

DASSEL ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

Debbie Morris, Principal

www.dc.k12.mn.us

October, 2010

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Debbie.Morris@dc.k12.mn.us

by Debbie Morris



Have you heard the news about a moose being spotted at Dassel Elementary? I can tell you that the reports are TRUE! Morris the Moose has been helping me get to know the students at Dassel Elementary. Morris the Moose has been part of my life ever since I was a first year

teacher some 25 years ago. B. Wiseman is the author of many Morris storybooks. He tells about the life Morris leads and about the challenges that Morris experiences. The one thing about Morris the Moose is that he keeps on trying and keeps on learning. A few years back I gave Morris a bracelet that reads – BE THE BEST! Just as I encourage Morris to do his BEST I encourage students to do the same! All of us can accomplish great things when we try our hardest. I know that students who are *giving it their all* will be successful in school.

BE THE BEST Acknowledgments:

- Thanks to everyone for attending the Back to School Open House!
- We appreciate the help given to students with school work at home!
- Thanks for assisting in the *Four W's of Student Safety*! Your support has allowed a continuous flow of traffic on the East side of the school. Students/parents are respecting the crosswalks and crossing guards, which in turn provides a safe environment for everyone.
- I LOVE seeing all the volunteers in the school! Thank you!
- Sure is great seeing students arrive at school with smiles and a positive attitude! Reminder: Doors to the school open at 7:45am.

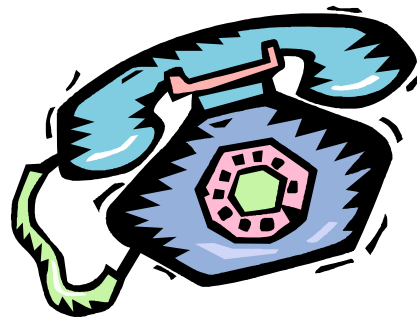
- Kudos to last years' 3rd & 4th grade students for their strong performance on the MCA II tests in the area of reading and math. For more information check out the MDE website at www.education.state.mn.us.

I look forward to working with students, parents, and staff during the school year. If you ever have any questions feel free to call me at 1-320-286-4100.

Mrs. Morris



VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT ABSENCES



All students are expected to be in school regularly and on time unless 1) prevented by illness, or 2) excused by the principal. Absences of any type are subject to the 9 days and/or excessive tardies per semester limitations which is part of school board policy. For safety and accountability reasons we **MUST** get a phone call at school from you to let us know when your child is absent (**320-286-4100 ext. 1500**). We **MUST** have that call by 8:15 a.m. A parent or guardian written excuse **MUST** accompany the child upon returning from each absence. Please include the child's first and last name, date(s) of absence, the reason, and your signature.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DASSEL ELEMENTARY



The Target School Fundraising Made Simple program makes it easy to support your school. Apply for a Target charge Card, designate Dassel

Elementary as your school of choice and then shop at Target. Target will donate 1% of your qualifying purchases to our school. If you already have a Target Card, you may still designate Dassel Elementary as your school of choice by calling 1-800-316-6142.

Save these items and help us raise additional funds for our school!



Look for products with the Box Top for Education coupon. Each coupon is worth 10 cents.

Please check the expiration date and trim the coupon! (Sometimes we'll have a special event for the program!) Keep on clipping! See boxtops4education.com for online shopping and saving.



Campbell Soup Labels still count! Please trim the UPC code and logo part of the label and send in. (If easier, send in the whole label.) The labels collected will be used to purchase equipment for the media center, music and physical

education.

Over 25 million pounds of empty printer cartridges and cell phones are thrown in landfills each year. Send those old cell phones and empty laser, inkjet, fax and copier cartridges into Dassel Elementary. You will help the environment, too!

Kemps cows have an exciting program! Just look for the milk caps with the official Kemps Give 'em Five Sticker. They are found on the cap of gallons and half gallons of white and chocolate milk and on



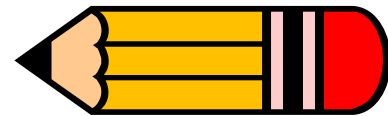
the side panel of paper half-gallons of white milk. Each cap is worth 5 cents. Just **rinse** the cap and send it to school.

Dassel Elementary is enrolled in the Land O Lakes milk "Save Five for Schools" program. We are collecting caps from milk, orange juice or chocolate milk cartons. Please leave the stickers on the caps, rinse and send them to school. We will earn 5 cents per cap when we send them in!

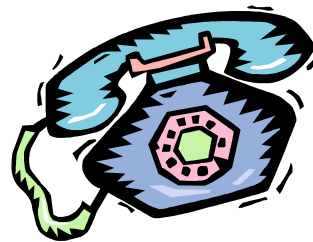


NO SCHOOL

**October 21st & 22nd
MEA Conference**



NOTES PLEASE . . .



Due to the abundance of phone calls at the end of the day, we ask that you please write a note for your child with instructions as to where they should go at the end of the school day. This is only if there is a change in their regular schedule. An example of the information we need are:

- Date of note
- Name of student
- Name of teacher
- Where must my child go to
- Bus # (if needed)
- Name and signature of parent

We really appreciate your assistance in this matter to help eliminate the amount of phone calls and interruptions to the classrooms.

FROM THE VOLUNTEER CORNER...

by *Mary Neu*



Welcome to the 2010-2011 school year! The staff at Dassel Elementary is very excited to see your smiling faces and to get started on a year of fun and learning!

As the Volunteer Coordinator I look forward to finding the best volunteers for the job and the best job for the volunteers. I invite you to be a part of your students' educational experience through volunteering in the classroom, one of the many opportunities throughout the building, or by doing projects at home. The requests have already started coming in, so I'm ready when you are! My schedule brings me to school on Mondays and Thursdays for the day and Wednesday mornings. Please feel free to call me at extension 1518 with any questions.

The monthly newsletter is a great tool for communication between school and home. I will submit an article each month that gives you an overview of what is happening at school regarding the upcoming events and needs for volunteer support. We know through experience that children do better in school when they see adults take an active role in their education. Please join us!

