

Denmark Viking District Newsletter

Issue #1

August 2011



First Day of School September 1, 2011

Early Childhood.....	8:00-3:00
Elementary School.....	8:00-3:10
Middle School.....	8:00-3:13
High School.....	8:00-3:15

School Phone Numbers

Early Childhood.....	863-4175
Elementary School.....	863-4050
Middle School.....	863-4100
High School.....	863-4200
District Office.....	863-4000
Transportation.....	863-4018
Lunch Accounts.....	863-4220
Special Education.....	863-4030
Free/Reduced Lunch.....	863-4217

DONATION HELPS WORLD LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Shawn Short, director of the Before and After School Program in Denmark, has generously donated \$2,400 to be used for materials for the World Language Program initiated last year at the ECC. This program will continue with the 1st grade at Denmark Elementary this year. This is the second time Shawn has donated to this program. Many thanks for her generosity!

NEW STAFF

Welcome to the following new staff members:

Abby Bruening - Elementary Special Education
Andrea Collins—Fourth Grade Teacher
Dana Dolezal—Part-time Middle School Music Teacher
Jamie Frizzo—Elementary Special Education
Joshua Gauthier—Middle School Business Teacher
Chris Haese—High School Physical Education Teacher
Justinn Heraly—High School Physics Teacher
Sarah McKay—Second Grade Teacher
Jordan Phillippo—Fourth Grade Teacher

FLORAL PLANT GROWERS, LLC DONATION



Floral Plant Growers, LLC of Denmark opened their doors to the public and hosted a two-day, Friends & Family community plant sale. A total of \$1000 was donated to the High School to be used for equipment and supplies in the new greenhouse.

Pictured is President and CEO, Scott Lueder, and John Mencheski, Corporate Supply Chain Manager presenting a check to Tony Klaubauf, District Administrator.

A big Thank You to all who purchased plants and to Floral Plant Growers!



BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROGRAM INFORMATION

What's to Eat?

Families can find menus posted on the district page of our website: www.denmark.k12.wi.us. Click the Chartwell's School Dining Service link. Breakfast is served at all buildings except the High School.

Lunch Prices:

Early Childhood\$2.15
 Elementary School\$2.15
 Middle School\$2.50
 High School\$2.50
 Adult Lunch\$3.25

Breakfast\$1.40
 Reduced Breakfast\$0.30
 Reduced Lunch\$0.40

Milk.....\$0.40

How Do Students Qualify for Free/Reduced Lunch?

Household size and income determine your status for free/reduced lunch benefits. Eligibility for foster children is based on the children's income alone, not the household income where they reside.

Only one application is needed per household (available in every school office) and can be submitted to your school office or sent to Tony Klaubauf, District Administrator, 450 N. Wall St., Denmark, WI 54208. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling can discuss the decision with Kristi Buhr at (920) 863-4217. A formal appeal can be requested by phone or in writing to Joseph Duckett, School Board President, 560 Green Bay Rd, Denmark, WI 54208; (920) 863-6187.



Reduced Price Lunch Income Guidelines 2011-12

FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART For School Year 2011-2012			
Household Size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$20,147	\$1,679	\$388
2	\$27,214	\$2,268	\$524
3	\$34,281	\$2,857	\$660
4	\$41,348	\$3,446	\$796
5	\$48,415	\$4,035	\$932
6	\$55,482	\$4,624	\$1,067
7	\$62,549	\$5,213	\$1,203
8	\$69,616	\$5,802	\$1,339
Each addi- tional person:	\$7,067	\$589	\$136

No child will be discriminated against in this program because of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, age, or mental or physical handicap. If any member of a household believes they have been discriminated against, write the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250

If you would like an application or have any questions, call (920) 863-4217.

WE NEED YOU!

Would you like to make a difference in your child's school? Well, here's how!

Every year, your family receives a Free and Reduced Price Meal Application. If you feel that your family would qualify (see income chart above), it is important to fill out this form and return it to school for two reasons:

1. The application lets us know if your child is eligible for free or reduced price school meals. Children from families that earn below a certain income level can receive free or reduced price lunch and breakfast at school.
2. Approved applications are used to match funding our school receives for resources for students such as books and classroom furniture.

The application is easy to fill out and easy to understand. Also, you do not have to worry about your information being shared with others because application information is CONFIDENTIAL.

Support the School Breakfast Program today by completing your application! If you have any questions, feel free to call (920) 863-4217.



