

DAKOTA INDIANS



Our vision is to prepare all students to make positive contributions in an ever changing world.

Our Mission is that Dakota Community Unit School District #201 will educate our Students by providing quality and diverse learning opportunities while collaborating with the community.

Dakota Community Unit School District #201 District Newsletter

December 2017

Students, Staff, Parents, and Community Members,

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. The 2017 portion of the school year is coming to a fast close. We're excited about having a good month of December and looking forward to 2018.

Community Focus Group Session Held on November 1st

On Wednesday, November 1st, the Dakota School Board hosted a community focus group session at the Dakota High School cafeteria beginning at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the community focus group session is for the Dakota School Board to engage community members in the direction of the district. Twenty-six community members participated.

The evening began with Colette Binger, Board President, welcoming community members and introducing the other members of the Dakota School Board.

Following that, Interim Superintendent Bob Prusator shared information regarding the Board's vision for the future of Dakota CUSD #201 and the trends that are impacting the future. Additionally, Mr. Prusator shared demographic, financial, facility, and programming information about the district.

Following the presentation, community members were randomly assigned to several small groups where they were asked to respond to questions regarding the district's future. Several administrators and teachers facilitated the small group sessions. The questions focused on identifying ways for the district to keep Dakota proud and determining what

challenges the district needs to meet to make Dakota more proud. A board member was present in each small group to listen to community members perspectives on the district's future. After that was completed, all community members reported back to the cafeteria to share the highlights of each group's discussion. The school board will take feedback from the session in assisting them in making decisions about the district's future. The Dakota School Board appreciated the feedback and discussions from community members.

November School Board meeting

The Dakota School Board held its regularly scheduled November meeting on the 15th. Below are highlights from that meeting.

Administrative Reports

Mr. Milburn (Dakota Elementary Principal) and Mr. Grey (Dakota JH/HS Principal) shared activities from each of their buildings from the past month.

I shared an update from a meeting with Highland Community College representatives regarding dual credit courses currently being taught on the Dakota High School campus and planning college courses for the 2018-2019 school year. There are twenty-three Dakota High School students taking English and Psychology from Highland this semester.

Approved tentative 2017 tax levy and scheduled Truth in Taxation hearing for December 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Mathers and I reviewed information regarding the 2017 property tax levy process. This will be the first tax levy following the successful April 2017 referendum. As was shared during the

referendum process, the total tax rate is anticipated to remain the same as the 2016 rate of \$5.89. Because final Equalized Assessed Values (EAV) will not be finalized until the spring of 2018, the district must request more funds than it anticipates in the event the EAV increases. It should be noted that any increase in the EAV (which is unlikely) will lower the total tax rate. Additionally, because of the referendum, the district will also be requesting a greater amount of property tax revenue in the operating funds while requesting a lesser amount from the debt service fund. Overall, the tax rate will be approximately the same as last year.

Consequently, the Dakota School Board has scheduled a Truth in Taxation hearing for Tuesday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m. in the Dakota Elementary Library.

Approved 2017-2018 Keep Dakota Proud! Plan

After reviewing the plan for the past couple of months, the Dakota School Board approved the 2017-2018 [Keep Dakota Proud! Plan](#) or District Improvement Plan. The plan includes initiatives to improve the district in the areas of student achievement, communication, finance, safety and facilities. The district will also begin developing the 2018-2019 plan when we return from Christmas break and will anticipate approving it in the spring.

Approved technology support specialist position

The school board approved a recommendation for a full time

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technology support position. The district has been utilizing a contracted service for technology support for building and classroom needs for the current school year. After evaluating district, building and classroom technology needs during the first semester, it became clear that additional support was necessary than was provided through contracted services. Consequently, the district will post and work to identify a technology support specialist candidate. If a candidate is identified, it is anticipated that the person would begin sometime early in the second semester. The district would also terminate the contracted services contract once a successful candidate is identified. There will not be a significant increase in cost in switching to the new position.

Personnel Actions

Person	Board Action
Jeff Milburn	Approved three year principal contact
Tari Jones	Accepted retirement effective December 21, 2017
Cindy Hawkins	Employed as individual student aide at JH
Linda Gallagher	Employed as high school cook
Kim Toelke	Approved as volunteer assistant high school girls basketball coach

We continue to be excited about the future of Dakota CUSD #201. This is a great place that will continue to get better. If you have any questions or want to provide feedback, please call me at (844) 632-5682 or e-mail me at rprusator@dakota201.com. Have a great Christmas season!