Dassel Elementary will be participating in various fundraising opportunities. Please see the article in this newsletter for further information. We will need volunteers for these programs, so contact me if you are willing to help and some of these are projects that could be done at home! And keep watching for new fun opportunities!

Again, welcome to the school year. I am looking forward to working with you as we support our children, staff and community by being a part of the lives of these students. Check your schedule and give me a call! 320-286-4100 ext. 1518

"Don't wait for a crisis to discover what is important in your life."

DASSEL ELEMENTARY EXTENSIONS

Please post extension numbers by your telephone. First dial 286-4100, when you get the recording immediately dial one of the extensions below:

Allen, Beth	1510
Caron, Steph	1540
Conely, Alison	1526
Davis, Karla	1541
Erickson, Marlyce	1500
Erickson, Patti Jo	1534
Ganser, Gail	1520
Grochow, Shelly	1522
Hall, JoAnna	1529
Halvorson, Carla	1531
Holly, Barb	1506
Holm, Becky	1530
Karlgaard, Luke	1528
Kitchen	1505
Krause, Dan	1534/1468
Krueger, Kelly	1519
Lingl, Mark	1514
Little, Heidi	1516
Luhrs, Sarah	1535
Lynk, Laura	1512
Morris, Debbie	1504
Neu, Mary	1518
Opsahl, Melissa	1527
Pitchford, Mechele	1515
Redman, Julie	1524
Renkes, Julie	1536
Silverberg, Karley	1525
Smoldt, Charlie	1508
Stang, Jim	1537
Tschida, Carmen	1507
Whittaker, Matt	1511

**KIDS NIGHT
AT THE LOCAL DAIRY QUEEN**



Every Wednesday evening between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. the Cokato Dairy Queen is supporting our elementary schools with a 15% contribution of the total of sales!

Our students will take turns providing art work to decorate the eating area of the DQ. We will alternate Wednesdays with Cokato Elementary for art work display.

Please stop in and buy a treat and look at the wonderful art provided by our children! What a fun and tasty way to support our schools!



PICTURE RETAKE DAY



Tuesday, October 5th will be picture retake day at Dassel Elementary b-tween 8:30 a.m.– 9:00 a.m. If your child missed picture day or you weren't satisfied with the picture taken, please bring him/her to the small gym

during this hour.

Students who were absent or forgot their money on September 14th, whose portraits need to be retaken, or who wish to purchase another package, may do this on October 5th. Afternoon kindergartners would need to come between 8:30–9:00 a.m. Students desiring retakes must return their complete original package to the photographer on retake day. All checks must be made payable to **ZAHLER**.

**STUDENTS FEATURED
IN ENTERPRISE DISPATCH**



The Dassel-Cokato Enterprise Dispatch comes to school periodically to take pictures of five students and ask them a question which will be featured in the

local newspaper. If your child has not been featured in the paper before, please sign the permission slip below and have your child return it to the office.

Yes, my child has permission to be featured in the Dassel-Cokato Enterprise Dispatch.

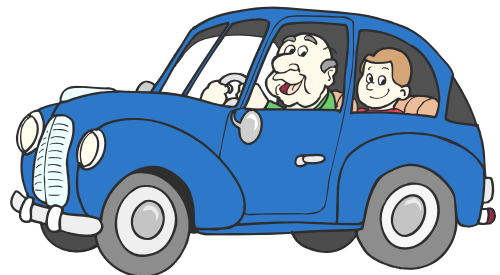
Child's Name _____

Teacher's Name _____

Parent Signature _____



**PARENTS WHO
PICK UP & DROP OFF
THEIR CHILDREN**



All parents are asked to pick up their child or drop off their child on the **EAST** side of the school. For the safety of our students and staff, **do not** pick up or drop off children while buses are loading/unloading on the south side.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY OCTOBER 8th



This year we will be hosting Grandparents' Day at Dassel Elementary on Friday, October 8th at 10:00 a.m. This is a special day for us as we welcome the grandparents to enjoy a

program, visit the classroom, and then join their grandchildren for a delicious school lunch.

Please assist us in notifying your child's grandparents so that we can have as many as possible on that date. If your child would like to use a ready-made invitation to send their grandparent, you will find it included in this newsletter.

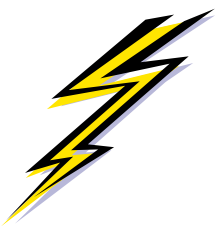
You DO NOT need to call in for a meal reservation. The meal cost is \$3.05. (Please try to have the correct amount to make the line for buying meal tickets go faster.)



The doors to school will be locked until 7:45 a.m. each day, as we do not have supervision before that time. So please do not send your students to school earlier than 7:45 a.m.



FRIDAY IS CHARGER DAY



As a continuation of our school pride theme – all students and staff are encouraged to wear the Dassel-Cokato Charger colors on Fridays throughout the rest of the year. The colors are red, blue and white.

PICKING UP YOUR CHILD EARLY FROM SCHOOL



At Dassel Elementary, the safety of your child is a priority. The Safety Committee continues to meet this year and asks the following of you:

If you are picking your child up between 8:15–3:10 from school, please **come directly to the office** and the office will contact your child's teacher. Your child will then come to the office to meet you. If you know when you are picking up your child, please send a note with the time, and the teacher will have the child come to the office early.

Please wait by the **east door**, if you plan to pick up your child after school. We will open the east door at 3:05 so you don't have to wait outside.



GRANDMA'S PIE



Grannie made such beautiful pies! One day, I asked her, "How do you get such beautiful pies with the crimps around the edge so even?"

"It's a family secret" she said. "So promise not to tell." I roll out the dough, then cut a bottom layer and carefully put it in the pie plate. Then I slowly pour the filling, making sure it's not too full. Next I cut a top layer and put it over the filling. Finally, I take out my teeth and just run them around the edge of the pie crust and they make the nicest even impressions you ever did see."

