

The Count him

Volume XIII Issue 3 Williston High School December 2007

"Principal's Page"

Well, we are into the Thanksgiving Season and we are still able to go outside without a heavy coat. Enjoy it while it lasts! I am quite sure, in a few weeks, we will be wishing for spring to appear.

Attendance Policy

A student must not be absent from a class more than eight (8) times for a semester 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, she/he will lose credit 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 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.

Cell Phone Policy Changes

The school policy currently reads like this:
All cell phones and personal musical devices
(walkmans, MP3's etc...) should not be brought
to school. The use of electronic pagers, cell
phones or similar electronic devices on school
property is prohibited. Failure to comply will
result in disciplinary actions.

This portion is going to be added to the aforementioned policy:

If a student is caught using any such item at the end of the day, the item will be kept by the school until the next school day.

Dates to Remember

December 3 – Mid-terms
December 6 – Band Concert
December 21 – Last day of
school before
Christmas
Break

January 2 – School Resumes

Let's hope that this weather holds until January.

Professionally,

Chris Kittleson Principal Williston High School

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Counseling News

Williston High School
Miss Koperski and Ms. Forthun
Counselors
December 2007

Scholarships

AXA Achievement Scholarship is for seniors who demonstrate ambition and drive, have determination to set and reach goals, who has respect for self, family and community and the ability to succeed in college. Go to www.axa-achievement.com 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 www.bk.com/scholars Application deadline is February 15.

Wal-Mart Stores is announcing the availability of the 2008 **Sam Walton Community Scholarship.** Interested graduating high school seniors need to log-on to www.walmartfoundation.org 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 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 counseling office.

North Dakota Farmers Union Scholarships are available for current Farmers Union Members planning to enroll as an undergraduate in a post secondary institution. The deadline is January 31. Applications are in the counseling office. There are also other scholarships available through Farmers Union. Brochures can be found in the counselors' office.

North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association Patrick Denne Memorial Scholarship is available to those with rural water systems. The deadline is December 31. Applications are in the counselors' office.

The National CO-OP Scholarship Program, in cooperation with eleven NCCE 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 http://www.co-op.edu/

UND has several honor scholarship programs available for prefreshman 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

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

Minnesota State University-Moorhead has many scholarship opportunities for the 2007-08 school year. Visit their website at www.mnstate.edu/finaid

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 Colonel's Scholar. This is available only during a window of January 1 – February 16. The website is

http://www.act.org/kfcscholars/intro.html

North Dakota School Counselor Association Essay Contest is for seniors. The topic is "My Career Plan and What/Who helped me make my decisions". The amount of the scholarship is \$100 and the deadline is January 4.

ACT Registration

Williston High School Code: 351-880

The number of students who register for the ACT online has steadily increased each year. Nearly half of the WHS students who wrote the ACT last year registered online. The flier is located in the counselors' office that will guide you through that process. The traditional method of registration can still be done and those packets are in the counselors' office as well. The benefits of registering online are that your can complete your registration 24/7, you will get your admission ticket sooner and you will have access to the most upto-date list of locations so you can get the best choice of test centers. The cost of writing the ACT is \$30 without the writing test and \$44.50 if you select to do the writing. The deadline for the February 9 assessment is January 4. To register online, go to www.actstudent.org

SAT Registration

The easiest way to register for the SAT is to visit their site at www.collegeboard.com. You will get immediate confirmation of your registration. The cost of the SAT reasoning test is \$43.

Dates to Remember

November 30 – NDSCS college visit in commons area From 11:30 – 12:30.

testGear

WHS has had a site license for testGear purchased by Student Loans of North Dakota. testGear is an online tool that gives students the practice they need to reach their full potential on the college entrance exam ACT. This online learning system adapts to each students needs by targeting their weaknesses and helping them to build necessary skills. Stop by the counselors' office to pick up your instructions on how to use the program. Workshops will be held this fall for students and their parents to attend in order to learn how to best utilize the program.

Knowledge for College

This resource addresses borrowing for college, finding free money for college, learning about the alternative to four-year school and a section just for parents. Check this site out at www.collegeanswer.com/index.jsp

ND Scholars Program

This program recognized outstanding ND high school seniors for scholastic achievement as measured by their ACT scores. Those students who are selected must enroll in a ND college or university and will be awarded an in state tuition scholarship. To be considered, you must be scheduled to graduate from a ND high school in 2009, attend a ND college or university and take the ACT on one of the following test dates:

December 8 February 9 April 12 June 14

For Title IX-JOM Information:

Contact Lora Riveland at 572-5618, Extension 131 Or stop by her office At Williston Middle School, Room 212

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.

