

DASSEL ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

Rob Nudell, Principal

www.dc.k12.mn.us

March, 2010

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

rob.nudell@dc.k12.mn.us

by Rob Nudell



It is with great pleasure that I inform you that our school, Dassel Elementary, has been selected as a recipient of the 2009 MAEF School Spotlight Award. The Minnesota Academic Excellence Foundation (MAEF) established this award

program in 2005 to identify schools that demonstrate academic excellence through significant gains in student achievement.

Dassel Elementary School's attention to curriculum, instruction, assessment and the important role of staff development has contributed to academic gains for all students. Dassel Elementary continues to demonstrate the increasingly crucial role of continuous improvement as we strive for all students to achieve rigorous standards.

This recognition is in honor of our students, families and staff at Dassel Elementary School. The MAEF Board members have presented our school with a recognition certificate that is displayed in our hallway. Thank you for your dedication to our students and their education!



BINGO FOR BOOKS

by Melissa Weckwerth, President of DC PTA



Dassel Elementary School held a fun and exciting Bingo for Books event on Thursday, January 28th. This event, which was co-sponsored by the Dassel-Cokato PTA, was a family friendly night for elementary students and their families. February is "I Love To Read" month, and this event kicked off our love of reading in Dassel in a very positive way.

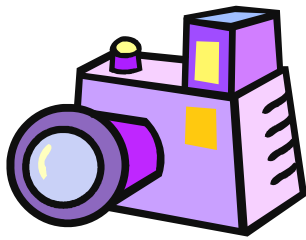
Students and staff were invited to bring in new or gently used books to use for the event. Tickets were sold at the door, which could then be used to purchase a game of bingo, a slice of pizza, glass of lemonade or a cookie. Slices of pizza, which came from Dassel Entertainment Center, were a popular item along with the cookies from Jay's Bakery in Dassel.

The books that were donated were divided by age and reading level. Thanks to an overwhelming response of donated books, every child and adult left the event with a book in their hand.

The turnout for the event was amazing. Approximately 325 people stopped by Dassel Elementary that evening to play bingo, which means that 325 people got at least one new book to read.

The school looks forward to hosting another BINGO for Books evening next year!!

MEMORY BOOKS ARE HERE!



Memory books from this school year will arrive about the middle of March. If you would like for me to reserve a book for you, please fill out the form below and send \$7.75 or a check made out to **“Dassel Elementary”**. The memory books have pictures of all students and staff members. There are many action shots and room for students to sign each other's books. It's a nice remembrance from the 2009-2010 school year. When our supply is gone, we will be unable to get any more copies printed, so get your copy early!

Name _____

Grade _____ Teacher _____

Number of Books _____ Amount _____



SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

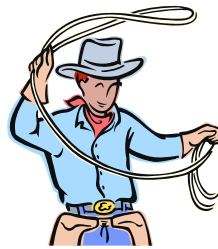


If you have a concern or question about something happening at school, please remember to:

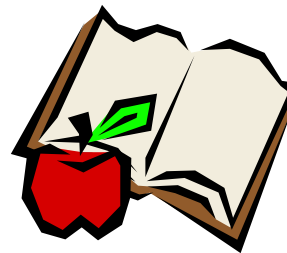
- ◆ Communicate initially with the person most closely associated with the issue. Most often this is your child's teacher and they will work with you to your mutual satisfaction.
- ◆ If your concern is unresolved, or your question is unanswered, please contact the building principal.
- ◆ If you still have concerns or questions, contact the district superintendent.



KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP



Kindergarten Round-up is scheduled for Tuesday, March 23rd, at 3:30 p.m., at Dassel Elementary. If you have a child who is eligible to attend kindergarten next fall (age 5 on or before September 1st) you should be attending the Round-Up activities. We sent letters out the middle of February to give you more information. If your child is eligible, and you did not receive a letter or you know of someone new in the area, please contact Marlyce Erickson (286-4100 ext. 1500) at the school.



MYSTERY READER



Dassel-Cokato girls' varsity basketball player, Molly Range, read to Mr. Force's second grade class during Mystery Reader Week. Student athletes from the varsity wrestling program and the boys' and girls' varsity basketball programs shared their talents away from the athletic arena by reading in the elementary classrooms. Molly, a senior at Dassel-Cokato is an alumna of Dassel Elementary. A thank you to Molly and all who participated in this fun experience during "I Love to Read Month".

**FROM THE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER'S
DESK . . .**

by Carmen Tschida



I recently came upon the following article from the SAMHSA's National Mental Health Information Center which described the many challenges children and adolescences may experience in their daily lives. Mental health disorders will interrupt

a student's ability to function with daily life tasks and make it difficult for them to learn. For more information or the complete article – please refer to the following website:

<http://mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/publications>. If you have questions or concerns feel free to contact me at ext. 1507.

Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral Disorders Are Real

Young people can have mental, emotional, and behavioral problems that are real, painful, and costly. These problems, often called "disorders," are sources of stress for children and their families, schools, and communities.

The number of young people and their families who are affected by mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders is significant. It is estimated that as many as one in five children and adolescents may have a mental health disorder that can be identified and require treatment.

Mental health disorders in children and adolescents are caused by biology, environment, or a combination of the two. Examples of biological factors are genetics, chemical imbalances in the body, and damage to the central nervous system, such as a head injury. Many environmental factors also can affect mental health, including exposure to violence, extreme stress, and the loss of an important person.

Families and communities, working together, can help children and adolescents with mental disorders. A broad range of services is often necessary to meet the needs of these young people and their families.

The Disorders

Some examples of particular mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders that may occur during childhood and adolescence can include: anxiety, severe depression, bipolar, attention deficit/hyperactivity, learning disorders, conduct disorder, eating disorder, autism and schizophrenia. All can have a serious impact on a child's overall health. Some disorders are more common than others, and conditions range from mild to severe. Often, a child has more than one disorder (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1999).

Treatment, Support Services, and Research: Sources of Hope

Now, more than ever before, there is hope for young people with mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders. Most of the symptoms and distress associated with childhood and adolescent mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders can be alleviated with timely and appropriate treatment and supports.

In addition, researchers are working to gain new scientific insights that will lead to better treatments and cures for mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders. Innovative studies also are exploring new ways of delivering services to prevent and treat these disorders. Research efforts are expected to lead to more effective use of existing treatments, so children and their families can live happier, healthier, and more fulfilling lives.

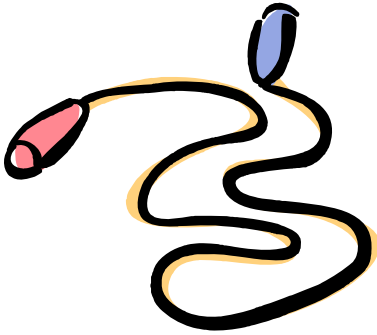
Important Messages About Children's and Adolescents' Mental Health

- Every child's mental health is important.
- Many children have mental health problems.
- These problems are real and painful and can be severe.
- Mental health problems can be recognized and treated.
- Caring families and communities working together can help.



FROM THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHERS...

by Patti Jo Erickson & Amanda Berg



February has been a busy month in Physical Education. Jump Rope for Heart, held on February 12, was again a success. Students learned about the risk factors

of heart disease, how to prevent heart disease, and the warning signs of stroke and heart attack. Our school collected over \$6,700 for the American Heart Association during the event, and everyone had a good time jumping. Thanks for the support of such a worthwhile program. Also, huge thanks to the team of ladies who counted the money and filled out reports. Congratulations to our top fund-raisers: Elizabeth Montgomery, Dylan and Dustyn Terning.

The trimester has come to an end, which means report cards will be marked and shared at conferences. Some of the skills we focused on this trimester were jumping rope, skating (for grades 2-4), throwing and catching, dribbling, and striking. We continue to work on the positive behaviors of responsibility, respect, sportsmanship, cooperation, and effort. We also work on physical fitness regularly in class.

As a parent, I know it is not always easy child moving. However it is crucial to their health and development. Thanks for all you do to encourage physical activity with your child.



The mission of Dassel-Cokato Schools, is to provide programs of educational excellence to students of all ages.

MARCH MUSIC NOTES...

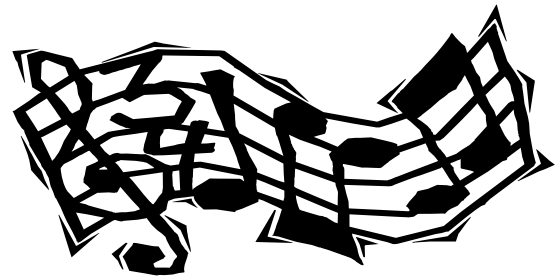
by Sarah Luhrs



We have been busy celebrating "I love to Read" month in the music room, reading books such as *Click Clack Moo: Cows that Type*, *Do You Do A Didgeridoo?*, *When Marian Sang*, and *Follow the Drinking Gourd*.

Some of these books also allow us to talk about black history month. Looking ahead to March:

- **First Grade** will be learning some big things finally putting musical names and symbols to things we have experienced all year!
- **Second Grade** will learn some brand new notes and rhythms.
- **Third Grade and Fourth Grade** will begin working on their spring program. Be sure *May 4, 2010* is on your calendars!



