

Delano High School

Parent E-Newsletter • April/May 2017

NEWS

**Show Up.
Show Up on Time.
Work Hard.
Failure is Not an Option.**

April Calendar

- 10 HS PIE Meeting 6 pm
11 SciTech 12-3 pm
Tiger Activity Center
SciTech Business Tours 4-6:45 pm
14 Holiday - **NO SCHOOL**
20 Mock Car Crash
22 Prom/Grand March 5 pm
Tiger Activity Center
30 NHS Induction 1 pm
MS Auditorium

May Calendar

- 3 Senior Awards Ceremony 7:30 pm
MS Auditorium
8 HS Band Concert 7:30 pm
11 HS Choir Concert 7:30 pm
17 Senior Graduation Practice
And Brunch 8:30 am
21 Graduation 1:30 pm
23 HS 2nd Semester Final Exams
8:02 am-12:17 pm
24 HS 2nd Semester Final Exams
8:02 am-12:17 pm

**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
Is Wednesday, May 24!**



Students at DHS travelled to Spain this winter and experienced Spanish culture by living with host families during their visit.

The school year will come to a close very soon. It has been a wonderful year for our students, both in and out of the classroom. Many students have been able to showcase their talents in many different ways academically, athletically, and in other co-curricular activities. Congratulations to all students for their accomplishments this year.

Construction Update

As you can see, work is continuing at the main entrance of the high school. After the last day of school, the cafeteria and high school office are slated to close for summer renovations. We will be utilizing the student services area as the main high school office for the summer. The student services office is located just past the high school vending machines on the left. We will place a sign in the hall to help people find this office. The new main entrance and office area are projected to open late September or early October. At that time, you will be able to enter the high school, middle school and Tiger Activity Center through the new secondary school doors (old high school entrance). The middle school entrance will then close permanently for the pool construction project. As these timelines advance, we will provide more specific information to district families and community members.

Delano SciTech 2017 - A College and Career Fair

SciTech 2017 will be held on Tuesday, April 11. The morning session of this college and career fair will be held from 12 noon-3 p.m. in the Tiger Activity Center. Students will be attending this session with their classes. Community members are welcome to attend this session as well. Please park in the main parking lot or in the small lot by the tennis courts. You may enter through the DMS front doors and sign in at the Tiger Activity Center desk, then proceed to the TAC.

The evening portion of SciTech will consist of tours at local businesses. These tours are designed to help parents, students, and community members see and understand what some of our businesses do in Delano, as well as provide for many college and career conversations between students and families. You may have heard about some of our students' apprenticeships and/or internships that have lead to career paths. These tours intend to educate students about opportunities that exist in college and career, and help guide their future. To sign up for tours [click here](#). Tour guides will meet you at the main entrance of each business.

The tours available are as follows:

Industrial Louvers	4:00-4:30 p.m. 4:45-5:15 p.m. 5:30-6:00 p.m.
Sil Pro	4:00-4:30 p.m. 5:30-6:00 p.m.
Landscape Structures	4:45-5:15 p.m. 6:15-6:45 p.m.
Calbrandt	4:45-5:15 p.m. 6:15-6:45 p.m.

We hope to see you at SciTech 2017!

- Dr. Steven Heil, Principal

Springtime at DHS

Entering spring and the final quarter of the 2016-2017 school year, there are many things to celebrate in the realm of academics and extra-curricular activities ranging from National Merit recognition to state tournament participation. However, our work is not done. Beginning in the middle of April, high school students will take the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA). MCA assessments offer students, parents and staff the opportunity to utilize data in order to continue to make well-rounded and informed instruction and curriculum decisions. These tests allow us to continuously reflect and adjust in order to meet individual student needs during the high school experience and beyond.

