

May 2016

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Baccalaureate & graduation
...Page 2

Staff recognition reception
...Page 3

Dschaak top principal
...Page 9

Employees of the year
...Pages 10-11

May school board meeting
...Page 20

ProStart team at nationals
...Page 22

2016-17 school calendar
...Page 23



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Election is June 7

Four running for Meade School Board

Four people have filed petitions to run for the three Meade School Board seats up for election on June 7.

Vying for the three three-year terms are incumbents Bob Burns, Black Hawk, and Bryce Richter, Sturgis, former board member Curtis Johnson, Piedmont, and newcomer Elden Rice, Black Hawk.

Burns, who is in his seventh year on the board, is owner of Earthorizons Inc., a construction and excavation company. He and his wife Mary LaHood have four grown children, all of whom attended school in Meade School District. Burns has a bachelor's degree in environmental science from Rutgers University, New Jersey.

Johnson, who was on the school board from 2010-12, also served 13 years on the Hill City School Board. He is a professional irrigation and landscape contractor. He and his wife Pamela have three grown children, and two grandsons who attend Piedmont Valley Elementary School. Johnson has a bachelor's degree in business administration from Black Hills State University.

(Continued on Page 12)



Bob Burns



Curtis Johnson



Elden Rice



Bryce Richter

Sturgis High School graduation is May 22

The graduation ceremony for Sturgis Brown High School Class of 2016 will be 2 p.m. Sunday, May 22, in the west gym at SBHS. There are no reserved seats, and tickets are not needed for admission to graduation.

Class motto, a quote from Walt Disney, is "Around here, we don't look backwards for very long... We keep moving forward, opening new

doors and doing new things because we're curious, and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths."

The class flower is the snapdragon and the class color is gold. The class song is "Fire" by Gavin DeGraw.

Class speakers will be Samantha Colvin and Martina Loobey.

Baccalaureate for SBHS seniors is May 18

Baccalaureate for Sturgis Brown High School seniors will be 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 18, at the Sturgis Community Center Theatre.

Serving as MC will be Timber Hudson. Chelsea Bates will speak about "My Story of Faith" and

music will be presented by Drew Gertsch and Logan Brennick. Emily Linneweber will perform "A Future and a Hope" and Alexis Iverson will perform "Sling and Stone." Baccalaureate is sponsored by the Sturgis Alliance of Churches.

Reception for SWMS eighth-graders is May 24

A reception to recognize and honor the Sturgis Williams Middle School eighth grade students will be held from 5-6 p.m. Tuesday, May 24, in Grunwald Auditorium.

The reception is being held in lieu of gradua-

tion, which was discontinued many years ago, and is a way to support the students as they prepare for their high school experience.

The reception will be followed by a dance for the eighth-graders from 6-8 p.m.

In Touch

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Questions or comments about the contents of this publication should be directed to the editor.

This publication can be found on the district website.

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Jumpstart to Kindergarten at Sturgis Elementary is May 3

As a way to ensure that children are ready to enter school to learn and succeed, the staff at Sturgis Elementary is sponsoring a program that will help bridge the transition from preschool or home environments to kindergarten.

The program, Jumpstart to Kindergarten, will be held 5-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 3, at Sturgis Elementary School.

All parents of preschool-aged children are encouraged to attend. Activities will be provided for the children and information for the parents. A snack will also be provided. Parents will be able to move from station to station with their child, meet the kindergarten teachers, and tour the building.

The stations are designed to provide parents and children with an experience similar to what a kindergarten student may experience in a classroom setting. For further information, call Principal Chantal Ligtenberg or Assistant Principal David Olson at 347-2386.

Deadline for reservations is May 3

Employees will be honored at May 11 retirement and recognition reception

A public reception will be held Wednesday, May 11, to honor the Meade School District employees who are retiring, those who have worked 15, 20, 30 and 35 years, and those who have been selected as teacher and professional technical support staff of the year.

The buffet reception and program will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the west gym at Sturgis Brown High School. This free event, sponsored by the Meade School Board, is open to the public. Those attending must make reservations so that an accurate count can be taken.

Deadline for reservations is Tuesday, May 3. To reserve a spot, call the superintendent's office at 347-2523, ext. 2.

Honorees include the following, all of whom will be retiring at the end of the current school year: Cheryl Goodall, food service general manager, Meade School District; Linda Johnson, special education teacher, Sturgis Elementary School; Marlene Kotab, music teacher, Whitewood Elementary School; Joyce Potter, custodian, Sturgis Brown High School; Marcia Potts, school nurse, Meade School District; and Robin Strain, science teacher, Sturgis Brown High School.

Recognized for 35 years of service is Barb Wagner, food service site manager at Piedmont Valley Elementary School.

Staff members with 30 years of service include Sheila Limbo, head administrative assistant at Sturgis Williams Middle School and Bev Rosenboom, principal of Whitewood Elementary School and Rural Schools of Meade School District.

<h2>If You Go</h2>	
What:	Staff Retirement and Recognition Reception
When:	5:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 11
Where:	West gym, SBHS
RSVP:	By May 3 to 347-2523

Twenty-year honorees include Kamette Keffeler, biology teacher, Sturgis Brown High School; Mary McLellan, food service worker, Piedmont Valley Elementary; Charlotte Pistulka, food service site manager, Sturgis Brown High School; and Kellie Thomas, counselor at Sturgis Elementary School and Piedmont Valley Elementary School.

Those recognized for 15 years of service are Janis

Mathis-Anderson, intervention teacher, Sturgis Elementary; Carmen Cooper, custodian, Whitewood Elementary; Beckie Geffre, administrative assistant, Sturgis Brown High School Academy and Alternative Education; Marcia Potts, school nurse, districtwide; and Kelli Wilson, head administrative assistant, Piedmont Valley Elementary School.

The other honorees include Melissa Pankratz, Teacher of the Year for 2016, and Rex Schrock, Professional Technical Support Staff of the Year for 2016. Pankratz is a third grade teacher at Sturgis Elementary School and Schrock is head custodian at Sturgis Williams Middle School.

Also honored will be building/department level nominees for Teacher of the Year: Sally Dodge, eighth grade teacher, Sturgis Williams Middle School; Jill Eymer, sixth grade teacher, Whitewood Elementary School; and Eric Johnson, English and debate teacher at Sturgis Brown High School.

The building/department level nominee for Professional Technical Support Staff of the Year, LeeAnn Skeie, will also be honored. She is a special education paraprofessional at Sturgis Elementary School.

Public performance May 3 for children's show 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'

The drama students at Sturgis Brown High School will present "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" for their annual spring children's show. Senior Samantha Colvin is directing the production under the guidance of drama coach June Dill.

Performances for Meade School District students will take place during the morning and afternoon of Monday and Tuesday, May 2 and 3. The public performance is set for 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 3, at the Sturgis Community Center Theatre.

There is no admission but donations are accepted.

