: Special Education Director

PO Box 159/102 2nd Avenue

Chester, SD, 57016

605-489-2411

Requests for copies must be received by **December 22nd, 2026**. These records will be destroyed after this date.

STUDENT CUMULATIVE RECORDS

Graduates of 2021, you may stop in the office and pick up your cumulative file. Files not picked up by September 1st will be destroyed.

Athletes participating in a middle school or high school sport must complete a physical before starting practice. Forms are available in the front office or online at www.sdhsaa.com

Passes are required or gate admission will be charged
You can purchase your passes online or in the high school office.

Students Grade 1-6 $20.00	Adults $60.00	Senior Citizens Lifetime Pass (65 & over Chester Residents) FREE
Students Grade 6-12 $30.00	Family $100.00	
Adults: $6.00	Cost Per Game	Students: $4.00

MEAL PRICES 2026-2027

Breakfast

K-12: $2.05
Reduced: $.00
Extra Milk: $.45
Extra Juice- $.45
Adult: $2.35
Milk- $.45

Lunch

PK-5: $2.80
6-12: $2.95
Reduced: $.00
Extra Milk: $.45
Extra Meal:$1.50
Bun: $.60
Adult: $5.00

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL FROM THE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DEPARTMENT

Occupational Therapists in your schools work on student OCCUPATIONS. A child's OCCUPATIONS in the school include 3 areas: **Self-Cares, School/Work Skills, and Social Behaviors.**

Self-cares are daily living activities that may be affected when using tools and sequencing steps for such routines as hygiene, dressing including fasteners and shoetying, eating, or locker and desk organization. **School/Work skills** include grasping school tools, cutting, coloring, drawing, puzzles, copying information, and handwriting. **Social behaviors** may be compromised if there is difficulty with attention and focus, tolerating and processing sensory input in classroom environments, or motor planning a classroom or leisure activity with peers. Your OT's serve the birth to 3 program, early childhood, and school age students.

Occupational Therapists in your school have a variety of THERAPY TREATMENT activities that address the underlying developmental components impacting performance in those 3 Occupational areas of self-cares, school skills, and social behaviors. These activities work on improving fine motor visual-perceptual perspectives, and sensory-motor foundations and body awareness that impact educational functioning. OT's have knowledge in activity, situation, and environment analysis and modification to improve on any barriers to participation. Occupational therapists serve as a related service to the special education program. Students with classroom concerns can be evaluated through standardized testing, and if eligible may be served through the special education program's IEP process.

Michelle Sinning- Ms. Michelle serves students in the Baltic and Tri-Valley Districts. She has been an OT for 19 years in pediatrics including being a traveling OT and completed assignments in school districts in Rockford, IL, suburbs of Chicago, and Lake Havasu City, AZ, then back to Sioux Falls at LifeScape, and currently in Baltic and TV -Colton locations! Michelle lives with her husband and 3 children between the ages of 8-11.

Natalie Olson – Ms. Natalie serves students in the Chester and Tri-Valley Districts. She has been an OT for 27 years in pediatrics including working for a cooperative of 26 school districts, Children's Care Hospital and School, and has served Chester/Baltic/TV districts since 2009, and currently in Chester and TV-Crooks locations. She lives with her husband, and has 2 grown sons out of the house.

Presley Claussen – Ms. Presley will be completing her USD Level II clinical fieldwork this fall under the supervision of Ms. Natalie. She will be directly serving students in the Chester and Tri-Valley Crooks location for 12 weeks. We will be fortunate to also retain her skills in the spring semester as a USD Capstone research project student under the monitoring of Ms. Michelle and Ms. Natalie through the OT department with the focus on collaboration between school and home in areas of child development and occupational therapy programming.

RESPECTFULLY SERVING BALTIC, CHESTER, AND TRI-VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICTS,

Chester Elementary School Supply Lists

Kindergarten Supply List

1 Fiskars pointed scissors

2 large erasers

1 box of #2 pencils (12 or more)

1 hard plastic supply box

2 boxes 24 Crayola crayons

1 small 8 oz. bottle Elmer's glue

1 paint shirt / smock

1 water color paint set

4 large glue sticks

6 dry erase Expo markers

1 felt eraser

1 Box crackers/cookies for snack, every 9 weeks

1 Clorox wipes

1 Large box of tissues

1st grade Supply List

1 Fiskars pointed scissors

2 boxes of #2 pencils (12 or more)

2 boxes of 24 Crayola crayons

4 large, pink erasers

2 boxes of 10 markers

1 set of water color paint

1 hard plastic supply box

1 small bottle of glue, NO gel

2 large glue sticks OR 4 small

1 two-pocket folder

8 or more dry erase, black Expo markers

1 felt eraser

1 1/2 inch, 3 ring binder

1 box of sandwich size Ziploc bags

1 Box crackers/cookies for snack, every 9 weeks

1 large box of tissues

ALL STUDENTS WILL NEED:

1 Pair of tennis shoes for gym and indoor use, that can be left at school.

1 set of wired headphones, NOT earbuds, for computer class.

PLEASE LABEL ALL BELONGINGS AND SUPPLIES WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME!!

