



# Wise Owl

Dell Rapids Public Schools

Dell Rapids, South Dakota

2nd Quarter 2022-23

## Winter Weather

Winter coats are back out, so it's time to refresh families about our protocols for inclement weather closings. Academic needs are best met when attending school; however, student safety is always a priority when winter makes travel dangerous. Please keep the following information in mind as we move into the winter months.

### Notification

DRPS will continue using the Brightarrow notification system, and registered parents will receive notifications via email, text, or phone. Local TV stations will also provide closing details. It's important to know that Brightarrow syncs with Infinite Campus nightly; therefore if your contact information in Infinite Campus isn't accurate, your Brightarrow contact information won't be either. If you need to update your contact information, please get in touch with the secretary at your child's school.

### Timing

Our goal is to have the decision by 6:15 a.m. or earlier. If cancellation occurs during school hours, we will always try to provide an hour's notice before excusing students.

### Delayed Opening

DRPS will utilize a 2-hour late start for the following reasons:

- allow time for roads to be cleared.
- provide time to observe changing weather conditions.

Keep in mind; I must consider the entire district, and conditions can vary between boundaries. I urge parents to have a backup plan should school eventually be called off for the whole day. A delayed opening will often turn into a school closing, but we need the time to determine what to do. I aim to have updated closings announced by 8:00 a.m.

### Additional Information

- Haven will be closed when school is not in session.
- AM Preschool is canceled if a delayed opening is announced.
- Breakfast is not served when school is delayed.
- Activities are canceled the entire day when school is not in session. This includes all practices and open gyms, even if the team is not school-sponsored or the sun comes out.
- DRPS will not be employing virtual snow days.

Finally, like you, I sometimes feel the right decision was not made. Mother nature is tricky to predict, and hindsight is often a better viewpoint! Please remember that as a parent, you have the final decision regarding whether your child attends school. If you decide to keep your child home, contact the school before school starts, as this will allow building principals to count your child as "excused by a parent." Likewise, you can always pick your child up early if you feel conditions warrant.

I appreciate your cooperation and patience as we move through the winter months.

Dr. Summer Schultz, Superintendent



Dr. Summer Schultz,  
Superintendent



The 2022 “Christmas for Our Kids” project is under way! This is a long-standing Dell Rapids community project started by Sue Horstmeyer and currently spearheaded by the local ESA women’s organization. Because of the generosity of the Dell Rapids Community, we are able to ensure a Merry Christmas for all of our Dell Rapids kids. Here are some ways you can help ensure another successful project:

1. **Refer a Family in Need** - Contact Brenda O’Hara or Lori Morris with family referrals. Self-referrals are also welcome. (Families must live within the Dell Rapids School District.) Please submit referrals **by November 10th**. (Brenda: Cell 605-201-6571 or [brendaohara@outlook.com](mailto:brendaohara@outlook.com) Lori: Cell 605-359-8795 or [tlmorris@goldenwest.net](mailto:tlmorris@goldenwest.net) ).
2. **Adopt a Child or Family** - You or your group can adopt a child or family and purchase gifts from their “wish lists”. You will be anonymously matched up with a child or family, then you do the shopping, and return the gifts to us. Contact Brenda or Lori to be matched with a family.
3. **Angel Tree** - There will be three Angel Trees set up prior to Thanksgiving with specific gift requests. Stop by **County Fair, First National Bank, or Avera Dells Area Hospital** and take a tag from the Angel Tree, do your shopping, and return the unwrapped gift under the tree **by December 12<sup>th</sup> with the tag attached**.
4. **Make a Monetary Donation** - Monetary donations can be dropped off or mailed to “**Christmas for Our Kids**”, First National Bank, 312 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Dell Rapids, SD 57022.

We hope to have all donations collected by **December 12<sup>th</sup>** so that gifts can be sorted and distributed to the families prior to Christmas. As we enter the holiday season, please consider being part of this Dell Rapids tradition. If you have any questions please contact Brenda O’Hara at 605-201-6571 or [brendaohara@outlook.com](mailto:brendaohara@outlook.com), or Lori Morris at 605-359-8795 or [tlmorris@goldenwest.net](mailto:tlmorris@goldenwest.net).