**HEIDI LITTLE
WINS LEEA AWARD
(LEADER IN EDUCATION OF
EXCELLENCE AWARD)**



Every year the Central Minnesota Service Cooperative honors one teacher from each building that demonstrates leadership, dedication, and professionalism in his/her building and district. Teachers in that building select that teacher

to be recognized.

This year the Dassel Elementary teachers chose Mrs. Heidi Little, 3rd grade teacher, to receive that award. Mrs. Little models excellence in her assignment everyday, and we want to thank her for her dedication and service.

Mrs. Little will be recognized at the LEEA banquet on Wednesday, October 27th, in St. Cloud.



THE FOUR W's OF STUDENT SAFETY

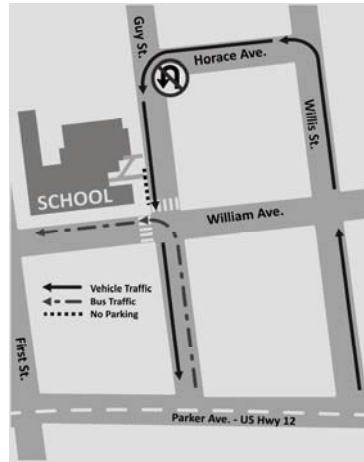
Who: Parents/Guardians driving students to and/or picking students up at the Dassel Elementary School.

What: We need your help to keep Dassel Elementary students safe during loading and unloading times. AM – Students should enter the building at the east door. Please do not drop students off in the front of the building as this area is designated as a bus loading and unloading zone. PM - Students will be dismissed on the east side of Dassel Elementary. Students will cross the street to walk home or meet parents, with school patrol assistance, at Guy Street and William Avenue. (See map below) At no time will students be allowed to cross at any location other than a marked crosswalk, unless accompanied by an adult. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to pick students up at the door to safely escort them to a vehicle. Reminder: Please do not park and wait in the middle of the street. Do not park in the new **Pick Up Zone** during the designated hours.

When: Pick Up Zone

Loading & Unloading Times (7:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M.) and (2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.)

Where:



In order to safely manage traffic during loading and unloading times we are requesting that parents travel north on Willis Street – West on Horace Avenue – South on Guy Street. This will create a continuous flow of traffic that can utilize the **Pick Up Zone** (No Parking – dotted line on map) to

ease congestion and concerns regarding **student safety**.

Thank you for your cooperation regarding this important safety concern! Thank you to the Dassel City Council for their assistance and commitment to the children attending Dassel Elementary School!

NEW PARENT PORTAL



This year our school district is implementing a new software program, Infinite Campus, that will be used to maintain all our student and family information. An exciting component of this software is a new Parent Portal, which will allow parents better access to their children's grades, lunch account balances, standardized test scores, attendance records, contact information, and immunization records. Since this software completely replaces the previous parent portal, it will be necessary for all parents to set up new accounts in the Campus Portal. To register for a new account you will go to the secretary and receive an identification code: then use a school computer to set up a user name and password. This process will take at least 10 minutes. If you have more than one child in our schools, you will still only need to activate your Portal account one time.

FROM COOK'S CORNER...

by Doris Kyllonen, Lead Cook



Well, we have already finished our first month of school. There have been some really busy days getting back into the regular routine, plus learning a new computer system with new student numbers and a new keypad. Thank you, students, for being so

patient with us and the new system. We have been encouraging the kids to go home and really practice their student numbers and the keypad with their parents as much as they can. The more practice they have, the faster the lunch line can move. Thank you for your cooperation. And kindergarteners, a big high-five to you all for knowing your numbers as soon as you started coming to lunch.

Our lunch program is *offer-vs.-serve*, which means that a student must choose three of the five food groups we offer each day at lunch. I'll let you know about each of these food groups and why they are so important to a balanced diet in the next few newsletters. This month the topic is fruit-group foods, my personal favorite. Foods in this group provide vitamin C, which helps our bodies heal cuts and bruises and fight infections. Fruit-group foods also provide these other essential nutrients:

- Vitamin A, which helps us see in the dark and helps keep our skin healthy
- Fiber, which helps us digest our food
- Phytochemicals (pronounced fight'-o-chemicals), which are substances that help prevent diseases

Some of the fruit-group foods are apples, oranges, bananas, pears, grapes, kiwi fruit, berries (strawberries, blueberries, raspberries), melons (watermelons, cantaloupe, honeydew), pineapple, and papaya. We should be getting three servings from this group every day. I hope you will try a few different ones--it will definitely make your body healthy.

We will chat again next month.

P.S. It's so much fun seeing all of the kids' smiling faces again, and getting to know the new ones.

❖ Student elementary lunch	\$1.50
❖ Student middle school	\$1.55
❖ Student high school	\$1.55
❖ Adult lunch	\$3.05
❖ Student breakfast	\$1.00
❖ Adult breakfast	\$1.50
❖ Extra milk	\$.35



CONGRATULATIONS

Sophia Ruth Karlgaard



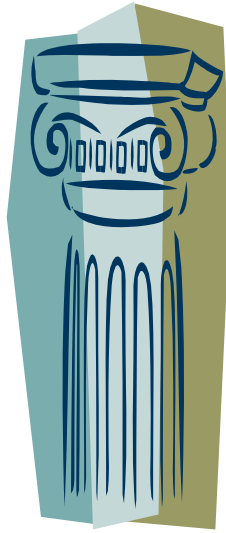
Congratulations to our first grade teacher at Dassel Elementary, Luke Karlgaard and his wife, Christine, who are the proud parents of a baby girl born last August 23rd, 2010. Her name is Sophia Ruth and she weighed 6 lbs. 9 oz. and was 20 inches long.

Brodee James Whittaker



Congratulations to our fourth grade teacher, Matt Whittaker and his wife, Sonia, who gave birth to a baby boy on June 15th, 2010. His name is Brodee James and he weighed 9 lbs. 9 oz. and was 21.5 inches long.

