

Denmark Viking District Newsletter

Issue #3

February 2014



VARSITY DANCE TEAM 5th IN STATE

It is with great pride that we announce our very own Denmark Varsity Dance Team made history this year in LaCrosse!

For the second year in a row, they have succeeded in bringing home another state trophy with their Hip Hop routine. They placed 5th out of the top 19 teams state wide.

Additionally, for the first time in Denmark's legacy the team has brought home a Division 4 Pom trophy! They placed 5th out of the top 25 teams in the state.



ART AND TECH ED COMBINED

Mrs. Arneson's and Ms. Borchert's classes collaboratively worked on a project. The students worked as a team to create a sculpture for a new insurance company coming into Denmark called Arneborch. One student from Technology and Engineering was the carpenter and one student from Art was the artist. The students were given a bag full of wood pieces that they could manipulate to create their sculpture. The students were able to use the workshop's tools and machines to create the sculpture.

Mrs. Arneson and Ms. Borchert are very proud of their work!



4K & 5K REGISTRATION

Four-year-old and five-year-old kindergarten registration for the **2014-2015** school year will be held at the Denmark Early Childhood Center office the week of **Feb. 24-28**. Parents of children who will be four years of age by Sept. 1, 2014 are eligible for four-year-old kindergarten and students who will be five years old by Sept. 1, 2014 are eligible for five-year-old kindergarten. Four-year-old kindergarten is held four half days a week, Monday through Thursday, with either morning or afternoon sessions. Five-year-old kindergarten is held five full days a week. If your child currently attends four-year-old kindergarten at the ECC they do not need to come in for 5K registration, as this is for **new students only**. Parents are asked to come to the Early Childhood Center office during the week of Feb. 24 to register their child/ren. Hours of registration are from 7:40 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. State Law requires school districts to verify each child's birth certificate as well as the child's immunization record. Parents must bring these documents when they register their child/ren. Registration packets were mailed out on Feb. 7. If you didn't receive a registration packet, or if you have any questions or concerns, please call the ECC Office at 863-4175.

WHY DO FAMILIES CHOOSE DENMARK?

The following quotes are from parents of open enrolled students on why they choose to attend Denmark Schools.

"My wife and I are extremely grateful for the opportunity to open enroll our son, Sawyer, in Denmark High School this year as an incoming freshman. We believe the Denmark School District provides an excellent education, coupled with a positive and friendly atmosphere that will allow our son to grow both inside and outside the classroom. We feel Denmark schools are the perfect size for children to be challenged academically and in extra-curricular activities, yet not so big that students become lost in the shuffle. In his first year in the Denmark School District, our son has offered nothing but praise about his experience and speaks highly of his teachers and new friends." *Jeff Alexander, De Pere, WI*

"We choose to open enroll our son to the Denmark School District for several reasons, but mainly for the academic opportunities the district provides. The Denmark School District is large enough to provide more of these opportunities yet small enough where he still gets the one on one time and attention that each child deserves. As parents in the world that we live in, we all have to focus on putting our kids where they have the most opportunity to grow for the future and the Denmark School District gives a great opportunity in many ways when you start comparing to other districts." *Lisa and John Mencheski*

"I am happy to discuss why our family chose Denmark Public Schools for our children. We researched and visited every high school that is located in Brown County along with a few others. Ultimately, the deciding factor for our family was the level of engagement we found at the schools during our visits and shadowing with classmates. The students were engaged with their teachers and the administration. We could see and feel the enthusiasm from the students about being at school. We felt that our children would have excellent opportunities to succeed given the positive atmosphere that exists in Denmark. Since our transfer, we have found this to be true. Our family has experienced the engagement by the schools and the community. We are very happy with our decision." *Pete Mears*

"Our son attended Green Bay Public Schools K-8, as we live in the district. In 7th grade he expressed a desire to attend another high school in the area. After much discussion and time, we had him shadow a student at Denmark Middle School in 8th grade. When I arrived to pick him up after his day, he got into my vehicle and told me that his day was one of the best school days he had ever had. His quote "Every teacher today was like my favorite teacher (at his present school)." He finished out the school year due to his commitment to basketball team (his decision.) In the meantime, I spoke with many people that had children in the Denmark School system, including many that chose school choice. This decision was not made in a hurry. However, the choice we all made together has worked out wonderfully. The teachers, staff, coaches and administration are so dedicated to the students' education. They all keep an open line of communication with parents. It is absolutely refreshing to have this experience. PS. I have an uncle who works for the Shawano DNR. He had a meeting with staff from Denmark. Told me he was so impressed with staff!! You have an excellent reputation and I could not be more pleased with the outcome." *Renee Bisbee*

