

Tiger Tracks

Delano Intermediate School Newsletter



November 2021



Four Delano educators have earned leadership awards. See Page 3.

At a glance

Page 2

Students honored
Book fair

Page 3

Teacher awards
Halloween at DIS

Page 4

November menu
Vets clothing drive

Page 5

Design contest
Holiday helpers
How to get involved

Page 6

Fall play poster

Page 7

Kindness Cove

Dates to remember

November

7.....Daylight Saving Time ends

11.....Veterans Day

17.....Two-hour late start

22..School board mtg, 5:45 p.m.

24-26....Thanksgiving, no school

December

9.....Gr. 5-6 choir concert, 7 p.m.

10.....Mid-quarter

16...Gr. 5-6 band concert, 7 p.m.



Kids for kindness

Delano Intermediate students participated in a variety of lessons and activities that aimed to promote kindness during the month of October. A highlight was the Kindness Cove project shown here. See Page 7 for more photos and information.

Encouraging positive behavior

By Katie Thompson
Principal

As we look forward to November here at DIS we are focusing on respect. *What does it mean? Who gets it? How do we show it?* This topic seems especially appropriate in November as we make plans to honor our veterans at DIS on Nov. 11.

For those who are new to the DIS community, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight that at DIS we teach our students to show Tiger PRIDE. This is the expectation that our students demonstrate Positivity, Respect, Independen-



Katie Thompson

dence, Dependability, and Empathy throughout their days at DIS. Each month we focus

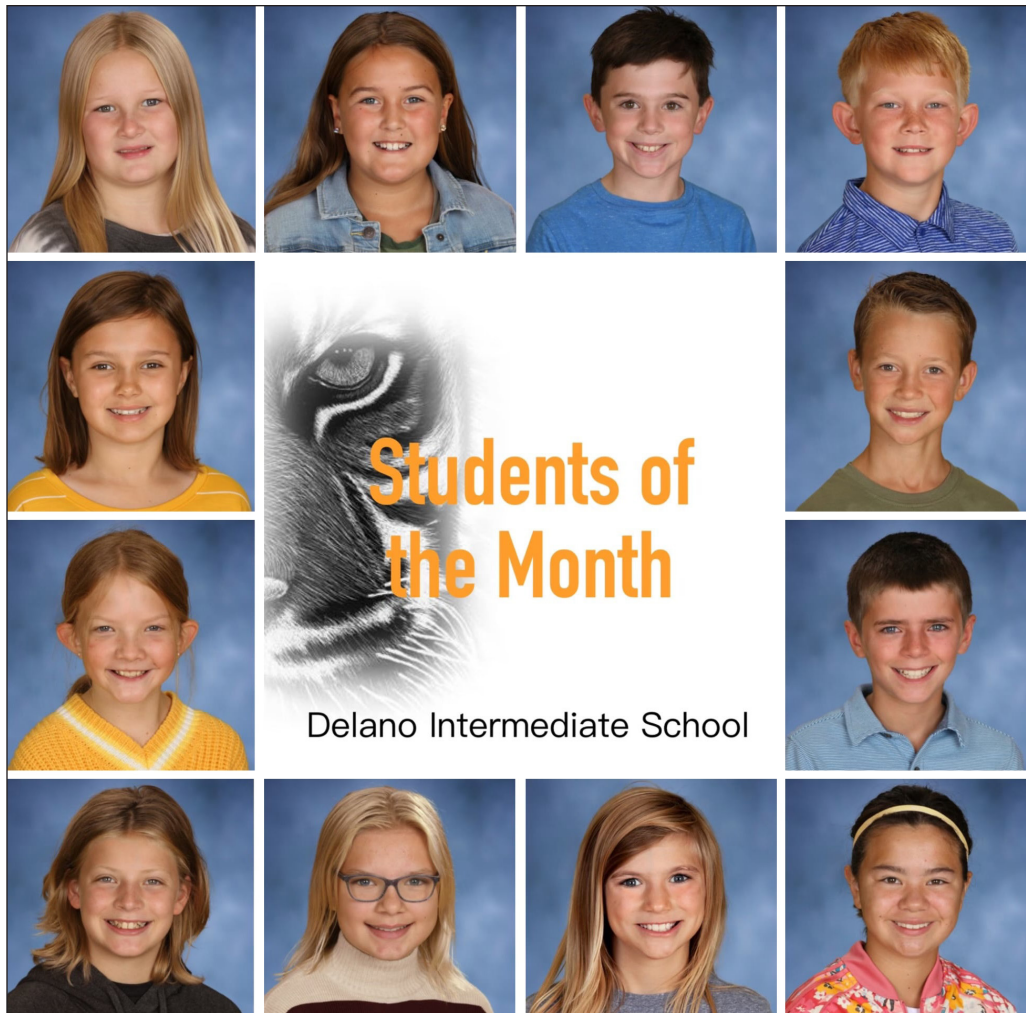
on a different Tiger PRIDE characteristic.

