

# Cokato Elementary

[www.dc.k12.mn.us](http://www.dc.k12.mn.us)

November 2008



## Paragraphs from the Principal...Mrs. Force

Greetings from Cokato Elementary! Most of you will probably take time to read this newsletter over the weekend since it is being sent home on Friday,

October 31<sup>st</sup> with most of our students. Halloween night can get to be very busy for families with young children if you take the kids out trick or treating! It doesn't matter when you read it; my hope is that this issue keeps you updated on the news from our school.

One of the busiest and most rewarding times of the year is about to occur at school. Starting already on Nov. 7 with kindergarten, our teachers will soon be hosting parent/teacher conferences. I recall as a parent, I was always a little anxious before going, wondering if the teacher was seeing the same child my husband and I saw at home. After all, the kids are responsible for their actions for many hours of the school day when the parents aren't present. You hope you've "raised them the right way" to act as you'd like when they are at school.

After being both a parent and an educator, I can confidently say that there are rarely too many shocking truths revealed at conferences! We do see the same child as you do, but they are put into different situations at school than they are at home. We look for their ability to work and play with a group of students at their own age level, their patience in sharing the attention of a teacher with twenty some other students, and their skills at putting forth their best effort in order for us to determine if they need academic support or more challenging material. In other words, are they progressing in school as our experience tells us they should at this time of the year? Do they take

their "job" of learning seriously and find satisfaction in doing well at school? When you come for conferences in mid November, listen for those important indicators of your child's work at school. We look forward to seeing you!

You will experience two new ways of learning about your child's academic progress when you come to conferences. The report card for students in grades K-4 has been modified. We are still using the same numeric and symbolic grading system as in the past, but the format is a bit different. Teachers are using computer technology to complete the report cards and are no longer writing them out in long hand. As you can imagine, that will reduce the number of cramped hands on the part of the teachers, but it will not change the information you receive about your child's progress. Our phy. ed. and music teachers will not have separate report cards on each student. The grades in these two areas will be included on the same report card as the other subject areas. However, Mrs. Sorgatz, Mr. Berggren, and Mrs. Spires will be seated in the hallway during conferences so that you can stop by and visit with them about your child's progress in these areas. Please stop by! They have enjoyed getting to know you and putting the names and faces together of their students' parents!

The other change is that students in grades 2-4 have taken Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments during the month of September in the areas of reading and math. The teachers at these grade levels have received training this fall on how to interpret the results. They will share this information with you at conferences. The scores will indicate how your child is doing in these two vital areas compared to other students across the nation and within the district at their grade level. As a school, we will learn more specifically what areas within reading and math are areas of strength and need for your

child. Students at these grade levels will take the MAP tests again in the spring, which will enable both families and schools to “measure their academic progress”! Hence, the name of the test!

While I’m on the subject of parent meetings, I have a question to ask you. Are you getting the kind of information you would like about what’s happening at our school? The reason I’m asking is that I’ve seen the number of parents attending our periodic parent meetings declining through the years. We’ve tried to move the time to 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM, but I don’t feel like we are finding the right formula that fits for the majority of our parents. I hope it’s nothing I’ve said! I’d like to share some of the thoughts I’ve had.

We have wonderful attendance, nearly 100%, at open house, parent teacher conferences, concerts, and through the volunteer program. We’re extremely grateful for that! Do you feel you receive adequate information from the weekly classroom newsletters, the monthly newsletter, the Enterprise/Dispatch, and of course, your children? We also have a successful PTA that has formed in the past 2-3 years. Perhaps we are all dealing with such busy schedules that we can’t cram in another meeting! I understand!

The Dassel principal, Mr. Nudell, and I have scheduled the next combined Dassel and Cokato parent meeting for December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 PM at Cokato Elementary in our conference room. The agenda is simple: What would you like to know about your elementary schools right from the “horse’s mouth”? Would you like to see how a SMART Board works? Do you wonder what reading, math, phy. ed., music, science, social studies, or health curriculum is used at school? In the next few weeks, I would appreciate it if you would give me a call, stop by my office, send me an e-mail, or write me a note giving me an idea of how we can improve the two-way communication between **your** home and **your** school. Thank you for any suggestions you might have to offer!



## Greetings from the Food Service Department...

Wylene Danielson...

Food Service Manager



The first two months of our school year have slipped by quickly.