2nd grade Supply List

1 Fiskars, pointed scissors

2 large erasers

2 boxes of wood #2 pencils 12 or more with NO decorative designs

1 box of 16 or more crayons

1 box of markers (optional)

1 bottle of glue, NO gel

2 large glue sticks

2 sturdy, double pocket folders, not plastic

2 wide ruled notebooks—70 count, 1 subject

3 dry erase Expo markers, no yellow

1 large box of tissues

2 Boxes of cookies/crackers every 9 weeks

1 Gallon sized, zip top baggie

Chester Elementary School Supply Lists

3rd grade Supply List

1 Fiskars pointed scissors
1 box of #2 pencils (12 or more)
1 small supply box
1 box of colored pencils
1 box of markers
1 large eraser
1 box of crayons
1 small bottle of glue
2 large glue sticks
2 wide-ruled notebooks, 1 subject
1 Box of Expo markers
2 sturdy 2 pocket folders, no plastic
2 large boxes of tissues

4th grade Supply List

1 Fiskars pointed scissors, ADULT size
1 box of 24 crayons
1 box of #2 pencils (12 or more)
4 large glue sticks
1 bottle of Elmer's glue
1 box of markers (12 or more)
1 box of colored pencils (12 or more)
12 or more Expo markers
1 small supply box
1 wide ruled, 1 subject notebooks
1 iPad stylus (optional)
3 2 -pocket folders
1 large box of tissues
1 container of Clorox wipes

ALL STUDENTS WILL NEED:

1 Pair of tennis shoes for gym and indoor use, that can be left at school.

1 set of wired headphones, NOT earbuds, for computer class.

PLEASE LABEL ALL BELONGINGS AND SUPPLIES WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME!!

5th grade Supply List

1 Fiskars pointed scissors, ADULT size
1 box of #2 pencils (12 or more)
1 large eraser
3 1 subject, wide ruled notebooks
2 large glue sticks
1 ball point pen
1 box of crayons
1 box of colored pencils
1 box of markers (12 or more)
2 black sharpie markers
4 dry erase Expo markers
1 bottle of Elmer's glue
1 double pocket folder
1 small supply box
1 Large box of tissues

SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

MIDDLE SCHOOL

FOR ALL CLASSES YOU WILL NEED	
#2 Pencils	pencil pouch
highlighters	blue or black pens
loose-leaf paper (wide or college ruled)	
2 boxes of kleenex for homeroom	

OPTIONAL SUPPLIES	
headphones	ruler
scissors	glue sticks
colored pencils/crayons	

MR. MCCLAIN
Gym Clothes
Gym Shoes

MRS. LINDHOLM
6th-8th Grade: 1 Subject notebook
1-1 inch binder for Social Studies

MRS. MCDONALD
2" three ring binder
5 Subject dividers

MR. O'CONNELL
1 -1" three ring binder
5 Subject dividers

MRS. OLIVIER
1 -1.5 inch three ring binder
1 –1 subject notebooks (must be 1 subject)

HIGH SCHOOL

FOR ALL CLASSES YOU WILL NEED	
#2 Pencils	crayons
flash drive	blue, black, red pens
note cards	cloth book covers
headphones	colored pencils
box of kleenex	

MR. BAUMBERGER	
Each Ag Class (8-12)	
single subject notebook	
Welding/Metal Fabrication	
paint or chalk pen	tape measure

MRS. CUMMINS	
Geometry	compass/ruler/protractor/1" 3-ring binder
Algebra	paper/1" 3-ring binder
Algebra II	graphing calculator/graphing paper/1" 3-ring binder

MRS. MILLER
Sharpies-multi-colors for projects/posters

MRS. MOYER	
12th Grade	1-1.5" Binder or Scrapbook for journals at least 45 pages
	50 Sheet Protectors

MRS. PHILIPS	
Scientific Calculator	Index Cards

MRS. SCHNEIDER			
9th Grade English			
Black Sharpies	Highlighter	Accordion Folder(optional)	single subject notebook or loose leaf paper
Spanish I/II			
Headphones	Black Sharpies	Dry Erase Markers (4)	single subject notebook or loose leaf paper

ATHLETICS

FALL SPORTS IMPORTANT INFORMATION

REMINDER THAT ALL ATHLETES MUST HAVE THEIR YEARLY PHYSICAL PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF PRACTICE AND ON-LINE PAPERWORK COMPLETED!!!

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL 9TH - 12TH

First day of Practice: Thursday, August 6th
First Game: Friday: August 21st @ Irene-Wakonda
Parent's Night: Friday, October 9th
Head Coach: Mr. McClain
Assistant Coaches: Mr. Quenzer & Mr. Logan Fods

MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL (7TH - 8TH)

First day of Practice: Monday, August 10th 7-8:15am
First Game: Friday, August 21st 4:30 Irene-Wakonda
Coach: Mr. Logan Fods

HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL (9TH - 12TH)

First day of Practice: Thursday, August 13th 9am
First Match: Tuesday, August 25th @ Flandreau(H)
Parent's Night: Thursday, August 27th
Head Coach: Ms. O'Hara
Assistant Coaches: Mr. Fods & Mrs.Vogt

MIDDLE SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

First day of Practice: Monday, August 17th 7-8am
First Match: Tuesday, August 25th (H) 3:15
Coach: Mrs. Vogt

HIGH SCHOOL/MS CROSS COUNTRY (7TH - 12TH)

First day of Practice: Monday, August 10th 6AM
First Meet: Thursday, August 27th @ Madison
Parent's Night: Thursday, August 27th
Head Coach: Mrs. Eppard

CHESTER FLYERS

Booster Club

Membership Drive

Diamond
$1000.00

Platinum
$500.00

Gold
$100.00

Silver
$50.00

Family
$40.00

Thank You

Your support directly funds educational resources, supplies, and extracurricular activities for our students.

Dear Chester Booster Members and Booster Businesses,

Thank you for your support in the 2025-2026 school year. It is now time to think about renewing for the 2026-2027 school year. The purpose and goal of the Booster Club is to support & Promote all the students at the Chester Area School District.

