

Meade School District  
46-1

# In Touch

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November-December 2010  
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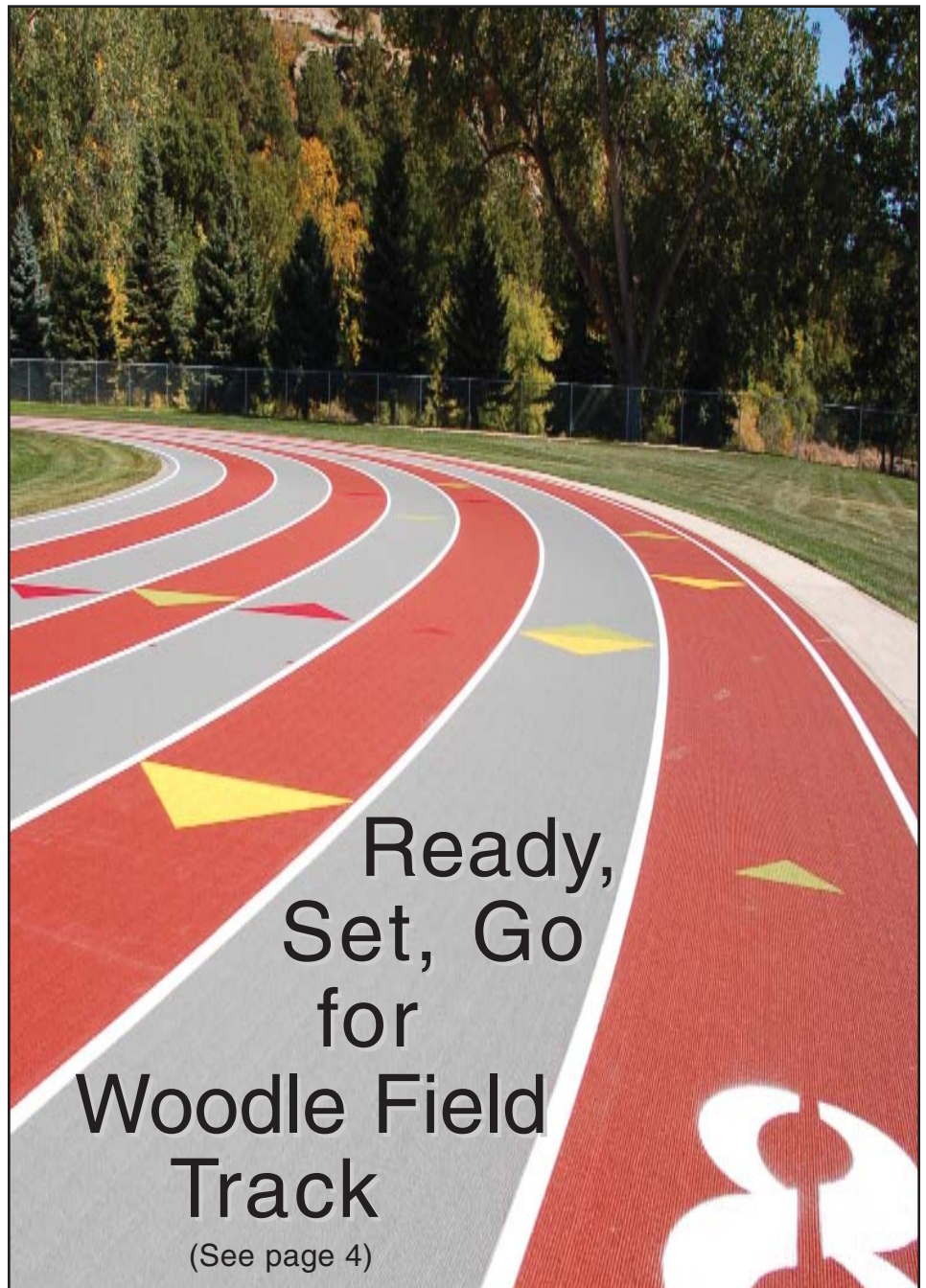
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**"To Build Knowledge and Skills for Success Today and Tomorrow"**

# School closings and inclement weather

Any closure of district schools, altering of bus routes or early dismissals due to hazardous weather or other emergencies that threaten the health or safety of students and district staff will be decided by Meade Superintendent James Heinert.

Notification of this action will be submitted to radio stations KBHB (810 AM), KOTA (1380 AM), KAT (98.7 FM), FOX (100.3 FM), KIMM (1150 AM), KMKK (93.9 FM), KKLS (920 AM), KRCS (93.1 FM), KSQY (95.1 FM), KIQK (104.1 FM) KTOQ (1340 AM), KDDX (101.1 FM), KZZI (95.9 FM), KDSJ (980 AM); and television stations KOTA, KEVN, KNBN and KELO.

This information will be posted on the Meade District website: [www.meade.k12.sd.us/parent/cancellations.htm](http://www.meade.k12.sd.us/parent/cancellations.htm)

## In Touch

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For additional copies of **In Touch** call the phone number above. Comments or questions regarding the contents may also be directed to the editor. The publication can also be found on the school district website:

[www.meade.k12.sd.us/parent/intouch.htm](http://www.meade.k12.sd.us/parent/intouch.htm)

This information will also be disseminated to parents through the parent notification phone service SchoolReach. This service will simultaneously call all the phone numbers in the district's contact list, delivering a short recorded message from the Superintendent.

If school is closed during the day and buses can't run, parents are responsible for arranging to get their children home. Meade District officials suggest parents make prior arrangements for bad weather days, which includes discussing the arrangement in advance with their children and the school.

Parents and patrons are reminded that because the school district encompasses more than 3,100 square miles, weather conditions may vary from school to school. When weather conditions are threatening or mar-

ginal, the superintendent and bus contractor are in constant communication.