# QUARRIER of the MONTH

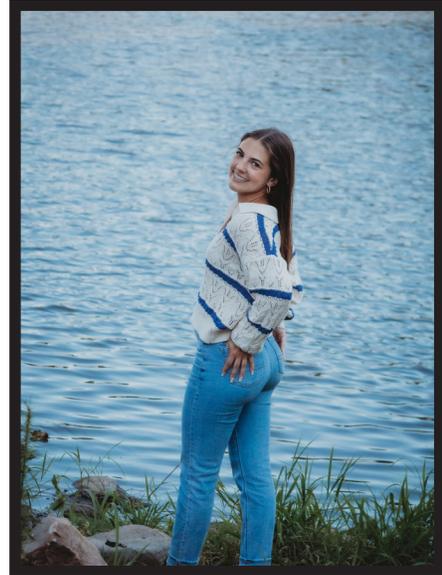
**AUGUST**

**Adisen Stadem**



**SEPTEMBER**

**Olivia Godwin**



## DRMS STUDENT OF THE MONTH

DRMS would like to congratulate the Students of the Month for October. These students have demonstrated positive character traits in and outside of the classroom. Thank you to Lunchtime Solutions, Pinz Bowling, Buffalo Wild Wings and Pizza Ranch for providing Students of the Month students with gift certificates for these places!



## OCTOBER

5th Grade:  
Will Price &  
Grace Zachman

6th Grade:  
Caelee Lebrun &  
Laurelen Williams

7th Grade:  
Oliver Duin &  
Ella Story\*

8th Grade:  
Marlie Swanson &  
Nixie May-Duncan

\*not pictured:

## FCCLA NEWS

On Thursday, October 6, the following FCCLA members attended the Teens As Teachers training: Paislee Dammer, Laura Lustfield, and Syanne Randolph. It was held in Sioux Falls at the Sanford Event Center. The program provides opportunities for older youth to be teachers and mentors to younger students in the classroom and/or at after-school settings. It provides a powerful service-orientated, community-based learning experience for teenagers while benefiting those they teach. Volunteer hours and responsibilities are laid out in a “teaching contract” by each teen and their FCCLA advisor, Beverly Rieck. Upon completing their commitment, a scholarship is established and upon graduation it can be used to the school of their choice. Their presentation plans center around character education and strengthening



Laura Lustfield, Paislee Dammer, Syanne Randolph are pictured while attending the Teens As Teachers training.

how to live a healthy lifestyle. Another part of the program is to do a service-oriented project for the community. SD Youth Foundation, Inc. sponsors the training and program for our state.

On Friday, October 24 Maya Lee and Hannah Lundgren presented a Halloween Safety Presentation to all three sections of the first graders at the elementary school. Tray favors for the residents of the Dells Area Nursing Home and Orchard Hills Assisted Living plus the Meals on Wheels participants were made and handed out.

A grant received from the Building Our Rural Communities through the SD Ag Foundation was completed and set in place at the Dell Rapids Carnegie Public Library. Funds for three computer desks for the children’s area were partially funded through this grant and a donation from our local chapter.



Hannah Lundgren and Maya Lee are shown giving a Halloween Safety presentation to one of the first grade room at the elementary school.

## FCCLA Members Enhance Leadership Skills

Students from high and middle school FCCLA joined members of the South Dakota FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) on October 2 & 3, at the 2022 South Dakota FCCLA Fall Leadership Conference. It was held at the Crossroads Convention Center in Huron. Students were motivated to follow this year’s theme “Be Incredible! Be Empowered!”

Syanne Randolph and Laura Lustfield and their advisor Beverly Rieck from the Dell Rapids FCCLA Chapter attended. The two members attended the Power Training track led by Patty Hendrickson who is a national professional leadership trainer. She challenged participants to reach new heights and encouraged them to lead others, develop new skills, explore career opportunities, build strong families, and make a difference in local communities. The session offered the attendees the opportunity to identify and build

their personal leadership skills and to use the skills gained to grow the leadership and knowledge among their chapter members and with others.

FCCLA was first established in 1945. FCCLA was chartered in South Dakota in 1946. FCCLA is the only youth-led organization with the family as its central focus. This career-technical student organization prepares youth to learn how to be active community leaders, caring family members, and prepare for life beyond high school.



