



News From The Hill

DUNKERTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

JAN-MAR 2016

"Empowering students to be life-long learners and caring, responsible citizens."

News and Information

By James Stanton, Superintendent

We continue to move forward and have a great year. This is a testament to the excellent staff we have here at Dunkerton. This group has been great to work with this year. They work hard, keep the best interest of the kids in mind at all times, and truly care about the students. They show this as they volunteer for things like lock-ins, speech contests, ball games, and plays, among other things. The students are responding as we have seen some great success in our extra-curricular activities. I cannot name them all, but we had state qualifiers in several different areas from Cross-Country to Speech and conference champions in things from Basketball to Track. This is not only due to the dedication of those students involved, but also to staff who put forth the time and effort to assure that kids can be successful.

Hopefully you have heard of our plan to implement a Middle School concept. Instead of being a 7th-8th grade Junior High, we will become a 6th-8th grade Middle School. This allows us to create student opportunities, as well as use our facilities and personnel to their maximum potential. The next page outlines many of the benefits of this change, including spring and fall orientations for upcoming middle school students.

The secondary will offer both spring and fall orientation. The orientation for next year's 6th and 7th graders is scheduled for May 23rd at 6pm. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact administration.

The calendar for next school year has been approved by the Board and here are some important dates:

August 23 is the first day of school.

December 22 begins Winter Break.

January 4 is when school resumes.

May 21 is graduation.

May 23 is the last scheduled day of school.

Features of the 2016-2017 Calendar include 175 days, the same hours, a move to semesters, a short Spring Break in March, 1st and 3rd Wednesday early dismissals, and conferences in November and March. The 2016 – 2017 Calendar is available on the website, or it can be picked up in the Central Office.

A few years ago we developed an assembly review committee. This group screens any assemblies that are wanting to access our students. A couple of the members have decided that they no longer want to participate. If you are interested or would like more information, contact me. It does not take much time and is handled via email. Thanks to those who continue to serve and that have served in the past.

The Board has approved an overhaul of the "old gym". This renovation includes tearing out and replacing the bleachers. We could use help in tearing out the bleachers. We will tackle this when school gets out for the summer. Once we know that date, I will be in contact. Currently, it is May 26. If you are interested in being part of this crew, let me know.

The old gym will be closed from the last day of school until August 15th. Renovations include sanding the floor; repainting lines and walls; and replacing bleachers, backboards, and end pads. The new gym will be closed the last three weeks in July. We will put a coat of sealer on the floor and replace the end pads. These projects will be paid for using money from the one cent sales tax. The old gym project is long overdue and will bring our bleachers into ADA and insurance safety requirements and make a great place for PE, games, and make it more available for school functions. Stop in once school starts next fall.

April 25 is a school day due to snow make up.

Thank you for your support in making Dunkerton a great place to live, and Dunkerton Schools a great place to be a kid! As always, thanks to the taxpayers of our community for supporting the school!

With Raider Pride,

jstanton@dunkerton.k12.ia.us

GO RAIDERS!!!

Dunkerton High School presents:
"TOMBSTONE TERROR STORIES" Spring Play

Join us April 2nd at 2 and 7 p.m. in the band room as students perform stories involving cemeteries, ghosts, and trying to bring someone back from the dead! Tickets are \$5 reserved seating and can be purchased in the high school office or at the door. The following students are involved: McKayla Boeschen, McKayla Boeschen, Melissa Boner, Alina Burch, Noah Christians, Cole Heiple, Mady Howland, Adam Manahl, Charlie Magee, Katlin O'Hara, Rylie Stanton, Gracen Weaver, Jhenna Weber, Mitchell Winkers, Jordan Yessak, Mike Boner, John Davis, Caleb Heideman, Sarah Mangrich, James McClain and Abby Scarborough! It's a show you won't want to miss!



Character Education

3rd grade students made "Fairness Glasses" as they discussed the character pillar of Fairness with Mr. Smith, the guidance counselor. They used the glasses to help them look at situations to decide if they were fair or not. If they weren't fair, they tried to decide how to make them fair. They also learned that fair isn't always equal. Grades K-6 have been talking about Fairness throughout the month of March. The other pillars that have been taught so far in guidance are Responsibility, Citizenship, Respect, and Caring. We will be talking about Trustworthiness, the sixth and final pillar, in April.



