

Tiger Cub News

Delano Elementary Family Newsletter

November 2016



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What's Happening at DES?

It was great to see so many parents at parent/teacher conferences in October. 98% of our elementary parents attended conferences! It is very important to our teachers to build that home-school relationship early in the school year to set goals and expectations that will impact student learning for the remainder of the school year. We appreciate your investment in your child's education at DES.

DES Cafeteria Expansion Update



Many of you may have not seen the progress of the cafeteria expansion project on the east side of DES. This project started in mid-July and continues to progress towards a completion date of January 1, 2017.

We hope to access the additional space when students return from winter break. This cafeteria expansion is part of the \$65 million bond referendum passed last fall. The new addition will nearly double the seating space in our cafeteria and will provide another large group space for school programs and after school activities. This expansion also includes an enlarged vestibule area where students can hang winter coats during lunch times. This will greatly improve daily traffic flow in the gym/music/cafe area end of the building. The cafeteria will also have a south

entrance that will be used for after school parent pick-up. If you have questions about the project, please feel free to contact me at 763.972.6200, ext. 2122.

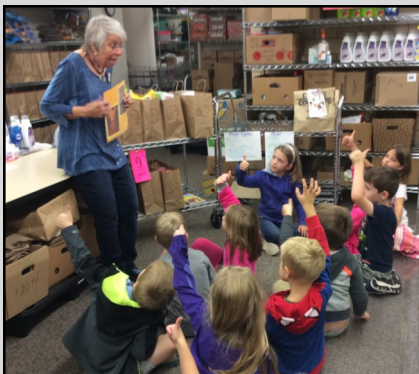


Math Fact Fluency Month

November is Math Fact Fluency Month at DES. Grades K-4 will be dedicating additional time at school and at home to improve math fact fluency during the month of November. Why do kids need to learn math facts? Well, math fact fluency refers to the ability to recall in all four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) quickly and effortlessly. When students achieve automaticity with these facts, they will have attained a level of mastery that enables them to retrieve facts from their long-term memory without conscious effort. Through automaticity, students can free up more working memory and can devote it to problem solving and learning new concepts. Demonstrating math fact fluency is also a MN State Math Standard in grades K-4. We encourage parents to participate by helping their child with math fact fluency activities that will be featured in each grade level throughout the month. Have fun!

- **Darren Schuler**
Principal

DES Kindergarten Classes Tour Downtown Delano



DES Kindergarteners recently had a wonderful morning touring downtown Delano. The students met with Deputy Mark Olson from the Wright County Sheriff's Department, the Delano Fire Department, Mayor Dale Graunke, the head of the 4th of July celebration, Alex Roeser, Love Inc., the Delano Public Library, the Delano Post Office and the Helping Hands Food Shelf (pictured on the left). All the students learned about volunteering, helping the community and the difference between needs and wants. The tour showed the students what a special town Delano truly is!

Bullying and Your Child



October was National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month. Each fall, Mr. Schuler and Mr. McDonald give a bullying presentation to each grade level in order to educate students how to know, recognize, and handle bullying in different situations. This presentation allows students to understand different kinds of bullying, the role of the bystander, and to inspire students to report bullying. Overall, it is important for teachers, paraprofessionals, students, and parents to work together to eliminate bullying. The following will explain what bullying is and what family members can do to help.

What is Bullying?

According to the United States Health Department's bullying program, *Stop Bullying Now*, bullying happens when someone hurts or scares another person on purpose and the person being bullied has a hard time defending him or herself.

Stop Bullying Now gives the following examples of bullying:

- Punching, shoving and other acts that hurt people physically;
- Spreading bad rumors about people;
- Keeping certain people out of a group;
- Getting one group of people to gang up on others; and,
- Teasing people in a mean way.

Bullying can also happen online. Cyberbullying is when children or teens bully each other using the internet, cell phones, or other technology. This can include:

- Sending mean texts, emails or instant messages;
- Posting nasty pictures or messages about others; or,
- Using someone else's username to spread rumors.

Research indicates that severe bullying can lead to negative outcomes later in life.

What Can Family Members Do To Help?

