

## Opportunities to Help

by James Stanton,  
Superintendent

The school year is off to a great start. Everyone was excited to get back to school!! The staff and students love the new building, especially 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, which has a more "Raider Friendly" color scheme than first floor. We had a couple of opportunities for patrons to come in and see the new building in conjunction with a Foundation event in early August and an open house on September 27. If you did not get an opportunity to come in on those days, please contact the office and set up a time to get a tour.

We had to dismiss early a few days this year due to the heat despite the best efforts of everyone involved to stay in school. The problem is not just the high temperatures of the day, but the humidity that goes with it. Another factor is the fact that it never cooled off at night due to the night-time lows being higher than the average highs for that time of year. One final factor: ovens are made out of bricks because bricks hold heat well. Our school is also made out of bricks. We need to thank the PTO for making it somewhat bearable in the rooms when we were there, because they purchased room air conditioners for eight of our elementary classrooms. The students and staff appreciate your generosity.

As many of you probably know, the changes that were approved by the legislature this past winter are monumental in nature for schools. They have changed everything from the nomenclature used in schools to the way we will be evaluating teachers.

# News From

# THE HILL

## October 2013

These changes are by far the most massive and far-reaching as any education reforms ever attempted in the state of Iowa. Not only will this affect people who work in schools, but it will also have a profound effect on your child and the education he or she receives. I am fully supportive of the reform measures that increase the accountability of schools in both the financial and education realm. The changes in curriculum alignment and articulation, assessments, use of the Common Core, and increased accountability at both the instructional and administrative levels are not only welcome, but are long overdue in education. The other areas of reform and the guidance of how the state wants them to look and how to get there are still

**Superintendent** *continued on page 7*

## Chicago 2015 Annual Fall Craft Show October 19, 2013

### **Attention all parents of students in grades 8-11:**

The annual craft show will be Saturday, October 19, from 9AM to 2PM. This is a major fundraiser for the Chicago trip in March 2015. What can you do to help? Donations of homemade pie are needed for the concessions. If you would like to donate a pie, bring it to the kitchen by 9AM on Saturday, October 19. Before you leave the kitchen, please sign the "donated pie" list so we have a record of your donation. Thank you!



Hospitality Court pictured above; Royal Court pictured to the right.

# Homecoming 2013

Hospitality court winners: (left to right): Karlee Nesvik, Abby de Neui, Emilee Miller, Bailey Epling, Brooklyn Carpenter; Andy Fager, Lane Johnson, Bryce Rigdon, Tyler Jacobsen, Gage Brandt



Royal court winners (left to right): Sarah Fager, Delana Smith, Aubrey Duncan, Jessie Rottinghaus, Christy McClain; Nick Anderson, Derek Gamerdinger, Kory Kuentling, Bradey Ott, Trevor Jacobsen

## School Music Department

**Leaf-raking:** The Dunkerton Music Department will be raking leaves each Saturday in October. No one likes to do yard work (well, very few do!!), so let us do it for you for a donation!! Contact either Carla Ramsey (instrumental music) or James Healy (vocal music) at the school (822-4295) to set up a time!

**Fine Arts Fundraiser:** The Fine Arts Boosters of Dunkerton Schools will be hosting a "Fun Pasta" fundraiser from November 1st through November 18th. Available for purchase will be pastas of all shapes, sizes, and even flavors! There will be sports-themed pasta, organic pasta, soup and chili mixes, and gift packages. While this fundraiser will provide items that would make fantastic holiday presents for all ages, it will also support the Fine Arts Boosters, a major source of support for the arts here in Dunkerton. Keep your eyes and ears peeled as the start date nears, and don't hesitate to contact James Healy, Carla Ramsey, or any of the Fine Arts Boosters (Paula Winkers, Julie Magee, and Lynn Pipho) with any questions or inquiries of interest!

Our next Fine Arts Boosters meeting will

be Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in the Dunkerton High School Chorus room. All are welcome.

**Swing Show:** Please mark your calendars for a slight schedule change! Both shows of the annual Dunkerton High School Swing Show have been moved to Saturday Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>. The first performance will be at 3pm, followed by a Barilla spaghetti dinner (offering suggested; proceeds to go to music department). Then at 7pm, the second performance will begin. Student vocalists, instrumentalists, and ensemblists will be on display! Tickets go on sale at the Craft Show and will also be available in the high school office on the days following the Craft Show.

