



PIEDMONT VALLEY ELEMENTARY STALLION NEWS



January 2021

•UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1/18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day Observed, school in session
- 1/25: Inservice, no school
- 2/8-2/12: Dental Bus
- 2/23 & 2/25: Parent/Teacher conferences

Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

It certainly has been an interesting year at Piedmont Valley Elementary. With all of the challenges of Covid-19 we have had to make many adjustments to how we educate our kids but I am happy to say that we have been able to continue to provide our kids with a quality education. We are very happy about that! As we move past the holiday season and prepare for winter we will continue to do everything we can to keep our doors open and everyone as safe as possible.

January 26th we will be celebrating our Students of the Month. This celebration will occur in the classroom and those students who have exhibited positive character traits consistent with "respect" will be honored.

The week of February 22nd Piedmont Valley Elementary will be conducting Parent/Teacher Conferences. This is a wonderful opportunity to share with parents their child's successes and challenges. We are continuing to monitor the best way to conduct conferences, but currently, it appears we will be doing these either by telephone or zoom.

On another note I want to remind all parents of the importance to have their students properly dressed. January is often times a frigid month. We keep a close eye on the thermometer and try to make the best decision possible for students and recess. With that being said, it is important that you assume your kids will be going outside and dress them accordingly.

Sincerely,

Ethan

Computer Corner by Celisity Cadotte, K-4 Technology Teacher

We have had a great start to this school year in such an uncertain time. I am especially grateful that we have safely been able to keep our computer lab open and our students can participate in a Computer Special class. I want to thank students and staff for the warm welcome to Piedmont Valley Elementary.

Digital media is all around and, almost a constant in our lives, so it is important that students learn how to be good Digital Citizens. One strand of the SD Educational Technology Standards focuses on Digital Citizenship and our students are beginning to learn all about it starting in Kindergarten. We touch on a variety of topics including Cyberbullying, Online Privacy, Bystanders and Upstanders, Unreliable Information, Inappropriate Online Content, Online Enticement, and more.

Digital Citizenship is such an important topic that our children could benefit from guidance from home too. Many parents might question a certain app, game, website, music, movie or if social media is appropriate for their child. In addition to figuring out what is appropriate, there are so many choices that it can get overwhelming and challenging to pick what is best for your child and family. Have no fear, there is a solution!

A highly regarded organization called *Common Sense Media* is a great resource to help parents figure out this dilemma. This organization's purpose is to rate, educate, and advocate for kids, families, and schools. At www.commonsensemedia.org, parents are able to get ratings and reviews on pretty much anything that is kid related. When a person searches on the organization's website, one can filter a search by entertainment type, child's age, genre, game platform, subject area, skill level, learning ratings, topics, parent recommended, and/or popularity with kids. The results will certainly ease any overwhelming feelings a parent may have in making the right choice. It is an absolute wonderful tool for parents to find acceptable entertainment or learning activities for their children.

Celisity Cadotte

K-4th Technology Teacher

Piedmont Valley Elementary

Happy Birthday!



January

Makinlyn Aker, Burke Bernhagen, Will Bestgen, Evan Bierman, David Bouza, Baylee Cammack, Ryker Clark, Kaisa Davey, Hudson Davis, Jordy Davis, Paisley Elliot, Andrey Goodall, Kinlee Gossel, Aubree Hanson, Carson Hodina, Hailey Huck, Hayes Hufty, Kinsley Hufty, Ameila Jobgen, Kenleigh Johnson, Hailey Kamppinen, Ethan Krenn, Alivia Leidholt, Jackson Merwin, Cannon Mez, Kynleigh Miller, Aryeana Millhouse, Jackson Morgan, Ransom

Morton, William Rikala, Autumn Sautner, Alivia Seifert, Cienna Sheldon, Cambridge Sheperd, Carter Shull, Dominick Sisneros, Gary Skinner, Hudson Tobin, Luke Tryon, Oliver Wade, River Zahler-Canepa

TAKE THE TIME TO
READ THE STUDENT-
PARENT HANDBOOK

THE CHARACTER TRAIT FOR JANUARY IS

“RESPECT”

HONOR, TOLERANCE CONSIDERATION, SELF RE-
SPECT, RESPECT FOR OTHERS RESPECT FOR
PROPERTY



Nurse News



DELTA DENTAL BUS

The Delta Dental Mobile Program is coming to Piedmont Valley Elementary February 8-12. They provide dental exams, preventive services, cleanings, and cavity fillings at no charge for students who have not seen a local dentist in over 2 years, or those who live more than 85 miles from the nearest dentist.

If you are interested in having your child visit the dental bus, please contact the office at 787-5295. Paperwork must be completed and given to the school nurse to schedule your child.

Stagebarn Middle School students can be seen during this time, **IF THEY ARE TRANSPORTED TO PVE.** SMS parents will need to transport their students to PVE for dental services.

* SERVICES are No Cost to Families*

Paperwork will go out with the PVE and 5th grade SMS students in January.

PVE: The initial "Give Your Child A Healthy Smile" form is to be completed and returned to PVE **as soon as possible**. Then, the "Delta Dental Mobile Program Patient Information" (green) form and a Silver Diamine Consent (white) form will be sent home. These forms are to be returned to PVE **BY FEB 1, 2021** for your child to receive services.

SMS: The initial "Give Your Child a Health Smile" will be sent home with 5th graders only and will need to be completed and returned to SMS **as soon as possible**. Then, the "Delta Dental Mobile Program Patient Information" (green) form and a Silver Diamine Consent (white) form will be sent home. The remaining 6th, 7th and 8th grade middle school students can access the "Delta Dental Mobile Program Patient Information" form and Silver Diamine Form at the SMS office or on the Daily Announcements. These form is also **due by February 1, 2021** for your student to receive services.

Notes from the Special Education Staff

The holiday season can often be a stressful time of year. South Dakota Division of Developmental Disabilities through the Department of Human Services has created new informational brochures concerning services and supports available for families. The following link will give you access to all of the available services: <https://dhs.sd.gov/developmentaldisabilities/default.aspx>

We hope that this valuable information will help alleviate some of the stress and anxiety that many feel during the holiday season. We wish you all a safe, relaxing, and worry-free holiday with family and friends.



School Board Policies

Attendance Policy

In accordance with school law, elementary and middle school students are expected to regularly attend school for the entire term.

Absences other than excused absences shall be considered truancy. Excessive absenteeism shall be defined as exceeding ten (10) days per school year for any reason. If a condition of excessive absenteeism occurs, the principal shall provide the parents/guardians with written notice of the school's concern. If absenteeism continues, legal authorities will be notified, unless it has been determined that the excessive absenteeism is for reasons beyond the control of the parent and/or student. (i.e. Illness and/or hospitalization).

Failure to attend school regularly and failure to make up required work are factors which will be considered in determining the promotion or retention of elementary and middle school students.



District Mission

"To Build Knowledge and Skills for Success Today and Tomorrow"

Our Vision:

"Meade School District will work in conjunction with its community to provide excellent academics and co-curricular activities that develop life-long learners and productive citizens."

CONTACTS

Piedmont Valley Elementary

605.787.5295 phone

605.787.5954 fax

www.meade.k12.sd.us

Mr. Ethan Dschaak

Principal

Kelli Wilson

Sam Spear

Piedmont Valley

Administrative Assistant

Heidi Kraft

Counselor

Ginger Johnson

Family Services Worker

Deone Horton

Food Service

Natasha Geigle

Nurse