

Through Tiger's Eyes

Delano High School's Family Newsletter
April/May 2011

Details and Important Dates As the School Year Winds Down

The following few months constitute a multitude of activities that annually remind us of the great successes our students achieve. This is also a time for students to remain focused on their academic achievements throughout the end of the school year. The last days of this school year will be a bit different than in the past. The final day for students grades 9-11 will be Tuesday, June 7. The high school will facilitate the final exam schedule days on Monday and Tuesday, June 6 and 7. With this unique ending to the year, some logistical issues are created for our seniors. This will be the first time in recent history that the seniors will graduate prior to the students in grades 9-11 concluding their school year. I have taken the opportunity to meet with several teachers of seniors to discuss a logical conclusion to the year. The following dates are confirmed regarding the seniors and how they will bring a successful conclusion to their high school career. A separate letter to all seniors and their parents with further details will be mailed during the first week of April.

- Friday, May 27 - DHS Annual Spring Fling Day
Seniors will be dismissed during block two for an annual senior brunch.
- Thursday, June 2 - Seniors final last full academic day
- Friday, June 3 - Graduation practice at 8:45 a.m.
- Sunday, June 5 - Graduation at 1:30 p.m. in the Tiger Activity Center

On another note, I would like to remind you that we are offering an ACT prep class starting in April. We look forward to reviewing the results of the ACT tests in future years regarding the success of this new prep class. As you may know, the staff at Delano High School has been working extremely hard in preparing all our students to be college and career ready.

April is also the month for MCA II testing in the high school. Several committees within the faculty at Delano High School have been working on interventions with a number of students in order to prepare them for a successful state test either in writing (grade 9), reading (grade 10), or math (grade 11). It is our goal to continue the tradition of excellence regarding the performance of all our students on the state assessments.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all students and parents for yet another successful conclusion to our academic school year. I would also like to thank the large numbers of students who volunteered in the sandbagging efforts for the City of Delano during the Crow River flood season. It is always an important life lesson to learn that when there is a crisis in a community, our youth can fill a vital role in a positive and impactful way as a member of the Delano community.

-Matthew W. Schoen, Principal
<http://delanohighschool.posterous.com/>

Destination ImagiNation Teams Advance to State



Congratulations to the Delano High School Destination ImagiNation teams who participated at the DI Regional Tournament on Saturday, March 12, at Glencoe-Silver Lake High School. Team *New and Improved*, is advancing to the state competition with a first place finish in Challenge B-Scientific. Members of the team pictured above include; Samantha Whitcomb, Amanda Gielau, Gabriella Cordes, Addie Taylor, and Amelia Sutherland.

Mikinzi Harris, Anna Elsen, Ellen Soderberg, Haley Winterhalter, Sydney Beal, and Melissa VanCura, members of the *WOW! Team*, also took first place in the problem titled Challenge A-Technical.

Alex Harris and her DI team, *Late Night Pool Crew*, from Orono, will also be advancing to state in Challenge D-Improv.

Thank you to all the team managers, parents and community members for attending the Regional Tournament. The State Tournament will be held on Saturday, April 16 at Champlin Park High School. The State DI Tournament is a free event to all and community members are welcome to attend and support Community Education and their Delano Destination ImagiNation teams.

April Testing - Update & Preparation

During the month of April, high school students all across the state will be testing in Writing, Reading and Math. Looking forward to testing season, the happenings of the past year should be examined as well as the current status of the high school. **Additionally, testing hints to continue the tradition of educational excellence.**

The 2010 MCA tests yielded very good results for students at DHS. Ninth grade students took the **MCA II/GRAD Writing Test** on April 13, 2010. 210 out of 213 students passed the test on their first attempt. Since that time, all three students have retaken the test once and one of the three students have earned a passing score. Currently, there are a total of four students on campus who have not yet passed the writing test. The additional students include students who have not passed in previous years and/or are new to the district.

The tenth grade **MCA II/GRAD Reading Test** had 87% of our students passing on their first attempt. Today, the number of students who have not passed, has been reduced to nine. Additionally, all current seniors have passed their reading test and no senior will be denied a diploma as a result of not passing this test.

The eleventh grade students took the **MCA II/GRAD Mathematics Test**. This test must either be passed or taken a minimum of three times in order to earn a diploma. The original passing rate at DHS was 75%. During the course of summer remediation and retesting, as well as retesting throughout the school year, 27 students have successfully earned a passing score and three students have left the district. This raises our percentage to 90% of students who have earned a passing score. Today, every senior has met the requirements on the GRAD Mathematics Test to obtain a high school diploma.

