

Volume XII Issue 3

Williston High School

#### December 2006

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## "Principal's Page"

#### **Activities**

Parent/Teacher Conferences were well attended this year. Teachers at Williston High School had a total of 1489 conferences for an average of just fewer than 30 conferences per teacher. We as a staff enjoy developing a relationship with parents and welcome you to stop by the school or call at any time.

Bye, Bye Birdie has been a HUGE success. Opening night was close to a full house. The Saturday matinee was slightly smaller due to very agreeable weather and winter formal. Sunday was the last night of the musical and the performance was standing room only. I wish to personally thank Ms. Tron, Mr. and Mrs. Rooke and Ms. Koperski for their tireless dedication to this project. Without their drive, this production would not have happened. Also, all of the sponsors who helped with generous donations are greatly appreciated. They are one of the reasons why Williston is such a great place to raise a family. Thanks folks!!

#### **Attendance Policy**

A student must not be absent from a class more than eight (8) times for a semester course or sixteen (16) times for a full year course. As a matter of procedure, the attendance office will notify parents by letter whenever a student has accumulated five (5) or more non-school related absences in a class. If a student goes over the 8/16 policy, he/she <u>will lose credit</u> in that class. If it is a required course for graduation, the course will have to be repeated.

Absences due to illness that last longer than two (2) days do not count for the 8/16 policy **provided** a doctor's

excuse is given to the attendance office no later than **one week** from the time of the illness.

#### <u>Supreme Court of North</u> <u>Dakota</u>

The Supreme Court will be in the auditorium on November 29 hearing a case. The junior and senior classes will be in attendance and the public is welcome. If you plan to attend, you cannot videotape the arguments or take pictures. Hats or any type of headgear are also discouraged. This is the first time the Supreme Court has come up to Williston High School so we are very excited and honored that they have put us on their travel plans.

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This concludes my news for this month. Let's hope that this weather holds until December.

Professionally,

Chris Kittleson Principal Williston High School

### SENIOR PICTURE & DEER HUNTING ABSENCES...

are excused absences <u>with an</u> <u>advance make-up slip</u>, but <u>DO</u> count against our 8/16 and testing policies.

## DRESS CODE

(at school or school sponsored events)

Students are expected to have appropriate appearance at all times. Inappropriate appearance includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- 1. Excessively torn or tattered clothing
- 2. Clothing which is in poor taste, too revealing (this includes both shirt and skirt length), clothing containing obscene words or pictures.
- 3. Clothing that promotes alcohol, tobacco or bars
- 4. Hooters, Co-ed Naked, Big Johnson, Playboy bunny or similar items
- 5. Spaghetti straps, tank tops, shirts that expose the midriff or décolletage
- 6. Colored hair or body piercing that draws attention from the learning process
- 7. Chains hanging from clothing
- 8. No sheer or gauze fabrics
- 9. Boys sleeveless shirts

Violation of the dress code will result in these actions: First offense: Student sent to administrative office and problem is corrected.

Second offense: Student removed from school and put into inhouse suspension.

Third offense: Suspension from school for three days.

Wearing of hats or caps by either girls or boys will not be allowed. Common courtesy dictates the removal of hats upon entering the building as a sign of respect.

#### Violation of the hat policy will result in these actions:

**First offense:** Surrender cap to adult requesting the cap. It will be given to administration and given back at the end of the day.

**Second offense:** Surrender cap to adult requesting the cap. It will be given to administration and parent will need to stop by and it will be returned.

**Third offense:** Cap will be confiscated for the remainder of the school year. Each subsequent violation will result in an additional cap being taken for the remainder of the year.

## Mid-Term & Nine Week Grading Schedule for WHS

Mid-Term – September 28	(Homeroom)
First Nine Weeks – November 1	(Homeroom)
Mid-Term – December 7	(Homeroom)
Second Nine Weeks – January 15	(Homeroom)
Mid-Term – February 12	(Homeroom)
Third Nine Weeks – March 26	(Homeroom)
Mid-Term – April 26	(Homeroom)
Fourth Nine Weeks Report Card W	/ill Be Mailed

## SADD NEWS

With new faces at each meeting, the membership for SADD continues to increase, as do the activities. October was our busiest month as we celebrated SADD's 25<sup>th</sup> birthday during Red Ribbon Week. November brought the Great American Smokeout. WHS SADD members participated in one of their favorite activities, visiting the Williston Middle School Health class to talk about the dangers of tobacco use. WHS SADD will also host a middle school dance on December 1. SADD is not only about prevention, but also about having fun, as the middle school students discovered at the regional workshop.