Syanne Randolph and Laura Lustfield are shown in this picture at fall leadership training.



# December Concerts



## Elementary School

- December 2<sup>nd</sup> ♦ KP-1<sup>st</sup> ES Winter Concert ♦ 7:00 PM
- December 1<sup>st</sup> ♦ 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> ES Winter Concert ♦ 7:00 PM

## Middle and High School

- December 5<sup>th</sup> ♦ 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Winter Band Concert ♦ 7:00 PM
- December 6<sup>th</sup> ♦ 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Winter Choir Concert ♦ 7:00 PM



## Post Prom Committee

Junior parents, if you'd like to help out with post prom this year, join the Facebook group "Dell Rapids After Prom" to stay up to date on fundraising and volunteer opportunities.

One of the junior parents helping me out with concessions asked if I could somehow let more people know about their FB group. Hopefully this helps them get a few more helpers :)



## \*\*\*Dells December Classic - Sunday, Dec 11, 2022\*\*\*

It's time to register for the 2nd Annual Dells December Classic held to benefit the DRPS After Prom. This is a 1 day youth basketball tournament held at the Dell Rapids Public Schools. Last year, we had a completely full house so get your entries in ASAP. To register contact [nate@heartlandenergy.com](mailto:nate@heartlandenergy.com).

Thank you!



School Meal Reminder: If your children have been approved to receive free or reduced price lunches, they also qualify to receive free or reduced price breakfasts.



## 8th Grade Volleyball 2022



Back Row (L-R) Coach Barber, Makayla Nelson, Chloe LeBrun, Ellie Wanner, Kaydence Keogh, Sierra Berg, Avah Harkema, Macie Millage and Cora Augstad

Middle Row (L-R) Morgan Carpenter, Lauren Ronshaugen, Emma Lanpher, Elizabeth Krantz, and Lily Harkema

Front Row (L-R) Brooklyn Powelson and Kaitlyn Fiddelke

The 8th volleyball worked on their fundamental skills and performed them in each match. By the end of the season the girls were improving while playing other teams. The girls played in the Dak12 (6). We played each team with the understanding we needed to perform on the court. Each team we played we had to try and beat them in the third match. We played hard but fell short of winning a match and were 0-4 for the tournament.

Thanks for a great season and good luck next year!

Coach Barber

**YOU ROCK!** Here are the fall recipients of the YOU ROCK award. Each staff member was nominated and presented with a YOU ROCK stone provided by LG Everist. Students and parents are encouraged to nominate a staff member for this honor. It's a simple way to show your appreciation for their work and dedication to the children of Dell Rapids. A brief nomination form can be found on the district web site.



### **Mr. Larry Baker, MS Principal**

With all the new staff, students and situations he handles daily, he is ROCKIN' it! He has given our teams guidance and opportunities to grow as teachers and learners. His communication is exceptional – making him easy to approach and brainstorm with. Among those accomplishments, he has a fantastic sense of humor, and he cares deeply (already!) about our school, the teachers, students and community. He has been an amazing asset that has been added to our school district and one that we are so thankful for.



## *Coaching for Parents...*

### **FREE Parent Coaching includes:**

- Regular calls with a coach
- 24/7 texting with 24 hr response
- Guided, step-by-step resources
- Tools & tips to help you parent
- Confidential help

**Do you need insight,  
energy and validation?**

*A Parenting Coach can be  
the support you need!*



Scan to register  
for Coaching

Or go to: <https://CookCenter.info/Get-Coaching>



## Ag In Action

The second block class consisting of 14 students enrolled in the Introduction to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources as well as the 4th block class of 28 students have been exposed to a variety of agricultural topics. During the unit on soils, students went outside and determined slope and looked at other physical properties of soil.

During the unit on the FFA organization, the students had the opportunity to investigate the history, important events and people along with activities and events they could get involved in if they joined the organization. A small wood project allows students to design and construct a project applying concepts learned in the classroom. During the water unit, the students will analyze water resources and pollution. The crops and horticulture unit will allow students to analyze different plant parts, functions, propagation methods and growing requirements. The students will also compare various types of livestock and production methods used to raise those animals. Both sections of this class are a semester long and will end on January 13.

