



Tiger Territory

Delano High School Newsletter October/November 2017



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Dates to remember

October

19-20.....MEA break, no school
25.....Unity Day
26.....Band/choir concert, 7 p.m.

November

2-3.....Fall play, 7 p.m.
3.....End of Quarter 1
4.....Fall play, 1 p.m.
10..Vets Day program, 9:30 a.m.
13.....DHS PIE, 6 p.m.
20.....Financial aid night, 7 p.m.
23, 24.....Thanksgiving break



Hail to the Tigers

Charlie Otto and Riley Campion were named DHS Homecoming King and Queen for 2017. The rest of the court included, from left, queen candidates Aubri Farniok, Amanda Krampf, Sophie Pappas and Eva Sundheim; and king candidates Logan Bistodeau, Mike Shoultz, Jacob McDonald and Mitchel Durst. See more on Page 4.

Construction updates

By Dr. Steven Heil
Principal

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year. We started under construction and will finish under construction.

We are all anxiously awaiting the opening of the new front entrance and the new front office area. They are expected to open in early November. This means that everyone will enter and exit the building through the new cafeteria/commons area.

One of the highlights of that new area is the Digital Commons, which is located in the old front office space. The lunchroom tables will soon come out of this space and newer, more student-friendly furniture will be moved in.



This was a project that we had a group of our students help design, and they also helped pick out the furniture pieces.

We wanted to create a comfortable space for students to study and relax before, during

and after school, as we know how busy and involved the student body is at DHS.

Following the opening of the main front entrance, the middle school entrance and office area will close permanently. The new diving well and family locker rooms for the pool area will be built in this area.

Middle school office staff will be located within the new high school office. The new arrangement of the office will allow for a more secure building both during and outside of the school day.

Look for more updates as the school year progresses, as there are additional projects that will start before next summer.

We are looking forward to a great school year.

Strong in the ACT

ACT test results released in September reflected well on Delano Public Schools, as the district's overall composite score came in a full two points ahead of the state average.

Delano students who graduated in 2017 posted an average composite score of 23.5, widening the district's customary lead on the state average, which was 21.5 for the year. That gap is significant, because Minnesota ranked No. 1 for test scores among the 17 states that give the ACT to all students, and students nationwide posted an average composite score of 21.

"Scores like this just represent the full picture: the commitment to academics that our families have, that the students have, that the staff has, and the administration has," said Delano High School Principal Steve Heil.

In addition, 43 percent of Delano students met all four college readiness benchmarks, compared to 31 percent statewide and 27 percent nationally.

More information is available at www.delano.k12.mn.us.

Academic awards

More than 140 students were honored for strong academic performance at Delano High School's 2016-17 Academic Awards Ceremony on Monday, Oct. 2.

The event honored students who were in grades 9-11 last year and qualified for the A Honor Roll or Scholars Honor Roll all four quarters. They received a "D" pin or bar for their achievements.

A total of 51 current sophomores who were in ninth grade last year qualified for the honor. Another 51 students who are currently juniors qualified, as did 39 current seniors.



September standouts

Delano High School named its September Students of the Month in various disciplines during the first week of October, and also recognized its Triple A Award winners. Triple A winners were Jackson Groskreutz (arts), Steven Hajas (academics) and Calvin Wishart (athletics). September Students of the Month included Madeline Meland (band), Emma Moonen (choir), Ashley Bruzek (FACS), Tanner Glasrud (industrial tech), Shianne Christensen (health), Carson Hoiland (phy ed), Annabel Frake (language arts), Simon Streachek (math), Jenna Kuelbs (science), Claire Bruhn (social studies), Izzy Johnson (world language), Hailey Skogman (work seminar) and Jake Blackwell (SWAS).

Many opportunities to grow High school is a good time to try new things

By Shane Boughman
Assistant Principal

The school year is off to an exciting start! Delano High School has opened our new 7-12 science classrooms, hosted our Chinese sister school's faculty and staff, and had a fantastic homecoming.

It is hard to fathom that the first quarter is past the halfway mark, just a further reminder of how time flies.

Our mission at Delano High School is to "provide 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."



That is why I strongly encourage all of our students to get involved, challenge themselves, and get out of their comfort zones. High school is a wonderful opportunity to explore and learn both in and out of the classroom while be-

ing supported by our faculty, community and families.

Please take time to examine all DHS has to offer in course selection, clubs, athletics and the arts. It is never too late to try something new. Our goal is to continue to challenge each unique individual student to grow in a supportive educational environment.

