

Meade School District  
46-1

# In Touch

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## Piedmont Valley Elementary open house is Sept. 16

A public open house at the new Piedmont Valley Elementary School will be held Friday, Sept. 16. A ribbon cutting and program with remarks by Meade School Board President Wanda Blair and Principal Ethan Dschaak will kickoff activities at 6 p.m. at the school's front entrance.

The evening's activities also include tours of the building beginning at 6:30 p.m. Other scheduled events consist of a book fair from 6:30-8 p.m. in the media center and an ice cream social from 7-8 p.m. in the multi-purpose room. Both of these events are sponsored by the Piedmont Valley PTA. Preceding the open house will be activities for children at the playground. This event, sponsored by Knology, will be held from 4-5:30 p.m.

For additional photos of the new school, visit the district website [www.meade.k12.sd.us/offices/communications.htm](http://www.meade.k12.sd.us/offices/communications.htm).

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

# Message from the superintendent

It is hard to believe that the start of school is less than a month away. I officially started my new position as superintendent of Meade School District on July 1, 2011, and it has been a great first month. I have had the opportunity to visit all of the schools, meet lots of great people, and start to know the lay of the land. I am glad to be part of the community and excited about working for this District.

It has been a busy summer, and we are excited about the many changes and improvements that have occurred over the summer. The renovation of the first floor of the north building of Sturgis Williams Middle School on Douglas Street is just about complete. With the completion of the project, 75 percent of the first floor of the Williams Building has been renovated. This project was designed for energy efficiency which helps bring new life to an existing building. I encourage you to stop in and take a look; I know that you will like what you see.

## **In Touch**

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

The renovation of the Francis Case facility on Fulton Street is a little behind schedule. The plan is for the Curriculum/Technology Office to be housed in that facility. We hope that the Curriculum Department will be able to make the move in late August and that the Technology Department will do so over the Christmas break. The maintenance and custodial staff have done an excellent job of bringing the building up to code. The move will allow the district to better utilize space and manpower; it will be nice to have all of the technology under one roof.

The big project, and by far the most exciting one, is the completion of the new Piedmont Valley Elementary School facility. We moved equipment and supplies into the building on July 27 and 28. The playground equipment will be installed in early August, and we will be ready for students when school starts.

It is a beautiful facility that will provide for an excellent learning environment for many years to come. I know that the students, parents, faculty, community and entire school district will be proud of the new facility. I hope that you take a chance to stop in and visit our newest school and I'm sure you will agree with me.

With the first day of school, Monday, Aug. 29, approaching, I encourage you to visit our website [www.meade.k12.sd.us](http://www.meade.k12.sd.us) for the most current information



about registration for new students, open houses, and the various student orientation sessions that have been scheduled.

Our administrative assistants will be back at their desks on Monday, Aug. 15, to assist you with your back-to-school needs as well. I would also like to report that as of now, the teaching staff in the district is at 100 percent, and we have just a few more support staff positions to fill. This year we welcome 23 new teachers.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to work in the Meade School District. I look forward to meeting with you, and together we are going to do what we can to make this the best district possible. I encourage you to stop in and say "Hi." No guarantee that I will remember your name, but I will work at it.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Don Kirkegaard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Don Kirkegaard

# First day of school is Monday, Aug. 29

The 2011-2012 school year in Meade School District begins Monday, Aug. 29. Prior to that day, new student registration, open houses and orientations will be held.

All students new to the district are required to bring to registration a report card or transcript of grades from their previous school and a copy of their certified birth certificate. In addition, they will be asked to provide their Social Security Number, and race and ethnicity information.

Also required are immunization records. New students will not be admitted to school until and unless the school nurse has received and verified the immunization documentation.

## **Piedmont Valley Elementary School Grades K-6**

Registration for new students will be 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 17-18, at the new Piedmont School. Students who were enrolled at Piedmont Stagebarn last year do not have to re-enroll. If there are changes in addresses or phone numbers, however, those updates should be made at this time. Food service personnel will be present to sell meal tickets during these two days.

An open house and orientation for students and parents will be 2:30-4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 25.

## **Whitewood Elementary School Grades K-6**

Registration for new students is 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Friday, Aug. 15-19, at the school. An open house will be held 1-2:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 25, also at the school. Food service personnel will be present at this time to sell meal tickets.

## **Sturgis Elementary School Grades K-5**

Registration for new students will be 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday, Aug. 15, through Thursday, Aug. 18, at the office of Sturgis Elementary, 1121 Ball Park Road, Sturgis. Students who were enrolled in Sturgis Elementary last year or kindergartners who registered last spring do not have to re-enroll.

An open house at Sturgis Elementary will be held 2:30-4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 25. The purpose of the open house is to give parents and students an opportunity to meet the teachers and other staff.

## **Rural Schools Grades K-8**

Registration and open houses will be held at each rural school from 9-11 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 25. School physicals for rural students will be offered at the Union Center School from 1-3 p.m., also on Thursday, Aug. 25.

## **Sturgis Williams Middle School Grades 6-8**

New students may register from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Aug. 16-18, at the principal's office located in the SWMS office, 1425 Cedar Street, Sturgis.

An open house and orientation for all students and their parents will be held 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 24. Schedules will be distributed at this time, and the students, together with the parents, will have an opportunity to meet homeroom teachers.

Parents will also have an opportunity during the open house to purchase assignment notebooks and physical education t-shirts, which are required of all students. Meal and activity tickets will also be on sale.