Christmas Gift Idea - A beautiful, soft Dakota scarf to show Indian pride! \$12. You will be able to purchase them at basketball games. If you don't see someone selling them, give Sra. Korwin a call at [815-979-8113](tel:815-979-8113) or email her at ckorwin@dakota201.com.



BEFORE SCHOOL

ONE WAY TRAFFIC! Buses that are unloading are not to be passed!

- @ Dakota Elementary School If you are walking your child to the building please park in one of the parking lot spaces. If you are dropping off your PreK-6TH grade students you may do so near the main entrance to the building by using the drive in the west parking lot. After dropping off your child, proceed through the parking lot to the road behind the high school. Always be cautious of pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
- @ Dakota Jr/Sr High School Please proceed south on Campus Drive through the Elementary parking lot to the road behind the building. Drop your students off behind the building and proceed with your exit.

DO NOT STOP IN THE FRONT OF THE HIGH SCHOOL TO LET HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS OUT.

TRAFFIC IS ONE WAY IN THE MORNING!

AFTER SCHOOL
TWO WAY TRAFFIC

- @Dakota Elementary School the buses will be lined up at the Elementary and on the road behind the High School. Please do not use these areas. (PARKED AND LOADING BUSES ARE NOT TO BE PASSED!) If you are picking up your child(ren), you may park along the curb in the west parking lot or in any space in any parking lot. After loading, proceed to Campus Drive, exiting in front of the high school. Please watch for pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
- Jr./Sr. High School: Please find a parking place. **DO NOT BLOCK THE AREA IN FRONT OF THE BUILDING!** Pick up your student and exit on Campus Drive. Please watch for pedestrian and vehicular traffic.



SCHOOL BUSES HAVE THE RIGHT OF WAY WHEN LEAVING THE SCHOOL AT THE END OF THE DAY PLEASE YIELD TO THEM.

STUDENT SERVICES

Brittney Gerstner-Psychologist
Peggy Dieken-School Counselor
Diane Scaduto-Nurse
Kevin Cline-Academic Advisor

Scholarships Currently Available:

- **ELKS MOST VALUABLE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP:** November 27, 2017
- **MR. AND MRS. GEORGE TAYLOR ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP:** Dec 27, 2017
- **ROCKFORD YWCA BRIGHT FUTURE SCHOLARSHIP:** January 19, 2017 (girls only)
- **ROCK ENERGY COOP SCHOLARSHIP:** January 3, 2018
- **JAY POLHILL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:** April 7, 2018
- **MERCY HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP:** February 9, 2018
- **MEDIACOM WORLD CLASS SCHOLARSHIP:** February 16, 2018
- **ODD FELLOWS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:** March 1, 2018
- **ILLINOIS AMVETS SCHOLARSHIPS:** March 1, 2018

*All scholarship forms available on district website, www.dakota201.com.

2018-2019 Pre-Registration:

Pre-registration for next year will begin for current freshmen, sophomores and juniors sometime in late January and will be done via students' Skyward accounts. 8th graders will have a special registration night for students and parents in February. More details will be provided later this winter. Current sophomores attended a presentation sponsored by **CareerTEC** in November, giving them the opportunity to learn about the various technical programs they may choose to register for next year.



What should your college-bound senior be doing during the month of December?

1. Acceptance letters should be coming this month if not already received.
2. The scholarship search should begin to heat up. Check for all possible scholarship opportunities at the school you have been accepted to. Have all of your scholarship materials (profile, letters of recommendation, etc.) ready for the big rush to begin in January.
3. FAFSA forms should be filed in order to have the best possible chance of receiving the aid you deserve. If you have not yet filed, go to www.fafsa.ed.gov and complete the form. Don't delay!!
4. If you have not yet applied to a school, there is still time, particularly at private schools. However, the longer you wait, the more difficult it will become and institutional scholarship money will be gone. See Mr. Cline if you need assistance.



NURSE'S NOTES

Any children who failed the re-screening for hearing/vision have been referred for medical evaluation. I encourage you to contact your doctor right away if you have received any notification from me about your child failing one or both of the screening. Good hearing and vision is essential to learning. Please make sure you bring the paperwork that has been sent home to the doctor appointment. This will help the doctor care for your child. Please make sure you return the referral

paperwork to the nursing office so we can be aware of what the doctor found.

Students who have glasses for use are also seen during the screening process. Some students are found to have glasses in need of repair or they are found not wearing their prescribed glasses/contacts. Glasses/Vision letters are sent home to inform parents. Please get back to me so I know that you are aware of your child's glasses/vision issue.