I firmly believe that this will help each student have the necessary skills to be successful in any endeavor that they may choose during and after the high school experience.

Finally, I want to thank you for your continued support of DHS and commitment to partnering with us in helping to provide a nationally ranked education to our students. We could not do this without you.

'Once-in-a-lifetime' field trip

By Paul Downer
Communications Coord.

A small group of Delano High School science students recently had the unique opportunity to visit Camp Ripley and fly a Black Hawk helicopter simulator, one of just a handful in the country, as part of their Aviation class.

They also examined several drones kept at the base, learned how they are operated, what they are used for, and more.

"The drones and other things were cool, but that simulator was definitely a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for all of us," said senior Patrick Eikmeier. "It was probably the best field trip I've ever taken."

Class instructor Jason Monke said each one of the students had the opportunity to climb into the simulator's cockpit and take

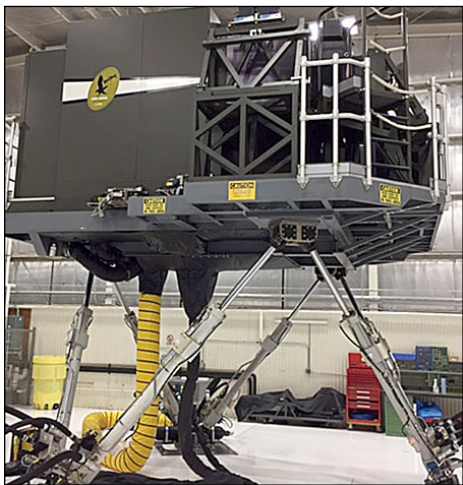
'It was probably the best field trip I've ever taken.'

Patrick Eikmeier

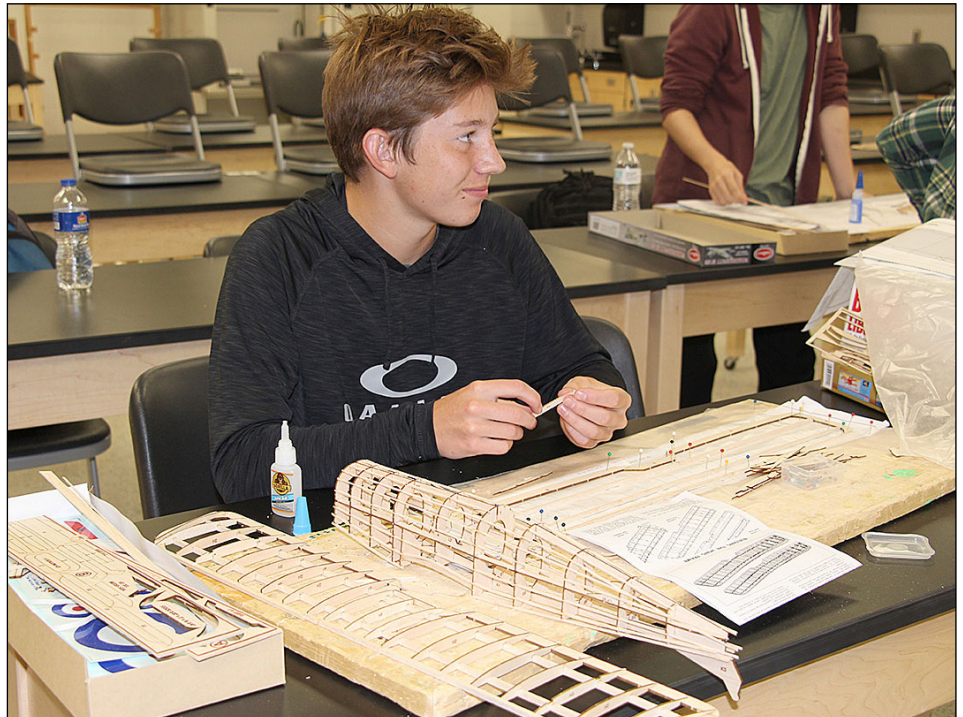
the controls. The Delano class was only the second school group to receive that kind of access at Camp Ripley this year.

"I'd been looking for something like that to do," said Monke. "They have flight simulators at the Mall of America, but that could get kind of spendy. So we were looking for something else but really hadn't found anything."

That's where area National Guard recruiter John McCann came in. McCann arranged for the visit, and the trip took place on Monday, Oct. 2.



The Black Hawk simulator is one of only a handful in the country.



Josh Andraea works on an intricate aircraft model in Aviation class.