### Dunkerton Community School Board Members

Kirby Marquart—President

Liz Downs—Vice President

Alen Nagel

Tony Gamerdinger

Amber Shimp

# BUS TRIP!!

## SHOPPING, MUSICALS, AND FOOD – OH MY!

JOIN MEMBERS OF THE DUNKERTON COMMUNITY ON A TRIP TO DES MOINES!  
ALL AGES WELCOME. CHILDREN UNDER 13 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

**WHEN:** NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>

DEPART DUNKERTON: 9:45 A.M. DEPART DES MOINES: 9:15 P.M. ARRIVE IN DUNKERTON: 11:30 P.M.

**WHAT:** SHOPPING AND DINING AT JORDAN CREEK MALL,  
CULMINATING IN AN EVENING PERFORMANCE OF THE MUSICAL, “**WICKED**”!

**COST:** \$85 (INCLUDES CHARTER BUS AND SHOW TICKET). NEED CONFIRMATION AND  
PAYMENT ASAP.

**IF INTERESTED, CONTACT:** JAMES HEALY, 5-12 VOCAL DIRECTOR AT DUNKERTON  
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS. E-MAIL: JHEALY@UNI.EDU CELL: 515.370.4749



# Elementary Counselor's CORNER Amber Kuntz

Hello! My name is Amber Kuntz, and I am the new Elementary School Counselor here at Dunkerton Elementary School. Some of you may know my husband, Todd Kuntz, who teaches and coaches in the high school. He has always told me great things about this district, and I have found them to be true now that I am here. I have enjoyed working with many elementary students and families already this year and look forward to my future work with all of you!

I would like to share a little about the School Counseling program, and what the students have been up to so far this year. As the Elementary School Counselor, my role is to help ALL students in the elementary to be more successful academically, personally, and socially.

The three main ways I work with students towards these goals are

- Teaching guidance lessons in all the K-6 classrooms once per 6 day cycle. Topics focus on the areas of academic, career, and personal/social development, including the Character Counts pillars of Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. I also work with teachers to address specific classroom issues or concerns as they arise.
- Meeting with students for individual counseling. Individual counseling is voluntary and confidential. Confidentiality is maintained unless there is knowledge of or concern for harm to the

student or others. Meetings with the counselor may be requested by parents, teachers, or students themselves.

- Working with students in small groups as needed. Some common types of groups include building friendships, study skills, and anger management.

I have been in most K-6 classrooms at least a few times so far this year for guidance lessons. Lessons so far have focused on the role of the school counselor, being a good friend, tattling vs. reporting, and being honest. Topics in the next several weeks will include respect, classroom behavior, and much more. Be sure to ask your child to share with you what they have learned!

Thank you for taking a little time to learn more about the School Counseling program. Please feel free to contact me if you should ever have any questions or concerns about your child. It is going to be a great year here at Dunkerton Elementary!

[akuntz@dunkerton.k12.ia.us](mailto:akuntz@dunkerton.k12.ia.us)

319-822-4295, Ext. 111

To learn more about 'Character Counts,' visit:  
<http://charactercounts.org/sixpillars.html>

To learn more about School Counseling, visit:  
<http://www.schoolcounselor.org/content.asp?contentid=230>

# DPAC Needs You!

The Dunkerton Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC) was created in 2013 by parents in an effort to communicate parent needs, concerns, and issues to the school administration effectively. The goals of the DPAC are to brainstorm solutions, offer recommendations, and identify resources to improve the school and our children's academic experience. Recommendations are made by the DPAC members to the school administration in writing.

DPAC is composed of between six and twelve parents of a child who has been enrolled in the Dunkerton Community Schools K-12 program for at least one year. Ideally, the parents should represent a cross-section of the school with parents representing each the high school, middle school, and elementary sections. We currently have five members and are hoping to grow.

DPAC meetings are open to the public. Our next meeting is on October 29 at 6pm at the Dunkerton Public Library. For more information on joining DPAC or to submit a concern or solution, please contact

## ~Watch for the Book Fair!~

Coming in November!

11<sup>th</sup>~14<sup>th</sup>

Will Be Open during  
Parent-Teacher  
Conferences

## News from Fine Arts Boosters

Please stop by the FAB table at Dunkerton's Craft Show on October 19. We will be selling several different items, including fun shaped pastas, coffee

mugs, stadium blankets, and duffel bags. FAB parents, bring your calendars because we will also have volunteer sign-up sheets to help you get involved in the group's activities.

One of our music students' biggest annual productions is on the way: **Swing show** is set for November 2<sup>nd</sup>. There will be a 3pm matinee and a 7pm evening showing. *New this year*—we will host a spaghetti dinner between performances from 5:00-6:30. Show tickets will be on sale at the craft show and then in the high school office.

Congratulations to **Adam Manahl** for being chosen as the first student representative of FAB! He will serve as an advisor to the group, sharing his own input and that of his peers at our monthly meetings.