## **Sturgis Brown High School and Academy Grades 9-12**

New students may register at the high school student services office any time between 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, Aug. 16-18. Those accepted into Sturgis Academy may register at the same time, also at the student services office.

Freshmen orientation and freshmen activities meeting will be 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 23, in the west gymnasium at the high school. Parents are encouraged to attend this meeting. Meal tickets and activity tickets will be available for purchase at this time.

New student orientation for those who will be in grades 10-12 will be 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 26, in Room 111 at the high school. Meal tickets and activity tickets also will be available for purchase at this time.

Additional information such as bus route schedules, Capable Kids After-School program, accident insurance, student handbooks and school supply lists is located on the school district website at:

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



# Former Western Dakota Tech building to house Scooper Achievement Center

The former Western Dakota Technical Institute classroom building, located on the Sturgis Brown High School campus and which became the property of Meade School District when WDTI closed its ag program at that location, will now house the Scooper Achievement Center.

The Center will be open to sophomores who need to recover credits from core courses they failed in their freshmen year and who do not function well within the traditional school setting. Students will be identified for this program by a committee consisting of teachers, counselors, administrators and parents.

SBHS Principal Jeff Simmons said up to 50 students could be involved in the program and would be

divided into three blocks of about 15-17 students each. The fourth block of time would be open for the students to take elective courses in the main building.

Teachers currently employed at the high school would staff the Achievement Center. Orion Thompson will work at the Center fulltime while special education teacher William Carpenter and math and computer teacher Vince Schmaltz will split their time between the high school and the Center.

"Hopefully this alternative setting will get those students engaged back into the school setting," said Simmons. The new program was approved by the school board at its June meeting will go into effect beginning with the 2011-2012 school year.

## SBHS homecoming to be held Oct. 11-14

"Nintendo Mania" is the theme of this year's Sturgis Brown High School homecoming to be held Tuesday, Oct. 11, through Friday, Oct. 14.

Coronation will be 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, in the west gym at the high school. This will be followed by the burning of the "S," car bash and finals of the powder puff football game, all at Woodle Field.

The parade will begin at 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14, from Ball Park Road near Sturgis Elementary School. The parade will head north to Farley Street,

east to Third Street, north to Douglas Street, east to Junction Avenue, north to Main Street, west to Third Street, south to Sherman Street and west to Fifth Street and Ball Park Road, where it will disband.

Homecoming week concludes Friday with the football game against Douglas at 6 p.m. at Woodle Field followed by a dance at the high school.

Area businesses and organizations interested in participating in the parade with a float or other entry should call the high school at 347-2686.

# This Old School House



From the  
**March 12, 1958,**  
meeting of the  
**S t u r g i s**  
**I n d e p e n d e n t**

## **School District #12:**

“After considerable discussion of teachers contracts for the next school year, it was moved by [John] Craig and seconded by [W.E.] Jones that the superintendent, principals and all present teachers be re-elected and contracts tendered to them providing for 180 days of actual teaching, exclusive of legally discontinued days, and their respective salaries are as follows: E.E. Grunwald, \$7800; William J. Brown, \$4300; R.B. Williams, \$6200; Lillian Anderson, \$4700; Jesse Bauer, \$5100; Douglas Bell, \$5000; Francis Benson, \$5100; Gilbert Bruns, \$4675; Betty Dahlke, \$4000; Selma Thompson, \$3900; Donald Dubbe, \$4950; Wayne Gray, \$5550; James Hale, \$5100; Isobel Grams, \$4300; Mel Hendrickson, \$4800; Martin Jackley, \$5100; Beulah Knapp, \$4700; Harold LaRoche, \$4300; Louisa Mesa, \$4500; Charles Thielen, \$4950; Helen Wood, \$5150; Buell Woodle, \$5000; Chester Worth, \$5200; Donna Anderson, \$3075; Gladys Bauer, \$3300; Florence Bell, \$4600; Ann Brown, \$3475; Hildur Carlson, \$3375; Lillian Carr, \$4600; Anna Collignon, \$3375; Hazel Compton, \$3375; Verne Doyle, \$4400; Vera Ellefson, \$3225; Joan Gaetke, \$3800; Susan Gapp,

\$3150; Beryl Heckert, \$3375; Lena Hoehn, \$4100; Alice Hulm, \$3075; Bob Mechling, \$4300; Patsy Miller, \$4100; Lena Patterson, \$3600; Barbara Rick, \$3375; Doris Schryvers, \$3375; Grace Schulz, \$3375; James Sprung, \$4300; Florence Williams, \$4100; and Margaret Woodle, \$3475.”

## **Sept. 11, 1968, meeting:**

“Motion by [Mel] Voorhees and seconded by [John] Stingley that Sturgis Independent School District #12 support and circulate a petition directed to the Meade County Superintendent of Schools requesting a special election to approve or disapprove the following proposed school district to be named Meade Independent School District No. 1:

A. All that part of Lawrence County now included in Sturgis Independent School District #12; B. All that part of Perkins County included in Meade and Perkins County Common School District #99; C. All of Meade County except (1) that part of Meade County which is presently a part of Douglas Independent School District of Meade and Pennington County; (2) that part of Meade County located in Lawrence and Meade County Common School District #55; and (3) that part of Meade County located in Perkins and Meade County Common School District #53.

Additionally, conditions not detailed herein but relating to the

adjustment of assets, the composition of the governing body, date of effect, time of election of officers, and the condition and time of election of the proposal be approved this date. Motion carried.”

## **June 20, 1978, meeting of Meade School District 46-1:**

“School board members, Meade County Commissioners, Planning Commission members, and others met in special session to discuss, relate and project controls or lack of controls to residential housing projects outside the corporate limits of municipalities within Meade County, in particular the developments of the “strip area” near Piedmont.