We have adjusted to our new schedule fairly well. We have a lot of students to get through our lunch line in the short time we have to serve. Even the kindergarten students are learning how to enter their numbers quite well. Everyone needs to make decisions quickly to make the lunch line go smoothly. Parents you are welcome to come and eat with your child at any time. We just ask that you call the school office before 8:30 a.m. to let us know that you are coming. Please have the correct amount (\$2.95 per adult) ready since we do not have change at the computer station. Check with your student to see what time their class eats lunch.

There has been a little confusion about some of the low lunch balances. If your child is one of our free students and they take extra milk they are charged 35 cents per extra milk. They are allowed one carton of milk with their meal; with parent approval they can have extra milk for 35 cents per carton. We as food service staff do not know who is a free, reduced, or a paying student because that is a private matter.

Our breakfast program is going very well. The door is open at 7:30 a.m. If your child is a walker or brought by a parent, we strongly encourage them to be here at 7:30 a.m. so that our bus students can go through the line quickly when they get to school at 7:45. We do not serve after 8:00 a.m. so that children can be to class on time. Bag lunches are available for students and chaperones if their class is going on a field trip. Chaperones will have to pay cash because they can not use their child’s account. Their child’s account cannot accept adult meals.

If at any time you have questions or concerns about the food service program at Cokato Elementary please contact me at 320-286-4100 ext. 1307. If I am not available, please leave a message and I will get back to you.

## Phy Ed Fundamentals...



Brice Berggren



Stacy Sorgatz

It is amazing that another month has flown by! The month of October was filled with kicking and soccer skills, throwing and catching skills, football skills for the older students, aerobic fitness concepts and activities, and fitness testing. We have also been busy assessing students for the first trimester grades. Here are some points to know about the PE report card and conferences.

- Students in grades one through four are graded by their PE teacher; however the PE report card has now become a part of the main report card. Therefore there is not a separate report card for music and PE as was done in the past. All grades for your child will now be included with the main grade level report card that you'll receive from the classroom teacher during conferences.
- Your child will be graded in five areas for the PE portion of the report card. They are:
  1. movement skills
  2. movement and fitness concepts
  3. listening/following directions
  4. sportsmanship
  5. effort

These five areas are assessed at each grade level, although the expectations are different at each level. For example, the expectations for a first grade throw are much different than that of a fourth grade throw. Yes, all students are graded on throwing, but each grade has different elements or benchmarks of the throw as the focus of the grade.

What we are looking for is a progression on the maturity level of the skill. Rarely does a first grader demonstrate a mature throwing pattern simply because developmentally their bodies and brains aren't ready for that mature pattern. By fourth grade however, most students should be

able to apply a mature throwing pattern in game situations.

- Students in grades one through four also participate in a standardized fitness assessment in the fall and spring. These fitness scores are recorded confidentially on a Fitnessgram report. In previous years this report has been attached to the report card in the fall and spring; however this will now come home separate from the report card. You can be looking for it in your student's backpack within the next few weeks. Think of this fitness assessment as a "fitness check-up" on your child. If you think of it in terms of the "well child check-ups" that happen at the doctor's office, the intent is the same. No, we are not doctors, but fitness testing is a great way to be proactive towards creating healthy lifestyles and/or catch concerns early. It creates an awareness of fitness levels for the PE teacher, the students, and the parents and helps guides all of us towards improving or maintaining that present fitness level.

We would like to thank you for sharing your child with us. We have enjoyed interacting with them and helping them learn daily. We'd be happy to conference with you anytime if questions or concerns arise. Never hesitate to give us a call or send an email! During the week of conferences Mr. Berggren and Mrs. Sorgatz will be very visible and available for conversations with parents! Monday and Thursday evenings we will be located in the main hallway (near the bathrooms/steps), and can be found in the PE office (go through the big gym) on Friday. We look forward to meeting you!





The mission of the Dassel-Cokato PTA is to foster

communication between schools and families as well as supporting children in their work of learning.

The Dassel-Cokato PTA hopes to create a collaborative effort with the schools, community, and parents/guardians to ensure a quality, well-rounded education for the children in the D-C area.

Thank you to the five school board candidates for taking part in our October meeting for a "meet the candidates" time. It was a great opportunity for our community members to get to know them a bit better.

The PTA was asked to have a food stand at the Dassel-Cokato Craft Fair this year. The craft fair is November 1<sup>st</sup> at the high school. As you are enjoying all the great craft vendors and you are ready for a bite to eat, stop by our table and enjoy some nachos or a slice of pizza! You will satisfy your hunger and support the D-C PTA all at once!

