



# DCHS News

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

## Principal's Message

## Dean Jennissen

Dear Parents, Students and Families,

Welcome back to the New Year! Isn't it weird to look outside and see no snow? I know that I am not that old, but I cannot recall any winter quite like this one. I hope this doesn't mean we are going to have snow for my June birthday!

Our newsletter highlights two areas I would like to comment on: Conferences and parent meeting dates from our Counseling Department.

Conferences are on January 19th and I want to encourage parents to attend. We are thankful for the capabilities of our Campus Gradebook and pleased that parents are accessing it for their student's progress frequently. However, a face-to-face communication is still helpful in terms of specific feedback between parents and our staff. It is also an opportunity for our staff to encourage students face-to-face, so we hope students will attend as well!

Mr. Tool has set informational meeting dates for parents and students this month that will provide information on Financial Aid, College Credit Options for High School Students and information on 2012-13 Registration. Please mark these on your calendar and make plans to attend. Your student is welcome to attend as well. These information sessions have become increasingly more popular as high school and college programming have become more complex.

Finally, do not hesitate to contact our teachers, office support team or myself if we can assist you in any way.

Dean A. Jennissen, DCHS Principal  
320-286-4202, [dean.jennissen@dc.k12.mn.us](mailto:dean.jennissen@dc.k12.mn.us)

### **Yearbook Orders: Due by January 31st!**

Order your 2011-2012 yearbook now for **\$64.13 (tax included)**.

Make your check (cash is not accepted) payable to ISD 466, Memo: 11-12 Yearbook and bring this order form and your check to the drop-box in the high school office.

BETTER YET: Order your yearbook ONLINE using your credit card. To order online use the link on the high school webpage or go to [www.jostensyearbooks.com](http://www.jostensyearbooks.com) and type in

DASSEL COKATO as the city.

## Calendar of Events

### January

No School (Teacher Workshop)	16
Parent/Teacher Conferences HS West Gym 4:00-7:00 pm	19
Driver Ed Teen & Parent Night PAC 6:30-8:00 pm	26
Final Deadline to Order Yearbooks	31

### February

2012-2013 Course Registration	7-8
GRAD Reading Retest (8:07 am)	8
GRAD Math Retest (8:07 am)	9
Snow Week	13-17
No School (Presidents Day)	20
HS Band/Choir Concert PAC 7:30 pm	23

### March

Dr Ed Teen/Parent Night PAC 6:30 - 8:00 pm	20
Spring Break	26-30



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## Dean of Students Message

**Steven Schauberger**

To contact Mr. Schauberger: 320-286-4203 or [steven.schauberger@dc.k12.mn.us](mailto:steven.schauberger@dc.k12.mn.us)

Welcome to 2012 and the news of some exciting opportunities at DCHS!

- 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 19, 2012 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.** I would love to hear your ideas about our school.
- **Attendance:** It is extremely important for your student to be in attendance every day through the last day of school. Please contact the high school office in the event that your student is sick or if he/she is going to be absent. Also, follow the call with a written note as soon as possible.
- **Please remember** that if a student is too sick to be in school, then he/she is too sick to participate in after-school activities. If your student participates in activities and will be absent (for any period or the day) for reasons other than illness, please pre-authorize (send a note) or call Mr. Schauberger the day before the intended absence. Finally, please try to schedule student appointments after/before school and schedule any family vacations during Spring Break which is March 26 through March 30, 2012.
- **DCHS Snowball Week (or by another name if we do not have snow!) is tentatively set for February 13-17, 2012.** Student Council is planning dress up days and other activities.
- **Student Council Candy Gram Sales and Delivery, February 7-13 and 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012.** Send a treat to that special someone!

### **DCHS Summary of Student Attendance Procedures and Policies For Upcoming State Tournament Events**

D-C students and families intending to view or participate in upcoming state tournament events are strongly encouraged to read the attendance policies on pages 8-12 in the student agenda book and on the "Handbook" link posted on the left side menu of the high school website. Please plan ahead and communicate with the high school office in a timely manner. Please note the following important points of the policy:

#### **TOURNAMENT ATTENDANCE (District Policy #563)**

#### **IN TOURNAMENT EVENTS WHERE D-C DOES HAVE A TEAM OR PARTICIPANT**

**A.** The official tournament squad, including varsity cheerleaders of that participating event **as well as students that are siblings of a participant**, will be allowed to attend all days of the tournament. Advanced make-up slips must be issued in order for absence to be excused.