Because of the interconnected nature of the Meade District bus routes, it is impossible to cancel or dismiss classes on a school-by-school basis; rather, this must be done on a district basis.

Technology allows the monitoring of weather conditions and the gathering of current data regarding forecasts. But no amount of technology or weather condition analysis applied to the district at large can take the place of parents who wish to exercise their own judgment at these times.

Superintendent Heinert has said that if parents wish to keep a child home or to have a child dismissed early, it is within their right to do so. Under such circumstances, the child's absence would be excused.

**PARENTS AND GUARDIANS:**  
Contact your child's school to make sure your contact information including phone number and email are up-to-date.

## Annual report is now available

The fourth issue of the Meade School District Annual Report is now available. This report to the public is a compilation of information from the 2009-2010 school year, and represents a comprehensive look at the district from the many perspectives that represent the educational process in the Meade School District.

Contents range from activities, achievement and attendance

information to finances, facilities and food service facts.

The annual report is available at libraries in Sturgis, Whitewood and Piedmont, the Meade County Courthouse, all district schools and area real estate offices, to list just a few locations.

It is also available on the district website:

[www.meade.k12.sd.us/offices/communications.htm](http://www.meade.k12.sd.us/offices/communications.htm)

# Students begin constructing house for Black Hills Habitat for Humanity

After spending the first month of school in the classroom, making balsa wood houses and establishing protocols and standards for safety, students enrolled in the geometry-in-construction class at Sturgis Brown High School are now working outside, building a house for Habitat for Humanity.

The class, which is the first of its kind in the state, integrates the two disciplines of geometry and industrial arts. The junior and senior students are

gaining deep knowledge of geometry concepts by immediately applying these concepts in a real-world application.

The 1,152-square foot, four-bedroom home will eventually go to a local family meeting income and other guidelines required by Black Hills Area Habitat for Humanity, who is providing the construction materials. Habitat for Humanity has thus far been unable to find a family for the house. They also have

been unsuccessful in finding a lot for the house. Anyone who might have a lot or who believes they meet the income guidelines for the house should call the Habitat office at 348-9196 or construction-in-geometry teachers Steve Lensegrav or Chad Hedderman at the high school at 347-2686.

In the meantime, the SBHS students continue to apply what they are learning in the classroom to the construction field, working most afternoons on the project located north of the high school, between the business and ag buildings.



In the photo at the left, SBHS geometry-in-construction teacher Steve Lensegrav helps senior Todd Michaels measure the floor of the house currently being built at the high school.



Geometry-in-construction teacher Chad Hedderman, far right, explains to the students the importance of making sure the house is perfectly square before they begin gluing and screwing down the floor. He also reminded the students to utilize their knowledge of geometry in making sure each corner is square.

# Judges needed for senior presentations

The senior English teachers at Sturgis Brown High School are in need of people willing to judge students' oral presentations for their senior cumulative projects.

The presentations will take place Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 30-Dec. 2 at the high school.

All senior English students must complete a cumulative project, the purpose of which is to demonstrate their knowledge and maturity gained during the course of their education. The project is a four-part process, the last step of

which is the oral presentation. The other steps include an annotated bibliography, a research paper, and project or product that is an extension of the research.

## Senior experience fair

Public viewing of the SBHS senior experience projects will be held from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22, in the lobby of the west gym at the high school.

Each student will speak about the research paper, product application, lessons learned, and any challenges encountered while doing the project. Upon completion of the 8-10 minute speech, the judges will ask questions about the different phases of the project.

To serve as a judge, call any of the following senior English teachers: Myrna Hill, Megan Jones, or Barb Mundt at the high school at 347-2686, or Teresa Bartlett at the Academy at 347-9349.

# Woodle Field track resurfacing completed

The new Mondo surface has been laid, drainage system installed, fence replaced and landscape work completed, bringing to an end the \$1.07 million capital project.

Work on replacing the deteriorating 26-year-old track at Woodle Field began shortly after school dismissed last May and concluded shortly after

school began this fall, making an already spectacular location now one of the top running surfaces in the state.

The Meade School Board had discussed the need for a new surface for years, but it wasn't until they were informed the condition of the track could prevent the school from hosting the state track meet that they

decided the project couldn't be put on hold any longer.

According to Buildings and Grounds Supervisor James Harris, the crew installing the prefabricated synthetic rubber Mondo surface said Woodle track was one of the best prepared surfaces they've ever worked on. Good job Hills Materials!

# Substitute teacher training to be held Jan. 7

A training for persons wishing to serve as substitute teachers in Meade School District will be held at 9 a.m. Friday, Jan. 7, 2011, in the school board/staff meeting room of the north building of Sturgis Williams Middle School.

The purpose of the training is to review the district's substi-

tute teacher handbook and to answer questions about local procedures and policies.

Tips for a successful classroom experience will also be given.

Persons holding a high school diploma, GED, college degree or teacher's certificate are eligible to substitute. A

background fingerprint check will be required.

Substitutes are needed in Sturgis, Stagebarn, Whitewood and the rural areas of Atall, Elm Springs, Enning, Hereford, Opal and Union Center.

For further information or directions to the meeting location, call the district office at 347-2523.

# Superintendent Heinert to retire at the end of this school year

Meade School District Superintendent James Heinert has announced his retirement, effective the end of this school year.

Heinert, who has been in education since 1971, the last 10 with Meade School District, said he has been thinking about retiring for some time. "I was committed to finding a good time to make the exit," he said. "I wanted to make sure the time was right for both the district and me. I believe now is the time a change in leadership could be accomplished without it being a disruption to the district's commitment to continuing improvement."