The Fundamental Animal Science class is offered during the 1st half of 3rd block or 3A and the 21 students have analyzed the various production practices used when raising various species of livestock. Identifying body parts of the animals and characteristics that help to determine a quality animal have been part of the livestock selection unit. Livestock nutrition, genetics and marketing will also be covered in this course that also end at the end of the semester.

The other half block class offered during third block or 3B is Ag Business, Sales, and Marketing in which the 17 students have had the opportunity to investigate the important skills employers are looking for, how to fill out a job application form, develop a cover letter and resume', conduct a mock interview and what to do following an interview. The sales unit consisted of methods of sales, advertisement and promotion, stages of buying and customer service. They were tasked with developing promotional items for the annual fruit sale. Marketing of various agricultural products will be the main focus of the time remaining in the class.

The new semester will begin on January 17 with four new agricultural courses being offered. Two sections of Wildlife and Fisheries will be offered as skinny classes during block 1A and 1B. The students enrolled in this section will learn about the importance of fish and wildlife management, comparing life patterns of fish and wildlife, identifying economic and social issues related to fish and wildlife as well as careers in wildlife and fisheries.

The full block class offered during 2nd period will be Fundamental Ag Mechanics. These students will have the opportunity to investigate the basics of hydraulics and design and construct a simple hydraulic device

using medical syringes as the hydraulic cylinders. Basic electricity will be covered with the students having the opportunity to wire simple electrical circuits utilizing various switches, lights, and outlets. New technology in agriculture will have the students investigating the uses of GPS and GIS along with drones and robotics. This class will only last for the 3rd quarter and the 4th quarter class will be Ag Systems Technology, where students will apply principles of operation, service, and maintenance to mechanical equipment.

Another section of Introduction to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources will be offered during 3rd block to accommodate the large number of students wanting to take an agricultural class. Those students will explore the role of the FFA organization in Agriculture Education, define and discuss the concepts of natural resources, demonstrate an understanding of animal science systems, demonstrate an understanding of plant structure and function, relate basic food science technology principles to production agriculture, summarize basic food science technology, and summarize basic principles involved in agricultural systems technology. Those students will also have the opportunity to learn about shop tools and shop safety, project design and construct a small wood project.

The 32 high school FFA members have been busy this fall with land judging and leadership events. On Sept. 13, Sadie Becker, Audrey Cox, Megan Geraets, Sawyer Geraets, Cooper Hauglid, Brynlee Kriens, Gavin Miles, Magnus Narigon, Jamison Rave, Haley Rydell, Brandon Weiland and Lane Weiland attended the land judging school near Brookings to gain hands-on experience in land evaluation. On Sept. 20 near Parker, thirteen members participated in a competition.

Those participating were Megan Geraets, who placed 55th, Brynlee Kriens, who placed 66th, Audrey Cox, who placed 86th and Cooper Hauglid, who placed 94th to give our team a 6th place finish. Other



Haley Rydell texturing soil during the land judging competition.

participants were Sawyer Geraets, Haley Rydell, Lane Weiland, Magnus Narigon, Gavin Miles, Jaimeson Rave, Jasmine Junker, Reece Kitto and Paislee Dammer. The

Southeast Region Land and Homesite Evaluation event was held near Brandon on Sept. 27. Those participating at that event were Sadie Becker, Audrey Cox, Megan Geraets, Jasmine Junker, Brynlee Kriens, and Haley Rydell. The top four scores for Dells were Megan, who placed 32nd for a silver award, Brynlee, who placed 62nd, Sadie, who placed 67th and Audrey, who placed 93rd to help our team finish in 8th place.

To its owner, the FFA jacket is a physical reminder of the personal accomplishments achieved through the organization - a symbol of commitment and dedication for all who wear the corduroy. This fall 404 South Dakota FFA members from 81 chapters, received their own FFA jackets through the SD FFA Foundation Blue Jackets Bright Futures FFA Jacket Program - carrying forward that long-standing tradition of pride, dignity and honor. Jackets were sponsored by various individuals through the SD FFA Foundation program, welcoming new members into the fabric of FFA. The Dells FFA members receiving their jacket through this program were Jasmine Junker, Brynlee Kriens, Alex Roelfsema, Sarina VanDaalen, Brianna Weiland and Cami Wolles.

