



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.

**Dear Dakota School District
Students, Parents, Staff, and
Community Members:**

5 ESSENTIALS SURVEY:

The 5 Essentials Survey is an important piece of data that is used for school improvement. Staff, Students, and Parents are invited to participate in the survey from February 3rd through April 2nd. The data is compiled to help determine areas of improvement as well as areas in which we are doing well as a district. The Illinois 5Essentials Survey provides a comprehensive picture of a school's organizational culture in an individualized report measuring five "essentials" critical for school success:

- Effective Leaders
- Collaborative Teachers
- Involved Families
- Supportive Environment
- Ambitious Instruction

In order to receive results from the survey, we need to have at least 20% of our parents complete it. The survey takes about 25 minutes, is completely anonymous and can be found at: <https://survey.5-essentials.org/Illinois/>.

This is an important tool and we appreciate honest feedback to continue to improve our school district.

Jason Grey, Superintendent

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2021-2022:

Dakota Kindergarten Registration will be held differently in response to the pandemic. Please call the elementary office @ 815-844-632-5682 ext 252 or email ceyster@dakota201.com or hmeier@dakota201.com to request the enrollment paperwork that will either be mailed or emailed. The completed forms & required documentation (listed below) should be dropped off to the elementary school before March 5th. The elementary office will remain open until 6 pm on Thursday, March 4th to accommodate those who cannot return during normal office hours (7:30 am – 4 pm). Masks & social distancing will be enforced, and we ask for only one adult per family in order to reduce exposures. You will need to bring the following items to register:

-Courthouse original birth certificate

-Proof of Residency (2 forms – mortgage statement/tax bill or current lease, two current bills that associate your name to the physical address)

February 2021

-Guardianship/legal paperwork that apply to the kindergarten student Children must be 5 on or before September 1, 2021 to be eligible for kindergarten. Registration by this date is important in determining the number of kindergarten students for next year.

FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER:

Friday, February 5th – 11:30 student dismissal – SIP Day

Friday, February 12th – No School – Lincoln's Birthday

Tuesday, February 16th – Board of Education Meeting @ 6 pm

Dakota has school bus driver & bus monitor positions open. Starting pay is \$15.00 an hour for bus drivers and \$11.00 an hour for monitors. If interested, please contact Freeport Transportation @ 815-232-0580.



STUDENT SERVICES

Brittney Gerstner-Psychologist
Tina Buske-School Social Worker
Katie Ries-School Counselor
Sabrina Brown – School Nurse
Paula Rau – School Nurse
Kevin Cline-Assistant
Principal/Academic Advisor

Scholarships available:

CBAI Community Banking

Scholarship: February 1, 2021

Community Foundation of Northern Illinois Scholarships:

February 1, 2021

Mediacom World Class

Scholarship: February 15, 2021

Odd Fellows Scholarship

Program: March 1, 2021

Amvet Scholarship Program:

March 1, 2020

Mason and Scottish Rites

Scholarships: March 1, 2020

Illinois Sheriff's Association

Scholarship: March 15, 2021

My Friend's Closet Thrift Shop

Scholarship: March 30, 2021

Citizen's State Bank

Scholarship: April 1, 2021

Dakota Opportunities in

Education (DOE) Scholarship:

April 1, 2021

Wanda Herrmann Scholarship:

April 1, 2021

DOE Trades Scholarship: April

1, 2021

Highland Community College

Foundation Scholarships: April

1, 2021 *log on to

www.highland.edu for

information or to download forms.

The HCC Foundation has thousands of dollars available to students in a wide variety of areas. The applications are short and easy to fill out. I urge all students who are even

considering attending HCC to explore this option.

***ALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE. GO TO THE HIGH SCHOOL PAGE (www.dakota201.com) AND SELECT THE GUIDANCE TAB.**

Pre-Registration: All students in grades 6-11 will be pre-registering for the 2021-2022 school year during February and March. **Pre-registration will be conducted online. All course selections for next year will be requested via Skyward.** Mr. Cline will be visiting classes to discuss courses and the process to be used.

There will be a special pre-registration event for 8th graders and their parents to help them plan and register for high school. More information to come.

Highland Community College Quick Start Registration: This year's HCC registration day will be held **April 15th**. All students wishing to enroll at HCC will be bused to Freeport where they will take their placement tests, meet with an advisor, register for fall classes and tour the campus. They will also see a number of excellent presentations on financial aid, campus activities, etc. Students do not have to attend this event if they would rather register on their own, although this is a much more enriching experience. More details will follow.

SAT Testing: All Juniors will take their required SAT exam right here at DHS on **April 13th**. More details will follow.