GOLDEN RULERS OF THE MONTH FOR OCTOBER



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 compassion and integrity. 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 were:

Back row: Sanna Thao, Erika Pudas, Emily Tolkkinen, Ashley Aho, Hannah Emery

Front Row: Anders Peterson, Nathan Dahlseng, Erick Rossow, (not pictured – Ben Hoaglund)

**In partnership with our communities,
Dassel-Cokato Public Schools
will provide all learners opportunities
designed to maximize their potential
and promote lifelong learning.**

PATROL INSTALLATION AT DASSEL ELEMENTARY

On Friday, September 10th, 28 fourth grade students

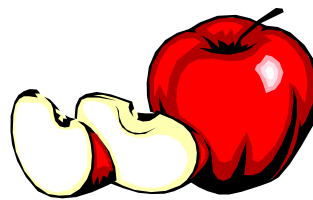


took a pledge to keep our students safe as they cross the roads before and after school. This is a wonderful way for these 4th graders to serve their community! The staff at Dassel Elementary are very proud of their willingness to keep our kids safe.

The students are: Patricia Aho, Collin Krick, Nolan Martinen, Nicholas Mikkola, Daniel Mortenson, Abby Schrupp, Peder Thostenson, Eleanor Weckwerth, Erynn Amundson, Robin Cates, Henry Dahlman, Ava Erickson, Leonel Fonseca, Grant Haapala, Camryn Sullivan, Daniel Bjork, Joel Brummond, Austin Campbell, Orlando Carrasco, Nathan Dahlseng, Kayla Grochow, Kjel Johnson, Harley Money, Brynn Olsen, Ella Richards, Amber Schwartz, Abbie Stertz, and Keaton Warner.



NUTRITIOUS SNACKS FOR CARE GROUP



Each day your child has CARE Time. During that morning activity the students have the opportunity for a snack/beverage. Please make sure your child brings a healthy snack such as fruit, cheese crackers, granola bar, etc. These healthy snacks will help provide the energy necessary for a productive day. We strive to have fit students as much as you do, so your cooperation is appreciated.

Free milk or juice for snack is provided for each student by the district.

FROM THE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER'S OFFICE...

by Carmen Tschida



As we begin our second month of school, we hope that the children have adjusted to a calm morning routine, are comfortable in their new classroom, and have made some new friends. If you are finding that your child is continuing to struggle with

any of these issues, or have noticed negative behavior changes, please contact their teacher or me. We want all students to feel welcome and comfortable when they arrive at Dassel Elementary and are away from their parents.

I will be at the school this year on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday all day long. If you need to talk with me, please leave me a message and I will get back to you as soon as possible. My job as a school social worker is to identify obstacles to a child's learning and then develop a plan to break down the obstacle. The obstacles can vary from behavior concerns, family changes, friendship issues, low self-esteem, a learning disability as well as other issues. If you are unsure if you should call, please do so and I can re-direct you if necessary. Early intervention is important to a child's success.

Theme:

**Have You Filled a Bucket Today?
"Make New Friends"**

This year, students at Dassel Elementary are going to be "bucket fillers"! We read as a group the book – "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" by Carol McCloud on the second day of school in a lyceum. We are also emphasizing and encouraging our students to "Make New Friends".

The bucket idea is that every person carries an invisible bucket. We can fill someone's bucket by giving compliments, sharing encouraging words, and lending a helping hand. When we fill someone else's bucket, we are also filling our own because it makes us feel good about ourselves.

Bucket dippers are people who make fun of others, ignore others or hurt someone in some way. When you are a bucket dipper, you are emptying your bucket as well as the other person's bucket.

During CARE group and during the school day, we will be incorporating these themes and encouraging the students to be Bucket Fillers, and Stepping Up to Make New Friends.

"Golden Ruler"

CARE Group Character Education Activities

This school year, our students will continue to focus on the Character Pillars during CARE Group, through Character Education activities. Although the activities include all the pillars, there will be a special emphasis on integrity and compassion. We will continue to emphasize the **"Golden Rule: - Treat others as you would like to be treated"**. Each Care Group will be recognizing one student from their group on a monthly basis that consistently demonstrates the Golden Rule in their daily activities. The "Golden Rulers", for the month will be announced on the morning announcement and will have a special locker marker for the month in recognition of their good character. As you walk through the hallways, look for the "Golden Ruler" locker markers and acknowledge the student for demonstrating good character.

I look forward to a great year, and let me know if I can help out in anyway. Please call me at (320) 286-4100 ext. 1507.



PLEASE CALL SCHOOL TODAY:



1. with change of address or daytime telephone number, or
2. with information regarding your child's special health conditions.

HEADLINES IN SCHOOL HEALTH ...

by Kelly Krueger, LSN



Vision and hearing screening will take place on October 1st. Screening guidelines from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) are followed. MDH recommends screening kindergarten and 2nd grade students for hearing, and 1st and 3rd graders for both vision and hearing. We will also include children in which a vision or hearing concern is brought to our attention by parents, teachers or students.

I, along with our wonderful, trained volunteers will conduct the screenings. A re-screening will be held on October 29th for those students who do not pass the initial screening. If, at this point your child does not pass, you will receive a referral letter recommending your child be seen by his/her health care provider. If you do not receive a letter by the end of November, your child has passed and no follow up is necessary.

Good vision and hearing is an essential key to learning. It is very important to conduct screening so that any problems can be detected at an early age. The screening is not diagnostic; only an indication to whether a possible problem may be present. Further evaluation by your health care provider will be needed to determine if a problem exists. If you have specific concerns regarding your child, please call me at x1804.

We are always in need of volunteers to help with this process! If you would like to help out in the future, please call me and I will add you to the volunteer list. Thank you in advance!



ATTENTION PARENTS...



If your child is allergic to milk we need a physician's statement and this statement is to be renewed annually. If your child is lactose intolerant we require a written note from the child's parent requesting that we give them lactose reduced milk. We are not required to make available any other substitute such as juice to lactose intolerant students.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT EXTRACURRICULAR EVENTS



While the school district encourages all students to attend D/C extracurricular events and support our team, these are a few guidelines with which we need your assistance:

- Children in grades 6 and lower need to be accompanied by an adult when attending events. Adults attending with children are expected to monitor their behavior during the entire event to make certain that it is not disruptive to others.
- To avoid injuries, we do not allow children to play games off the field during football games. In particular, please do not allow them to bring their own footballs to the games.
- Once students enter an event, they are expected to stay in the seats or other areas appropriate for viewing the game and supporting the team.
- Students and adults are encouraged to cheer loudly in support of all D/C teams. However, we do not condone any behavior that is disrespectful to either the opposing teams or the officials.
- We encourage all students and adults to learn the lyrics (see below) and sing the school song when played at events!