DISTRICT NEWS FROM TONY KLAUBAUF

SUMMER PROJECTS

Every year the School District of Denmark attempts to improve or maintain the excellent facilities and grounds we presently have available and this summer was no exception. Some of the larger projects near completion are soccer fields, bathrooms/concession stand and the greenhouse. Here is a brief update on each project:

Soccer Fields – The goal originally was to have the fields ready for this fall. However, a very wet spring and continued rain during the summer made it very difficult to get the grading finished and grass planted. Therefore, there will be no practice or games on this field until next spring. There is still some minor leveling of the ground which needs to be completed in certain spots, along with the shot put and discus throwing areas which will be added this fall.

Bathrooms/Concession Stand – The bathrooms/concession stand will be completed by the first home varsity football game on August 26th. While cabinets and working areas in the concession stand will still need to be completed over time, we are hoping to have the Tech. Ed. Department classes help with this during the school year. We will make do with tables for now. Please be careful to use the designated walkways as the grass around the concession stand will be seeded very shortly before the 26th.

Greenhouse – All of the outside work on the greenhouse will be completed by the time school starts. We will begin to purchase work benches, tables and other equipment in fall. We greatly appreciate the Denmark FFA Alumni and their generous donation and also Floral Plant Growers, LLC of Denmark for their expertise prior to construction and financial contribution. We hope to have a long and positive relationship with Floral Plant Growers in the education of our students using this brand new facility.

Other work completed during the summer was:

- Concrete work in back of the Elementary School and in back of the Early Childhood Center along with some concrete repairs in front of the Middle School.
- Continued window replacement on the north side of the Elementary School.
- Woodchips in the playgrounds of the Early Childhood Center and Elementary School.
- Updated door security at the High School.

BUSING

The Denmark School Board grappled with a major decision over the last few months regarding a long-range plan for the busing of students. The major issues involved with the decision at this time were the retirement of our long-time bus mechanic, Bill Soldner; the challenging fiscal situation all school districts find themselves in; and the number of buses that will need to be replaced in the near future. The School Board investigated all options including:

1. Hire a mechanic and continue to look at options to replace aging buses.
2. Have another bus company take over the busing of students and sell the bus fleet to this company. (The district had five bus companies bid to transport students and purchase the buses.)
3. Keep the buses, but “farm out” the repair of buses. (The district had five mechanic shops bid on the bus repairs.)

The Board made a decision in June to hire Kane Services of Denmark to maintain the buses for the 2011-12 school year and to look at options for the 2012-13 school year again in spring.

Issues for the Board this upcoming spring will be:

- Is contracting out the bus mechanic work cost effective compared to having a district-employed mechanic?
- If the district keeps the buses, how will the district purchase replacement buses with the cost of new buses expected to rise dramatically in the future and dealing with tighter budgets each and every year? A new bus for 2011-12 would cost approximately \$82,000 and this is expected to rise to \$100,000 over the next several years due to safety changes and pollution controls.



FINANCIAL NEWS

Obviously, in the last State legislative session there were major changes made to the collective bargaining process and a huge reduction in State support of public schools.

The two major components of revenue for a district are State Aid – money collected through sales and income tax and distributed back to school districts and other municipalities -- and local property tax assessed to district property. The State Aid is established by the legislature and the governor through the biannual budget process. The School District of Denmark is expected to receive \$973,330 less in State Aid for 2011-12 than it received in 2010-11.

The other revenue control districts have is called the Revenue Limit. This is an amount per student by which the district can increase or decrease the revenue each year – as a combination of State Aid and local property taxes. The amount of revenue limit is also controlled by the State government. Over the past 15 years, the district was able to increase the revenue limit about \$200 per student each year. (A district like Denmark, which has about 1500 students, would be able to increase revenue to approximately \$300,000 per year to pay for increased salary, benefits, energy costs, buses, technology, etc.) For the 2011-12 school year, for the first time ever, the district is required by law to decrease the revenue by \$517.07 per pupil. This amounts to approximately \$775,500 less in revenue for 2011-12 if we use 1500 students as a comparison.

What has further been a disadvantage to districts like Denmark, and about 75% of all school districts, is declining enrollment. For the past five years, Denmark has lost 23–40 students each year. If a district loses students, the State requires the district to collect less revenue. When the three factors of less State aid, a decrease in the revenue limit, and declining enrollment are put together, it means the Denmark District has close to \$843,500 less revenue for 2011-12 compared to 2010-11. While employees will pay more for their retirement contributions and their dental and health insurance premiums, the district is unable to balance the 2011-12 budget without increasing revenue or cutting programs.