The production, dramatized by Joseph Robinette from the story by C.S. Lewis, faithfully recreates the magic and mystery of Aslan, the great lion, his struggle with the White Witch, and the adventures of four children who inadvertently wander from an old wardrobe into the exciting, never-to-be-forgotten Narnia.



Colvin

The action features chases, duels and escapes as the witch is determined to keep Narnia in her possession and to end the reign of Aslan. This is a story of love, faith, courage and giving, and the triumph of good over evil.

Cast members include Nathan Wise, Aslan; Gwen Hoops, White Witch; Tayhgen McGrath, Lucy; Levi O'Dell, Edmund; Natalie Hilton, Susan; Brendan Van Pelt, Peter; Keith Grant, Mr. Beaver; Rileigh Kronmiller, Mrs. Beaver; Claire Hilton, Unicorn; Abbie Barker, Centaur; Griffin Davies, Tumnus; Drew Concha, Fenris Ulf; Chyann Cody, Dwarf; Elijah Yantis, Father Christmas; Emily Linneweber, Elf; Jacob Harms, White Stag; Jennifer O'Dell, Tanner Granum, Michelle Freundt and Kaylee Wheeler, Aslan's Followers; Ella Terkildsen, Claire Scarborough and Mikayla Schmitz, Witch's Army.

Felicia Todd and Kaitlin Gill are in charge of lights.



The Witch's Army consists of, from the left, Ella Terkildsen, Claire Scarborough, Mikayla Schmitz. The Dwarf, center, is played by Chyann Cody; Fenris Ulf is portrayed by Drew Concha and the White Witch is Gwen Hoops.

'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'



Top left photo: Portraying the forest animals in the trees of Narnia are, from the back left, Jennifer O'Dell, Tanner Granum and Kaylee Wheeler; front left, Claire Hilton and Abbie Barker.

Top photo: Elijah Yantis, left, is Father Christmas, Emily Linneweber is Elf and Jacob Harms is the White Stag.

Left photo: Gathering at the Beaver's den are, from the back left, Griffin Davies as Tumnus, Levi O'Dell as Edmund, and Tayhgen McGrath as Lucy; middle, Natalie Hilton as Susan and Keith Grant as Mr. Beaver; front, Brendan Van Pelt as Peter and Rileigh Kronmiller and Mrs. Beaver.

Thank you, retirees, for your 151 years of service to Meade School District

The six staff members who are retiring this year have worked in education a total of 170 years, 151 of which have been with Meade School District. During their tenure, these employees have been mentors to many and an inspiration to all. Because of their fairness and understanding, they have developed friendships with peers and students that will continue long after they leave Meade School District.

Cheryl Goodall has been a food service employee for 29 years, but she was a volunteer at the Erskine and Primary Elementary Schools prior to that. Cheryl and her family live across the street from the school and so she was often asked at the last minute to fill in on the playground and in the lunchroom.

She'd then stay and eat with the lunch ladies, which now, after almost three decades she refers to as her second family. Cheryl said she was fortunate that four of her years working in Meade Food Service overlapped the last

years her mother worked for food service.

Early in her career with food service, Cheryl served on a national panel with representatives from many foreign countries including Trinidad, Peru and the Soviet Union who were just beginning to offer school food programs. She remembers that one of the countries would give a bag of rice to families if they would send their daughters to school.

"It was very interesting sitting on that panel and hearing about school food service operations throughout the world," she said. "Some would use camp fires to cook the food while in another country the daily menu consisted of cheese paste and borscht."

Being in contact with leaders on the national level benefited the local food service department as she would bring back information about National School Breakfast Week and other initiatives.

Cheryl was also involved on the state level. It was while at a

state meeting that she heard about a small school food service department that was working with its math department to help kids learn. "It was from this that we started holding pizza parties with the third-graders to help them with their fractions and measurements," she said.

For the past 15 years, Cheryl has been the general district manager for the food service department and so would be at work by 5 a.m. each day. "In retirement, I may now live on the wild side and stay up until 10 p.m. since I can now sleep-in," she said.

Her retirement plans could include some local traveling, visiting the little communities she knew as a child. "I just want to refocus on things that are important," she said, which includes having her father move in with her and her husband.

Cheryl admitted that she will miss the kids and her co-workers.

RETIREES: See Page 7



Goodall



Johnson



Kotab



Potter



Potts



Strain

RETIREEES:

Continued from Page 6

"But," she said, "I know I will be back frequently to have breakfast and lunch with my second family."

Linda Johnson has been a special education teacher for 22 years, all with Meade School District. She started out at Whitewood Elementary, then taught at Erskine Elementary and is now ending her career at Sturgis Elementary where she is a resource teacher.

"I will miss being with the kids so much and being part of a great team of teachers," she said about her years in the classroom.

In her retirement, Linda plans on spending time with her family, especially her mom who is her best friend and traveling buddy. "I am mostly looking forward to being stress free and enjoying the simple pleasures of life," she said.

Marlene Kotab has been a music teacher for 37 years, the last 21 at Whitewood Elementary. During her tenure with Meade School District, she was twice selected Teacher of the Year - in 1997 and 2012.

Her first job was at the Delmont School where she taught high school and middle school band and vocal music and elementary music classes for grades 1-6...all for \$8,100 a year. She has also been a music teacher at Wagner, and at Black Hawk and Garfield Elementary Schools in the Rapid City School District.

Because the music job at

Whitewood Elementary is part-time, she also worked for three years as the vocal director at Sturgis Williams Middle School. Marlene also gives private piano, flute and voice lessons in her home, something she has done since graduating from the University of South Dakota in 1977.

One of her favorite memories is from the interview for that first job in Delmont. "After my interview with the superintendent, we went out to a dairy farm to meet the school board president," she explains. "I remember going to the farmhouse and having the farm dog be very friendly and jump all over my new spring interview clothes. But I maintained my smile, let the dog jump away and I got the job."

Other memories all revolve around the beautiful music her students have shared with her and the tears she has shed from hearing them sing songs that have touched her heart. "I am especially proud of my students who have continued studying and have become music teachers and fine adult musicians themselves," she said.

Marlene said she will miss the smiles and hugs of the kids as they have made music together. "Their complete trust and affection has made teaching such a joy," she said. Marlene said she will also miss her fellow staff members. "My co-workers have become my friends over these many years as we have shared

so many personal experiences together."

Regarding retirement, Marlene said she and her husband plan on traveling. She will continue to volunteer with the Sturgis Area Arts Council summer musical, conduct the Easter cantata and serve as a musician at the Grace Lutheran Church. "I've always held fast to the adage that musicians never really retire, they just stop when there's no more music in them," she said, adding, "I don't plan on that happening for a long time."

Joyce Potter has been employed as a custodian for 37 years. She started out at Sturgis Brown High School, working alongside both parents until they retired. Joyce also worked at Badger Clark Elementary School, Sturgis Williams Middle School and then back to the high school, where she currently works.