The PTA will be placing another youth Charger Apparel Order. These long sleeved t-shirts and sweatshirts are a big hit with the kids! Take a look at them on the order form in this newsletter. They are a great gift idea, too.

**Upcoming Meeting:**

Note - Our regular meetings take place in the high school media center on the first Thursday of every month from 6:30-8:00 PM.

- **Thursday, November 2, 6:30-8:00 PM, high school media center**
- **Thursday, December 4, 6:30-8:00 PM, high school media center**

**Fund Development Committee meeting** - anyone is welcome to attend the Fund Development committee meetings which are held on the third Friday of each month at 7:30 am at the Grounds.

If you have any question about the upcoming meetings or would like to simply talk to someone about PTA, please contact our Membership Committee Chair, Tonia Olsen at 275-3275.

You may also write or email at:  
Dassel-Cokato PTA  
P. O. Box 632  
Dassel, MN 55325  
[chargerpta@yahoo.com](mailto:chargerpta@yahoo.com)

**Volunteering.....**

Krista Cates  
[krista.cates@dc.k12.mn.us](mailto:krista.cates@dc.k12.mn.us)  
286-4100 ext. 1327



November is upon us, which means the volunteer office will be a busy place! We are very appreciative of the great group of giving parent volunteers this year that are volunteering their valuable time in the classrooms, at the school doing projects, helping with special events, and at home helping with projects! Your gift of time helps our school, teachers, and students tremendously! If you would like to become involved by volunteering let me know! I would be glad to help you find a way to volunteer that fits into your schedule.

The winner of the October volunteer drawing is **Nicci Decker!** Nicci has two boys currently at Cokato Elementary and has been a volunteer since her 7<sup>th</sup> grader started school. This year Nicci has worked on projects at home and has also volunteered to separate and count the Kemps and Land O'Lakes milk caps that everyone has collected and sent in. Thank you Nicci!

**Reminder to all volunteers** - when you come into the school to volunteer, please take a moment to enter your name in the volunteer drawing. The drawing basket is by the sign in book. At home helpers, I will enter your name in for you each time I send a project home for you to do.

**Volunteer Needs:**

**-Book Fair volunteers-** volunteers are needed to help run the book fair during conferences. Volunteers can bring their children and have them use the conference childcare if needed. Shifts can be split up.

Book Fair times are:

- Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-8:15 PM
- Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-8:15 PM
- Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-3:30 PM

**Looking ahead to December**

**-Christmas program decorating** – Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup> volunteers are needed to help put up decorations for the Christmas program at the PAC.

**-4<sup>th</sup> grade Stores-** the fourth graders make items to sell, set up stores to sell their items, and then take the proceeds and shop at the Marketplace for the food shelf. Volunteers will be needed for store set up day, stores selling day, and shopping at the Marketplace.

**-3<sup>rd</sup> grade Polar Express party** – A volunteer is helpful to help pass out the hot cocoa.

**-Popcorn** – Volunteers will be needed to help make popcorn for the entire school before winter break! It is many bags of popcorn and help is appreciated!

**Mark you calendars!** The next **Dassel**

**Cokato Parent Group** meeting is Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 PM in the Cokato Elementary conference room. These meetings are informal and are meant for our elementary school parents to learn more about what is happening at our schools and to bring any topics that are on your mind. If needed, you are welcome to bring small children with you, just bring something to entertain them. If you have any questions regarding these meetings please feel free to call or email me, Krista 286-4100 ext. 1327 or [krista.cates@dc.k12.mn.us](mailto:krista.cates@dc.k12.mn.us)



Thank you for continuing to clip and turn in Box Tops! Last month we had five lucky Box Tops drawing winners, I will

continue to draw five winners the last Thursday of every month. To participate in the drawing, clip Box Tops, write student's name clearly on the back, and put your Box Tops in the Box Tops container at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade hall.

You can also earn Box Tops money for our school by starting your online shopping at Box Tops Marketplace, [www.boxtops4education.com/Marketplace](http://www.boxtops4education.com/Marketplace). From this site you can choose from many online stores like Kohl's, JC Penney, Best Buy and many more. Once you click on the store you will be directed to that stores site. Once you place your order the store will donate a portion of your purchase to our school. It is that easy!