The sixteen acres of school owned land that the agriculture program and the FFA is in charge of, was planted to soybean by Dean Klein last May. On Oct. 3, Jesse and Jaimeson Rave harvested the 604.33 bushels of soybeans and hauled it to the Dell Rapids COOP Grain.



The Dells FFA members who attended the National FFA Convention. Left to right – Katie Scherff, Haley Rydell, Brynlee Kriens, Karlie TenEyck

The 95th National FFA Convention and Expo was held Oct. 26-29 in Indianapolis, IN. with four Dells members attending along with Mr. Wolff, the FFA Advisor. As Brynlee Kriens, Haley Rydell, Katie Scherff and Karlie TenEyck made their way toward Indianapolis, a tour of AGCO in Jackson, MN was taken. Assembly of tractors and sprayers, metal fabrication and painting were just a few of things that were seen on the tour. Another stop on the way was a tour of the Fair Oaks dairy farm and hog farm in Fair Oaks, IN. Once in Indianapolis, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway was toured along with the museum. A country music concert was attended on Wednesday evening featuring Lauren Alaina and Jimmy Allen. The members had the opportunity to attend various sessions, workshops and the expo which consisted of over 300 booths allowing

members to visit with companies related to the agriculture industry as well as post-secondary institutions from across the country. A two-hour drive to Louisville, KY allowed the members to tour the Louisville Slugger Museum and Factory along with Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby Museum.



Back row – Sadie Becker, Sydney Klein, Katie Scherff, Bella Schmidt, Alex Roelfsema and Mr. Wolff  
Front row – Paislee Dammer, Sierra Klein, Cami Wolles and Audrey Cox

The Jackrabbit Invitational Leadership event was held on November 3 on the campus of SDSU with nine members participating. In the Ag Broadcasting/Journalism event, we had Paisless Dammer, Audrey Cox, Sierra Klein, Katie Scherff and Bella Schmidt participating. Alex Roelfsema participated in the FFA Creed Speaking event, which consists of reciting the FFA Creed from memory and answering questions related to the creed. In the area of Extemporaneous Speaking, Sadie Becker drew three topics and selected one to prepare a 4-to-6-minute speech after 30 minutes of preparation. In the Employment Skills event, members selected one of the five jobs to apply for, write a cover letter and resume, conduct a personal interview and write a follow-up letter. The members participating in that event were Audrey Cox, Sydney Klein, Katie Scherff, Bella Schmidt and Cami Wolles.

The District 7 FFA Leadership Events will be held on Nov. 22 giving members an opportunity to sharpen their leadership skills by participating in 5 individual events which include prepared public speaking, extemporaneous speaking, employment skills, ag broadcasting and creed speaking. There are also 5 team events members can participate in which include ag issues, ag sales, marketing plan, conduct of chapter meetings and senior parliamentary procedures. Members can also apply and interview to serve as one of the six district officers for the 2022-23 year. The top two teams and the top three individuals advance on to the state event that will be held in Pierre on Dec. 4 & 5. The FFA has one main fundraiser for the entire year and that is the annual fruit sale. This year 42 agriculture students and FFA members sold the fruit, meat, cheese, nuts, pastry puffins and puff crust pizza items. The items sold should be in early to mid-December at which time all items will be sorted to ensure the highest quality and then they will be delivered. Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser.





**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**November:**

23rd - 25th - Thanksgiving Break

**December:**

21st - Early Release 1:00 PM

22nd - Jan 2nd - Winter Break

**January:**

1st - New Years Day

13th - End of 2nd Quarter

16th - NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Development Day



**HAVE AN IMPORTANT  
EVENT OR ARTICLE YOU  
WOULD LIKE POSTED?  
PUT IT IN THE WISE OWL.**

**Please check the Dell Rapids  
School Website ([dr-k12.org](http://dr-k12.org))  
for School Lunch Menus and  
COMPLETE and up-to-date  
athletic and activity schedules.**

Dell Rapids School District 49-3  
1216 N. Garfield Avenue  
Dell Rapids SD 57022

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Dell Rapids, SD 57022  
Permit No. 9

Current Resident or