Most of the discussion centered around the following topics: existing and proposed housing developments; school facilities available and projected; the need for a school district bond issue to support districtwide school facility needs; the relation of additional school facilities to operational costs and the source of funds; the school census and the number of county family units; the necessity for additional state funds to replace/supplement the local property tax burden; the need for a county comprehensive plan; the current county subdivision ordinance; and the possibility of strengthening ordinances.

Rep. Les Kleven informed the participants that the possibility of increased State Aid to schools for the next several years is bleak.”

# Free and reduced-price breakfast and lunch are available in Meade School District

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 district is able to offer a lower cost or no charge for these meals because it participates in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, both of which are federally-assisted programs. 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 \$1.35 for breakfast and \$2.55 for lunch.

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

Not only do the participating

## Parents can manage their child's meal account via the internet

Parents can deposit money directly into their child's meal account and can receive emails regarding that account balance through the website:

[www.MyNutrikids.com](http://www.MyNutrikids.com)

For parents with more than one child in Meade School District, payments for all children can be done from the same online account.

Similarly, automatic email updates about low account bal-

ances or negative balances for each child are available. children receive a nutritionally balanced meal, but the school district benefits when a high number of students participate in the program.

Those benefits include an increase in Title I services, additional federal funds for the food service department, increased eligibility of the district for federal and state grants, and an increased reimbursement rate of costs relating to school internet use and phone services.

To view the eligibility guidelines and to apply for free or reduced-price breakfast and lunch, fill out the application which can be found online at:

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

The applications are also available at all schools and the food service office.

For those who choose not to take advantage of the online service, Meade Food Service will continue to accept advance payments by cash or check. When paying in that manner, the student's ID number must be included so payment is credited to the correct account.

For further information, call food service at 347-3601.

For further information or for help in completing the application, call Meade School District Food Service Office at 347-3601.

## Meal ticket info

Breakfast and lunch tickets are available through Meade Food Service Office located at 1121 Ball Park Road, Sturgis, from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. beginning Monday, Aug. 15. Ticket prices are as follows:

### Milk Tickets

20 milk ticket: \$8

### Breakfast Tickets

20 meal ticket:

K-12, \$27; adult, \$32

10 meal ticket:

K-12, \$13.50; adult, \$16

5 meal ticket:

K-12, \$6.75; adult, \$8

### Lunch Tickets

(Includes ½ pint milk)

20 meal ticket:

K-12, \$51; adult, \$61

10 meal ticket:

K-12, \$25.50; adult, \$30.50

5 meal ticket:

K-12, \$12.75; adult, \$15.25

Single meals are available. Breakfast is \$1.35 for students and \$1.60 for adults. Lunch costs \$2.55 for students and \$3.05 for adults. A half-pint of milk is 40 cents.

# Fourteen to be inducted into SBHS Athletic Hall of Fame on Sept. 9

The Sturgis Brown High School Athletic Hall of Fame will induct its inaugural class of nine athletes, three coaches/administrators and two contributors at the Sept. 9 home football game at Woodle Field.

The Hall of Fame was formed this year as a way of paying tribute to the many individuals who have been a part of the rich tradition of the Sturgis Brown High School athletic programs.

Meade School District Activities Director Mike Paris, who serves as chairman of the selection committee, said that the nominees were all outstanding, which made the choices for this initial class of inductees very difficult.

According to Paris, the nominations of those not selected this year will be kept on file and active for the next five years.

Athletes selected for induction include Dale Hardy, Carroll Hardy, Don McVay, Alen Sigman (posthumously), Dee Herrmann Gilbert, Brett Burditt, Chris Gadsden, Doug Miller (posthumously) and Megan Mahoney. Coaches/administrators in the induction class are Larry Burditt, Bob Peterson (posthumously) and Buell Woodle (posthumously). Contributors to be inducted are Ernie Miller and Keith Smit.

## Athletes

### **Dale Hardy** (1943 graduate)

Dale participated in football, basketball and track, earning a total of 11 athletic letters. He was a member of the 1942 football championship team and the 1943 basketball championship team. He attended the University of Colorado for one year where he earned honorable mention all-conference in football and lettered in track. He then attended Black Hills State University, where he excelled in football, basketball and track, earning team championships in football in 1946, basketball in 1947 and 1948, and in track. After playing semi-pro baseball for the Winner Pheasants and the Goodland, Kan., Tigers, he coached at Winner High School, Trinidad Junior College in Colorado, Denver University and BHSU. He has been inducted into BHSU Hall of Fame, SDIC Hall of Fame, and the SD State Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame. Dale is retired and lives in Rapid City.

### **Carroll Hardy** (1951 graduate)

Carroll was a four-sport athlete, lettering in football, basketball, track and golf. He was selected as a High School All-American in football in 1951. He was a member of the State A Championship Basketball Team

and selected as a member of the All-State Basketball Team, both in 1951. Carroll also excelled in track, winning the long jump at state, taking second in both the low hurdles and 100-yard dash and third in the shot put, all in 1951. He attended the University of Colorado, where he earned 10 letters, the most ever at that University. Following college, he earned a spot on the Olympic team in long jump but instead signed a pro contract with the Cleveland Indians baseball team. He was also offered a pro contract with the San Francisco 49ers football team. During his baseball career he was with the Cleveland Indians, Boston Red Sox, Houston Astros and Minnesota Twins. He worked for 23 years for the Denver Broncos organization, retiring as assistant general manager.