"My husband and I chose the Denmark School District because we wanted to ensure our children would have a solid education while offering the close community we both had growing up. Denmark has provided our children with quality teachers that not only deliver a solid educational foundation, but truly take interest and care for our kids. It brings us great comfort to know they are receiving both." *Dr. Sheila & Jason Kittell*

"After our children began their school years in a Parochial School, we chose to open-enroll them in the Denmark Public School System and are very happy with our decision.

We have encountered many dedicated and hard-working teachers who exceed our expectations every day. They challenge the students academically, teaching them to do their personal best, while having fun learning.

Our children enjoy the social interactions and extra-curricular activities that are available to them. As parents, we appreciate the values of a smaller town and the positive environment in the schools.

Our family has had a positive experience throughout the open enrollment process and we look forward to many more years in the Denmark School District." *Anonymous Parent*



REFERENDUM NEWS

VOTE APRIL 1, 2014

“Shall the School District of Denmark, Brown, Manitowoc and Kewaunee Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$800,000 for the 2014-2015 school year, by \$900,000 for the 2015-2016 school year; and by \$900,000 for the 2016-2017 school year, for non-recurring purposes consisting of operating expenses, including ongoing educational programming and maintenance, enhancing safety and security, transportation and technology?”

WHY IS THERE A REFERENDUM TO EXCEED THE REVENUE LIMIT?

The Denmark School District is attempting to:

Maintain current classes and programs for students.

Continue to improve district technology and safety programs.

Re-surface parking lots and playgrounds that are run down because of age.

Provide safe transportation for students to and from school.

WHY IS THE DENMARK SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THIS FINANCIAL POSITION?

- Twenty years ago districts were locked into revenue/spending limits. Districts like Denmark were permanently locked into low spending from that point forward. Districts that spent a greater amount per student were also locked into a higher rate of spending.
- The student population at Denmark has decreased by 174 students in the past 10 years, or 10.31%. Less enrollment equals less revenue.
- The combination of being locked into a low revenue limit and having less students to make up for that difference is the biggest cause of the deficit.

WHAT HAS THE SCHOOL DISTRICT DONE TO CUT COSTS?

- Since the 2003-04 school year, staff has been reduced from 197.47 to 170.50 — a total of 13.7 % — while enrollment decreased 10.31%.
- Total reductions including staff cuts have totaled \$2,818,108.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR DISTRICT

NEXT GENERATION BEST PLACE TO WORK

The Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring this award to a business that demonstrates a commitment to the development of young professionals, adapts to work-friendly policies, values generational differences, and institutes attraction and retention initiatives for young talent. Ashley Gavin, Business Education Teacher at the Denmark Middle and High Schools, nominated the district and the district is in the running with six other organizations for the award. The winner will be chosen on February 20.

“IMPACT”

Green Bay Chamber of Commerce Magazine

The Denmark Community School will be featured in the Green Bay Chamber of Commerce's magazine “IMPACT.” The charter school hosted a Partners in Education meeting of the Green Bay Chamber in November. Information shared at the meeting brought additional interest from the editors of “IMPACT.” We hope to share the article with all residents once it is printed.

NEW SPORTS CONFERENCE

Starting with the 2015-16 school year, Denmark will be part of the Eastern Valley Conference. Denmark is currently in the Bay Conference where we have the lowest student enrollment. Below are the high school student populations the WIAA (Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association) used to determine placement. The WIAA also considers travel

Eastern Valley Conference

Clintonville—467
Denmark—508
Fox Valley Lutheran—542
Freedom—525
Little Chute—478
Luxemburg Casco—579
Marinette—625
Oconto Falls—530
Waupaca—725 (Not Football)
Wrightstown—455

DENMARK BASP

The Denmark Before and After School Program, run by Shawn Short, continues to receive high praise from those who rely on the program for help with daycare.