When Heinert steps down this June, he will leave a district that has transformed in many ways under his watch.

School board president Wanda Blair, who came on the board the same year Heinert was hired, said the superintendent has overseen two major building projects, three renovation projects and a track replacement at Woodle Field. Under his tenure, a Stagebarn middle school feasibility study was completed, strategic long-term priorities established and districtwide NCA accreditation, the first in the state, achieved.

Blair said Heinert will be missed. "He has done a great job for us and has been a leader who we, as a board, will be very challenged to replace."

Heinert, 60, is a native of Todd County. His career started as a classroom teacher at the school from which he graduated. He then served as a junior high school principal, high school principal and director of secondary education, all at Todd County, before he got his first job as a superintendent at Wessington Springs. He later served as superintendent at Milbank School District.

Of his career in education, Heinert says he has thoroughly enjoyed it. But that doesn't mean there

haven't been challenges. "Every day in this business is a challenge," he said. "But challenges represent the lifeblood of progress. If you are not challenged, you don't progress. I have tried to take each challenge and turn it into an opportunity."

Heinert said he is very proud to have been associated with Meade School District. "My time here has been a pleasant, rich and rewarding experience. I have been very fortunate to live and work in a community that places a high priority on the education of its youth and is actively supportive of its school district."

He said it has also been his good fortune to have a school board that is visionary and supportive of the efforts that have been made to improve the district and achieve its mission. "I have also been very fortunate," he added, "to have a highly dedicated, competent and professional team of teachers, support staff and administrators."

Heinert was selected the South Dakota Outstanding School Superintendent for 2006 by the South Dakota School Superintendents Association. He has served as president of both the School Administrators of South Dakota and the South Dakota School Superintendents Association (SDSSA) and is a past chairman of the legislative committee for SASD.

Heinert is also a former member of the executive boards of both those professional organizations and of the South Dakota Association of Secondary School Principals. He currently serves as the SDSSA federal relations coordinator to the American Association of School Administrators.

"I have been blessed with a very supportive wife and family over the years," said Heinert, "and this has contributed immeasurably to any success that I may have experienced throughout my career."



James Heinert



The public is invited to the winter music programs to be held this fall and winter throughout Meade School District. There is no admission charge.

Novemberfest featuring Sturgis Brown High School jazz bands and the German band, will be held from 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 18, at the Sturgis City Auditorium. The band's winter concert will be 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6 at the Sturgis Community Center Theatre.

Sturgis Elementary first and

second grade Christmas program, titled "A Place in the Christmas Choir," will be held Thursday, Dec. 2, at the Sturgis Community Center Theatre. The first grade performance is 6 p.m. while the second-graders will take the stage at 7:30 p.m.

The Sturgis Williams Middle School winter choir concert will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 13, at the Sturgis Community Center Theatre.

There will be two performances of the music program at

Piedmont Stagebarn School. The program, which features students in grades 2-6, will be held at 9 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17, at the Stagebarn School gym.

Whitewood Elementary's program and Christmas musical will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17. Location is the Whitewood School gym.

Sturgis Brown High School choir concert is set for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 21, at the Sturgis Community Center Theatre.

The programs for the six rural schools are as follows:

·Hereford: 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, Hereford Hall

·Opal: 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, Opal Hall

·Atall: 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17, Atall School

·Enning: 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17, Central Meade County Community Center, Union Center

·Elm Springs: 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 20, Elm Springs Hall

·Union Center: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 21, Union Center School basement

The Sturgis Williams Middle School band concert is 7 p.m. Monday, Jan., 24, at Grunwald Auditorium.

## Annual Holiday Soup Dinner set for Dec. 12

The 18th annual Music Booster Club-sponsored Holiday Soup Dinner will be held from 4-7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at Grunwald Auditorium in Sturgis.

Tickets cost \$6 and may be purchased at the door, from any middle or high school music student, or by calling Sturgis Brown High School at 347-2686 or Sturgis Williams Middle School at 347-5232.

Menu items include soup, salad, roll, dessert and beverages.

Musical entertainment will be provided by the members of the choirs and bands at the high school and middle school.

Proceeds will benefit activities of the music department.

# This Old School House



Oct. 28, 1942, meeting of the Independent School District of Sturgis:

“Due to the emergency existing in regard to the farm labor situation, and the demands made for the early release of farm boys to work on the farms, beginning Nov. 1, one extra class be held each school day, in the High School, for the balance of the school term, so as to accelerate the closing of the school term as early as possible. Motion carried.

March 10, 1954, meeting:

“It was moved and carried that E.E. Grunwald, Superintendent, be tendered a contract for next year at an annual salary of \$6,200, and William J. Brown, Principal of the High School, a salary of \$5,000, and R.B. Williams, Grade Schools Principal, the salary of \$5,000.

April 14, 1954, meeting:

“It was moved by [Henry] Cooper and seconded that the School District shall assume and pay one-half of the cost of Group Hospital Insurance for teachers and custodians and other contracted employees, beginning at the date of the commencement of the term of their new contract. It was also moved that teachers who were not given benefits of the hospital insurance plan last year shall be given such benefit for the remainder of the term beginning as of May 1, at the contribution of \$1.67 per month to be paid by the District. The motion carried.

April 13, 1976, meeting of Meade Independent School District 101:

“A letter from Dr. Tom Tully expressing dissatisfaction with soft drinks and candy dispensed through the vending machines at Brown High School was brought to

the attention of the school board. Principals were instructed to request the vending company to also provide diet soft drinks and an expansion of snack type food.

Sept. 15, 1992, meeting of Meade School District 46-1:

“The proposed rental agreement with the Sturgis Community Center was discussed. The rate for the gym is \$3,500 which would give the school full use of the gym facility. If the full gym floor is not needed on certain nights, the school would allow the general public the use of same. The gym will be used for seventh and eighth grade intramural volleyball and basketball.