If you help us with guidelines, all of our D/C extracurricular events can be safe, fun, and exciting events for all D/C residents to attend!

DC FIGHT SONG LYRICS

Here come the DC Chargers,
fighting to keep our honor;
Cheer for the DC Chargers,
We'll win this game! (Rah, Rah, Rah!)
Here's to the blue and white;
with all our might we'll fight.
Onward to victory,
we'll win this game tonight! (Fight!)

GO CHARGERS!!!

FROM THE MEDIA CENTER. . .

by Carla Halvorson



A cricket brought in by Lydia Niemela from Mrs. Opsahl's class.

Come see what all of the "Buzzz" is about! Our media center has a new look – insects both real and pretend have joined us! Some grades will "bee" using some books about insects this fall to learn about how fiction and nonfiction books are organized. We'll also be learning some fun insect facts too.

Another fun thing that kids are doing (until the weather gets too cold) is bringing in some insects to go in our terrariums. Remember, the two rules are: they must be insects and they must come to the media center in a container.

Each classroom has a weekly scheduled check-out time. During this time students are introduced to various types of children's literature and learn how to access materials for recreation and information. The weekly visit to the Media Center is much more enjoyable for students if they return their books on time as they are not allowed to check out books until books are returned. Students K-2nd grade are allowed two books, 3rd and 4th grade students are allowed 3 books. One exception to this is when students are working on a project; they are welcome to checkout additional books. Students are also invited to stop in and exchange books throughout the week if they finish their books early -- We want them to have books in their hands!

3rd & 4th GRADE BOOK CLUB



Attention all third and fourth graders!!! We'd like to invite you to join us for book celebrations that will again be held throughout this school year. We again want to include as many students as possible. The first books will be announced soon.

Following are some details for this year's book clubs:

- Book clubs will meet over the noon hour.
- Students who participate should be prepared to read the books on time and to participate in a small group discussion.
- Students must pass a Reading Counts test or complete a story map by the required due date as proof that the book has been read.
- Discussions, activities, and snacks are often a part of our book clubs!

We are looking forward to celebrating good books with all who are interested!

Hope to see you there!



Dassel-Cokato

PTA

everychild.onevoice.®

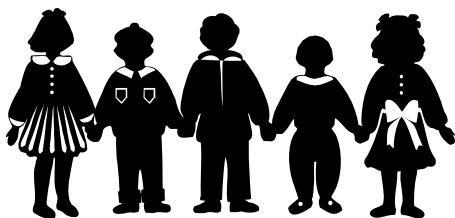


Please join us for our next regular PTA meeting, which will be held on Thursday, October 7th, at 6:30 p.m. in the High School media center. Superintendent Jeff Powers will join us to discuss the policies and guidelines used in making the decision to close school or have a two hour late start. We will also take a few minutes to meet the newest administrator in the DC district, Mrs. Debbie Morris, Principal at Dassel Elementary.

Please note that the DC PTA is going to an every other month schedule. Our October meeting will start the year and we will have our schedule follow the even-numbered months of the school year. We all have very busy schedules, and the membership of the PTA recognizes this. However, the importance of being involved in your child's education never goes away. Please join us or just come visit to see what it's all about!

If you have any questions about the upcoming meetings or would like to visit with someone about PTA, please email DC PTA at chargerpta@yahoo.com or contact our Vice President of Membership, Tonia Olsen at 320-275-3275.

CHARGER KIDS CLUB



Charger Kids Club is a school age childcare and enrichment program, designed to meet the year-round needs of working parents of students in grades K-6. The goal of our program is to provide a FUN, safe, recreational, and enriching program.

Hours

Before school: Monday-Friday – 6:00-8:00 AM
 After-school: Monday-Friday, 3:00-6:00 PM
 Non-school days: 6:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Location

Cokato Elementary – Cafeteria (Small Gym)
 Dassel & Middle School students welcome, transportation is available before and after-school, to and from Cokato Elementary.

Up Coming Non-School Days

MEA Break - Oct. 21 & 22
 No School – Elementary Only - Nov. 19
 Teacher Workshop - Dec.3

2010-2011 School Year Fees	First Child	Second Child
Registration Fee (June 10-May 11)	\$35 Family	\$45 Family
Before School		
Daily	\$4.50	\$4.50
Full Time child (5 days a week)	\$20.00	\$17.50
After School		
Daily	\$8.00	\$7.50
Full Time (5 days a week)	\$36.00	\$32.50
After School until 4:30 PM	\$5.00	\$4.50
Non-school days		
Full Day	\$25.00	\$24.00
Half Day (5 hours or less)	\$20.00	\$19.00
Drop In Rate – Before School	\$6.50	\$6.50
Drop In Rate – After School	\$10.00	\$10.00

Contact Information

To register or get more information contact:
 Site Supervisor: Jennifer Todnem
 320-286-4100 ext. 1334
Jennifer.todnem@dc.k12.mn.us

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EDUCATION CLASSES

To register call 286-4120
 or visit us on line at www.dc.k12.mn.us/commed
 and click on Community Education

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

Clay Camp Sculptures (Grade 1 and up)
Laura Lounsbury

Clay Campers will love sculpting and defining their abilities through fine details to create any kind of sculpture piece using a new clay! Make any animal or motorized vehicle; anything you would want for a figurine! Students will be using small sculpting tools and will get to take this project home with them -- no waiting for a month to have your project fired!

