



Tiger Territory

Delano High School Newsletter December 2017/January 2018

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Dates to remember

December

25-31.....Winter break

January

1.....Winter break

8.....HS PIE, 6 p.m.

8.....District PIE, 7 p.m.

8.....Registration for 9th grade
info meeting, 4 and 6 p.m.

8.....College credits in high
school meeting, 7:30 p.m.

11.....College credits in high
school meeting, 6 p.m.

11.....Registration for 9th grade
info meeting, 7:30 p.m.

11, 12.....Final exams

12.....End of 2nd quarter

15.....Martin Luther King
Jr. Day, no school

20.....One Act Play Festival



One act action

DHS actors are busy this time of year, with freshman and sophomores recently completing the Junior High One Act Play, and the competitive high school season just around the corner. See more about the productions on Page 6.

Reaping project benefits

By Dr. Steven Heil
Principal

As we close the calendar year of 2017, I want to take a moment to thank all our staff, students, families and community members for the opportunities we are starting to realize this year at DHS.

This fall we opened with new athletic facilities. One fact we should take note of is that it rained for a few days prior to a large soccer tournament at the beginning of the season. In all years past at DHS, this amount of rain would have canceled the tournament. This year, the new turf fields were exactly what we needed. It was soggy, but the tournament went on and we had a lot of happy soccer players.

Our science department, business department, music department, FACS teacher and some special education staff walked into new classrooms.



Dr. Steven Heil

Staff and students adjusted well to the new rooms, and we are now able to provide a very nice environment to educate our students with some much needed upgrades.

Lastly, we opened the new commons area, including the digital commons. These spaces provide some needed room for students before, during and after school to do work, relax and socialize. Areas like these are

important because many of our students are so active at DHS that they are here at school well before school starts and well after school finishes for the day.

Looking ahead, staff, students, families and community members will notice that the new district office will open up after the New Year. Construction on the new media center will start soon, which will shut down the MS commons area. This is next to the new diving well, where construction has already begun.

Finally, construction will begin on the new performing arts center, new weight rooms, locker rooms and art suite. 2018 looks to be a busy and exciting year for DHS.

I look forward to the challenges construction brings, as I know that our entire community will benefit greatly.

Have a wonderful holiday season.

Students excelling in AP exams

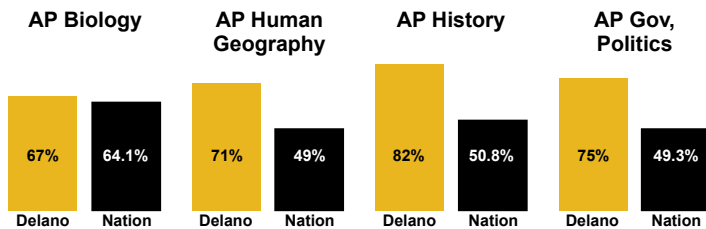
By Paul Downer
Communications Coordinator

Delano students have once again put significant separation between their test scores and the scores of their peers around the nation.

High School Principal Steve Heil presented results from the latest Advanced Placement tests during the Delano School Board meeting on Monday, Nov. 27, and had plenty of good news to share.

Delano students took AP tests in four classes: AP Biology, AP Human Geography, AP U.S. Government and Politics, and AP History. Students received scores between 1 and 5, with those earning scores of 3 or higher becoming eligible to receive college credit.

In Ms. Bahe's AP Biology class, 36 Delano students took the test and 24 of them scored



These are the percentages of students who scored well enough to be eligible for college credit on the AP exams.

a 3 or above for a 67-percent passing rate. The national average was 64.1 percent.

cent passing rate compared to 49 percent nationally. Delano students also had five perfect scores.

In Mr. Peterson's AP History class, 33 Delano students took the test and 27 were eligible for college credit for an 81.8 percent passing rate, compared to 50.8 percent nationally. Delano had four perfect scores.