Theater use time will be \$50 per performance and no charge for rehearsal time. The theater will be used for plays and concerts. The rental agreement was approved.”

## Administrative services center becoming a reality

Meade School Board’s goal of converting the first floor of the north building of Sturgis Williams Middle School into an administrative services center is inching toward fruition.

Action taken by the school board during its regular September meeting will result in further renovations to the north building.

That action included the approval of the terms and conditions of the sale of \$600,000 in Qualified Zone Academy Bonds, which will be used to finance Phase III of the north building conversion, and its acceptance of a proposal from TSP to design the components of Phase III. Qualified Zone Academy Bonds are 0-percent interest bonds with a 15-year

payback period. They can only be used for renovation projects and not new construction.

Phase III includes renovating the main entrance and lobby, first floor public restrooms, and the offices of superintendent and business manager. The southeast classroom will also be remodeled to accommodate a conference room.

Phase II, which was completed in May 2010, consisted of remodeling two classrooms and an adjoining corridor into a board meeting room/staff training room and a storage and audio visual room. Phase I, completed in December 2008, consisted of remodeling two classrooms to accommodate the district Special Services Department.

# Dakota STEP scores continue to rise

The recently released report card for the Meade School District shows that students tested last spring continue to improve in both reading and math.

The report card, from the South Dakota Department of Education, is a compilation of the results of the Dakota State Test of Educational Progress (STEP), the state's assessment tool that measures progress in reading and math of students in grades three through eight and grade eleven as required by the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.

According to the report card, 82 percent of Meade District students in third through fifth grades tested advanced or proficient in reading while 79 percent of sixth- through eighth-graders were advanced or proficient. The NCLB goal or Annual Measurable Objective in reading for those grade levels is 69 percent. Statewide, 78 percent of third- through fifth-graders and 75 percent of sixth through eighth grade students were advanced or proficient in reading.

The NCLB goal in reading for high school students is 62 percent. At Sturgis Brown High School, 58 percent achieved at the advanced or proficient levels.

The STEP results in math show that most Meade District students are exceeding expectations in that subject. The goal for math is set at 72 percent for students through eighth grade. In the Meade District, 85 percent of

third through fifth grade students and 77 percent of sixth through eighth grade students tested advanced or proficient. Statewide, the figures are 78 percent for third through fifth grade and 79 percent for sixth through eighth.

On the high school level, 57 percent are advanced or proficient in math. The NCLB goal for high school students is 63 percent. Statewide, 69 percent of high school students achieved at those levels.

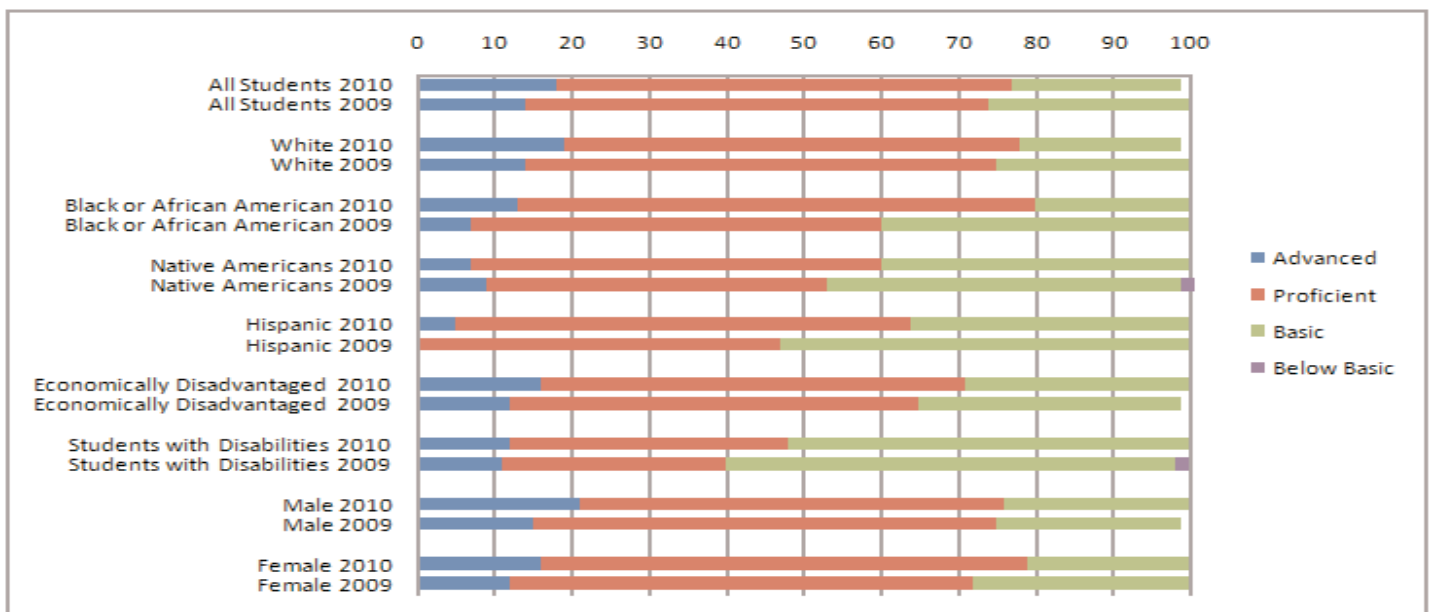
Not only does NCLB require all schools to meet the annual standards for their total student population, each subgroup of students must also meet the standards. Subgroups, which could contain as few as 10 students, include those who have disabilities, limited English skills, are from low-income families, transients or minorities.