There is no extra cost to you, but YOU MUST START YOUR ONLINE SHOPPING AT THE BOX TOP MARKETPLACE for the donation to be made to our school. As you are doing your holiday shopping online you have the opportunity to give to our school, too!



SOMETHING DIFFERENT

**DQ Kids Night** is continuing to be a fun and successful event! For the month of

November, Mrs. Ardoff's class will display art on Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Barton's class will display art on Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup>. Come to DQ on Wednesday evenings between 5:00-8:00 PM to enjoy the talented artwork of our Dassel and Cokato students and feel great knowing that 15% off all sales are donated to our elementary schools!

### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE

**CHILDCARE** - Parent/Teacher conferences are approaching in November. Remember, childcare is provided in the small gym/cafeteria to allow you an uninterrupted time to visit with your child's teacher. Childcare times are Monday and Thursday from 5:00-8:00 PM and Friday from 12:30-3:30 PM. Please take advantage of this opportunity and let your children have fun playing while you enjoy a peaceful conference.



### Scholastic Book Fair

Cokato Elementary School will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair during conferences,

November 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:00 PM

November 14<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-3:30 PM

The fair will be in the hallway by the school office.

Books will be offered from pre-school level on up.

Take time to shop with your children or alone for gifts!

Check out the teacher wish list at the fair if you would like to give the gift of a book to your child's classroom library, too.

Check out our school's Scholastic homepage to see details of the fair, preview books, or make a wish list at <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/cokato>

50% of the book fair proceeds

go directly to our school library for more books!

## Salutations from the School Social Workers...

Heidi Sickmann... School Social Worker



### Sleep and Children

The average amount of sleep a child ages 5-12 needs is between **10-11 hours** each night. I don't know about any of you, but trying to get my children to get that much sleep is very difficult. Yes it is difficult, but also very important. Sleep continues to be very important to your child even as they get older. Sleep is important for your child's health, development and well-being. Not enough sleep or poor sleep can lead to mood swings, behavioral problems, hyperactivity and cognitive problems. This can reduce their ability to learn to their full potential.

Yet, there are many obstacles that interfere with children getting adequate amounts of sleep. Social, school and family activities interfere with children getting the amount of sleep they need. Students have more homework, are involved in extra curricular activities, and they are just more social. The Internet, computers, video games, TV and caffeine also play a role in difficulty falling asleep, poor quality of sleep and nightmares.

### Sleep Tips for School-Age Children:

- Avoid caffeine
- Keep TV's and computers out of your child's bedroom
- Keep bedroom quiet and cool for optimum sleep
- Promote a need for a regular and consistent bedtime
- Start young, it is easier to start a consistent bedtime when your child is young, but it is never too late to work on an earlier bedtime. Even if your child is 8, 9, or 10 it is still important for your child to get a decent night sleep.

## Musical Notes...

Amanda Spires... Music Teacher



Hello from the music room!

It has been a busy first couple of months in music. The days have been filled with lots of singing and reviewing concepts from last year. Things will continue to be very busy with the preparation of the K-2 Christmas program as it approaches on Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. There are opportunities for those who would like to help in decorating the auditorium for the concert. The more people we have the faster it will go! Please contact our volunteer coordinator Krista Cates if you are interested in helping out.

Sometimes parents may wonder how they can encourage an appreciation for music and the arts with their children on a daily basis. There are plenty of opportunities to foster this such as attending musicals, concerts, plays, and listening to and exposing different types of music to your children. Signing your child up for piano lessons, or purchasing inexpensive instruments for them to explore on their own can be an effective way to spark interest.

Did you know that the best vocal model for a child is ANOTHER child's voice? When they hear quality recordings of other children singing, they will naturally mimic this sound. Whenever you can expose them to other children's singing voices, your child will benefit greatly and use this model to produce their own quality singing tone.

If you are looking for a good collection of music that your kids will LOVE, try the Putumayo Kids and Putumayo World Music series. It has many different multi-cultural compilations including Hawaiian Playground, Latin, Celtic, African, World Playground and MANY others, all of which would create meaningful listening experiences for your children and get them loving music! Check it out on [www.putumayo.com](http://www.putumayo.com)!

We are off to a great start and we will continue to build our musical skills and appreciation for the arts as we progress towards the cold winter months!

**ACT 4 Families  
Collaborative Presents:**

**Brain Builders:  
Minds Under  
Construction**

**The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Community Conference  
on the Brain**

Featuring Ken Winters, Ph. D.