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

1. Parents and students should file their 2021-2022 FAFSA as soon as possible this month. Time is running out!
2. Be sure to tell Mr. Cline what colleges you need your 7th semester transcripts sent to (all 4-year colleges that you are still seriously considering).
3. Begin attacking local scholarships that are beginning to pop-up on the bulletin board and scholarship website.
4. If you are a future HCC student, begin researching and completing Highland's many scholarships.



ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

With the recent IHSA announcement, we are excited and hopeful that our athletes will get a chance to compete on the court/field! The Boosters continue to support our athletic programs and need your help. The DAB is only made possible with volunteers. **Please consider joining us on Wednesday March 17th, at 6:30 pm.** We meet in the High School Board room, just off of the office. There will also be several officer positions available. Please consider donating some of your time for our Dakota Indians. If we are not able to maintain our offices, we simply will be unable to continue to provide for the various teams. Thank you.



PTO Help Wanted!

The Dakota PTO helps provide enriching and enjoyable programs and activities for the students, families, and staff of Dakota Elementary AND Dakota Jr/Sr High. Not only are we always looking for volunteers, but we are currently looking for new PTO Officers. All four positions (president, vice president, secretary and treasurer) need to be filled. Our current officers would love to continue to volunteer for the PTO and will assist/guide anyone willing to help out. Please contact any of the following people with any questions:

Sara Gruszczynski: 815-505-1616
Ann Sutherland: 815-978-8269
HeiDec Meier: 815-238-2915

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Live Stream Concerts

The High School and Junior High bands and choirs will be presenting our *Winter Concerts via Live Stream*. With the guidelines for the pandemic, we cannot gather a large audience, so we have decided to live stream the evening. This experience will still offer the students a concert experience and let the community enjoy our music. Our concerts will be divided with High School on one night and Junior High on the other night:

Tuesday, February 23 – 7:00pm – High School Band and Choir

Thursday, February 25 – 7:00pm – Junior High Band and Choir and Jazz Band

The audience of parents, grandparents and community will be able to watch the students perform on a live stream through the school district's Facebook page. Watch Facebook for more information on how to tune in!

Solo and Ensemble Contests during a pandemic

The pandemic has caused us to re-think and re-imagine much in the music department. We try to keep as much of our core curriculum as we can and still provide them opportunities. In a typical year, we are busily preparing for the solo and ensemble season. Our sixth-grade band and Junior High Band and Choir students are preparing small ensembles of solos, duets, trios and quartets that we will video. Once we have everyone finished, we will release our winter chamber music video

for the community to watch the young musicians. Look for this in late February on the school district website. The High School musicians in band and choir will be entering the IHSA's "virtual" solo and ensemble contest. This year the contest is virtual. We will be rehearsing the students and then video their final product which will be uploaded to the IHSA portal. The events will still be judged as they are normally. We will wait with anticipation the results of their hard work.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

The Music department will be presenting a "Broadway Review" musical on May 21st, and 22nd, in the DHS Gym/Stage. The students are finishing auditions, and rehearsals will begin in early February. This show will be lots of fun as we celebrate Dakota's greatest hits from past musicals. More information will be forthcoming, so mark your calendars!

NURSE'S NOTES


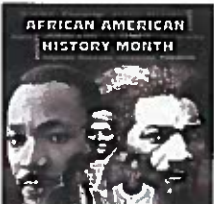

DENTAL EXAMS:

Parents of Kindergarten, Second, Sixth & Ninth Grade students need a dental exam submitted prior to May 15th. If your child has seen the dentist recently, please make sure the completed dental form is returned to school. The form can be faxed to the district office @ 815-449-2459.

COVID-19 REMINDERS

Notification to the school nurse & office is required anytime your child stays home due to an exposure, other household members are ill, or tests positive for COVID-19. This notification is essential & helps us to keep students' learning in-person! Thank you!!!