Bullying can be a tough thing to deal with, especially if it is your child who is being bullied. If you're a parent concerned about bullying, it's important to recognize the signs and know what you can do to help.

According to the Stop Bullying Now program, below are signs your child might be getting bullied:

- Appears afraid or reluctant to go to school in the morning, complaining repeatedly of headaches or stomach pains.
- Appears sad or depressed, or shows unexpected mood shifts, irritability and sudden outbursts of temper.
- Seems socially isolated, with few - if any - real friends; is rarely invited to parties or to the homes of other kids. A fear of rejection may lead to shun others.
- Has bad dreams or cries in his sleep.
- Loses interest in school work, and grades suffer.

To help children overcome bullying, parents should:

- Learn as much as you can about bullying among children and youth.
- Talk with children in your family about bullying and your expectations about their behavior.
- Be watchful for possible signs of bullying among children in your family.
- Take immediate action if you suspect bullying!
- Work with school personnel and other adults in your community to prevent and reduce bullying.

Even though bullying has been in schools for decades, it is important to change the trend and do what we can to eliminate it. There is a lot of research that indicates severe bullying can lead to negative outcomes later in life. Teachers, students and parents need to work together to put an end to bullying and provide a safe learning environment for all children.

For more information on bullying, go to www.stopbullying.gov. If you know of an instance when your child was bullied, you can report the incident by visiting our website at: <http://www.delano.k12.mn.us/elementary-school/information/des-bully-report>

- John McDonald, Assistant Principal

Congratulations DES!

Under the Multiple Measurement Rating (MMR), Minnesota's measurement of school performance, **Delano Elementary has been identified as a Reward School for the fourth time in the past five years.** This system emphasizes the importance of both achievement and student progress from year to year in the areas of proficiency, growth and achievement gap reduction.



According to the Minnesota Department of Education, a Reward School is the highest performing 15 percent of elementary schools in the state. These schools are recognized every year for their good work. Dr. Brenda Cassellius, Minnesota's Commissioner of Education, stated in a letter to Principal Darren Schuler, "Your school is among the highest performing schools in the state, and this recognition reflects the incredible success of your students and the tireless efforts on behalf of your staff."

Delano Elementary School received very good results on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA). Third graders achieved 90.5% in Math and 79.8% in Reading. Fourth grade students achieved 92% in Math and 72.2% in Reading. Overall, DES's third and fourth graders achieved 91.6% in Math and 76.3% in Reading.

This reward is a reflection of Delano Elementary School's continuing efforts to ensure each child reaches their highest potential.

What is the DES Student Success Team?

By John McDonald, Assistant Principal

At Delano Elementary School, we have a team of teachers and other staff who make up our Student Success Team (SST). The Student Success Team is a problem solving group, designed to systematically address a student's academic, social, emotional and/or behavioral needs through scientific research-based interventions. An intervention is a strategy used to teach a new skill, build fluency in a skill, or encourage a child to apply an existing skill to new situations or settings in regards to academic, social, emotional and/or behavioral needs.

The team meets two times a month and works with teachers to use data to identify interventions matching student needs. Parents are contacted by their child's teacher prior to meeting with SST about their child. At this meeting, the classroom teacher describes the academic, social/emotional, or behavior(s) being observed in the classroom, and the team decides on the best intervention for the student. The classroom teacher begins the intervention and tracks whether or not the intervention is successful. After 6-8 weeks, the teacher reports back to the team on the student's progress to determine if additional interventions are needed. This team works in conjunction with our staff to ensure that all students are successful.

The Student Success Team members include two classroom teachers, two special education teachers, a reading and math interventionist, a speech language pathologist, the assistant principal and the special education coordinator.



Helping Veterans in Need Clothing Drive

Delano Schools is conducting a Clothing Drive for Veterans in Need. The Clothing Drive began on Monday, October 24, and will end on Veteran's Day, Friday, November 11. **All donated items must be newly purchased. Previously worn items will not be accepted.**

If you would like to help, please consider donating one of the following items:

- Men's socks
- Underwear
- Undershirts
- T-shirts
- Sweat pants
- Jeans

The donated clothing will be given to the St. Cloud V.A. Hospital to assist with clothing Veterans in Need. These veterans, many whom are homeless at admission, typically are hospitalized for 60 to 90 days. When they are well enough for discharge, the hospital staff works to ensure that their basic needs are met.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, collected funds will be used to purchase winter coats. Checks can be made to Delano Schools and write "Clothing Drive" in the memo box.