### **Don McVay** (1969 graduate)

Don was a three-year starter in basketball and was named to the BHC All-Conference Team three times. He also was named to the South Dakota All-State Basketball Team twice. He played end, safety and linebacker his junior and senior years and was named to the BHC All-Conference Football Team. Don also participated in

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# HALL of FAME: Ceremony is Sept. 9

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track, qualifying for the state meet in the 440, mile relay, medley relay and long jump. Following high school, he attended Black Hills State University where he played basketball.

## **Alen Sigman** (1970 graduate)

Alen was a two sport athlete, receiving three letters in football and two letters in wrestling. He was named to the BHC All-Conference Football Second Team in 1968 and First Team in 1969. He was also named to the South Dakota All-State Football First Team in 1969. Alen was the 175-pound state wrestling champion in 1970, posting a 29-0 record that year. His overall high school wrestling record was 64-11. Alen was very active in Sturgis youth soccer, coaching a team to the state championship. He also played an active role in AAU wrestling, serving as a coach for many years. Alen was an avid supporter of wrestling until his death in 2008.

## **Dee Herrmann Gilbert** (1981 graduate)

Dee was a three sport athlete, receiving one letter in cross country and four letters each in gymnastics and track. She was a member of the BHC Championship Track Team in 1979, 1980 and 1981 during which time she was the individual BHC champion in the 440 relay, 100-meter hurdles, 165 intermediate hurdles, long jump and 400-meter dash. Dee was the state

champion in long jump in 1981 and the state champion in 100 meter hurdles in both 1980 and 1981. She was also a SBHS White Letter Honor Athlete winner. She attended the University of South Dakota where she was a North Central Conference champion in the indoor 60-meter hurdles. She resides in Henderson, Nev.

## **Brett Burditt** (1984 graduate)

Brett is a three sport athlete, lettering in football, basketball and track. He was selected twice to the BHC All-Conference Football Team and was an All-State football player his senior year, the same year the football team took state runner-up honors. Brett was also selected High School Football All-American his senior year. He played on two state basketball tournament teams and threw shot put and discus in track. He was also a SBHS White Letter Honor Athlete winner. Brett attended the University of South Dakota where he started as linebacker for three years for the Coyote football team. He is the business manager for Meade School District.

## **Chris Gadsden** (1984 graduate)

Chris was a three sport athlete, lettering in basketball, football and track. He was a member of two BHC Championship Basketball Teams and his senior year was named to the BHC All-Conference Basketball Team and the South Dakota All-State

Basketball Team. Chris was a BHC All-Conference selection in football twice, All-State football player once, and a member of the State Runner-up Championship Football team in 1983. He participated in track as a sprinter and 300-meter hurdler in which he placed third at state. Chris still holds the SBHS 300-meter hurdle record. He was also a SBHS White Letter Honor Athlete winner. Following high school, he played baseball at Creighton University, lettering all four years. He is the assistant baseball coach at the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

## **Doug Miller** (1988 graduate)

Doug was a three sport athlete, lettering in track, football and basketball. He was the state triple jump champion his senior year when he also placed second in the high jump and fifth in the long jump. He still holds the SBHS record in the long jump and the high jump. He was a three-year BHC All-Conference football player and was named a McDonald's High School All-American in basketball his senior year. Doug was also a SBHS White Letter Honor Athlete winner. He played football at South Dakota State University, lettering three years. While at SDSU, he was named by the Associated Press to the Little All-American First Team in football. He played professional football for the San Diego Chargers until his death in 1998.

**HALL of FAME: See Page 9**



## **Megan Mahoney** (2001 graduate)

Megan was a five-year letter winner in basketball, played on two state runner-up teams and was named to the South Dakota All-State Girls Basketball Team three times. She was selected Gatorade and USA Today South Dakota Basketball Player of the Year, High School Girls Athlete of the Year by the South Dakota Sports Writers Association and Miss Basketball South Dakota. She also earned four letters in volleyball and was a member of the National Honor Society. Megan attended Kansas State University where she was a four-year letter winner and a 2003 All Big-12 First Team selection. A former member of the WNBA Connecticut Sun and Houston Comets, Megan is currently playing professional basketball overseas.

## **Coaches/Administrators**

### **Larry Burditt**

Larry was a teacher, counselor and coach for Meade School District from 1965-2000. He was head coach or assistant coach for the BHC football champion Scoopers in 1965, 1970, 1977, 1981, 1982, 1983 and 1994. He also was a coach for the 1983 State Runner-up Football Team.

### **Bob Peterson**

Bob was employed by Meade School District for 27 years, from 1969-1996. During that time he was a teacher, coach and activities director. He was head boys

basketball coach from 1976-1981, head boys golf coach from 1969-1978 and 1980-1992, and activities director from 1976-1996. In addition to coaching numerous teams to BHC golf championships, he was also the coach for the 1972 State A Boys Golf Championship Team. During his tenure, Bob established the SBHS White Letter Honor Athlete award and Scooper Sam logo and slogan. He also organized the first Black Hills Track Classic. Bob oversaw the installation of the wood floor in Grunwald Auditorium and the upgrading of the Woodle Field football and track venues. He was president of the S.D. High School Athletic Directors Association and the BHC Athletic Directors Association. In 1996 he was named South Dakota Athletic Director of the Year. He has been inducted into the S.D. Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Hall of Fame.