**B.** D-C spectator students will be allowed up to two days attendance at each tournament event with an advanced make-up slip issued in order for the absence to be excused if the tournament play is during the normal school day.

**C. Definition of Advanced Make-up Slip:** Must be secured prior to being absent; **this does not include the day of the activity. If the absence is not approved prior to the day of the activity, the absence will be considered unexcused for that day.** For example: If the student is planning on attending a tournament event Thursday and Friday, an advanced make-up slip must be secured by Wednesday. If the student is planning on attending a tournament event on Friday, an advanced make-up slip must be secured by Thursday.

#### **IN TOURNAMENT EVENTS WHERE D-C DOES NOT HAVE A TEAM OR PARTICIPANT.**

**A. Students involved in the activity in grades 9-12** will be allowed to attend all days at the REGION or STATE level. Advanced make-up slip is necessary.

**B.** All other students will be given an unexcused absence for the period of time they are absent, if they choose to attend.

**C.** If parents are also in attendance with the student, the absences will be excused.

#### **TOURNAMENT MAKE-UP POLICY:**

All work for absences must be made up. Excused absences receive full credit for work missed but no participation credit. Unexcused absences will receive no participation credit and will receive partial credit for the work made up. Students who choose to be truant will receive "0" for each class they skip and will not receive credit for any work a teacher might require them to make up. Each teacher will determine make-up work content and due date for when work must be handed in for evaluation.



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### **Conferences Schedules: January 19, 4:00–7:00 pm (HS West Gym)**

Student Schedules will be available in the HS Office.

Please note the schedules below for part-time teachers and/or coaches:

Todd Goudy: HS conferences 5-7 pm

Andy Hegdahl: HS conferences 4-6 pm, ALC conferences 6-8 pm

Carol Impola: HS conferences 4-6 pm, ALC conferences 6-8 pm

Dan Kyllonen: HS conferences 4-6:30 pm

Dan Krause: HS conferences 5:15-7 pm

Michael Lajko: HS conferences 5:30-7 pm

Derek Levno: HS conferences 5-7 pm

Laura Sellner: HS conferences 4-6 pm, ALC conferences 6-8 pm

Becky Thielsen: HS conferences 4-6 pm, ALC conferences 6-8 pm

Brian Veith: HS conferences 5:30-7 pm

### **School Social Worker**

**Anne Mahoney**

To contact Mrs. Mahoney: 320-286-4206 or [anne.mahoney@dc.k12.mn.us](mailto:anne.mahoney@dc.k12.mn.us)

### **Dassel-Cokato Kinship Caregivers Support Group**

This support group brings together grandparents and other relatives who are raising their grandchildren, nieces, nephews or other relatives so they can discuss their feeling and concerns in a safe and nonthreatening manner. The Kinship Caregivers Group meets the second Tuesday of the month from 12:30 - 2:00 pm at the DC Early Childhood Center, which is located in the NW corner of the DC HS/MS complex.

Please call 320-286-4120 if you are interested.

### **Guidance Counselor's Message**

**Ryan Tool**

To contact Mr. Tool: 320-286-4205 or [ryan.tool@dc.k12.mn.us](mailto:ryan.tool@dc.k12.mn.us)

#### **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](http://www.actstudent.org)

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
February 11, 2012	January 13, 2012	January 14 – 20, 2012
April 14, 2012	March 9, 2012	March 10 – 23, 2012
June 9, 2012	May 4, 2012	May 5 – 18, 2012



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### Guidance Counselor's Message (continued)

**Ryan Tool**

To contact Mr. Tool: 320-286-4205 or [ryan.tool@dc.k12.mn.us](mailto:ryan.tool@dc.k12.mn.us)

#### Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Date	Time	Description	Location
1/19	7:00 PM	Financial Aid Meeting: Grade 12	High School Choir Room
1/19	7:15 PM	High School/College Options Meeting: Grades 9-11	Middle School Commons
1/25	FLEX	Registration Materials distributed: Grades 9-11	FLEX Classroom
1/26	6:45 PM	Registration Information Meeting: Grades 9-11	High School Choir Room
1/26	7:45 PM	Registration Information Meeting: Grade 8	High School Choir Room
2/7-2/8	School Day	Registration: Grades 9-11	Tech Lab
2/9-2/14	School Day	Registration: Makeup Days	Guidance Office