Dakota Elementary February 2021 Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Cereal Hot Pork Sundae Mashed Potatoes Gravy Mixed Fruit Bread	2 Waffles Taco in a Bag Lettuce, Cheese Beans Apple Slices Condiments	3 Pancake Pup Buffalo Chicken Dip w Pita Chips Carrots Cottage Cheese Peaches	4 Bagel w/ PB Sloppy Joe's w/ WG Bun Green Beans Tropical Fruit	5 Muffin & Cheese Stick <div style="text-align: center;"> Early Release 11:30 AM </div>
8 Donut Big Mac Flatbread Beef, Lettuce, Pickles, Sauce Wango Mango Apple	9 Pancakes Pork Carnitas w/ WG Shell Mexican Rice Pintos & Cheese Orange Slices	10 Banana Bread Chicken & Waffles Mashed Potatoes Gravy Juice	11 French Toast Bacon Cheeseburgers w/ WG Bun Sidekick Banana Pretzels	12 No School Lincoln's Birthday 
15 Apple Frudel Teriyaki Chicken w/ WG Wrap Broccoli Peaches	16 Biscuit & PB Chili w/ Beans Salad Apple Slices Cinnamon Roll	17 Breakfast Cookie. Pizza Green Beans Berries Crackers	18 Mini Cinni Chicken Alfredo Corn Mixed Fruit Bread Stick	19 Cherry Frudel Turkey in a WG Wrap Assortment of Fruits & Veggies
22 Breakfast Sandwich Beefy Mac & Cheese Carrots Applesauce Bread	23 Pancake Pup Buffalo Chicken Quesadilla w/ WG Wrap Carrots & Dip Mixed Fruit	24 Waffles Taco w/ WG Shell Beans Apple Slices Condiments	25 Muffin & Cheese Stick Loaded Baked Potatoes w/ Pork Broccoli Pears Bread	26 Cereal Cheeseburger w/ Bun Assortment of Fruits & Veggies
<div style="text-align: center;"> Menu Subject to Change </div>		<div style="text-align: center;"> AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH  </div>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<div style="text-align: center;"> BREAKFAST & LUNCH ARE FREE THROUGH THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR 20-21 </div>

Grades 7-12 Menu FEBRUARY 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>1 Breakfast Burrito</p> <p>Taco in a Bag Spanish Rice Mixed Veg Pears</p>	<p>2 French Toast</p> <p>Spaghetti/Meat Sauce Green Beans Peaches Garlic Toast</p>	<p>3 Cereal, Cheese Stick</p> <p>Orange Popcorn Chicken over Rice Broccoli Pineapple Fortune Cookie</p>	<p>4 Coffee Cake</p> <p>Salisbury Steak Mashed Potato/Gravy Applesauce W/G Dinner Roll/Butter</p>	<p>5 Parfait/Granola Bar</p> <p>Sip Day</p>
<p>8 Western Omelet</p> <p>Chicken/Waffles Country Blend Baked Beans Mixed Fruit</p>	<p>9 Donut/Yogurt</p> <p>Biscuit/Gravy Tri Taters Hot Apple Slices</p>	<p>10 Breakfast Sandwich</p> <p>Scalloped Potato/Ham Glazed Carrots Strawberries Garlic Stick</p>	<p>11 Ham, Cheese Biscuit</p> <p>Cheeseburger W/G Bun w/ Bacon Hash brown Garlic Baby Reds Mandarin Oranges Valentine Treat</p>	<p>12</p> <p>No School</p>
<p>15 Pancake Wrap</p> <p>Pizza Corn Mixed Fruit Blueberry Fluff</p>	<p>16 Pizza Bagel</p> <p>Taco Salad Peas/Carrots Peaches Cornbread</p>	<p>17 Breakfast Cookie</p> <p>Dakota BBQ Sandwich W/G Bun Coleslaw Pineapple</p>	<p>18 Waffle</p> <p>Meatballs/Sauce Bosco Stick Cheesy Broccoli Apricots</p>	<p>19 Biscuits/Gravy</p> <p>Mashed Potato Bowl California Blend Apple Slices/PB</p>
<p>22 Parfait/Granola Bar</p> <p>Hot Ham Cheese/Pretzel Bun Fresh Carrots/Dip Mac Salad Tropical Fruit</p>	<p>23 Breakfast Pizza</p> <p>Hot Dog W/G Bun Fries Banana</p>	<p>24 Egg/Cheese Omelet</p> <p>Chicken Parmesan Broccoli/Cauliflower Fresh Orange</p>	<p>25 Cinnamon Roll/Cereal</p> <p>Lasagna Roll-Up Green Beans Pears Garlic Toast</p>	<p>26 Egg/Cheese/Sausage/ Biscuit</p> <p>Beef & Noodles Mixed Veg Applesauce Cheesy Bread</p>
			<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><i>WG = Whole Grain</i></p>

Dakota School District #201

February 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5 11:30 student dismissal (School Improvement Day)	6
7	8 HS Bowling @ Lutheran	9 HS Bowling vs Oregon (H)	10	11 HS Bowling at Dixon	12 No School – Lincoln's Birthday	13
14	15	16 Board of Education Meeting - 6:00 pm HS Bowling @ Aquin	17	18	19 HS Bowling @ Rkfd Christian	20
21	22	23 7 pm – HS Band & Choir virtual concert	24 HS Bowling vs South Beloit (H)	25 7 pm – Jr High Band, choir and jazz band virtual concert	26	27
28						