### **Buell Woodle**

Buell was an athlete at SBHS from 1921-1925, a coach from 1930-1957 and athletic director from 1957-1965. During his coaching career, his basketball teams made seven straight State A Tournament appearances, winning two state championships and one runner-up title. During his first year at the helm of the football team, the Scoopers captured their first ever BHC title. Buell coached a total of seven

BHC championship football teams. He is remembered as a coach who demanded a lot from his athletes. He was a strict disciplinarian and was a firm believer in fundamentals. While athletic director, he promoted and help build the present football field and later promoted the need for a lighting system at the field, which was dedicated in his honor in 1965. He has been inducted into the SD Coaches Hall of Fame, the S.D. Sports Writers Hall of Fame, the S.D. Activities Hall of Fame, the S.D. Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame, and the BHSU Hall of Fame.

## **Contributors**

### **Ernie Miller**

For 55 years, Ernie daily transported students and athletes safely to school and activities, both as owner of the bus company and later, after he sold the company, as an employee. He was not only the driver, but the number one Scooper fan - attending athletic events, both at home and away. At 87 years of age, he still regularly attends nearly all local athletic events. He has twice been named the SBHS Booster of the Year and, in 2005, was named the Sturgis Area Chamber of Commerce Key City Award recipient for his involvement in the community and school for 64 years. Ernie has volunteered in a variety of ways with the AAU

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*Musical set for Nov. 10-12*

## High school to present 'Sweeney Todd'

Sturgis Brown High School's fall musical "Sweeney Todd" will be performed at 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 10-12, at the Sturgis Community Center Theatre.

Sweeney Todd is a thrilling, macabre tale that over the past 150 years has evolved from urban legend to popular Broadway musical to the silver screen. The story is a simple one: a Victorian-era barber and his co-conspirator, a pie-maker, use their professions to mask the murder of countless hapless victims, whose throats are slit at the barber's and then sold in pies at a nearby meat market. The reason

behind the murders has changed over the years, as has the flourish with which the tale is presented.

Why Sweeney? One of the directors, June Dill, said that choosing the right musical for the students involved in the program is always a challenge. "We [Dill and the other two directors Gary Nelson and Bart Torbert] spent time searching for the right musical that will challenge the students and us," she said.

"We try to do different types of plays to educate not only the students but also the audience," Dill explained. "In the past we have done lighter types of musicals; this

musical will be interesting since it has a dark side, a very dark side," she said. "But it is a very popular musical thanks to Tim Burton's film version." She added that the students are very excited to present this musical.

Dill said that she and the other directors will be true to the script, but will handle some of the gruesome parts as tastefully as possible. "I hope the audience will enjoy our production and will also support the students involved."

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

## HALL of FAME: Ceremony is Sept. 9 ————— Continued from Page 9

wrestling program, Jeff Smit Memorial Track Meet, Sturgis Little League and Legion Baseball, FFA, Sturgis Rodeo Club, Grace Lutheran Youth, 4-H and Meade County Fair, and Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts.

### **Keith Smit**

During Keith's 44 years as a Sturgis resident, he has been actively involved in school and community projects and programs. He has coached Little League, served as a commissioner of the Youth T-Ball Program and has been a long-time member of the Sturgis Booster Club. He organized the construction of the Jeff Smit Memorial Track at Woodle Field

and for 25 years organized and ran the Jeff Smit Track Meet with the help of the Sturgis Jaycees and many friends. During that same time, Keith served as a track meet starter at middle school and high school track meets including many state meets. For the past 28 years Keith has served on the Sturgis City Park Board, the entity that has been instrumental in building new softball, baseball and soccer fields for the area youth. He was a member of the building committee for the Sturgis Community Center and has also served on the Community Center Board of Directors. Keith established and is president of the Meade 46-1 Charitable Trust Fund which

annually gives \$12,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors at Sturgis Brown High School.

The Sept. 9 induction begins with a 5:30 p.m. pre-game social. The inductees will then be recognized during halftime of the football game where each will receive a commemorative plaque. The activities will conclude with a post-game social at Loud American in Sturgis.

A permanent Hall of Fame display will be located in the lobby of the west gym at Sturgis Brown High School. The display, funded by private donations, will include a 9"x12" plaque with photo and brief biography of each inductee.

# Hill, Isaacson and Monahan are Meade District Teachers of the Year

The Meade School District Teachers of the Year for 2011 are Hillary Hill, Cheri Isaacson and Jennifer Monahan. The three women were chosen for this honor because they are exceptionally skilled and dedicated teachers, are poised and articulate, and have the respect and admiration of students, parents and co-workers. They also have a superior ability to inspire learning in students of all abilities and backgrounds.

A selection committee consisting of district administrators, teachers and other staff picked the two women from among nominations submitted by school district patrons and staff.

**Hillary Hill** has been a music teacher for eight years, the last four as an employee of Meade School District at Sturgis Elementary.

Hillary's nominators say her dedication to education is apparent to anyone who visits her classroom or attends one of her music programs. Students flock to her in the hallways and parents' positive comments and feedback on programs and learning opportunities clearly indicate their approval of her work.

"When in her classroom, she can be seen using technology, instruments and music to inspire each student's creativity while also developing students' skills



**Hillary Hill**



**Cheri Isaacson**



**Jennifer Monahan**

and confidence," said a nominator. "Mrs. Hill makes sure students are challenged and she provides additional attention when they need redirection or extended learning opportunities."

Said a co-worker, "My daughter discovered a love of music and singing from her. Mrs. Hill took a shy, quiet child - my daughter - and provided her with encouragement and confidence in a way that enabled her to take risks and participate in activities that she may not have otherwise attempted. Further, my son can often be found humming a tune or tapping out a rhythm learned in music class. It is because of these instances that I know Hillary is making a lifelong impact on her students, including my children."

