

Cougar Connection

April 2021

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

Ronnie Stewart
Activities Director

Kristine Mehrer
Business Manager

Dana Urban
Secretary

Bobbie Olson
School Counselor

Rhonda Steckler
Head Custodian

A Note from the Superintendent

Mr. Calvin Dean

What a Year! (reflecting on the past 12 months – March 2020 to March 2021)

It goes without saying that the last 12 months will forever be remembered by all of us. Who would have ever expected that we would deal with a world-wide pandemic caused by a virus, especially in today's world of advanced medicine! I was recently reviewing dates of major events/decisions/executive orders/etc specific to education in North Dakota and South Heart School over the past year; hard to believe that all of this started a year ago.

Friday, March 13, 2020: The North Dakota High School Activities Association (NDHSAA) suspends the Class A Girls and Boys State Basketball Tournament and the Class B State Boys Basketball Tournament scheduled for the following weekend.

Sunday, March 15, 2020: Governor Burgum issues Executive Order 2020-04 ordering all public and non-public schools closed March 16 -20, 2020.

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Important Dates:

April 1: NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service
April 2: NO SCHOOL Good Friday
April 5: NO SCHOOL Easter Monday
April 5: CPASS After Prom Party Meeting at 6:30pm
April 6: Junior High Acalympic Competition at Dickinson Middle School
April 10: Region 10 Vocal Competition at Trinity
April 22: Kindergarten Round up at 6:00pm
April 24: State Speech Competition
May 1: Prom at South Heart High School

SOUTH HEART SCHOOL

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www.southheart.k12.nd.us

Sunday, March 22, 2020: Governor Burgum issues Executive Order 2020-10 ordering all public and non-public schools closed until further notice and ordering all schools to develop and create distance learning plans with school to resume remotely on April 1. Students do not return to face-to-face learning on-site for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year and the NDHSAA cancels all remaining school activities and sports for the 2019-20 school year.

Thursday, July 16, 2020: Governor Burgum issues Executive Order 2020-38 ordering all schools to develop health and safety plans and updated distance learning plans. Students are permitted to return to school, but schools must also provide distance learning options for students and families not ready to return.

Monday, October 12, 2020: South Heart School mandates that masks must be worn at school following North Dakota Department of Health guidance stating that close contacts do NOT need to quarantine if both the infected individual and the close contact are wearing masks at the time of close contact.

Friday, November 13, 2020: Governor Burgum issues Executive Order 2020-43 ordering all school activities suspended until December 14, 2020. Governor Burgum amends this executive order on November 19, 2020 with Executive Order 2020-43.1 allowing school activities to resume earlier on November 30, 2020.

Friday, November 13, 2020: ND State Health Officer issues Executive Order 2020-08 requiring masks be worn at all times in indoor business and public indoor spaces (including schools) and also including outdoor business or public spaces where physical distancing cannot be maintained.

Monday, January 18, 2021: Governor Burgum announces that ND State Health Officer Executive Order 2020-08 requiring masks has expired.

Thursday, January 21, 2021: NDHSAA announces that statewide mask mandate for NDHSAA-sanctioned activities has expired and masks are now recommended, but not required.

Monday, February 1, 2021: South Heart School announces that masks are no longer required at school but are recommended.

Wednesday, February 10, 2021: South Heart School announces that remaining Intervention Fridays for the 2020-21 school year will return to normal school days for the remainder of the school year.

My point with all of this is to simply recap the roller coaster of emotions we have experienced over the past 12 months. Covid-19 along with several social issues and a highly controversial election in November have put a strain on all of us. But **ULTIMATELY, I AM VERY THANKFUL** for where I live and work and I hope all of you feel the same way. Our students are in school learning, our students are participating in school activities, and overall, our lives are quite normal; especially when compared to many other parts of the country and even other parts of North Dakota and other nearby states. We have persevered through a very tough time and we have done it together. We have not always agreed with each other, but that's ok. There was and still is no manual or playbook for this entire situation. As others have said "we've built a boat while in the water" and "we've built an airplane while flying."

