

# Cougar Connection

March 2019

Welcome to the "Cougar Connection". This publication is printed & distributed monthly.

## **South Heart Public School's Mission Statement: OUR MISSION IS TO PREPARE EACH STUDENT FOR THE FUTURE AND FOR LIFELONG LEARNING**

**Calvin Dean**  
Superintendent

**Jessica Geis**  
Elementary Principal

**Scott Jung**  
High School Principal  
& Athletic Director

**Kristine Mehrer**  
Business Manager

**Dana Urban**  
Secretary

**Bobbie Olson**  
School Counselor

**Rhonda Steckler**  
Head Custodian

## **A Note from the Superintendent**

**Mr. Calvin Dean**

### **School Pictures Needed!**

We are looking for pictures of the original 1916 South Heart School building. We would like to create a collage of pictures to display in our new lobby. If you have any pictures, please contact Mr. Dean at the school. Thank you!

### **Storm Make-Up Day**

Due to weather and road conditions, school was cancelled on Monday, February 4, 2019. Per state requirements, we will be required to make up this day of school. Therefore, school will be held on the 1st storm makeup day designated on the 2018-19 school calendar, which will be Friday, May 3, 2019. Friday, May 3, 2019, will be a full normal day of school.

### **South Heart School Board Positions (terms expiring and up for election)**

South Heart School Board positions currently held by Randy Kudrna and Jon Jacobson are up for election. Term is 3 years (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2022). Deadline to file a petition for these positions is April 8, 2019 at 4:00 pm. Please contact Kristine Mehrer, Business Manager, for filing instructions. The election will take place at South Heart School on June 11, 2019.

### **2019-20 School Calendar APPROVED**

The 2019-20 South Heart School Calendar has been finalized and was approved by the South Heart School Board at the February 13, 2019 meeting. The 2019-20 School Calendar and 2019-20 Pre-School Calendar can be accessed on the South Heart School website. Go to [www.southheart.k12.nd.us](http://www.southheart.k12.nd.us) and then click on Calendars/Menus.

**GO COUGARS!**

#### **Important Dates:**

March 1: NO SCHOOL  
March 7: Science Olympiad at DSU  
March 11: Region 10 Instrumental Festival at DSU  
March 12: ACT Testing Day for 11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
March 13: PreACT for 10<sup>th</sup> Grade  
March 15: NO SCHOOL  
March 19 & 21: Parent/Teacher Conferences  
March 23-31: Close Up Trip to Washington D.C.  
March 27: Early Out-School dismissed at 1:15pm

#### **SOUTH HEART SCHOOL**

310 4th Street NW  
P.O. Box 159  
South Heart, ND 58655  
Phone: 701-677-5671  
Fax: 701-677-5616

Website:

[www.southheart.k12.nd.us](http://www.southheart.k12.nd.us)

## ***“Learners for Life”***

It is hard to believe that March is already here. It won't be long before the warm weather arrives, and the end of year madness begins! Our spring parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for March 19 & 21, 2019. This presents a great opportunity to discuss your child's progress in school. As you are aware, home/school communication is an important factor in your child's success in school.

The 2019-2020 South Heart High School class schedule is being worked on as we speak. It will not be long before students will pre-register for classes for next school year. We are proud that SHHS can offer a variety of courses to meet the needs of our students. We have a great staff that teach our core classes, as well as elective courses in their certified area. SHHS is also able to offer elective courses through the ITV where students interact over the television with teachers and students from other schools. Online courses are also available to our students for credit recovery or a scheduling conflict.

Each year South Heart High School nominates a student to the North Dakota Association of Secondary School Principals Academic (NDASSP) All-State Team. The Academic All-State Team is decided through a formula that is a computation of Grade Point Average and ACT Score, as well as narrative answers to questions. The Academic All-State Team is divided into a Gold Team, a Silver Team, a Bronze Team, and an Honorable Mention Team. This year SHHS selected Seth Polensky to represent our school for the academic all-state team. Out of the hundreds of students that apply for the academic all-state team, Seth earned a place on the Honorable Mention Team by placing in the top 35 students in the state! Congratulations to Seth. We are all very proud of your accomplishments and how well your represented South Heart High School in the 2019 NDASSP Academic All-State Competition!

### **Staying Connected with South Heart High School and Heart River Athletics:**

District Website: <http://www.southheart.k12.nd.us>

Activity Calendar: [http://www.badlandsconference.org/g5-bin/client.cgi?G5genie=435&school\\_id=13](http://www.badlandsconference.org/g5-bin/client.cgi?G5genie=435&school_id=13)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) (Search HR Cougars)

Twitter: @heartrivercgrs

Sincerely,  
Mr. Jung  
High School Principal/Activities Director

## *The Principal Files: Mrs. Geis*

We will be having the author Tory Christie presenting to the elementary students on March 5, at 10:00 am. She has written the series Curious McCarthy's along with many others. We are very excited to have her share her stories with all the students.