Joyce says that as a custodian it isn't unusual to find lost articles left behind by the students. "A smile from those students and a thank you was all that was needed to make my day and to know I was appreciated," she said. "When my Mother passed away, the hugs and expressions of sympathy were overwhelming." Joyce made special mention of the cards from the fitness kids and football players during that time. "The kids at the high school

RETIREEES: See Page 8

RETIREEES:

Continued from Page 7

were as caring as anyone and their support and kindness helped make a tough occasion easier for me," she said.

Joyce relates a time when she went into Sage Robinson's classroom at the high school, and held up her medal from a recent power lifting competition. "Everyone clapped," she said. "Then, throughout work that evening, students continued to congratulate me."

"I have great memories of the school being my extended family," Joyce said.

She has plans for her retirement, which includes continuing with her power lifting. "My trainer and I are setting new goals for my retirement days, and I hope to set a personal record at the power lifting meets I plan to attend," she explained.

She also wants to spend time landscaping the flower beds at her home, capturing the sunrise and sunset each day with her camera, and spending time with her adopted cat Martin. "I want to spend more time with my family, less time with schedules, and just enjoy my life in general every day." She added that her bucket list includes attending a Zac Brown Concert.

Joyce admits that she will miss the kids, their beautiful smiles and their daily greetings of 'Hi Joyce.' She will also miss the teachers, the staff and her daily routine as she has known it. "The one thing I would like everyone to know," she said, "is that I will

miss each and every one of you and I thank you for my employment for the past 37 years."

Marcia Potts, the Meade School District Professional Technical Support Staff of the Year for 2005 and the South Dakota School Nurse of the Year for 2015, has been in nursing for 35 years, the last 15 as a school nurse for Meade School District.

She has been the nurse at the high school all 15 years and has also worked at Sturgis Elementary, the rural schools, and Whitewood Elementary. On occasion she would visit the middle school and Piedmont. Marcia explains that each year the nurses' time is allotted to each school depending on the type of health issues of the students. "So I never knew from year to year what my schedule would look like. There are never two days alike in the life of a school nurse," she explained.

From carrying blue manikins around for CPR education, sharing Oreo germs for abstinence classes or dressing up as a 'germ bug,' Marcia said she always looked forward to going into the classroom to teach the students about healthy habits. "I will miss the kids when I leave," she said. "I have now started to see a circle of new generation of kids as I am now taking care of children of former students," she said. "It is fun to see students mature and become productive young adults. I have been fortunate to work

with some awesome nurses, secretaries, teachers and bosses," she said, "and have always been impressed with how well this district can communicate and coordinate care for students with health concerns so that they can still get their education despite their medical needs."

During her years with Meade School District, Marcia has been instrumental in the evolution of the district's nursing department. She initiated and assisted with several programs including medication aide training for unlicensed personnel, CPR training and recertification of students and staff, automated external defibrillators and EpiPens for all the schools and immunization clinics for students and staff.

She doesn't have any definite plans for retirement, but she and her husband hope to do a lot of traveling with the goal of hitting every state at least once during retirement. "Our children are continuing their medical careers so we will be traveling a lot to Eastern South Dakota and Nebraska to stay close with them," she said.

"Meade School District has been a great place to work," she said. "I am thankful to have been a part of it. It's been a great ride!"

Robin Strain has been a classroom teacher for 32 years which includes 27 years at Sturgis Brown High School, three

RETIREEES: See Page 9

Dschaak is National Distinguished Principal

Piedmont Valley Elementary School Principal Ethan Dschaak has been selected as South Dakota's National Distinguished Principal for his exemplary achievements and for setting high standards for instruction, student achievement and character at Piedmont Elementary. He will join with the other states' honorees at a recognition program Oct. 6-7 in Washington, D.C.



Dschaak

In a letter of recommendation, one of Ethan's teachers wrote, "The halls have changed since Mr. Dschaak took over our school. He is not one to play favorites among staff and students. He listens to everyone and makes the tough calls. He is a true leader and an outstanding communicator. He is direct and thorough. PVE is an oasis in the world of elementary schools. We hold ourselves to a higher standard because Mr. Dschaak holds himself to the highest stand. No one is more deserving of this award."

A parent wrote the following in support of Ethan's nomination. "The minute you walk into this school, you just get a sense of peace and know that your child is in good hands. The type of exceptional

leadership that Mr. Dschaak exhibits comes from a place within which always emits genuine love. Every action, gesture, dialogue or thought he has is coming from a source that actively searches to make all decisions for the school with the focus of enhancing the students' well being."

In his nomination letter for Dschaak, Meade School District Superintendent Don Kirkegaard said, "I have the utmost respect for Ethan. He is willing to do anything I ask of him and is always looking at

the positive when there are times where it is difficult to find the positive. He is a valuable part of our administrative team. He is respected as an educational and community leader. He is very deserving to be nominated as a National Distinguished Principal. I give him my highest recommendation."

Ethan is in his seventh year as principal at Piedmont. Prior to that, he worked for five years as the assistant principal at Sturgis Williams Middle School and Sturgis Elementary School, and for five years as a special education teacher at Belle Fourche High School.

RETIREEES:

Continued from Page 8

years at Geddes and two at Egan. While at Geddes, she was the science department for grades 7-12 with one other person who taught physics, and it was mostly the same at Egan. She also taught elementary and high school physical education at those two schools.

When she moved to Sturgis, she was strictly a high school teacher, instructing PE, biology and chemistry. She then taught biology and chemistry for a number of years, and then only chemistry.

"Since I have taught for quite a number of years, I was able to teach and work with a wide variety of administrators and staff members," she said. "I have so many wonderful memories and lasting friendships that developed over the years. The students that I had a chance to teach and form rela-

tionships with definitely made an impact on both my professional and personal life," she said. "It speaks volumes to me when former students stop me and talk about their past and present lives, sharing memories they have of my classroom."

Robin had been on a leave of absence for the last two years, and during that time she has been working for Starbase, teaching STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) lessons to fifth grade students throughout western South Dakota.

Even though she is retiring from Meade School District, Robin hopes to continue working with Starbase. "That venture has brought variety to my teaching career," she said. "It has given me an opportunity to involve younger students in the wonders of education."

Pankratz, Schrock employees of the year

The Meade School District Teacher of the Year for 2016 is Melissa Pankratz and the Meade School District Professional Technical Support Staff of the Year for 2016 is Rex Schrock.

The two employees were

selected for the honor from among nominees submitted by the administrative units throughout the district.

They will be honored at the Staff Retirement and Recognition Reception to be held at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 11, in the west gym at Sturgis Brown High School. The public is invited to the buffet reception and program, but reservations are required by calling the superintendent's office at 347-2523 by May 3.