Students are encouraged to visit our meetings or join anytime throughout the year. They can be as active as they want to be. Meetings are every Thursday at noon.

Susan Forthun SADD Advisor

## **Parents' Communication Network**

WHS SADD and Region I Safe Communities Coalition are continuing to compile a directory of names of parents who wish to provide chemical-free environments for their youth. If you wish to participate in this network, please discuss it with your child, and pick up a form at the high school office. If you have any comments or questions regarding this project, please call Susan Forthun. We look forward to having you join other parents and us in this effort.

Thank you for caring about the youth of Williston.

### **Counseling News**

Williston High School Miss Koperski and Ms. Forthun Counselors December 2006

### **Scholarships**

AXA Achievement Scholarship is for seniors who demonstrate ambition and drive, determination to set and reach goals, who has respect for self, family and community and the ability to succeed in college. Go to <u>www.axaachievement.com</u> to learn more about the program and to download an application. The deadline is December 15. **Burger King Scholars Program** offers scholarships to high school seniors based upon working part time, participation in community service and demonstrating financial need. The date to return the application to the counselors' office is December 11. Applications are in the counselors' office or online at <u>www.bkmfounation.com</u>

Wal-Mart Stores are announcing the availability of the **2007 Sam Walton Community Scholarship.** This scholarship is available online from November 1 through January 12, 2007. Interested graduating high school seniors need to log on to <u>www.walmartfoundation.org</u> for more information. Students will apply for the scholarship online at

www.scholarshipadministrators.net. You must use the access code SWCS to complete the application process.

Alert Magazine offers a chance to speak out and win a \$500 scholarship. You must be a senior or will be a senior in the fall, have a GPA of 2.5 and plan to attend college after graduation. It is an essay about a personal encounter you or someone you know has had with drug and/or alcohol abuse. Information is in the counselors' office.

The National CO-OP Scholarship Program, in cooperation with 11NCCE Colleges and universities offers renewable merit scholarships to high school seniors who plan to attend one of the participating schools. For more information or an application, go to <u>http://www.co-op.edu/</u>

**Elks Legacy Awards Scholarship Contest** provides educational assistance to children and grandchildren of Elk members who are high school seniors, going on to college, and exhibit the core values of the Elks National Foundation: Knowledge, Charity, Community, and Integrity. For more information, go to

http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars/legacy.cfm

"Most Valuable Student" Competition Applications for the Elks National Foundation's 2007 Most Valuable Student Contest will be available beginning September 1, 2006 at your local Elks Lodge, online, or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Foundation. Applications for the 2007 contest have to be submitted to your local Elks Lodge by January 12, 2007. For an application or more information, go to http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars/mys.cfm **UND** has several honor scholarship programs available for pre-freshman and undergraduate transfer students. Financial aid is intended to supplement the financial contributions from the student and family. Students are offered financial assistance in various forms, including scholarships, grants, employment and loan programs. A complete listing of detailed financial aid offerings is available at

www.financialaid.und.edu/aid\_eligibility.html

The American Legion has put together a booklet called "Need A Lift", a College Financial Aid Handbook that provides information about various scholarships that are offered by this organization. To look through this booklet, please visit the counselors' office.

**Holocaust Remembrance Project** is a national essay contest for high school students and is designed to encourage and promote the study of the Holocaust. For an application, visit their website at <u>www.holocaust.hklaw.com</u>. The deadline is April 30, 2007.

**Montana State University at Bozeman** offers a scholarship to non-residents. Information can be found at http://apply.embark.com/ugrad/montanastate/

**Minnesota State University Moorhead** has many scholarship opportunities for the 2006-07 school year. Visit their website at www.mnstate.edu/finaid

The **Phi Delta Kappa Educational Foundation** annually awards scholarships to prospective educators. Eligible applicants are high school seniors intending to major in education. Deadline is February 1. Applications are available in the counselors' office or online at

#### http://www.pdkintl.org/awards/pros\_eds.htm

**KFC Colonel's Scholars Program** is offered to high school seniors planning to attend a public in-state college or university. Students who meet the criteria may apply online to become a KFC's Colonel's Scholar at

<u>http://www.act.org/kfcscholars/intro.html</u>. It is only available during a window of January 1 – February 16.