Two Meade School District schools, Sturgis Williams Middle School and Sturgis Brown High School, are identified for improvement because not all subgroups of students in those two schools met the yearly standards.

In the case of the middle school, the designation was given because the subgroup of students with disabilities did not meet either the reading or math requirements. At SBHS, the subgroup of economically disadvantaged did not meet the math standard.

The two schools join 89 other South Dakota schools identified for improvement.

**Meade School District Math Results**





School was also recognized in 2007

# Piedmont Stagebarn named Distinguished School

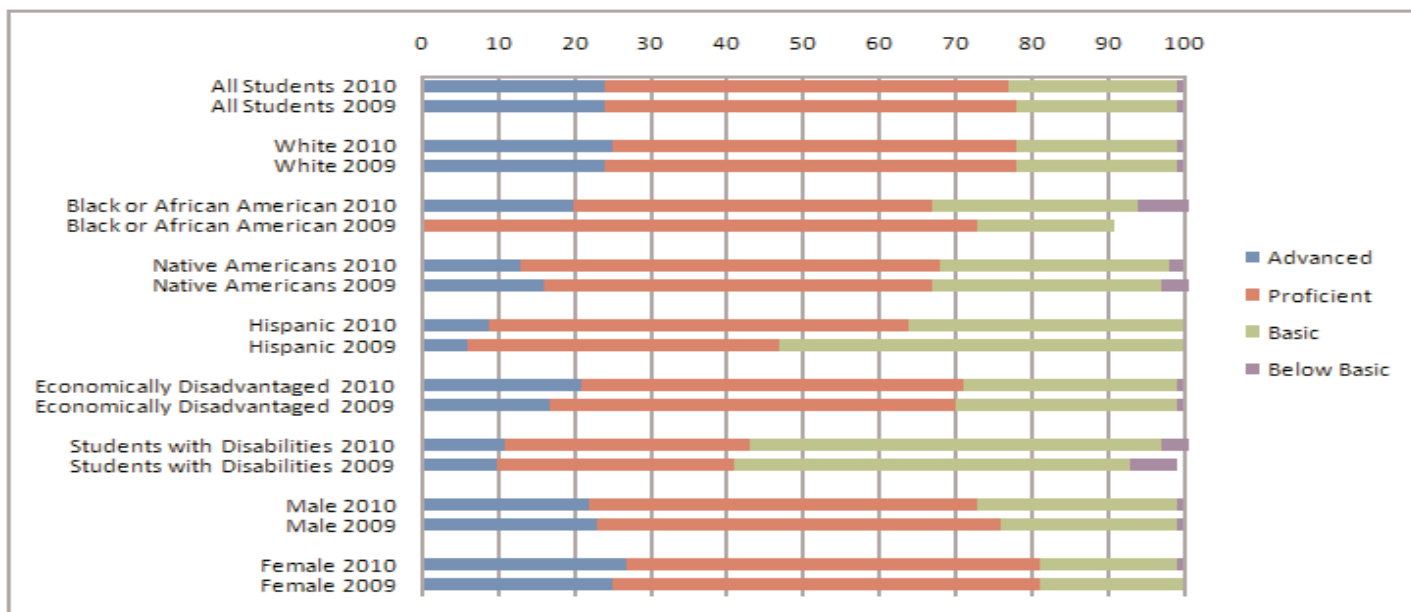
Piedmont Stagebarn Elementary School has been named a 2010 Distinguished School for South Dakota according to the No Child Left Behind Report Card.

To be named a distinguished school, the school had to meet adequate yearly progress for two consecutive years in both reading and math and the

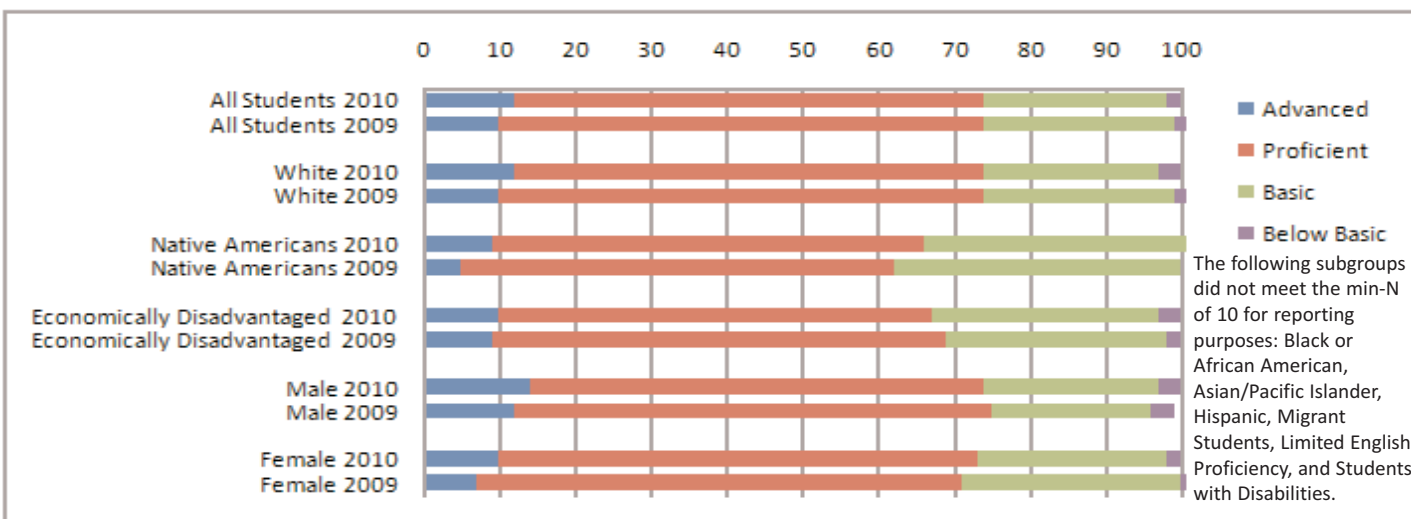
percentage of students in the 'all student' group who met the state's proficient and advanced levels of performance in both reading and math is 10 percentage points higher than the current year's annual measurable objective for each subject.