Melissa Pankratz: Teacher of the Year



Pankratz

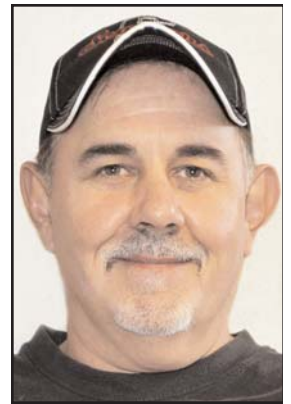
Melissa Pankratz has been a teacher for nine years, the last seven at Sturgis Elementary School where she currently teaches third grade. She is described by her nominators as friendly, positive, professional, forward thinking, caring, enthusiastic, dedicated, innovative and compassionate.

"Melissa is an outstanding teacher who loves what she does," says a co-worker. "She continually looks for the positive in each student and finds the tools that students need to be successful. She has the ability to develop unique activities that engage students in learning. She goes far beyond curriculum and standards; she drives students to take their knowledge and apply their skills for a deeper understanding of concepts."

Said another nominator, "Melissa makes each student feel a part of her classroom learning team no matter how they perform academically." This nominator, a co-worker, said that Melissa is known for being able to handle 'tougher' students. "Perhaps," continued the co-worker, "the 'tougher' students thrive in her room because not only can Melissa differentiate for their needs, she respects their dignity as human beings first. She is reflective

Rex Schrock: Professional Technical Support Staff of the Year

Twenty-eight year employee Rex Schrock is head custodian at Sturgis Williams Middle School. But, according to all his nominators, he is much more than a custodian. He is a kind, caring and compassionate man who strives for excellence. He is calm, reassuring and positive with an attitude that never fails to inspire confidence. He is a hard worker and dedicated to the school district and its staff and students. He is a mentor, basketball coach, football coach and life coach.



Schrock

"Most people know that Rex makes it his mission to keep the buildings clean and free of damage," said two nominators. "But what they may not know is he will come running when a struggling student needs a purpose. Rex has gone to great lengths to encourage our autistic brother who, after a long school break, refused to come into the school building. Rex helped our brother with that issue, with his locker issues and even made it his personal duty to greet our brother each morning. Our brother 'helped' Rex every morning for many weeks until he became comfortable enough to establish his own routine and enter the building

EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR: See Page 11

EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR: _____ Continued from Page 10

Pankratz:

of each and every situation a child comes from as well as what their needs are during the school day."

The parents of two former students of Mrs. Pankratz, say they are thrilled that she has been a part of their children's educational experience. "She is always cheerful and welcoming in the classroom to her students as well as parents who may drop in. We appreciate her continual quest in finding new and engaging activities to incorporate into the classroom to enhance student learning and keep kids interested. She is a teacher who is clearly dedicated to ensuring the success of each student in her classroom."

Parents are also appreciative of the way Mrs. Pankratz makes each student feel. Said a parent, "I know that each student who has had the opportunity to be in Mrs. Pankratz' classroom over the years will never forget how good, confident and capable she has made them feel in their educational journey."

One of her current students says she is just awesome. "Mrs. Pankratz makes math, science and workstation fun. And she has funny jokes."

Melissa is a collegial, compassionate, intelligent and supportive leader, according to a co-worker. "She is very willing to share ideas, compliments and very importantly, laughter. Personally speaking, it is a pleasure working with her every day, in every way."

A former district administrator says Melissa exemplifies the high standards and qualities of a Teacher of the Year. "Her constant quest for new knowledge and training, and the ability to share her professional development with members of her team and staff is unprecedented."

Schrock:

without any assistance. Rex has helped many other students find their place, which is why he deserves recognition."

In their letter of recommendation, SWMS eighth-graders wrote, "Every day during and after school Rex teaches us to be better people and students. After lifting every day we stop 10 minutes early and he gives us a motivational talk about life, sports, and school. He has taught us to 'stay in the fight' no matter what the odds are. He tells us to thank our family for all of their support and he tells us to not let our team down by being put on ICU. He tells us he would stay by our sides even during the toughest times."

A new teacher, who was trying to get her room ready for the first day of school, said that Rex would patiently listen to and answer her many questions. "Although he was busy, he always took the time to offer ideas or solutions and made sure that what needs I thought I had, no matter how small or inconvenient, were taken care of."

Six SBHS alumni referenced the impact Rex continues to have on their lives. "Though we have moved on from middle school, Rex continues to encourage and support us through all of life's challenges. His dedication to Sturgis sports continues with the time he still puts into being a mentor inside and outside of the weight room for middle school athletes.

"Rex is deserving of this award," continued the alumni, "because of his selfless contribution of his own time in inspiring growing student athletes for generations and generations to come."

This is the second time Rex has received this award. The first time was in 1991.

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SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES: ——— Continued from Page 1

Rice, who ran for the Meade School Board last year, has a doctorate in dental surgery and owns his own practice, Rice Area Dental, in Rapid City. He and his wife Katherine have eight children.

Richter, who is in his third year on the board, is an ag and commercial loan officer with First National Bank in Newell. He and his wife Kristen have four children, two of whom are students at Sturgis Williams Middle School, one attends Sturgis Elementary and one is at home. He is an alumnus of Sturgis Brown High School and attended Black Hills State University.

All candidates were given the same questions to answer. The following are the questions and responses.

Why are you running for Meade School Board and why should people vote for you?

Burns: As a lifelong resident of Meade County and a father of four children having attended three different schools in Meade 46-1, I feel it is time to give back to the area that has given so much to my family.

We have a truly amazing district that is larger than the state of Delaware yet hosts what may be the smallest schools in the country. At the same time, with over 700 students, Sturgis Elementary is the largest elementary school in the state. It is very satisfying to be part of a district with this much diversity that still remembers the importance of each individual student.

The new Common Core curriculum and technological requirements coming from the state are changes that will challenge teachers, administrators and the board. I know our staff is up to that challenge and the sound budget, established by the board over the past years, will allow the school board to provide the building blocks our educators need to meet that challenge. I look forward to being part of the team that builds that future.

Serving on the board over the last seven years has given me the experience and knowledge to not only understand the complexities of our school district and its budgetary needs but to effectively move us forward to meet the many challenges ahead of us.

Johnson: My mother was a teacher and administrator for 42 years so I grew up with the importance of education always present. I took an active interest in education when my children were in school and I now have grandchildren in the Meade School System. Our family has always been involved in the community in many ways. I believe in the need to participate and make whatever contribution we are able to as part of being a good citizen.

Rice: I want to be a voice for conservative parents on the school board. As a conservative Republican, I hold the traditional values of local control, responsible spending, and transparency. Our children will need to compete in the marketplace and to do so they must be well prepared academically. I plan to focus on academic excellence.

Richter: I am running for re-election because although I feel like a great deal has been accomplished through my first term, there is much more that needs to be done. I believe that the current composition of the school board is a strong one and is one that could guide the district through some significant changes coming in the near term.