Recently, legislation was passed that states Minnesota Colleges and Universities can soon begin using MCA test scores to determine initial course placement at their schools effective in the fall of 2018. This new legislation creates a direct connection between MCA scores and college coursework. This change could create a cost savings for students and families. For example, if a student scores high enough on an MCA exam, demonstrating college and career readiness, he or she will not be put in the non-credit development course, as the student will have already demonstrated the necessary content and skills to place them in a college level course. This legislation only applies to public colleges and universities in the state of Minnesota. Private or out-of-state schools do not have to honor this legislation.

For more information, including a table identifying scores, coursework and placement, please [click here](#). As always, thank you for being an integral part of what makes Delano High School a truly special place!

- **Shane Baughman**
Assistant Principal

DHS Science Olympiad Team Places Third at State



The DHS Science Olympiad Team competed in the small school division of the state tournament on March 4, at Bethel University. The team brought home a 3rd place trophy and many members of the team placed in the top 10 out of 33 teams in individual events. Congratulations to Lucius LaFromboise and Dylan Grengs, 8th place in Wind Power; Dylan Grengs and Mathias Goebel, 8th place in Rocks and Minerals; and Carissa Rootes and Mathea Schafer, 9th place in Forensics.

Team members: Front Row (l to r): **Stephanie Almquist, Carissa Rootes, Grant Hellmich and Mathias Goebel.** Back Row: **Joseph Hartley, Katie Drewlow, Tyson Lubben, Mathea Schafer, Lucius LaFromboise, Allie Bunker, Dylan Grengs and Sara Hartley.**

DHS Students Discuss Diversity



Mr. Billy Russell - educator, pastor and public speaker, shared his story of growing up in Mississippi during the civil rights movement. Mr. Russell spoke openly and welcomed questions about segregation, integration and troubles our nation is facing today regarding diversity.

He will return to Delano for a community discussion in the beginning of May. Stay tuned for information regarding this presentation - all students, parents and community members welcome.

Should my Teenager Get a Summer Job?



On May 24, Delano High School students will begin their summer break. Taking a summer job provides many tools and opportunities for teenagers. First, they will continue to use time management skills when planning their summer schedule. Secondly, bringing home a paycheck can help with money management skills. In addition, working during the summer months can teach students networking skills and at times lead to a full-time job. A summer job can also help teenagers learn soft skills - general skills that will help them in a wide range of jobs such as communication and computer literacy skills. An article from CNBC reports that the top fields for internships, as well as the five most in-demand skills and experience gained on the job or in the classroom are:

- **Business Operations:** Project management, business administration, scheduling, customer service, economics.
- **Marketing:** Social media, Adobe Photoshop, Facebook, marketing, marketing research.
- **Engineering:** Computer engineering, AutoCAD, mechanical engineering, project management.
- **Sales and Business Development:** Sales, business development, marketing, customer service, project management.
- **Media, Communications, Public Relations:** Social media, journalism, Adobe Photoshop, marketing, technical writing and editing.

*Delano High School has a job board posted right outside the office.
Have your student take a look and see if any job is of interest!*



DHS Mathletes Complete 28th Season

The math team is considered a sport of the brain. It mentally challenges the cerebrum to calculate combinations of numbers and answer complex problems. The Math League is a national organization whose purpose is to create math contests that give students an educationally enriching opportunity to participate in an academically-oriented activity and to gain recognition for mathematical achievement. The DHS Math Team is a mental sport, and participation in Delano has risen from an inaugural season of 16 participants to a high of 85 during the 2010-11 season.

The Tiger mathletes just completed the 28th season. The Tigers have placed 1st in their conference eleven times and 2nd nine times. Mathletes have participated in the MN State Math Tournament sixteen times with their best finish placing 3rd in 2016. Just like in athletics, mathletes can earn a Letter if they score 40 or more points throughout the season. This year 19 of 46 mathletes earned a Letter.



The math team's growth over the years proves that it is an enjoyable and challenging activity for the participants. Another added benefit is the increase in their academic potential. The math team has been a factor in the increased number of National Merit Scholars our school has gained, along with an increase in our students' ACT math average.