The Booster Club is able to help fund the the Chester Area Students, Athletics, Band, Choir, FFA & Drama with the funds raised by working events such as concession stands, finding business donors and your membership dues.

Each year the Booster Club becomes more important with budget getting tighter and our equipment getting older and needing to be replaced.

Please reach out to us if you have any input or ideas. Your support is very important to us and needed to become a better Booster Club. We welcome and value all your ideas.

Thank you for advertising and supporting the Chester Booster Club last year. This year we have 5 types of Memberships:

DIAMOND-$1000, PLATINUM-$500, GOLD-$100, SILVER- $50, FAMILY- $40

We would like to thank you again for helping our Students, Athletes, Coaches, and Teachers. Your support is helping us maintain the awesome programs we have at Chester Area School. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Nancy Roberts(605)480-2171 or Katti Geraets(605)201-3996

Just remember all funds donated help support the students and staff of our Flyer Nation. Thank you for the support.

Sincerely,
Chester Booster Club
PO Box 252
Chester, SD 57016

CHESTER AREA SCHOOL BOOSTER CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

BUSINESS NAME:_____

FAMILY NAME:_____

ADDRESS:_____

PHONE:_____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

- ☐ FAMILY($40)
- ☐ SILVER($50)
- ☐ GOLD($100)
- ☐ PLATINUM($500)
- ☐ DIAMOND($1000)

CHESTER BOOSTER CLUB
BOX 252
CHESTER, SD 57016

GO FLYERS!

PROUDLY SUPPORTING CHESTER AREA SCHOOL

Chester Area School District

Home of the Flyers

2026-2027 School Calendar

1st quarter – Aug. 1 - Oct. 16
2nd quarter – Oct.19 - Dec. 22
3rd quarter – Jan. 5 - March 16
4th quarter – March 22 - May 19

Holidays & Observations

- Aug. 17-18: Teacher Inservice
- Aug. 19: First Day of School (2:30 dismissal)
- Sept. 4: No school (Teacher Inservice)
- Sept. 7: No school (Labor Day)
- Oct. 2: 1:30 dismissal (Teacher Inservice)
- Band Festival – October 2, 2026
- Oct. 8: 1:30 dismissal (Conferences 2-8)
- Oct. 9-12: No school (Native American Day)
- Nov. 25-27: No school (Thanksgiving)
- Dec. 4: 10:25 start (Teacher Inservice)
- Dec. 22: 12:30 dismissal (Christmas)
- Dec. 23-Jan. 4: No school (Christmas)
- Jan. 4: No school (Teacher Inservice)
- Jan. 18: No school (Martin Luther King Day)
- Feb. 11: 1:30 dismissal (Conferences 2-8)
- Feb. 12-15: No school (Presidents Day)
- March 17-19: No school (Spring Break)
- March 26-29: No school (Easter)
- May 7: 10:25 start (Teacher Inservice)
- May 19: Last Day of School (12:30 dismissal)
- May 15: 2:00 pm Graduation

Any scheduled school day missed may be made up at the end of the year.

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SEPTEMBER

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27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

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29	30					

DECEMBER

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JANUARY

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31						

FEBRUARY

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28						

MARCH

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28	29	30	31			

APRIL

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MAY

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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06	07	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Offer vs. Serve

What Does It Mean?

With breakfast and lunch, students must take a fruit or a vegetable to make a complete USDA required meal. Please keep in mind most of the entrees count as two items.

Breakfast

Students must choose 3 or 4 items to make a reimbursable breakfast

Grain

Must take ONE OR TWO grain items (depending on size of item)

Fruit*

May take up to TWO half-cup fruit choices (MUST take a least one)

Milk

May take a cup of milk (8 oz)

* Must take at least 1 serving of fruit (or vegetable when offered)

Lunch

Students must take 3 4, or 5 components to make a reimbursable lunch

Grain

May take ONE 2 oz. grain item (most entrees are 2 oz.)

Protein

May take up ONE 2 oz. protein item (most entress are 2 oz.)

Fruit*

May take up to TWO half-cup fruit

Vegetable*

May take up to TWO half-cup choices

Milk

May take a cup of milk (8 oz.)

* Must take at least 1 serving of fruit or vegetable

FREE Unlimited Garden Bar at Lunch

with the purchase of a meal

USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service

OFFER VERSUS SERVE (OVS)

Tip Sheet for School Food Service Managers

School Breakfast Program

What is OVS?

The goal of OVS is to reduce food waste while allowing students to choose the foods they want to eat. Everyone plays a role. When students and cafeteria staff understand OVS, breakfast lines move smoothly, allowing students to make the most of meal time and enjoy the wholesome and appealing foods they are served. It also helps reduce overall food costs.

Under OVS at breakfast, schools must offer at least four food items from the three required food components (fruit, grains, and fluid milk*).

- A **food component** is one of three required food groups in a reimbursable breakfast. These are fruits, grains, and fluid milk*.
- A **food item** is a specific food offered within the three food components, for example, 2 slices of whole grain-rich bread, 1 cup of grapes, and 1 cup of milk. This meal meets OVS breakfast requirements because three food components and four food items are offered.

Students must select at least three of the four offered food items under OVS at breakfast, including at least ½ cup of fruit and/or vegetable. Please note, OVS is optional at breakfast for all grade levels.

Required Components at Breakfast

Fruit
1 cup

Grains
1 ounce equivalent (oz eq)

Fluid Milk*
1 cup

Sample OVS breakfast menu:

Variety of milk*: fat free or low-fat (1 cup milk)
Slice of whole grain-rich toast (1 oz eq grain)
Whole grain-rich cereal (1 oz eq grain)
Orange slices (1 cup fruit)

Optional Components at Breakfast

Vegetables

- Vegetables may be offered as a substitute for fruits.