Before sharing data from Mr. Wallace's U.S. Government and Politics class, Heil paused to explain that most schools have advanced juniors

or seniors take the AP test for that subject, while Delano has ninth-graders take the test.

Out of 32 Delano freshmen who took the test, 24 were eligible for college credit and nine earned perfect scores. They had a 75-percent passing rate, compared to 49.3 percent nationally.

"Delano kids always rise to the occasion," Heil told the board. "Whether we look at the ACT or the AP, they work hard. And our staff works extremely hard, too, to help the kids prepare for that. To take AP U.S. Government and Politics in ninth grade, they have to be reading at a high level, they have to be writing at a high level, they have to be understanding and reading charts and graphs at a high level. So when you see these scores, it shows you what all of our teachers are doing."

'Delano kids always rise to the occasion.'

Steve Heil

In Mr. Paulson's AP Human Geography class, 34 students took the test and 24 were eligible for college credit, a 71-per-



October honors

Delano High School named its October Students of the Month in various disciplines in early November, and also recognized its Triple A Award winners. Triple A winners shown at right were Sydney Sinnott (arts), Nic Poll (academics) and Ali Findley (athletics). October Students of the Month shown above included Josephine Fleck (art), Sally Thompson (business), Blake Koehler (band), Emma Dahle (choir), Kelli Leuer (FACS), Danny Moonen (industrial tech), Stephen Webster (health), John Daniels (phy ed), Arkadiy Vokhrin (language arts), Gavin Lindberg (math), Alyssa Juenke (science), Aili Barta (social studies), Emma Anderson (world language), Shianne Christensen (work seminar) and Hunter Reimer (SWAS).



Delano named to AP Honor Roll

Seven districts in Minnesota make list, Delano on for third straight year

Delano Public Schools is one of just seven Minnesota school districts and 447 school districts in the U.S. and Canada honored by The College Board with placement on the 8th Annual AP District Honor Roll.

It is the third consecutive year Delano has been so honored.

The other Minnesota districts were Alexandria, Becker, Princeton, St. Michael-Albertville, Waconia and Wayzata.

To be included, districts must have increased the number of students participating in Advanced Placement

courses while also increasing or maintaining the percentage of students earning AP exam scores of 3 or higher (out of 5) since 2015.

According to The College Board, reaching these goals shows that this district is successfully identifying motivated, academically prepared students who are ready for AP.

"Congratulations to all the educators and administrators in this district who have worked to clear a path for more students of all backgrounds to participate and succeed in AP," said Trevor Packer, head

of AP and Instruction. "These educators and administrators are fostering a culture in their schools and classrooms that allows students to face new challenges and build the confidence to succeed."

Inclusion in the 8th Annual AP District Honor Roll is based on a review of three years of AP data, from 2015 to 2017, looking across 38 AP exams, including world language and culture.

Criteria

Among other things, districts must:

- Improve or maintain performance levels when comparing the 2017 percentage of students scoring a 3 or higher to the 2015 percentage, unless the district has already attained a performance level at which more than 70 percent of its AP students earn a 3 or higher.

- Increase participation/access to AP by at least 4 percent in large districts, at least 6 percent in medium districts, and at least 11 percent in small districts.

Additional information will be available in future publications.

Donkey ball tournament Jan. 6

Proceeds from event support the Delano All Night Grad Party

By Paul Downer

Communications Coordinator

For some, tossing a basketball through a hoop is enough of a challenge without doing so from an obstinate, four-footed platform with a mind of its own.

That's why donkey basketball tends to be so entertaining, and why the All Night Grad Party group is bringing a donkey basketball tournament back after a wildly successful appearance about four years ago.

"Last time we had it in the old high school gym. The place was packed. You could barely move," said Delano Elementary School Principal Darren Schuler, who is helping to organize this year's event.

This year's event will take place in the more spacious Tiger Activity Center at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 6. The tournament will include four teams and three total games. The senior boys will play a team of high school and middle school teachers, and the senior girls will take on a team of elementary staff members. A championship contest will be held between the two winners, and the whole event should take about an hour and a half.

