

LONGHORN STAMPEDE

December 2023



Nice
list
Dorchester
Longhorns



402 946-2781
JEN (elf)

Dorchester Public School
506 W. 9th
Dorchester NE 68343
fax 402 946-6271
dorchesterschool.org



JESSICA (elf)

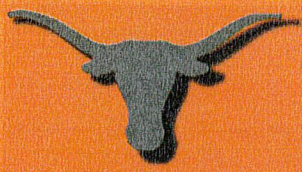
Cogswell's Comments
(December)

This past month I got the opportunity to watch our students excel in the Fine Arts. The All-State Choir Concert at the LIED Center featuring our own Ashton Jirsa was an event that I wish everyone could have enjoyed. The Dorchester One-Act did a wonderful job of representing us at the CRC Conference competition as well as at the District Meet at Pawnee City. We will showcase our K-12 music students at our Christmas Concerts on December 4th and December 11th. It is great to see so many talented Fine Arts students in our school. I appreciate the efforts of Mrs. Hrdlicka and Mr. Jirsa as they work with these talented young people.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank our PTO for their "Giving Tree" project which helps provide additional supply items for our classroom teachers. Your efforts are greatly appreciated by all the staff. I would also like to thank all of our volunteers who give of their time to help us run extra-curricular activities. As I watched our Junior High Wrestling Tournament that we hosted – I realized that we could not have done it without our volunteers. Thank you for making sure we can offer these events for our students.

The school would like to thank the family of Bill August for their generous donations given in Bill's memory. Bill served on the School Board for a number of years while his wife Susan was a member of the staff. This speaks highly of what the school meant to the August Family. Thank you also to the Dorchester Insurance Agency for their donation. I can't tell you how great it is to have the support of our local businesses. We will make sure to use both donations to positively impact our students.

It really is the "Most Wonderful Time of the Year" as the holiday song made famous by Andy Williams states. It is also the busiest time of the year. Looking at the school calendar just affirms how busy our students are with activities at this time. As I shared with our staff, the time between Thanksgiving Break and our Holiday Break is so busy we sometimes don't take time to enjoy the moment. Let me encourage you to find time to enjoy these moments with family and friends. Find time during the Holidays to spend some quality time with those special people in your lives. I want to thank everyone for making me feel welcomed during my first semester at Dorchester Public School. Dorchester should be very proud of their school and community. My best to you and your family for a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.



Wiese's Pieces



December 1, 2023

Can you believe we are almost at the end of the first semester? Where does the time go? With the change in semester, weather, and seasons upon us, here are a few reminders and things to keep in mind this month!

Winter MAP Testing – K-6 students will be MAP testing the week of December 4th. MAP stands for “Measures of Academic Progress”. The data from MAP testing is used to adjust instruction, WIN groups, and other services, so it’s important that students try their best and therefore give us accurate data to work with. A good night’s rest and a good breakfast are important prior to MAP testing!

Home Games and Events – A reminder as we start the Winter sports season that students should not be wandering unattended in the building during home events. Students should be sitting in the gym enjoying the game and supporting our teams! Younger students should be seated with their parents. We appreciate your attention to this matter- it means that staff can enjoy the game as well and not have to “police” the back gym, band hallway, and other parts of the building.

Dress for the Weather! – Please make sure your student is dressed appropriately for the weather each day. This includes a winter coat if it is cold outside. PK-6 students will have outdoor recess unless it is dangerously cold. Please don’t let students of any age wear shorts to school when it is cold outside. If there would be a need to evacuate the building in extreme cold, shorts would not be enough to protect a student from the elements. We are blessed to have many people in our community willing to provide for those in need! If you are in need of a coat for your student, please contact the school.

School Closing Information – As the season changes, it won’t be long now before the snow starts to fly! Should we have to cancel school due to inclement weather, we will post on our school social media pages (Facebook and Twitter) and also notify local media outlets KOLN/KGIN 10-11 and KLKN. We will also send out school closings via our “all call” system. If you’ve received our “all call” messages in the past, there is no need to update your information, but if you’ve recently changed phone numbers, please call the school and we’ll make sure you’re in the system.

Grades – last but not least, there are about 3 weeks left in the first semester. Our teachers will do their best to reach out to parents if students are near failing or failing, but please check PowerSchool regularly and contact teachers if you have concerns about your child’s grades. Someone in the front office can assist you if you need your PowerSchool log-in or password, or if you need your password reset.