- Professor of Psychiatry, UM
- Director, Center for Adolescent Substance Abuse Research
  - Senior Scientist,  
Treatment Research Institute

Thursday, November 13, 2008  
3:00 –8:30 PM  
Willmar Senior High School  
2701 30<sup>th</sup> St. NE  
Willmar, MN 56201



**From the Nurse's Desk...**



Kelly A. O'Fallon, LSN

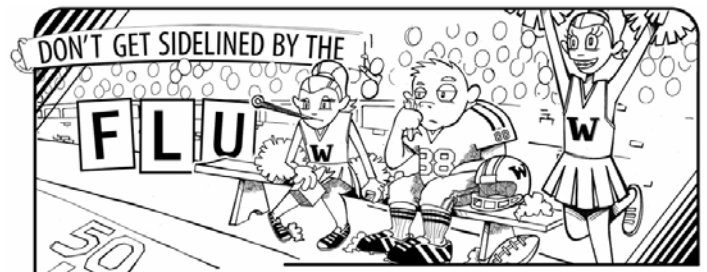
With flu season upon us, it is important that we work together to keep our children healthy. Viruses spread easily among children in schools, and families with school-age children have more infections than others, with an average of one-third of these family members infected each year. By keeping our children flu-free, we benefit the community as a whole. You can help prevent the spread of flu or help your child get better if he/she does get sick by following a few simple steps:

- If possible, you and your child should get a flu vaccine
- Remind your child to cover his/her nose and mouth with a tissue when sneezing or coughing and dispose of the tissue immediately
- Have your child wash his/her hands frequently with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds
- Disinfect frequently-touched surfaces and shared items at least once a day

- Ensure that bathrooms are stocked with soap, hand towels and tissues
- Teach your child not to touch his/her mouth, nose and eyes
- If your child is sick and has a fever, keep him/her at home to prevent the spread of illness to others

If you are concerned about your child's flu symptoms, call your doctor early. Call your doctor immediately if your child has a chronic disease. Common symptoms of flu include high fever, severe headache, muscle and body aches, exhaustion, and dry cough. Additionally, children often exhibit other flu symptoms that are rare in adults, such as nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Some children might benefit from an antiviral medication, which can be prescribed by a physician and can help lessen the symptoms and reduce the risk of complications. To be effective, antiviral medication must be taken within 48 hours after flu symptoms begin.

If you have any questions or would like additional information about preventing and treating the flu, please contact the school nurse, Kelly O'Fallon at 320-286-4204 or [kelly.ofallon@dc.k12.mn.us](mailto:kelly.ofallon@dc.k12.mn.us)



  
National Association of School Nurses

**From the Media Center...**

Pam Osterberg



There has been a great deal of activity in the media center the past couple of months. Students have been learning how to use a variety of websites available through the *Student* page of our school website. We have also learned that Cokato Elementary subscribes to the World Book On-line Reference Center and Tumblebook Library.

The *World Book On-line Reference Center* is an online general encyclopedia and reference resource. Students have access to an encyclopedia, dictionary, atlas, homework help and many recommended websites. When accessing this site from home students will need a username and password.  
Username – isd466  
Password - chargers

*TumbleBook Library* is an online collection of TumbleBooks – animated, talking picture books. TumbleBooks are created by adding animation, sound, music and narration to existing picture books in order to produce an electronic picture book which you can read, or have read to you. Students may access this resource when at school or at home. When using this subscription from home they need to type in a username and password.  
Username – Cokato  
Password – books



**Batty About Bats**

During the month of October second grade students have been coming to the media center for bat research. They have learned how to use a non-fiction book to find information, how to use the information to create their own non-fiction book.



**Vote For Books**



In an effort to promote reading and tie the upcoming election together, the media center is hosting *Vote for Books!* Students in 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> grade will be participating. Each grade level has four nominated books. There will be a favorite series vote for students in 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Students will be voting in a primary vote the week of October 27th and a final vote on November 4<sup>th</sup>.



Remember:  
November 2<sup>nd</sup>,  
2008

Daylight Saving Time Ends



**Lost and Found**

Articles that have been placed in the lost and found boxes will be put on tables in the hallway of Cokato Elementary School for you to go through before or after your parent teacher conference. Any items not claimed will be packed up and sent to Community Action in Waverly.