Schuler declined to describe the rigorous system of tryouts, cuts and training that elementary staff members were undergoing to ensure victory, but said that even the most thorough preparation only goes so far.



Students and staff will square off in donkey ball on Saturday, Jan. 6.

"It's humorous because some of the donkeys have attitudes of their own," he said. "Some of these staff members think they're star basketball players, but it really doesn't matter. If your donkey isn't moving you can't do much."

Though talent may not avail much, excitement is another matter. That's why the elementary staff has recruited coaches and cheerleaders in addition to players.

"That really helps get those donkeys moving, that enthusiasm," said Schuler.

The donkeys wear rubber shoes that prevent damage to gym floors, and a swift team of cleaners will be standing by to deal with any donkey by-products during the course of play.

Seeing the show

Dairyland Donkey Ball of Wisconsin is the company behind the event, and bills the games as "wilder than a rodeo, funnier than a circus."

Tickets will be sold in advance for \$7, and they are \$10 at the door. Preschool-age children get in free. Tickets can be purchased at various Delano sports events, or from the DHS activities office during school hours.

Free donkey rides will be provided at intermission for children age 12 and under for the first 100 advance ticket sales received, and advance orders must be made no later than Friday, Dec. 22.

On the night of the games spectators can purchase a walking taco dinner in the high school cafeteria from 6 to 7:30 p.m., and concessions will also be available. Ticket sales will begin at 6 p.m., and advance sale tickets will be available for pickup between 6 and 7 p.m.

The event will also include a certain amount of proper ceremony. The national anthem will be sung, and "Voice of the Tigers" Joe Vieau will serve as the PA announcer.

"It's really fun," said Schuler. "It's a different event that you don't see real often, but staff has been willing to participate and it goes for a really good cause, keeping kids safe on graduation night."

Festive final week before break

The DHS Student Council has come up with dress-up days and some fun activities for the final week before Winter Break, Dec. 18-22.

The dress-up days include Holiday PJs on Monday, flannels on Tuesday, holiday socks and hats on Wednesday, holiday characters such as Santa, Mrs. Claus, the Grinch or an elf on Thursday, and ugly sweaters on Friday.

In addition, an "elf on the shelf" will be watching the students and reporting to Santa each night. It will appear in a different location in the school each day.

Candy grams will be sold Monday through Thursday, and Santa and elves will distribute them during third block on Friday.

Finally, the National Honor Society is holding the Jingle Run during Tiger Time at the end of the day on Friday.

In addition to dress-up days and activities, student aides and teachers have decorated various areas of the building and classroom doors to promote the holiday spirit.



Leaders for November

Delano High School named its November Students of the Month in various disciplines during the first week of December, and also recognized its Triple A Award winners. Triple A winners shown at right included Claire Bruhn (arts), Megan Scheibe (academics) and Camden Tschudi (athletics, not pictured). November Students of the Month included Ethan Williams (industrial tech), Maddie Kurth (math), Heaven Myers (FACS), Savannah Vosper (world languages), Natalie Bjorklund (social studies), Stephanie McClelland (choir), Harmony Brickley (SWAS), Mackenzie Drews (health), Austin Uecker (phy ed), Jacob Marciniack (language arts), Maddy Halluska (business), Gretchen Wuerger (science), Sam Rietow (band), Treana Mannor (art) and Brianna Coleman (work program).



Student support team a vital component



Shane Boughman

By Shane Boughman
Assistant Principal

Here at Delano High School we are fortunate to have a highly qualified staff working with our students day in and day out.

They are dedicated to fostering student growth that focuses on the unique individual's academic, social and emotional well being. It is truly a team effort, and nothing highlights that more than our student support team. The team includes our Social Worker Ms.

Techam, Nurse Ms. Tribble, and School Counselors Ms. Boleman and Ms. Farbo.