Studying aviation

The aviation course is a quarter-long elective that focuses on aviation history, basic knowledge about the control surfaces and parts of an airplane, and more. Students study the Wright Brothers, aces and planes of World War I and II, work on flight simulators installed on the media center computers, and watch videos about flight, tactics and more.

The primary project in the class is for each student to construct an intricate wood model of a World War II aircraft.

Some of the models require 60 hours of time to build, while others require 35-45 hours. As a result, a number of students have been coming in before school or staying after to keep up.

"It's a pretty hands-on, project-based type of class, for the most part," said Monke. "This is an elective for science so it goes toward their graduation requirements if they want to take an extra class, but I'm just hoping to generate some interest in aviation and improve their understanding."

Career option

Monke also hopes to spark interest in aviation as a career. Last year he had an airline pilot come in and address the class.

"They can go over to Buffalo and do their ground courses for only about \$200, so it's cheap at first," said Monke. "That gets them entry-level, but then they have to start paying for flight time and in-



Students examined drones large and small at Camp Ripley.

structors, and that's when it starts to get expensive."

Still, Monke said his Sun Country contact had invested about \$30,000 in his career and was making more than \$100,000 after a few years.

"For four years of college (in another area of study) you're probably talking in the neighborhood of \$100,000 in cost, and then maybe you get a job making \$30,000 or \$40,000," he said. "When you look at it that way, spending \$30,000 to get a job making over \$100,000 sounds pretty good."

Monke said at least one former student is currently pursuing a pilot's license. Eikmeier he is considering joining the military, and that as a result of the class he would be open to looking into aviation.

"I'm not saying I could ever be a fighter pilot, but I'd fly around helicopters all day if they asked me to," he said.

DHS Homecoming



Chinese visitors appreciate Delano

By Paul Downer
Communications Coord.

Visitors from the other side of the world recently took their first look at life and learning in Delano, and they liked what they saw.

"The environment is very beautiful and clean," said Zhu Lili, an English teacher at ZiYun (Purple Cloud) High School in the Tanggu area of Tianjin, China, which has a sister-school relationship with Delano High School. "The fresh air, beautiful trees and friendly people impress me a lot."

The schools have a relationship dating back to 2005, but three Chinese teachers and eight students returning a June visit by Delano staff and students were seeing America for the first time when they moved

'In the high school we feel the teaching style is very impressive.'

Zhu Lili

in with local host families Sept. 24-30. The annual visits allow teachers on both sides of the Pacific to observe different methods of education, and help students forge relationships with their counterparts in a very different culture.

"I think the biggest thing is our students come back with a perspective of the world that is so different from the life they live here," said DHS math teacher Lanette Faul, who has headed up the school's China Club and organized visits since 2005.

"It gives them a much deeper understanding of a part of the world they might have had preconceived notions about, and I think they really realize how fortunate they are."



Eight Chinese students enjoy a pep fest in their honor on Monday, Sept. 25.



Three teachers and eight students received gifts during their welcome ceremony at DHS.

Educational differences

From an educational standpoint, Lili said her group immediately noticed differences in the Delano schools.

"In the high school we feel the teaching style is very impressive," she said. "It is very different from ours. In our school students sit and listen to the teachers. They do not have much time to talk with each other in class."

"Here we are finding that students divide into groups, teachers give directions and the students finish the tasks by themselves. What impressed me the most was that students

here are relaxed in class, but their mind is still focused on their studies."

Special education practices here also caught Lili's attention.

"I saw a child with a disability at the elementary, and there was a teacher helping her all the time," Lili said. "In China children with disabilities may go to a special school, not with the other children. So that impressed me a lot."

Life changing

The recent visit gave Delano students and their families a chance to return the favor for students who hosted them when they visited China this

past summer. While there the Delano contingent spent five days at ZiYun, which Lili said has about 2,000 high school students. Then they traveled to Beijing, Guilin and Yangshuo, visited rice terraces and the Li River, and finally saw Shanghai.

The trip costs about \$3,000, but that price covers everything from Visas to transportation and meals, making it a good value. Some area organizations have also donated to defray that cost in recent years.

Faul said some students end up referring to their counterparts as sisters or brothers, and that members of one Chinese host family actually came to a former Delano student's wedding years later.

"For some kids who go this is something that can be life changing," she said. "Some of the friendships and bonds I've seen form over the years are absolutely incredible."

• Since 2005 a total of 58 Delano teachers and 118 students have visited ZiYun, and 138 Chinese students, teachers and administrators have visited Delano.

• A more complete story about the visit is available at www.delano.k12.mn.us.



