

The Kougar Column

Kadoka Area Students

Hello Kougar Family
Thanksgiving is here! Festive 'seasons of giving' are entirely in the process. As a community, we often give thanks for many things: homes, our jobs, our family, even our society. Today though, I write to thank the teachers and coaches who give their time each day to make a difference for our schools. We have made some changes in our school to address our students having some troubles getting work completed for their classes. Our middle school team has been putting extra hours and time into allowing students to get the assignments they have not turned in done before the end of the semester in December. Students with missing work have 20 minutes of dedicated time to work on projects over recess; once their assignments are in, they can go back to recess.

Further, students with over twenty missing assignments are given a chance to get their work

done in the 6th and 7th hours each day. Once they have less than 20 assignments to get done, they can head back to their regular last block classes. I have been so impressed by our middle school teacher's dedication to helping students and giving prep and lunchtime willingly to allow more students to succeed each day.

On the high school side, we have started to put zeros in the electronic grade book for missing work to inform students of their 'true' grades. Why? We want all students to be able to prevent a fall in the last few weeks of school. By placing zeros for missing work, students can see where they are in the weeks leading up to the end of the semester (December 17th, 2021) and meet with their teachers to get their grades moving in the right direction. Again, I am so impressed and want to thank the teachers for their willingness to give up time and work hard to help our students get their assign-

ments done to retain the knowledge needed to succeed in our world. They are indeed a great asset I cannot thank enough.

Why thank these individuals? Last week I wrote about the importance of community support in schools and how little can get done without parental and community consent. Who supports the community's effort? When a student attends, who makes it their mission to allow the student or student-athletes to grow and improve? Who focuses their effort on educating the whole child, mentally, physically, and fulfilling their duties to reach their highest potential as a team or student? We look no further than our staff at Kadoka Area and its outlying schools.

What are the fruits of these labors? Research shows that students who have a higher GPA do have a higher occurrence of entering the workforce. Students who graduate with a strong back-

ground in various areas (Agriculture, Music, Athletics, etc.) show higher success outside of high school. Do these successes take place without our educators and coaches investing in them as students? I don't think they do. People invest in students, including the previously talked about community members, but the teachers that spark the kindle success in a student's life.

We celebrate this holiday and the fruits of our success as a nation. The first Thanksgiving was between the Native Americans and the Pilgrims so many years ago, and now, today, we celebrate the investment of our teachers and coaches into their descendants that inhabit our country right now, right here in the same world we live. Thank you, teachers and coaches. Enjoy some turkey and vacation for your efforts!

Robert Lukens
MS/HS Principal
Kadoka Area High School

Kougar Senior Spotlight

Rebecca Shuck

This is your last year of high school what are you going to miss about life at KAHS?

- Probably all the younger classmen.

Name someone who has helped you through school that you look up to? Why?

- Mrs. Hermann, because she made learning fun.

What is the most creative excuse you've ever used to get out of a homework assignment?

- How about we don't do it.

What are your plans for your future?

- Attending Western Dakota Tech to become a Surgical Technician.

What advice do you have for incoming freshman?

- Don't test Mrs. Magelky you'll regret it.

What is one memory you will remember forever about your time at KAHS?

- Probably all the times I scared Mrs. Hermann.



2021 Fall Activities Awards Banquet

Football Awards

Most Improved – Jonathon MacFeat
Rookie of the Year – Garrett Hermann
Rookie of the Year – Gus Stout
Big Man of the Year – Ian VanderMay
Most Valuable Player – Reece Ohrtman
Most Valuable Player – Tyus Williams

Volleyball Awards

Best serving percentage: Gracie Eisenbraun
The Ace Award: Jordan Grimes
Practice Player: Tia Has No Horse
Most Improved: Makaylan Bonenberger
Backrow MVP: Shaylee Porch
Net MVP: Becca Shuck

Cross Country Awards

Most Valuable Runner- Hudson Taylor
Perseverance Award- Farynn Knutson

FB Cheerleading Awards

Most Improved - Rebecca Shuck
Cheer Technique - Madison Brown
Sportsmanship - Madison Stilwell
Dedication Award for 4 years of cheerleading - Alexis Hamar

All-State Chorus

The 2021 Kadoka Area High School All-State Chorus members were...

Soprano – Felicity Keegan with Andi Stone and Jordan Grimes as alternate
Alto – Rebecca Shuck with Madison Brown as alternate
Tenor – Ryan Shuck with Madison Brown as alternate
Bass – Tyrel Mansfield
This year was especially excit-

ing, not only because we got to have the event, but that Rebecca was honored the 4-year award for her years in the All-State Chorus event

South Dakota Music Education Association School Participation Award

In this school year we had in total we have over 76% of our high school students involved in the music department at Kadoka Area High School and the for the 7th year in a row Kadoka Area High School Music Department received the South Dakota Music Education High School Participation Award for the percentage of students involved in musical activities and the quality of performance that we provide for the students in this area. Kadoka Area High School is one of six that are currently being honored in the state for this great achievement.

Region VII Honors Band

Shalee Porch
Jazmine McDonald
Dalton Grimes
Kaylee Kusick
Jordan Grimes
Lincoln Koehn
Tia Has No Horse
Tyrel Mansfield
Jared Nemecek

Region VII Honors Band and Northern Hills Honors Band

Alyana Jannsen
Emery Kukal
Landyn Koehn
Karlee Block

Region VII Honors Band, Northern Hills Honors Band, and Augustana University Honors Band

Farynn Knutson
Rebecca Shuck
Madison Brown
Ryan Shuck
Emily Zickrick

Haakon Jackson 4-H members complete ETHICS SD program

The four-week ETHICS SD trapping class concluded on November 12th at the Philip Legion Hall. The comprehensive furbearer education program that was a partnership with SDSU Extension, SD Game Fish and Parks, SD Fur Trappers Association and through generous contributions to our local program from the West River Pheasants Forever and SD Youth Hunting Adventures.