Activity #2205

Monday, October 4, 3:15-5:45 pm
 Dassel Elem. Room #145, Door A
 Fee: \$33

Young Eagles Flying (Ages 11-Grade 12)
Jeffrey Lux, Area Young Eagles Coordinator

The Young Eagles Program has been developed by the EEA Aviation Foundation to welcome young people into the world of aviation. Aviation is exciting and vital to our nation's future. In this class, participants will explore the world of aviation in a hands-on classroom setting. Students will also experience, first hand, the feel of flight by taking an airplane ride with experienced pilots. Participants will experience a safe and enjoyable flight that will give them new perspectives on the world and life in general. The instructor has asked that all participants bring a non perishable food item to be donated to the local food shelf. (EAA must have a signed parent/guardian permission slip on file for this class. They are available at the Community Education office.) It is suggested to bring a camera along to class.

Activity #1103

Saturday, October 9 (Alternate date of October 16 in case of bad weather)
 9:00-11:00 am (End time may vary due to # of students)
 Litchfield Airstrip
 Fee: \$7, bring a non-perishable food shelf item.
 Registration Deadline: Friday, October 1

Private Piano Lessons (Grades 2-Adult)
Maria Kilpela

The piano is an ideal first instrument for students who want to learn to read music, and play a musical instrument. The benefits of piano lessons for children go beyond music education: learning to play the piano, and the study of music in general, engages both hemispheres of the brain. Lessons will be 30 minutes in length. (Participants will have the opportunity for one make-up lesson at the end of the session, providing the instructor was notified in advance of an absence). Students will have the opportunity to continue lessons after the initial session. Participants may need to pay a nominal book fee. Prior to the start of lessons the instructor will contact students to set up specific lesson days and times.

- Activity #2009A-Session 1
Thursdays, through November 11
- Activity #2009B-Session 2
Thursdays, December 2 – February 3
Times to be arranged with instructor
MS Music Practice Room, Door H
Fee: \$114 per 8 lessons (prorated for Session 1)

ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

Making Herbal Medicines
Connie Karstens, MS, Herbalist/Health Educator

Discuss and demystify some of the many different preparations used in herbal medicine. Learn about many commonly found plants, which are often referred to as weeds, and how useful they can be for a variety of health situations. Gathering and preparation of herbal medicine will be covered so participants will gain confidence in their ability to make their own remedies. Learn the basics in making plant extracts as tinctures, oils and salves.

- Activity #7934
Thursday, October 7
7:00-8:30 pm
DCHS FACS Room #114, Door C
Fee: \$29

LEFSE: Not Just For Norwegians!
Bonnie Eng
Learn to make this Norwegian delectable staple. Lefse is made from potatoes, flour, butter and cream

and is served in a variety of ways but most commonly with butter and sugar and then rolled up. Which lefse tastes best? Grandma's recipe? Lefse from a mix? Do I really have to rice the potatoes? We will try to answer all of your questions as we make a variety of recipes. Preparation, cooking and of course, eating will be included in this one session class. Please bring containers to take home samples. A nominal supply fee will be payable to the instructor the night of the class.

- Activity #2534
Thursday, October 28
7:00-9:00 pm
DCHS FACS Room #114, Door C
Fee: \$15
Registration Deadline: Thursday, October 21

Learn-To-Dance Workshops
Aaron Clarey

Swing Dance Workshop- Grab a guy, grab a gal or just come by your Napoleon Solo style self and take the Swing Dance Workshop. Swing dancing is the most popular and common dance in the US. You can dance to jazz, swing, rock and roll, or country with swing dancing. A dance you are practically guaranteed to use in your life, take the Swing Dance Workshop!

- Activity #2805S-Single
Activity #2805C-Couple
Wednesday, October 6
7:00-9:00 pm
Dassel Elem. School Cafeteria, Door A
Fee: \$14 single/\$21 couple

Red Hot Salsa Workshop - Learn the hottest dance in the US when you learn Salsa! Salsa is the most popular of all the Latin dances in the world and is guaranteed to be played at any Latin bistro. Learn the basics and then add turns such as the Cuddle, the Spin Out, dramatic dips, borderline-illegal moves and more. Your parents will blush when you show them what you learned when you take Red Hot Salsa!

- Activity #2806S-Single
Activity #2806C-Couple
Saturday, October 9
1:00-3:00 pm
Dassel Elem. School Cafeteria, Door A
Fee: \$14 single / \$21 couple

Sell Like a Pro On E-BAY

Joel Karsten

The best way to ensure you receive top dollar for the items you sell on eBay, is to learn from a Pro! Joel Karsten, is one of the top three "Certified eBay Education Specialist" in the country, with vast experience having listed over 700,000 items on eBay. The class begins with the basics of how to set up accounts and covers every subject required to become a successful eBay seller including: safety, pricing, photography, titles, descriptions, policies, shipping, returns, feedback and selling strategies. Even experienced sellers will learn many new skills to help them understand how eBay's new "best match" search system operates and how it will improve their eBay sales. An optional detailed workbook printed by eBay Press will be available for purchase at the class for \$15. It is very helpful as a step-by-step guide for reference after the class. Basic computer knowledge is helpful; however students WILL NOT be working on computers during the class.

Activity #1709

Thursday, October 14

6:30-9:30 pm

DCHS Community Room, PAC Door

Fee: \$37

Deer Cutting for Dummy's

Kerry Swendsen & Wendell Ball

Learn the basic skills to cut your own deer. Proper care of the deer will be demonstrated including field dressing, skinning and cleaning of the carcass. Watch how to cut your deer, from pulling back straps for chops, to tips for roasts and trim for ground venison to sausage. The instructors will use a road kill deer for hand-on experience. Included in the class fee is a basic step-by-step book for quick reference. Some deer cutting supplies will be available for purchase - everything you need to cut your own deer! Read what one of their past class participants had to say, "We were almost positive we'd learn one or two things new, but these guys gave us a drink with a fire hose! Thank you so much." - Ben Sanchez. Visit www.deerdummy.com for more information.