All donated items can be dropped off at any of our schools. There are donation boxes in the school offices. Thank you in advance for your support!

Student Success and the Importance of Sleep



Dr. Mary Sheedy Kurcinka, Ed.D

STUDENT SUCCESS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF SLEEP

**TUESDAY, JANUARY
31, 2017**

Join Dr. Mary Sheedy Kurcinka to discover:

- The scientific link between misbehavior and missing sleep
- Why adequate sleep is critical for maximizing children's health, development and performance
- How you can significantly influence how much sleep children get
- Practical tools and real-life examples to help you and your children or

Resource
Training & Solutions

PLEASE JOIN US!

6:00-8:00 pm
Middle School
Auditorium

Mary Sheedy
Kurcinka is a Best
Selling Author,
Speaker, Licensed
Teacher, and
Parent Educator

Books for Sale

Childcare
available (contact
michelle.krueger@delanoschools
.org)

**DELANO MIDDLE
SCHOOL**

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PARENTS, EDUCATORS,
AND THOSE WHO WORK
WITH CHILDREN ARE
WELCOME TO ATTEND!

How Much Sleep Does Your Child Need?

There is a scientific link between misbehavior and missing sleep. Adequate sleep is critical for maximizing children's health, development and performance. Come listen to Dr. Mary Sheedy Kurcinka speak on this topic on Tuesday, January 31, 2017, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Delano Middle School Auditorium.

Dr. Kurcinka has more than twenty years' experience as a pioneer and award-winning educator in Minnesota's Early Childhood Family Education Program. She is a licensed teacher, parent educator, speaker and best selling author. Her books include *Raising Your Spirited Child*; *Kids, Parents, and Power Struggles*; and *Sleepless in America*.

This is a FREE event and childcare is available by contacting Michelle Krueger, DES Social Worker, at michelle.krueger@delanoschools.org.

DES 2nd Graders Fill Helping Hands Food Shelf



In October, 2nd graders at Delano Elementary collected 295 lbs. of food for the Helping Hands Delano Food Shelf. This activity is part of the social studies curriculum that helps teach community service and the traits of good citizenship. Thank you to all the students and families for helping those in need!

What's New in Elementary Physical Education?

The 2016 school year has gotten off to a great start, and we have been implementing some exciting changes to our physical education program at DES.

ASAP: "Active As Soon As Possible." When students enter the gym, they read their ASAP activity on the board, and get active as soon as possible!

Music: If you have walked down the hallway near the gym this year, you have most likely been greeted by music pouring out of the gym. We have been using music as a start and stop signal, as well as a motivator for our students this year. Who doesn't move a little better with music playing?

Conflict Corner: Being able to resolve conflict in a respectful way is an important skill, particularly in physical education. The conflict corner is a safe area in the gym where students can discuss issues that may come up in class and work together to find an amicable solution.

Team Teaching: The majority of elementary PE classes have been grouped together this year. This means that two classes have been engaged in the same lesson using all of the gym, rather than having the two classes separated in the gym and engaging in different lessons.

Technology in PE: *Class Dojo* helps to build a positive culture, *Plickers* cards are used to collect assessment data, a projector/screen is installed in the gym for various uses, *Polar* heart rate monitoring technology will be rolled out soon, and there is more to come!

"One of the biggest differences that jumps out at me is the increased level of activity," stated Assistant Principal John McDonald. Setting the expectation of getting active as soon as possible allows us to increase the time that students spend moving during physical education classes. John McDonald also expressed, "Another aspect that I have really enjoyed seeing is the increased opportunity for teamwork among the students and staff." For example, during team teaching, one of the teachers is able to handle direct instruction and the other is able to work with students in a one-on-one or small group setting to provide extra help.

For more information about what is new in elementary physical education, follow us on Twitter: @Tim Lyngen, @MrPicha_PE, and @MrWhirleyPE.