20 young people learned about each aspect of the ETHICS acronym- ecology, trapping, history, identification, conservation and stewardship during the class lead by Game Fish and Parks Wildlife Damage Management Specialist, Collin Rhine. He taught the students how to properly set traps to catch the target species, prepare and maintain traps, then once furs are harvested, how to skin, flesh and prepare fur for fur buyers.

Each of the youth involved in the program received a trapping bag, various foothold and dog-proof traps, along with assorted other equipment to put their new skills to practice. They will be



Courtesy Photo

Collin Rhine, SD Game Fish and Parks Wildlife Damage Management Specialist, teaches youth how to properly process fur from animals trapped.

able to use the equipment through the winter trapping season and will then return them to the 4-H office in the spring. We look forward to offering the pro-

gram again in the fall of 2022. If you are interested in this program or other 4-H programs, please contact the Haakon Jackson 4-H Office at 859-2840.

How to help students improve their focus on their studies

Teachers strive to create supportive and challenging classroom environments for their students. Such settings can bring out the best in students and help them overcome obstacles, including an inability to focus.

The struggles students can have with focusing on their studies was apparent during the pandemic. A 2020 survey of more than 400 college students found that 64 percent were concerned about their ability to maintain their focus and discipline in remote instructional environments. Though educators, students and parents are hopeful that remote learning will soon be a thing of the past, no one is certain about what lies ahead in regard to the 2021-22 school year. Ideally, students will be back in school time full-time five days per week by the start of the new academic year. However, there's no guarantee that will be the case, and students may need help focusing on their studies.

Emphasize one activity at a time. Various studies have shown that multitasking adversely affects performance and makes it hard to concentrate. A recent study from researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology found that performing two or three activities

simultaneously puts significantly more demand on the brain than simply doing those tasks one after another. All students, and especially those who are struggling with focus, should be encouraged to take on one task at a time.

Take breaks. The Cleveland Clinic notes that various studies have found that periodic breaks improve mood, boost performance and increase a person's ability to concentrate and pay attention. Many students are well acquainted with lengthy cramming sessions on the eve of a big exam, which can feel like a rite of passage for high

schoolers and college students. Parents and educators can emphasize the importance of taking breaks during such sessions and how periodic rest can help improve performance.

Take a piecemeal approach to big tasks. The Child Mind Institute notes that breaking big tasks down into smaller, more manageable pieces can help kids effectively tackle more challenging tasks.

Many students struggle to focus on their studies. Some simple strategies can help students overcome such challenges and fulfill their academic potential.

BADLANDS DISTILLERY OPEN HOUSE

December 3rd, 2021

Come and Celebrate with us!!

Open all day starting at 9:00 am stop in and sign up for raffle prizes!

4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Cocktails, Food and Live Music

Did you know? Music Courses Information

Music courses can have a profound impact on students, potentially helping them perform better in other subjects. A recent study from the American Psychological Association found that high school students who take music courses score significantly better on exams in subjects like math and science than their nonmusical peers. The im-

proved academic performance was more pronounced among students who learned to play an instrument rather than vocal music. The researchers behind the study examined the records of more than 112,000 students in British Columbia. Among the students whose records were studied, 13 percent had participated in at least one music

course in grade 10, 11 or 12. Researchers discovered that, on average, children who learned to play a musical instrument for many years and ultimately played in a high school band or orchestra were the equivalent of roughly one academic year ahead of their peers in regard to their English, mathematics and science skills.



PHILIP HEALTH SERVICES

Hometown Healthcare News

Happy Thanksgiving from all of us at Philip Health Services!

(605) 859-2511
philiphealthservices.com

Dr. Kerry Blackham
Dr. David Holman
Dr. Coen Klopfer
Terry Henrie, PA-C
Audrey Smeenk, PA-C
Diane Weber, PA-C

Philip Clinic
(605) 859-2566
503 West Pine St.
PO Box 790
Philip, SD 57567

Monday-Friday 8am-noon, and 12:45pm-5pm
Saturday 8am-noon

Kadoka Clinic & Lab
(605) 837-2257
601 Chestnut St.
Kadoka, SD 57543

Monday 8am-noon,
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8am-5pm
Wednesday CLOSED

Hans P Peterson Memorial Hospital

Scotchman Living Center & The Paulson Family Memory Care

Silverleaf Assisted Living Home

Physical Therapy

Home Health

Philip Health Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider.

Information about our Financial Assistance Program is on our website, or call (605) 859-2511

PHILIP CLINIC HOURS

Wednesday 24th: 8am—Noon
Thursday 25th: CLOSED
Friday 26th: 8am—5pm
Saturday 27th: 8am—Noon

KADOKA CLINIC HOURS

Wednesday 24th: CLOSED
Thursday 25th: CLOSED
Friday 26th: 8am—5pm



VACCINE UPDATE

Looking to receive your Covid-19 booster AND/OR your flu vaccines? Call the Philip Clinic!

COVID-19 BOOSTER AVAILABLE: Tuesdays*

FLU VACCINE AVAILABLE: Monday - Friday*

*Appointment Required, No Walk In's

(605) 859-2566



PHILIP HEALTH SERVICES

(605)859-2511
philiphealthservices.com

For updates and more information on COVID-19 visit doh.sd.gov/news/Coronavirus.aspx, cdc.gov, or philiphealthservices.com/covid-19

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