“I just wanted to send you an email letting you know how much the Denmark BASP has helped our family. We moved to Denmark because it seemed like a small tight knit community, much like how I grew up in Kohler. As we were moving, I had a lot of doubts because I was worried about my son transitioning from Kindergarten in Kewaunee where he had been to now being open-enrolled to Denmark. We moved to Denmark on November 1st, 2012 and BASP had an opening starting November 8th! BASP really helped our son with the transition process, introduced him to new friends, and helped to get him into the Denmark School District early vs. having to wait until after December break. Additionally, I have never had to worry about my son getting on the bus or getting to and from summer school. BASP has just been wonderful with all of those things. Having peace of mind is honestly priceless!”

Our family genuinely appreciates the guidance and kind hearts of all the BASP staff. We appreciate all of the learning activities that you provide, and it's nice to see children guided in doing homework too. It is a great program and I really feel that it helps children transition well.”

Rachel Bauer, RD, CD, CLS
WIC Director/ Public Health Dietitian
Kewaunee County Public Health Dept.

6th ANNUAL DENMARK YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL BANQUET

April 12, 2014
Dinner Buffet at 6:30 p.m.
Program at 7:30 p.m.
Beverly Gardens
\$25 per ticket (includes meal)

Numerous Raffles, Silent Auction, Packer Items,
Gun Raffles, Coach Purse

For tickets contact Al Mazna at 819-5128



NURSE NOTES

Information about Scabies

Scabies is an infestation of the skin caused by parasitic mites called *Sarcoptes scabiei*. The female mite burrows under the top layer of the skin to lay eggs. The eggs hatch and can continue the infestation until proper treatment is applied.

Scabies is most commonly transmitted by having direct, prolonged, skin-to-skin contact with a person already infested with scabies, usually among sexual partners and household members. The signs and symptoms of scabies are:

- Intense itching, especially at night and over most of the body.
- Presence of the mite burrows, often forming a zigzag pattern on the skin.
- Presence of rash or skin lesions such as red raised bumps, blisters, brown nodules, or pimple like irritations.

In healthy people, if they have never been infested with scabies before, symptoms (itching and redness of the skin) appear approximately 4-6 weeks after infection. Scabies infestations should be treated as soon as possible. A person with scabies can pass it on to another person as long as they have not been treated. Diagnosis is most commonly made by having a healthcare provider examine the burrows or rash. Scabies can be treated by applying one of several available prescription lotions or creams.

For more information about scabies see: From the CDC:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/scabies/default.htm>

LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, March 18
4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Celebrating the New Look of the Combined High School & Brown County Library

Join us to celebrate the new look in the library and the continued partnership of Denmark High School and the Denmark Branch of the Brown County Library. Enjoy student art displays, a petting zoo by the FFA, snacks made by the F.A.C.E. class, crafts for the kids, door prizes and a chance to talk to school and library officials. Something for everyone in the family.

OPEN ENROLLMENT

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 2014-2015 school year are February 4 to April 30, 2014. 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 2014-15 and "tuition waiver" students. Students who need to reapply will receive letters and instructions through the postal service.

DANCE TEAM TRYOUTS

The Denmark Dance Team will be hosting tryouts for the 2014-2015 season in early April. Tryout dates and times will be officially announced in early March. Announcements will be made at school along with flyers and status updates on Facebook. Please "like" Facebook.com/denmarkdanceteam for more information. Students must be in grades 9-12 for the 2014-2015 school year to be eligible.

Practices will start in early summer. The team will be performing at all football and basketball games. Competition season will start in early November, ending with State competition in February. This is a full-time commitment. Dancers are eligible to participate in other school activities. An information packet will be available the first date of tryouts with budget information and practice times. Any questions on preparation for tryouts or the season may be directed to Coach Natalie at denmarkdanceteam@gmail.com.

DENMARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL VISITATION DAYS

The Denmark Community School is hosting student visitations. Middle school students are invited to join us on Tuesday, March 11, from 8:00-11:00 a.m., and high school students are invited to join us on Tuesday, March 18, from 8:00-11:00 a.m. This is an opportunity for students to learn more about the Denmark Community School. Students will have an opportunity to shadow a student from the Community School and experience what a typical day would be like. Community School students will describe the learning process and some of their best projects, and they will have the opportunity to see a student in action as a project is presented.

If you have any questions, please call the Denmark Community School at 920-863-4153.



BAND & DANCE AT THE RESCH

April 12, 2014

The dance team and the high school band will perform for pregame and halftime at the Green Bay Blizzard game. Tickets are being sold as a fundraiser. Please contact your favorite band student or band director Wesley Couch at 863-4272 for tickets by March 7. Tickets are \$15 each.

