



Mellette Messenger

November News

Mark Your Calendars

Nov. 2nd - 1:30-2:30 4th Grade Johnson Legends Presentations

Nov. 3rd - 1:30-2:30 4th Grade Taylor Legends Presentations

4:00-8:00 Parent/Teacher Conferences. No GIFT!

4:00-7:00 Flu Shots! @ WMS 6months - 18 years old.

Nov. 4th - Kdg. Conference Day! No Kdg!

Nov. 7th - 6th Grade Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30

Nov. 11th - Veterean's Day. No School

Nov. 14th - Beginning Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30

Nov. 15th Turkey Bingo! Info coming!

Nov. 18th - 4th Grade to DD Miller, Indian speaker for SD History & Dakota Journey of Dance and Spirit.

Nov. 21st - 6th GRade Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30

Nov. 23rd, 24th, 25th - Thanksgiving Break. No School!

Nov. 28th - Beginning Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30

Nov. 30th - Teacher Inservice. Dismissal @ 12:20. No Pm Kdg. AM Kdg attends 8:30-11:30.

Theme Day!! Beach Day!!

From the Principal's Desk:

North End Neighborhood

Mellette school has recently been identified as part of a historic end of Watertown. A sign indicating our historical place in the history of Watertown has been placed along the sidewalk of the new parking lot. The sign reads as follows:

“Arthur Mellette, the last territorial and first state governor built his Italian Villa house in the North End Neighborhood overlooking the city during the Dakota Boom in 1883. This began a new development pattern north of the railroad tracks. Watertown’s most prominent residents lived in the area until in the 1960’s when new educational facilities caused the city to move east.

This neighborhood was first platted in 1880 with the North Watertown Addition. More additions were platted in 1883 including the Mellette, McIntyre, and Syndicate Additions to create the large neighborhood bordered roughly by Skyline Drive and 3rd Street East and 3rd and 10th Avenues.

Many architectural styles are represented in the neighborhood including Italian Villa, late Italianate, late Victorian vernacular cottages, and Queen Anne. Vernacular styles such as American Foursquare, Bungalows, Mission, and one and one have story Cube. Local materials also influenced development, particularly from the Mellette brick factory and nearby granite quarries.

The North End Neighborhood is primarily residential, although a few churches are included. Most are scattered around outer edges, but the Gothic Revival style Evangelical United Brethren Church is centrally located. It was originally known as First Evangelical Association and its worship service was held in a tent in 1911.”

The sign features pictures of Governor Mellette, the church, and the Mellette school.

The sign was sponsored by the Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission, a Preserve America grant, and the South Dakota State Historical Society.

School Goals

As we complete our first quarter, I want to share with you our school goals for the 2011-2012 school year. We will continue to examine school data (SuccessMaker, STAR, Limelight, and DSTEP) to meet individual learning needs.

Mellette Staff will work to increase the number of students (grades 3-6) that are Advanced/Proficient in math and reading by 3% and decrease the number of students that are Basic by 3%.

This will take continuous examination of testing data. But more importantly we need you as parents to have critical conversations with your child(ren) regarding study habits, handing in assignments on time, paying attention in class, and attendance.

As national legislation is changing with the reauthorization of NCLB, our teachers are being held more accountable for closing the gap on Proficiency. Each year schools are expected to meet the AMO or Annual Measurable Objective set by the State Department of Education.

Mellette Elementary's report card is viewable at: www.doe.sd.gov Click on 2011 report card, choose Watertown School District, then Mellette Elementary School

One of my biggest concerns in examining last year's scores are the number of our kids reading at BASIC. We are continuing to track our students that scored BASIC and may be asking you to help support a before school or after school program that offers additional help. More to come on this program.

The bottom line is, as parents, continuous conversations need to be held with children and teachers, accountability needs to be placed with students and their school work, and your involvement in school activities needs to be evident.

Together we will make a difference in each child's life!

Accelerated Reading Program

We are fortunate to have this program within our school. This year grades 2-6, who participate in the AR program, have set a goal of 20,000 points. If they accomplish this goal, through a ballot vote, they have decided that I will have to dress as Justin Bieber and sing one song. Not a problem! The points are important, but not as important as the students slowing down to understand what they are reading. The program sets a goal of an 85% comprehension rate. In reviewing the first quarter scores, many of our students have accomplished this goal. Please encourage your child to set time aside each night to read!

BOX TOPS CONTEST

Starting the week of October 31 thru November 30, students are encouraged to bring in signed Box Tops.

Write their name on the back and place it into their class container. At the end of the month, we will draw for five movie tickets.

Conferences

Thank you for attending conferences! Your attendance lets your children know that they and their education is important to you! The Fall conference will be the only conferences held this year. If you have concerns regarding your child's performance, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Family Activity Nights

Thank you to our PTO officers and volunteers that help to make these nights extremely successful. One concern I have observed are the number of kids that run around the school whether it is inside or outside. With the upcoming Turkey Bingo, your close supervision is greatly appreciated!

HARVEST 2011

HARVEST 2011 was a great success with the support from many underwriters, donors, attendees, and volunteers. The Watertown School

District students will benefit from all that support in future grants. Thank you to those that continue to give to the Arrow Education Foundation and HARVEST.

First Lady of South Dakota Visit



On October 26th, Linda Dugaard, visited our third, fourth, and fifth grade classrooms. She shared a wonderful message surrounding her love for reading and the important role it has in our lives. Her stories were told by memorization. Students were entranced by her storytelling. She answered questions from the students. Books that were collected for the "First Lady Visit" were being taken to Clark Elementary.

Our school received books collected at Jefferson Elementary. By the way.... Do you know what language Governor Dugaard first learned?