- Tim Lyngen
DES Physical Education Teacher

DES Kindergarteners Have a Fun Visit with Delano's Mayor Dale Graunke



November

- 7 Teacher Workshop Day - **NO SCHOOL**
- 9 Dairy Queen Night 5-8 pm
Artwork by Ms. Goudy's and Mrs. Berggren's Classrooms
- 10 Koo Koo Kangaroo 1:45-2:15 pm
- 11 Veteran's Day Program 9:30 am
Tiger Activity Center-Everyone Welcome!
- 15 ES P.I.E. Meeting 7 pm
- 16 Fall Fundraiser Pickup 3-6 pm
Elementary Cafeteria
- Dairy Queen Night 5-8 pm
Artwork by Mrs. Beck's and Mrs. Conely's Classrooms
- 22 2nd Grade Field Trip
End of ES 1st Trimester
- 23-25 Thanksgiving Break - **NO SCHOOL**
- 29 4th Grade Field Trip
(Berggren, Griep, Hiltner, Schleper)
- 30 4th Grade Field Trip
(Brown, Hall, Sass, Stern)




Parents! The Halloween Collection Candy Event will take place November 1 and 2. Students can bring in their Halloween candy (individually wrapped/store bought) and it will be donated to programs that send gift boxes to troops overseas.



Tiger Cub News is published by Delano Elementary School. Editor, Traci Lawman, District Office, 763.972.3365, ext. 2111, traci.lawman@delanoschools.org



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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer	¹ French Toast Sticks Sausage Tri Tater Steamed Broccoli OJ Cup; Orange Wedges	² Hamburger Sun Chips;Baked Beans Lettuce; Tomato;Onions Pickles;Baby Carrots Fresh Fruit Mix	³ Chicken Alfredo A-Polish Sausage Penne Pasta; Roll California Blend Vegetables Lettuce Salad Orange Wedges	⁴ Build Your Own Burrito Refried Beans Spanish Rice Lettuce; Cheese; Salsa Fresh Fruit Mix Sherbet Cup
⁷ No School	⁸ Chicken Patty Mashed Potatoes Country Gravy Steamed Carrots Lettuce Salad; Roll; Cranberries; Orange Wedges	⁹ Chicken Nuggets Tri Tater Green Beans; Veggies Fruit Cocktail Bread	¹⁰ Cheese Pizza Lettuce Salad Corn Pears	¹¹ Tacos-Beef Lettuce/Cheese/Salsa Black Bean Salsa OJ Cup; Fresh Fruit Mix Frosted Graham Cracker
¹⁴ BBQ Chicken Drumstick Brown Rice Steamed Carrots Lettuce Salad Pineapple	¹⁵ Corn Dog A- Fish Sandwich Potato Smiles Baked Beans Veggies Rosy Applesauce	¹⁶ Italian Dunkers A- Egg Salad Sandwich Corn Lettuce Salad Fresh Fruit Mix	¹⁷ Chicken Patty on Bun A- PBJ Sandwich Chicken Noodle Soup Crackers Lettuce Salad Veggies; Peaches	¹⁸ Hamburger A- Sloppy Joe Waffle Fries Lettuce;Tomato; Onion;Pickle Fresh Fruit
²¹ Nachos - Beef & Cheese Lettuce; Onions; Salsa Refried Beans Fresh Fruit Mix OJ Cup	²² Cinamon Roll Omelet;Tri Tater Steamed Broccoli Orange Wedges Apple Juice Cup	²³ 	²⁴ Holiday No School	²⁵
²⁸ Cheese Pizza Lettuce Salad Green Beans Pears	²⁹ Chicken Gravy A- Polish Sausage Mashed Potatoes; Roll Lettuce Salad; Peas Cranberries;Orange Wedges;Apple Crisp	³⁰ Chili w/Breadstick A- Ham & Cheese Sandwich Carrots;Lettuce Salad Fruit Cocktail	<u>Lunch Prices:</u> \$ 2.70 Elementary School. Milk varieties offered at all schools. Meal account can be viewed on Family Access. Payment must be made by 10 am.	