The DHS Math Team has been coached by Jerry Shouts, DHS math teacher, for all 28 seasons. He is assisted by Joe Vieau, former DHS math teacher and currently the Director of Teaching and Learning at Delano Public Schools.

Emotions Run High as Students Sing for Alex

Alex Weed, a sophomore at Delano High School, was diagnosed with lymphoma in the fall of 2016. After Mr. Joe Lawrence, DHS Language Arts Teacher, read an update on Alex's CaringBridge site, he decided to do something to show Alex and his family that the school community had not forgotten about him. Mr. Lawrence began by writing a poem, which led to a song to honor Alex's fight. Student Kate Bruhn arranged the song and played the ukulele, Mr. Lawrence played the guitar, Mr. Guidry, DHS's Choral Director, added the piano and the students provided the vocals. In the end, A.J. Ragan videotaped this production and posted it on Facebook. This video, which was meant to cheer up Alex, garnered 8,800 views in one week! WCCO then caught wind of this story and wanted to share it with their viewers.

When WCCO showed up at Delano High School, emotions ran high as students sang the song written for their classmate. The choir room was filled with an outpouring of support through the music and lyrics that were written for their special friend Alex Weed. DHS sophomore Hailey Skogman spoke to WCCO's Susan Elizabeth Littlefield about her friendship with Alex, and how her and others have rallied around him to help keep his spirits up while he is battling lymphoma. Alex expressed that he was thankful and it meant a lot to him to see so many friends, teachers and community come together in support of his fight.

Alex was declared cancer-free on February 16, but in a recent CaringBridge post, his mother Kim confirmed that the cancer had returned and Alex would begin chemotherapy treatments again soon and continue the fight.

This song and all that encompassed students' efforts to help a struggling classmate is a lesson in compassion. Lessons like this cannot be taught in a classroom, but when felt by the heart will blossom into great learning experiences that meld a student's character.



DHS students and staff wrote, arranged and sing to honor Alex Weed as he continues to fight cancer



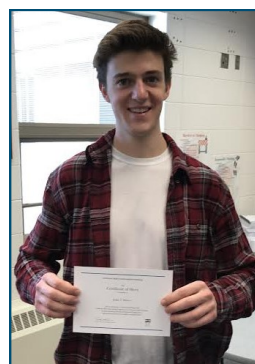
WCCO's Susan Elizabeth Littlefield interviews Hailey Skogman

Jack Weber and Seth Thaelke National Merit Scholarship Program Finalists

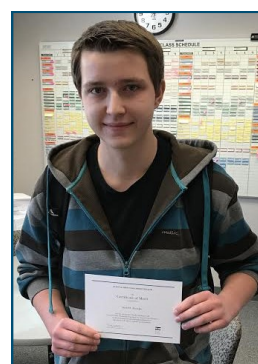
Congratulations to Jack Weber and Seth Thaelke for advancing to Finalist standing in the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program (NMSC). Jack and Seth are now part of the competition for National Merit Scholarships which include: National Merit \$2500 scholarships, corporate-sponsored scholarships or college-sponsored scholarships. All winners of Merit Scholarship Awards are chosen from the Finalist group based on their abilities, skills, and accomplishments - without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin or religious preference.

NMSC, a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance, was established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Scholarships are underwritten by NMSC with its own funds and by approximately 420 independent sponsors which include organizations and businesses, company foundations, professional associations, and colleges and universities. NMSC's goal is to honor the nation's scholastic champions and encourage the pursuit of academic excellence.

2017 National Merit Scholarship winners will be announced in nationwide news releases which began in March and will conclude in June. These scholarship recipients will join a distinguished group of young people who have earned the Merit Scholar title.



Jack Weber



Seth Thaelke

COMPASS Program Hosts Suicide Prevention Day

Suicide is the third leading cause of death for 15-24 year olds, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics. Studies show that at least 90% of teens who kill themselves have some type of mental illness. Delano Public Schools goal is to educate students and help them realize they are not alone when thoughts of suicide occur.