Meats/Meat Alternates

- A meat/meat alternate may be served to meet the weekly grain requirement, as long as a 1 oz eq minimum of grains is offered daily.
- A meat/meat alternate may also be offered as an "extra" food (not credited toward meal pattern requirements) if a reimbursable meal is selected.

*Water does not count as one of the three required food components and cannot be served as a substitute for milk.

USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service

OFFER VERSUS SERVE (OVS)

Tip Sheet for School Food Service Managers

National School Lunch Program

What is OVS?

The goal of OVS is to reduce food waste and allow students to choose the foods they want to eat. Everyone plays a role. When students and cafeteria staff understand OVS, lunch lines move smoothly, allowing students to make the most of the lunch break and enjoy the wholesome and appealing foods they are served. It also helps reduce overall food costs.

Schools must offer all five food components in at least the minimum required quantities:

- A **food component** is one of five required food groups in reimbursable lunches. These are meats/meat alternates, grains, fruits, vegetables, and fluid milk*.
- A **food item** is a specific food offered within the five food components. For example, spaghetti (whole grain-rich pasta with tomato sauce) is one food item that contains a grain and a vegetable component.

Under OVS, students must select *three meal components* to ensure they get the nutritional benefits of a meal. OVS is required for lunches served in high schools, but is optional in middle and elementary schools. OVS is not required for meals offered as part of field trips or for any other meals served away from the school campus.

The required five food components must be offered for school lunch. Students must select at least three of the five required food components, including at least ½ cup of fruit and/or vegetable, to have a reimbursable lunch. See the **Required Food Components** table for a listing of required food components and their minimum quantities that must be offered. Meats/meat alternates and grains are measured in ounce equivalents (oz eq is considered the amount of food product that is equal to 1 ounce).

Required Food Components

Required Food Component	Daily Minimum Requirements for Each Grade Level			
	K-5	6-8	K-8	9-12
Vegetables	¾ cup	¾ cup	¾ cup	1 cup
Fruits	½ cup	½ cup	½ cup	1 cup
Grains	1 oz eq	1 oz eq	1 oz eq	2 oz eq
Meats/Meat Alternates	1 oz eq	1 oz eq	1 oz eq	2 oz eq
Fluid Milk*	1 cup	1 cup	1 cup	1 cup

Is it Reimbursable?

Use this simple checklist to determine if student lunches are reimbursable under OVS:

☑ Does the meal offered to students include the minimum required amounts of vegetables, fruits, grains, meats/meat alternates, and fluid milk?

☑ Does the meal selected by the student contain at least three components, including at least ½ cup fruit and/or vegetable?

If the answer to each of these questions is yes, then the school lunch is reimbursable under OVS.

*Water does not count as one of the three required food components and cannot be served as a substitute for milk.

Chester Area School Unpaid Meal Charge Policy

I. Federal Requirement

The purpose of this policy is to address the need for the school food authority (SFA) participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the School Breakfast Program (SBP) to institute and clearly communicate a meal charge policy, which includes the availability of alternate meals. Because all students in participating schools may receive reimbursable school meals, all SFAs must have a policy in place for children who are participating at the reduced price or paid rate, but either do not have money in their account or in hand to cover the cost of the meal at the time of service. Such a policy ensures that school food service professionals, school administrators, families, and students have a shared understanding of expectation in these situations.

II. Purpose of Policy:

The purpose of this policy is to establish consistent meal account procedures throughout the district. Unpaid charges place a financial strain on the food service department. The goals of this standard of practice are:

- To treat all students with dignity in the serving line regarding meal accounts
- To support positive situations with district staff, district business policies, student and parent/guardian to the maximum extent possible
- To establish policies that are age appropriate
- To encourage parent/guardian to assume the responsibility of meal payments and to promote self-responsibility to the student
- To establish a consistent district policy regarding charges and collection of charges

III. Scope of Responsibility:

- The Business Manager, Principals and Administrative Assistants: Responsible for maintaining charge records and notifying the student's parents/guardian
- The Parent/Guardian: Immediate payment

IV. Administration

1. Families are encouraged to apply for free and reduced price meal benefit. Any family that falls into a negative balance will receive a written notification to encourage them to apply for free or reduced price meal benefits.
2. Families are encouraged to pre-pay for meals and money is accepted in the school office daily for payments on the day of service. Written notification of prepayment options occurs at the beginning of each school year, is given to each new transfer student, is posted on the school website, and is included in the student handbook.

3. Families will be notified of the school Unpaid Meal Charge Policy in writing before the school year begins and with each new transfer student. This policy will also be posted on the school website.
4. SFAs may limit the amount of funds that a student can use daily for a la carte purchases.
5. **K-12 Students:** Statements will be emailed each day for accounts with a balance of $10 or less. Printed statements will be mailed on Fridays. Online account balance information is available.
    a. Calls on delinquent accounts are made weekly to try to collect payment.
    b. No charges are allowed for extras or a la carte on any negative accounts or accounts with a zero balance.
    c. All delinquent accounts at the end of the school year will be subject to collections for payment.
    d. If a child has money to purchase a reduced price or paid meal at the time of meal service, the child must be provided a meal. SFAs may not use the child's money to repay previously unpaid charges if the child intended to use the money to purchase that day's meal.
6. Alternate meals.
    a. Any delinquent account without payment is encouraged to send money each day for student meals or it is up to parent/guardian to provide a sack lunch from home. Alternate meals will be served to students with delinquent accounts at the discretion of the administration.
    b. If an alternate meal is served that meets meal pattern requirement, those meals can be claimed for reimbursement. If an alternate meal is served that <u>does not meet the meal pattern requirements</u>, those meals may not be claimed for reimbursement and the food used for alternate meals must come from funds outside the non-profit school food service account.
7. Reasonable efforts will be used to collect delinquent lunch accounts. Unpaid meal charges may be carried over at the end of the school year as delinquent debt and collection efforts may continue into the new school year. This allows SFAs to work with individual families to establish longer repayment plans and to continue pursuing collection efforts when children move to a new school outside the district. When local officials determine further collection efforts for delinquent debt are useless or too costly, the debt must be reclassified as "bad debt."