CONFERENCE DATES



Monday Evening,
March 15th

Thursday Evening,
March 18th

Friday Afternoon,
March 19th

Daycare is provided during conference times:
5:00 – 8:00 on Monday & Thursday evening
12:30 - 3:30 on Friday afternoon

FROM THE VOLUNTEER CORNER...

by Mary Neu



March is a month when the weather seems to keep us guessing. Did it come in like a lion? Will it go out like a lamb? Helping our children is somewhat the same theory. Did I talk to my child like a lion or a lamb? Our attitude when

working with our students has a large impact on how they will respond to learning. It is great to see, through volunteering, how our positive attitude can influence the students. They smile when we smile!

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers that helped with AAA! It was another successful event thanks to the support of volunteers, parents and hard work on the part of the students participating.

Keeping kids successful is a focus of our school. We welcome you to participate in the learning environment here at Dassel Elementary. Please feel free to call me if you have questions or would like to schedule some volunteer time in our school. (ext.1518)

Enjoy the month of March, the ever-changing weather, and the joy of learning with your child. Your attitude will affect both your child and you!

Needs list:

- Kemps Give'Em Five milk caps
- Land O Lakes milk caps
- Kindergarten Round-Up helpers

*"We cannot always build the future
for our youth,
but we can build our youth
for the future."
Franklin D. Roosevelt*



FROM THE COOK'S CORNER...

Doris Kyllonen, Head Cook



Happy St. Patrick's Day from the Rockin' Lunch Ladies!

March is the month of smiling "Irish" eyes and days for wearing green and purple. We hope you enjoy your days. National Breakfast Week is also in

March, from the 8th to the 12th. Thank you to all the kids and staff who take part in our breakfast program--it is so important to a healthy life to have a good breakfast every day. We welcome you all to come and try a breakfast during National Breakfast Week or any time. We serve breakfast from 7:40-8:00 a.m.

Another very important component to a healthy diet is omega-3 fatty acids. Unlike lard or butter, omega-3 fatty acids are a good form of fat essential to good health and disease prevention. Because the body is unable to manufacture "essential" acids like omega-3 on its own, it must derive them directly from food. Walnuts are a good food source, as is flaxseed. Using one to two tablespoons of ground flax a day on cereal, yogurt, applesauce, spaghetti, chili, soup or juice is an easy way to include it in your diet. Flax has no flavor, and it is very inexpensive.

Soy products are also good sources of omega-3, and can help lower cholesterol. The best sources are tofu, plain soymilk, soy nuts, ground crumbles, and soy burger. Making a few of these healthy food choices can be a small step towards making a BIG difference in your health:

- Begin by eating oatmeal several times a week.
- Choose healthier chocolate when eating sweets.
- Choose fruits, vegetables, and nuts that are tasty and good for you.
- Include flax in your daily diet.
- Be open to change.

Eat and enjoy a healthier life! Keep those Irish eyes smiling! We will chat in April. By the way, we enjoyed seeing all the great projects for AAA.

**ATTENTION ALL CAMPBELL'S
SOUP LABEL SAVERS**



A change in the collection process has happened!

We now need to save the little section of the labels that has the UPC bar code and the cute little face of the Campbell's Soup child. So, please change the way

you take the labels off of the cans and keep the UPC code intact.

If you have any questions about what to save, just send us the **complete label** and we will have our wonderful volunteers cut the labels for us!

Thanks for your help! Keep on collecting!



**KEMP'S MILK CAPS
AND LAND O LAKES MILK CAPS**



We continue to collect the milk caps and codes from cartons of milk for redemption! Please rinse them before sending them in! It may be a little more time on your end, but it certainly

makes a difference in the volunteer office if they are rinsed before they get to me! Thanks for saving them for the students of Dassel Elementary!



FEBRUARY BOX TOPS FUN



Countdown to Vancouver is the name of our *Box Tops Fun* for this month. We are

excited to keep the *I Love to Read* month focus of the *Winter Olympics*, our local athletes as our *Mystery Readers* and the title of our *Box Tops Collection!*

Remember that each box top brings our school 10 cents! Each page that a student completes with the Countdown to Vancouver has 10 box tops on it and that brings us \$1.00!

Our goal is to raise money to purchase an interactive learning tool for the SMART board technology. It is called a SMART Response PE and it is designed for K-12 classrooms. This system includes wireless remotes, or clickers, for the students to use to answer questions in a group setting. We hope to purchase one unit and share it throughout our building!

Enjoy the Winter Olympics and reach for the goal!



2010-2011

**PLAY N-LEARN PRESCHOOL
REGISTRATION**



Preschool registration for 2010-2011 will begin on March 8, 2010 and will be open until April 8, 2010. Please pick-up a registration form at the Early Childhood Center or download one from www.dc.k12.mn.us/ecfe starting March 8.

