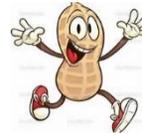




Growing minds.  
Building community.

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### Allergy Aware School



There are children attending Dickinson Public Schools who have life-threatening allergies to peanuts and tree nuts. The teachers and staff strive to provide a safe environment for all students. Therefore, your cooperation is requested to avoid exposure of these allergens to students. Please avoid sending any snacks that are eaten in the classrooms containing peanuts, peanut oils and/or tree nuts with your child to school. Our lunchroom has a designated area for students who choose to bring items to school to eat at lunch with peanuts/tree nuts. These students are seated at a designated table that they are allowed to bring other students (friends with them too). Parent(s) or guardian(s) should read labels before sending foods with their child to school. Parents if you have a child who has a life threatening allergy please be certain to contact the school to ensure that staff knows about it and the student has the proper medical plan in place to maximize that child's safety.

### Principal Notes October 2021

#### Conferences



As you are all aware, the COVID-19 virus continues its unrelenting presence in our community. As always, our district remains committed to doing what we can to ensure the safety of our students and staff, while keeping our schools open and available for learning. With these goals in mind, and after careful consideration, the decision has been made to host our November parent-teacher conferences *virtually*. At this time, we believe that this is the best decision to help us ensure that our schools remain staffed and open. Your child's school will send out more information soon. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school. Thank you, as always, for your continued cooperation and support.

#### No School

No school October 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> (Administrator's Conference).

#### Picture Day



Picture Day is Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. Picture Packets will be sent home with students the first week in October. You can also order on line at [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com). Use Picture Day ID: EVTBTWKWN.

#### Dates to Remember

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Oct 7     | Flu Shots @ DMS                        |
| Oct 7     | School Board Meeting                   |
| Oct 16    | Surround the State in Song             |
| Oct 18    | Picture Day                            |
| Oct 18-28 | Scholastic Book Fair                   |
| Oct 21-22 | No School (Administrator's Conference) |
| Oct 23-31 | Red Ribbon Week                        |
| Oct 29    | Early Release @ 1:00                   |
| Oct 31    | Happy Halloween                        |
| Nov 8 & 9 | Parent/Teacher Conferences             |



#### Book Fair

A Scholastic Book Fair will begin on October 18<sup>th</sup> and run through October 28<sup>th</sup> in the Library Media Center.



### Surround the State in Song Festival Choir



We are celebrating in song with nearly 500 students across the state of North Dakota on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>.

The Dickinson Middle School will host 11 of these schools from SW North Dakota with students representing grades 5-7 at our own concert on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm. There will be a \$5/person door charge.

This concert is sponsored and supported by the ND American Choral Directors Association. This organization promotes excellence in choral music through performance, composition, publications, and teaching. This year, our students will debut a brand-new commissioned work by composer Timothy Takach.

We have 24 Dickinson Middle School students participating in this concert. They will rehearse for one day together under the direction of a guest conductor, Mrs. Lacy Hanson, Center-Stanton school district and pianist, Jacob Kirsch, Dickinson High School Senior.

Please come and support our young singers as they present their concert.

### Flu Shots



Do you want your child to receive the flu shot? Do you have difficulty taking off from work? Do you not want your child to miss school?

Good News! Sanford Health will be at DMS on October 7<sup>th</sup> to administer flu shots. In order to receive the flu shot, you must complete a consent and insurance form for your child.

Forms are available on our DMS website and in our Student Service office.

Upon completion of the forms, please turn into the front office.

Your child will be called out of class for a short period of time, given the vaccine, and return to class.

### Winter Wear Distribution

Beginning October 21, coats and donated items will be available on a first come, first serve basis (one coat and winter gear item per person) @ Dickinson Public Schools Professional Learning Lab, 266 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. West, Dickinson.



### Red Ribbon Week



Red Ribbon Week is slated for October 23-31. DMS will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week. The theme is "DRUG FREE LOOKS LIKE ME".

### National Fire Prevention Week



National Fire Prevention Week is October 3<sup>rd</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>. During this week, please review with your family an escape route that can be used in your home in the event of a fire. This is also a great time to check the batteries in your smoke detectors.



## Extra Help



If a student needs assistance at DMS they have access to multiple levels of help. As a parent it is sometimes easy to see your child needs help, but difficult to know what resources at school are available to them.

If you believe your child needs help academically or socially, please contact a counselor (701-456-0021). Counselors are well aware of available opportunities and can personalize needed interventions. Our counselors are Meghan Emar (6<sup>th</sup>), Dawn Weber (7<sup>th</sup>), and Janelle Yoder (8<sup>th</sup>),

## Recommendation, Concern, Celebration

Do you have a recommendation? Want to voice a concern?  
Or maybe celebrate a school accomplishment?

Please go to our website and click on the boxes along the right hand side to send a message to administration.

Thanks for your input!

## Grades

Monitoring your child's grades at DMS is easy. By logging onto Powerschool you can monitor all your child's grades. You should have received a Powerschool log in at registration. If you did not or have lost yours, please call the office at 456-0021 or simply email Lisa Brilz at [lbrilz@dpsnd.org](mailto:lbrilz@dpsnd.org).

## Reach Your PEAK at DMS

Being prepared, engaged, having a good attitude and being kind all have intrinsic values that are beyond measure. Teachers, counselors, administrators and all staff want to reinforce the importance of these behaviors when students are actively, "caught being good". Verbal praise, social recognition and PEAK rewards are some of the ways students receive positive reinforcement for desired behaviors. Random reinforcement of positive student behavior has been shown to increase the desired behavior.