They provide a wide-array of services to our students that are invaluable in helping them be successful in and out of the classroom. Their training and skills, oftentimes behind the scenes, support our students academically, socially and emotionally.

In addition to the support they directly provide, they can also offer information on other school resources and outside services.

The collaborative effort of the team enhances our ability to promote our school vision of providing a safe, supportive, collaborative learning environment that meets the needs of diverse learners in academics, arts, athletics, and activities, which foster lifelong learners to make positive contributions to our ever-changing society.

If at any time you believe one of these staff members or I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us directly.

Music News

Singers chosen for honor choir

By Paul Downer
Communications Coordinator

Some of Wright County's best high school singers will gather in Annandale on Saturday, Jan. 6, and 10 of Delano's vocalists will be among them.

Teachers from each school in the county have chosen their representatives for the Wright County Honor Choir, which will rehearse with Dr. Michael Culloton of Concordia University, Moorhead during the day prior to an evening concert.

"It's a great opportunity for our students to sing with other top singers in the county, and to work on some college level repertoire with a collegiate conductor," said DHS choir director Miriam Augsburg.

Senior Isabelle Hokanson, president of the concert choir, will be one representative.

"I'm really excited for this opportunity," she said. "It will be a great chance to sing with others who want to perform at a high level, and to have such quality conducting."

Junior Carter Nelson, vice president of the concert choir, agreed.

"We've heard some of these



Wright County Honor Choir representatives from Delano include, from left, Reier Sjomeling, Brock Wuerger, Carter Nelson, Alyssa Ingle, Paige Grover, Isabelle Hokanson, Emma Moonen, Sydney Sinnott, Parker Detweiler and AJ Ragan. All are members of the Sound Revolution ensemble at Delano High School.

honor groups before, and their songs are amazing," he said. "I can't wait to meet some of the other students and share music at a high level."

Both students said that choir has been a unique experience during their high school careers.

"I enjoy the people because we're like a little family," said Hokanson. "Kids from all dif-

ferent activities come together, whether they're into sports, academics or drama. We all work together and that's what makes us a great choir."

Nelson said the highlights of choir are the moments when a challenging harmony suddenly blends properly, or a similar challenge is overcome.

"When we have that 'ah ha' moment, when we've been

working on something and it finally comes together, it's so satisfying to accomplish that together," he said.

In addition to Hokanson and Nelson, Delano singers participating in the choir will be Parker Detweiler, Paige Grover, Alyssa Ingle, Emma Moonen, AJ Ragan, Sydney Sinnott, Reier Sjomeling and Brock Wuerger.



Owen Dailey

Dailey leads jazz section

By Paul Downer
Communications Coordinator

Sophomore Owen Dailey was chosen to attend a 9-10 American School Band Directors Association Honor Jazz Band in Buffalo on Saturday, Nov. 11.

The group consisted of top jazz students from around the metro area, and professional jazz educators directed the ensemble and offered instrument-specific coaching. A full day event culminated in a late-afternoon concert.

"I played lead alto (saxophone), and it was just a lot of fun to play with people who are as into music as I am," said Dailey.

"There were a lot of instructors there who have been doing this their entire lives, so it was nice to pick up some knowledge from them, as well as the other kids. You can pick some things up from (the other students) and show them some things too."

At DHS Dailey plays alto sax in the wind ensemble, and in Jazz I and Jazz II.

"I'm a big music guy because it's something that a lot of people have in common. When you go to these honor bands kids come from all different backgrounds, yet the one thing we all have in common is music, so it's a great connection point," said Dailey.

Students, staff honor veterans with program

Delano students and staff set aside time to honor current and former service members on Friday, Nov. 10, in the annual Veterans Day ceremony.

Dr. Timothy Roth, a 2001 DHS graduate and former Navy officer, was the keynote speaker.