We also have monthly themes, in addition to the five identified in Tiger PRIDE, when it is appropriate. Examples are that we celebrate Kindness in October in recognition of Anti-Bullying Month, or Hard Work in April when we are taking our MCAs.

Positive behavior

In addition to providing a framework for supporting the character development of our

See Thompson
Page 2



Students of the Month for September were recognized for showing positive attitudes and behavior. Those honored included the following:

4th grade - Norah Jergens, Lily Bardal, Everett Henson, Reid Motzko

5th grade - Evilyn Anderson, Lily Bell, Miles Pietila, Jonah Revier

6th grade - Miranda Malberg, Sydney Wu, Axel Kestner, Gavin Johnson

Book fair scheduled for Nov. 15-19

The Delano Intermediate School book fair will be held from Monday, Nov. 15, through Friday, Nov. 19.

There are also opportunities for families to shop an expanded selection of more than 5,000 items through the online store from Friday, Nov. 12, through Thursday, Nov. 25.

One option for making purchases is to use eWallet, which provides students a safe, cashless way to shop the book fair. Families can create an account for each child, add funds and shop the book fair.

Complete information, including an interactive book flyer, can be found on the school's book fair website at <https://bit.ly/DISbookfair21>.



Thompson

from Page 1

students, our Tiger PRIDE characteristics also create the foundation for our system of SchoolWide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (SWPBIS).

PBIS is an evidence-based approach to behavior support within schools. PBIS operates in three tiers. Tier 1 provides a proactive approach to behavior management by teaching schoolwide expectations and reinforcing those expectations in positive ways when they are demonstrated by students. Tier 2 provides additional support for those student groups or areas of the day when behaviors

might become more challenging. Tier 3 provides individualized support for behaviors through 1-1 or small group interventions.

Goals for the year

This year, our goals for PBIS implementation are simply to support current practices and to begin identifying areas for growth in our PBIS model. Current practices at DIS include:

- Schoolwide teaching of expectations in all areas of the building (classroom, hallways, cafeteria, etc.) using the Tiger PRIDE matrix as a framework for identifying these behaviors.
- Positive recognition of students who are exemplifying Tiger PRIDE through our Stu-

dent of the Month awards.

- Clear definitions for staff of minor and major behaviors and how to respond to both.

- Problem-solving of any behavior concerns that are becoming a pattern in the building in a positive and proactive manner through collaboration with our Tiger PRIDE committee.

Looking ahead

It is no secret, if you watch the news, that COVID has impacted not only the academic needs of students across the state, but also their behavioral needs. When we hear about social media challenges, for example, and the negative results of those challenges, it may be easy to believe that “kids to-

day” aren’t behaving positively most of the time.

I want to assure you that here at DIS our kids are doing so very well! Moving forward, we hope to increase our use of positive reinforcement of behavior by exploring additional student incentives. We believe that when we celebrate the positives in our students -- and there are so many things to celebrate -- we will see the payoff in the classroom and in learning.

We appreciate parent support of our students and their positive behavior and engagement here at DIS.

Delano educators earn honors

By Paul Downer
Communications Coordinator

Once a year teachers from around the region honor a select handful of their outstanding peers to receive Leadership in Educational Excellence Awards.

Four staff members from Delano Public Schools earned the award and were honored with a ceremony at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud on Wednesday, Oct. 13. They were DES Dean of Students Paul Ludwig, sixth-grade math and life skills teacher Andrew Waldbillig, DHS math teacher Emilie Kalvig, and Delano Teacher of the Year Monica Kunkel.

In addition, Delano Superintendent Matt Schoen addressed the gathering as the Superintendent of Record for the evening.

"Tonight we honor the incredible courage that it takes to be an excellent educator in these most unusual and trying times," Schoen told the assembly. "The honorees this year deserve special recognition, as they have achieved excellence in their field at a time when educational challenges have never been greater."

Read on for more about Waldbillig, the award-winner from DIS.

Drew Waldbillig

Waldbillig is in his 11th year of teaching, and his fourth year in Delano. During that time,



Delano educators earning Leadership in Educational Excellence Awards this year include, from left, Paul Ludwig, Monica Kunkel, Andrew Waldbillig and Emilie Kalvig.

he has been active in athletics and activities as well as the classroom.