The music department students will offer **leaf raking** all four Saturdays of October. Both activities are offered for a free will donation. Please support them any way you can!

All parents with students in grades 5-12 involved in chorus, band, art, and/or drama are invited to get involved in the Fine Arts Boosters. The FBA meetings are usually the second Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm in the chorus room.

## Fall Activities Underway

The 2013-2014 school year has gotten off to a great start for our activities. The school and community support for our programs has been really strong. We have had great crowds at our home football and volleyball matches. We have two new head coaches for both the football and volleyball teams. Coach Jon Steffen moves up from our Junior High program to lead the Raiders this year and Coach Tracy Kline, one of our elementary special education teachers, takes over the volleyball program.

Other new coaches to the football program include Coach Chapman, Industrial Technology teacher, and Coach Pelc (who will also be coaching junior high basketball), Social Studies teacher. We have two new Junior High football coaches: Coach Harrison, who can be found teaching Drivers Ed to our students in the spring and summer and Coach Wolfe, who is student teaching at Dunkerton this year.

**Activities** continued on page 7

# Dunkerton Bake Shop Order Form



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone/Answering machine: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to pick up my items on this date. \_\_\_\_\_

(Thursdays – Oct. 25 or Nov. 7)

Please place orders by Friday before the week of delivery. Pick-ups are on Thursdays from 3:15 – 4:00 in the high school FCS room. *Arrangements may be made for special delivery days and times.* Forms may be mailed, faxed, or hand delivered to the high school office.

Tammi Aldrich, FCS Instructor Email: [taldrich@dunkerton.k12.ia.us](mailto:taldrich@dunkerton.k12.ia.us) Phone (319)822-4295  
Fax (319)822-9456

Please circle the desired item and quantity, including the total cost.

	Bread Braids: Frozen	Cost	QTY.	Total Cost
	Raspberry and Cream Cheese	\$7		
	Strawberry and Cream Cheese	\$7		
	Cream Cheese	\$7		
	Almond	\$7		
NEW	Frozen Pumpkin Pie	\$7		
	<b>Cookies:</b>			
	Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough - Frozen in balls, ready to bake	\$5/3 dozen		
	Peanut Butter Cookie Dough - Frozen in balls, ready to bake	\$5/3 dozen		
	Sugar Cookie Dough - Crispy frozen in balls, ready to bake - not cut-out	\$5/3 dozen		
	Monster Cookie Dough - Frozen in balls, ready to bake	\$5/3 dozen		
NEW	Snickerdoodles Dough - Frozen in balls, ready to bake	\$5/3 dozen		
	<b>Breads: Baked/Frozen</b>			
	Banana Bread	\$4		
	Pumpkin Bread	\$4		
	Pumpkin Apple Cider Bread	\$4		
NEW	Cheese Manicotti (10)	\$9		
				Grand Total

## Activities continued

At the Junior High level for volleyball, we have added Coach Carroll, Business Education teacher, to the staff. She joins Coach Stout, who returns for another season. Both coaches have been teaching the junior high girls the fundamental skills of volleyball.

The Cross Country team has record numbers out this year. The Raiders are led by Coach Jeff Thompson. The team has competed in three meets to this point. There are 23 runners out of 7-12 graders, boys and girls.

Ms. Carla Ramsey continues to lead the High School Marching Band as they continue to improve each and every year. I encourage you to attend our next home football game to check out the Marching Band.

We will also have two new play directors this year as Ms. Nanke and Mr. Healy are going to co-direct the school play. We look forward to seeing a great production in the spring.

Band and choir are busy getting ready for this year's Swing Show November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## Superintendent continued

so sketchy and ambiguous that it is impossible to have an opinion yet. I love the concepts they are trying to achieve of increasing teacher pay and increasing feedback to teachers via peer observations and increasing collaboration amongst teachers, but we need guidance from the state in how they want us to develop and implement those concepts. We do know a couple of things right now:

1. Our SIAC Committee is going to be busy, as many of the reform measures and how we develop/implement them will be initiated at this level. Once those decisions are made, recommendations will be made to the Board to act upon. After that, the Board will be responsible for appointing committees, which will be made up of teachers, administrators, and district patrons. This is where we may need your help. If you are willing to work on one of these committees, would you please shoot me an e-mail/give me a call/drop me a note?

2. We are going to have a huge need for public involvement in these committees and in the decision-making process. If you do not see CHANGE as a four letter word, we certainly could use your help in developing plans and action plans to implement the reforms that have been mandated to us by the state. Again, these are not bad things, and many are not only welcome, but long overdue. I look forward to hearing from those of you who are interested in being part of this change process, as it will have a profound effect on how we teach and learn in the future.

