

April Activities:

- **Monday, March 30**
Dakota STEP Testing begins
- **Wednesday, April 1**
Student Council Mtg.
11:30 am
- **Friday, April 3**
NO KINDERGARTEN
Parent/Teacher
Conferences
- **Tuesday, April 7**
Healthy Youth Event
6th grade parents
welcome – County Fair
Banquet Hall 6:30-
8:30pm
- **Wednesday, April 8**
PTO Meeting 11:30am
- **Friday April 10**
No School – Good
Friday
- **Monday, April 13**
No School – Easter
Break
- **Monday, April 20**
Spring Fling
5:30-7:30pm
- **Friday, April 24**
Yearbook orders due!
4th qtr midterms go
home
Safety Patrol Breakfast
8:00am
- **April 29-May 1**
Kindergarten Screening
Garfield Special
Services Building 8-4pm

Watertown School District/ 605-882-6390

Principal Message

During the month of April, the classroom teachers and I will begin placing students in next year's classrooms. We look at many different factors when placing a student in a classroom. To create balanced classrooms, we take into account a child's academic ability and learning style, gender, and personality characteristics. **We strive to balance each classroom with the right learning chemistry based on all curricular schedules!**

As in the past, we have accepted parent requests for a classroom teacher for their child. If a request is made, please send it through the principal's office in

writing with an explanation for the request. This can be in the form of a note or an email (see below). The request can be made until **April 30th**. The goal is to finalize classroom lists so as to distribute on your child's report card by the end of May. Thank you for your cooperation!

David.Eggen@k12.sd.us

Dakota STEP Testing

Starting **March 30 through April 17th**, student in grades 3 – 6, 8 and 11 will be taking the **Dakota STEP** assessment. Your child's teacher has selected certain dates out of the above testing window to test your child. Most teachers will administer this test in the morning. The testing areas will include reading, math, language, and science (5th only).

Thank you for taking the time to help your child perform at their best! If you have any questions regarding the upcoming tests, please feel free to contact your child's teacher or the office at 882-6390.

***** Spring Fling *****

Monday, April 20, 2009

5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

**Walking Tacos
Cookies
Pop**

**Music and fun by Eccentrix's
Josh Weyh**

Please join us for a family fun night! The 6th grade will have a special hour from 7:30-8:30. More information to follow!

Handbook Highlights

Family information updates:

Please keep the school notified of any changes in address, telephone numbers, or parent's work number.

**April is "Child Abuse"
Prevention Month**

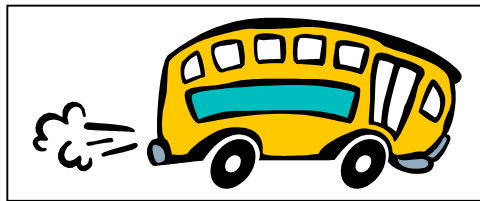


Kindergarten Screening

Kindergarten Registration and Screening is scheduled for **Wednesday April 29**, and **Thursday, April 30** and **Friday, May 1st** at Garfield School. Your child must be 5 years old on or before **September 1** to attend kindergarten this fall. You need to bring your child's:

1. Immunization records.
2. Certified copy of his or her birth certificate.
3. Social security card.
4. Tie tennis shoes for motor skills testing.

Please call Garfield School at 882-6399 to make an appointment.



School Yearbook

Jefferson Elementary School students will again have the opportunity to purchase a yearbook. The yearbook will be done professionally. The cost is **\$6.50**. A flyer will be sent home with more details.

5th/6th Band Concert

The Jefferson band students will be playing a spring concert on **Tuesday, May 5, at 7:00 PM** at the high school arena. Robyn Magstadt will direct the 5th grade band and Peggy Moeller will direct the 6th grade band. Hope to see you there!

Social Work Corner

By Sara Foust

Parenting Tip of the Month

In our busy lives, it is important that we work to surround children with positive people. The more positive adults our children have in their lives, the better they will be able to deal with life's challenges. Adults who engage children in proactive, healthy behaviors help teach children how to be positive and also help build skills that children can use to resist negative influences as they grow up.

All parents want their children to have love and support. Sometimes we need to look beyond our home and family for the additional support our children need. Mentoring, either through a formal program or an informal friendship, has been shown to have a huge impact on children's long-term success. Challenge yourself to surround your child(ren) with adults that are positive role models. Your child(ren) will learn from them and even more importantly, will gain confidence in themselves by having more adult support.

Resource of the Month

There are many resources to help find positive adults for your children. Churches and community sports are a wonderful source of community and a great place to have your child involved with positive adults.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a formal mentoring program that matches a child with an adult to do activities in the community. We are very fortunate to have the program in Watertown. For more information on the program, contact Jenny Stratton at 886-1554 or e-mail her at bbbsgl@bbbsse.org

**** Please remember that if your income has changed due to a job loss or layoff, you can fill out a new application for Free and Reduced lunch at any time. The school is a resource for you!**



Jefferson Elementary

1701 North Maple
Street
Watertown, SD 57201

Phone:
605-882-6390

Fax:
605-882-6391

E-Mail:
david.eggen@k12.sd.us

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://watertown.k12.sd>

Jefferson Elementary
1701 North Maple Street
Watertown, SD 57201

Arrow Education Foundation Update

\$6000 in *NEW GRANTS Awarded*

The Arrow Education Foundation has awarded two more grants in March:

- **WSD Music Dept** - \$2000 for **band and orchestra instruments for WSD grades 5-12 students for rental** from a Dorothy Krull Music grant.
- **WHS Library Media Center** - \$4000 for **furniture and books** to keep up with the expanded library use. The Dorothy Goose Krull Fund has contributed over \$11,000 towards transforming the library into this dynamic, student-learning environment. Circulation is up over 600%.

Two New Scholarships

The Arrow Education Foundation is proud to announce two new scholarships available to WHS seniors.

- **Marty Kranz Scholarship** - established by family and friends in memory of Marty Kranz, a 2002 WHS grad, who embodied personal integrity, positive leadership, humility and care for others. A total of \$2500 will be awarded over four years of undergraduate study at a college or university for the recipient of this scholarship. Apply by April 1 through WHS Student Services.
- **Eric Tennis Memorial Scholarships** – established by family and friends in memory of Eric Tennis, a Roosevelt Elementary mentor, inspiring, encouraging citizen and avid Arrow Sports fan. Awards of \$500 will be given for technical, college, or university expenses to a boy and a girl who demonstrate Eric's joyful spirit and attitude. Apply by April 9 through WHS Student Services.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 7 BISCO BBQ keynote speaker will be **Senator Tim Johnson**. Join us at the Watertown Event Center with lunch served at 12 noon. Cost is \$20. Call Chamber of Commerce (886-5814) or e-mail coc@watertownsd.com for reservations.

School Nurse Update

Every year the Watertown Medical Association physicians and health care workers donate their time to provide health physicals to the Watertown School District. These physicals are provided, free of cost, to students in the 6th and 9th grades. The South Dakota Athletic Association requires physicals for certain school activities and camps.

We highly encourage you to have your child(ren) participate in this **free service**. The physicals will be done **May 7** at the High School. A form will be sent home with your child in advance and we ask that you complete the form and make sure you have your signatures in the required places.

Please read over the form, complete, and have your child return to his/her teacher ASAP.

Contact the Kayla Mohling or Connie Fannin at 882-6390 if you have any questions or concerns.