**Farm Credit Cervices in North Dakota** has many scholarship opportunities. Recipient may be from an actively farming and ranching family or planning an agricultural career. Deadline is March 1. Applications are in the counseling office.

**Farmers Union Co-op House Scholarship** – must be a member of Farmers Union and planning to enroll at North Dakota State University. Deadline is March 15. Applications are in the counseling office.

**North Dakota Farmers Union Scholarship** is for current Farmers Union members planning to enroll as an undergraduate in a post secondary institution. Deadline is January 31. Applications are in the counseling office.

North Dakota School Counselor Association Essay Contest is for seniors. The topic is *"How has my school counselor helped me prepare for the future?"* The amount of the scholarship is \$100 and the deadline date is January 5.

## **Student Council News**

We are currently getting ready for our trip to Bismarck for the NDASC Student Council State Convention. This year, our own Tarren J. is running for Class A Representative. We are going to give it our all in supporting Tarren and WHS in this convention. So let's keep our fingers crossed and hope she wins State Office. We can hardly contain our excitement for this event! It is a great learning and social experience.

One of our Student Council volunteer projects will be helping out 3 year old Braylen K. Braylen suffered a stroke before birth and therefore, was diagnosed with cerebral palsy. He will be attending a camp in Alabama for extensive therapy in May of 2007. We will be helping to raise funds to cover the medical expenses needed for him by doing various fund raisers. If anyone would like to help out Braylen's family, contact our advisor, Karla Olson, at 572-0967.

Williston High School Student Council would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

> Student Council Secretary Edward H

## **Microsoft Student Select: Get Microsoft Software For Less**

North Dakota EduTech, Microsoft, E-Academy, and Software House International have teamed up to provide K-12 students, staff, and parents the opportunity to purchase certain Microsoft products at deep discounts. These products include Microsoft Office 2003 Pro/Standard, Office 2004 Pro/Standard for Mac. OneNote. FrontPage 2003, Visio, Student 2006, Project 2003, and Windows XP Pro Upgrade. Each student can purchase up to one copy/license of each software title.

Example pricing: Microsoft Office 2003 Professional MSRP: \$499.99 Student Select Pricing: \$69.00

Please contact your student's school to receive your Student Select registration code. See http://edutech.nodak.e-academy.com for licensing, pricing, purchasing, and order fulfillment details.

#### Two important notes:

1) Windows XP Pro Upgrade must be installed on a machine with a qualifying Microsoft operating system and corresponding Certificate of Authenticity (Windows XP Home, Windows 2000, Windows ME, etc.). You cannot buy a "white box" computer without an operating system and install the Student Select Windows XP Pro Upgrade.

2) These software products are meant for personal or school purposes. The license does not provide for commercial uses (e.g. the Student Select license does not allow you to use this software for a home business).

WHS Tech Department

## **Atomic Learning**

Atomic Learning has great resources for learning how to use software programs for both PC and Macintosh computers. Teachers, students, parents, and community members can use it. To use it at home, go to

www.atomiclearning.com In the login box in the upper right hand corner, enter the following:

login: williston Password: (Please get this from your school's office)

After you have logged in, click on either the "Windows Tutorials" or "Macintosh Tutorials". Then select the program and the section(s) you want to view.

# Art Department News: Update By Clif Sundt & Anna Hoffman

#### Mrs. Hoffman:

3-D Art: Students have finished rope bowls and are working on Dream Catchers.

**Ceramics I:** Students are finishing their personal sculptures-a shoe made of clay! After Thanksgiving Break, they will start throwing pots on the electric potter's wheel.

Ceramics II: Advanced Ceramic students are working on their potter's wheel skills and finishing their semester long projects. Among the items they are making are fountains, sets of dishes and nesting bowls.

Printmaking: Students have just finished wood block prints, in which they had to make two different images and print them on the same page. These were much more complicated than they had expected! They are starting photo silk screen prints, where they will use a photograph and print them on a T-shirt.

#### Mr. Sundt:

Intro to Art: Students have been studying the art elements (space, value, texture, shape, form, color and line) and are now working on color with the introduction of color harmonies and how color is so important in all aspects of art work.