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. **Chester Area School** offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs **$2.05**; lunch costs **$2.80** (K-8), **$2.95** (9-12); your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced-price meals. Reduced-price is **$0.00** for breakfast, **$0.00** for lunch. This packet includes an application for free or reduced-price meal benefits and a set of detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE MEALS?
    - All children in households receiving benefits from SNAP, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or TANF are eligible for free meals
    - Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals
    - Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals
    - Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals
    - Children may receive free or reduced-price meals if your household's income is within the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines; your children may qualify for free or reduced-price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart

FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART For School Year 2026-2027			
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	$29,526	$2,461	$568
2	$40,034	$3,337	$770
3	$50,542	$4,212	$972
4	$61,050	$5,088	$1,175
5	$71,558	$5,964	$1,377
6	$82,066	$6,839	$1,579
7	$92,574	$7,715	$1,781
8	$103,082	$8,591	$1,983
Each additional person:	$10,508	$876	$203

2. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY? Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail Reece Simpson at reece.simpson@k12.sd.us or 605-489-2411.

3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. *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 Kari Alverson, PO Box 159, Chester, SD 57016 or 605-489-2411.

4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? No. But please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact Kari Alverson, PO Box 159, Chester, SD 57016 or 605-489-2411 right away so those children get benefits, too.

5. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW ONE? **YES.** Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.

6. I GET WIC OR MEDICAID. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC or Medicaid **may** be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. WIC and Medicaid are **not** automatic qualifications. Please send in an application.

7. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.

8. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes. You may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced-price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.

9. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials by calling Kari Alverson, 605-489-2411 or kari.alverson@k12.sd.us. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: Dr. Kludt, 605-489-2411 or Kimberly.kludt@k12.sd.us

10. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced-price meals.

11. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make $1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made $900, put down that you made $1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.

12. WHAT IF MY INCOME CHANGES DURING THE YEAR OR MY SNAP, TANF, OR FDPIR BENEFITS CHANGE? If your application for free or reduced-price benefits was properly approved, you will remain eligible for those benefits for a certain period of time. You may visit with a school/center official to get the exact date the meal benefits will expire.

13. WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT? Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application or may not receive income at all. When this happens, please write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zeroes. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.

14. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY? Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance (FSSA) payments and any additional combat pay resulting from deployment are also excluded from income.

    IS COMBAT PAY COUNTED AS INCOME? No, if the combat pay is received in addition to the basic pay because of deployment and it was not received before deployment, combat pay is not counted as income. Contact your school for more information.

15. WILL YOU TELL ANYONE ELSE ABOUT THE INFORMATION ON MY FORM? We will use the information on your form to decide if your children should get free or reduced-price meals. We may inform officials associated with other child nutrition, health, and education programs of the information on your form to determine benefits for those programs or for funding and/or evaluation purposes.

16. WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper and attach it to your application.

17. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? Contact your local Department of Social Services office to find out how to apply for SNAP or other assistance benefits.

18. WHAT IF MY CHILD NEEDS SPECIAL FOODS? The school/center will make substitutions to the regular school meal for children whose disability restricts their diet when a physician certifies that disability. If the parent requests changes, the staff may choose to make substitutions for individual children who do not have a disability, but who cannot drink regular milk due to medical or other special dietary needs that are supported by a certified medical authority. These requests will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Please call the school/center food service department for further information to request special meals or milk.

If you have other questions or need help, call 605-489-2411

Sincerely,
Kari Alverson

2026-2027 Application for Free and Reduced-Price School Meals or Free Milk

Complete one application per household. Please use a pen (not a pencil).

☐ New Applicant ☐ Previous Applicant

STEP 1: List ALL Household Members who are infants, children, and students up to and including grade 12 (if more spaces are required for additional names, attach another sheet of paper)

Definition of **Household Member**. "Anyone who is living with you & shares income and expenses, even if not related."

Children in **Foster care** and children who meet the definition of **Homeless, Migrant,** or **Runaway** are eligible for free meals. Read **How to Apply for Free and Reduced Price School Meals** for more information.

Child's Name	Age	Write name of child's school, or "not in school"	If a student, write in the grade	Check all that apply: Foster Child	Homeless, Migrant, Runaway
				☐	☐
				☐	☐
				☐	☐
				☐	☐
				☐	☐
				☐	☐

STEP 2: Do any Household Members (including you) currently participate in one or more of the following assistance programs: SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR? (NOT Medicaid)

If you answered NO > Complete STEPS 3 and 4. If YES > Write your 9-digit SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR case number here then go to STEP 4 (Do not complete STEP 3)

Case Number:

Write only one case number in this space.

STEP 3: Report Income for ALL Household Members (Skip this step if you answered 'Yes' to STEP 2)

Are you unsure what income to include here?

Flip the page and review the charts titled "Sources of Income" for more information.