Of the 696 public schools in South Dakota, only 151 were named Distinguished Schools.

**Meade School District Reading Results**



**Meade School District Science Results**



# High school Student Services Office helps students reach their full potential

Whether it is fostering personal and social growth, assisting in educational and career planning or promoting healthy decision making, the Sturgis Brown High School Student Services Office does it all.

The name change a few years ago from Counseling Office to Student Services Office was a good move, according to both staff and students. "That name didn't properly reflect what we do," said Dadra Avery, one of two counselors at the school, "because we do so much more than provide counseling."

"Being sent to the counselors' office has a negative connotation anyway," she added, "so the change is good." It is also something the students have suggested over the years when they fill out the school's senior exit survey.

The following services are available through the Student Services Office. Parents who have questions about the services offered are encouraged to call the office at 347-2686.

Individual counseling...for education guidance, career choices, occupational opportunities, curriculum planning and personal and social development.

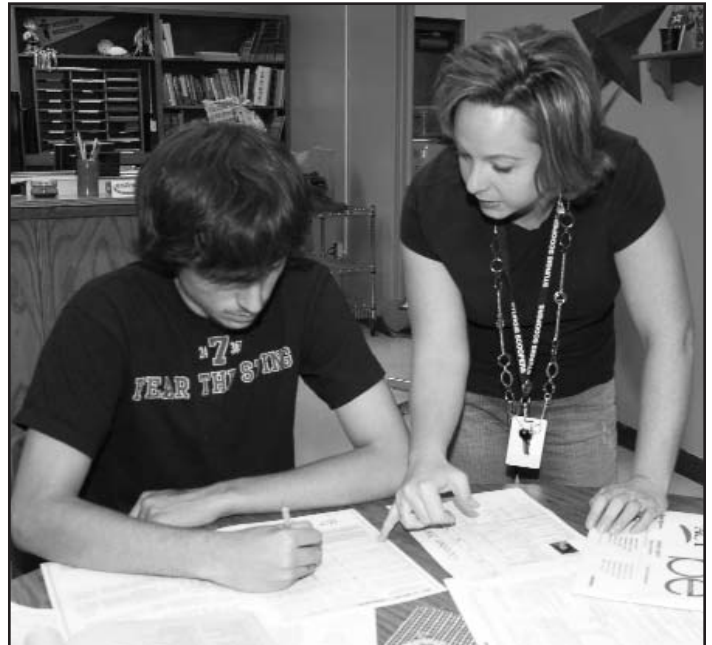
Group conferences...concerning course offerings, applying to post high school training institutions, job opportunities, testing programs, financial aid and scholarship programs.

Information...about careers and higher education. Representatives from all military services, vocational schools and colleges and universities regularly visit the school.

Testing...is conducted throughout the school year and includes achievement, ability and aptitude.

Referrals...are made based on student requests for additional resources which can include assistance for learning disabilities to assistance from Department of Social Services personnel or the school nurses' office.

Educational program selection...for each student. Assistance and guidance is offered so the course program best fits the student's individual educational needs.



Sturgis Brown High School counselor Dadra Avery helps senior Dustin Wisecarver fill out a form.

One of the new services offered this year is an information night for juniors and their parents. Topics to be covered at this Feb. 17 meeting include college and vocational school costs, admission policies and deadlines, scholarships and eligibility.

## Coming Events

- Nov. 3, 2010: ASVAB Test
- Jan. 10, 2011: Senior Financial Aid Night,  
6:30 p.m., lecture hall, SBHS
- Feb. 17, 2011: Junior Information Night,  
6:30 p.m., lecture hall, SBHS
- April 5-6, 2011: Dakota STEP
- AP Tests:
  - Chemistry: May 2, 2011
  - Calculus: May 4, 2011
  - Literature: May 5, 2011
  - Language Arts: May 11, 2011

## Help is just a phone call away

Meade School District has instituted a help desk this year for staff who have questions about technology.

Sturgis Williams Middle School computer teacher and part-time computer specialist Linda Hampton, right, runs the help desk from her classroom. Hours of operation are 1:15-3:15 p.m. daily.



## Applying for free and reduced-price meals

Free and reduced-price breakfast and lunch are available in the Meade School District to students from families whose household income falls within eligibility guidelines.

The reduced-price for breakfast is 30 cents while the cost for a reduced lunch is 40 cents. The full price for those meals are \$1.30 for breakfast and \$2.45 for lunch.

For those who have applied

and or are thinking about applying for free or reduced-price meals, the application is good for only one year.

If you applied and were approved last year, you need to reapply this year. If you applied this year and were denied, you can reapply if your situation has changed or if you are now receiving combat pay. If a spouse is deployed to a combat zone, that combat pay is not counted as

income for the purposes of this program.

In certain cases, foster children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals regardless of the income of the household in which they reside.

To get a copy of the eligibility guidelines, for help in completing the application or for information about other assistance programs, call Meade School District Food Service Office at 347-3601.

## SBHS musical 'Back To The 80s' is Nov. 11-13

Sturgis Brown High School's fall musical "Back To The 80s" will be performed at 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 11-13, at the Sturgis Community Center Theatre.

Set in the United States, the musical tells the story of the

senior class of William Ocean High School which graduated in the 1980s, as remembered and seen through the eyes of one of the graduates.

