

## Dates to Remember:

2023

December 22<sup>nd</sup>-

January 2<sup>nd</sup>

Christmas Break!

"The best way to  
spread Christmas  
cheer is singing  
loud for all to  
hear!"

--Buddy the Elf



***HAPPY HOLIDAYS from the DHS  
Counselors☺** (Trista Fisher, Cherie Mack,  
Rebecca Bautz, & Rudie Swanson)*



**\*\*Seniors who have not met with  
their counselor should do so ASAP!**

**FAFSA**-(Free Application for Student Aid)— The FAFSA has gotten a major overhaul for the first time in 40 years! Because of this, the application will not be open for completion until December 31, 2023. Make sure to use [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) as this is a free application. The automatic ND State Grant is also based on the FAFSA. It is a first-come first-serve grant.

**Seniors: Retaking the ACT:** If you were not happy with your ACT score, you still have time to retake it for a better score! Your highest score will be the one that counts for college class placement and scholarship purposes. Pick up a paper practice test from any counselor and/or use the many free on-line resources to help you study. Students may sign up at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org). The deadline to register for the February 13 test is January 8.

**Dickinson Dollars for Scholars:** Students in grades 9-12 are invited to become a volunteer with Dickinson Dollars for Scholars and are encouraged to attend their meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month. These take place at the Dickinson Chamber of Commerce building. This helps open the door to various scholarship opportunities at the local, state, and national level.

**Dual Credit:** Students who are interested in taking classes for dual credit and qualify for free-or-reduced lunches can register for up to two dual credit classes in the fall and/or spring and have them paid for by the ND College Access Network (NDCAN) through the Bank of ND. Students do not have to eat school lunch in

order to qualify. Visit with your dual credit teacher or a counselor for more information☺

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**ALC/Tutoring:** Students struggling in any subject should visit with their teacher as soon as it starts. Teachers can help directly and/or refer them to the Academic Learning Center (ALC), which is open from 7:30am until 4:15pm—it is open the entire day, including over lunch.

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**College/University Visits**—This is a great time of year to schedule college visits/tours! Watch for open house dates at the schools you are interested in attending; these can be found on their websites. Stop in and see your senior counselor if you need help making contacts.

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**NCAA**—NCAA Eligibility Center checks academic eligibility for students who want to play sports at a Division I or II level. Make sure that you complete your online NCAA application and that you have your official transcript sent from the front office at the time that you complete your application and at the end of the school year.

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**Career Planning**— The best tool in helping your student plan their future is to help them know him/herself. Encourage them to take a variety of elective courses and schedule job shadows to help explore different interest areas. It is never too early to start discussing options and goals! Students need to be realistic about their career choice and know what is expected in that career—also be aware of the future labor market demands. A great site to get the latest information mentioned above is [www.RUReadyND.com](http://www.RUReadyND.com).

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**ND State Academic/CTE Scholarship:** This \$6,000.00 scholarship is available to all student at almost all ND colleges and universities as long as they meet the qualifications. \$1,500.00 is awarded per year for four years (\$750.00 per semester). Students have up to six years to use the scholarship. Visit with your high school counselor for more information or to answer any questions.

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*"May you never be too grown up to search the skies on Christmas Eve."*