One of Hillary's students, a fifth-grader, says the music teacher encourages all of the students and treats everyone

with respect. "Mrs. Hill works hard to make sure everyone has fun but still learns things. I have learned a lot from being in her class. She has even inspired me to be a singer."

"Mrs. Hill is an exceptional example of the kind of generous, giving individual we should all strive to be like," said a parent. "She is the type of teacher that students at Sturgis Elementary will fondly look back and remember, not just because she was their music teacher but because she taught them valuable lessons and skills that will benefit their academic and career achievements."

**Cheri Isaacson**, who teaches third grade at Sturgis Elementary, has been employed by Meade School District for 13 of the 16 years she has been in education.

Her nominators commend

**TEACHERS: See Page 13**

# Registration underway for Capable Kids

Meade School District's licensed after-school program, Capable Kids, begins Monday, Aug. 29, at Piedmont Valley Elementary School.

Open to any child in kindergarten through sixth grade, the program runs from 2:10-6 p.m. during the school week. Cost is \$9.57 per day or \$183.89 per month.

Each day students receive a snack and participate in physical and enrichment activities. Time is also provided for the completion of classroom assignments with homework assistance available.

Students also have the opportunity to go swimming on a regular basis.

Enrollment forms and parent handbook are available at Piedmont Valley Elementary School and on the district website:

[www.meade.k12.sd.us/Curriculum/capableKids/capableKids.html](http://www.meade.k12.sd.us/Curriculum/capableKids/capableKids.html)

Payment can be dropped off at the school or mailed to Capable Kids, 16159 Second Street, Piedmont, 57769. For more information call Piedmont Valley Elementary School at 787-5295.

## Activity tickets for 2011-12 are now on sale

Activity tickets for the 2011-2012 school year are now on sale.

The activity tickets, which cost the same as last year, can be purchased at the high school, during registration and open houses at all Meade District schools, and at the first couple home football and volleyball games.

The student ticket, available

to any Meade student in kindergarten through 12th grade, sells for \$25 and is good for the entire school year.

The adult activity ticket can be purchased for \$40 while the ticket for senior citizens (55 years and over) costs \$20. Both tickets contain 15 punches each.

The price for a yearly family

pass, which is good for parents and K-12 students, is \$100.

The activity ticket will also admit the holder to all high school plays, musicals and concerts. It is not valid for any state-sanctioned athletic tournaments.

Without an activity ticket, admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students.

## Substitute teacher training will be Sept. 9

A training for persons wishing to serve as substitute teachers in Meade School District will be held at 9 a.m. Friday, Sept. 9,

in the school board meeting room of the north building of Sturgis Williams Middle School, 1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis.

## Musical instruments are needed

The middle school music department is asking for donations of new and gently used band instruments. Although the district has a small inventory of instruments, students must often rent instruments from music stores.

A student joining band not only learns to play the instrument,

but to read music, perform alone and with others, understand music history and musical styles, and experience first-hand how music is part of life and culture.

For more information call music teachers Connie Feekes or Gary Nelson at Sturgis Williams Middle School, 347-5232.

The purpose of the training is to review the district's substitute 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.

For further information call the district office at 347-2523 or the curriculum office at 347-4454.

## TEACHERS: Skilled and compassionate ——— Continued from Page 11

her for the way she cares about each and every child who walks through her classroom door. "Cheri recognizes that each child is an individual, and as such has needs and wants that differ from other children," said a nominator. "Cheri takes the time to identify the needs of each. When she is working with a student, he or she has her full attention. She is definitely not there to put in her time but rather is there to make learning fun and very worthwhile for every student. Many hours are put into her lessons which captivate her students."

"Cheri fills up every minute with quality not fluff," added another nominator.

The dedication and care that Cheri shows to her profession is evident in her work ethic and interactions with her students. "She goes out of her way to make sure parents have access to her at any time," said a parent. "She gives 100 percent effort to the classroom each day. Her enthusiasm and excitement to learn is passed on to each student with whom she works."

Another nominator said, "I have had the opportunity to work with several wonderful teachers in the past several years but Mrs. Isaacson is outstanding. Any student who has been lucky enough to have her as a teacher will certainly benefit in life. As a parent of two of those students, I feel very fortunate for the opportunity to know and work with her and to experience such a wonderful style of teaching."

Offered a parent, "When asked, adults can name a teacher who has made a difference in their lives; I am confident that the answer my two children will give someday is that of Mrs. Isaacson."

**Jennifer Monahan**, a first grade teacher at Piedmont Stagebarn Elementary, has been a Meade School District teacher for 10 years. Sincere,

kind, creative, approachable, awesome, dedicated and compassionate are just some of the adjectives used by her nominators to describe Jennifer.

According to her nominators, the natural born teacher knows how to get the most out of each student. "I am greatly impressed with her ability to find each student's learning style and to individually hone their academic success," they said. "My daughter could not read when she entered first grade and by the mid-point of the school year was already at a second to third grade reading level."

Monahan's co-workers appreciate her willingness to always lend a hand. "She collaborates with the teachers in the building, attends all of the Piedmont Stagebarn after-school functions and volunteers at the Parent Teacher Association fundraisers," said a fellow teacher. Her co-workers also commented about her demeanor, pointing out they have never heard her raise her voice.

"Mrs. Monahan is a hard worker and expects the best from each student, but does this in such a gentle and caring way," said a nominator. "Her attitude toward learning and student behavior enhances the classroom atmosphere. With a focus on what is best for her students, she pursues learning styles, modifications and techniques that benefit all."