New staff at DHS

New staff at DHS shown above include, front row from left, Paige Entzi (Spanish), Sarah Hancock (social studies) and Amy Voss (speech pathologist). In the back row, from left, are Robert Stocker (social studies), Miriam Augsburger (vocal music), Elise Boleman (guidance counselor) and Ethan Preisler (social studies). At right is new science teacher Carley Spiese.



When to keep kids home from school

By Samantha Tribble
District Nurse

How do you decide when your child should stay home from school if they are not feeling well?

- As a general rule, if a child has a fever of 100 degrees F or higher, is vomiting or has diarrhea, they should stay home for 24 hours after symptoms have resolved without the use of medication.

- If a child has any rash that might be disease related, or if you don't know the cause, check with your primary physician before sending your child to school.

- If your child has started on antibiotics for any reason, keep them at home until they've had a full 24 hours of medication.

If your child is ill, please call the school daily to report illness. If you have questions or you'd like more information on a specific illness, feel free to call your building nurse.

Addressing health through happiness

On Wednesday, Oct. 4, students in Delano High School's COMPASS program had the opportunity to listen to Janna Netterfield of Allina Health, who works with the Bounce Back Project.

"It was a great reminder of why projects like Delano's Kindness in Chalk are so necessary!" said School Social Worker Marie Techam.

The Bounce Back Project is a unique collaborative of physicians, nurses, hospital leaders, staff and community partners in Wright County who have come together to promote health through happiness.

Numerous studies have shown that using simple tools to help us retrain our mind



COMPASS students hear a Bounce Back Project talk from Janna Netterfield of Allina Health.

to focus on the positive can increase feelings of well-being

and decrease feelings of depression. These tools can also

improve social connections, improve sleep, enhance memory and strengthen immune system function. It's simple ... and life changing.

The tools shared by Bounce Back are easy to use, can make a difference and anyone can do them. These tools include:

- Random acts of kindness
- Three good things
- Gratitude letters
- Social connections
- Self-care and mindfulness

For more information on the Bounce Back Project, go to www.bouncebackproject.org.

For more information on Delano High School's COMPASS Program, contact Techam or Shallyn Tordeur, Alternative Education Coordinator.

Students tackle fractal geometry

You've heard of algebra, trigonometry and calculus, but how about fractal geometry?

A group of seniors in the Advanced Math Topics class led by Jerry Shouts have spent the opening weeks of school studying fractal geometry, the newest branch of mathematics.

"The term fractal was first coined in 1980. Algebra and geometry have been around for thousands of years, while calculus was developed mid-17th century," said Shouts.

A fractal has two characteristics. It is self similar and it has a fractional dimension.

"The fractal we created is called the Sierpinski Gasket," said Shouts. "It has an infinite perimeter and an area of zero, which is kind of mind boggling."

To help spread the word, students have put up the first seven stages in Shouts' room, stage eight in the junior hallway and stage nine near the cafeteria.

At right, Advanced Math Topics students who have all completed Calculus II display one of the Sierpinski Gasket stages.



Announcements

'Hiding in the Open' at DHS

Delano High School will present its fall play, "Hiding in the Open," at 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 2-3, and at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 4.

Based on a true story, "Hiding in the Open" is about Sabina and Helka, two Jewish sisters who pretend to be Catholic Polish girls in order to survive the Holocaust. The production is by Kira Oblensky from the memoir by Sabina Zemering.

The cast is led by Sydney Sinnott as Sabina and Mary Ludwig as Helka. Tickets for the show are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students.



Sydney Sinnott



Mary Ludwig

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.

Clothing drive for veterans

Delano Public Schools is conducting a clothing drive for veterans in need. The drive will begin on Monday, Oct. 23, and will end on Friday, Nov. 10. All donated items must be newly purchased. Previously worn items will not be accepted.

The donated clothing will be given to the St. Cloud Veterans Affairs Hospital to assist with veterans' needs. These veterans, many of whom are homeless at admission, typically are hospitalized for 60 to 80 days.

When they are well enough for discharge, the hospital staff works to ensure that their basic needs are met. Please consider donating one of the following items:

For men: Socks, boxers, undershirts, T-shirts, sweatpants or sweatshirts, jeans (waist 28-32, length 30-34), winter boots, flip flops, slippers with rubber bottoms.

For women: Socks, underwear, pajamas, shirts, sweatpants, jeans of any size, winter boots, flip flops, slippers with rubber bottoms.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, collected funds will be used to purchase winter coats, hats and gloves. Make your check payable to Delano Public Schools, and note Veterans clothing drive in the memo.