The musical is in the style of movies such as "Back To The Future," "Ferris Bueller's Day

Off," "The Karate Kid" and "The Wedding Singer."

Directors are June Dill, Gary Nelson and Bart Torbert.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for K-12 students. Meade School District activity tickets will be honored.



Aerial view of  
Piedmont construction  
-October 2010

# Piedmont School on schedule

The Piedmont construction project continues moving ahead at a fast pace with doors set to open on the 77,041-square foot school in the Fall of 2011.

The classrooms on the west end of the first floor are all framed with rough-in work underway. Main duct ventilation is installed in the west corridor and classrooms, and part of the second level concrete floor is in place.

Installation of the roof is under way over the first floor areas above the multipurpose room kitchen, media center, garage and west classroom section.

Additional photos of the project can be seen at:  
[www.meade.k12.sd.us/communications.htm](http://www.meade.k12.sd.us/communications.htm)



Ground level view of  
Piedmont construction  
-October 2010

# Board's newest member, Curt Johnson, has 13 years school board experience

His mother was a teacher and administrator for 42 years, so no one should be surprised by Curt Johnson's involvement in education.

Prior to assuming his seat on the Meade School Board in July of this year, he had already acquired 13 years of experience as a member of the Hill City School Board from 1979-1992. During that tenure he served as board president for six years and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Associated School Boards of South Dakota from 1981-1992.

"If you really want to know what is going on you have to get involved," he said. "So when my children were in school I took an active interest in education." He now has grandchildren attending Piedmont Stagebarn School, so he once again wants to be more involved.

He admits there are some huge changes since he last served on a school board, par-

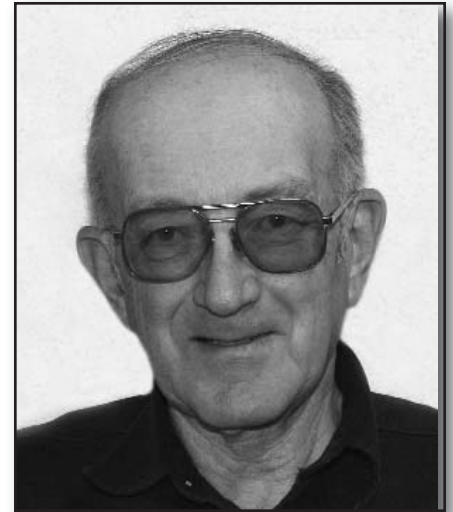
ticularly in the area of technology, but what hasn't changed, he said, is the importance of a positive school and community relationship where the parents and the public have a spirit of partnership and ownership, a sense of community pride and participation, and a sense of involvement.

"My greatest concern locally would be balancing what we can afford with what we know are the real needs," he said. "Funding is always an issue, but growth and costs are real issues also.

"Mandates without funding and special interest groups need to be a concern of any school board member," he added.

He would like to see the board continue to work on the establishment of a middle school in the Piedmont Stagebarn area.

"We also need to study the growth demographics to determine if or when a high school may be needed in this area and start planning for that need. Also



Curt Johnson

important is meeting the educational needs of rural students in the outlying areas of this large district."

Curt is a professional landscape contractor, specializing in residential and commercial irrigation. He currently works for Sprinkler Service Company of Rapid City.

He and his wife of 42 years, Pamela, have three grown children.

## Auditions are Jan. 3 for children's theatre production of "On the Road to Bremen Town"

Students in Sturgis and Whitewood are invited to audition for the Sturgis Area Arts Council-sponsored musical "On the Road to Bremen Town."

Auditions are 3:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 3, at the Sturgis

Elementary gym. Rehearsals will be held every day that week.

Up to 50 children will be cast with suitable parts for every age, skill and experience level. Older students will serve as assistant directors in addition to filling the

more challenging roles.

Performances will be 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Jan. 7-8, at the Sturgis Community Center Theatre.

Admission is \$6 for adults, \$3 for students

# Peer Helper Program in its fourth year

The enthusiasm for and success of the Peer Helper Program at Sturgis Brown High School has not diminished in the four years since its inception. Kids helping kids problem solve is still the mantra.

Students who are juniors can volunteer for the program or can be nominated by staff members. “We want the students to be representative of the social composition of the school,” said Dadra Avery, counselor and program adviser. According to Avery, the goal is to have students help others of approximately the same age who share related values, experiences and lifestyles.

In today’s society, peer influence may be the strongest single motivational force in a student’s life. Since students often communicate their problems to their peers rather than to parents or teachers, this program trains students to recognize positive and strong personality traits in order to deal with others in a way to which they will best respond.

The students undergo two days of training. The

first day they take a survey to determine their personality profile based on temperament traits. They are then divided into groups to work on recognizing traits common within themselves and in others as a way of creating both a greater self-awareness and a better understanding of how to communicate with others.

The second day includes training in mediation and conflict resolution with senior students who are in their second year of serving as peer helpers.

Guidelines for peer helpers, which include being responsible, trustworthy and having a good image, are also reviewed. Training is conducted on an annual basis so that the peer helpers are aware of proper protocols.

“The Peer Helper Program touches not only the 30 students directly involved in the program, but the student body as a whole as well as the community,” said Avery. “The skills learned by these students are life skills they will carry with them for success well into their adult lives.”



During Peer Helper training recently, students participated in a get-to-know-you activity. Pictured in the center is Liz Penn. Also pictured are, counter clockwise from the foreground center, Zach Murray, Jarrett Fowler, Andie Shuck, Shannon Kymala, Crystina Payne, Tina Stalder, Franke Gonzales, Zach Bergman, Allison Lorius, Peter Schmit, Morgan Engbrecht, Alex Duprel, Jessica Hoffman, Alexis Weber and Brandy Foust. The students are all juniors.