The "**Sources of Income for Children**" chart will help you with the Child Income section.

The "**Sources of Income for Adults**" chart will help you with the All Adult Household Members section.

A. Child Income

Sometimes children in the household earn or receive income. Please include the TOTAL income received by all children listed in STEP 1 here.

Child income	How often?	Child income	How often?
$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly

B. All Adult Household Members (including yourself)

List all Household Members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. For each Household Member listed, if they do receive income, report total gross income (before taxes) for each source in whole dollars only. If they do not receive income from any source, write '0'. If you enter '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report.

Name of Adult Household Members (First and Last)	Earnings from Work	How often?	Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	How often?	Farming/ Pensions/ Retirement/Other Income	How often?
	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly ☐ Annually
	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly ☐ Annually
	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly ☐ Annually
	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly ☐ Annually
	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly	$	☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly ☐ Annually

Total Household Members (Children and Adults) ☐☐

Last Four Digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of Primary Wage Earner or Other Adult Household Member X X X X X ☐☐☐☐

Check if no SSN ☐

STEP 4 : Contact information and adult signature.

"I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is given in connection with the receipt of Federal funds, and that school officials may verify (check) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information, my children may lose meal benefits, and I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws."

Street Address (if available) | Apt # | City | State | Zip | Daytime Phone and Email (optional)

Printed name of adult completing the form | Signature of adult completing the form (Required) | Today's Date

INSTRUCTIONS: Sources of Income

Sources of Income for Children

Sources of Child Income	Example(s)
• Earnings from work	• A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages
• Social Security o Disability Payments o Survivor's Benefits	• A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security benefits • A Parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives Social Security benefits
• Income from person outside the household	• A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money
• Income from any other source	• A child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust

Sources of Income for Adults

Earnings from Work	Public Assistance / Alimony / Child Support	Pensions / Retirement / All Other Income
• Salary, wages, cash bonuses • Net income from self-employment (farm or business) If you are in the U.S. Military: • Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances) • Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing	• Unemployment benefits • Worker's compensation • Supplemental Security Income (SSI) • Cash assistance from State or local government • Alimony payments • Child support payments • Veteran's benefits • Strike benefits	• Social Security (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits) • Private pensions or disability benefits • Regular income from trusts or estates • Annuities • Investment income • Earned interest • Rental income • Regular cash payments from outside household

OPTIONAL: Children's Racial and Ethnic

We are required to ask for information about your children's race and ethnicity. This information is important and helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. Responding to this section is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals.

Ethnicity (check one): ☐ Hispanic or Latino ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino

Race (check one or more): ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native ☐ Asian ☐ Black or African American ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ☐ White

Civil Rights: Information if you have a complaint

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, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: How to File a Complaint, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
fax: (202) 690-7442; or
email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Do Not Fill Out: FOR SCHOOL / CENTER USE ONLY

Do not convert if only one income frequency reported. Annual Income Conversion: Weekly x 52, Bi - Weekly x 26, Twice a Month x 24, Monthly x 12.

Total income:

How Often?

Weekly	Bi-Weekly	2xMonth	Monthly	Annual

Household Size:

Categorical Free Eligibility: (Select 1)

Foster	Homeless	Runaway	Migrant	SNAP/TANF /FDPIR

Income Eligibility: (Select 1)

Free	Reduced	Denied

Determining Official's Signature | Date

Confirming Official's Signature | Date

Verifying Official's Signature | Date

HOW TO APPLY FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Please use these instructions to help you fill out the application for free or reduced-price school meals. You only need to submit **one** application per household, even if your children attend more than one school in Chester Area School. The application must be filled out completely to certify your children for free or reduced-price school meals. Please follow these instructions in order! Each step of the instructions is the same as the steps on your application. If at any time you are not sure what to do next, please contact Kari Alverson, kari.alverson@k12.sd.us, 605-489-2411.

PLEASE USE A PEN (NOT A PENCIL) WHEN FILLING OUT THE APPLICATION AND DO YOUR BEST TO PRINT CLEARLY.

STEP 1: LIST ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS WHO ARE INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND STUDENTS UP TO AND INCLUDING GRADE 12.

Tell us how many infants, children, and school students live in your household. They do NOT have to be related to you to be a part of your household.

Who should I list here? When filling out this section, please include **ALL** members in your household who are:

- Children age 18 or under **AND** are supported with the household's income;
- In your care under a foster arrangement, or qualify as homeless, migrant, or runaway youth;
- Students attending Chester Area School, *regardless of age*

A) ***List each child's name.*** For each child, print their first name, middle initial and last name. Use one line of the application for each child. If there are more children present than lines on the application, attach a second piece of paper with all required information for the additional children.

B) ***How old is the child? Is the child a student? What school/center does the child attend?*** Fill in the information for the center or school to use.

C) ***Do you have any foster children?*** If any children listed are foster children, mark the "Foster Child" box next to the child's name. **Foster children who live with you may count as members of your household and should be listed on your application.** If you are *only* applying for foster children, after completing STEP 1, skip to STEP 4 of the application and these instructions. If you are applying for both foster and non-foster children, go to step 3.

D) ***Are any children homeless, migrant, or runaway?*** If you believe any child listed in this section may meet this description, please mark the "Homeless, Migrant, and Runaway" box next to the child's name and **complete all steps of the application.**

STEP 2: DO ANY HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (INCLUDING YOU) CURRENTLY PARTICIPATE IN SNAP, TANF, OR FDPIR?