I believe I have demonstrated in my first three years the propensity to get things accomplished to benefit our teachers and students while advocating for the district's parents and taxpayers. I would appreciate the voters' support to allow me to continue to build upon the accomplishments that have been made and to provide direction and improvements for the benefit of our students going forward.

What are some good things that Meade School District is doing?

Burns: Even though budget reductions have caused school closings and consolidations in other districts, we have kept our commitment to keep our rural schools open. The building improvements at Hereford, the realignment of classes at Enning and Union Center, which kept both schools open, and

**SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES:
See Page 13**

SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES: — Continued from Page 12

the continuing plans to build a middle school in Piedmont Valley attest to the district's commitment to the local school concept. We have moved from 63rd position statewide in teacher salaries to 27th despite the lack of federal impact aid that our neighboring school districts enjoy.

Johnson: Supporting the rural schools. We are the largest district in the state in land area and are primarily an agricultural district. We are able to provide a great educational opportunity in a rural school setting, and I believe that is a very special opportunity. We have excellent facilities district wide and are continuing to evaluate the needs and plan for the future.

Rice: Sturgis Brown High School has an excellent music program. Also there is good progress toward making students computer literate. We seem to be attracting good teachers.

Richter: The district's focus on improving upon the technology in our classrooms in all of our schools has been a premier accomplishment in the past three years. Improving our teachers' average wage within the budgeted boundaries and the adjustment to a four-day school week for our rural schools are a couple of other significant accomplishments from the past three years.

What are some things that Meade School District could improve upon?

Burns: We need to do a better job of long term planning for growth in the district. The new elementary schools in Piedmont and Sturgis are almost at capacity and we have limited capital outlay funds or property at the schools for expansion. Budgets are always tight and the cuts of the last few years have limited our ability to do any more than spend on our immediate needs. The good news is that new state aid will help us increase teacher salaries to better compete both locally and interstate for the talented teachers our students deserve.

Johnson: I don't come with an agenda or a list of political promises. I do have some concerns such as the urban growth developing along the I-90

Corridor. Addressing this growth and building for the need is important for this area. We need to keep our middle school and high school students in Meade schools and I truly believe we could become a magnet for part of the adjoining districts that fringe our area. Open enrollment goes both ways but after elementary we are losing some of our upper class students and we are busing the rest. We have a lot of students in the Piedmont School. I understand things take time and funding takes longer but the need is now.

Rice: Recently, Gov. Daugaard vetoed the student privacy protection bill and deferred the issue to the local school boards. Currently, Meade School District has no policy and I think they should adopt HB 1008. Bathrooms, locker rooms and changing areas should be off limits to opposite sex students and staff. The policy should include specific penalties for violations.

Richter: We need to continue to focus on what we can do to improve the education that we provide to our district's children. In my first year, I was told by a former teacher of mine of whom I have the utmost respect to remember to always put consideration of the benefit of the kids first and foremost. Since then I have always tried to use those words to guide my decision making as a Meade School Board member, and believe as a district that we need to continue with that focus and approach going forward. Improving the level of education our kids receive as well as continuing to maintain our facilities throughout the district are the primary items that I feel the district continuously needs to focus on improving upon.

What concerns you about education in Meade School District? Statewide? Nationwide?

Burns: I'm concerned that the increased state funding has only given Meade District an 8.5 percent increase in funding which is less than the 10 percent cuts we dealt with three years ago. We will

**SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES:
See Page 14**

SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES: ——— Continued from Page 13

be able to raise teacher salaries but not nearly to the level they deserve or that is truly competitive with surrounding states.

Johnson: Politics! Mandates! Funding! Technology!

I believe Meade School District is doing an excellent job of education. Every year the burden grows of what is demanded of public schools. We accept all the children and we believe every child can learn.

My concerns are with the political arena on the state and national levels that affect how we do our job. Education cannot continue to be the football in this game they are playing. We need to be the priority or we need to be out of the game. We have become overrun with rules and tests and reports to justify or support the amount of financing that is necessary to continue educating children. New programs and demands are continually being added along with new evaluations of how something or someone is working. The further the decision is from the classroom the less intelligent it is.

We need to be accountable to the students and to the parents of those students. We are providing our students with an education that will enable them to be productive citizens with a fair chance to succeed in life.

Technology is changing how we and the world operate. We have an excellent technology department but it is a challenge to keep up. It is a further challenge to fund the requirements that changes in technology require.

Rice: The emphasis on political correctness over academic excellence. Our test scores are generally down across the board. Common Core is very unpopular and does not support the concept of local control. The testing associated with Common Core (the SBAC) is currently facing legal challenges in South Dakota. Let's make evidence based decisions before we adopt the latest educational fad.

Richter: Within the Meade School District as well as throughout the state of South Dakota I am primarily concerned with the retention of quality teachers as well as the hiring of equally outstanding

young teachers. In my opinion, the only way to improve our children's overall education which will allow them to be competitive in a global marketplace is to provide the best instruction that we can. The work of the Blue Ribbon Task Force as well as the Governor's efforts to improve teacher pay this past legislative session was a great start, but we can't let it be the final effort made toward full achievement in this area.

What changes/improvements would you like to see happen in Meade School District?

Burns: I would like to see our school district not only keep up with, but get ahead of the technological advances in society and education. The new Common Core standards and state testing requirement will mean investments in computers and staff training that hopefully will help us lead the way into the future for all students K through 12.

Johnson: We do a good job, but I think we can improve our communication with our public because we need their support and involvement to have the best school district we can have. For example, we have cut some print copy that "toots our horn" due to budget constraints and although this information is available electronically, I don't believe we are reaching the broad public we need to be "in touch" with. I think we can do more.

Continue to work on the establishment of a middle school in the Piedmont/Stagebarn area. We need to continue to study the growth demographics to determine when or if a high school may be needed in this area and start planning for that need.

Rice: Evaluation of bus stops for safety, possibly a middle school in Piedmont which will alleviate overcrowding at Piedmont Elementary. The teachers got a pay raise, which was needed. I was not in favor of the sales tax increase, however. The language in the bill was imprecise, and I'm concerned that we will see a negative impact at smaller

**SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES:
See Page 15**

SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES: ——— Continued from Page 14

schools. There is talk of teacher cuts, consolidation, etc., which is very bad for smaller communities. It appears that only about one-half of the tax will go to teacher pay.

Richter: I would like to see an overall district wide effort to expand and grow our STEM curriculum at all grade levels. Math, science and technology education are the keys to our kids' future as well as the future of the state of South Dakota, I would also like to see a continued and increased effort provided to our district's rural schools to improve their facilities as well as to directly involve their students and staff more with the rest of the district as a whole. With the growth in Sturgis and Piedmont Valley we can't let our rural schools fall along the wayside or be forgotten about in any way.

What are you most proud of concerning Meade School District?