# How to nurture a growing reader

- 1.** Read with your children at least once every day
- 2.** Make sure they have plenty to read. Take them to the library regularly, and keep books and other reading materials in their reach.
- 3.** Notice what interests your child, then help find books about those things.
- 4.** Respect your child's choices. There is nothing wrong with series fiction if that's what keeps a young reader turning the pages.
- 5.** Praise your children's efforts and newly acquired skills.
- 6.** Help your child build a personal library. Children's books, new or used, make great gifts and appropriate rewards for reading. Designate a bookcase, shelf or box where your children can keep their books.
- 7.** Check up on your children's progress. Listen to them read aloud, read what they write and ask teachers how they're doing in school.
- 8.** Tell stories. It's a fun way to teach values, pass on family history and build your children's listening and thinking skills.
- 9.** Go places and do things with your children to build their background knowledge and vocabulary, and to give them a basis for understanding what they read.
- 10.** Be a reading role model. Let your children see you read, and share some interesting things with them that you have read about in books, newspapers or magazines.
- 11.** Continue reading aloud to older children even after they have learned to read by themselves.
- 12.** Encourage writing along with reading. Ask children to sign their artwork, add to your shopping list, take messages and make their own books and cards as gifts.

## School calendar for 2010-2011

The following is the approved Meade School District calendar for the 2010-2011 school year. There will be an early release day on Wednesday, Nov. 24, which is the day before Thanksgiving. Any snow days will be made up by adding additional days at the end of the school calendar. Furthermore, Jan. 17, Feb. 21, March 17, and April 25 will be used as make-up days if more than three snow days have been used prior to Jan. 3, Feb. 1, March 1, or April 1, 2011.

Inservice Day (no school)	Nov. 5	Parent-Teacher Conferences: (continued)	
Early Release Day	Nov. 24	Elementary Schools: 5-8 p.m.	Feb. 15, 2011
Thanksgiving (no school)	Nov. 25-26	All Schools: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 17, 2011
Christmas Vacation (no school)	Dec. 23-Jan. 2	Presidents' Day (no school)	Feb. 21, 2011
Inservice Day (no school)	Jan. 14, 2011	Inservice Day (no school)	Mar. 17, 2011
Martin Luther King Day (no school)	Jan. 17, 2011	Spring Break (no school)	Mar. 18, 2011
Parent-Teacher Conferences:		Good Friday/Easter (no school)	April 22-25, 2011
Middle School: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 14, 2011	Last Day of School	May 20, 2011
High School: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 15, 2011	Graduation	May 22, 2011

**In Touch**

Meade School District 46-1  
 1230 Douglas Street  
 Sturgis, South Dakota 57785

Nonprofit Organization  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
 Western Mailers

# Directory for Meade School District

SchoolsRural Schools

Bev Rosenboom, principal.....269-2264  
 Atall.....985-5916  
 16375 Atall Road, Union Center, S.D. 57787  
 Elm Springs.....798-2492  
 21309 Elm Springs Road, Wasta, S.D. 57791  
 Enning.....985-5364  
 Highway 34 Box 22, Enning, S.D. 57737  
 Hereford.....985-5380  
 15998 Cross S Road, Hereford, S.D. 57785  
 Opal.....748-2426  
 18010 Opal Road, Opal, S.D. 57765  
 Union Center.....985-5367  
 1700 Highway 34, Union Center, S.D. 57787  
 Office.....985-5532

Piedmont Stagebarn Elementary

12380 Sturgis Road, Piedmont, S.D. 57769  
 Ethan Dschaak, principal.....787-5295

Sturgis Brown High School

12930 E. Highway 34, Sturgis, S.D. 57785  
 Toll-free 1-888-568-3514  
 Jeff Simmons, principal.....347-2686  
 Don Lyon, assistant principal.....347-2686  
 Mike Paris, activities director.....347-4487  
 Academy.....347-9349  
 1807 Williams Street, Sturgis\*\*

Sturgis Elementary

1121 Ball Park Road, Sturgis, S.D. 57785  
 Norm Graham, principal.....347-2386  
 Ann Nonnast, assistant principal.....347-2386

Sturgis Williams Middle School

1425 Cedar Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785  
 Toll-free 1-888-567-8274  
 Lon Harter, principal.....347-5232  
 Ann Nonnast, assistant principal.....347-5232

Whitewood Elementary

603 Garfield, Whitewood, S.D. 57793  
 Bev Rosenboom, principal.....269-2264

Superintendent

1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785  
 James Heinert.....347-2523  
 Toll-free 1-877-522-6251

Business Manager

1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785  
 Brett Burditt.....347-2523  
 Toll-free 1-877-522-6251

Buildings and Grounds

12940 E. Highway 34, Sturgis, S.D. 57785  
 Jim Harris, supervisor.....347-2649

Communications Office

1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785  
 Kristine Hubbard.....347-2523

Curriculum and Technology

1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785  
 Jeff Ward, director.....347-4454

Food Service

1121 Ball Park Road, Sturgis, S.D. 57785  
 Joe Schaffer, director.....347-3601

Nurses' Office

1121 Ball Park Road, Sturgis, S.D. 57785  
 Randi Oviatt.....347-2610

School Social Worker

1121 Ball Park Road, Sturgis, S.D. 57785  
 Ginger Johnson.....347-2386

Special Services

1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785  
 Chrissy Peterson, director.....347-4770  
 Chantal Ligtenberg, asst. to the director.....347-4770

Sturgis Bus Company

2237 West Sherman, Sturgis, S.D. 57785  
 Einar Mortenson, owner.....347-5066

Woodle Field

600 Woodland Dr., Sturgis, S.D. 57785\*\* .....347-2003

\*\*Not a mailing address