FUEL UP TO PLAY 60



On February 5, the "Fuel Up to Play 60" leaders hosted a three-cheese taste test during lunch. All students and staff were invited to taste the cheeses and then vote on their favorite one. The winning cheese? Colby-Jack (marble) won by a landslide at all grade levels. The other contestants were mild cheddar (yellow) and baby Swiss (white). Thank you to Blossoms for helping supply the cheeses at a reduced cost.

Fuel Up to Play 60 is an in-school nutrition and physical activity program launched by the National Dairy Council (NDC) and National Football League, in collaboration with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and is provided locally by the Wisconsin Dairy Association and the Green Bay Packers. The program empowers youth to take actions to improve nutrition and physical activity at their school and for their own health.

Our FUTP60 leaders help lead the "Wellness Wednesday Warm-ups" each week and will be hosting another taste test day in the spring....YOGURT! The Elementary School has been awarded \$400 by FUTP60 to spend on physical education equipment that encourages "Healthy Eating and Getting Active!"

DIGITAL LEARNING DAY

Denmark Middle School took part in the third annual Digital Learning Day on February 21. Digital Learning Day is a nationwide event that promotes the use of digital teaching and learning practices in the classroom.

As part of Digital Learning Day, the middle school invited parents to attend school with their students. Student presenters showcased a Digital Learning project they have worked on. There were 12 presentations.

If you are interested in learning more about the national celebration, visit www.digitallearningday.org. If you are interested in hearing more about how our local teachers and students participated in Digital Learning Day, please contact Janet Sager at the middle school.

ARTSONIA ART MUSEUM

Did you know that hundreds of artworks by Denmark students are on display RIGHT NOW?

Artsonia is an online art gallery (www.artsonia.com) that displays student artwork from across the country. We here at Denmark have found it to be a great way to display our student work at all levels. So, how will you know if your student's work is displayed? Each student that is chosen for the museum will have a username that includes their first name followed by a number. Art instructors will send a note home for parents with each student that has artwork displayed on the Artsonia website. The note will explain how to find a specific student's artwork. Once you create a username, you can receive notifications when your student's work is added to the site.

Artsonia's website is accessible on the district website on each of the individual building's home pages. One can quickly go to the website and type in Denmark Elementary School, Denmark Middle School, or Denmark High School to access the different exhibits. Artsonia is a very safe website that protects the students' identity but allows visitors to write comments about the artwork and become a "fan" of a student. This is a great way to share your student's work with family and friends. Artsonia has a variety of items that may be ordered with the student's artwork printed on them. It is optional, but if items are ordered, 20% is given back to our art department. Please take a moment to view the beautiful artwork created by Denmark students. Art provides an opportunity for students to apply what they learn in all of the disciplines. It sparks creativity and innovation in the minds and hands of all.

ART AWARDS

There have been many exciting things happening in Art at Denmark High School in anticipation of Youth Art Month, which is the month of March. A regional art show was held in February at the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass in Neenah and over 75 artworks from Northeast Wisconsin schools were displayed. From that group, 50 were chosen to move on to the state exhibit which will be held in the Capitol Rotunda in Madison from March 22 to April 4. Included in those 50 selections were all three Denmark High School entries created by seniors Brooke Kittell and Cheelecee Thao, and junior Ashley Bernhardt. Cheelecee Thao was also honored at the Regional Show with the "Hokusai Award" for best nature picture.

On February 7-8, three students participated in a two-day event at UW-Manitowoc called "24 Hours of Art and Theater." Junior Leah Grygleski participated in a two-day printing workshop where she learned a variety of printing techniques and was able to create several original prints that were displayed through the end of February in the college's art gallery. Freshman Sydney Puyleart and junior Mackenzie Linzmeier participated in the "gorilla theater" workshop where they helped write, direct, and act in short plays created over the two days! All three participants said they learned a lot and enjoyed meeting people who have similar interests.



Ashley Bernhart
11th grade



Brooke Kittell
12th grade



Cheelecee Thao
12 grade

DENMARK WORLD LANGUAGE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The World Language curriculum in the Denmark School District helps students build proficiency in the four language domains: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. We build students' knowledge and application skills with material presented in textbooks, digital resources, and through conversational and classroom activities. As students progress through the levels of languages offered, they learn increasingly more complex grammatical concepts through units focused on a variety of real-life themes. Currently, students in grades 4K-3rd receive instruction weekly in a second language with the intention of this curriculum expanding to include all grades 4K-5th in future years.