MIDDLE SCHOOL RESTRUCTURE

After exploring several models, Dunkerton Community Schools will be restructuring the middle/junior high school. Beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, the 6th grade students will be joining the Jr. High. It will then operate as a 6th-8th grade Middle School model. This change in programming creates many benefits for our students, which include the following:

Specialization: Students receive basic education from teachers specialized in particular disciplines.

Instructional Teams: Grade-level teams can coordinate teaching efforts across each discipline. Students benefit because they receive instructional wisdom from more than one teacher.

Teacher Retention: With a more focused workload, teachers can complete their teaching assignments with greater satisfaction. The result is greater stability and retention of highly qualified teachers.

Transitions: Better prepares students for transition.

Flexibility: Allows students to move between grade levels according to ability and from ability group to ability group within grade levels.

Skills: Students will have access to skill groups throughout the day.

In preparation for this change, the secondary will be offering both spring and fall orientation. The orientation for 2016-2017 6th graders is scheduled for May 23, 2016 at 6 pm.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Raiders Got Talent

The Student Leadership Team has been busy this month preparing for the lock-in and the premiere of Raiders' Got Talent! A spin off of America's Got Talent, Dunkerton students and staff showcased their amazing talents by performing in front of the entire student body. The Student Leadership Team wanted to do something fun that got everyone involved and thought it would be a perfect time to host our own talent show after the students finished up with Iowa Assessments - sort of like a celebration!

The students and staff that participated were absolutely amazing and quite comical. A special thanks to Hannah Corbin, Todd Kuntz, Carley Happel, and Noah Christians for adding to the entertainment with their judging skills. Between the four judges and the loud student body, the winner of the first ever Raiders Got Talent was Mattais and his Hooligans while Ms. Zaputil and Mr. Meyer were second and third place respectively.

The Student Leadership worked hard and did a fantastic job preparing for RGT. Without them, it would not have gone as smoothly as it did! Way to go, Leaders!



A special Thank You goes out to Ms. Bonnicksen and Ms. Harms for leading our student leaders this year!

Dunkerton/Tripoli Lock-In

In March, the Dunkerton Student Leadership Team hosted the 2nd Annual Dunkerton/Tripoli Lock-In. We had over 70 students from the two schools, along with a handful of chaperones, locked in the school from 8PM - 5AM. Throughout the night, the students and staff participated in a 3-on-3 basketball tournament, volleyball tournament, and dodgeball tournament. The Staff basketball team (Ms. Bonnicksen, Ms. Harms, Mr. Brungard, Mr. Urbanek, and Mr. Joe Urbanek) dominated the court to take first place in the Basketball tournament. The team that won the volleyball

tournament included McKenna and McKayla Boesch, Rylie Stanton, Kacey Fettkether, Hannah Jacobsen, and Dalton Burch. The kids also entertained themselves by coloring, jumping in the bouncy house, and by playing catch, Frisbee, board games, and video games.

Thank you to all the staff members who volunteered to chaperone and/or provide delicious treats to help make the lock-in the success that it was. Also, a big thanks goes out to all the students who attended; we had a great group of kids!



Boys Basketball

The Varsity basketball season went on a bit of a roller coaster ride as the Raiders started off playing great basketball and hit some lulls along the way. Fortunately, the team was able to be playing their best when the shoes went back on the shelf at season's end.

The Raiders earned a huge victory against Tripoli and picked up a couple more against Clarksville and North Tama to start the season 3-0. Defensive energy was high, and the squad went into Janesville looking for a big upset against a ranked opponent. The game started off on the side of the Raiders, and they held a slim lead with just three minutes left in the first half before turnovers tilted the game Janesville's way. Ranked and well established opponents seemed to continue to give us troubles as we played Meskwaki and Vinton. The team still rolled into winter break with a respectable 6-3 record.

After break, the Raiders picked up a couple quick victories against Valley Lutheran and GMG. The team would only win two more games the rest of the month against Clarksville and Riceville.

Fortunately, many of the team members looked into the mirror and strove to bring tough-nosed Raider basketball back to the court. Some of their best games came the last two weeks of the season.