## School Closing Information:



Notices of Dassel-Cokato School closings and other school emergencies will be broadcast again this year over WCCO (830 AM) Minneapolis, KRWC (1360 AM) Buffalo, KDUZ (1260 AM) Hutchinson, KLFD (1410)

Litchfield, KARP (106.9 FM) Hutchinson radio stations and Channel 11 KARE TV.

### Early Closing Information:

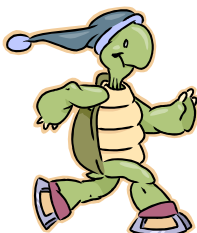


On days that the weather conditions indicate that an early closing of school could occur, please make sure that your children know what

to do in advance. Have you filled out the emergency closing form sent home with your child/children? Have you RETURNED the form to your child's teacher? Can they get into the house if you are at work? Should they wait to be picked up? Should they go to a neighbor's house? These are common questions that need answering when early closings happen.

### Newsletters are Online!

Cokato Elementary teachers are posting their weekly newsletters online this year. This can be so handy for parents and grandparents to keep updated on the happenings in their children's classrooms. Most of you routinely receive the newsletter directly from your child each Friday, but a few newsletters always manage to go astray each week! This monthly newsletter is also available online. To keep up on the action, go to [www.dc.k12.mn.us](http://www.dc.k12.mn.us) and click the Cokato Elementary link on the district list. You may enjoy learning about the other buildings in our district as well!



## Cold Weather, Warm Clothes



When the weather is cold, all students are required to wear a coat, boots, hat and gloves or mittens.

Snow pants are also required if children plan to slide or play in the snow during noon recess. All students are expected to go outside for noon recess. If the temperature or the wind chill exceeds 10° we will stay indoors. No child is forced to stay outside if they are cold. Before school, in very cold weather, students will go into the large gym and are seated until the bell rings.

### REMINDER TO PARENTS

There is no supervision on the playground until 7:45 A.M. For the safety of students please makes sure you do not drop them off until this time. You may drop them off on the west or south side of the building. The north side is used for busing.

### Coming Events:

#### November

4	National Election Day
7	Kindergarten Conferences Kindergarten Only -No School
11	Veteran's Day Program
10 & 13	Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences 5:00-8:00 P.M.
14	<b>No School- Elementary Only</b> AM Teacher Planning/ 12:30-3:30 Elementary Conferences
25	End of Elementary Grading Period
26	<b>No School-</b> Staff Development/ Teacher Planning
27 & 28	<b>No School-</b> Thanksgiving Vacation

## Welcome to Our New Staff!!!

### **Kari Anderson**



I was born and raised in the DC area. I am the daughter of Mitchell and Rachelle Rawlins. I have three brothers (one in which is my twin brother, who is a minute older than me) and one sister. After graduating from Dassel-Cokato in 2005, I attended Ridgewater College. I now live with my husband Brent in Cokato. I enjoy playing volleyball, softball, rollerblading, biking, watching demo derbies and hanging out with my friends and family.

Being a part of children's lives is something I have always had a passion for, and I am excited to be at Cokato Elementary interacting with so many amazing individuals. Whether it is "bandaging" students up, or just a friendly hello. I hope I can impact lives the ways so many have done in mine.



### **Janel Sherk**

I was born in Spokane, Washington and later moved to Park Rapids, MN. I lived there for sixteen years and attended school in Park Rapids. While in school I was involved in speech and drama. After graduation, I moved to St. Cloud and attended SCSU.

Brian and I were married in 2002. We lived in Rockford before moving to Cokato with our children Elsie and Anthony one week before Labor Day of 2008.

I want to be a staff member that can be myself, have fun with the children, and be a good para at the same time.



### **Janel Ryynanen**

I grew up in Illinois, moving to Minnesota after high school. I live with my husband, Jim and our eight children in Cokato. Our youngest daughter is a Cokato

Elementary second grader.

We spend time being together as a family camping and being outdoors. Baking is another activity I enjoy.

I am glad to be a part of such a friendly school family.



### **Jennie Tarning**

I was born in Korea and adopted when I was almost two years old. I lived in Cokato and went to kindergarten here. My family moved to Brownton when I was six years old. My brother and I were raised there. I was involved in volleyball, basketball, cheerleading, softball, track and band during my high school years at Brownton.

I now live in Cokato with my husband Brian and six children, five girls and one boy who range in ages from four years old to seventeen years old. I also have my Real Estate License, working with Coldwell Banker Saber Realty of Cokato.