"I became a teacher and coach because I really enjoy building relationships with people," he said. "Creating positive interactions with students, athletes and staff so ALL feel welcome and comfortable is my number one priority. Ensuring my students understand prime factorization, or that my players know where they need to be for help-side defense is important, but building and maintaining relationships with them is why I do what I do."

An anonymous nomination from a fellow staff member outlined some of the ways

that Waldbillig's contributions have led to a stronger school community.

'Drew is a hard-working individual who is always willing to help where needed.'

Nomination statement

"Drew is a hard-working individual who is always willing to help where needed," the nomination said. "He did a great job providing school

announcements during our distance learning time earlier this year. He has led our end of the year variety / talent show, and is currently working on getting a student council up and running for DIS. I think Drew is very deserving of the LEEA Award!"

Waldbillig said that while he appreciates the recognition, the whole staff has shown extra dedication over the past year-plus.

"Many teachers here at DIS and in Delano deserve this award, especially after what everyone has been and still continues to go through since March of 2020," he said. "Staff members are going above and beyond to ensure student success both in and out of the classroom. I am honored to be recognized by a coworker because I work with so many others who could win this award each year!"

Working with the rest of the sixth-grade teaching team and his fellow coaches have been among Waldbillig's favorite job experiences, and he said that starting the DIS Student Council along with Social Worker Nicole Gohman has been "very rewarding."

"We continue to learn and grow together each year as educators – and we have a lot of fun doing it!" he said in regard to his teaching friends. "But my absolute favorite parts are the students and athletes I've had the privilege to learn with."



McDonald and friends

Delano Intermediate staff members added to the Halloween spirit with their own version of 'Old McDonald had a Farm' on Friday, Oct. 29. Students and staff were allowed to wear costumes in anticipation of the weekend festivities.

Veterans clothing drive ends Nov. 11

Delano Public Schools is conducting its annual clothing drive for veterans in need again this year.

The drive began on Monday, Oct. 18, and ends on Veterans Day, Thursday, Nov. 11. All donated items must be newly purchased.

The clothing drive will continue to support veterans who are hospitalized at local VA hospitals in Minneapolis and St. Cloud, as well as those who are transitioning from the hospitals to independent living. In addition, this drive will support veterans who are undergoing treatments for post-traumatic stress disorder at the Eagles Healing Nest.

The past 18 months have been challenging for all of us, but especially for veterans with mental health needs. With your



Some of the Delano donations from a previous year are dropped off at a VA hospital.

donations, we can help these men and women who have served our country and sacrificed so much continue the healing process and transition to independent living.

Please consider donating the following items.

For men: Socks, boxers (M-XL), undershirts (M-XL), pajama pants (large to 2X), T-shirts (M to XL), sweatpants

or sweatshirts (M-XL), jeans (waist 30-42, length 30-34), winter boots (size 9-14), slippers, winter coats, hats and gloves and exercise clothes.

For women: Socks, underwear, pajamas, shirts, sweatpants, jeans of any size, slippers with rubber bottoms, exercise clothes and winter boots, hats and gloves.

• If you would like to make a monetary donation, collected funds will be used to purchase the items of greatest need based on the request of each facility.

Make your check payable to Delano Public Schools, and note "veterans clothing drive" in the memo. Thank you in advance for your continued support of this project.

<div>  LUNCH </div> <div> NOVEMBER 2021 Delano Intermediate School </div>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Domino's Pizza 1 Green Beans Lettuce Salad Pears	Meatballs 2 Mashed Potatoes / Gravy Steamed Carrots Roll / Lettuce Salad Orange Wedges	Chili – Cheesy Breadsticks 3 Tortilla Chips Baby Carrots Lettuce Salad Fruit Cocktail	Teriyaki Chicken 4 Brown Rice Stir Fry Vegetables Lettuce Salad Pineapple	Walking Taco – Beef 5 Lettuce / Cheese / Salsa Refried Beans OJ Cup Fresh Fruit Teddy Grahams
Orange Chicken 8 Brown Rice Peas / Roll Lettuce Salad Pineapple	French Toast Sticks 9 Sausage Hashbrown Steamed Broccoli Baked Apple Slices	Hamburger 10 Sun Chips Baked Beans Lettuce / Tomatoes / Pickles Baby Carrots Fruit Cocktail	Chicken Alfredo 11 Penne/Chicken/Alfredo Sauce California Blend Veg Roll Lettuce Salad Orange Wedges	Italian Dunker 12 Marinara Sauce Corn Lettuce Salad Fresh Fruit
Hot Dog 15 A)BBQ Rib Sandwich Sun Chips Baby Carrots Baked Beans Rosy Applesauce	Chicken Gravy 16 A)Polish Sausage Mashed Potatoes Peas / Roll Lettuce Salad Baked Apple Slices	Chicken Nuggets 17 Hashbrown Green Beans Veggies Fruit Cocktail	Cheese Pizza 18 Corn Lettuce Salad Pears	Tacos – Beef 19 Lettuce – Cheese – Salsa Refried Beans OJ Cup Fresh Fruit
Chicken Tenders 22 Mashed Potatoes / Gravy Broccoli Roll Lettuce Salad Pineapple/Mand Oranges	Corn Dog 23 Potato Smiles Baked Beans Veggies Rosy Applesauce	No School 24	No School 25 Holiday	No School 26
Nachos – Beef / Cheese 29 Lettuce / Onions / Salsa Refried Beans OJ Cup Fresh Fruit	Cinnamon Roll 30 Cheese Omelet Steamed Broccoli Hashbrown Patty Baked Apple Slices	<div>  </div>		