"Very soon all of you will inherit this country. You will be its stewards," he told the gathering of high school and middle school students, who were joined by a number of community members in the Tiger Activity Center. "It's never out of style to love our country and be grateful for the



Lauren Degn spoke about what democracy means to her on Nov. 10.

gifts we have because of our veterans."

Students also took an active role in the event, with the band performing both the

national anthem and the "Marches of the Armed Forces."

A scholarship essay contest for seniors asked, "What Does Democracy Mean to Me?" Three winners were honored: Lauren Degn, Sydney Strobl and Rachel Ditty. Degn, the overall winner, also read her essay and said that the opportunity to participate in government either as a voter or a leader is what makes America unique.

Degn was also recognized for attending Girls State, along with Ashley Bruzek, and the Legion baseball team was honored as well.

One Act Season

Junior high presents 'Small Actors'

Delano hosts five-school one act festival on Jan. 20

By Paul Downer

Communications Coordinator

The one act season is in full swing, as the Junior High One Act Festival took place last weekend, and the competitive high school season is just beginning.

Delano performers in grades seven to 10 performed in the Junior High One Act Festival in Holdingford on Saturday, Dec. 9. Their production was "Small Actors," which tells the story of a girl who wishes to be the lead in her school's performance of "Romeo and Juliet," but is relegated instead to a one-line servant's role.

Eager to earn her parents' approval, and thinking they will be out of town at performance time, she tells them that she has been awarded the role of Juliet instead. What follows is a humorous family reunion in her honor at the performance, where the truth comes out.

While no scores were awarded at the festival, five Delano performers received awards for their performances. Sophomores Amy Snell, Maria Moltor, Owen Dailey and Grace



Amy Snell played the lead role in 'Small Actors.'

Schaust were honored, along with freshman Amy Snell.

Director Barb Roy said she chose the production because it involved a lot of characters, was funny and was fast-paced.

"I thought it would be a good pick for that group," she said.

High school production

This week actors began



The Junior High One Act included a broad cast of characters for a play-within-a-play.

preparing for the Minnesota State High School League one act season, which kicks off with a five-school festival at Delano on Saturday, Jan. 20.

Delano will perform "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time," based on a novel of the same name by Mark Haddon. The story focuses on a young man with autism who discovers that a neigh-

bor's dog has been killed and attempts to solve the mystery.

Competition begins at a subsection meet in Monticello on Wednesday, Jan. 27. If Delano advances, the next step is a section meet in Buffalo on Saturday, Feb. 3. The state competition will be held at The O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University on Thursday and Friday, Feb. 8-9.

Sports Updates

Wishart chosen for all-state team

DHS senior Calvin Wishart is one of 32 statewide players who have been selected to the 2017 Minnesota Vikings All-State Football Team.

The team is chosen by a committee of sportswriters, broadcasters, Vikings staff and state high school football coaches.

Wishart and the rest of the team will be recognized on the field during a halftime presentation at U.S. Bank Stadium during the Vikings and Cincinnati Bengals game on Sunday, Dec. 17.

Wishart, who had a stand-out year at wide receiver for the Tigers in his only high school football season and is a Division I basketball recruit for Georgia Southern, received three tickets for the Vikings game.



State swimmers

The Delano girls swim team made a splash at the Class A state meet this fall, capturing eight medals in 11 events on Saturday, Nov. 18. As a team, the girls took third-place overall. Senior Jordyn Wentzel had an outstanding individual performance as well, winning the 500 freestyle and 100 breaststroke championships. Team members celebrating the season above are, front from left, Emily Bobick, Lauren York, Kylie Strobl and Emma Kern. In the back row, from left, are Sydney York, Megan Benker, Claire Palmer, Morgan Frank, Laila Rosenow and Shelby Benker. Not pictured are Jordyn Wentzel, Sydney Strobl and Maggie Jacobs.

Four sign national letters of intent

Four Delano High School athletes signed national letters of intent on Wednesday, Nov. 8, to play at a higher level when they reach college next fall.

