

TIGER TRACKS

Happy Fall Season Tigers!

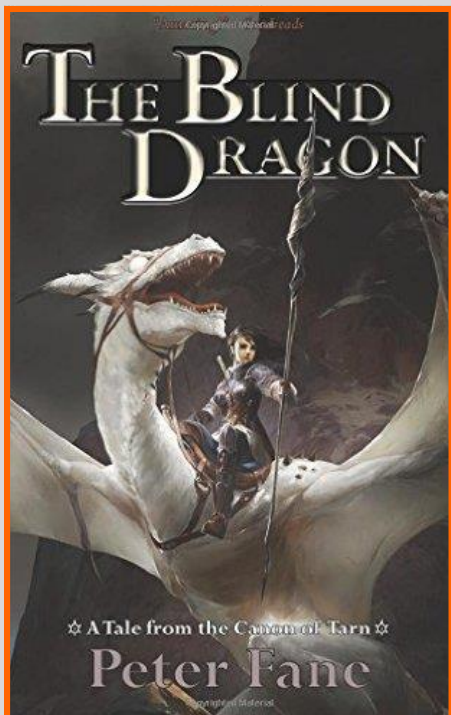
The first trimester is almost over already. It is hard to believe how fast the year goes. I want to thank all of the parents and students that attended our Fall conferences on Monday, October 17. I also want to acknowledge that many of you had concerns with the time allotted for conferences and the long wait lines that many of you endured. Thank you for sharing your feedback. DMS staff recognizes that we have work to do in order to continue building positive partnerships between staff and families. Our Site Base Leadership Team will immediately begin working on changing our plans for winter and spring conference times so that we can be more accommodating.

At this time, I also want to share great news about a new resource available to Delano Middle School students and staff. In addition to the wonderful collection of staff and curricular opportunities already present at DMS, Kellie Makela has been added to our team as a reading interventionist. In this position, Mrs. Makela leads our Extended Reading Support program that was developed by the Delano Middle School Student Support Team (SST) as a means for supporting the development of reading skills in our students. DMS staff recognize that reading skills are foundational for future success. We believe it is our role to provide students with the support necessary for them to develop skills that will enable them to be successful in their future college/career choice. Mrs. Makela supports, supplements, and extends classroom teaching and works to implement a quality reading program that is research-based and meets the needs of students. Mrs. Makela also has specialized knowledge of assessment and diagnosis and can assess the reading strengths and needs of students. That information is used to provide an effective reading program for students needing reading support.

We look forward to a successful year building effective readers at DMS!

- Barry Voight
Principal

Author Peter Fane Shares His Creative Spirit with DMS Students



On Friday, October 28, Peter Fane, Author of *The Blind Dragon*, spoke to students in fifth through seventh grade about the writing process. Upon leaving the presentation, students were given a copy of this fantasy novel set in the Kingdom of Remain.

Peter Schultz (aka Peter Fane), is an author, archaeologist, entrepreneur, and conservationist. He's the former Olin J. Storvick Chair of Classical Studies at Concordia College. He received his Ph.D. in classical archaeology from the University of Athens in 2003 and is the author of numerous books and articles on Athenian art, architecture, and topography.

Being raised by two educators, Peter has always been an avid reader. He was born in Duluth, MN, and has traveled the world during college and graduate studies. Peter loves to share his broad knowledge of Greece and Greek history and has led several historical tours through the Greek Islands. In addition, he has spent time at Oxford University in Great Britain sharing his passion of archeology through information from books he has written on his time at the American School of Classical Studies of Athens.

Peter showed his enthusiasm for writing to the students at DMS, but also his love for the creative process. In addition to writing, Peter has many passions which include ancient Greek art, animal rescue, global pedagogy, archaeological theory, science fiction, sustainable farming, and last but not least - lucid dreaming.

ART ON DISPLAY

DMS 7th graders were able to share their self portraits at Delano Public Library's 26th Annual October Art Show. In addition, students in the bottom right corner show off their re-created historical masterpiece class art project that was proudly displayed in the halls of DMS.

Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up. -Pablo Picasso



The Pearson Perspective - MCA Testing Resource

Minnesota Department of
Education

As promised, I am introducing a helpful resource parents can utilize at home with their student to practice on areas needing improvement indicated by your student's performance on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA). This tool is called **Pearson Perspective**. It is a program to help identify substrand concepts in reading, math and science from the MCA results using the Learner Locator Number assigned to the student. This number can be found in the MCA results letter that your student received or was mailed home in late August. This program can help pinpoint areas that need improvement and provide practice problems and activities. I have posted three online Pearson Perspective links on the Delano Middle School website under "Testing Information" to assist parents in beginning to explore this valuable tool. A Family Quick Start Guide is also available to make it easy to understand how to navigate the site and begin your journey to help your student improve their understanding of key concepts assessed on the MCAs.

Our DMS Tiger Pride Recognition Assembly will take place on Tuesday, November 22, from 2:00-2:40 p.m. We will recognize nominees from the first trimester. The categories are Hall of Fame, Citizen of the Month and Tiger Pride. The students that participate in The GROWL, DMS's student news program, will showcase their video journalistic skills with a recap of student life and highlights from this fall. Our student council will perform a skit with a positive behavior theme and the high school choir group, Sound Revolution, will also perform. It will be a wonderful celebration and all middle school parents are invited to attend! Come help us celebrate the recognition of students for their positive contributions and choices they make each day.

Thank you for allowing us to serve your students. If you have any concerns, please feel free to let us know. Communication is the key to successful parent-student-school relationships.

It is an exciting time to be a Delano student, educator, parent or community member!

- Steven Schaubeger
Assistant Principal



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



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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Delano, MN 55328
763-972-3395

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.

DMS Students Participate in Unified Special Olympics Bowling



Again this year, students from DMS participated in the Unified Special Olympics Bowling event on Tuesday, October 25, at Brunswick Zone in Eden Prairie. Special education and general education students bowl together as a unified team. This event creates a welcoming environment that uses sports as a tool to defeat intolerance. Delano is a Champion School which means we are committed to inclusion, acceptance and respect of all students through the implementation of the Unified School program. Fun events like this will continue throughout the school year. Thank you to all the Delano students that volunteered their time to participate in this event with their special education partner!

ACDA State Honor Choir Members Selected



Congratulations to Autumn Langdon, Sophie Stevens, Sydney Wuergler and Liliana Schroedl who were selected out of approximately 2300 students to be members of the American Choral Directors Association State Honor Choirs. Six choirs are represented by 800 singers chosen through a "blind" audition that is scored by a selection committee made up of choral directors.

These DMS students will represent Delano as part of the ACDA Honors Choir Concert, which will be held on Saturday, November 19, 5:30 p.m., at St. Andrews Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi, MN.



Want to Support DMS P.I.E.?

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You shop. Amazon gives.

What is Amazon Smile? AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile offers low prices, a vast selection and convenient shopping like Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support and one of them is DMS P.I.E.!

How do I shop at AmazonSmile? To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device.

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Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile? Yes, you use the same account. Your shopping cart, wish list, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile? On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

How much of my purchase does Amazon donate? The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges. From time to time, we may offer special, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount on one or more products or services or provide for additional donations to charitable organizations. Special terms and restrictions may apply.

When shopping on Amazon for personal items or gifts, consider using AmazonSmile. You Shop. Amazon Gives. All donations received by DMS P.I.E. will be greatly appreciated!

We Couldn't Have Done it Without You!

A BIG THANK YOU to all the students and families who sold cookie dough this past month. Together we raised over \$17,000 for Delano Middle School.

ANOTHER BIG THANK YOU to all the volunteers, students and adults, who assisted with distribution of 2112 boxes of cookie dough.

We truly appreciate your dedication and support!

Calendar

November

- 7 Teacher Workshop Day - **NO SCHOOL**
- 11 Veteran's Day Program 9:30 am
Tiger Activity Center - Everyone Welcome!
- 21 MS PIE Meeting 6 pm
- 22 End of 1st Trimester
Tiger Pride Celebration 2:00-2:40 pm
Old HS Gym
- 23-25 Thanksgiving Break - **NO SCHOOL**
- 29 7th/8th Grade Choir Concert 7 pm

December

- 1 5th/6th Grade Choir Concert 7 pm



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