The other factor impacting the operating budget for Denmark, and the impact on the local taxpayers, was the 2008 referendum passed by the voters of Denmark to exceed the revenue limit by \$700,000 in 2009-10, \$800,000 in 2010-11 and \$900,000 in 2011-12. Because of the huge deficits in State government tax collections in 2008 and 2009 due to the nationwide recession, the federal government distributed what were called ARRA funds to local districts. This helped keep local taxes lower than expected as the Denmark School Board approved of using only \$150,000 in 2009-10 and \$300,000 in 2010-11 to limit the impact on local taxpayers. Following the 2008 referendum, many people in our area were unemployed or under-employed. Because federal dollars were provided to help offset costs, the Denmark Board voted not to use all additional dollars from the referendum.

For the 2011-12 school year, the Denmark Board is facing a new dilemma that will not only impact the 2011-12 school year, but may also influence how residents would vote on a future referendum to exceed the revenue limit. To balance the 2011-12 budget, \$450,000 of “exceeding the revenue” dollars are needed. This would raise the school district portion of the property tax by \$50 for each \$150,000 of property value.

At this year’s annual meeting, there was some public sentiment to use more of the referendum money to offset some expenses such as blacktopping in a number of areas and also pay for a new heating system at the ECC. If the Board approves of using \$700,000, a person with \$150,000 in property value would pay an additional \$112 for 2011-12. If the Board approves using the full \$900,000, a person with \$150,000 in property value would pay an additional \$162 for 2011-12. The School Board will need to make a decision as to where to set the tax levy in late October.

Amount of taxes per \$150,000 of Property Wealth

Referendum	2008-09	2009-10 (State began a decrease in aid to districts)	2010-11
None	\$1260.00 (actual)		
\$150,000		\$1408.50 (actual)	
\$700,000		\$1545.00 (proposed)	
\$300,000			\$1453.00 (actual)
\$800,000			\$1580.00 (proposed)

By not using the full amount of revenue authority, tax payers had a savings of \$263.50 over the past two years based on a property value of \$150,000.



NEW COMMUNITY SIGN

An electric sign purchased from United Sign Company has been constructed on DePere Road next to the DeGrand Family Restaurant through the efforts of many community groups. The primary purpose of the sign is to promote non-profit events in the community and schools. This location was chosen because the visibility on DePere Road is much greater than on any other street or road around Denmark. The Denmark Community Business Association (DCBA) will develop the guidelines for the sign and will pay for electrical and phone expenses. The School District maintains ownership of the sign to provide liability insurance. Political or controversial messages will not be allowed, with final decisions to be made by the DCBA President or the District Administrator of the Denmark School District. Theresa Olsen from the Denmark School District Technology Department has volunteered to operate the sign messages.

Thanks to all for a great community project!

Major Contributors for the sign were:

Denmark FFA Alumni
Denmark Wrestling Club
Denmark Lion's Club
School District of Denmark
Village of Denmark

The Class of 2010 donated \$1800

In Kind Donations:

Virginia Schultz Family
(Provided property for sign)
Abts Law Office
Northern Concrete
Bielinski Excavating
John Zellner – NWTC Instructor
Rick Anderson and Denmark High School
Tech. Ed Students
Carew Concrete
Dick's Lawn Care
County Materials
Van Oss Electric

Flagpole, flags and light for the flagpole were donated by:

Denmark VFW Post 5705
Denmark American Legion Post 363
Denmark Knights of Columbus 4735



School District and Village Work Together for Police Liaison Position

In a cost saving measure for the both the Village and the School District, the Police Liaison position will now be provided by the Village Police instead of the Brown County Sheriff's Department. While this will be on a trial basis for the 2011-12 school year, it is hoped this is a long term agreement from which everyone benefits. The district wishes to thank Jeff Carr for his many years of dedicated service to the students, staff and community of Denmark.



2011-12 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

September

- 1 First Day of School
- 5 No School—Labor Day
- 23 Professional Development Time (PDT Day)

October

- 26 PDT Day
- 27 WEAC Convention (No School)
- 28 WEAC Convention (No School)

November

- 18 PDT Day
- 23 No School—Teacher In-Service
- 24 No School—Thanksgiving
- 25 No School—Thanksgiving Break

December

- 16 PDT Day
- 23 Last School Day Before Holiday Break

January

- 3 First School Day After Holiday Break
- 20 No School—Teacher In-Service Day

February

- 3 PDT Day

March

- 8 PDT Day
- 9 No School—Teacher In-Service Day

April

- 5 PDT Day
- 6 No School—Holiday
- 9 No School—Holiday

May

- 25 PDT Day
- 28 No School—Memorial Day

June

- 1 Last Day of School—Early Release
- 3 Graduation—1:00 P.M.

*Students are dismissed at 11:30 a.m. on PDT Days

*Dates are subject to change

FOUR-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

If your child will be four years old on or before September 1, 2011, they are eligible to participate in our 4K program focused on developing “the whole child.” The Denmark Early Childhood Center’s 4K program is offered four days a week, Monday thru Thursday (Friday is an outreach and planning day), with both morning and afternoon sessions. The morning session is from 8:00—11:00 a.m. and the afternoon session is from 12:00—3:00 p.m., with bussing provided.

This year the Denmark Before and After School Program is offering wraparound childcare for four-year-old kindergarten students. For more information please contact Shawn Short at 920-863-3298 or 920-360-1867.

It is never too late to enroll your child for 4K; if interested, please contact Principal Dave Harper at 920-863-4176.

EXERCISE CLASS

The School District of Denmark is offering exercise classes starting September 7. Classes will be on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Middle School gym. Each session will run for six weeks and cost \$25.00 per session or \$3.00 per night. If interested, call Roseanne Polacek at 655-2528.

STAN YAZAWA

On August 14, 2011 the Wisconsin Chapter of the National Hall of Fame held a reception and dinner in honor of Stan Yazawa for his lifetime of service to the sport of wrestling. The Lifetime Service Award Program, coordinated by the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in Stillwater, Oklahoma, is designed to honor and recognize individuals that have dedicated a significant portion of their life to the advancement and promotion of the sport of wrestling.

Mr. Yazawa has been the wrestling coach at Denmark High School for the past 46 years, along with being an English teacher. He retired from teaching in 2002.

The School District of Denmark congratulates Mr. Yazawa on this well deserved award and thanks him for his dedication to our school.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT MEETINGS

September 12
October 10
November 14
January 9
February 13
March 12
May 14

The meetings are from 6:30—7:30 p.m. in the Middle School Media Center.
Dates may be subject to change.



ANNUAL NOTICES

PUPIL RECORDS

The *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that the School District of Denmark, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, the School District of Denmark may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the School District of Denmark to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill showing your student's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll and other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent. (These laws are: Section 9528 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7908) as amended by the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (P.L. 107-110), the education bill, and 10 U.S.C. 503, as amended by section 544, the *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002* (P.L. 107-107), the legislation that provides funding for the Nation's armed forces.)

If you do not want the School District of Denmark to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing by December 31, 2008. The School District of Denmark has designated the following information as directory information:

- The student's name
- The student's address
- The student's telephone listing
- The student's date and place of birth
- The student's major field of study
- The student's participation in officially recognized activities and sports.
- The student's weight and height if a member of an athletic team
- The student's dates of attendance
- The student's photograph
- The student's degrees and awards
- The name of the school most recently previously attended by the student

SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT CARD: WINSS ON THE WEB

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has developed a website entitled "Wisconsin's Information Network for Successful Schools (WINSS)" to assist parents, community members, and educators learn more about Wisconsin school districts. The WINSS Successful School Guide is accessible on the web at www.dpi.state.wi.us/sig/index.html and includes detailed information on student achievement, student adequate yearly progress, student graduation rates, schools identified as in need of improvement, and professional qualifications of teachers.

Feel free to explore information on this web page from the comforts of your home, from the local branch of the Brown County Library (located on the second floor of our high school), or contact the school district office at 863-4000.



ANNUAL NOTICES CONTINUED

STUDENT SURVEYS

As a school district receiving funds under U. S. Department of Education programs, the School District of Denmark must notify parents of their right to inspect certain student surveys and to opt their children out of those surveys and other activities that collect, disclose, or use personal information from students, including materials designed to sell or market student information to others. The types of surveys include those created by third parties (outside of the school district) and their subject matter as specified below. Parents must be notified of their rights before the survey is distributed to students.

Schools must involve parents in establishing policies that annually notify parents of this right at the beginning of each school year and when substantive changes are made to related school policies. The notice to parents must state the specific or approximate dates during the school year when activities are scheduled.

If a survey asks students for information in any of the following eight categories, schools must give parents the right to inspect the survey:

- Political affiliations or beliefs of students or their family.
- Mental and psychological problems of students or their family.
- Sex behavior or attitudes.
- Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior.
- Critical appraisals of individuals with whom students have close family relationships.
- Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians, and ministers.
- Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of students or their parents.
- Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for program participation or financial assistance).

The School District of Denmark will provide the survey to parents within a reasonable amount of time after the request and before surveys are distributed to students. The School District of Denmark will also involve parents in developing and adopting policies that establish the right of parents, upon request, to inspect student surveys and opt their children out of a survey.

ESEA TEACHER QUALITY NOTIFICATION

The School District of Denmark is committed to hiring and retaining high quality educational staff members. All teachers in our school district have at least a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college and are licensed by the State of Wisconsin, Department of Public Instruction (DPI).

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), also known as the No Child Left Behind Act, requires school districts to notify parents of their right to request the following information about the qualifications of the school district teachers and paraprofessionals who are educating their children.

Is my child's teacher licensed to teach the grades or subjects assigned?

Has the state waived any requirements for my child's teacher?

What was the college major of my child's teacher?

What degrees does my child's teacher hold?

Are there paraprofessionals working with my child? If so, what are their qualifications?

You may obtain this information on the Wisconsin DPI website at www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dlsis/tel/lisearch.html or by contacting Peggy Heise in the Denmark Schools Human Resource Department at 863-4012.



ANNUAL NOTICES CONTINUED

HOMELESS CHILDREN

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children and youth (twenty-one years of age and younger) as:

- Children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and includes children and youth who are:
 - sharing the housing of others persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (sometimes referred to as double-up);
 - living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
 - living in emergency or transitional shelters;
 - abandoned in hospitals; or
 - awaiting foster care placement.
- Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
- Children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings.
- Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

If you are personally aware of or are acquainted with any children who may qualify according to the above criteria, the School District of Denmark provides the following assurances to parents of homeless children:

- The local district staff person (liaison) for homeless children is the Director of Pupil Services.
- There shall be immediate enrollment and school participation, even if educational and medical records and proof of residency are not available.
- All educational opportunities and related opportunities for homeless students (preschool to age 21), including unaccompanied youth, shall be the same as for the general student population.
- Enrollment and transportation rights, including transportation to the school of origin, shall be possible. "School of origin" is defined as the school the child attended when permanently housed or when last enrolled.
- Written explanation of why a homeless child is placed other than in a school of origin or school requested by the parent, with the right to appeal within the local dispute resolution process.
- Meaningful opportunities for parents to participate in the education of their children. These shall include: special notices of events, parent-teacher conferences, newsletters, and access to student records.

Please contact Cindy Weller homeless liaison for the School District of Denmark, for additional information about homeless issues. Mrs. Weller can be reached at 920-863-4032.

SPECIAL EDUCATION REFERRAL AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES

Upon request, the **School District of Denmark** is required to evaluate a child for eligibility for special education services. A request for evaluation is known as a referral. When the district receives a referral, the district will appoint an Individualized Education Program (IEP) team to determine if the child has a disability, and if the child needs special education services. The district locates, identifies, and evaluates all children with disabilities who are enrolled by their parents in private (including religious) schools, elementary schools and secondary schools located in the school district.

A physician, nurse, psychologist, social worker, or administrator of a social agency who reasonably believes a child brought to him or her for services is a child with a disability has a legal duty to refer the child, including a homeless child, to the school district in which the child resides. Before referring the child, the person making the referral must inform the child's parent that the referral will be made.

Others, including parents, who reasonably believe a child is a child with a disability, may also refer the child, including a homeless child, to the school district in which the child resides.

Referrals must be in writing and include the reason why the person believes the child is a child with a disability. A referral may be made by contacting **Joe Koch**, Special Education Director, School District of Denmark at (920) 863-4031 or by writing him at 450 N. Wall Street, Denmark, WI 54208

*For questions about this information, contact **Joe Koch**, Special Education Director, School District of Denmark (920) 863-4031*

School District of Denmark
450 N. Wall St.
Denmark, WI 54208

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Postal Patron

IN THIS EDITION OF THE DENMARK VIKING DISTRICT NEWSLETTER.

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**Attention: Non-Residents of the
School District of Denmark**

This newsletter is a service provided to all residents of the School District of Denmark. The most effective and affordable process to circulate this newsletter throughout our community is to use a saturation mailing which occasionally picks up a few streets in the postal route areas of non-residents. Avoiding a few non-residents from receiving this newsletter is difficult and costly. Our efforts to communicate with our resident families is important. Thank you for understanding.