Perhaps the greatest game came during the district play. The team started off districts with an absolutely dominant TEAM performance against Waterloo Christian. Although the Raiders lost the next round, they put up a heck of a fight against Gladbrook

Reinbeck, a team who went on to finish in the consolation round at the state tournament. Fans should certainly be proud of their efforts.

In summing up the season, one could say it was a wild ride of ups, downs, and many in between. The team received good leadership from the seniors, Mattais Gordon, Will Brown, and Hayden Ricklefs. Everyone bounced back from the growing pains that a young, inexperienced team will go through, and because of this, the team can certainly call the season a success and a stepping stone for the future. The Raiders finished the season with a 13-11 record and a third place finish in the conference standings. Two players, Peter Kauten (2nd Team All-Conference), and Noah Christians (Honorable Mention All-Conference) earned conference honors, and many players improved by the end of the year. The team will miss the contributions of their seniors, but the future is certainly bright for the boys basketball team. Such team lessons and individual improvement leave a lot to like about the future of the program. Next year cannot get here soon enough!

A special thanks goes out to all those who supported the program watching games, scouting, donating treats, giving players rides, helping manage practices and games, filming games and scrimmages, and simply being a Raider fan! The players, nor the coaches could ever thank anyone enough! We are all thankful to be a part of such a wonderful community of parents and fans who give the Raiders all they have in way of support! Thanks again!

NHS Spring Update

Powderpuff volleyball is hosted by the National Honor Society each spring. Teams included senior girls, grade-level boys', faculty men, and faculty women. The faculty men won, winning against the senior girls. Thanks Brianna Stone and Jenna Salisbury for being chair members and making it a great night!

NHS induction will be in the high school gymnasium at 7:00 pm on April 4th. The new inductees are Kacey Fettkether, Mady Howland, Hannah Jacobsen, Carli Teisinger, Jhenna Weber, Noah Christians, Kristina Happel, Hannah Heideman, Katlin O'Hara and Jordan Yessak. All are welcome to join us at the induction as well as the reception in the commons.

The NHS blood drive will be on Wednesday, May 11th from 2:30 to 6:30 in the commons. Thank you to all who have donated in the past and we look forward to your donations this year. Contact Mrs. Wienhold or the Red Cross website to sign up to donate.

Building and Trades



The Dunkerton Building and Trades Class is building two sheds. They are 8 feet by 10 feet and 10 feet tall. They are approximately \$1800 in materials. We will not charge labor. The sheds will be built on school grounds in the parking lot by the shop. It is your responsibility to remove and relocate the sheds. If interested, contact Mr. Chapman at cchapman@dunkerton.k12.ia.us or by phone at [319-822-4295](tel:319-822-4295) ext 158.

Raider Rewards



Making plans for Prom Night?

There are so many things to do before the big night arrives!

Buy a dress,
get your hair and nails done,
rent a tux,
buy a corsage or boutonniere,
make reservations at a restaurant...the list goes on and on!

Relieve some of that Prom prep worry by doing your shopping early!
Fine Arts Boosters have gift cards available for your prom needs.
Ladies, check out **Kohl's**, **Dillard's**, or **Amazon** (YES! Amazon!)
for the perfect shoes or dress.

Guys, **Men's Wearhouse** has great shirts, ties, and suits.

Claire's and **Icing** have tons of accessories you can use!

Planning on dinner out or breakfast?

We have dozens of restaurants to choose from, like
Olive Garden, **Longhorn**, **Texas Roadhouse**, and **IHOP**!

Some of these retailers are available cash & carry.

Others need to be ordered, so please turn in your order form
before April 3 to insure it is filled on time.

Remember that, by purchasing these gift cards,
you are supporting the Fine Arts programs at school!

Retailers	\$	Qty	Total
Amazon 3%	25		
Applebees 8%	25		
Barmuda Restaurants 16%	20		
Bath & Body Works 13%	10		
Claire's 9%	10		
Cold Stone Creamery 8%	10		
Darden (Olive Garden, Red Lobster, Longhorn) 9%	25		
Dillard's 9%	25		
Gordmans 9%	25		
Icing 9%	10		
IHOP 11%	25		
Kohl's 4%	25		
KwikStar 4%	25		
	100		
Maurices 7%	20		
Men's Wearhouse 8%	25		
Other Place 5%	10		
Panera 9%	10		
Sally Beauty Supply 12%	25		
Shoe Carnival 5%	25		
Starbucks 7%	10		
T. J. Maxx 7%	25		
Texas Roadhouse 8%	25		
Walmart/Sam's Club 2.5%	25		
	100		
Younkers 8%	25		

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Name: _____
Call/email me when order is ready: _____
Please send order home with: _____
Check www.glscrip.com for a list of 300+ retailers we can order for you!