Jake Wiese
PK-12 Principal

Important Dates / Reminders

December 4: Elementary Christmas Concert – 7:00 p.m.

December 18: High School Christmas Concert – 7:00 p.m.

December 21: End of Semester 1 – 2:00 Dismissal

December 22 – January 3: NO SCHOOL – Winter Break

January 4: Classes Resume



A.D. NEWS

Brent Zoubek

CONGRATULATIONS

DISTRICT FOOTBALL!!

Congratulations to the following football players who earned District Recognition:

First Team Punter – Chase Tachovsky
Second Team Offensive End – Chase Tachovsky
Second Team Defensive Back – Marcos Gonzalez
Second Team Kicker - Marcos Gonzalez
Honorable Mention Offensive End – Andy Drake
Honorable Mention Defensive Back – Owen Real

We congratulate them for their efforts. We are extremely proud of them and thank them for representing Dorchester Public School in a positive manner.

CONGRATULATIONS

CONFERENCE VOLLEYBALL!!

Congratulations to the following for earning Conference Recognition in volleyball!

1st Team All Conference – Hailey Schweitzer
1st Team All Conference – Bailey Theis
Honorable Mention All Conference – Baylor Behrens

We congratulate them for their efforts. We are extremely proud of them and thank them for representing Dorchester Public School in a positive manner.

THANK YOU

I would like to sincerely say "Thank you" to several individuals who helped during the recent junior high wrestling tournament held at Dorchester. First of all, thanks to Coach Nelson and Coach Schoepf and the entire wrestling team for their help in setting up for the tournament. I would like to express my extreme gratitude to Coach Nelson for helping organize TrackWrestling. His expertise and efforts allowed us to make things run as smoothly as possible. Thanks to Marvin Kohout, Steve Vyhnalek, Danielle Duba, and the wrestling teams for working the tables. Thanks to all the kids who helped out by towel tapping. Special thanks to Mrs. Bird and everyone for helping to clean up afterwards. And of course, thanks to Mrs. Severance, Mr. Klooz, and ALL the Jr. High students who helped make the tournament a success. I appreciated everyone's contributions and patience. Thanks again!

REMINDER

I want to remind everyone that the Dorchester Booster Club is hosting a Junior High Boys and Girls Basketball Tournament on Saturday, December 2nd. Please come out and support the junior high teams. Also please note that we may or may not be playing some girls and boys junior varsity basketball games on the same nights as our varsity games. It will depend on the number of players we have. Dates and times will vary. If you have questions you can call the school.

Word Games Strengthen Writing Skills

If your child has trouble forming and punctuating sentences, encourage practice by turning writing into a game.

Here are two games to play to exercise writing skills:

1. **Fill-in-the-Blanks.** Review the different parts of speech and write a story with missing words. For example: “The girl stepped on a ___ (noun).” Take turns filling in the blanks. You can help by saying things like, “A noun is a person, place or thing. I’ll choose the word pie!” Make the words as silly as you’d like. Then read the story aloud.
2. **Punctuation Point.** Write a short story without punctuation. Then read it together. It’s challenging! This illustrates how important punctuation is for writing to be clear.

Now edit the story, adding punctuation that makes it easy (or funny) to read. Suggest that your child write a story for you to punctuate. Discuss why you chose—or didn't choose—certain punctuation marks.

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Talk to Your Child About Showing Respect for Teachers, Classmates

Respectful behavior is vital for education. When students show respect for teachers and classmates, they help create the positive academic environment all children need to be successful learners.

Encourage your child to:

- Address the teacher by name. Simply saying “Good morning, Mrs. Jones” is an easy way to show respect.
- Be courteous. Your child should say please and thank you to the teacher and classmates.
- Raise a hand. When students avoid interrupting and wait to be called on, they demonstrate respect for others.
- Do what’s expected. Everyone in the class has a job to do. If the teacher doesn’t plan any lessons, no one can learn anything. If students don’t do their jobs—completing assignments, listening to others—it makes it more difficult to learn.
- Listen to the teacher’s comments. Teachers want students to learn and improve. That means they have to point out mistakes. Students do much better in school when they can recognize and accept constructive feedback.

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Los juegos de palabras fortalecen la escritura

Si su hijo tiene dificultades para formar o puntuar oraciones, anímelo a practicar convirtiendo la escritura en un juego.

