

Denmark Viking District Newsletter

Issue #3

March 2015



VARSITY DANCE TEAM COMPETES AT STATE

The Denmark Dance Team competed at the State Championships on February 8, 2015 at the La Crosse Center in La Crosse. The girls took sixth place in D4 pom and seventh in hip hop. The girls were only one point away from placing in the top five in the state. Competition was tough and the girls had their best performance in both routines!

Denmark Dance learned a very important lesson this weekend... it can never be about the placings, but about the memories we share. Scores and trophies cannot define our season. We are extremely proud and thankful to be dancing at the state level.

Thank you to everyone for your support throughout the season!



DHS CHOIR STUDENTS PERFORM AT STATE CONVENTION

Congratulations go out to Emma Knickelbine, Aaron Mleziva and Malia O'Keefe who were selected to perform with the all-state choirs during the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association state convention. The convention was held January 9-10 in Appleton. The women's choir worked with Dr. Jennaya Robinson, who currently serves as Assistant Professor of Music at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. The men's choir was directed by Dr. Andrew Last, also of Luther College. Both choirs capped off the convention with a concert at Lawrence Memorial Chapel in Appleton. As part of the state convention, students also attended a performance of *Voice of Chicago*, an ensemble of the Chicago Children's Choir, on Friday evening.

DHS choral students are under the direction of Kim Mikulsky-Hess.



The picture on the left is of Aaron Mleziva and Dr. Andrew Last. The picture on the right is Emma Knickelbine, Dr. Jennaya Last and Malia O'Keefe.

KOHL TEACHER FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Connie Davister, 5-year-old kindergarten teacher at the Denmark Early Childhood Center, has been chosen as a CESA #7 selection committee nominee for the Kohl Teacher Fellowship Program. The Kohl Foundation will make an official announcement of the Teacher Fellowship recipients in March. The Kohl Foundation will award 100 Wisconsin teachers \$3,000 and the recipients' school will also receive a matching \$3,000 grant.

Congratulations to Connie on her nomination and Good Luck!

KOHL EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

CESA #7 of Green Bay has nominated Senior Rachel Sipple for the Kohl Excellence Scholarship Program. The Kohl Foundation will make an official announcement of the Excellence Scholarship recipients in March. The Foundation awards \$3,000 scholarships to 100 high school graduates each year.

We wish Rachel luck and congratulate her on being a CESA #7 nominee.



STATE BUDGET AND IMPACT ON THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF DENMARK

Tony Klaubauf – District Administrator

If anyone has followed the news in the last few weeks, Governor Walker has proposed his State budget for the 2015-17 years. Below is some information about the budget related to schools and the impact upon the School District of Denmark and public schools across the State.

- The budget eliminates a categorical aid payment in 2015-16. This is a decrease of \$210,000 for the 2015-16 school year. The second year does add a categorical aid payment of approximately the same amount back into the budget. Over the two years, revenue is basically capped at the 2014-15 spending level without an adjustment for inflation or other increased costs. (A categorical aid payment is simply money designated for schools that is not part of general aid).
- There is a general aid increase of \$108 million for districts the second year; however, there is still a freeze on revenue limits. This means these dollars do not go to schools, but tax relief. Local school boards have no local control to raise money for needed items.
- The School Levy Tax Credit is increased \$105.6 million in each year of the budget. This also does not go to schools, but is tax relief. Districts with higher property wealth receive the most tax relief. (Millions of dollars from the School Levy Tax Credit go to second home owners and to out-of-state residents.)
- The budget proposes the elimination of the Local Government Property Insurance which covers Wisconsin schools, municipalities and other public entities at a lower rate than private insurance. This increased cost will come from district budgets.
- Rural schools are getting some additional money for things like transportation and technology. Because Denmark is not rural enough, as defined by this legislation, the district receives no additional support.
- The voucher school cap of 1000 students is eliminated with some income limits. Any additional money going to voucher schools will come from general aid (taxes paid by all residents) that goes to public schools. Any additional cost from lifting the cap will increase taxes for public school property tax owners.
- The new Smarter Balanced Assessment (also called Badger Test) to begin this spring is forbidden to be used after the 2014-15 year. There is no local control even if districts believe the Badger Test will provide valuable data for students.
- Schools will be graded A-F through the school accountability system. Without one exam for all students receiving state monies, both public and voucher schools, the comparison between these schools will not be valid. In addition, research has proven those schools that have students from higher income parents score higher on assessments and those schools with more economically disadvantaged students score lower on state exams. Putting a D/F grade on a school already struggling to help students from the most disadvantaged families will have a disproportional negative impact on these schools.
- Another key area with unknown results is budget recommendations to significantly change the Worker's Compensation System. In summary, Workman's Compensation under the Department of Workforce Development would cease to exist and current functions would move to other departments or be eliminated. The result will be a lack of protection for employers, employees, insurers, medical providers and possible higher Workman's Compensation premium costs for employers/school districts. This information is coming from our private insurance advisors.