To parents of Kindergarten, 2nd and 6th graders: I am still waiting on some dental forms. If your child has seen the dentist, please make sure a dental form is returned to school. If your child has not seen the dentist yet, please make an appointment and have it submitted before the May 15th deadline. There will be a dentist making a visit to Dakota School on 2/12& 2/13/18. All students pre-K thru 18 years of age are able to sign up for a visit. If you would like your child to be seen, an application form must be filled out and returned to school by January 5th. Some additional applications will be accepted following this date depending upon availability. Forms will be sent home with all the elementary students the first week of January upon returning from the winter break. Additional forms are available in either school office and on the school website. The dentist will provide screening, cleaning, fluoride and sealants where warranted. Referrals for follow up care are done as needed.

It is the start of cold and flu season.... School illness protocol states children should be fever free without the use of fever reducer for 24 hours and also no vomiting/diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school. Please remember to check your children closely before sending them to school if they are showing signs of illness.



MUSIC NEWS



Holiday Concerts

The 7th – 12th grade Holiday Concert will be held on Thursday, November 30th at 7:00 pm in the Dakota High School gym. All of the bands and choirs will be presenting musical selections of the season.

The Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders will be presenting their holiday concert on Monday, December 4th at 7:00 pm in the Dakota High School gym. The younger students will be sharing holiday music while the 2nd grade students will be presenting the musical “Prehistoric Christmas”.

The 5th and 6th grade students will present their holiday concert on Tuesday, December 5th at 7:00 pm in the Dakota High School gym. The 5th and 6th grade bands will be performing as well as the general music classes.

The students have been working hard to prepare all of the music for the holiday season. Everyone is invited to share in the music and the spirit of the Holidays.

Cheesecake Sale

Thanks to all who helped support the music department annual cheesecake sale. This is one our most popular fundraisers of the year.

Musical 2018: “The Sound of Music”

The musical, “The Sound of Music” will be presented April 5, 6 and 7, 2018. Auditions for all interested 7th – 12th grade students were held on December 18 and 19th. We are excited to bring this classic Rogers and Hammerstein musical to the stage here at Dakota.

Upcoming Events:

Friday, December 1	Dakota HS Pep Band @ Home Basketball Game
Saturday, December 2	Dakota HS Pep Band @ Home Basketball Game
Monday, December 4	K-2 Holiday Concert @ DHS 7:00 pm
Tuesday, December 5	5-6 Holiday Concert @ DHS 7:00 pm
Thursday, December 7	Dakota HS Pep Band @ Home Basketball Game
Friday, December 8	Dakota HS Pep Band @ Home Basketball Game
Monday, December 11	Disney Trip 2019 Informational Parent Meeting 7:00 pm HS Music Room
Tuesday, December 12	Dakota HS Pep Band @ Home Basketball Game



PTO SANTA SHOP

Students in grades Pre-K – 6th grade will be able to shop for a Christmas Gift for Moms & Dads at the PTO’s Santa Shop on December 18th & 19th. The PTO is still in need of items for the Santa Shop to be successful. Items that make good Dad’s gifts are: flashlights, candy, socks, small tools, key chains, coffee mugs or gloves. Items that make good Mom’s gifts are: ornaments, dishtowels, potholders, photo frames/albums & lotion. **All gifts must be new.** If your child needs to purchase for a Mom & Dad, a donation of two gifts is appreciated. Please send all donations to the school by December 12th. Items can be dropped off in the boxes in the lobby area outside the office.

With wrestling season upon us, it is a good time to discuss Ringworm.

Tinea Corporis/Ringworm is a fungal disease of the skin characteristically appearing as flat, spreading, ring-shaped lesions. The periphery (edge) is usually reddish, vesicular (blistered) or pustular (filled with pus) and may be dry and scaly or moist and crusted. As the lesion progresses, the central area often clears, leaving apparently normal skin. The area(s) may or may not be itchy.

Ringworm is contagious and is transmitted by direct contact with lesions of an infected person or animal, or indirectly by contact with contaminated items such as towels/bedding/hairbrushes/floors/tubs/shower stalls/benches/athletic mats etc.

Incubation is 4-10 days with communicability as long as the lesions are present and viable fungus persists on contaminated materials.

Susceptibility is widespread, aggravated by friction and excessive perspiration and when environmental temperatures and humidity are high. Appropriate precautions must be taken to avoid infection, spread, and re-infection, such as showering after each sports play, regularly washing contacted surfaces, laundering of clothing/bedding, avoidance of sharing towels/clothing of the person infected. Infected persons may require exclusion from activities likely to spread the fungus i.e.: wrestling, football, swimming.