Estos son dos juegos a los que podrían jugar para poner en práctica las habilidades de escritura:

1. Completar los espacios en blanco. Repasen diferentes categorías gramaticales y escriban un cuento con las palabras faltantes. Por ejemplo: “La niña pisó un ___ (sustantivo)”. Túrnense para completar los espacios en blanco. Puede ayudar a su hijo diciendo cosas como “Un sustantivo es una persona, un lugar o una cosa. ¡Escojo la palabra pastel!” Elija palabras tan alocadas como lo desee. Luego, lea el cuento en voz alta.
2. Signo de puntuación. Escriban un cuento sin puntuación. Luego, léanlo juntos. ¡Es difícil! Esto ilustra lo importante que es la puntuación para que la escritura sea clara.
Ahora, editen el cuento y agreguen la puntuación de manera que sea fácil (o divertido) de leer. Sugíérale a su hijo que escriba un cuento para que usted le coloque la puntuación. Comenten por qué escogió —o no escogió— ciertos signos de puntuación.

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Hable con su hijo sobre el respeto a sus maestros y compañeros

El respeto es esencial para la educación. Cuando los estudiantes muestran respeto por sus maestros y compañeros, pueden construir el ambiente académico positivo que necesitan todos los niños para aprender con éxito.

Anime a su hijo a:

- Llamar a su maestro por su nombre. Simplemente decir “Buen día, Sra. Jones” es una manera fácil de mostrar respeto.
- Ser cortés. Su hijo debería decirles por favor y gracias al maestro y a sus compañeros.
- Levantar la mano. Cuando los estudiantes evitan interrumpir y esperan a que los llamen, demuestran respeto por los demás.
- Hacer lo que se espera de él. Todos los miembros de la clase tienen una tarea que hacer. Si el maestro no planifica las lecciones, nadie puede aprender nada. Si los estudiantes no hacen su trabajo —hacer trabajos, escuchar a los demás—, es más difícil que aprendan.
- Escuchar los comentarios del maestro. Los maestros quieren que los estudiantes aprendan y mejoren. Eso significa que tienen que señalarles sus errores. A los estudiantes les irá mucho mejor en la escuela si pueden reconocer y aceptar los comentarios constructivos.

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Congratulations to the 2023-2024 junior high play cast and crew of "The Curse of Wolvemed" written by Judy Wickland and produced through special arrangements with Pioneer Drama Service! You did an awesome job and provided a great evening of entertainment for the audience.

Counselor's Corner
Mrs. Choyeski
December 2023

Congratulations to Hailey Schweitzer! Hailey has been named a finalist for Believers & Achievers through the Nebraska Schools Activity Association (NSAA). Believers & Achievers is a state-wide program designed to give recognition to Nebraska's future leaders. Every high school in the state of Nebraska has the opportunity to nominate up to four seniors for this recognition. Of all the state-wide nominations, 48 students are chosen as finalists. Hailey will be recognized at the Girls State Basketball Tournament on Saturday, March 2nd at halftime of the 1:00 Class B Championship game. 8 of the 48 finalists will receive a \$500 scholarship from Currency to use at a college or university of their choice.

High School:

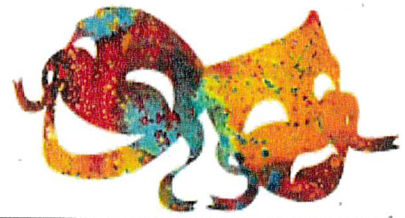
Students who want to change their schedule for second semester must talk to Mrs. Choyeski by Friday, December 8. Drop/Add forms must be turned in ***on or before December 19 by 3:30 p.m.*** To allow for time to process all schedule changes before break, ***forms will not be accepted after this deadline.***

Senior parents – The FAFSA will open by the end of December for students who plan to attend college during the 2024-25 school year. The FAFSA is used to award scholarships, grants, and student loans. A representative from EducationQuest came to speak with parents and students on Thursday, October 12 about the FAFSA. If you were not able to attend, but would like information please let me know.

Just a reminder, make sure create your FSA ID (parents and student) so you are prepared once the application opens. You will need to allow several days for the verification process once the ID is created. Also, review the FAFSA Checklist to make sure all your materials are collected before filing the FAFSA. This information was available in a packet which was handed out by the FAFSA representative on October 12. This information has also been emailed to senior parents. If you are needing this information, please contact Mrs. Choyeski.

Senior parents – A representative from EducationQuest will return to DPS on Thursday, February 8 for FAFSA Completion Day. The purpose of this day is to help parents and students with the FAFSA application. Individual times will be available for parents and students to meet with the representative for assistance. More information will be available after the holiday break.