All children must be 3½ to 5 years of age by August 31, 2010 to qualify for preschool for 2010-2011.

The registration form must be completed and returned with a \$25 registration fee by April 8th to be considered for preschool. If needed, a lottery will be drawn after the deadline. Families will be notified of their preschool placement for next fall by April 13th.

For more information please contact the Early Childhood Center at 320-286-4120.

Dassel-Cokato

PTA

everychild.one voice.®

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.

Date: Thursday, March 4th, 2010

Location Change: High School Choir Room

Time: 6:30 p.m.

The Dassel Cokato Ice and Sports Association will present information and plans for the building of the ice arena on the north side of the High School. A PowerPoint presentation will be given along with a time for discussion with these members and school board members about the impact this will have on both LDC hockey and Dassel Cokato school district.

All interested community members and parents are invited to attend. Remember, you do not have to be a PTA member to attend a meeting.

If you have any question about the upcoming meeting 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



HEADLINES IN SCHOOL HEALTH ...

by Christine Lawyer, LSN

IS YOUR CHILD GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP?



Healthy child development requires sufficient sleep. Sleep is something our bodies need to do and we know that during sleep many of our body's major organ and regulatory systems remain actively functioning, and the body produces more of certain hormones.

Sleep deprivation doesn't just make children sleepy and tired the next morning. Lack of adequate sleep has been linked to problems such as hyperactivity, learning difficulties, weight gain, illness, mistakes and accidents, behavior problems and higher levels of depression, hopelessness and low self-esteem.

To prevent problems like these, there are a few techniques that parents can do. Ensure that children know that tonight, tomorrow night, and the night after that, bedtime is always the same; even on weekends.

1. Set a regular time for bed and stick to it.
2. Establish a relaxing bedtime routine, such as reading stories, singing or giving your child a warm bath.
3. Make after-dinner playtime a winding down time. Too much activity close to bedtime can keep children awake.
4. Avoid feeding children big meals close to bedtime.
5. Avoid giving children anything with caffeine less than 6 hours before bedtime.
6. Set the bedroom temperature so that it is comfortable – not too warm or too cold.
7. Make sure the bedroom is dark. Use a small nightlight if necessary.
8. Keep the noise level low.

How much sleep should children get?

Newborn	up to 18 hours
1-12 months	14-18 hours
1-3 years	12-15 hours
3-5 years	11-13 hours
5-12 years	9-11 hours
Adolescents	9-10 hours

FROM THE MEDIA CENTER...

by Pam Dille, Media Specialist

Lesser Known Literature Awards Also Deserve Special Recognition



Each year the children's literature community awaits the big announcement of the Newbery, Caldecott, and Coretta Scott King Awards. Though they don't receive quite the recognition as the "big three", there are other awards worth noting.

Laura Ingalls Wilder Award

This award "honors an author or illustrator whose books, published in the United States, have made, over a period of years, a substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children."

Appropriately enough, the first Laura Ingalls Wilder Award was bestowed in 1954 on Laura Ingalls Wilder. This award was at one time given every five years but in recent years has been awarded biannually.

Other past winners of this award and a notable book include Eric Carle (*The Very Hungry Caterpillar*), Russell Freedman (*Lincoln, A Photobiography*), Virginia Hamilton (*M.C. Higgins the Great*), Elizabeth George Speare (*The Sign of the Beaver*), Maurice Sendak (*Where the Wild Things Are*), Dr. Seuss (*The Cat in the Hat*), Beverly Cleary (*The Mouse and the Motorcycle*), and E.B. White (*Charlotte's Web*).

This most recent honoree (for 2009) is Ashley Bryan. Dassel Media Center has a copy of Bryan's *Beautiful Blackbird* which also won the Coretta Scott King Award.

The Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal

The Sibert Award honors "the most distinguished informational book published in English in the preceding year for its significant contribution to children's literature."

This award was first bestowed in 2001. The 2010 winner of this award is *Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream* by Tanya Lee Stone.

Other notable recipients of this award that may be found in the Dassel Media Center include:

We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball by Kadir Nelson

The Wall: Growing Up behind the Iron Curtain by Peter Sís

The Voice that Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights by Russell Freedman

An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793 by Jim Murphy

The Theodor Seuss Geisel Award

This award began in 2006 and is given annually to "the author(s) and illustrator(s) of the most distinguished contribution to the body of American children's literature known as beginning reader books published in the United States during the preceding year." The winners of this award demonstrate creativity and imagination to engage children in reading.

The 2010 award went to *Benny and Penny in the Big No-No!* written and illustrated by Geoffrey Hayes.