March 8 is the end of the third quarter; parent-teacher conferences are March 19 and March 21.

Preschool screening is March 8. If you have a child that is turning four by August 1, 2019, please contact the school if you would like to have them attend preschool. All preschoolers must be screened to attend preschool.

If you know of any students in the school district that will be going to kindergarten next year, please contact the school so that we can plan appropriately for the next school year. We will have Kindergarten Round-Up on March 26, at 6:00pm. If your child is five by August 1, 2019, please plan on attending this meeting. It is a great time for students to meet the teacher and complete some activities with Mr. Honeyman and Mrs. Buerkle.

## *Counselor's Corner: Mrs. Olson*

### **Dates to Watch:**

**March 8, 2019 – ACT Test Registration Deadline (For Seniors – Test date is April 13)**

**March 12, 2019 - ACT Test (Juniors)**

**March 13, 2019 - Career Expo in Dickinson (Juniors)**

**March 18, 2019 – May 10 - ND State Assessment testing window (grades 3-8)**

**March 20, 2019 - PreACT Test (Sophomores)**

**April 15th, 2019 - FAFSA Priority Deadline**

**Seniors:** be aware of scholarship deadlines. Check my webpage for applications. Many deadlines have come and gone or are fast approaching, so schedule some time to apply. Remember to make copies of everything!! Keep your essays on a flash drive in your portfolio and use them for other applications. Be sure to keep checking Mrs. Olson's webpage on the school's website for updated opportunities.

Don't forget to complete your FAFSA so you can qualify for financial aid (scholarships, grants and student loans). The priority deadline is April 15th, so as soon as your parents finish their taxes, go online to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) and apply.

**WorkKeys Test:** the ACT WorkKeys Test will be offered to seniors that want to meet the qualifications for the ND CTE Scholarship. Contact Mrs. Olson if you would like to take this test or to see if you meet the scholarship requirements.

**Juniors:** continue to do your ACT prep tests. You can use the #2 website that Mrs. Holinka uses, RUPreparend testive or the act.org website for practice tests.

March 13th Mrs. Olson will take the juniors to Dickinson to participate in the Career Expo. Students will have the opportunity to tour various types of business in Dickinson and Tour Dickinson State University.

## **Notes from Ms. Schweigert**

On Monday, March 11, the band students in grades 7-12 will be participating in the Region 10 Instrumental Festival held at Dickinson State University. This festival includes the large band, as well as solos and small ensembles. We have several students participating in small ensembles this year! Parents and friends are welcome to attend.

Congratulations to Jersey Filkowski who was selected to be a member of the North Dakota All-State Treble Choir at the North Dakota All-State Music Festival to be held in Bismarck on March 21-23!

Thank you to everyone who purchased cookie dough and calendar raffle tickets during the recent music department fundraisers! Money raised will be going toward student tours and other music department activities.

**Other upcoming music dates:**

April 4 – Region 10 Vocal Festival in Richardton at Assumption Abbey

May 4 – State Music Festival at Minot State University

May 9 – 4-12 Spring Music Concert

May 10 – Bismarck Band Night Parade

## **DHS/DSU Mathematics Competition**

Our school participated in a mathematics competition put on by the Dickinson High Math Club at Dickinson State University. The team members were Seth Polensky, Jacob Zastoupil, Genavive Robbins, Avery Hodell, and Heather Pavlish. These students were tested in the areas of Algebra, Geometry, and Advanced Mathematics. Each test was composed of 30 questions, with students receiving 1 point for a correct answer, 0 points for no answer, or -1/2 point for a wrong answer. Each student score was tabulated, and the top 3 scores in each category were awarded individual trophies. All individual points were then added together for an overall team score, with the top 6 teams competing in an oral round for team trophies.

Even though some of our members scored in the top 10, we had no top 3 places out of the 90 competing individuals. Our team held a rank of 3 out of 18 teams to make the oral round. Once in the oral round, we finished 4th place overall.

## **County Spelling Bee**

On Wednesday, February 13, South Heart School hosted the County Spelling Bee. The students involved from South Heart School were Hannah Hoff, Isabella Padilla, Molly Robb and Amelia Schoch. Isabella Padilla also advanced to the top 10 Oral Round.

## **Hat Day**

Thank you for everyone's generosity on Hat Day. We raised over \$750 which was donated to a South Heart family. It speaks to the culture of caring we have here in South Heart. Good job everybody!

## **Drivers Education**

This summer the South Heart School will be offering a Driver's Education course for students 14 years of age and up. Registration information is available at the school office. The deadline to register is April 5th for South Heart students. Letters were sent home to students completing the 8th and 9th grades, but any students above the age of 14 who needs or would like to take drivers education are welcome to sign up. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Olson at the school.