ONE ACT



The Dorchester One-Act team performed for the home crowd on Sunday, November 19. Even with the change to Sunday we had a nice crowd of about fifty people as well as some yummy desserts provided by our kitchen staff. The play was well received and it was a good experience for our actors.

The next step is District Play Production at Pawnee City on November 28.

--Mrs. Hdlicka & Mr. Jirsa



SPEECH

The Speech team is gearing up and prepping for our season, which starts the end of January. After the holiday break we will use a couple Saturdays as work days to polish the presentations.

--Mrs. Hrdlicka

ART --by Mrs. Lutjemeyer

Elementary students were all able to create a clay art project and have been working very hard getting some winter projects done before their concert for you all to see! Art I students are working on texture drawings and a clay texture plaque. Art II students are currently working on Egyptian art making hieroglyphics and canopic jars. Art III and Ind. Art students are working on a variety of projects canvas paintings, scratch arts, drawings, clay, and seniors on ceiling tiles. In November, the 3rd graders made turkeys for the Legion Auxiliary cookie plates. Gabby Theis was entered for a Juniors only Young Artist Day at UNL. Several art and shop students helped to make our conference banner board to hang in the gym.

STU CO

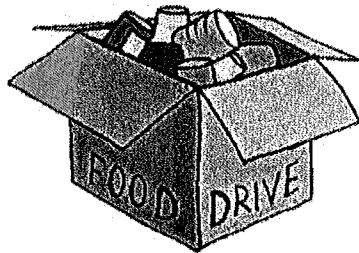
Some members, along with some FBLA members, helped to do a trash pickup. The 2nd qtr. Elementary Excellence Rally will be Dec. 21st right away in the morning. Student Council will help plan some 7-12 fun activities for students to participate in the last part of the day on Dec. 21st.

Second Grade Food Drive

The second graders will be collecting food for the local Food Pantry. Please bring a nonperishable food item to the office between December 4-15.

Also drop off items during the Christmas Concerts.



Thank you for helping others!





December Lunch



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>Subject to change due to supplying issues</u> 	<i>This institution is an equal opportunity provider</i> 			1 Cheese bread pizza Salad Fruit Milk
4 Crisпитos Fruit Black Beans Rice Milk	5 Hot Ham and Cheese sandwich Fruit Veggie SunChips Milk	6 Chicken Alfredo Fruit Veggie Garlic Bread Milk	7 Pulled Pork Sandwich Baked Beans Fruit Potato Wedges Milk	8 Pizza quesadilla Fruit Veggie Ice Cream cup Milk
11 Chicken nugget Fruit Veggie Potato wedges Milk	12 Salisbury steak Mashed Potatoes Fruit Dinner roll Milk	13 BBQ Grilled Chicken Sandwich Fruit Veggie SunChips Milk	14 Chili Fruit Crackers Cinnamon Roll Milk	15 Pizza Crunchers Sorbet cup Veggie Garlic Bread Milk
18 Chicken Drumstick Fruit Veggie Tri-tater Milk	19 Ham Cheese potatoes Corn Bread Fruit Cookie Milk	20 Italian Dunker Fruit Veggie Milk	21 Sub sandwich/ uncrustable Fruit Veggie Baked Chips Milk	22 NO SCHOOL
25 NO SCHOOL	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL	28 NO SCHOOL	29 NO SCHOOL

