



DCHS News

December Newsletter

Promoting positive relationships, personal responsibility and academic rigor to prepare students for success in a changing world.

Dassel-Cokato High School

4852 Reardon Ave SW,
Suite 1600
Cokato, MN 55321
320-286-4100 Ext 1800
www.dc.k12.mn.us

Principal's Message

Dean Jennissen

Farewell Heidi Kepley

DCHS Social Worker Heidi Kepley will be retiring as of December 23rd. Heidi has served the students, families and staff of DCHS for 30 years! Mrs. Kepley was instrumental in the creation of the FOCUS and ALC programs as well as a comprehensive K-12 student support program led by our social workers. During Mrs. Kepley's time here she has touched the lives of thousands and could be counted on to stand in the gap when someone needed support. Personally, I have always appreciated Heidi's work ethic, creativity and sense of humor. Best wishes in retirement and your move to North Carolina. You will be missed!

Upcoming Parent Informational Meetings

Please note the Guidance Section of the Newsletter. Mr. Tool has scheduled four meetings that parents might find to be helpful as their students prepare for their future in high school and beyond. There are meetings for current 10th Graders, current seniors and next year's 9th-12th Graders. There will be several changes to our Registration Guide and Registration process for next year and two of the meetings are devoted to this. We are looking forward to communicating with our parents to increase the success of each student's high school experience.

2nd Trimester Starting

Parents, most students have new classes and new teachers this Trimester and will be guided by a new set of expectations in each classroom. Be sure to contact your student's teachers should you have a question or concern. We do have Parent-Teacher Conferences on Thursday, January 20th from 4:00-7:00 p.m., but we encourage you to not wait until then if you have questions. Also, Campus Portal is our school's on-line site for you to check your student's grades, attendance, lunch account information, etc. If you have not signed up for this excellent tool, please contact the High School Office and we can assist you in setting this up.

Here is to a great 2nd Trimester! Please contact me if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Dean A. Jennissen, Principal

Calendar of Events

December

HS Holiday Concert PAC 7:30 pm	20
Senior Portraits Due for Yearbook	22
Winter Break	23- Jan 2

January

No School (Teacher Workshop)	17
Parent/Teacher Conferences HS West Gym 4:00-7:00 pm	20
Final Deadline to Order Yearbooks	24

February

Talent Show Auditions	1
Snowball Week	14-18
Driver Ed Teen & Parent Night PAC	17
DC Student Variety Show PAC 1:00-2:00 pm	18
Snowball Dance MS Commons 9:30-11:00 pm	18



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Dean of Students Message

Steven Schauberger

Thank you for an outstanding beginning to the 2010-11 school year! I cannot believe how quickly this trimester flew by but I truly enjoy spending each day with DC students, families and staff. In proper perspective, we have a great student body that makes good behavioral choices. My perennial goal is to enable and challenge students to develop the strong character, academic skills and social skills required to succeed in society. Developing strong relationships and good listening skills is at the core of everything that we do at DCHS.

December Activities- Student council is decorating the commons and planning some holiday activities for the student body to participate in during the weeks of December 13-22. They will sell candy canes, have a Santa Hat Day and sponsor an ugliest winter holiday sweater contest to name just a few events!

Please note that I am always available to speak with families, parents, students about any concerns during conferences. This trimester's conferences are held on January 20, 2011 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. I would love to hear your ideas about our school.

DCHS Snowball Week is February 14-18, 2011. Student Council is planning dress up days, lunchtime activities, a pepfest and a potential semi-formal dance on Friday, February 18th from 9 to 11 p.m. Student council needs adult chaperones and support (food/drink/decorating) to carry out this exciting opportunity. Please contact Mr. Schauberger at 320-286-4203 if you can volunteer to help out!

NEW! The DC Student Variety Show will take place on **February 18, 2011 from 1:00-2:00 p.m. in the PAC.** This a change in date that you must note on your calendar. This year, student council is making it part of Snowball Week.

Great points to remember:

Attendance: Please call the high school office to report absences and follow them up with a written note! Please call me at extension 1803 if you would like to give me more specific information regarding your students absence.

Winter Weather Driving: Remind and re-teach the skills of safe winter driving with your students! Slowing down will save lives and gas!

Parking Tags: If your student drives and parks a different vehicle to and at school, please remind them to switch and display their 2010-11 yellow parking tag. Otherwise, he/she should leave a post-it note on my door with the vehicle information and license plate number of the different vehicle.



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School Nurse Message

Kelly Krueger

~REMINDER ON STUDENT ILLNESSES~

Please be considerate of others when your student has been ill. To prevent the spread of illness, we remind you to please keep your student home for a MINIMUM of 24 hours after their fever breaks or after they stop vomiting, even if they are feeling better.

~FLU VACCINES~

The Wright County Public Health Wellness on Wheels—WOW—Van provides low cost vaccinations for those without health insurance or with high deductibles. Vaccines are just \$10 if eligible. Call 763-682-7717 to find out if you qualify. A WOW van schedule can be found at:

<http://www.co.wright.mn.us/departments/humanservices/wowcal.asp>

~HEALTH AND EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION~

Please remember to submit an updated health and emergency form for your family. Only ONE form is needed per family. Forms can be found on our district website under:

district>new student registration>health forms.

This should be submitted yearly. Thank you!