As we enter the last 2 months of the 2020-21 school year, I simply want to say **THANK YOU!** Thank you South Heart School Board; thank you South Heart School Staff; thank you South Heart School students; thank you South Heart School parents; and thank you South Heart community. As Mr. Jung so appropriately says, "South Heart School is awesome, and so are you!"

Sincerely,
Calvin Dean, **VERY PROUD SUPERINTENDENT!**
South Heart Public School
GO COUGARS!

“Learners for Life”

Semester Eligibility

As we near the end of the school year, there are some important reminders for the upcoming months. Please remember that students who fail any semester two (spring semester) course, will be considered academically ineligible for the following fall semester until the first eligibility check. Please monitor your child’s progress using PowerSchool.

2021 Best of the Class

Each year South Heart High School selects the top students in the graduating class to represent SHHS at the Best of the Class. The Best of the Class is an opportunity for students to have a luncheon, listen to keynote speakers about leadership, and to be recognized on statewide television (sponsored by local businesses) for their academic accomplishments. Congratulations to Elizabeth Dean, Jersey Filkowski, and Campbell Clarys for the honor of representing SHHS at the Best of the Class!

High School Acalympics Competition

On March 12, South Heart High School sent their senior high acalympics team (grades 10-12) to Flasher to compete in the annual Acalympic competition. The acalympic competition is a Jeopardy style competition which quizzes students in the categories of Science, Math, Social Studies, English, Business, Music, and Current Events. Team members this year were, Madison Bebee, Campbell Clarys, Elizabeth Dean, Nick Fagerberg, Preston Walter, Reagan Krump, and alternate Jersey Filkowski. They competed in the large school division and took 4th place.

Junior High Acalympics Competition

On April 6, our Junior High Acalympic team (grades 7-9) will compete in the regional acalympics competition, which will be held at the Dickinson Middle School.

Graduation Information

At this time, we are planning to have a normal graduation on May 30, 2021 @ 12:30pm in the South Heart Gymnasium. We will be following recommendations from the North Dakota Department of Health. More information to follow.

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com (Search HR Cougars)

Twitter: @heartrivercgrs

Sincerely,
Mr. Jung
High School Principal

The Principal Files: Mrs. Geis

We have started the North Dakota State Assessment and will continue into the end of April. Students in grades three through six complete a Math and an English Language Arts assessment. Students in fourth grade also complete a Science assessment.

To celebrate Children and Youth in our communities, the Belfield American Legion Auxiliary Unit 144 and the American Legion Post 144 provided milk or juice during snack time for all students in Preschool through 4th grade.

Congratulations to our school Spelling Bee winners Deilya Bach, Shayden Moe, Michael Mehrer, Amelia Schoch, Megan Robb, and Xavier Krump.

On April 22 at 6:00 pm, we will be having the Kindergarten-Roundup for the 2021-2022 Kindergarten class. Mrs. Geis will mail information to parents and students.

Parents who would like to put in a teacher request for the 2021-2022 school year must complete a teacher request form. The form is found in the Elementary Student Handbook, which is on the school website, or you may contact Mrs. Geis for a paper copy. All forms are required to be turned into Mrs. Geis by May 1, 2021.

Elementary Music Events

The Elementary Spring Music Program for Kindergarten through grade 4 will be held on May 3. Kindergarten through grade 2 will perform at 5:30pm and grades 3-4 will perform at 6:30pm.

Counselor's Corner: Mrs. Olson

Dates to Watch:

March 31, 2021 - Drivers Education registration deadline

April 17, 2021 - ACT Test (Seniors @ DSU)

April 15th, 2021 - FAFSA Priority Deadline

April 28th, 2021 – WSC/MSU College Tour

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 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.

WSC/MSU College Tour – On April 28 juniors and undecided seniors have the option to participate in a tour of the Williston State College and Minot State University campuses. This will be a day trip touring WSC in the morning and MSU in the afternoon. Interested students should contact Mrs. Olson to sign up.