The following are the legislator's phone numbers, email or mail addresses if residents wish to provide some feedback during deliberations of the budget.

Representative Andre' Jacque, Rep.Jacque@legis.wisconsin.gov, (888) 534-0002, (608) 266-9870

Senator Frank Lasee, Sen.Lasee@legis.wisconsin.gov (608) 266-3512

Mailing - PO Box 8952 Madison, WI 53708



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR DISTRICT

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

The Spring Primary was held on February 17, 2015. The following School Board candidates were chosen to be on the ballot for the Spring Election on April 7, 2015.

Scot Knutson
Derek Rosek
Walter N. Neta
Nancy L. VanElzen

There are two spots open for the spring election. Jim Crawford's term expires at the end of April as he has decided not to run for re-election. Nancy VanElzen is the incumbent for this race.

**Town Hall Meeting
High School Cafetorium
March 15, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.**

The candidates for both the Village of Denmark and the School Board will be available to answer questions. Please take this time to meet the candidates and gather information to help make your decision on April 7.

STUDENT VIDEOS

The school district had an opportunity to create three professional videos of students that will be broadcast on WLUK-TV sometime in March. The video broadcasts will be of many students from Northeast Wisconsin along with our Denmark students. These students are examples of the many outstanding students excelling within our district.

The district thanks the families of Alex Strouf, Justin Mleziva and Tiffany Polzin for taking part and allowing their children to be part of these videos.

Please go to the home page of our website, www.denmark.k12.wi.us to view the videos of these three very diverse students as they share their experiences within our school district.

Denmark Student Excels in Band
Denmark School District Student Broadcaster Profile
Denmark School District Student Arts Profile

THANK YOU TO THE FAMILIES OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF DENMARK

The following is a letter sent to the Denmark School District.

Dear Residents of the Denmark School District,

On behalf of the Community Cupboard Food Pantries of Denmark and Maribel we want to thank you for your generosity in your donations collected throughout the school year. We have received donations from band and choral concerts, FFA, Student Councils, Leo's and so many more that are unnamed here, but that we are most grateful for. Each donation means that local families receive more assistance monthly as they struggle to provide food and other basic needs for their families.

This past year was a true example of the generosity of the Denmark School District families. From gifts and stocking stuffers for children and teens, hats and mittens, food, fruit and so much more.

Know that you are truly making a difference in the lives of local families! Above all thank you for keeping your donations LOCAL!!

With our deepest appreciation,

Russ and Terri Gajeski-Denmark Community Cupboard Coordinators
Sue Gransalke and Mary Mancoske-Maribel Community Cupboard Coordinators.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A 4K STUDENT

The Denmark Early Childhood staff invites all families interested in our 4K program to attend "A Day in the Life of a 4K Student."

Registration for the 2015-16 school year is now underway. To give you and your child/ren a sneak peek of what 4K at the ECC consists of, we invite you to join us for an exploratory session on Friday March 13, 2015 from 9:00-10:00 a.m. If interested in attending, please call the ECC at [920-863-4175](tel:920-863-4175) to RSVP. We look forward to meeting you and your child/ren!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR DISTRICT

WISCONSIN JAPAN BOWL 2015

It is with tremendous Denmark Viking pride that we report about the success of our school's teams at the Wisconsin Japan Bowl 2015 in Milwaukee on January 31, 2015. The Denmark teams included: Mason Geibel and Logan Schmidt (Denmark Ichiban) Level two and Allison Abts, Molly Aschenbrenner and Henry Brewster (Wan Wan) Level four.

The competition was based on high level knowledge and expertise in complete Japanese language, culture, history and current events. It was a day of intense and thrilling excitement as our teams battled it out with the best 26 teams from around the state of Wisconsin.

The final smashing results were that our Denmark pride Level four Team Wan Wan made it to the championship round, tied for the third and second place, tied again in the tie breaker round, and finally finished a very strong third place. When we left the event in Milwaukee, people knew the strength and intellect of Denmark High School and will not soon forget us.