Attendance Policy

Please read and familiarize yourselves with the attendance policy that we will be adhering to for the 2007-2008 school year. It can be accessed on the WHS web page or in your student's handbook on pages 5 and 6. Thank you!

Donna Kennedy Attendance Secretary

SPANISH WEBSITE...

A new website is now available for all
Spanish I and II students. It is
http://coyotespanish.pbwiki.com which includes all vocabulary required for tests and quizzes, links to additional studies, learning games, cultural and travel information and several online newspapers in Spanish. The site will be updated periodically throughout the year. Come check it out!

It can also be viewed at

http://www.williston.k12 nd us/whs/index.html

http://www.williston.k12.nd.us/whs/index.html under "Departments", click on "Foreign Language"

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: willistonps
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.

On the Right Foot

Bv Jim Geiermann

There are so many questions out there! The answers lie out there too, but there is some suspicion that the answer might be different for each one of us.

Students are a puzzle. What works for some does not work for all of them! There are times when I think students are a puzzle to themselves

Each of my classes is unique. They are a hodge-podge of people; no Stepford Children here! I inwardly smile every class and shake my head. I may only have 25 students in that class, but the issues that walk in the door are in the hundreds. I see them for 53 minutes a day. I try to get information to them in a variety of ways. I try to make it as fun and tasty as possible. I try to add a bit of comedy to keep things light, but I know that I cannot do that every day.

There is the student who talks too much, and it is not always a girl. There is the kid who is pretty sure he or she is smarter than the teacher, and sometimes they really are! There are the couple of students who are social isolates, who have no friends in the class and never talk to anyone else. There are the students whose parents will call or email a couple times a week just to make sure everything is okay, even though it is already. There are the "flirty" girls and the "macho" men for whom school is mostly about the social aspect; they want to make sure they make a good impression on the others in class, especially the "cool kids." There are the students who need some extra help, who have tutors of various kinds, who may leave class for testing once in a while, who also worry about what the others will think but for different reasons. There is the class clown whose energy either keeps class moving or keeps the class distracted. There are the students for whom school is a "waste of their time." who plan on dropping out of school as soon as they can, but who have no real plan for the future, whose future may be even bleaker than the reality in which they now live. There are the kids who look a little lost. Even when they walk in the hallway, they just seem to be caught up in the flow rather than walking toward a destination. There are the "normal" kids who do their work and don't cause any problems. They might participate in class, or they might not. There are the ones who bounce into class; they like school, they like their teachers, they like themselves.

At the end of the period, I send them on their way and only hope that what I have done with them today, the instructions I have given them for the next day, the knowledge I tried to put into their heads, will stay in their heads long enough to make it home and get carried out. I am pretty sure that, in too many cases, the minute they step off the campus, the high school and everything about it evaporates, so that 23 hours later when I see them, very little of what we did the day before exists in those heads of theirs. That is not true of all, but true of more than I wish it were.

I know it will never be perfect. I take what walks in the door and hope that I can make a change for them. There are days when it is grand; there are days when it is a grind. There are days when the students "get it" and the room is full of shining light bulbs. There are days when I am happy if one or two ideas get sparked in a student's head. There are days when I look down the hallway and see my day reflected in the faces of my colleagues. We all manage to smile, but sometimes the smile is more genuine.

That is the job I signed up for. It is the vocation I love. It is one of the things for which I am most thankful.

FFA News

Four members of the Williston FFA Chapter along with their advisor, Wes Pepple, attendant the 80th National FFA Convention in Indianapolis on October 24-28.

Aaron P., President; Levi K., Vice President; Nathan P., Secretary and Cooper L. participated in sessions, a career show, service learning, tours and other events in Indianapolis.

Williston members traveled with other FFA member from Rugby, Garrison, Drake, Granville, Larimore and Lamoure. Members toured a Caterpillar plant in Peoria, Illinois. While in Indianapolis, members attended convention sessions featuring motivational speaker Rick Rigsby and actor Henry Winkler (the Fonz). They watched FFA members from North Dakota and around the country receive National awards. They listened to National officers retiring addresses and the election of the 2008-09 National officers.

Williston FFA members participated in a Service Learning Project. They helped serve meals and distribute food to some of the poorest of the poor in Indianapolis. This one man has dedicated his life along with volunteers to help those less fortunate then us.

Members also attended the Career Show, where more than 200 colleges and businesses from around the country provide young people with information about the many careers and opportunities available to them.

They also had some time while in Indianapolis to tour the Indianapolis Speedway, where they took a ride around the track and visited the Indy Museum. They also visited the Indianapolis Science Center and IMAX Theater, attended an Extreme Bull Riding Challenge and other local attractions.