K-3 Options

Hot meal of the day

Sub Sandwich

Uncrustable

4-6 Options

Hot meal of the day

Cold/Hot Bar

7-12 Options

Hot meal of the day

Cold/Hot Bar

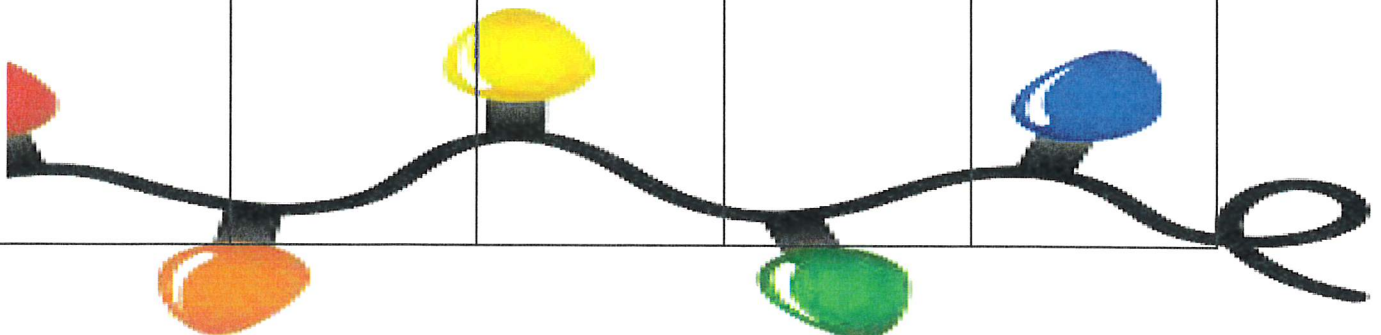




December Breakfast



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><u>Subject to change due to supply issues</u></p>	<p><i>This institution is an equal opportunity provider</i></p>	<p><i>Everyday there will also be a choice for cold breakfast (all are whole grain): Dry Cereal, Poptart, and Granola Bar.</i></p>		<p>1 Oatmeal Bar Fruit Milk</p>
<p>4 Combo Bar Fruit Milk</p>	<p>5 French Toast Sticks Fruit Milk</p>	<p>6 Donut Fruit Milk</p>	<p>7 Biscuits and Gravy Fruit Milk</p>	<p>8 Breakfast Sandwich Fruit Milk</p>
<p>11 Combo Bar Fruit Milk</p>	<p>12 Breakfast Pizza Fruit Milk</p>	<p>13 Pancakes Fruit Milk</p>	<p>14 Biscuits and Gravy Fruit Milk</p>	<p>15 Cinnamon Roll Fruit Milk</p>
<p>18 Combo Bar Fruit Milk</p>	<p>19 Pancakes Fruit Milk</p>	<p>20 Oatmeal Bar Fruit Milk</p>	<p>21 Biscuits and Gravy Fruit Milk</p>	<p>22 NO SCHOOL</p>
<p>25 NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>26 NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>27 NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>28 NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>29 NO SCHOOL</p>





Morning with Santa

S A T U R D A Y

DECEMBER 9

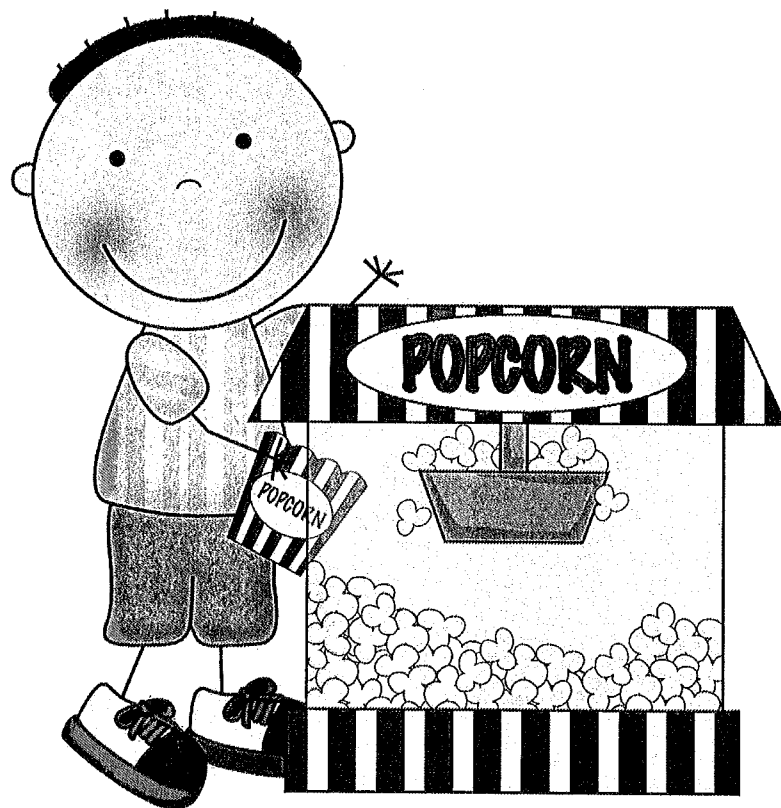
8-11 am: Breakfast provided by the
Dorchester Community Foundation -
free will donation (open to the public)

8:30-10:30 am: Come see Santa -
crafts & activities for kids sponsored
by Dorchester PTO & FBLA



DORCHESTER LEGION &
COMMUNITY BUILDING

Popcorn Day



Preschool: Thursday, December 14th

K-6th grade: Friday, December 15th

.50 cents a bag