Not only is she very organized, but she makes a special effort to keep the parents informed via email and a weekly classroom newsletter. "This school-to-home connection is so important, particularly in the lower grades," said a nominator.

"With today's large class sizes, I feel that someone with Mrs. Monahan's skills needs to be recognized for her exemplary teaching style," said a parent. "Without a doubt, my vote for Teacher of the Year goes to Mrs. Monahan."

### Nominations sought for Hall of Fame

Nominations for the second class of inductees into the Sturgis Brown High School Athletic Hall of Fame are being accepted from Sept. 15-Oct. 12. The nomination form and criteria are available at the SBHS activity director's office and main office, the district office and on the Meade School District website [www.meade.k12.sd.us](http://www.meade.k12.sd.us). Induction will take place at the Feb. 18, 2012, home basketball game.



Meade School District Business Manager Brett Burditt, right, administers the oath of office to new school board members Dennis Chowen, Courtney Mack and Juanita Harrington.

## School board reorganizes; adopts budget

The old school board was adjourned and the new Meade School Board was seated during the annual July meeting.

Outgoing board members Cheri Peterson, Carl Wahl and Sharon Williams each were presented a school bell in recognition of their years of service, after which newcomers Dennis Chowen and Courtney Mack, both of Sturgis, and Juanita Harrington, Piedmont, were sworn in.

A number of organizational items including election of officers were decided at the meeting. Wanda Blair of Vale, who is beginning her 11th year on the board, was elected president

while Rod Martens, a 24-year board member from Black Hawk, was re-elected as vice president.

During the July meeting, the members of the school board, which also include Bob Burns, Black Hawk, Curtis Johnson and Curt Nupen, both Piedmont, and Nancy Richter, Enning, unanimously approved the proposed \$22 million budget for 2011-2012.

The general fund budget of \$14,481,302 represents a decrease of 4.7 percent from last year and the special education budget of \$3,022,560 shows a decrease of 5.5 percent. The proposed capital outlay budget of \$4,018,370 compares to

\$4,648,582 for last year, while the proposed pension fund totals \$545,000 compared to \$386,113.

The tax request in dollars per thousand is:

**General Fund:**

Ag-\$2.388

Owner-occupied Non-ag-\$3.965

Commercial Non-ag-\$8.491

**Special Education Fund:**

Ag/Non-ag-\$1.40

**Capital Outlay Fund:**

Ag/non-Ag property-\$3

**Pension Fund:**

Ag/non-Ag property-\$0.30

The budget for 2011-2012 can be viewed on the district website:

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

## Meade staff to meet Aug. 23-25

# Inservice heralds school year beginning

The preschool inservice for Meade staff, which heralds the beginning of the new school year, will be held Tuesday through Thursday, Aug. 23-25.

The first day begins at the Sturgis Community Center with refreshments and exhibits prior to the 8 a.m. kickoff.

Opening ceremonies include the Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem followed by greetings from Superintendent Don Kirkegaard and Meade School Board President Wanda Blair. The 23 new teachers will be introduced after which the superintendent will address the staff.

The remainder of the first day is dedicated to department meetings and school-level meetings.

Activities for day two will take place at Sturgis Elementary School where all staff will receive instruction about the Boys Town education model "The Well-Managed Classroom" and participate in hands-on activities.

The day-long workshop is a school-based intervention strategy that emphasizes behavior management practices, relationship-building techniques and social skills instruction. Staff will learn strategies to reduce disruptive behaviors and empower students with self-management skills.

For the final day of inservice, all staff will be in their classrooms planning for the school year and preparing for that day's open houses.

# Piedmont School gets keyless entry system

Piedmont Valley Elementary School is the first school in Meade School District to get a keyless door lock entry system.

With the exception of the main entrance, doors are locked during school hours and only those staff with an active ID card can gain admission. Unlike traditional keys, should a keycard be lost, it is simply disabled. A lost key, on the other hand, requires retooling of the locks of all doors the key opens, which is an expensive and time consuming process.

The system allows for better building security according to Meade School District Business Manager Brett Burditt. "It will allow for quick lockdowns of the building during school hours, if necessary," he said.

The new staff keycard identification badge replaces the old

staff ID badges. In addition to the person's name, photo and job title, the new badge includes a programmable barcode.

A keyless system is installed on the exterior doors of Sturgis Elementary, but due to technical issues is not yet operational.

# Schedule for school pictures

Meade School District is again making available to all its students the opportunity to have their pictures taken. The following is the schedule for each school.

**Piedmont:** Thursday, Friday, Sept. 15-16

**Rural Schools:** Thursday, Sept. 1

**Sturgis Brown HS:** Monday, Aug. 29

**Sturgis Elementary:** Wednesday, Sept. 7

**Whitewood:** Friday, Sept. 9

**Williams Middle School:** Thursday, Sept. 8



SBHS seniors are reminded that one digital or wallet-sized portrait-style photo must be submitted to the high school Journalism Department by Thursday, Dec. 1. The senior photos will be used in the yearbook and by the local newspaper. If a photograph is not turned in, the yearbook staff will use a file photo of the student.

# District honorees are dedicated employees

Carol Fellner and Guyla Ness have been selected as Meade School District Employees of the Year for 2011 because they exhibit excellence in their work and a genuine commitment to professionalism. They also demonstrate a willingness to take on added responsibilities and provide exemplary service to the district. A selection committee consisting of district administrators, teachers and other staff picked the two women from among nominations submitted by school district patrons and staff.