The FFA will be delivering their fruit and candy sales the week of December 11. If you haven't been contacted and would like to purchase either, please call any FFA member or Mr. Pepple at 572-0967.

On January 4-6, FFA member will have the opportunity to attend the 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.

MICROSOFT SELECT PROGRAM

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 (professional, standard and enterprise versions) for PC and Mac, One Note, Office Sharepoint Designer, Office Visio, Office Project, and Vista upgrades. Each student can purchase up to one copy/license of each software title.

Example pricing:

Microsoft Vista Business Upgrade: \$69.60(+S&H)

Microsoft Office Professional 2007 Suite: \$71.20(+S&H)

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

Two important notes:

- 1. Vista upgrade must be installed on a machine which already has a qualifying Microsoft operating system and corresponding Certificate of Authenticity (Windows XP, Windows 2000, etc). You cannot buy a "white box" computer without an operating system and install the student select Vista 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).

Julie Palmer Technology Coordinator

Mid-Term & Nine Week Grading Schedule for WHS

Mid-Term – December 3 (Period 4)
Second Nine Weeks – January 14 (Period 4)
Mid-Term – February 12 (Period 4)
Third Nine Weeks – March 17 (Period 4)
Mid-Term – April 23 (Period 4)
Fourth Nine Weeks – May 23 (Mailed)

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.

Annual order
Forms For
2007-08
ARE IN THE OFFICE.
Cost is \$40.
After the first of
the year, cost
will be \$45.

WHS STUDENT ART EXHIBIT

By: Anna Hoffman

The First Semester Student Art Exhibit will be held January 4, 5, and 6 in the WHS Commons. All art students will be entering at least one piece of their artwork in areas of Ceramics, Sculpture, Crafts, Drawing and Painting.

The exhibit will be open Friday for the school day for the students to view, and Saturday and Sunday from 1-5 PM for the public. Refreshments will be served on Saturday and Sunday. We encourage all parents, grandparents and community members to come see what the Art Department has been up to!

SADD News

Susan Forthun, Advisor

With membership continuing to go up, SADD had a busy month with activities for Red Ribbon Week and the Great American Smokeout. The focus for Williston High School SADD is on being positive role models for younger students. With that in mind, the major activities this month for WHS SADD were with middle school students.

On October 24, over 100 students were part of the Red Ribbon Regional Middle School Workshop "Empowered, Energized, and Keeping it Real," hosted by WHS SADD at the National Guard armory. The afternoon was packed with music, skits, games, guest speakers, and serious discussions on how to "Keep it real." Each year, both high school and middle school students come away from the workshop empowered and energized! November 15 was the Great American Smoke Out. During that day, WHS SADD students visited the health classes at the middle school and emphasized the hazards of smoking using hands-on activities.

Students can continue to join SADD through out the year. Encourage your student to attend a meeting Tuesdays during the noon hour! SADD ROCKS!

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

We are currently preparing for our trip to Bismarck for the NDASC Student Council State Convention. Unfortunately, this year we do not have anyone running for Class A Representative. We are leaving for convention on December 9 and it will go through December 11. There will be many motivational speakers presenting at the conference and as the school's representatives, we hope to bring back many ideas to help improve our school.

<u>Christmas Kindness</u> is coming up and Student Council does this project every year. We use the earnings from the food and donations toward our "adopted families" that could use the money for food or high medical bills. This year some of our funds will go to Joel K. for his family and medical bills.

We will be selling Oreo cookies, Puppy chow, and Monster cookies. November 26 – 30 will be Oreo cookies, December 3 – 7 will be Puppy Chow, and December 10 – 14 are the Monster Cookies. Of course, if any business or parent would like to purchase any of these products and help donate to our Christmas Kindness project, they may contact Ms. Karla Olson at 572-0967. These treats make great gifts for people around the work office or great Christmas treats.

Of course it would not be Christmas without the WHS Annual Christmas Assembly. This is when we have our Senior Guy dancers, the school's Christmas letters read out loud by Santa, music and I wonder what teachers are going to get on stage this year. If you would like a chance for your letter to be read out loud to the school, submit your Christmas letter to Mr. Geiermann.

Student Council also supports our troops. We will be gathering personal items, (no food please) for the troops. If anyone would like to donate personal items for the troops, please call Ms. Karla Olson at 572-0967

Student Council Secretary, Ryan M.

Healthy Williston...Healthy Youth and the 40 Assets Kids Need to Succeed

By: Kathy Bingeman

We talk about assets and that our youth need these assets to enable them to grow up "healthy". But what does this mean in everyday language? Assets can be identified as crucial relationships, experiences, opportunities, and personal qualities children and adolescents need to grow up as healthy, caring, and responsible adults. The more assets youth experience, the more likely they are to make positive choices and avoid highrisk behaviors. Building assets does not require special training...it's the simple things we can do everyday that make a difference.