If anyone in your household participates in the assistance programs listed below, your children are eligible for free school meals:

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

A) **IF *NO ONE* IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD PARTICIPATES IN ANY OF THE ABOVE LISTED PROGRAMS:**

- *Leave STEP 2 blank and go to STEP 3*

B) **IF *ANYONE* IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD PARTICIPATES IN ANY OF THE ABOVE LISTED PROGRAMS:**

- *Write a case number for SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR.* You only need to write **one** case number. If you participate in one of these programs and do not know your case number, contact your local assistance office. **You must provide a case number on your application**
- *Go to STEP 4*

STEP 3: REPORT INCOME FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS.

A) Use the charts titled "**Sources of Income for Adults**" and "**Sources of Income for Children**," printed on the back side of the application form to determine if your household has income to report.

REPORT INCOME EARNED BY CHILDREN

- **Report all income earned or received by children.** Report the combined gross income for ALL children listed in STEP 1 in your household in the box marked "Child Income." Only count foster children's income if you are applying for them together with the rest of your household

- ***What is Child Income?*** Child income is money received from outside your household that is paid DIRECTLY to your children. Many households do not have any child income

REPORT INCOME EARNED BY ADULTS

Who should I list here?

- When filling out this section, please include ALL adult members in your household who are living with you and share income and expenses, even if they are not related and even if they do not receive income of their own
- ***Do NOT include:***
  - People who live with you but are not supported by your household's income AND do not contribute income to your household
  - Infants, children and students already listed in **STEP 1**

a) List adult household members' names. Print the name of each household member in the boxes marked "Names of Adult Household Members (First and Last)." Do not list any household members you listed in **STEP 1.** If a child listed in **STEP 1** has income, follow the instructions in **STEP 3, part A.**	**b) Report earnings from work.** Report all income from work in the "Earnings from Work" field on the application. This is usually the money received from working at jobs. If you are a self-employed business or farm owner, you will report your net income. ***What if I am self-employed?*** Report income from that work as a net amount. This is calculated by subtracting the total operating expenses of your business from its gross receipts or revenue.	**c) Report income from public assistance/child support/alimony.** Report all income that applies in the "Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony" field on the application. Do not report the cash value of any public assistance benefits NOT listed on the chart. If income is received from child support or alimony, only report court-ordered payments. Informal but regular payments should be reported as "other" income in the next part.
d) Report income from pensions/retirement/all other income. Report all income that applies in the "Pensions/Retirement/ All Other Income" field on the application.	**e) Report total household size.** Enter the total number of household members in the field "Total Household Members (Children and Adults)." This number MUST be equal to the number of household members listed in **STEP 1** and **STEP 3.** If there are any members of your household that you have not listed on the application, go back and add them. It is very important to list all household members, as the size of your household affects your eligibility for free and reduced-price meals.	**f) Provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number.** An adult household member must enter the last four digits of their Social Security Number in the space provided. You are eligible to apply for benefits even if you do not have a Social Security Number. If no adult household members have a Social Security Number, leave this space blank and mark the box to the right labeled "Check if no SSN."

B) Report all amounts in **GROSS INCOME ONLY**. Report all income in whole dollars. Do not include cents.
   - Gross income is the total income received before taxes
   - Many people think of income as the amount they "take home" and not the total, "gross" amount. Make sure that the income you report on this application has NOT been reduced to pay for taxes, insurance premiums, or any other amounts taken from your pay.

C) Write a "0" in any fields where there is no income to report. Any income fields left empty or blank will also be counted as a zero. If you write '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. If local officials suspect that your household income was reported incorrectly, your application will be investigated.

D) Mark how often each type of income is received using the check boxes to the right of each field.

What if I am self-employed?
If you are self-employed, report income from that work as a **net** amount. This is calculated by subtracting the total operating expenses of your business from its gross receipts or revenue.

E) To figure monthly income for self-employment/farming: The information to figure income from private business operation is to be taken from your U.S. Individual Income Tax Return – Schedule 1. Write the numbers from the corresponding tax form lines in the box below. Write it on the free/reduced-price meal application in the earnings column as annually. If it is a negative number, write it as zero on the application. All other income from the tax form must be listed separately for the person who earned it. Net loss carryover cannot be used to decrease the household income.

Line 1 of the IRS Form 1040 cannot be used to report income. Income from wages or salaries must be reported on the free/reduced price meal application for the most recent month by family member and frequency.

Line 7b (total income) and **Line 8b** (adjusted gross income) **of the IRS Form 1040** cannot be used for the purpose of applying for free and reduced-price meals.

The line items below are used to determine allowable self-employment income. Refer to the US Individual Income Tax Return Form 1040 – Schedule 1 under Part I, Additional Income section.

Line 3, Business Income (or loss)	$	**NOTE:** If any members of the household have income from wages or salary, the gross income from last month must be reported on the application form. This attachment is used only to report income from self-employment and/or farming.
Line 4, Other Gains (or losses)	$	
Line 5, Rental Real Estate, etc.	$	
Line 6, Farm Income (or loss)	$	
Line 8, Other Income	$	
TOTAL OF ABOVE LINES:	$	
	Equals annual self-employment income**	

If the TOTAL OF THE ABOVE LINES is a negative number, it must be changed to zero before it is transferred to the free/reduced price meal application

**Report this amount on the free and reduced-price meal application in the category labeled "Farming/Pensions/Retirement/Other Income."

F) ***Report total household size.*** Enter the total number of household members in the field "Total Household Members (Children and Adults)." This number **MUST** be equal to the number of household members listed in STEP 1 and STEP 3. If there are any members of your household that you have not listed on the application, go back and add them. It is very important to list all household members, as the size of your household determines your income cutoff for free and reduced-price meals.