The Delano COMPASS Program is a course at DHS that works on character building, mentoring, volunteering and academics for students who want to make positive changes in their lives. The COMPASS Program invited speaker Mr. Chad Harlander, Hutchinson's REACH (Relationships, Education, Accountability, Character, Hardwork) Program Director, to address the students at DHS. Chad silenced the audience with his personal accounts of struggles as a teenager. Through his stories he energized students to take negative experiences, grow from them, and use them to become stronger, more resilient individuals.

Preventing suicide begins with a sense of belonging, acceptance and education. We would like to thank The Christopher Benz Foundation, Highway 10 Baseball Classic, Crown Plastics Inc., Hutchinson REACH Program, Wright County MEADA and Wayzata High School Graphics Program for sponsoring this event.



SWAS Garden Overflows with Fresh Greens

Students in the SWAS (School Within a School) program got to do some gardening this winter. Each student took a part in this project, some built the Aeroponic Tower Garden structure and others planned the garden and planted the vegetables and herbs. Kelsey Svien has been the protector and nurturer of this garden on a daily basis and takes great pride in the garden. She stated, "I love these plants!" The other students agreed that Kelsey has been a wonderful contributor during this project.

This garden has taught students about gardening and sustainable farming. Now that they have an abundance of fresh greens, the high school kitchen staff will be utilizing these items in the meals served for staff and students throughout the day.

Thank you to the Delano Lions for donating the funds to purchase the Aeroponic Tower Gardens, which have provided a great learning opportunity for students.



Harmony Brickley, Kelsey Svien, Josh Miller, Conor Berg, Hunter Reimer and Zach Mengelkoch proudly present their Aeroponic Tower Garden.

Gabby Paskach to Attend HOBY Conference



Founded in 1958, HOBY's mission is to inspire and develop our global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service and innovation. The Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership (HOBY) conference will be held on June 9-11, 2017, at St. Cloud State University. Gabby was chosen by the Delano High School staff for her academic achievements, leadership skills and volunteerism.

HOBY is conducted annually throughout the United States, serving 10th grade high school students. This program enables students to participate in unique leadership training, service-learning and motivation-building experiences.

Congratulations to Gabby Paskach for this wonderful accomplishment!

Anna Blonigen MN MILE Leadership Recipient



Minnesota MILE (Motivating and Inspiring Leadership and Excellence) was formed to identify outstanding high school sophomores throughout Minnesota for being responsible citizens in their community and/or school.

The Minnesota MILE Leadership Seminar provides students with the opportunity and encouragement to develop their leadership skills through the promotion of personal responsibility, volunteerism, and social awareness. Anna was chosen by staff members because of her positive leadership qualities and academic achievements.

The Minnesota MILE seminar will be held June 23-24, 2017, at Bethel University in Roseville, MN.

Congratulations to Anna Blonigen for this wonderful accomplishment!

School Food Service Accounts End of Year Notice

Effective Wednesday, May 10, through the end of the year, there is no charging of any amount to purchase a lunch or breakfast. This will eliminate negative balances at year end.

Account deposits must be turned in to the office by 10 a.m. each day to be recorded by lunch time. To check your current account balance you can login to Family Access on the Delano schools website at www.delano.k12.mn.us and click on "Food Service."

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Tracie Erickson at 763.972.3365, ext. 2136, or via email at tracie.erickson@delanoschools.org

CONGRATULATIONS to the Delano Boys' Varsity Basketball Team for being named the 2016-2017 Section Academic Team Champions!



This parent e-newsletter is published by Traci Lawman, District Communications Coordinator, 763.972.3365, x2111, traci.lawman@delanoschools.org. Delano High School resides at 700 Elm Avenue E., Delano, MN. To find out more information about our award winning high school join us on Facebook or go to our website at www.delano.k12.mn.us.