Burns: This year's state championship in culinary competition is just the latest in a long line of achievements by Coleen Keffeler and her culinary students. Coleen's students have produced victories in both state and national competitions on a regular continuing basis over the years and both she and her students deserve our congratulations.

Johnson: Our leadership. With the size and diversity of this school district, we do a great job of education. We can be especially proud of our administrative team. We have one of the top superintendents in the state of South Dakota. The nine members of this school board work hard and work well together. Everyone in the district should be especially proud of the facilities provided for our students.

Rice: We have great teachers in our district who are concerned about our children's academic progress. People move here to attend our schools.

Richter: I am most proud of our teachers' efforts and dedication to our district's students. Whether I'm at Opal or Piedmont Valley Elementary, Elm Springs or Sturgis Brown High School, I am continuously impressed by our district's students

and the teachers who lead them. I am also very proud of the fact that despite our geographical challenges that our district continues to come together to meet and exceed the needs of all of our students regardless of their location.

Other Comments

Burns: It has been an honor to serve on the school board and I look forward to the opportunity to follow through on the positive programs started in the past and am excited at what the future brings.

Johnson: I come from an agriculture background. I have experience as a school board member. I believe in 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, a sense of involvement.

One of our greatest responsibilities is the budget of the district. We need to balance what we can afford with what we know are the real needs. Growth and costs are real issues and funding is a critical issue. We cannot expect the members of our staff to continue in a salary freeze due to declining funding and we cannot continue to reduce programs and activities without affecting the students.

These are tough choices we have to consider to make the best use of your tax dollars. I will attempt to represent your interests as well as I can.

Rice: 1. Teachers need to have more input about curriculum. Too often good experienced teachers have to adopt new methods causing unnecessary stress. 2. School board members are elected representatives of the public, and as such must interface and negotiate for the citizens. I have been doing this for years. The public are the consumers and financiers of public education.

Richter: I would greatly appreciate the support of the voters in Meade School District on June 7. Although much has been done in my first term,

**SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES:
See Page 16**

SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES: ———Continued from Page 15

including expansion of technology in all of our schools, sanctioning of soccer as a high school sport, improvement of our average teacher salary from 63rd to 27th in the state, scheduling a four-day school week in our rural schools and expansion of our technical education options, there is still much more yet to accomplish.

We need to continue to focus on STEM based classroom achievements at each grade level and in all of our district's facilities. Finally, we need to always make sure to abide by my former SBHS teacher's advice that in all actions and considerations to always put our kids' needs first. I would appreciate your vote in June 7.

Community/Volunteer Involvement

Burns: My community involvement includes serving as president and finance chairman of the Piedmont Valley Lutheran Church Council, member and vice chairman of the National Forest Advisory Board for the Black Hills National Forest, member of the Citizens Advisory Council to the Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, board member and treasurer of the Chapel in the Hills (Stavekirk Church). While on the school board, I have served on the building committee, employee recognition

committee, teacher negotiations committee and transportation committee. I have also served as both board president and vice president.

Johnson: Member, Piedmont Valley Lutheran Church, Rapid City Masonic Lodge #25 and Black Hills Scottish Rite of Masonry. Former 6-year member of Central States Fair and Black Hills Stock Show Board of Directors, Johnson Siding Volunteer Fire Department, Pennington County Extension Board and Trails West Sanitary District. During my 13 years on the Hill City School Board, I served as president for six years. I was also on the Associated School Boards of South Dakota Board of Directors for 11 years, two as president.

Rice: I started Citizens for Academic Transparency here in South Dakota. I am active in my church.

Richter: Six year member of the Sturgis Soccer Association and current vice president and volunteer coach. Volunteer coach for the Sturgis Community Center Youth Basketball. School board involvement includes current board president, delegate to Associated School Boards of South Dakota Convention and member of the Transportation Committee, Whitewood Board of Equalization, Administrator Negotiations Committee, Building Committee and Teacher Negotiations Committee.

School Election Information

The deadline to register to vote is May 23.

For information about absentee voting, call the school district business office at 374-2523.

To view the polling locations, go to the district website at:

www.meade.k12.sd.us/index.php/communications/

School Board Candidate Forum

Hosted by the Sturgis Area Chamber of Commerce

5:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 17

Meade County Commissioners Room

Meade County Erskine Office Building

1300 Sherman Street, Sturgis, S.D.

In the Spotlight

Named: **Bev Rosenboom**, the principal at Whitewood Elementary and the Rural Schools of Meade School District, has been named recipient of the Community Leader Award by the South Dakota Association of Elementary School Principals.

This award honors and recognizes Bev for her community involvement and activities, for involving the Whitewood students in community affairs, and for her ability to make use of resources from other educational institutions, parents, businesses, industry and service clubs.

A 30-year employee of the school district, Bev has been a principal for the last 13 years.

Elected: Sturgis Brown High School sophomore **Jacob West** has been elected the new president of the South Dakota Student Council Association whose membership includes a majority of the 180 high schools in the state.

As the incoming president, West will preside over all state Association meetings including next year's convention. He will also represent South Dakota at the national conference of the National Association of Student Councils this June. In addition, he will serve on the Student Council Association State Executive Board, which is the governing



Rosenboom



West



Gerberding



Wilen

body of the Association. The primary duties of that board are to determine projects, plan programs and establish policy for the student councils of the state.

Elected: SBHS sophomore **Bridger Gordon** and junior **Holly Gerberding** have been elected officers of the Rushmore Region of the South Dakota Student Council Association. Gordon is the new president of the Region while Gerberding was voted in as the vice president. The Rushmore Region, of which SBHS is a member, includes Belle Fourche, Bennett County, Crazy Horse, Custer, Douglas, Edgemont, Harding County, Hill City, Hot Springs, Lead-Deadwood, Little Wound, New Underwood, Newell, Oelrichs, Philip, Pine Ridge, Rapid City Central, Rapid City Christian, Rapid City Stevens, Red Cloud, Spearfish, St. Thomas More, Takini and Wall.

Won: Sturgis Brown High School sophomores **Ryan Wilen** and **Bridger Gordon** took first



Gordon



Holzer

place in the AgriScience Fair during the State FFA Convention held on the campus of South Dakota State University in Brookings.

Their project, which will now be entered in the regional contest, focused on the attitudes of high school, college, and adult populations toward genetically-modified organisms (GMOs) and the labeling of food.

Placed: Sturgis Williams Middle School sixth grade student **Sawyer Holzer** took third in the S.D. National Geographic Bee held in Aberdeen. As one of the top finishers out of 70 participants, he received \$50.

Integrating horticulture into the curriculum

Meade School District receives wonderful support from all the schools' Parent Teacher Associations and Organizations. This support not only contributes to students' successes but greatly adds to the quality of their learning environment.

For the past several years, the Sturgis Elementary School Parent Teacher Association has awarded grants to Sturgis Elementary teachers for innovative teaching strategies and classroom management techniques.