4th Grade Essay Winner



The winner of the 4th Grade essay contest was

Kallie Gulbraa. Kallie was able to ride with the Fire Department in October. The essay was on having a fire escape plan.

November Calendar

	1	2 1:30-2:30 4th Grade Johnson - Indian Presentations on "LEGENDS"	3 1:30-2:30 4th Grade Taylor - Indian Presentations on "LEGENDS" Parent/Teacher Conferences 4pm-8pm Flu Shots @ WMS 4pm-7pm for 6months-18 years	4 No Kdg. Kdg Conference Day
7 6th Grade Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30	8	9	10	11 No School! Veteran's Day 
14 Beginning Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30	15 PTO Turkey Bingo	16	17	18 1:00 4th Grade to DD Miller, Indian speaker for SD History & Dakota Journey of Dance & Spirit
21 6th Grade Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30	22	23 No School! Thanksgiving Break	24 Thanksgiving! No School! 	25 No School! Thanksgiving Break
28 Beginning Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30	29	30 Early Dismissal 12:20. Teacher Inservice. No PM Kdg. Am Kdg attends 8:30-11:30 Theme Day (Beach Day)		

**If It Says Libbys, Libbys, Libbys, On the Label, Label, Label
You Will Like It, Like It, Like It, On Your Table, Table, Table.**

Do you remember that cute little commercial jingle that stuck in every parent's mind after hearing it one time? I sure do and that's the brand I looked for the next time I went to buy groceries for my family.

Packaging of products can sometimes be deceiving. We all want to feed our children what is best for them and occasionally it's hard to figure that out. Packaging of foods is designed to catch the eye of the consumer. Here are some things to think about when shopping for you and your family when looking at the front of the package.

“Pure”: It doesn't really tell you anything about the contents of the package.

“Natural”: Natural may not mean nutritious or good for you.

“Made From”: This simply means that the food started with this product.

“Made With Real Fruit”: It **may** contain a couple pieces of fruit, but **may** mostly contain sugar.

“Made with Vegetables”: Sounds healthy, but doesn't say anything about the nutritional value.

“Fat Free”: Ex. 95% fat free means that there is 5% fat in the product. A single gram of fat is equal to 9 calories as opposed to 4 calories in a gram of protein or carbohydrates.

“Smoked”: Legally describes the flavor of the food, but doesn't tell you if it was artificially/chemically smoked or just contains smoked flavoring.

The important thing to look for on packaging is the label on the back. This will list the amount of nutrients and also the ingredients. (The FDA and USDA decide what information goes on a label).

It may take a little homework to become an efficient label reader, but it will be well worth the effort. It's never too soon or late to start teaching your children about healthy choices, especially when it comes to the foods they put in their bodies.

“We, as parents, have to lead by example. Showing our kids what it's like to have healthy lifestyles and what it's like to eat right and exercise, is so important”. Lance Armstrong, American Cyclist

Year Books

The Arrow Education Foundation Office at Garfield School has many, many brand new yearbooks from the years of 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009 that were paid for and never claimed. These will be given away by January 1st or thrown away after that date. We have hundreds of yearbooks from those dates!!



Does Your Child Need Dental Care?

The Dakota Smile Program is coming to Watertown

The Dakota Smiles Mobile Dental Program, with its fully equipped dental offices on wheels, Between: November 28 through December 2 2011. The Dakota Smiles program provides dental care to children ages 0-21 that have no dentist. To learn if your child qualifies for this program or to sign up please call: Mendy Herke @ 605-256-6518. The

Dakota Smiles Program is provided in cooperation with:

- * Delta Dental Philanthropic Fund
- * Ronald McDonald House Charities of South Dakota, Inc.
- * South Dakota Department of Health
- * John T. Vucurevich Foundation

Stars for October

Brooklyn Hagen, Abbie Johnson, Gabby Moes, Blake Stephens, Cloe Stocker, Erika Waxdahl, Miron Fisk, Finnegan Nebel, Brooklyn Pendley, Isabel Waite, Mac Walraven, Ben Outland, Alyssa Doss, Kasey Lenning, Megan Eickmeyer, Grant Britt, Brandon Guffin, Savanna Buskohl, Keegan Campbell, Kailey Lindahl, Tyler Mutziger, Jonathan Kerkvliet, Nathan Hoeltzner, Alexa Buckley, Delaney Kucera, Hailee Lindgren, Derrick Dean, Riley Spartz, Jacob Gerber, Kassidy Anderson, Abby Engel, Ethan Maag, Edward Barabas, Tyler Frensko, Josie Lindgren, Linnea Rowmen, Alexis Gertsema, CJ Barton, Garey Wilson-Reihe, Shea Brownell, Allyssa Janzen, Karissa Olson,

Keauna Gunderson, Jackson Smunk, Kamilla Knippling.

Adopted Officer's

Adopted officer's for Mellette are Josh Kerfien

jkerfien@watertownpd.com &

Heather Wilkinson

hwilkinson@watertownpd.com

Staff Development

Our teachers recently completed the afternoon of October 26th in training of two key areas of education, technology and math. Teachers met at Jefferson Elementary and were grouped by certain grade levels. They were presented theory and practice of CGI math. Lower level teachers were presented information on the incorporation of Ipads and Ipods in the classroom. This time is vital to keep up with the implementation of our technology standards and developing better strategies for instructional delivery.

Daylight Savings

Don't forget to set your clock back before you go to bed on November 5th. YEH we receive an extra hour of sleep!

Social Skills for Nov.

Oct. 31-Nov. 10 Disagreeing

1. Look at the person
2. Use a nice voice
3. Tell how you feel
4. Give a reason
5. Listen to the other person

Nov. 14-Nov. 22 Saying You're Sorry

1. Look at the person
2. Use a nice voice
3. Tell why you're sorry
4. Say what you'll do next