3. Another interesting piece of developing and implementing these reforms is the increased demand this is going to put on teacher and administrator time. Not only do we need citizen involvement in these committees, but we will need teacher, staff, and administrator involvement as well. This is going to take a staff that is already stretched pretty thin, and put an even heavier burden upon them. I know this staff is up to any challenge we throw at them, and they will respond with great resolve, as I believe they too want to do what is best for the students in our district.

This is a huge challenge, and it will take a great collaborative effort between the Board, Public, Current Committee Members, New Committee Members, Staff, Teachers, and Administrators. I know we will all work together to do whatever is in the best interest of OUR students, and I look forward to the challenges and triumphs associated with these new education reforms. If you want to visit with me about any of these reform measures and the possible impacts they will have upon our district and students, stop in any time!!!

Stay in touch,  
[jstanton@dunkerton.k12.ia.us](mailto:jstanton@dunkerton.k12.ia.us)  
GO RAIDERS!!!

# Yearbook Is In Full Swing!

As the school year gets underway and the school bustles with activity, the yearbook staff is also working hard to record these memories for you. If you would like to be a part of it, there are many opportunities for you.

On October 19<sup>th</sup> at the Dunkerton Craft Show, yearbook staff members will be selling yearbooks from previous years. We have a huge variety of books from the 70s to last year's at great discounts. Stop by and check them out!

We are also selling space in the yearbook for ads for grads. This includes a variety of sizes and will allow you to include a message in the yearbook for your senior to always have. All you need to do is send us the pictures you would like to include and a message to your senior student. Ad package options include a full page spread for \$80.00, half page spread for \$55.00, and a fourth of a page spread for \$40.00.

Members of the yearbook staff are also selling ads to local business owners. If you are a local business owner and would like to get your name out there, please let us know! Your options include the following:

**Red Package:** For \$150.00, you will receive your business name on a banner that hangs in the commons at Dunkerton High School for all visitors to see during the 2014-2015 school year. We will also place your ad in the newsletter, on the Yearbook website (linked to the Dunkerton School website), in the Yearbook, and you will receive a certificate of support to display at your business.

**Black Package:** For \$100.00, you will receive your business name in the school newsletter, on the Yearbook website, in the Yearbook, and you will receive a certificate of support to display at your business.

**White Package:** For \$50.00, you will receive your business name on the Yearbook website, in the Yearbook, and you will receive a certificate of support to display at your business.

If you have any questions or are interested in purchasing an ad for your graduate or an ad for your business, please contact Mrs. Nanke at 319-822-4295, ext. 160, or email [jnanke@dunkerton.k12.ia.us](mailto:jnanke@dunkerton.k12.ia.us), or visit the yearbook website at [nankeenglish.weebly.com](http://nankeenglish.weebly.com).

**New  
Staff  
411**

## Matt Pelc— Secondary Social Studies

- First year teaching
- During student teaching, taught 11/12 World History and Humanities 7, 8, & 10
- High school: Oelwein
- College: UNI
- Sports coached: tennis, football, basketball
- Extra curriculums or hobbies: listening to music, going to concerts, reading the news and books, playing sports, and watching epic TV shows

## Kala Carroll— Secondary Business

- 2<sup>nd</sup> year of teaching
- Taught: 9-12 Business classes
- High school: Crestwood
- College: UNI
- Sports coached: volleyball & basketball
- Hobbies: Playing sports, reading, doing anything outdoors

## Cora Gahman— 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> English

- First year teaching
- High School: Independence
- College: UNI
- Hobbies: Tennis, sewing, anything outdoors
- Marital Status: Engaged

## Amber Kuntz— Elementary Counselor

- 2<sup>nd</sup> year as a school counselor
- Taught: K-12 guidance, 8<sup>th</sup> careers
- High school: Osage
- College: UNI
- Hobbies: visiting & spending time with friends and family
- Marital Status: Married to Todd Kuntz ☺
- Something you would like the community to know: I'm excited to be here, and look forward to working with the students, staff, and community!

## Heidi Anderson—9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> English

- First year of teaching
- While student teaching, taught 6<sup>th</sup> English, 10<sup>th</sup> English, and American Short Stories
- High school: Walnut Ridge Academy
- College: Northwestern College- ST. Paul MN
- Hobbies: playing soccer and basketball, watching March Madness, reading, spending time at the lake in Minnesota, listening to music

## Stacey Reicherts— 4<sup>th</sup> grade

(No information provided).



509 S. Canfield St.  
Dunkerton, IA 50626

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