This year, Sherri O'Brien, one of the special education kindergarten teachers at the school, applied for and received \$250 to build a garden bed for

her students in the school garden.

Already this year, the kindergartners have been composting, studying worms and learning about seeds. They have also built a scarecrow to support a reading and writing project that, Mrs. O'Brien said, has kept her students interested in visiting the garden bed all through the winter.

"The students have really enjoyed the project as it has been a behavior/social team building project that gets us outside as well as teaches the students where food comes from," O'Brien said.

"This garden bed has already offered a wonderful avenue for so

many things," said O'Brien, who added that she actually has a whole book of plans titled *Math in the Garden*. "The garden experiences bring in a multi-modal, multi-sensory learning aspect which is crucial to support so many learning styles," she explained.

She has added some birding projects to her list of things for the students to get involved with. In addition to making bird nests, they have also built bird houses. Bird feeders are next on the 'to do' list followed by something for butterflies.

"The sky is the limit," said O'Brien regarding the potential of the garden bed.



Sturgis Elementary School kindergarten students of Sherri O'Brien and Debby Neiman work hard to create bird nests for the school's garden. Pictured are, clockwise from the front left, Owen Liebert, Phoenix Condon, Zachary Uselman, Ciara Cuestas and Leland Tusing.

In the photo to the right, kindergartner Avin Mayer measures the garden bed with popcycle sticks as part of a math assignment.

In the photo below, school volunteer Ernie Miller helps kindergartner Akadion Bartlett make a bird house for the school garden.

In the bottom right photo, Joe Bright uses mud, grass, twigs, sticks and string to build the strongest bird nest he can.



Regular school board meeting is May 9

The Meade School Board will take action at its May 9 meeting on administrative contracts, support staff salary and benefits, and insurance renewal rates.

The meeting, which is open to the public, is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. in the board room of the Williams Administrative Building, 1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis.

The board will also set a time and date for a public hearing on the proposed budget for 2016-17, approve personnel items and financial reports, and approve the memorandum of understanding with Behavior Management Systems.

Discussion items include the City of Sturgis proposal for the

high school property, school board election, Employee Recognition and Retirement Reception, surplus auction, and an update on negotiations for 2016-17.

The complete agenda and supporting documents can be viewed on the district website the Friday prior to the meeting.

Board approves social studies curriculum

The Meade School Board unanimously approved the purchase of new social studies curriculum for kindergarten through twelfth grade during its regular April meeting.

The cost was estimated to be \$250,000-\$260,000 and includes "My World Social Studies" for K-5, by Pearson; McGraw-Hill series including textbooks on U.S. history, world geography, world history, economics and psychology for 6-12; and Pearson Magruder's "American Government" for 9-12.

Music events

Meade School District music events for the remainder of the school year are as follows.

Monday, May 9, 7 p.m.: High school choir and band concert, west gym, SBHB

Thursday, May 12, 7 p.m.: Middle school band concert, Grunwald Auditorium

Monday May 16, 7 p.m.: SWMS choir concert, Sturgis Community Center Theatre

During the selection process, which began more than a year ago, the teachers looked at how well the social studies standards were addressed, the accessibility to on-line textbooks, and how the books and materials would engage the students.

The bid for cleaning services at Sturgis Brown High School and Piedmont Valley Elementary was awarded to M&B Cleaning for \$276,850, which also included extracurricular at the high school. M&B was not the low bidder but an error by the low bidder resulted in that bid being rejected.

Bridger Construction was the low bidder out of five contractors on the maintenance building roof replacement project. "Their bid of \$34,500 was in line with our estimate," said Business Manager Brett Burditt.

The other project was for asphaltting the east and west service roads at the high school. Low bidder at \$88,640.64 was Sacrison. "These bids came in more than what we expected, but that was due to the

recent deterioration of the west service road," said Burditt.

Bus route change requests were received from three families, all requesting bus route #6 be extended to include 199th street. "In talking to the bus company," said parent Ryan Casteel, "the original route included that road but was abandoned because there were no kids living on the road then." Casteel said there are at least three families with children that would benefit from the route change. The board transportation committee consisting of Bob Burns, Joe Urbaniak and Mike Isaacson will review the change request.

After discussing the proposed 2017-18 academic calendar for the past several months, board members gave their approval. Superintendent Don Kirkegaard said comments received about the calendar were positive and feedback from staff and the administration were in favor. The calendar can be found on the school district website.



This Old School House

The 1936 yearbook, the cover of which is pictured to the right, featured only the senior class, which numbered 17 boys and 23 girls. The 47-page yearbook included sketches of the administrators, high school faculty and members of the senior class. Autobiographies of the seniors, a listing of their activities and favorite sayings were also included.

The senior class motto was "Out of the Harbor, Into the Deep." The class flower was the rose and the class colors were navy blue and white.

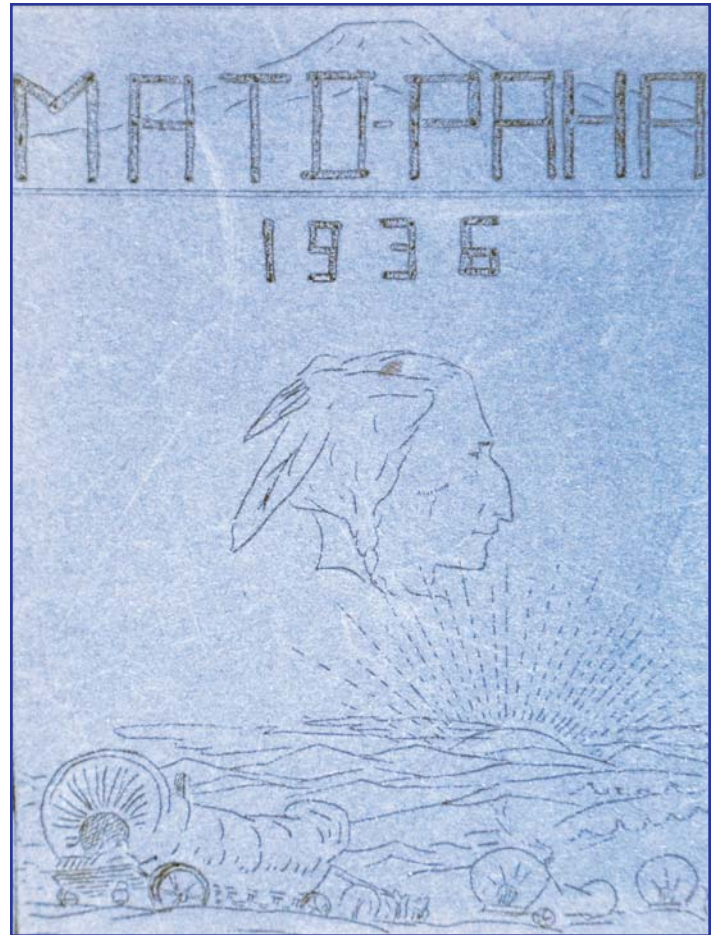
Commencement was 3 p.m. Friday, May 15, 1936, with Superintendent E.E. Grunwald presiding. The processional was performed by the high school orchestra followed with the invocation by Rev. Orlando M. Skindrud.