Mitchell Durst will play Division I lacrosse for the University of Detroit Mercy, and Calvin Wishart will play Division I basketball for Georgia Southern University. In addition, Jack Paulson will play Division II baseball for Northern State University, and Emma Moonen will be a member of the inaugural University of Wisconsin-River Falls women's lacrosse team in Division III.

The athletes were honored during a signing ceremony at the Tiger Activity Center in



From left are Mitchell Durst, Jack Paulson, Calvin Wishart and Emma Moonen.

front of students, staff members and family.

Durst plans to study business and management at the University of Detroit Mercy. During a brief speech he thanked his parents and coaches for their support. His parents are John Durst, Ann

Otto and Ryan Albeck.

Wishart is tentatively planning to study business marketing or exercise science at Georgia Southern.

He thanked his parents, Phil and Nichole, for enrolling him at Delano his freshman year, for getting him to early prac-

tices and for working on his skills in the driveway at home. He also thanked coaches Terry Techam, Jason Monke and Jamie Longstreet for their help and support.

Moonen is planning to study animal science or elementary education at River Falls. She thanked her parents, Tina and Ben, and said the experiences of her playing days in Delano will help her in the years ahead, both on and off the field.

Paulson is undecided on a major, but is considering business management. He said his mother Melanie and his dad and longtime coach, Dan, have been an important part of his success.

Appreciating educators

After several appearances in the Delano schools related to Veterans Day, representatives from the Delano American Legion took time to help school staff celebrate American Education Week (Nov. 13-17) by presenting each school with a signed proclamation from the city of Delano outlining the school's importance to the community. Legion members also presented each building with a bucket of fresh apples. Here, Legion members stand with DHS Principal Steve Heil.



Announcements

Upcoming information meetings

Informational meetings on two topics that parents and students will want to make note of are scheduled for the first part of January in the middle school auditorium.

First, registration meetings for students who are entering ninth grade next fall and their parents are scheduled at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 8. An additional meeting on this topic is set for 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 11.

Second, informational meetings about earning college credits in high school are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 8, and at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 11. Both students and parents are encouraged to attend.

School closing information

School may be closed for the day, started late or dismissed early due to weather conditions, emergencies, utility outages or other conditions that threaten the health and/or safety of our students and staff.

Families will be notified by the school district's instant parent contact system for emergency school closings.

The following news media outlets will also be notified: WCCO 4 TV, WCCO Radio, KSTP 5 TV, KMSP 9 TV and KARE 11 TV.

Families are encouraged to have a plan in place for their students when emergency closings, late starts or early dismissals occur. Watch for calendar changes and possible make-up days due to school closings communicated via school publications, Skylert parent emails, phone calls, the district website, Facebook and Twitter.

If you would like to receive a text message, you must set this option up in your family access account. Log into your account

and on the left, click on Skylert. You can list your phone number under "Text Message Numbers" and check the categories for which you want this option applied. Then click "Save."

Time to pick up lost items

The high school lost and found collection is now located by the vending machines. All remaining items will be donated over Winter Break. Please make sure to have your students look for any of their items now.

Beginning in January, the lost and found collection for the entire building will be located by the vending machines, and items will be donated at the end of every month.

New school rewards program

Support for a school district can come in many forms, but anyone who wishes to aid the Delano schools through the Coborn's school rewards program should be aware of a change in how the program works this fall. Coborn's is starting its new paperless MORE School Rewards program, which replaces the former Labels for Learning. There are three steps to participate.

1. Designate your preferred school (DHS, DMS or DES) by logging into moreRewards.com or the MORE Rewards mobile app. Click the Rewards tab at the top of the page, then the School Rewards tab.

2. Shop Coborn's for the store brands (Food Club, Full Circle, Top Care, Paws, Tippy Toes and more) to earn points for your preferred school.

3. The points your school earns will increase its share of a total available pot of \$150,000 that is distributed among participating schools. The more points a school earns, the larger its piece of the pie will be. See moreRewards.com/school for more information.



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