I have been a parent volunteer at Cokato Elementary since my oldest daughter Courtney was in kindergarten. I love working with children and hope to spark a love for learning, as well as just enjoying their school experience.

### **Glenda Peterson**



I grew up on a farm just outside of Dassel attending school in the Dassel-Cokato school system. I participated in volleyball, softball and marching band during my school years. After high school I went to Willmar Community College.

Before getting married to my husband, Harvey, I lived and worked in the cities. We now live north of Cokato with our family, Aimee, Aryn, Ryan and Anna.

I enjoy playing volleyball and softball, camping and traveling with my family.

I am so glad to be working at Cokato Elementary. It's a joy to get to know the staff and students.

# Charger Apparel – Makes a Great Gift!

Youth-sized Charger Apparel orders are being offered through the **Dassel-Cokato PTA.**

If you would like to order a shirt as a gift, please mark that on the order form and leave a number that you can be contacted to pick the shirt up rather than having it sent home with your child.

Please cut out the order form below, indicate what style and size you would like to order and send back to your child's school **by Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**.

Checks can be made out to **DC PTA.**

Thank you for your support of the PTA and the Chargers!



Gray w/ navy lettering outlined in white



White w/ navy lettering outlined in red



Navy w/ white lettering

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone (in case of questions about order): \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Style ordering: (Circle choice)

Gray Long-sleeve  
T-shirt \$14

White Long-sleeve  
T-shirt \$14

Navy blue  
Hooded Sweatshirt \$20  
Sweatshirt sizes run small

Youth Sizes: (Circle choice)

**S                      M                      L                      XL**

This is a gift, please call to make arrangements to pick order up: \_\_\_\_\_

## Upcoming Community Education Events:

To register or for more information call our office at 286-4120 or visit us on line at [www.dc.k12.mn.us](http://www.dc.k12.mn.us) and click on Community Education.

### Holiday Baking (Gr. 3-6)



Holiday cookies and treats are a true symbol of the holiday season. So come and make a mess in our kitchen and bring some goodies home to share.

#### **Activity #1006**

Wednesday, Nov.26 (non-school day)  
9:00-11:30 AM – MS FACS Rm. #B-20, Door I  
Fee: \$13

### Girls Night Out (Gr. 1-5)

Want a night out with your girlfriends? Join us for loads of fun...we'll start the evening with TACO's, crafts, games, swimming and end the evening watching a movie!! So bring along a friend, swimsuit & towel, a blanket and pillow and we will make it a slumber party!

**Girls ONLY!**

#### **Activity# 3013**

Friday, November 7  
5:45-10:00 PM  
Fee: \$12

### Basketball K-3



All boys and girls in K-3 are encouraged to come and have fun in this recreational basketball program. This program will give participants the opportunity to play and learn the basic skills of

basketball in a fun, safe, and encouraging environment. These young ball players will also have the opportunity this season to perform during the half-time of a home varsity basketball game.

**Registration deadline November 7<sup>th</sup>**

Maximum 75 participants per class

#### Early Bird Fee:

#### **Activity #5130**

Gr. K-1 8:30-9:30 am  
Fee: \$30 – includes basketball  
(Fee after Nov. 7 - \$40)

#### **Activity #5131**

Gr. 2-3 9:45-10:45 am  
Fee: \$25 (fee after Nov. 7- \$35)  
7 Saturdays, Dec. 6, 13, 20 & Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24  
Location: HS East Gym  
(Saturday, Dec. 20 – Dassel Elementary Gym)

### Basketball Gr. 4

In this program boys and girls will focus on the fundamentals of basketball for the first 4 sessions and do inter-league play (3 on 3 or 5 on 5) for the last 3 sessions. There will also be possible tournament opportunities in January/February for these players (extra cost TBD). These young ball players will also have the opportunity this season to perform during the half-time of a home varsity basketball game. **Registration deadline**



#### **November 7**

#### **Activity #5132D**

Gr. 4 Boys 11:00-12:00 noon  
Early Bird Fee: \$25 (fee after Nov. 7 - \$35)

#### **Activity #5132C**

Gr. 4 Girls 11:00-12:00 noon  
Early Bird Fee: \$25 (fee after Nov. 7 - \$35)  
7 Saturdays, Dec. 6, 13, 20 & Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24  
Location: HS East Gym  
(Saturday, Dec. 20 – Dassel Elementary Gym)