Drivers Education: This summer the South Heart School will be offering a Driver's Education course for students who will have completed the 8th grade and are 14 years of age or older. The registration deadline was March 31. If your child is registered for the class, please remember the cost for the class is \$125, however if parents attend the parent meeting indicated in the letter, the price is reduced to \$100. Checks can be made out to SHHS and the fee must be paid by the Parent Meeting on May 7th.

Notes from Ms. Schweigert

On Saturday, April 10, several of the choir students in grades 7-12 will be participating in the Region 10 Vocal Festival held at Dickinson Trinity High School. The festival this year will only include solos and small ensembles. We have several students participating in small ensembles this year!

CPASS

CPASS After Prom Party meeting Monday, April 5 @ 6:30 in school lobby. Prom will be May 1!

Badlands Pizza Order forms have been sent home. Get your pizzas ordered for summer vacation! The pizza order forms are due April 9 to office or classroom teacher. Make sure you write the name and phone number of the seller on order form.

We are in need of a parent to supervise concessions for the spring sports:

Elementary Girls Volleyball games: April 15 & 27 at 3:30 at South Heart School

Girls Softball games: April 9, 12, 20, 27; May 13,15 at 3:30 at the South Heart Softball field

Please email lindzee.schneider@k12.nd.us if you can help.

Junior High Acalympics

Congratulations to the following students who have earned a spot on this year's Junior High Acalympics team: Freshmen Emma Bock, Kieva Brock, Hanna Hoff, Molly Robb and 7th graders Megan Robb and Amelia Schoch. Alternates are freshman Van Clarys and 8th grader Xavier Krump. The competition is scheduled for Tuesday, April 6, at Dickinson Middle School.

South Heart Public School

2021-2022

School Board Approved 3/10/21

July 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
August 2021 11 days						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
September 2021 21 days						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
October 2021 18 days						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
November 2021 17 days						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
December 2021 16 days						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2021	
Aug 12	Registration (8:00 am - 4:00 pm)
Aug 16	In-Service & Open House (5:00 pm)
Aug 17	First Day of School
Sep 6	Labor Day - No School
Sep 23	Parent/Teacher Conferences (3:45-6:45 pm)
Sep 30	Parent/Teacher Conferences (3:45-6:45 pm)
Oct 1	No School - In-Service 8am - 12pm
Oct 15	End of Quarter 1 (42 days)
Oct 21-22	NDCEL/DPI Convention - No School
Nov 11	Veterans' Day - No School
Nov 12	No School
Nov 24	No School - In-Service 8am - 12pm
Nov 25-26	Thanksgiving Break - No School
Dec 22	End of Quarter 2 (41 days)
Dec 23	Holiday Break Begins
2022	
Jan 3	School reconvenes after Holiday Break
Jan 17	MLK Day - No School
Feb 10	Parent/Teacher Conferences (3:45-6:45 pm)
Feb 17	Parent/Teacher Conferences (3:45-6:45 pm)
Feb 18	No School / In-Service 8am - 12pm
Feb 21	Presidents' Day - No School
Mar 11	End of Quarter 3 (47 days)
Mar 17	No School - Snow Make-Up Day
Mar 18	No School
Apr 14	No School - In-Service 8am - 12pm
Apr 15	Good Friday - No School
Apr 18	No School - Snow Make-Up Day
May 20	End of Quarter 4 (45 days)
May 22	Graduation (12:30 pm)
<hr/>	
Quarter 1	42 days: (Aug 17 – Oct 15)
Quarter 2	41 days: (Oct 18 – Dec 22)
Quarter 3	47 days: (Jan 3 – Mar 11)
Quarter 4	45 days: (Mar 14 – May 20)
<hr/>	
175	Student Contact Days
2	P/T Conferences - Compensatory Days
	• Nov 12, Mar 18
3	Holidays Counted
	• Sep 6, Nov 11, Nov 25
3	Professional Development (In-Service)
	• Aug 16 (full day)
	• Oct 1, Nov 24, Feb 18, Apr 14 (1/2 days)
183	Total Days

January 2022 20 days						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					
February 2022 18 days						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					
March 2022 21 days						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
April 2022 18 days						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
May 2022 15 days						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
June 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		