The 40 assets are broken into 8 groups. The first group is SUPPORT. SUPPORT is an external asset group that includes individual assets of:

- family support,
- positive family communication,
- other adult relationships,
- caring neighborhood,
- caring school climate,
- parent involvement in schooling.

Youth need our support, and all we have to do is listen to what they are asking for:

- Please know my name.
- Please smile at me and say hello.
- Please encourage me.
- Please believe in me--and never give up on me!

Are you already doing these things? If you are, great...if not, well, you can start today. For more information on the 40 assets and Healthy Williston...Healthy Youth, see the website at www.healthywilliston.com or call me at 774-7417. Next month, look forward to our discussion about another group of assets called EMPOWERMENT, the second in our grouping of assets.

Children are watching you......

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you hang my first painting on the refrigerator, and I immediately wanted to paint another one.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you feed a stray cat, and I learned that it was good to be kind to animals.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make my favorite cake for me and I learned that the little things can be the special things in life.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make a meal and take it to a friend who was sick, and I learned that we all have to help take care of each other.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you give of your time and money to help people who had nothing, and I learned that those who have something should give to those who don't.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you take care of our house and everyone in it and I learned we have to take care of what we are given.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw how you handled your responsibilities, even when you didn't feel good and I learned that I would have to be responsible when I grow up.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw tears come from your eyes and I learned that sometimes things hurt, but it's all right to cry.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw that you cared and I wanted to be everything that I could be.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I learned most of life's lessons, and that I need to know to be a good and productive person when I grow up.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I looked at you and wanted to say, "Thanks for all the things I saw when you thought I wasn't looking."

Author Unknown

Upper Missouri District Health Unit

"Your Public Health Professionals"

Attention parents: Are your child's immunizations up to date? Not sure?

There's an easy way to find out. Call the Upper Missouri District Health Unit to find out what your child needs. Because changes are on the way for North Dakota's State Immunization Program, UMDHU wants to make sure all school-age children have updated vaccinations before those changes take place. As of January 1, 2008, the state will not be providing universal coverage for all ND children. Instead of universal coverage, a new immunization program called Provider's Choice will be implemented.

To make it more convenient to get those needed immunizations, UMDHU in Williston has scheduled weekly walk-in immunization clinics for school-age children from now through the end of the year, or until vaccine supplied by the ND Department of Health is depleted.

UMDHUs walk-in clinics will be offering

- Meningococcal (Menactra) and Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis) to all children 11-18 years old, especially high school seniors planning to attend college.
- Chickenpox vaccine (Varivax) will be available for children 5 18 years old that have not had chickenpox disease. If a child has received only one shot of Varivax, this is the time to receive the recommended second dose.

UMDHU asks for a suggested donation of \$8 per injection. The ND legislature has allocated money to the State Immunization Program to keep our communities healthy with this expensive vaccine for this limited time.*

UMDHUs walk-in immunization clinics for 5-18 year olds who need the above mentioned shots will be held:

- Thursday, November 29, 2:30 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday, December 6, 2:30 5:00 p.m.
- Thursday, December 13, 2:30 5:00 p.m.
- Thursday, December 20, 2:30 5:00 p.m.
- Thursday, December 27, 2:30 6:00 p.m.

UMDHU is located at 110 W Broadway. Call 774-6400 for more information. Also, the ND Department of Health is offering information through its website at www.ndhealth.gov click on Childhood Vaccination Program Changes.

*If parents choose to have their children immunized through a family physician, they should be aware that these changes will affect private providers as well, and have their immunizations taken care of before the end of the year.

Music News

The following students were selected by audition to participate in the Northwest International Festival of Music held on the campus of Minot State University November 2 and 3.

Band
Allison B.
Keely F.
Chelsey G.
Nylo H.
Sarah L.
Jacob M.
Stuart N.
Lydia S.
Kilee S.
Andrea T.
Ella V.
Stephanie W.
Angela G. (Alternate)

Choir
Charlotte B.
Elizabeth S.
Rachel L.

Brianna M. Cherisse P.

> Matt N. Ella V.

The following students have been selected by audition to participate in the UND Honor Band and Choir to be held on the campus of UND in Grand Forks on January 18 through the 20.

Band

Sarah L.

Allison B.

Keely F.

Chelsey G.

Kilee S.

Stephanie W.

Jacob M.

Stuart N.

Mark A.

Bill R.

Nvlo H.

Amber H.

Vance N. (Alternate)

Choir Cherisse P. Jay B.

> Herb Parker Choir Director