G) ***Provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number.*** The household's primary wage earner or another adult household member must enter the last four digits of their Social Security Number in the space provided. You are eligible to apply for benefits even if you do not have a Social Security Number. If no adult household members have a Social Security Number mark the box to the right labeled "Check if no SSN."

STEP 4: CONTACT INFORMATION AND ADULT SIGNATURE

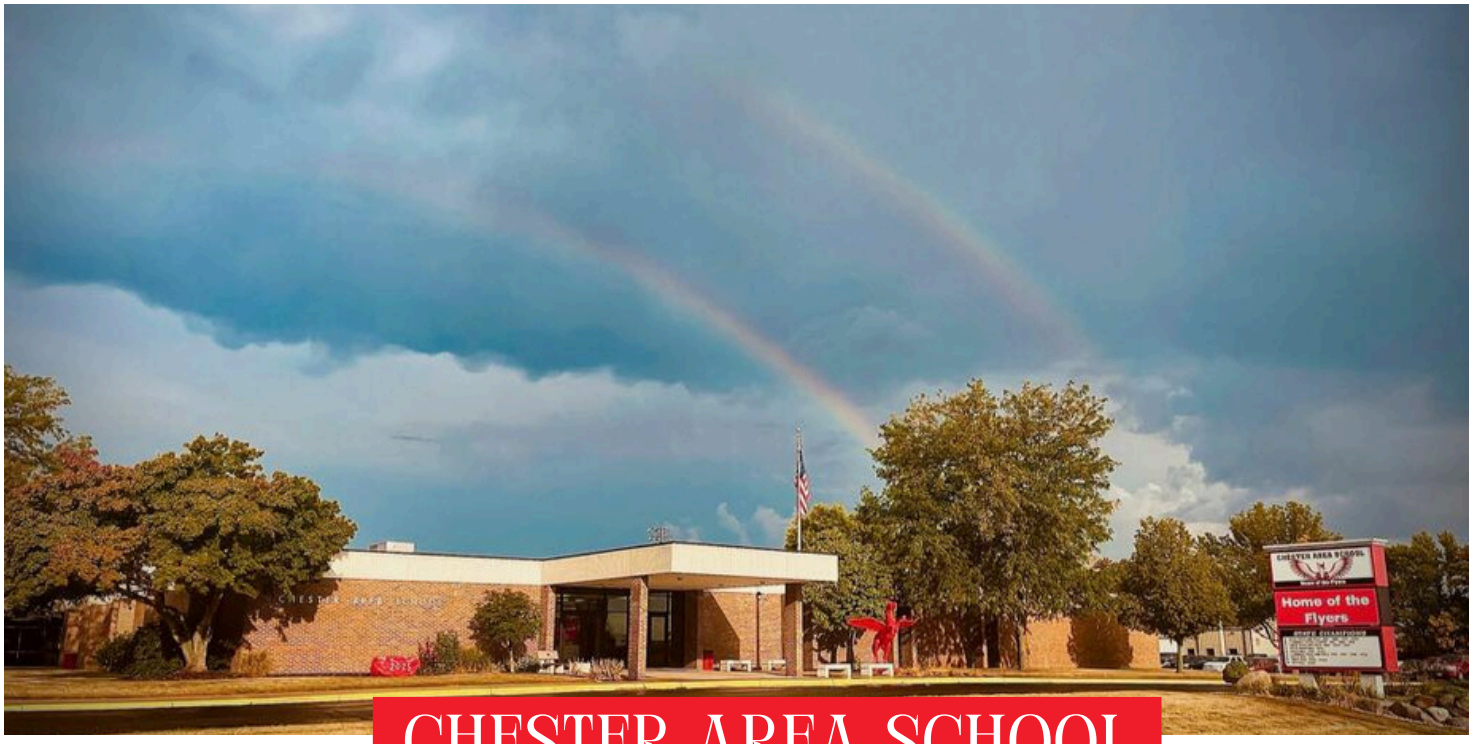
All applications must be signed by an adult member of the household. ***By signing the application, that household member is promising that all information has been truthfully and completely reported.*** *Before completing this section, please also make sure you have read the privacy and civil rights statements on the back of the application.*

A) ***Provide your contact information.*** Write your current address in the fields provided if this information is available. If you have no permanent address, this does not make your children ineligible for free or reduced-price school meals. Sharing a phone number, email address, or both is optional, but helps us reach you quickly if we need to contact you.

B) ***Sign and print your name.*** Print your name in the box "Printed name of adult completing the form." Sign your name in the box "Signature of adult completing the form."

C) ***Write Today's Date.*** In the space provided, write today's date in the box.

D) ***Share children's Racial and Ethnic Identities (optional).*** On the back of the application, we ask you to share information about your children's race and ethnicity. This field is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced-price school meals; however, if you do not select a race/ethnicity, one will be selected for you based on visual observation.



CHESTER AREA SCHOOL

SCHOOL CLOSING BECAUSE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER

TELEPHONE BROADCAST SERVICE
LOCAL RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS WILL BE CONTACTED.
IF THERE IS NO ANNOUNCEMENT, IT AUTOMATICALLY MEANS SCHOOL WILL BE IN SESSION

ATTENTION
THE SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS, STAFF, AND BUS DRIVERS IS OUR NUMBER ONE CONCERN. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT STUDENTS WILL NOT BE COUNTED ABSENT OR TARDY DUE TO BAD WEATHER

CHESTER AREA SCHOOL NO. 39-1
PO BOX 159
CHESTER, SD 57016-0159