Graphic Design: Students finished Cartooning and will be working on a Magazine/Comic Book cover design.

Drawing & Sketching: Students finished an animal drawing series using different media (pen and ink, pencil, oil pastel, watercolor, etc.) and have started colored pencil (find the photo).

Painting I: Students just finished up Found Object painting (painting) on something besides a 2-D surface) and started a Shattered Photo painting.

\*If students need an extracurricular activity – Art Club meet Tuesday nights at 7 PM in Mr. Sundt's art room. Everyone is welcome, if they are in an art class.

# **Attendance Policy**

Please read and familiarize yourselves with the attendance policy that we will be adhering to for the 2006-2007 school year. It can be accessed on the WHS web page or in your student's handbook on pages 5 & 6. Thank you!

Donna Kennedy Attendance Office

# Close Up

Close Up Washington is an exciting week long study visit to the nation's capital where the students gain the opportunity to experience our government and the political process firsthand. This year, the trip will take place in **March 2007**.

The Close Up Washington week is a carefully organized series of activities designed to give the students a look at the process of government. The program will contain six to eight seminars, each featuring a different Washington expert. Students will have an opportunity to meet with our state's representative and senators and visit famous monuments. The last day, before our return, the students are given a chance to explore the sites that are most appealing to them.

Interested parents or students may contact Mr. Mack at the Williston High School in room 109.

> Chris Mack Close Up Advisor

# Senior Pictures

All colored senior pictures that are going in the annual need to be turned in to Mrs. Schultz by the end of January.

**FFA NEWS** 

#### Fruit and Candy Sales

The fruit and candy will be delivered the week of December 12. If you haven't been contacted and would like to purchase fruit, please call any FFA member or Mr. Pepple at 572-0967.

#### <u>Greenhand/Made for Excellence & Advanced</u> <u>Leadership Development</u>

January 5 – 7, FFA members will have the opportunity to attend leadership conferences in Bismarck. The **Greenhand Conference** is for first year members to learn more about the FFA and meet other members from around the state. The **Made for Excellence Conference** is for second year members to develop their leadership skills and set some personal goals. The **Advanced Leadership Development Conference** is for third and fourth year members to further develop their leadership skills. This is a great opportunity for any student.

Wes Pepple FFA Advisor

## Leo Club News

Are you looking for something to do during your free time? Why not consider joining the Leo Club. The Leo Club is a service club that does volunteer work in school and in the community. We meet every Monday at 12:16 in room 321. Come and join us!

We have had a very fun and busy school year. So far this year, we have participated in the HOMECOMING PARADE, tied ribbons for Red Ribbon Week on car antennas, helped with the Upper Missouri Ministries Quilt Auction, and worked at the All City Halloween Party.

We just completed the Shoebox Christmas Project. We collected 47 shoeboxes, wrapped and filled them with items, and sent them to children around the world who wouldn't otherwise receive a Christmas present. Students and staff members at Williston High School donated the toys for the shoeboxes and money to help with the shipping costs.

We are always busy helping and volunteering in our school and community. We have several other projects coming up for the months of November and December. If you are interested, come to a meeting to learn more about us. If you have any questions, visit with Mrs. Gutknecht or one of our current officers.

Our officers for the 2006-2007 school year are President, Kilee S.; Vice President, Kelli M.; Secretary/Treasurer, Megan A.; and Directors, Jessie B., Sasha A., Kassie B., and Sadie F.

Mrs. Gutknecht Leo Club Advisor

## ON THE RIGHT FOOT Attitude Counts!

Ever said any of these to your students?

"I always struggled with math all through school so I can understand why you have trouble with it, too."

"I don't like to read, so I am not surprised that you don't like to read either."

"I never could understand why students have to waste so much time learning history and science when they are never going to use it."

Ever heard yourself or someone else saying things like that or something similar? In part those statements may have something to do with ability. Not every student is going to be an "A" student, and not every "A" student is going to just breeze right through every subject. We all faced struggles in school. Some things came easier to us than others. That is just part of who we are.

What those statements do talk about is attitude. They convey the kinds of attitudes that parent have about their experience in school and what they do, or do not, intend to pass onto their children. How much do your children mirror your attitudes toward life and learning?