Research shows that children who learn a second language early in life have enhanced problem-solving capabilities, strengthen their ability to focus attention, have stronger memory abilities that improve learning processes, are open to a variety of perspectives, are able to think divergently and convergently, possess enhanced interpersonal communication skills, and may have a slower rate of decline of cognitive processes as they age. Language learning corresponds with higher academic achievement and supports the 21st century learning and skills standards.

We are excited to be able to offer students the opportunity to acquire a second language as they progress through school, increasing their capacity for global success. If you have questions about the Denmark World Language Program or would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact Dave Harper, Director of Instruction, at (920)-863-4175 or email harperd@denmark.k12.wi.us. Watch for more information in upcoming newsletters.

NEW SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENT SYSTEM IN WISCONSIN SCHOOLS

In 2010, Wisconsin joined the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, one of the two national consortia that were formed to help establish a series of "next generation assessments" to measure students' career and college readiness. Beginning next school year, students in grades 3-8 will be taking these new online assessments in English Language Arts and mathematics. The Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (WKCE) will continue for science and social studies in grades 4, 8, and 10. Additionally, all 9th and 10th grade students will be taking an ACT readiness test called *ACT Aspire*. All 11th grade students will take the *ACT* exam and the *ACT Work Keys* assessment, used to measure college and career readiness.

Smarter Balanced Practice Tests Available to Parents and Students

Practice Tests for each tested grade in both English Language Arts and mathematics are available to help all stakeholders build awareness of the Smarter Balanced Assessment functions and to increase teacher and student proficiency in navigating the applications, item types, and tools intended for operational assessment, as well as to provide a feel for the kind of items tested in Smarter Balanced Assessments. Practice Test questions include the full range of Smarter Balanced item types for both ELA and mathematics--selected-response items, constructed-response items, technology-enhanced items, and performance tasks. Scoring guides have been posted online for all available Practice Tests. Practice tests are available at <https://sbacpt.tds.airast.org/student/>

The proposed draft schedule for administration of the new assessments for next year is as follows:

Fall 2014

October 6 – 24: ACT Aspire – 9th grade
October 27 – November 7: WKCE in Science and Social Studies – grades 4, 8, 10

Spring 2015

March 3: ACT—11th grade (Makeup day March 17)
March 4: ACT Work Keys - 11th grade (Makeup day March 18)
April 27 – May 22: ACT Aspire 9th-10th grade
March 30 – May 22: Smarter Balanced 3rd-8th grade

For more information on the Smarter Balanced Assessment, please visit: http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/oea_faqsbac.

For questions related to Denmark's implementation of the new Smarter Balanced Assessment, please contact Dave Harper, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, at harperd@denmark.k12.wi.us or (920) 863-4176.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Due to school cancellations because of cold and snow, we will have changes to the last day of school this year.



At the School Board Meeting on March 17, the Board will decide whether to extend both the last PDT day and June 5 to full days and to add June 6.

Changes to the schedule will be emailed to families and will also be published in the newsletters.

2014 SUMMER SCHOOL

Session I

June 11-13
June 16-20
June 23-27
June 30-July 1

Session II

July 28-August 1
August 4-August 8
August 11-August 15

Denmark School Calendar 2014-15

September 2	First Day of School
September 26	PDT Day - Early Dismissal
October 23	No School
October 24	No School
November 21	PDT Day
November 26	No School
November 27	No School
November 28	No School
December 19	PDT Day
December 23	Last Day of School Before Holiday
January 5	First Day of School After Holiday
January 22	PDT Day
January 23	No School
February 20	PDT Day
March 6	No School
March 20	PDT Day
April 3	No School
April 6	No School
May 22	PDT Day
May 25	No School
May 31	Graduation
June 4	Last Day of School -Early Release



DENMARK VIKING FOOTBALL PANCAKE & PORKIE BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 2, 2014
7:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Denmark High School Cafeteria

Adults \$5.00
Children \$3.00

Children 5 years old and younger eat FREE

100% of the proceeds will be used for the Denmark Viking
Football program



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

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- **Notes from the Nurse**
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- **Digital Learning Day**
- **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.