The success of the past represents a rich tradition of academic success at Delano High School. As students prepare for the 2011 testing season, here are a few suggestions:

- Follow the directions teachers provide. If your student is preparing to take a MCA test this spring, their teachers should be giving students ideas and suggestions to be successful on the test.
- In the event your student does not have a subject specific teacher to help them prepare for the test, go to http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/Accountability_Programs/Assessment_and_Testing/Assessments/MCA/Samples/index.html for samples of test specific items.
- Encourage your student to get plenty of sleep and rest on the days leading up to the test. Research indicates that eight hours of sleep is needed in order to move information into the long term memory of an individual.

Although following these helpful suggestions does not guarantee success, they will provide a good foundation for academic success. The testing schedule for this spring is as follows:

Tuesday, April 12: Writing, Reading and Math
(NO classes for Seniors during Blocks 1 & 2)

Wednesday, April 13: Reading and Math
(Classes for all students)

-Joe Vieau
Assistant Principal

DHS Math Team Continues to Dominate



Taking first place in all five conference meets of the season clinched the conference title for the mathletes once again this year. This qualified the Tigers for the state tournament by virtue of their overall standing. Sydney Beal led the team in scoring in their final meet with 10 points, followed by

Josh Green, Hayley Griffiths, Joe Janas, Maureen Lax, Sarah Matthiesen, Carrie Olson, Trey Soukup and Adam Vieau with 8 points.

Five mathletes won conference awards. Scoring 47 points and taking 2nd place in the conference was Joe Janas, Zach Muckenhirn took 3rd with 45 points and scoring 38 points for a 7th place tie was Josh Green, James Redinger and David Swenson. In addition, Delano had 10 of the top 15 individual scores in the conference. The Tigers as a team are ranked 11th out of 250 teams in the state, which is their highest ranking in DHS history.

A record 85 mathletes participated for the Tigers this year. Unfortunately, only 9 are allowed to compete in the state tournament. Acacia Cordes, Josh Green, Joe Janas, Zach Muckenhirn, Caleb Palmer, James Redinger, Trey Soukup, David Swenson, and Dustin Ziegelman represented the Tigers at the state tournament.

At the state competition, the Tigers finished in 13th place out of 37 teams. Josh Green led the math team with 10 points, followed by Joe Janas with 8 points and Caleb Palmer with 7 points. Also contributing to the team score was Acacia Cordes, Zach Muckenhirn and James Redinger each with 6 points. Dustin Ziegelman, Trey Soukup and David Swenson also contributed to the teams 13th place finish.

Delano High School is very proud of this very successful academic team which continues to grow and prosper year after year.

Counselor's Corner

A Student's Pathway to Success

Every student's educational path is unique and special. It will be filled with choices, experiences and many challenges along the way. Delano High School aims to teach your student how to handle their educational journey. Along with teaching, we provide programs that put each and every student on his or her pathway to success. Here are some of the programs we offer:

Summer Academy: Summer coursework for students identified in 8th grade as at-risk.

LINK Crew: A leadership opportunity for juniors and seniors to mentor incoming freshman.

SWAS: *School Within a School* program focuses on prevention and intervention to optimize student success in learning through online, offline and project based learning.

Tutoring: National Honor Society provides tutors when requested.

Credit Recovery: When a student is credit deficient,

students are allowed to take an online program - E2020 for credit recovery.

Guided Study: Students are provided in-school support for homework and remediation as necessary.

CIS: *College in the Schools* is a concurrent enrollment program serving DHS students by offering college learning while still in high school.

Special Education and Supports: These programs and services support DHS by providing high quality education for students with disabilities.

If you are interested in any of these programs, please contact Susan Farbo, Guidance Counselor, at 763.972.3365, ext. 2237 or via email at sfarbo@delano.k12.mn.us, for more information.

Sound Revolution

Performs at Target Center



Sound Revolution had an exciting evening performing at the Timberwolves game on Wednesday, February 16. This singing group is an auditioned ensemble of approximately 20 students from the choir program at DHS. They practice once a week and the group has performed a number of times at community events and concerts. They sing more 'pop' songs than the traditional choirs at DHS. Sound Revolution was formed to give students a chance to be part of a smaller choir where students are extremely committed to high-level music making. In the future, this group will meet every day during the school year and we are hopeful that performance opportunities will increase.