Principal William J. Brown presented the awards after which Bill Ford and Douglas Archer performed a baritone and trumpet duet.

Orville Johnson gave the salutatory and Joe Rowett gave the valedictory.

Commencement speaker was Dr. J.P. Connelly, president of South Dakota State School of Mines.

Mr. G.S. Anderson, president of the Board of Education, presented the diplomas.



School History (as reported in the 1936 Mato Paha)

The first school in Sturgis was a one room building built in 1878 and was located on Lazelle Street. Mrs. Rodebank was the first teacher and taught fifteen students nine months out of the year. The school term was divided into two parts, from September to February and from May to July.

In 1883 the school was moved to the present Academy grounds. In 1884 the enrollment increased to 119 and the school board bought block 5 of the Bosworth addition. It was sold but bought back in 1928.

In 1888 Mr. Tyler taught and since the enrollment had increased to 157 he asked for someone to help him. He became the first superintendent.

In 1895 the attendance reached 392 and there was a faculty of four teachers. Mrs. Bradley, the school librarian, was one of the teachers at that time.

A high school was established on the present site in 1890. The new building had one room, 50 by 60 feet. There were four graduates in 1897 from the two year

course. A three year course was added in 1900.

The school burned to the ground in 1900 and classes were held in the city hall. A new building was erected on the same ground and was enlarged in 1914 and again in 1926. [Now the Meade County Erskine Office Building.]

Bonds were raised this year to build a new high school building. [Now the Williams Administrative Building.] When it is finished it will be one of the most modern and complete high schools in the state.

SBHS chefs represent S.D. at nationals

Sturgis Brown High School teen chefs Chris Van Asma, Felicia Todd and Sabrina Day, pictured in the foreground of the photo below, spent April 29-May 1 representing South Dakota at the National Restaurant Association National ProStart Invitational in Dallas, Texas.

The event showcased the country's premier high school culinary arts and restaurant management students in competition. Though the students didn't take first, they still consider the experience life changing.

"We may not have placed or won," said Felicia, "but we went in and pushed ourselves as hard as we could. It's not all about winning first place for us. It is about going in, learning something new, having fun and doing our best," she said. "Anything else is bonus."

"Participating in ProStart was one of the best experiences I have ever had," said Chris. "Winning state and going to Nationals was just a big bonus for us. I couldn't ask for better teammates than Sabrina

and Felicia, or a better teacher than Mrs. Keffeler. They made this experience even better," he said.

Sabrina said that the honor of going to Nationals has been the greatest experience ever. "I am so incredibly proud of our little team of three and so blessed to have had Mrs. Keffeler as an adviser. Not only have I learned skills that I will use for the rest of my life, but I have also made bonds and memories that would have never happened if it wasn't for ProStart."

To watch the three students competing on the national stage was also a special experience for SBHS ProStart teacher Coleen Keffeler. "I am so proud of them," she said. "It has truly been a privilege to work with these students. They got right to work just like they did at every practice. They communicated and they pushed through to present a quality product to the judges. South Dakota can be proud of these three young adults!"



Meade School District Calendar for 2016-17

The following is the approved calendar for the 2016-17 school year. Any snow days will be made up by adding additional days at the end of the school calendar. Furthermore, Feb. 20 (Presidents' Day), March 17 (Spring Break), and April 17 (Easter Monday) could be used as make-up days at the discretion of the Meade School Board upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

Inservice	Aug. 23-25, 2016	Martin Luther King Jr. Day (no school)	Jan. 16, 2017
First Day of School	Aug. 29, 2016	Parent-Teacher Conferences:	
Labor Day (no school)	Sept. 5, 2016	High School: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 13, 2017
Parent-Teacher Conferences:		Middle School: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 14, 2017
Middle School: 4-7 p.m.	Oct. 3, 2016	Middle & High Schools: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 16, 2017
High School: 4-7 p.m.	Oct. 4, 2016	Presidents' Day (no school)	Feb. 20, 2017
Elementary Schools: 4-7 p.m.	Oct. 4, 2016	Parent-Teacher Conferences:	
All Schools: 4-7 p.m.	Oct. 6, 2016	Elementary Schools: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 21, 2017
Inservice Day (no school)	Oct. 7, 2016	Elementary Schools: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 23, 2017
Native Americans' Day (no school)	Oct. 10, 2016	Inservice Day (no school)	Mar. 16, 2017
Inservice Day (no school)	Nov. 4, 2016	Spring Break (no school)	Mar. 17, 2017
Thanksgiving Vacation (no school)	Nov. 23-25, 2016	Good Friday/Easter Monday (no school)	April 14-17 2017
Christmas Vacation (no school)	Dec. 21-Jan.2	Inservice Day (no school)	April 24, 2017
Inservice Day (no school)	Jan. 13, 2017	Graduation	May 21, 2017
		Last Day of School	May 24, 2017

Directory for Meade School District

Schools

Rural 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 Valley Elementary School

16159 Second Street**
P.O. Box 90, Piedmont, S.D. 57769
Ethan Dschaak, principal.....787-5295; fax:787-5954

Sturgis Brown High School

12930 E. Highway 34, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Toll-free 1-888-568-3514
Pete Wilson, principal.....347-2686; fax:347-0225
Chad Hedderman, assistant principal.....347-2686
Mike Paris, activities director.....347-4487
Academy.....347-9349

Sturgis Elementary School

1121 Ball Park Road, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Chantal Ligtenberg, principal..347-2386; fax:347-3769
Dave Olson, assistant principal.....347-2386

Sturgis Williams Middle School

1425 Cedar Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Toll-free 1-888-567-8274
Ann Nonnast, principal.....347-5232; fax:720-0190
Dave Olson, assistant principal.....347-5232

Whitewood Elementary School

603 Garfield, Whitewood, S.D. 57793
Bev Rosenboom, principal.....269-2264; fax:269-2099

Superintendent

1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Don Kirkegaard.....347-2523 x2; fax:347-0005
Toll-free 1-877-522-6251

Business Manager

1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Brett Burditt.....347-2523 x1; fax:347-0005
Toll-free 1-877-522-6251

Buildings and Grounds

12940 E. Highway 34, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Cody King, maintenance foreman.....347-2649

Communications Office

1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Kristine Hubbard.....347-2523 x3

Curriculum and Technology

1610 Fulton Street, Sturgis**
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
Marcia Potts.....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..347-2523 x4; fax:347-8089
Deb Kerstiens, assistant director.....347-2523 x4

Harlow's School Bus Service

2237 West Sherman, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Andy Ellingsen, transportation manager.....347-5066

Woodle Field

600 Woodland Dr., Sturgis**347-2003

**Not a mailing address