Early recognition and treatment is ideal. It is important for you to know that in order for treatment to be successful you must complete the full treatment regimen, regardless of early signs of improvement. Over the counter anti-fungal creams/ointments are good first lines of treatment. Guidelines recommend applying the medication 2-3 times a day to the lesion and the surrounding area 2 x the diameter of the lesion. The area should be covered for the first 24 hours after treatment is started. If there is no improvement in a few days then the doctor should see your child. The doctor may need to prescribe something stronger/different. Treatment needs to continue until after the lesion is completely gone. Delay in treatment or forgetting doses will increase the healing period and may also leave permanent marks.

These are some antifungal products that can be found over the counter: Generic: Miconazole, Ketoconazole, Clotrimazole, Terbinafine Name brand: Lamisil, Desiten, Lotrimin and Nizoral

So as you can see wrestlers are highly susceptible to this problem and hopefully you will have the information to help control the spread of this bothersome skin disease.

The nursing office may be reached at 815/449-2852 with and questions. The Stephenson County Health Dept. is also a good resource if the school cannot be reached. SCHD can be reached at 815/235-8271 or at www.co.stephenson.il.us/health. Many sites are available if you have computer access.

ELEMENTARY

DECEMBER 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>1% MILK SERVED WITH EVERY MEAL</p> <p><i>Juice & Fruit served with every breakfast</i></p>	<p>MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE</p> <p><small>WG = Whole Grain Nutritional information is available in the office.</small></p>			<p>¹ Cereal, Yogurt</p> <p>Tacos, Spanish Rice, Corn, Mandarin Oranges</p>
<p>⁴ Pancakes, Bacon</p> <p>Mac & Cheese, Broccoli, Cherries, Bread Stick</p>	<p>⁵ Oatmeal, Sausage Patty</p> <p>Ham & Cheese Wrap, Green Beans, Peaches</p>	<p>⁶ Breakfast Burrito</p> <p>Chicken Nuggets, Carrots, Pineapple, Slice of Bread</p>	<p>⁷ Sausage & Cheese on an English Muffin</p> <p>Fish, Tri-Tater, Strawberries, Dinner Roll</p>	<p>⁸ Cereal, String Cheese</p> <p>Early Release 11:30</p>
<p>¹¹ French Toast, Sausage Links</p> <p>Spaghetti w/ Meat, Sauce, Peas, Mixed Fruit</p>	<p>¹² Cheese Omelet, Slice of Bread</p> <p>Chicken Fajita, Tater Tots, Mandarin Oranges</p>	<p>¹³ Breakfast Pizza</p> <p>Beef Stew, Celery & Carrots, Pears, Corn Bread</p>	<p>¹⁴ Egg & Cheese Biscuit</p> <p>Pork Nachos w/ Cheese Sauce, CA Blend, Cuties</p>	<p>¹⁵ Cereal, String Cheese</p> <p>Hot Dog w/g Bun, Baked Beans Banana</p>
<p>¹⁸ Pancake Pup</p> <p>Lasagna Roll-Ups, Lettuce Salad & Carrots, Pears, Garlic Stick, Dressings</p>	<p>¹⁹ Waffle, Sausage Patty</p> <p>BBQ on a w/g Bun, Peas & Carrots, Peaches</p>	<p>²⁰ French Toast Stix, Bacon</p> <p>Pizza, 4-Way Veggies, Strawberries</p>	<p>²¹ Cinnamon Roll, Yogurt</p> <p>Turkey Dinner, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Oranges</p>	<p>²² NO SCHOOL</p>
<p>²⁵</p>	<p>²⁶</p>	<p>²⁷</p>	<p>²⁸</p>	<p>²⁹</p>
<p>Winter Break - School Resumes on January 3rd</p>				