Please take this opportunity to congratulate our very own Denmark High School Japanese Language, culture and



MONEY SAVING ENERGY TIPS

Do you know anyone that leaves things plugged in all day? Well, if you didn't know this already, they are wasting away their money! If you are interested in learning how to reduce your energy bill each month, then keep reading.

One easy step to saving energy is to unplug all of your unused appliances and electronics. Even when they are turned off they are still using energy. Another step is to plug multiple electronics onto a power strip, say your computer, TV, or your kids' gaming system, so it can easily be turned off each night. A very easy way you can reduce your energy bill is to make sure that all the lights in your house are turned off when you are not at home.

To conserve energy, you can put in LED (light emitting diode) lights that use 13 watts of power instead of 60 to 100 watt bulbs. You can use dimmer switches on indoor lights and timers or motion sensors on outdoor lights. You can also take shorter showers, not only conserving energy, but also conserving water. Another way to conserve energy is to make sure your home is energy efficient by using tips such as insulating your home.

Here are some easy tips to put more money in your pocket. When heating your house, open the blinds up during winter to allow the sun to help heat your house and close the shades in summer to keep the cool air in. Another tip is when you are away on a trip, you can turn your thermostat back 7 to 10 degrees to help save on your energy bill each month. When washing your clothes, use cold water instead of hot water. Also make sure the washing machine and dishwasher are full to help save water and time. You could also limit your dryer use by air drying your clothes.

Check with your local energy company for further options, such as time of use rates and renewable energy rates.

This article was written by Mrs. Arneson's high school energy class who created action plans for reducing energy consumption. The students worked in groups to create ways to inform the public on how to be more energy efficient.

BASEBALL COACHES HALL OF FAME

Bill Miller has been boys baseball head coach for 23 years. In his tenure he has 339 wins and only 169 losses. His teams have won seven Conference Titles, seven Regional Titles, and have had two WIAA State appearances. Mr. Miller is involved in all levels of baseball in the community.

Congratulations Mr. Miller, on your induction into the Wisconsin Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame!



FREE AND AND REDUCED MEAL PLAN

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 Buhr 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.



STING CANCER IN ACTION

PAY IT FORWARD!

Starting a Sting Cancer chapter can be overwhelming because so many people are touched by cancer. As a chapter, we want to be able to take the Sting out of Cancer by providing those individuals with cancer support from the community they live in. On Tuesday, February 10, Denmark Sting Cancer was able to Pay-It-Forward to the newly formed Luxemburg-Casco Sting Cancer Chapter during the LC vs. Denmark girls' basketball game. Four Denmark Sting Cancer members presented a check to two LC Sting Cancer members during half time of the game. The check for \$300 was made possible by a generous donation received from the Brown County Women in Building in December.

It is a Sting Cancer tradition to Pay-It-Forward from established chapters to brand new chapters to help the organization grow and help more individuals with cancer.



CHEMO BAGS

Cancer and Chemo are among the worst things anyone wants to hear they have or need to go through. To help those going through chemo, Denmark Sting Cancer will be making 100 Chemo Bags for the Holy Family Hospital Cancer Center on Friday, February 20.

Students in Sting Cancer have compiled a list and are purchasing various items such as gas cards, gloves, hand cream, tissues, lip balm, puzzle books, etc. Due to the generosity of our community, we are able to create these awesome bags that help individuals dealing with cancer know they are not alone. We want to thank you for being supportive of our cause so that we can do projects like this.

FUTURE STING CANCER EVENTS

- **St. Baldrick's** at Denmark High School – Friday, March 13 from 11:10 – 11:45 a.m.
Sign up under Denmark Sting Cancer Team on the St. Baldrick's website. <http://www.stbaldricks.org/>
- **Wear Yellow Day** – Friday, May 8, 2015
- **Sting Cancer Walk** –
DHS Track – Saturday, May 9, 2015
Registration starts at 8:00 a.m. and the event begins at 9 a.m.



DCBA 2015 AWARDS

Denmark high school student Morgan Schweiner has been named this year's "Youth on the Move." High school teacher Karen Bloom received the "Community Service" award for her work with Sting Cancer. Both will be honored at a banquet on March 12, 2015 at Suster's in Denmark. Tickets can be purchased at BMO Bank, Denmark State Bank, or the Denmark News.