The previous winners are:

Are You Ready to Play Outside? by Mo Willems (2009)

There Is a Bird on Your Head by Mo Willems (2008)

Zelda and Ivy: The Runaways by Laura McGee Kvasnosky (2007)

Henry and Mudge and the Great Grandpas by Cynthia Rylant (2006)

For more information on all the American Library Association medal winner and honor books go to:

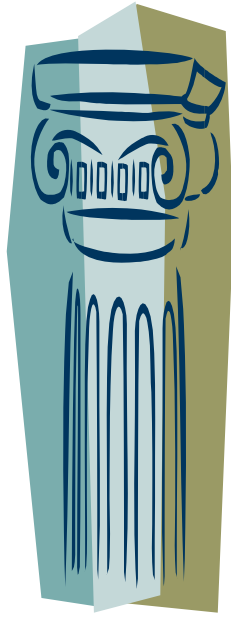
<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrant/s/bookmedia/index.cfm>

DASSEL PUBLIC LIBRARY

is having a team party on Saturday, April 10th. Author Laura Schaefer will discuss her book *The Teashop Girls* and Heather Goodrich will teach the customs of tea time. This event is for ages 4-14 and it will be free.

More will be coming the April newsletter.

GOLDEN RULERS OF THE MONTH FOR FEBRUARY



Every day of school, the students at Dassel Elementary are involved in CARE groups from 9:45 – 10:15. During this time, they have a snack and juice/milk break and are engaged in a lesson about character education. This year we are focusing on the character pillars of respect and responsibility. One of the activities we do each month is to have the students in each of the nine CARE groups select a Golden Ruler of the Month to represent their group. They are asked to vote for a member of their CARE group who continually displays all six character pillars and demonstrates the Golden Rule: “Treat others as you would like to be treated”.



The students selected for the month of February were:

Back Row: Taryn Siltala, Audrey Weckwerth, Ava Erickson, Noah Halonen, Trent Raisanen

Front Row: Alex Erickson, Kalena Swendra, Dylan Terning, Kayleigh Dietel

Don't judge each day
by the harvest you reap,
but by the seeds you
plant.

MEET A NEW STAFF MEMBER Cindy Gruhlke

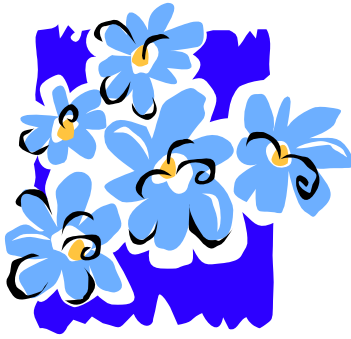


Hi, my name is Cindy Gruhlke. I am the 3rd grade Title One Paraprofessional at the Dassel Elementary School. Besides my time in the classroom, I may be found at the school patrol stop in the morning, noon recess, and in the lunchroom. I may already be familiar to you as I was Lori VanHorn's long-term substitute last spring. I love being part of the Dassel staff and especially love working with the children!

I live on Lake Washington with my husband, Tom. I have three grown children; Brad, is married and lives in Owatonna, Anna, is married and lives in Sartell, and Leia, is a junior at the University of MN. We also have a foster son, Steve, who is married and lives near Darwin. Tom and I are about to become grandparents. Anna and her husband, Nick, are expecting their first child in July.

I have been an elementary teacher for 27 years and involved in education for 30 years. My emphasis has been in the curriculum area of reading. Previously, I was a teacher in the BOLD and Hutchinson school districts and a literacy facilitator at the University of Minnesota with the Reading First Federal Grant program.

My other interests include; reading, traveling, biking, solving crossword and suduko puzzles, and spending time with my family. Dassel Elementary is a wonderful place to work. Thank you for making me feel so welcome in your school!



**UPCOMING WINTER
COMMUNITY EDUCATION
ACTIVITIES**

**To register or if you have questions call
Community Education at 286- 4120
or get more information by visiting us online at
www.dc.k12.mn.us**

Magic & More Gr. 3-4 \$42
Amaze your family and friends when you share
with them illusionary secrets and much more!
Dassel Elem. - March 2, 9, 16
3:15-4:45 – Dassel Elem. Room #145
Cokato Elem. - April 8, 15, 22
3:15-4:45 – Cokato Elem. Room #139

Clay Camp Gr. K-5 \$27
Learn the handbuilding technique and make pottery
and sculptures! Parents may register also!
Tuesday, March 2
3:15-4:45 - Cokato Elem. Room #139

Decorate Your Own Bag Gr. 1-4 \$15
Show your creativity and decorate your own
personal mini bag. All supplies provided.
Wednesday, March 10
3:15-4:45 - Dassel Elem. Rm. #145
Registration Deadline: March 3