December 2017

7-12 Menu

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		<p>MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE</p> <p><i>WG = Whole Grain Nutritional information is available in the office</i></p>	<p>1% MILK SERVED WITH EVERY MEAL</p> <p>Juice and Fruit served with every meal.</p>	<p><i>1</i> French Toast, Sausage Patty</p> <p>Salsa Chicken Fiesta, Broccoli/Cheese, Pears</p>
<p><i>4</i> Western Omelet, Tri Tater</p> <p>Pork Tenderloin, Cowboy Beans, Coleslaw, Pineapple</p>	<p><i>5</i> Sausage/Cheese Biscuit</p> <p>Buffalo Tenders, Peas, Celery/PB, Mandarin Oranges, Fruit Fluff</p>	<p><i>6</i> Breakfast Taquitos</p> <p>Salisbury Steak, Potato/Gravy, Corn, Peaches, Dinner Roll/Butter</p>	<p><i>7</i> Cinnamon Roll French Toast</p> <p>Taco Crunch, Mexi-Mix Vegetables, Applesauce, Gogurt</p>	<p><i>8</i> Cereal, Yogurt, Breakfast Cookie</p> <p>No Lunch Early Dismissal 11:30</p>
<p><i>11</i> Breakfast Pizza, String Cheese</p> <p>Chicken Tot Casserole, California Blend, Pears, Garlic Stick</p>	<p><i>12</i> Egg/Sausage/ Cheese Muffin</p> <p>Beef Stew/Taters, Mixed Veg, Applesauce, Cornbread</p>	<p><i>13</i> Biscuit/Gravy Casserole</p> <p>Pizza, Salad/Dressings, Corn, Oranges, Snack Cracker</p>	<p><i>14</i> Blueberry Waffles, Sausage Links</p> <p>BBQ Chicken Dinner, Green Beans, Mixed Fruit, Garlic Toast</p>	<p><i>15</i> Fruity Oatmeal, Bacon, Muffin</p> <p>Beef Taco Rice Bake, Peas & Carrots, Pineapple, Gogurt</p>
<p><i>18</i> Breakfast Crunch Wrap</p> <p>Cheeseburger/Bun, Mac/Cheese, California Blend, Pineapple</p>	<p><i>19</i> Pancake Sandwich</p> <p>Chicken/Cheese Quesadilla, Italian Rice, Carrots, Strawberries</p>	<p><i>20</i> Bacon/Egg/Tot Bake</p> <p>Breakfast Pizza, Tri Tater, Salad and Dressings, Mandarin Oranges</p>	<p><i>21</i> Breakfast Slider, Tri Tater</p> <p>Ham/Turkey Wrap, Chips, Vegetables and Dip, Peaches</p>	<p><i>22</i> No School Winter Break Begins</p>
<p><i>25</i></p>	<p><i>26</i></p>	<p><i>27</i></p>	<p><i>28</i></p>	<p><i>29</i></p>
<p>WINTER BREAK - SCHOOL RESUMES ON JANUARY 3RD</p>				

Dakota CUSD 201

December 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 HSGB vs Orangeville (H) 6:00	2 HSBB vs Lena (H) 6:00 HSWR - JV Tourn (A) Byron 8:30 HSWR - Var (A) Washington Super Duals 10:00
3	4 K-2 Concert @ High School 7:00	5 5-6 Concert @ HS Gym 7:00 HSBB @ Pearl City (A) 6:00 JH Boys @ Aquin (St. Joe's Gym) 5:30 HSGB @ Aquin (A) 6:00	6	7 HSBB vs Stockton 6:00 (H)	8 Early Release @ 11:30 SIP Day HSGB vs Durand (H) 6:00	9 HSBB - FS Aquin Tournament (A) 10:30 HSWR @ Western Dubuque 10:00 HSGB Var Pearl City Tourn (A)
10	11 HSBB - FS Aquin Tournament (A) HSGB Var Pearl City Tourn (A)	12 HSBB vs River Ridge 6:00 (H) HSGB Var Pearl City Tourn (A)	13 HSBB - FS Aquin Tournament (A) HSGB Var Pearl City Tourn (A) PTO Meeting @ HS 3:30	14	15 HSBB vs Amboy (A) 6:00	16
17	18	19 6:00 School Board Meeting HS FINALS	20 6:30 Athletic Booster Meeting HSGB vs Winnebago (A) 5:30 HS FINALS	21 End of Qtr2/Sem1 HS FINALS	22 No School Winter Break HSWR @ Dvorak(Harlem) Tourn 9:00	23 HSWR @ Dvorak(Harlem) Tourn 9:30
24	25 No School Winter Break	26 No School Winter Break	27 No School Winter Break	28 No School Winter Break	29 No School Winter Break	30
31	Tuesday, January 03, 2018 School Resumes					

Educational Rights of Illinois' Children & Youth in Homeless Situations

It's your right.....Do you know someone who is homeless and has children or teens needing to get to school?

ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT TO SCHOOL SUCCESS.

Homeless children have the right to:

- Stay in their old school OR
- Go to the school near where they are staying.
- Immediate enrollment, even without records
- Transportation to school, if needed.

Illinois schools have people called liaisons who work to help children and teens who are homeless get to school and stay there. If you have any questions about the educational rights of homeless children and youth in Illinois, you can call any of the following:

Your Local School Homeless Liaison: Bob Prusator (844) 632-5682

The Opening Doors Project: Adult Learning Resource Center (847) 803-3535

Regional Office of Education #26 <http://homelessed.net>

Illinois Coalition to End Homelessness (708) 848-0503

Information Hotline IL State Board of Education (800) 215-6379