Parents are the primary teachers of their children. Long before they walk through the doors of their first school, the children have begun to pick up on the kinds of attitudes the parents have about school. Reading to kids, playing counting games, singing songs and other activities help form the attitude the child brings to school. Admittedly, most small kids really like coming to school. It is a new adventure for them. So move the calendar ahead nine or ten years.

High school attitudes toward school are a mixed bag of the good, the bad, and the ugly. There are the kids who enjoy being in school because they like learning and they get to see all their friends. There are the kids who like to come to school because they get to see all their friends, and all that homework stuff is a bit of an annoyance, but they will do it anyway. Then there are the students who, for whatever reason, think they are ready as freshmen to get out on their own, go earn big money be it in the oil field or at McDonald's, and spend more time avoiding doing things rather than getting something done. Then there are the students who just want to get out; life is not good for them, they feel powerless and school is not helping them at all, so they take their hurt and anger out on the teachers, the principals, or the other people around them.

Though that is not all the attitudes of high school students, anyone reading this will probably recognize some young people they know.

One of my favorite sayings from Shakespeare is "There is nothing either good or bad but thinking makes it so." This can apply to students is school, people in the workplace, or astronauts on the space station. The attitude we bring to work of any kind colors and shapes how we approach it.

We do not like devoting time to things that we think are useless or a waste of out time. We would rather do things that are fulfilling and fun and easy. Sadly life is a mix of both. As adults we have probably come to grips with that fact, but not all our students have. We have to make sure we are not passing on negative attitudes to our children.

Help them recognize that some things are going to be difficult, some things are going to be easy, but it all has to get done. Help them to think this way, and school will be a much more enjoyable experience for them.

In looking around for a good quote for the end of this article, I found two, one by a wise man and one by a rock star. Mohandas Gandhi said, "Be the change that you want to see in the world." Jimi Hendrix said, "In order to change the world, you have to get your head together first." I may not be able to change the world around me, but I can change the "me" that is in the world.

Attitude is the key.

Jim Geiermann English Instructor

# <u>UND Honor Band</u> and Choir

The following students were selected for the UND Honor Band and Choir:

#### Honor Band

Sarah P., Flute Amber H., Percussion Stuart N., French Horn Kelli H., Euphonium Brianna S., Tuba

#### Band Alternates

Kilee S., Clarinet Allison B., Flute Nylo H., Tuba

#### Honor Choir

Erin A. Joanna O. Sean S.

## <u>Williston Public Schools Adopts</u> <u>Wellness Policy</u>

The Williston Public School District is committed to providing a school environment that promotes and protects children's health and well-being by supporting healthy eating and physical activity. The District recognizes that wellnourished and physically active students can reach their highest potential levels of achievement - academically, socially and personally.

In July, 2006 the Williston School Board approved a wellness policy for the district. The policy addresses staff and student wellness, nutrition education and physical activity of students, and the nutritional quality of foods and beverages sold and served in the schools during the school day. The implementation of the wellness policy serves as a starting point for increasing student, staff and parental awareness of the health issues faced today. A copy of the policy is available on the district website: <u>www.williston.k12.nd.state.us.</u> You may also obtain a copy from the District Office or the secretary at your child's school.

## Support Our Children Program

Williston Economart is once again implementing the "Support Our Children" program. This is Economart's twenty-third year in giving the 1% to area schools.

Beginning September 13, 2006 and continuing through the fall and holiday season, 1% of each family's grocery bill will be contributed to the school of their choice. All grocery receipts are to be returned to the schools and we are asking the schools coordinators to total the receipt subtotal line and return them to Williston Economart by the first of each month with the totals of the receipts written on the envelope. If you have any questions in regards to the program, please contact Melanie or Kelli at Economart at 572-2927.

We hope that this contribution will help our most valuable resource, our children. Get the word out to all of your students to save receipts and turn them in to your school.

## **Music News!**

Greetings from the WHS Music Department! We would like to thank you for all of the support we have received for our recent performances of <u>Bye, Bye Birdie</u>. Our show was a tremendous success with over 650 people in attendance for the three shows.

We would like to invite you to an evening of Christmas music on December 19 at 7 PM. This is a combined band and choir concert with all of our ensembles performing a *grand finale* piece together. We hope to see you there!

> Eric Rooke, Band Director