Jewelry Time Gr. 1-4 \$15
Craft handmade matching bracelets and necklaces!
All supplies provided.
Wednesday, April 7
3:15-4:45 - Dassel Elem. Rm. #145
Registration Deadline: March 26

Winter Softball Clinic Gr. 1-6
Improve your hitting, fielding, throwing, catching &
aggressive baserunning techniques.
Saturday, March 20, HS West Gym
Grades 1-3: 8:30-10:00 am - \$12
Grades 4-6: 10:00-12:00 noon - \$15

Tae Kwon Do Ages 4-Adult \$60/mo.
Tae Kwon Do is the world's most widely practiced
martial art!

Little Ninjas (Ages 4-6):
Mondays & Thursdays, 4:45-5:15 pm
Youth Beginner (Ages 6-14):
Mon., Tues. & Thurs., 5:20-6:20 pm
Adult (Ages 14 & up):
Mon., Tues. & Thurs., 7:40-8:40 pm

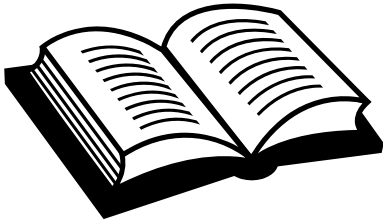
Tubing at Powder Ridge Ages 4 & up \$14
Join us on this non-school day for 3 hours of fun on
the tubing hill at Powder Ridge! Trip fee includes
bus transportation and tubing. Bring a bag lunch.
(Children ages 4-6, not yet in first grade, need to
attend with an adult.)
Monday, March 8, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Departures: Cokato Elem., Main Door, 9:00 am
Dassel Elem., Main Door, 9:15 am
Return Times: Dassel Elem., Main Door, 1:45 pm
Cokato Elem., Main Door, 2:00 pm

Spring Break Pool Party Gr. 1-6 \$11
A fun activity during Spring Break! Swim, play
games eat lunch and watch the movie, "Hotel for
Dogs." Transportation, pizza and beverages
provided.
Wednesday, March 31, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Departures: Dassel Elem., Main Door, 9:30 am
Cokato Elem., Main Door, 9:45 am
Return Times: Cokato Elem., Main Door, 2:10 pm
Dassel Elem., Main Door, 2:20 pm

Red Cross Swimming Lessons
Weekly lessons are offered Saturdays, Mondays and
Tuesdays, beginning March 6. Call Community
Education for more information: 286-4120

Open Gym and Open Swim Schedules
Open Gym Dates: February 28, March 7, 21 & 28
(closed March 14), 1:30-5:00 pm
Open Swim Times:
Sundays, 2:00-4:00 pm
Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30 pm - **note new times!**
Fees: \$3 for children/students, \$5 for adults and \$12
for families

PRE-REGISTRATION Required
To register or for more information visit
www.dc.k12.mn.us/commed
or call us at 286-4120.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION ADULT ACTIVITIES

- Intermediate Yoga** **\$33**
6 Mondays, March 8 – April 19
6:00-7:00 pm-Centennial Room, Cokato Library
- Healing Foods** **\$29**
Thursday, March 25
7:00-8:30 PM-HS Team Planning Room #501,
Door C
- Essential Oils** **\$15**
Thursday, March 11
7:00-8:30 pm-HS Room #501, Door C
- Heartsaver CPR** **\$35**
Thursday, March 11
6:30-9:30 pm-HS Room #24, Door D
- Fishin' School on Ice** **\$27**
Thursday, March 4
6:00-9:00 pm-Kimball HS Cafetorium, Door 10
- Home Tiling Basics** **\$27**
Tuesday, March 16 & 23
6:30-8:30 pm-Ideal Lumber Design Studio,
Litchfield
- Pottery** **\$110**
4 Saturdays: April 17, May 1, 15 & 29
10:00 am – 12:30 pm - HS Art Room #30, Door C
- Minnesota Starwatch Party (Ages 6-Adult)**
Friday, April 16
8:00-10:00 pm, Cokato Township Hall
Fees: \$20-Adult and \$8-Students
Registration Deadline: April 9
- Square Foot Gardening** **FREE!**
Tuesday, March 16
7:00-8:00 pm, HS Art Room, #31, Door C
Free but pre-registration is required. Call 286-4120.