Unity Day promotes kindness

Wednesday, Oct. 25, is Unity Day – a day to unite for kindness, acceptance and inclusion.

Encourage your child to wear orange to school as we come together in one giant message of support, hope and unity. Go to www.pacerkidsagainstbullying.org/kab/ to get more information on bullying and what your child can do if they are a target or bystander. Together we can make it orange! Make it end!



Support the Tigers through DHS PIE

DHS Partners in Education is a group of engaged district residents, typically parents, who share the common goal of enhancing the educational and extracurricular experiences of DHS students.

The group holds a short business meeting the second Monday of each month to:

- 1) Raise funds and award grants to DHS teachers for non-budgetary items
- 2) Plan, fund and host the senior brunch

3) Discuss issues of concern and often hear a report from DHS Principal Dr. Steve Heil

4) Share experiences as high school parents.

Anyone who cannot attend the meetings but has an appreciation for the DHS PIE cause and who would like to volunteer on an as-needed basis is welcome to consider providing the group with your contact information. A member will call when extra

hands are needed. If interested, call Ruth Clark at 763-972-5880 or email her at ruth.clark1031@gmail.com. She will get back to you with the specifics.

Whether you have taken a hiatus from PIE, are new to the district, or just newly interested in PIE's cause, its members welcome you and want to include you in our efforts. For more information, see www.delano.k12.mn.us and select "HSPIE" on the high school page.

Volunteer to make a difference

Whether you have just a few hours a year or several a month, there is no shortage of opportunities to share your skills and interests at Delano Public Schools. Volunteers are invaluable contributors to the success of our students and make a positive impact on our school and community.

Last year volunteers contributed more than 8,000 hours in a variety of roles, such as classroom helpers, site based committee

members and chaperones. Not sure what role interests you? Take a look at the list below, and you can find additional information and descriptions on the Delano Schools website.

For more information, or to register as a volunteer, visit www.delano.k12.mn.us/district/school-services/volun or call 763.972.3365, ext. 2333.

Elementary School

Battle of the Books _____
 Book Fair _____
 Classroom Helper _____
 Teacher/s name _____
 DI Team Manager _____
 Drama Assistant _____
 Elementary Art Show _____
 Elementary Office Helper _____
 ES Site Base Team _____
 Field Trips _____
 Hearing & Vision Screening _____
 Math Lab _____
 Media Center Helper _____
 Project Judge _____
 Publishing Center _____
 Science Fair _____
 Talent Development Assistants _____
 Volunteer On Call _____
 PIE Volunteer Opportunities _____
 APEX Fun Run _____
 Back to School Movie Night _____
 Box Tops for Education _____
 Dairy Queen Night _____
 Fall Fundraiser _____
 Fall Concession stand _____
 Family Fun Night _____

Fish Fry _____
 Memory Book _____
 Spirit Wear Sales _____
 Teacher/Staff Appreciation _____
 Nov. _____ May _____
 Tiger Dash and 5K Run _____
 Tiger Fun Fair _____

Middle School

After School Snack Program _____
 Battle of the Books _____
 Box Tops for Education _____
 Cafeteria Friendly Presence _____
 Campbell's Soup Labels _____
 Chaperoning Activities _____
 Classroom Helpers _____
 Cookie Dough Fundraiser _____
 DMS PIE _____
 DI Team Manager _____
 Drama Assistant _____
 Hearing & Vision Screening _____
 Lunch Server _____
 MS Year Book _____
 MS Site Base Team _____
 Project Judge _____
 Student Council Helper _____
 Talent Development Assistant _____
 Teacher/Staff Appreciation _____
 Use me as a resource _____
 e.g. (profession, hobbies,

travel, languages) _____
 Volunteer On Call _____
 Winter Activity Day Registration _____

High School

After School Snack Program _____
 Box Tops for Education _____
 Cafeteria Friendly Presence _____
 Commencement Day Help _____
 (Jr. Parents) _____
 DI Team Manager _____
 DHS PIE _____
 Drama Assistant _____
 Friendly Presence _____
 Hearing & Vision Screening _____
 (Gr. 10) _____
 HS Site Base Team _____
 Lunch Server _____
 Media Center Helper _____
 Motivational Speaker _____
 Prom Events Help _____
 Red Cross Blood Drive _____
 Talent Development Assistant _____
 Use me as a resource _____
 (e.g. profession, hobbies, travel, languages) _____
 Volunteer On Call _____
 Youth As Resources Board Member _____



This e-newsletter is published by District Communications Coordinator Paul Downer.
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