Science Olympiad Team Places 2nd at State



Consisting of 7th through 9th graders, the DMS Science Olympiad "B" Division team began their competition season by taking first place at the regional tournament on Saturday, February 12, at Minnetonka Middle School East. The team went on to compete in the state competition at the University of St. Thomas, on Saturday, March 12, bringing home second place honors.

In the state competition, DHS 9th graders Amanda Keranen and Kjersten Moen took first place in Microbe Mission and Juliana Lilehei and Ellie Schmidt took 2nd place in Storm the Castle, which is a trebuchet target shooting event.

Congratulations to all the participants!

**DHS
Theater
Department
Presents...**



Come take a look into the world of Dr. Seuss when DHS presents *Seussical the Musical*. The musical's story is a amalgamation of many of Seuss's most famous books including all of your favorite characters: Horton the Elephant, the Whos, Yertle the Turtle, The Cat in the Hat, and of course, the Grinch!

Thursday, April 14 7:00 p.m.
Friday, April 15 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 16 1:00 p.m.

Delano Middle School Auditorium
Tickets are available at the door.

Come join in the fun, enjoy the music and support the cast and crew as they sing their way through Dr. Seuss's amazing stories!

"Take Note"

Delano Music Boosters Dinner & Silent Auction

Come support the Delano High School Band and Choir Programs! Solos, duets, trios, quartets - choral and instrumental, will showcase their talents at this dinner sponsored by the Delano Music Boosters.

When: Sunday, April 10 at 5:00 p.m.

Where: MS Auditorium

Cost: \$ 16.00

Tickets are available at Coborn's and the HS office.

"Our students work extremely hard and this event provides these ensemble groups an opportunity to perform for the community," expressed HS Band Director Jason Koets. "This promises to be an exciting night of musical entertainment and will include performances by the Jazz Band, Sound Revolution, and numerous small ensembles who have practiced all year to perfect their pieces for competition," added Andrew Beard, HS Choral Director.

The mission of the Delano Music Boosters is to advocate for the band and choir programs by providing support to staff and students, raising funds to increase student music opportunities and fostering musical growth in the community.

April Calendar

8	HS Band & Choir Section/State Solo and Ensemble Concert	3 pm
9	ACT Test	
10	Delano Music Boosters Dinner & Silent Auction - MS Auditorium	5 pm
11	HS P.I.E. Meeting	7 pm
12	HS Site Base Meeting MCA II Writing, Reading, Math Testing NO CLASSES for Seniors - Blocks 1 & 2	7:15 am
13	MCA II Reading & Math Testing	
14	HS Spring Musical - <i>Seussical</i> MS Auditorium	7 pm
15	HS Spring Musical - <i>Seussical</i> MS Auditorium	7 pm
16	HS Spring Musical - <i>Seussical</i> Visual Arts Festival	1 pm 8 am-1 pm
22	Holiday - NO SCHOOL	
25	School Board Meeting	7 pm
29	HS "Choices" Presentation Juniors and Seniors	
30	Prom - Grand March Dinner & Dance	5 pm 7:30 pm

May Calendar

5	HS Band Concert	7:30 pm
6	ACT Registration Deadline for June 11 Test	
9	HS P.I.E. Meeting	7 pm
10	HS Site Base Meeting	7:15 am
11	Senior Honors & Dollars for Scholars Ceremony MS Auditorium	7:30 pm
15	NHS Induction Ceremony MS Auditorium	1 pm
22	School Board Meeting	7 pm
24	HS Choir Concert	7:30 pm
27	HS Spring Fling Day	
30	Memorial Day - NO SCHOOL	

June Calendar

2	Seniors last full HS academic day	
3	Graduation practice	8:45 am
4	Graduation - Tiger Activity Center	1:30 pm
6-7	Final Exam Schedule	
7	Last day of School - Grades 9-11	
11	ACT Test	

Check out the NEW High School Blog at
[Bloghttp://delanohighschool.posterous.com/!](http://delanohighschool.posterous.com/)

Through Tigers Eyes is published by
 Delano High School. Editor,
 Traci Lawman, District Office,
 763.972.3365, x5111,



Delano High School Phone: 763.972.3365
 700 Elm Avenue East Fax: 763.972.6706
 Delano, MN 55328 Website: www.delano.k12.mn.us

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