Grape Growing in Minnesota

Grape Growing only: \$100

Monthly, March 4 – October 7, 2010

Grape Growing & Wine Making: \$130

Monthly, March 4 – February 3, 2011

7:00-9:00 pm, Millner Heritage Vineyard &
Winery, Kingston

Monday Aquacise **\$32**

7 Mondays, April 5 – May 24

7:30-8:30 pm-HS Pool , Door A

Saturday Aqua Fitness **\$27**

6 Saturdays, April 10 – May 15

8:30-9:30 am-HS Pool , Door A

Lap Swim Times

Mondays – 6:30-7:30 pm

Tuesdays & Thursdays – 6:00-7:00 am

NEW TIME: Wednesdays – 6:30-7:30 pm

Saturdays, March 6 – May 1 – 7:30-8:30 am

To register or for more information visit

www.dc.k12.mn.us/commed

or call us at 286-4120.



UPCOMING DASSEL-COKATO ARTS ASSOCIATION EVENTS

Neuss Chamber Orchestra

On tour from Neuss Germany!

Sunday, March 14 – 3:00 pm

Tickets: Adults - \$15, Youth \$5

Reserved Seating at the PAC

Tickets on sale now.

“Bridge Over Troubled Water”

Simon & Garfunkle’s classic album performed by
Collective Unconscious & 17 talented musicians

Saturday, April 10 – 7:00 pm

Tickets: Adults - \$20, Youth \$10

Reserved Seating at the PAC

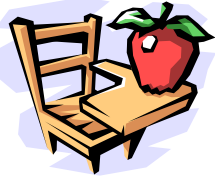
Public ticket sales begin March 1

Cirko Cabaret

Great family entertainment! Show contains
aerialists, acrobatics, juggling, the revolving hoop
& more!

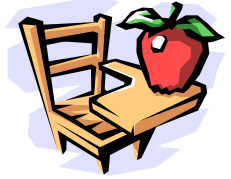
Saturday, April 24 – 7:00 pm
Tickets: Adults - \$15, Youth \$5
Reserved Seating at the PAC
Public ticket sales begin March 12

Tickets sold through Community Education.
Call 286-4120.
For more information visit
www.dc.k12.mn.us/pac



**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING
TEACHER REQUESTS FOR 2010-2011**

From: Rob Nudell, Principal



It seems hard to believe that we are starting to think about next school year, but that time will come soon. This spring, one of the biggest jobs our staff will be faced with is preparing the class lists for next year. A great deal of thought goes into this lengthy process. Classroom teachers meet several times with the special education teacher, the social worker, the physical education teacher, music teacher, and myself to discuss the placement of students for the following year. Things we feel are very important to consider as we construct those class lists include, but are not limited to:

- ◆ A balance of boys and girls
- ◆ A blend of all ability levels
- ◆ Careful consideration of student personalities and behaviors
- ◆ A mixture of students from all classrooms
- ◆ Placing students together who work well academically, but aren't necessarily friends.

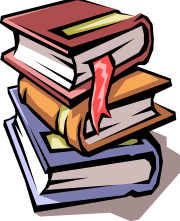
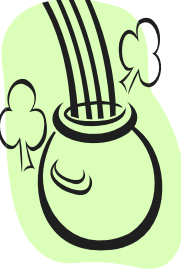






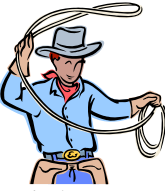
We also realize that parents/guardians know their child's personality better than anyone, and we respect the fact that some parents may want to contribute their thoughts to the process. In the past, several parent requests for a specific teacher were not able to be granted due to a variety of reasons. Most parents do not put in any teacher request. This spring, if you choose, I am asking that you follow the steps below if you want to give input into your child's placement for next year.


1. Stop by the Dassel Elementary Office to pick up a form to complete. This form is short and will ask you to describe your child and the type of learning style your child has. We carefully consider children's learning styles as we place them in classes for the following year. No teacher name should be put on the request.
2. Another factor to consider is that the teaching assignments are not known for next year at the time your request is made.
3. Return the form to the Dassel Elementary Office by **April 5, 2010**.
4. Please complete a separate form for each child. Only these forms will be accepted. Do not replace these forms with written notes or letters. These forms are good for one year.
5. The class lists will be posted on the window by the front doors in August of 2010. Once posted, the lists are not subject to change.