BOGO Scholastic Book Fair

Buy one get on Free

When: April 18th-21st

Where: Dunkerton Elementary Library.

Times: Monday 12:30-7:30, Tuesday 7:45-7:30, Wednesday 7:45-4:30 and Thursday 7:45-4:30.

We will be open during parent teacher conferences, so come and browse. This is a great time to stock up on books for the summer!

Reminder:

Grand March will be Saturday, April 9
at pm in the high school gym.

Girls Basketball

The 2015-2016 Girls Basketball team had a fantastic season as they finished the with a 19-5 record and made it to the Regional Semi-Finals. The defining moment of our season, however, was winning the conference championship and hanging a banner.

The team was led by seniors Cassidy Rigdon, McKenna Boesch, and Alecia Kimball. The seniors will graduate with an overall record of 63-33.

Alecia Kimball was a 4 year starter on varsity and finished her career as the 2nd leading scorer in school history. When the team needed a big basket, she seemed to be in the right spot. She was selected to play in two senior all-star games and was named to the IGCA 2nd Team All-State team.

McKenna finished the season as the #5 leading rebounder in school history. She also holds the single game record for most rebounds. McKenna's hard work and great positive attitude will surely be missed. McKenna was named a 2nd team All-Conference player and received the "You Can Award".

Cassidy Rigdon did a great job in becoming a leader of this team. She knocked down many big shots this year. In the Vinton – Shellsburg game she made 6 three pointers and helped the team beat a 4A team.

Juniors on the team included two of the three Hannah's, Hannah Johnson and Hannah Heideman. The two juniors did a great job of picking up some of the leadership things that come into play for juniors. They will make great team leaders next year as they move into that senior leadership role.

Sophomores on the team included

starters Mady Howland and McKayla Boesch. Both picked up their games as they continued to improve. McKayla was named to the Iowa Star Conference Honorable Mention team. She was the team's second leading rebounder. The team will look to build on that going into next year. Mady knocked down some big shots for us and did a great job defensively.

Other sophomores included Hannah Jacobsen and Kacey Fettkether. Hannah brought a lot of energy and a defensive presence off the bench. Many times we went to Hannah in a tough spot, and she responded with big rebounds and tremendous defense. Kacey was doing well coming back from her first knee surgery until she hurt her knee again. Hopefully Kacey can come back next year and be a force to be reckoned with.

Freshmen included Kaitlyn Wilder, Bailey Hudson, and Mady Robinson. Kaitlyn developed into a weapon as she stepped up to help the varsity win some games down the stretch. Bailey showed that she can be a threat from the 3 point line. Mady Robinson might have been the most improved player. As the year progressed she became more confident as a player.

I also need to thank Coaches Kimball, Bonnicksen, and Harms for all their work throughout the season. Their support and help was tremendous. Also a special thank you to our manager, Rylee Michels. She was a great help in filming all of our games.

In my 7 years of coaching basketball at Dunkerton, this was the most fun I've had with a group of players. They came to practice and worked extremely hard each day. They put the time in and the results showed what can happen when we work together.

Coming Soon

Ryan Sloth will be coming to Dunkerton Elementary on Friday, April 29. Coach Sloth is an author, actor, and former Iowa State alumnus and athlete. He will be speaking to grades K-5 and reading to them from one of his books. Coach Sloth's most recent book, Hank the Bully, teaches kids about what to do when bullying occurs. Coach Sloth's most famous character is Sammy Sloth. Coach Sloth enjoys reading to the kids, telling them about how he became an author, and encouraging them always to do their best. An order form for Coach Sloth's books will be coming home with Dunkerton K-5 students in the near future, before Coach Sloth's visit. For more information about Coach Sloth and his books go to coachsloth.com.

Music Aid Concert

The Music Aid Concert was held on March 10 and was a huge success. Thanks to the teachers who participated in order to make this a fun evening.