### Wrestling K-6

DC Coaching staff

Meeting & Registration:  
Monday, Dec. 1, 7:00 pm,  
HS Commons

#### **Activity #5120**

Gr. K-1, 6:00-7:00 PM

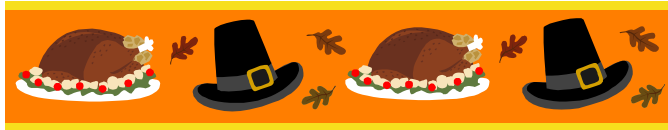
#### **Activity #5121**

Gr. 2-3, 7:00-8:00 PM  
Mondays, Dec. 8-Mar. 16  
(No class 12/29, 1/19, 2/16)  
HS West Gym South Mezzanine  
Fee: \$20 each or \$35 family cap




#### **Activity #5122**

Gr. 4-6, 6:00-7:30 PM  
Tuesdays, Dec. 2-Mar. 17  
(No class 12/30)  
HS West Gym South Mezzanine  
Fee: \$20 each or \$35 family cap



*½ pint milk will be served with each meal*

3 Breakfast Pizza Fruit sauce choice	4 Cereal Cinnamon Sticks Fruit Sauce Choice	5 Pancakes Smokies Fruit Juice, Assorted	6 Cereal Cinnamon Sugar Toast Peaches	7 Pop Tart Yogurt Fruit Sauce Choice
10 Cereal Muffin Fruit Juice	11 Omelet Toast w/ Jelly Fruit Juice, Assorted	12 Cinnamon Roll Cheese Slice Fresh Fruit	13 Breakfast on a Stick Toast Fruit Sauce Choice	14 <b>No School Conferences</b>
17 Apple Streudel Sticks Cheese Stick Fruit Juice, Assorted	18 Cereal Muffin Fresh fruit	19 French Toast Sticks Smokies Fruit Juice	20 Cereal Toast W/Jelly Fresh Fruit	21 Cereal Yogurt Fruit Sauce Choice
24 Cereal Granola Bar Fruit Juice, Assorted	25 Waffle Sticks/Syrup Smokies Fruit Sauce Choice	26 <b>No School</b>	27 <b>No School</b> Thanksgiving 	28 <b>No School</b>

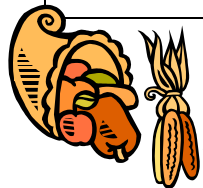


*November 2008*  
*DC Elementary Breakfast Menu*



*1/2 pint milk will be served with each meal*

3 French Toast Sticks/Syrup Smokies Tri Tater Orange Slices Fruit Juice	4 Hamburger on Bun Lettuce & Tomato Savory French Fries Seasoned Carrots Fruit Sauce Choice	5 Taco in a Bag Seasoned Corn Fruit Sauce Choice	6 Grilled Cheese or Tuna Sandwich Tomato Soup/Crackers Vegetable Relishes Fresh Fruit Choice	7 Cheese Bread W/Spaghetti Sauce Lettuce Salad Fresh Fruit
10 Chicken Nuggets/Sauces Scalloped Potatoes Seasoned Peas Bread Choice Fruit Sauce Choice	11 Tator Tot Hotdish French Bread Fresh Fruit Coleslaw	12 Mini Corn Dogs Oven Fries Broccoli and Cheese Bread Choice Fruit Sauce Choice	13 Quesadilla Pizza Seasoned Corn Bread Choice Fruit Sauce Choice	14 <b>No School Conferences</b>
17 Long Dog Savory French Fries Baked Beans Sauerkraut Fruit Sauce Choice	18 Hot Ham and Cheese Batter Bites Green Beans Fruit Sauce Choice	19 Chicken Fajitas Seasoned Peas Fresh Fruit	20 <b>Thanksgiving Dinner</b> Turkey & Gravy Mashed Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Dinner Roll Dessert	21 Shrimp Poppers Savory French Fries California Blend Vegetables Bread Choice Fresh Fruit Choice
24 Cheese Stick W/Pizza Sauce Seasoned Corn Fruit Sauce Choice	25 Sub Sandwich W/Fixings Bag of Chips Fresh Veggies Fruit Choice	26 <b>No School</b>	27 <b>Happy Thanksgiving</b> <b>No School</b> 	28 <b>No School</b>



*November 2008*

*DC Elementary Lunch Menu*

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) To file a complaint of discrimination, please contact: Tina Palmer, 4852 SW Reardon, Cokato,