Congratulations to both Morgan and Karen; both are very deserving!





STATE WRESTLING

By Coach Tim Kapinos

This past weekend Denmark had two wrestlers competing at the WIAA State Wrestling Championships in Madison. Qualifying for the state tournament is quite an accomplishment, but only one wrestler can stand on top of the podium at each weight class in each division.

Brock Bergelin earned a state title at 106 Saturday night with a win over Josh Ehster of Mosinee with a 3-0 decision. It was a rematch of last weekend's sectional final where Brock pinned Ehster to take the sectional title. While the state finals match was a little closer, the Denmark sophomore controlled the match from the start. Brock becomes just the third wrestler in Denmark's history to win a state title joining Todd Babiash (1986 at 132 lbs.) and two-time state champion Matt Vandenburg (1992 at 135 and 1993 at 140). The win caps an amazing season by Brock in which he compiled a record of 48-1 with 27 pins. I have yet to meet a kid who loves the sport of wrestling more than this young man. His relentless drive and determination to be the best will ensure continued success in the sport he loves.

Josh Frerk also competed at this year's state tournament by qualifying at the 285 pound weight class. He was in a close match with Kaleb Crook of Richland Center before being pinned in the second period. Despite the loss, being a qualifier as a freshman in the upper weights is a rare feat. In fact, only one other freshman qualified for the 285 weight class among all three divisions. Josh finishes the season with a record of 35-13. This is the most wins by any freshman in the history of the Denmark Wrestling program.

Our coaching staff couldn't be more proud of what these two young men have accomplished and look forward to the coming years. Their individual success will help in growing our program to what it is capable of being—an annual contender in the state. A big thank you goes out to all of those who have supported the team throughout the year!!

Wrestling is alive and well in Denmark, WI.



GIRLS BASKETBALL REGIONAL CHAMPIONS

The girls varsity basketball team has earned the title of 2015 Division 3 Regional Champions. The team is coached by Head Coach, Kory Fredrikson; Assistant Coaches, Mark Olsen, Dan Petersen and Cindy Rish.

The girls beat Sturgeon Bay 76-7 in the first round of regionals and then went on to beat Southern Door 49-39 and Roncalli 45-36 to become regional champions. Congratulations to all!

Front row from left—Alyson Rish, Rachel Sipple
Britney Petersen, Leah Hansen, Lydia VanBeek

Back row from left—Kelsey VandenLangenberg,
Ashley Leiterman, Jennifer Nehls, Jayden Laurent,
Karli Pennings, Paige Derricks, Danielle Delebreau





STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

DENMARK'S SCIENCE OLYMPIAD TEAM

Respectfully submitted by
Nick Willow
Denmark Science Teacher and Science Olympiad Coach

Denmark's Science Olympiad team traveled to the UW-River Falls Science Olympiad Invitational on Saturday, January 24th. The team took medals in 4 events in the small schools division. There were 61 teams competing overall with 28 teams in the small schools division. It was a good showing with a team finish of 8th overall in the small schools division. Medal winners include Nat LeSage, Kyle Bachmann, and Blake Bomski taking silver in Protein Modeling. Malorie Konkol and Holden Tilot took silver in Air Trajectory. Brandon Honnef and Trevor Wavrunek took fourth place medals in GeoLogic Mapping. Robert Rieks and Nat LeSage rounded out the medal winning with bronze in Entomology. It was a strong showing for Denmark's young Science Olympiad team.

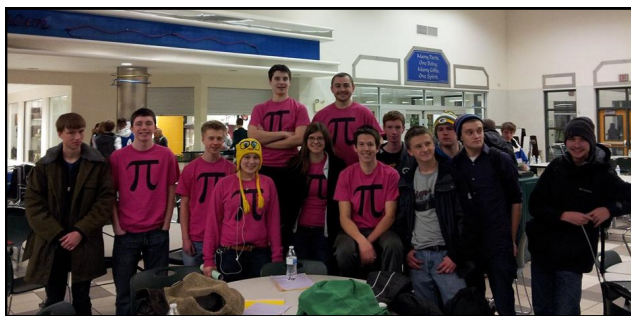
The team then traveled to UW- Marathon County on February 14th for their Regional competition with hopes of qualifying for another state competition. The Vikings had a great day at the North Regional taking medals in 8 events and finishing 3rd of seventeen teams. Holden Tilot and Malorie Konkol took 1st place in Air Trajectory. