

Denmark Viking District Newsletter

Issue #3

February 2013



20 YEARS OF SERVICE



Joe Duckett, Denmark School Board President, accepted a plaque for 20 years of school board service from Wisconsin School Board Executive Director, John Ashley, at the 97th Annual WASB Convention in Milwaukee on January 24, 2013.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



Chartwell's Food Service sponsored a Breakfast with Santa at the Early Childhood Center and Elementary School. Approximately five hundred breakfasts were served to students and their families.

OPEN ENROLLMENT 2013-14

Open enrollment, also known as school choice, allows parents to submit an application for their child to attend school in a district other than the one in which they live. Denmark welcomes applicants to the open enrollment program. For online information, please see Denmark's website www.denmark.k12.wi.us. Click "open enrollment" on the left menu. Application dates for the 2013-14 school year are February 4 – April 30, 2013. A separate application must be submitted for each child. Current open enrolled students do not need to reapply, except for current 8th grade students that will be entering high school for 2013-14 and "tuition waiver" students. Students who need to reapply will receive letters and instructions through the postal service.

Please contact Kristi Buhr with any questions at (920) 863-4217 or email buhrk@denmark.k12.wi.us.

CYBERBULLYING AND CYBER-INTEGRITY

Denmark High School Cafetorium
Monday, February 25, 2013
7:00 P.M.

All parents and community members are invited to attend this presentation by Dr. Justin W. Patchin, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at UW-Eau Claire. The presentation will be a broad overview of cyberbullying, including issues parents, educators, and teens need to know about how youth use and misuse technology to cause harm to their peers. The presentation will define and provide examples of cyberbullying and discuss the role of teens and adults in preventing and responding to inappropriate online behaviors. It will also describe many of the online environments popular among adolescents today and strategies to use to make sure they are used safely and responsibly. Specific strategies for preventing and responding to cyberbullying will also be discussed.

This presentation is sponsored by the following organizations: The Denmark Booster Club, The Denmark Community School, The Denmark Middle School MVP, and The Denmark ECC/Elementary Schools PTO.



REFERENDUM FACTS 2013

For the past year, Denmark School Board members have been discussing the possibility of an operating referendum beginning with the 2013-14 school year. It is with reluctance that the Denmark School Board is asking residents for additional tax dollars, as they are well aware there are a number of residents having a difficult time meeting daily expenses without additional taxes. However, school board members are elected to preserve and enhance the education of students while also being fiscally prudent. Sometimes these efforts are in conflict with one another.

The Denmark School Board did vote unanimously on January 14, 2013, to move forward with a three-year referendum on April 2, 2013 to exceed the revenue limit. The Board is seeking \$960,000 for 2013-14, \$970,000 for 2014-15 and \$980,000 for the 2015-16 school year. Below are some questions and answers concerning the referendum. **Because space is limited in this newsletter, please go to www.denmark.k12.wi.us for complete answers.** The quick link for the referendum is on the home page on the left-hand side. Or, if you do not have internet access, please contact Kristi Buhr at 863-4217 and we will mail a copy to you.

Why specifically does Denmark need additional dollars to meet budgetary demands in the future?

Buses, blacktop and boilers are the capital expenses. Technology infrastructure and keeping present programming in place is the other need.

Why haven't the changes made by the State last year provided the district with more discretion with spending?

Those changes helped with the 2011-12 school year primarily. Inflation and ongoing expenses still exist.

Why not just cut expenses instead of asking for more dollars?

The district has made approximately \$2.5 million in cuts since 2004-05. More cuts will diminish the education we are providing the students of Denmark. *(R.W. Baird, a financial consulting firm, has software specifically designed for each school district to predict future budgetary needs. Even with the referendum passing, the Baird model forecasts the Denmark School District will still have to make budgetary reductions of over \$200,000 in 2014-15, and \$500,000 in 2015-16 to balance the district's budget.)*

What is the tax impact if this referendum passes?

For the three years, the estimate is an additional \$65 in taxes for \$100,000 of property value.

Will the district ask for more money in future years?

Obviously, it is the hope of the School Board that the State of Wisconsin will adequately and fairly fund each school district. This has not happened so far.

What happens if this referendum fails?

Significant cuts to programs offered by the district will have to occur.

Is it true, as was printed in the Green Bay newspaper, that the Denmark School District employs substitute teachers at \$63,054 in salary and \$33,360 in benefits?

No, totally false.

If the district did not use \$900,000 from the last referendum in 2008, why aren't those dollars saved and available for use now?

The School Board did not tax for those dollars in order to keep property taxes at a lower rate. They are not available to be used now.

Why do some districts in our area need additional revenue and others do not?

Inequities were started and still remain from 20 years ago when revenue limits were placed upon districts. Declining enrollment districts, like Denmark, experience a much greater strain on finances than growing districts.



STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

What has been accomplished by district students either in support of the Denmark area, or in scholastic performance, to warrant the support of the community?

Here is a partial list of items:

In cooperation with the Denmark VFW and Legion, a group of high school students constructed an addition onto the Veteran's Shelter for the Denmark/Maribel Community Cupboard to allow a place for storage.

Many student groups collect money and food items every year for the Community Cupboard to help those less fortunate in our area.

Students from the High School Construction class, with help from a NWTC instructor, helped build the electronic sign for non-profits and businesses to advertise on as people enter our Village.

The Denmark FFA program is one of the largest in the State of Wisconsin and many students are recognized both locally and at the state and national levels. This year, Denmark Graduate Joanna Wavrunek is serving as a State FFA Officer.

A group of fifth graders at Denmark Elementary recently finished first in the State of Wisconsin in the "Knowledge Master Open Winter Contest."

The Denmark Dance Team competed at the State level on February 2, 2013.

The Denmark Jazz Band went to State competition FIVE years in a row!

Denmark had the highest percentage of students in the Bay Conference who scored at proficient or advanced in Mathematics on the 2011 State Test at the 4th and 8th grade levels.

The Denmark Early Childhood Center and Elementary Schools are among six schools in the state recognized by the Wisconsin RTI Center for promising practices responding to students' needs through intervention and enrichment.

Students with challenges and unique learning styles are provided a safe, caring and enriching environment by the Special Education staff and other faculty of the district.

Parents and students who wish to have personalized learning in a multi-age setting can enroll in the Denmark Community School starting in 7th grade.

Tiffany Polzin finished No. 1 in the State and will represent the State of Wisconsin in the annual VFW Patriot's Pen National Essay Competition in Washington, D.C.

The Sting Cancer group has helped numerous families in the Denmark Community with financial and emotional support as loved ones have battled cancer.

Besides many students successfully competing in athletics, many students excel in the district musical, plays, academic competitions and forensics.

Students from Denmark High School are participating in the Brown County Teen Leadership program working on the prevention of suicide.



GALLERY 211

Gallery 211 held a Fall Semester Art Show on Monday, January 14, 2013. Over 30 works were on display by high school students in Art and Design, and Drawing and Painting classes. Taylor Koenig is pictured here with her artwork.



ENJOYING THE OUTDOORS



Mrs. Kozlovsky's physical education classes enjoyed Denmark Memorial Park when they went snowshoeing the week of January 7.

JAZZ BAND TAKES 1ST PLACE

The Denmark High School Jazz I Ensemble had an amazing clinic with the jazz faculty from UW-Stevens Point on Friday, January 25, and then attended the UW-LaCrosse Jazz Festival on Saturday where they received 1st place in the Class B Division. They were also invited to play on the main stage at the evening concert with the other outstanding bands of the day! This is the 5th year in a row that the High School Jazz Ensemble has placed 1st at the festival!



Front Row from left- Matt Smeester, Alex Sekora, Drew Westlund, Brock Delebreau, Morgan Smeester, Molly Siehr, Sam Parmentier, Ali Ashley, Amanda Kane.

Top Row from left- Evan Keahiolalo, Anthony Rish, Matt Specht, Kevin Havlovitz, Colleen Galligan, Thomas Butzer, Jacob Koenig, Collin Kinsella, Brandon Honnef, Justin Mahlberg, Trevor Wavrunek, and Director Tammy Carley

EXERCISE CLASS

An aerobics exercise class is available on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Middle School gym, with a new session starting February 18.

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.





LEARNING IS FUN!

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER



The students at the Early Childhood Center learned the importance of being in a car seat.



Students have fun while studying the map of the United States in Mrs. Phillippo's classroom.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Elementary School physical education classes find many ways to exercise in the warmth of indoors.



Middle School Library News eBooks on Follett Shelf

Check out the new eBooks available on the Follett Shelf. Some of the titles include Paintball Blast, Raven Quest, Slime, Poop, and Other Wacky Animal Defenses, Zombie Makers, and The Warriors. You can read the books on a desktop, laptop, iPad, or android tablet. You can get to the Follett Shelf from the Media Center webpage or by going to this website <https://wbb17197.follettshef.com/shelf/servlet/presentshefform.do?site=17197>. The user-name and password for the Follett Shelf is the student's four-digit student number.



FABTECH/Fox Valley Technical College Tours

On December 4, 2012, Mrs. Arneson took her 8th Grade Building and Construction classes to FABTECH Service Technician Education in Oshkosh. The students were able to tour the center and experience first-hand what is involved with the training there. FABTECH is part of the Fox Valley Technical College and offers four Caterpillar specific service technician career tracks. The tracks focus on developing Caterpillar rental services, engines, construction equipment, electric power generation and marine engine service technicians. The course can be completed in a year's time and is priced very competitively with other tech schools in the area.

From FABTECH, we then traveled to Fox Valley Technical College to tour some of the different trade areas. The students saw the Automated Manufacturing, Electricity and Electrical Apprenticeship, Machine Tool, and Diesel Engine trades areas. Students were able to talk directly to some students in the Electrical Apprenticeship program, see a working robot, watch a CNC machine, listen and watch a diesel engine run and so much more. The entire learning experience allowed the students to get a taste of what different opportunities await them at the Technical College level. It was a wonderful experience for all of the students that went.



Free and Reduced Meal Programs

The School District of Denmark has free and reduced meal programs available to families at any time during the school year. These programs are based on federal income levels.

If you think you may be eligible or would like to check into the guidelines, please contact Kristi in the District Office at 863-4217 during school hours or visit our district webpage www.denmark.k12.wi.us for information and an application.

Patriot's Pen Essay Contest



Tiffany Polzin, seventh grade student at the middle school, wrote an essay for the VFW Patriot's Pen National Contest. Although her essay did not place at the Denmark VFW Post level, it did get submitted to the Wisconsin VFW 8th District Post. Her essay placed first at the district level. It then moved on to the state level to compete against the other eleven district winners. Tiffany's essay was then awarded first place at the state level. Now her essay will move on to Washington, D.C. for national judging and compete against the other 49 state winners. She was a guest of honor at the VFW District 8 luncheon on January 19 and will also be a guest of honor at the State VFW luncheon on February 16. This year's Patriot's Pen essay topic was "What Would I Tell Our Founding Fathers?"

Middle School Bring Your Parents to School Day ~ Digital Learning Day

Friday February 15
8:00 – 11:35 a.m.

Middle School parents are invited to come to school and go to classes with students and also watch student presentations of the digital learning going on at DMS. Digital Learning Day is a national campaign that celebrates teachers and shines a spotlight on successful instructional practices and effective use of technology in classrooms across the country.





DENMARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Would your child benefit from a different approach to learning?

In September of 2012, the Denmark School District opened a NEW project-based learning charter school designed to meet students' unique learning styles!

The Denmark Community School is the perfect place for students who are curious and wonder about how things work, students who like to study problems and create solutions, students who work with their minds and their hands, students with a passion for challenging, personalized, self-directed learning. Student interests will drive new learning experiences firmly rooted in English, social studies, science, and math.

The Denmark Community School is a tuition-free academic choice offered by the Denmark School District. While enjoying the benefits of a small school environment, students can also participate in clubs, athletics, and other Denmark Middle School and Denmark High School activities. Graduates earn a Denmark High School diploma.

What makes learning at the Denmark Community School so inviting?

- Community Centered Approach
- Personalized Learning
- Multi-age Environment, grades 7-12
- Modern Learning Space
- Integrated Technology

Modern Learning Space

- Personal workstations
- Collaborative work spaces for team projects
- Lounge areas for independent work
- Full kitchen for culinary arts
- Multimedia studio for video and audio recording
- Hands-on project shop for art and tech ed projects

Integrated Technology

- Personal laptop for each student
- Tablet devices and iPads for field work
- Video recording and editing equipment
- Audio recording and editing equipment
- Professional graphic design software/computers

Enrollment is limited to 40 students.

To learn more, visit the Denmark School District website or contact Mark Meisner at 920-863-4153 or

meisnerm@denmark.k12.wi.us



Rebecca VanBeek and Riley Kolarik building cabinets for the studio project in the Denmark Community School with Halvor Halvorson.



Denmark Community School students participating in an African drumming session with Ms. Dolezal.

Denmark Community School Open House

**March 5, 2013
6:00—7:30 p.m.**

The Denmark Community School provides an exciting high tech learning environment for students of all academic abilities.

While enjoying appetizers, you will see how students in grades 7-12 learn how to gather and evaluate information and create projects that solve real world problems.

For more information, call 863-4153.





DENMARK VIKING BOOSTER CLUB

Upcoming Event:

Key Club – This event will be held at Beverly Gardens on Saturday, February 23. With the purchase of an event ticket, you will receive a pizza/salad buffet for two, two drink tickets, and entry for the Big Mouth Band. You will also receive a chance to win one of the following cash prizes:

1st Place: \$3,500

2nd Place: \$2,000

3rd and 4th Place: \$1,000

5th, 6th, and 7th Place: \$500

Tickets are \$100 and can be shared between any two people. If two couples want to share the cost, there would be an additional \$24 total - \$12 per couple to cover entry fee and pizza and salad buffet. Only 250 tickets are being sold and, if less are sold, your chances are even better. There will be no other fundraising that evening!! Tickets can be purchased at the High School, ECC, or Denmark State Bank. For further details, contact Sheryl DeLarwelle at delarwes@denmark.k12.wi.us or 863-4146.

Financial Support Provided:

With funds raised through DBC events, we have been able to help support the following programs or events:

Middle School Band

Girl's Youth and High School Volleyball Programs

Girl's and Boy's Golf Programs

Milk for Athletes Program

Cyberbullying and Internet Safety Speaker

\$2,000 pledge for the new speaker system for the High School track and field

Booster Club Membership:

The DBC is open and welcoming to new members. Our club's purpose is to organize events within our district to raise funds which will be used to meet school district needs. There is a one-time membership fee of \$10. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Sheryl DeLarwelle (contact information already included above). We'd love to have you join us!!

Band Alumni Night



Wrestling Celebrates 50 Years





Denmark School Calendar 2012-13

February 15	Early Dismissal - PDT Day
March 8	No School
March 28	PDT Day
March 29	No School
April 1	No School
May 24	PDT Day
May 27	No School
June 2	Graduation
June 5	Last Day of School -Early Release

2013 SUMMER SCHOOL

June 10-15
June 17-21
June 24-28

More information to follow in
upcoming newsletters.

Denmark School Calendar 2013-14

September 1	First Day of School
September 27	PDT Day - 1/2 Day of School
October 24	No School
October 25	No School
November 22	PDT Day
November 27	No School
November 28	No School
November 29	No School
December 13	PDT Day
December 20	Last Day of School Before Holiday
January 2	First Day of School After Holiday
January 23	PDT Day
January 24	No School
February 21	PDT Day
March 7	No School
March 28	PDT Day
April 18	No School
April 21	No School
May 23	PDT Day
May 26	No School
June 1	Graduation
June 5	Last Day of School -Early Release

Thank You from the Community Cupboard

December 28, 2012

Dear Residents, Children, Teachers and Staff of the Denmark School District,

On behalf of the Denmark Community Cupboard Food Pantry we would like to thank you for all your donations this past year. Thank you for all the food and money donations collected during music and band concerts, the FFA for your donation of fruit at Christmas, and for collecting canned goods during Halloween trick or treating, to everyone who donated for the FFA sponsored Christmas bags which included oranges, cookies, candy canes, hats and mittens and other little gifts for each of our pantry children. Thank you also to Mr. McPherson and the student council for all of your new and gently used stocking stuffers. To the Denmark Middle School students and staff for adopting families for Christmas and fulfilling children's wish lists. To Tony Klaubauf for not only being our pantry Board of Directors President, but for also helping us get the word out about our pantry needs. To the janitors for delivering all of the food and other collections. If we have forgotten anyone we apologize. We just want ALL of you to know how much our pantry families appreciate everything all of you have done for them this past year.

Sincerely,

Terry & Russ Gajeski, Denmark Community Cupboard Coordinators



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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
DENMARK, WI
PERMIT NO. 32

ECRWSS

Postal Patron

IN THIS EDITION OF THE DENMARK VIKING DISTRICT NEWSLETTER.....

- **Open Enrollment 2013-14**
- **Cyberbullying & Cyber-Integrity**
- **Referendum Facts 2013**
- **Patriot's Pen Essay**
- **Middle School College Tours**
- **Denmark Community School**
- **Denmark Viking Booster Club**
- **School Year Calendar**

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.