#### Financial Aid Night – Thursday, January 19 at 7 pm, High School Choir Room

Jim Rice, the Director of Financial Aid at Ridgewater College will be explaining the Financial Aid process including how to complete the FAFSA. Seniors and their families should work on completing their FAFSA in the next few months to determine what financial aid they are eligible for at any college or university. FAFSA information can be found at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov).

#### College Credit Options – Thursday, January 19 at 7:15 pm, Middle School Commons

After a student's 10<sup>th</sup> grade year they have many course options available to them. We will be discussing the various options students have to earn college credits while still in high school. We will review PSEO, Dual Enrollment courses, AP courses, and articulated credit.

#### 2011-12 Registration Information – Thursday, January 26

- Grades 9 through 11 at 6:45 pm, High School Choir Room
- Grade 8 at 7:45 pm, High School Choir Room

High school students will be receiving their 2012-13 registration information on January 26<sup>th</sup>. We will review the updated registration guide and discuss what students must consider when they are developing their academic plan for high school and beyond. It is important that students make good choices now. They may not be able to change courses later. We encourage parents to bring their child's registration guide along with them to take notes if you would like.

Please mark your calendar now. We hope to see you at school. If these dates or times do not work out for you please feel free to contact Mr. Tool or Mr. Jennissen for further information or to set up an appointment.

Also, we'd like to introduce Andy Vander Linden, Guidance Counselor Intern. Andy is a graduate student from the University of South Dakota. He will be with us through the first week in May. Andy will be supervised by Mr. Tool and looks forward to working with students. If you get an opportunity, please help us welcome him to DCHS!



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### School Nurse Message

**Tracy Kraemer**

To contact Mrs. Kraemer: 320-286-4204 or [tracy.kraemer@dc.k12.mn.us](mailto:tracy.kraemer@dc.k12.mn.us)

#### NOROVIRUS OR INFLUENZA?

Flu season is now upon us along with another common illness this time of year known as the Norovirus. Years ago, this was known as the “winter vomiting disease”. People these days often refer to it as the “stomach flu”. The truth of the matter is the Norovirus is not a type of influenza. Here are some of the differences between the Norovirus and Influenza.

#### Definition and Symptoms

- Norovirus (Norwalk-like virus) is the main cause of Gastroenteritis (inflammation of the stomach and intestines).
- Symptoms of Norovirus include: diarrhea, vomiting, stomach pain

#### How it is spread

- People are contagious upon onset of symptoms to at least 3 days and sometimes up to 2 weeks after recovery.
- It is found in stool and vomit of the infected person and is spread through food, drinks, or any surface the infected person comes into contact with. Often times it spreads after the infected person uses the bathroom and does not wash their hands well enough.

#### Ways to Prevent

- There is no vaccine at this time for the Norovirus.
- Best way to prevent is to wash hands well with soap and water.
- Wash any surfaces or soiled linens immediately.
- Avoid preparing food for others if infected.

- Influenza is an infection of the nose, throat, and lungs caused by influenza viruses. There are many different types of influenza viruses.
- Symptoms of Influenza include: Fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headaches, chills, excessive fatigue, and sometimes vomiting and diarrhea.

- Influenza is mainly spread by droplets spread in the air when people with the flu cough or sneeze. It can also be spread if a person touches a surface the flu virus has landed on and then touches their eyes, nose, or mouth.
- People are contagious one day before getting sick and up to 5 to 7 days after being sick.

- Each year a new flu vaccine is made to protect against the 3 viruses that research indicates are most likely to occur the next Flu season.
- Handwashing is also effective in helping prevent the spread of influenza.

The flu vaccine is recommended for everyone 6 months and older especially those with any chronic health conditions. Hand washing remains the most simple way to prevent the Norovirus and the spread of Influenza. So the question remains to be asked... When did you last wash your hands?

Information provided was obtained through the CDC website: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/> and <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/revb/gastro/norovirus.htm>