**Carol Fellner**, a 20-year employee of Meade School District, works as the superintendent's executive administrative assistant, a position she has held for 14 years.

Recently retired Superintendent James Heinert said he has never worked with a more professional, dedicated, competent and effective administrative assistant in his entire career. "Mrs. Fellner's standard of excellence is second to none," he said. "She has superior command of the spoken and written word, is highly organized, possesses excellent technological skills and is always pleasant and very helpful when dealing with all sectors of the school district."

Retired Meade Superintendent Barry Furze concurred, adding, "She is highly intelligent, eager to learn, inquisitive, thorough and dedicated. Over the past 14 years, Mrs. Fellner has been an indispensable part of Meade School District. Her knowledge of all aspects of the district is unparalleled, and she has done a yeoman job of guiding district personnel to correctly follow district policies and procedures. She has been asked to perform countless duties that go far beyond those expected of a secretarial position, and she has done them extremely well," he said.

Carol is active in the S.D. Association of Education Office Professionals, recently serving as its president. She organizes professional development for other administrative assistants in the district, makes them aware of new expectations and helps them stay up-to-

date on changes that may affect their job responsibilities. Said another nominator, an administrative assistant, "I have never worked with a person who gives as much attention to detail as does Carol. She has the ability to make our field of work feel like an integral and important part of the Meade School District. I can think of no one more deserving of this award than her."

**Guyla Ness** has been employed by Meade School District for 28 years, 20 as a teacher and the last eight as districtwide reading and assessment coordinator.

"Sharing her expertise in literacy and testing is a way of life for Guyla," said a nominator. "Whether it is holding a young adult literature class at the middle school, working with homeschooled children or setting up testing for students, Guyla is a committed employee."

In her capacity as assessment coordinator, she makes sure that each school has the materials needed to take Dakota STEP. She then collects the completed testing materials to be sent to the state and reviews the results. As reading coordinator, Guyla works with entire classes or individual students on improving reading skills.

She also works closely with classroom teachers on how to administer the online achievement series and she works tirelessly promoting data-driven decision making.

"Guyla strongly believes that assessment results must be used to guide instruction," said a nominator.

Said another nominator, a teacher, "When she comes into my classroom, she knows my students by name and makes them feel very special. I know if I need anything for my students and I ask Guyla for help, she will move earth and moon to get what students need to learn."

"Guyla is a dedicated professional who not only cares deeply about students but is a vocal advocate for them," said a co-worker. "She is a great asset to our school district and to our community. She epitomizes Employee of the Year."



**Carol Fellner**



**Guyla Ness**



# Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

Meade School District may release the following student information as directory information pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act:

Name, address, parents or guardian of student, date of birth, date of attendance, school attended, participation in school-recognized activities, weight, height, age and grade of members of athletic teams, grade in school, individual and group photographs pertaining to school activities, and awards, honors or achievements.

All or part of the information may also be used in news articles recognizing students. If a student over 18 years of age or the parent or guardian of a student who is under 18 years of age refuses to permit the release of any of this information, written notification of such must be given to that student's principal.

Board Policy JO pertains to this act, and may be seen at the offices of the principals of all schools, the office of the superintendent and online at:

[www.meade.k12.sd.us/POLICY%20Manual/FileJO.pdf](http://www.meade.k12.sd.us/POLICY%20Manual/FileJO.pdf)

## School calendar for 2011-2012

The following is the approved Meade School District calendar for the 2011-2012 school year. There will be an early release day on Wednesday, Nov. 23, 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. 16, Feb. 20, March 16, and April 9 will be used as make-up days if more than three snow days have been used prior to Jan. 2, Feb. 1, March 1, or April 1, 2012.

Staff Inservice	Aug. 23-25	Inservice Day (no school)	Jan. 13, 2012
First Day of School	Aug. 29, 2011	Martin Luther King Day (no school)	Jan. 16, 2012
Labor Day (no school)	Sept. 5, 2011	Parent-Teacher Conferences:	
Parent-Teacher Conferences:		High School: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 13, 2012
Elementary Schools: 4-7 p.m.	Oct. 3, 2011	Elementary Schools: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 14, 2012
Middle School: 4-7 p.m.	Oct. 4, 2011	Middle School: 5-8 p.m.	Feb. 14, 2012
High School: 5-8 p.m.	Oct. 4, 2011	All Schools: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 16, 2012
All Schools: 4-7 p.m.	Oct. 6, 2011	Presidents' Day (no school)	Feb. 20, 2012
Inservice Day (no school)	Oct. 7, 2011	Inservice Day (no school)	Mar. 15, 2012
Native Americans' Day (no school)	Oct. 10, 2011	Spring Break (no school)	Mar. 16, 2012
Inservice Day (no school)	Nov. 4, 2011	Good Friday/Easter (no school)	April 6-9, 2012
Early Release Day	Nov. 23, 2011	Graduation	May 20, 2012
Thanksgiving (no school)	Nov. 24-25	Last Day of School	May 22, 2012
Christmas Vacation (no school)	Dec. 22-Jan. 3		

# Directory for Meade School District

## Schools

### Rural Schools

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

### Piedmont Valley Elementary School

16159 Second Street, 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
<b>Academy</b> .....	347-9349
1807 Williams Street, Sturgis**	

### Sturgis Elementary School

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 School

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

## Superintendent

1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785	
Don Kirkegaard.....	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	
Matt Wichtner, foreman.....	347-2649

## Communications Office

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

## 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	
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** .....	347-2003
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\*\*Not a mailing address