School Social Worker

Anne Mahoney

It is with great excitement that I write this introduction of myself for the DCHS Newsletter. I am returning to the area after graduation from DCHS in 1996. I received my bachelors of Social Work degree from Moorhead State University and upon graduating from college, my husband Mark, and I moved to Bloomington where I worked as a volunteer coordinator for an organization working with homeless and at risk families and children. After working as a volunteer coordinator, I made the transition to working within the education field first with Covenant Academy of MN (a program of Catholic Charities) as a Recruiter/Enrollment Coordinator and then most recently, as the School Social Worker at RiverBend Academy in Mankato, MN. Mark and I along with our three children: Ella (4), David (2) & Zachariah (7 months) are excited to relocate to the area from our St. Peter home where we currently reside. I look forward to getting to know the families, students and staff at DCHS.





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Yearbook Orders

Order your 2010-2011 yearbook now for \$65.00 plus tax.

Make your check (cash is not accepted) payable to ISD 466, Memo: 10-11 Yearbook and bring this order form and your check to the drop-box in the high school office. **DON'T FORGET TO ADD THE TAX!**

One yearbook plus tax is \$69.47.

BETTER YET: Order your yearbook **ONLINE** using your credit card for a \$2 discount. To order online use the link on the high school webpage or go to www.jostensyearbooks.com and type in **DASSEL COKATO** as the city.

Lunch Accounts

Please make certain that your family's lunch account has enough money in it to cover your student's lunch expenses.

Currently, there are several accounts that are overdrawn. At some point, students with negative lunch balances may not be allowed to eat a regular lunch. Please spare your child and the lunch personnel this embarrassment by keeping your balance positive.

Credit card payments can be made online by using the link on the district web site or by calling Noni Smith at 286-4100, ext 1013.





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Guidance Counselor's Message

Ryan Tool

College and Scholarships

Hopefully Seniors have been busy filling out applications and making plans for next year. I have already seen many college acceptance letters come across my desk. Applying early has many benefits: scholarship consideration, first consideration for student housing, first on the list for your program of study or major (some have limited space available). Students do not have to commit to a school until May 1st, but it is great to give themselves many options.

College Visits

All off-campus college visits should be pre-approved at least 1 school day in advance in order for the absence to count as an activity. Off-campus college visit permission slips are in the Guidance Office.

Financial Aid

Starting in January, families can begin submitting their FAFSA (free application for federal student aid) forms. FAFSA forms can be accessed at www.fafsa.ed.gov. More information about Financial Aid will be coming to Seniors and their families soon. We will also have a Financial Aid night on January 20th at 7 PM in the Choir Room. The Financial Aid Director from Ridgewater will be our main speaker. Everyone is welcome to attend, but this information will be particularly helpful for parents of seniors.

Registration

We have just started second trimester but it is already time to start thinking about next year. In January we will begin the registration process for the 2011-12 school year. We will soon have our registration guide available with our new course offerings. We will have a meeting to go over college credit options on January 20 at 7:15 PM in the Middle School Commons. We will also have a parent meeting about registration on January 27 at 6:45 PM in the Choir Room.

Dates to Remember

Date	Time	Description	Location
1/13	7:00 PM	PLAN Parent Meeting: Grade 10	Middle School Commons
1/20	7:00 PM	Financial Aid Meeting: Grade 12	High School Choir Room
1/20	7:15 PM	High School/College Options Meeting, Grades 9-11	Middle School Commons
1/26	Advisory	Registration Materials distributed: Grades 9-11	Advisory Classroom
1/27	6:45 PM	Registration Information Meeting: Grades 9-11	High School Choir Room
1/27	7:45 PM	Registration Information Meeting: Grade 8	High School Choir Room
2/3-2/4	School Day	Registration: Grades 9-11	Tech Lab
2/7-2/11	School Day	Registration: Makeup Days	Guidance Office



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Guidance Counselor's Message (continued)

Ryan Tool

Parent Portal

As we end one trimester and began another I would like to encourage parents to use the Parent Portal. This tool is a great way to keep track of students schedule and grades. Hopefully 1st trimester was a good one, but if not please contact me. We have many great resources at DCHS to help your child be successful.

ACT Test Dates

Please note: February and April ACT Tests are offered at DCHS

*DCHS ACT Code: 240-500

Please register online at www.actstudent.org

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
February 12, 2011	January 7, 2011	January 8 – 21, 2011
April 9, 2011	March 4, 2011	March 5 – 18, 2011
June 11, 2011	May 6, 2011	May 7 – 20, 2011

Guidance Website

Please visit the Guidance Office website for information on Upcoming Events, College Visits, Scholarships, Registration, Testing and more! We update the website each Friday.

There are two ways to visit the Guidance website.

Go to: www.dc.k12.mn.us

A) Under Schools select High School and then on the left tool bar, select Guidance Office

B) Under Student and then select HS Guidance Office

The screenshot shows the Dassel-Cokato High School website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for District, Schools, Activities, Community Ed, Parents, Students, and Staff. Below this is a sidebar with a list of links: DCCHS Home, Administration, Area Learning Center, Calendar, Daily Schedule, Guidance Office, Health Services, Media Center, and Mission & Vision. A red arrow labeled 'A' points to the 'Guidance Office' link. In the center, there is a 'Welcome to D-C High School' message and a news item titled 'NHS Holds Annual Induction Ceremony'. On the right, a 'Students' dropdown menu is open, showing options like Campus (Student Portal), Research, Teacher Websites, Moodle (online classes), ThinkQuest, Destiny (book search), Webcast America, Calendars, Menu, HS Guidance Office, and Handbooks. A black arrow labeled 'B' points to the 'HS Guidance Office' option.