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider

Schools offer help for the holidays

If you are experiencing hard times right now, the Delano school social workers would like to invite you to be a part of the Holiday Helpers program.

The goal of Holiday Helpers is to help you and your family have a bright and merry holiday season by providing each member of your household with gifts and goodies.

Please know that this is a confidential program and your names will not be shared with others.

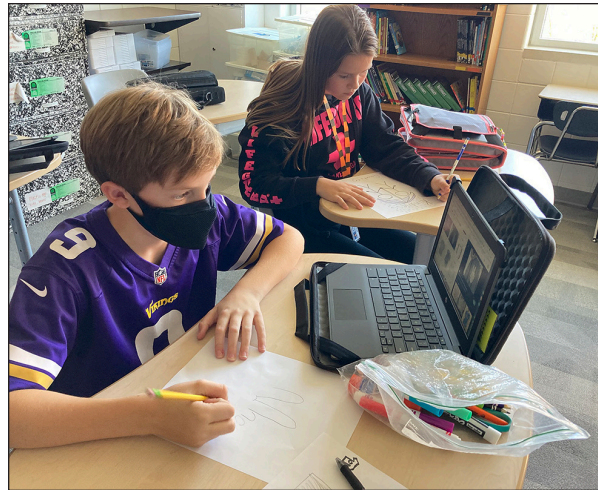
If you are interested in participating, email DIS Social Worker Nicole Gohman at nicole.gohman@delanoschools.org by Friday, Nov. 5. If you have a child in more than one school building, please only email one school social worker.

After acceptance into the program, a form will be emailed to you asking about your family's needs and wants this holiday season along with details on gift pick-up.



By design

As part of a focus on the theme of kindness in October, DIS students participated in a school-wide T-shirt design contest to share positive messages.



Opportunities to get involved

District Wellness Committee

Delano Public Schools is seeking community members, parents, students and school staff to serve on the District Wellness Committee. The committee's main objective is to monitor compliance with the district's student Wellness Policy (No. 533) and the Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 in the areas of student nutrition and education, physical activity, and wellness support (i.e. mental health).

This committee will meet three times during the year. The first meeting will be in early November, the second around the end of February, and the third in June. The committee will review data from all three areas above, and from the student wellness goals submitted by each of the three school student wellness committees.

Areas of focus include school lunch and food service, mental health programs, and opportunities for students to participate in community and school physical health activities. The committee submits a district compliance report to the school board every three years. The next report is due in July 2022, and an updated building report is made each year in between.

If you wish to help ensure student wellness by participating on this committee, contact DHS Assistant Principal Steve Schaubberger at 763-972-3365, ext. 1703, or steve.schaubberger@delanoschools.org.

District Advisory Council

Delano Public Schools is seeking parent and community members to serve on the District Advisory Council (DAC) for the 2021-22 school year. The District Advisory Council serves to ensure active community participation in all phases of planning and improving instruction and curriculum in terms of state and local standards. Through that work, the DAC provides recommendations to the school board regarding rigorous academic standards, student achievement goals, and measures consistent with the MN Statute B.11.

The DAC membership reflects the diversity of the district and its school sites and includes teachers, parents, support staff, students and other community residents. DAC members must be able to commit to three or four meetings per year. Request an application by contacting Monica Kunkel, Curriculum Coordinator, at 763-973-7601, ext. 1731, or monica.kunkel@delanoschools.org.

DELANO DRAMA PRESENTS



OUR TOWN

A landmark in American drama, Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning "Our Town" tells the story of a small town, Grover's Corners, New Hampshire, in order to tell us the story of every town, the whole world over.

November 12, 13, 18, 19 @7:00 pm

November 20 @2:00 pm

DELANO PAC

[Tickets and info at:](#)

[Delano Tiger Activities](#)