Activity #1751

Monday, October 25, 7:00-10:00 pm in HS Shop, Door H, Fee: \$40

Fee includes "Deer Processing Easy Guide" booklet
Registration Deadline: Monday, October 18

UPCOMING ARTS ASSN. EVENTS:

TANGLED ROOTS CONCERT LOCAL GROUP SALTY DOGGS TO OPEN

Bluegrass Music At Its Finest! Tangled Roots is the hardest drivin'est Bluegrass band this side of Tennessee! With a broad spectrum of material ranging from songs and tunes by Bill Monroe and Elvis Presley to more recent songs penned by Bruce Hornsby, John Prine, Kevin Welch and Bruce Cockburn, Tangled Roots has become a favorite with bluegrass music fans. The members of the band consist of some of the best known Bluegrass Pickers' in the Upper Midwest! The Salty Doggs will open for Tangled Roots and consist of local musicians Reid Danielson, Larry Flessland, Paul Jossart and Greg Kwitek.

Tickets: Adults - \$10, Youth - \$5

Location: D-C Performing Arts Center

Reserved Seating at the PAC

Tickets Now on Sale

Information and Ticket Purchases: D-C Community Education, 286-4120

THE O'NEILL BROTHERS HOLIDAY SHOW Sunday, December 12, 4:00 pm

A Holiday Show For The Entire Family! The O'Neill Brothers are nationally-known pianists who have sold more than two million CDs and have toured across the country. Their holiday show is sure to please audiences of all ages, including traditional Christmas songs as well as favorites on two grand pianos. Katie McMahon, the original voice of Riverdance, some incredible guest musicians and Irish dancers will also join Tim and Ryan for a few songs onstage. Enjoy the warmth and humor of The O'Neill Brothers as they present a spectacular afternoon of holiday entertainment that's fun for the whole family! Visit their website for more information:

www.pianobrothers.com

Tickets: Adults - \$25, Youth - \$8

Location: D-C Performing Arts Center

Reserved Seating at the PAC

Public ticket sales begin: October 4

Information and Ticket Purchases: D-C Community Education, 286-4120

DASSEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CALENDAR 2010-2011

OCTOBER	1	K-3 Vision & Hearing Screening
	1	8:15 Pepfest
	5	Picture Retake Day
	7	Grade 2 goes to Dassel Fire Hall
	8	Grandparents' Day
	8	P.M. Fire Prevention Program
	15	8:30-1:15 Grade 3 goes to Nelson Farm
	21-22	NO SCHOOL - Education Convention
	29	Grade K-3 Vision & Hearing Rescreening

NOVEMBER	12	Conferences for Kindergarten only
	16	5:00-8:00 Elementary Conference
	18	5:00-8:00 Elementary Conference
	19	No School - A.M. Teacher Planning/P.M. Parent-Teacher Conferences
	25-26	Thanksgiving Vacation

DECEMBER	2	End of 1 st Trimester
	3	NO SCHOOL - Staff Development Day
	8	Volunteer Christmas Tea
	16	1:30 Music Program Matinee (Gr. K-2)
	16	7:00 Evening Music Program (Gr. K-2)
	17	P.M. Gr. 3 Christmas Stores
	20	A.M. Gr. 3 Christmas Stores
	21	Grade 2 goes to Cokato Museum
	23-Jan. 2	No School - Winter Break

JANUARY	3	Classes Resume
	4	AAA Kick-Off for Grades 3 & 4
	5	AAA Kick-Off for Grades 1 & 2
	17	No School - Staff Development
	19	AAA Contracts Due

FEBRUARY	2	AAA Performance Judging
	11	Jump Rope for Heart
	15	9:45 AAA 1 st half of program
	16	9:45 AAA 2 nd half of program
	16	AAA Projects due
	17	AAA Project Judging & Performance
	21	No School - Presidents' Day

MARCH	4	End of 2 nd Trimester
	7	NO SCHOOL - Staff Development Day
	11	Conferences for Kindergarten only
	15	5:00-8:00 Elementary Conferences
	17	5:00-8:00 Elementary Conferences
	18	No School - A.M. Teacher Planning/P.M. Parent-Teacher Conferences
	22	3:30-5:30 Kindergarten Round-Up
28-Apr. 1	NO SCHOOL - Spring Break	




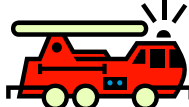


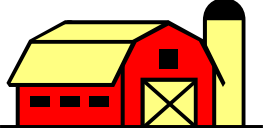
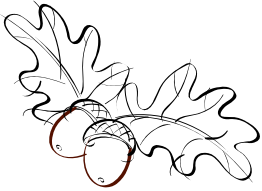


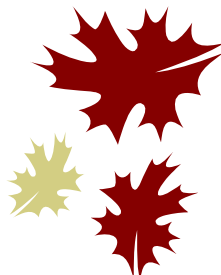

APRIL	6	8:00-8:30 Kindergarten "Donuts for Dads" (M & W Class)
	7	8:00-8:30 Kindergarten "Donuts for Dads" (T & Th Class)
	12-13	MCA Testing for Grade 3 & 4 (Reading)
	19-20	MCA Testing for Grade 3 & 4 (Math)
	22	NO SCHOOL - Good Friday

MAY	2	1:30 Music Matinee
	2	6:30 Music Program for Grade 3
	2	7:30 Music Program for Grade 4
	4	8:00-8:30 Kindergarten "Muffins for Moms" (M & W Class)
	5	8:00-8:30 Kindergarten "Muffins for Moms" (T & Th Class)
	12	Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon
	20	Grade 4 goes to MN Historical Center
	25	8:15-4:45 Grade 2 goes to MN Zoo
	27	10:00-11:30 Gummy Bear Day Activities
		11:30-1:00 School Picnic
		1:00-2:30 Gummy Bear Day Activities
	30	NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day

JUNE	1	Baccalaureate
	2	8:15-2:50 Grade 1 goes Children's Museum & Baker Park Reserve
	3	9:00 Awards Program Last Day of School
	5	2:00 Graduation