As you can tell, a great deal of time, thought, and effort goes into the formation of class lists each year. We want you to know that all Dassel Elementary teachers are highly qualified and exceptional teachers with whom you can put your trust. I thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Please call me or stop by if you have a specific concern regarding the placement of your child for the next school year. My number is 286-4100 x 1504.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

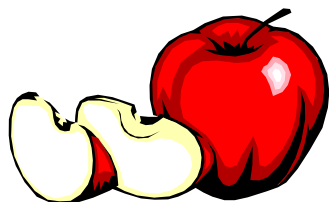
2010		MARCH						2010	
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT			
	1 Read Across America 	2 	3  5:00 – 8:00 DQ Art Work Mrs. Little's 3 rd Grade Class	4 PTA Meeting at the High School Media Center 6:30-8:00	5 End of 2 nd Trimester	6			
7	8 Staff Development Day  NO SCHOOL	9	10	11	12  Conferences for Kindergarten Only	13			
14 Neuss Chamber Orchestra at the PAC Building 3:00 p.m.	15  Elem. Conferences 5:00-8:00 p.m. NO STARS	16	17	18  Elem. Conferences 5:00-8:00 p.m.	19 NO SCHOOL FOR ELEM. ONLY  Elem. Conferences 12:30-3:30	20			
21	22	23  Kindergarten Round-Up 3:30-5:30	24	25	26	27			

28	29 No School SPRING BREAK	30 No School SPRING BREAK	31 No School SPRING BREAK	
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MARCH BREAKFAST MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, age or disability. If you believe you have been discriminated against write immediately to Dept. of Agriculture, Washington DC 20250.				
1 Cereal Muffin Fruit Juice	2 Omelet Toast Fruit Juice	3 Cereal Cheese Slice Fresh Fruit	4 Breakfast on a stick Toast Fruit Sauce	5 Cereal Granola Bar Fruit Juice
8 NO SCHOOL Staff Dev. Day	9 Waffle Sticks Sausage Link Fruit Sauce	10 Cereal Cinnamon on Toast Fruit Choice	11 Breakfast Pizza Fruit Juice Milk	12 Cereal Muffin Fresh Fruit
15 Pancakes Sausage Link Fruit Juice	16 Cereal Cinnamon Sticks Fruit Sauce	17 Breakfast Bites Cheese Slice Fruit Choice	18 Cereal Yogurt Fruit Choice	19 NO SCHOOL FOR ELEM. ONLY (Conferences)
22 Cereal Muffin Fruit Juice	23 Omelet Toast Fruit Juice	24 Cereal Cheese Slice Fresh Fruit	25 Breakfast on a stick Toast Fruit Sauce	26 Cereal Granola Bar Fruit Juice
29 NO SCHOOL Spring Break	30 NO SCHOOL Spring Break	31 NO SCHOOL Spring Break	NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK MARCH 1-5 ½ pint milk served with each meal	

ANTICIPATED FAMILY FOOD COST FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH



Grades K-4:

Breakfasts: 18 days x \$ 1.00 = \$18.00
 Regular Lunches: 18 days x \$ 1.50 = \$27.00
 Reduced Lunches: 18 days x \$.40 = \$ 7.20
 Extra milks = 35 cents

Please write your child's first and last name on the check or envelope to ensure proper credit to the account. We welcome you to join your child for a meal!

MARCH LUNCH MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
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, MN 55321 @ 320-286-4100, x. 1002.				
1 Individual Pizza Seasoned Corn Bread Slice Fruit Sauce	2 Country Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes / Gravy Seasoned Carrots Tea Biscuits Fresh Fruit	3 Tater Tot Hot Dish French Bread Mixed Vegetables Fresh Fruit	4 Chicken Patty on a Bun Oven Potatoes Green Beans Fresh Fruit	5 Fish Frys Potato Rounds Fresh Veggies Fresh Fruit
8 NO SCHOOL Staff Dev. Day	9 Hamburger / Bun with fixings Oven Fries Seasoned Vegetables Fruit Sauce	10 Hard or Soft Shell Taco with fixings Seasoned Corn Bread Choice Fresh Fruit	11 Meat & Gravy Mashed Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Dinner roll Fruit	12 Grilled cheese or Tuna Sandwich Tomato Soup Crackers Veg. Relishes
15 French Toast Sticks Sausage Links Tri Tater Orange Slices Juice	16 Popcorn Chicken Scalloped Potatoes Seasoned Peas Bread Fruit	17 Corn Dogs French Fries Broccoli with Cheese Bread Fruit	18 <i>Bag Lunch</i> Sub Sandwich Chips Carrot Paks Fruit	19 NO SCHOOL FOR ELEM. ONLY (Conferences)
22 Hot Dog on a bun Oven French Fries Baked Beans Sauerkraut Fruit Sauce	23 Hot Ham & Cheese on a bun Batter Bites Carrot Sticks Fresh Fruit	24 Chicken Strips Mac & Cheese Seasoned Peas Bread Fruit Sauce	25 Sloppy Joes on a bun Oven Fries Green Beans Fresh Fruit	26 Cheese Pizza Lettuce Salad Bread Slice Fresh Fruit
29 NO SCHOOL Spring Break	30 NO SCHOOL Spring Break	31 NO SCHOOL Spring Break	½ pint milk served with each meal	



MORE PICTURES FROM BINGO NIGHT