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

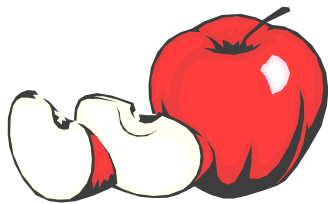
2010		OCTOBER			2010	
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI		
<p>Please refer to the “10-11 School Calendar” which is included in this newsletter. Some dates have changed and have been up-dated since the Parent Handbook was printed.</p>					<p>1</p> <p style="text-align: right;">8:15 Pep Fest</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Gr. K-3 Vision & Hearing Screening</p>	
<p>4</p> 	<p>5</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Picture Retakes 8:30-9:00</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PTA Meeting at the High School Media Center 6:30-8:00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Grade 2 Fire Hall Visit</p> 	<p>8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Grandparents’ Day 10:00</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Fire Prevention Program 1:00</p>		
<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> 	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">8:30-2:00 3rd Grade go to Nelson Farm</p>		
<p>18</p> 	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Education Convention</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>22</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Education Convention</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">NO SCHOOL</p>		
<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> 	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Gr. K-3 Vision & Hearing Re-Screening</p>		

OCTOBER BREAKFAST MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>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.</p>				1 Cereal Muffin Fresh Fruit
4 Pancake with Syrup Sausage Link Fruit Juice	5 Cereal Teddy Grahams Fruit Sauce choice	6 Breakfast Bites Cheese Slice Fruit Sauce Choice	7 Cereal Yogurt Fruit Choice	8 Frudel Stick Cheese Stick Fruit Juice
11 Cereal Muffin Fruit Sauce Choice	12 Omelet Toast Fruit Sauce Choice	13 Cereal Cheese Slices Fruit Sauce Choice	14 Breakfast on a Stick Toast Fruit Sauce	15 Cereal Granola Bar Fruit Juice
18 Cereal Granola Bar Assorted Fruit Juice	19 Waffle Sticks Sausage Link Fruit Sauce	20 Cereal Cinnamon Toast Fruit Sauce	21 Education Convention No School	22 Education Convention No School
25 Pancakes Sausage Link Assorted Fruit Juice	26 Cereal Teddy Grahams Fruit Sauce Choice	27 Breakfast Bites Cheese Slice Fruit Sauce	28 Cereal Yogurt Fresh Fruit	29 Frudel Stick Cheese Stick Fruit Juice

½ pint milk served with each meal

ANTICIPATED FAMILY FOOD COST FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER



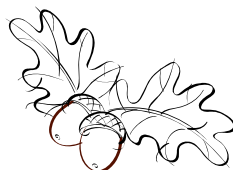
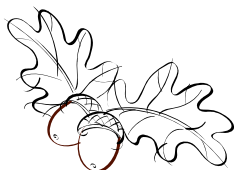
Grades K-4:

Breakfasts: 19 days x \$ 1.00 = \$19.00
 Regular Lunches: 19 days x \$ 1.50 = \$28.50
 Reduced Lunches: 19 days x \$.40 = \$ 7.60
 Extra milk = 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!

OCTOBER LUNCH MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		<p>½ pint milk will be served with each meal</p>		<p>1 <i>Homecoming</i> Sloppy Joe on a Bun Roasted Potatoes Seasoned Green Beans Fresh Fruit Choice Cookie</p>
<p>4 Lunch Around Pizza Seasoned Corn Fresh Sauce Choice</p>	<p>5 Pulled Pork Sandwich Baked Potato Seasoned Carrots Fresh Fruit</p>	<p>6 Hamburger Pasta Hotdish Break Stick Seasoned Vegetable Mandarin Oranges</p>	<p>7 Chicken Patty on a bun Potato Smiles Seasoned Green Bean Fresh Fruit</p>	<p>8 <i>Grandparents' Day</i> Turkey & Gravy Mashed Potatoes Dressing Vegetables Cranberries Fresh Dinner Roll Ice Cream Cup</p>
<p>11 Country Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes Mixed Vegetable Biscuit Fruit Sauce</p>	<p>12 Spaghetti with Meat Sauce Garden Salad French Break Fresh Fruit</p>	<p>13 Corn Dog Sweet Potato Fries Broccoli with Cheese Bread Choice Fruit Sauce Choice</p>	<p>14 Chicken Fajita Wrap with fixings California Blend Vegetables Whole Wheat Roll Fresh Fruit</p>	<p>15 Whole Grain Pizza Vegetable choice Fruit Sauce Choice Dessert</p>
<p>18 French Toast Sticks Smokies Tri Tator Orange Smiles Fruit Juice</p>	<p>19 Taco in a Bag with fixings Seasoned Corn Break choice Fresh Fruit</p>	<p>20 Turkey Sandwich Potato Rounds Fresh Veggie with Dip Trix Yogurt</p>	<p>21 Education Convention No School</p>	<p>22 Education Convention No School</p>
<p>25 Long Dog on a Bun French Fries Baked Beans Sauerkraut Fruit Sauce Choice</p>	<p>26 Hot Ham & Cheese on a Bun Batter Bites Carrot Coins Fresh Fruit</p>	<p>27 Chicken Strips Rice Pilaf Seasoned Peas Fruit Sauce Choice</p>	<p>28 Cheese Bread with Pizza Sauce Lettuce Salad Fresh Fruit Cake</p>	<p>29 Sloppy Joe on a Bun French Fries Seasoned Green Beans Fruit Sauce Choice</p>



YOU ARE INVITED TO GRANDPARENTS' DAY



Calling all
Grandmas & Grandpas of Dassel Elementary Students

What:
Grandparents' Day

When:
Friday, October 8th

Where:
Dassel Elementary School

Time:
Program will start promptly at
10:00 a.m.
(but come a little early to buy your lunch ticket)

Activities will include
a program featuring your grandchild,
observing in a classroom, touring the building,
and eating a delicious meal.

MENU



Turkey & Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Dressing
Cranberries
Vegetables
Fresh Dinner Roll
Ice Cream Cup
Milk

You do not need to call in a reservation, and please do not send money in advance for the meal. You can purchase your meal ticket **(\$3.05)** right when you enter the building. **Please have the correct amount** to make the line for buying meal tickets go faster.

We will be finishing around 1:00 p.m.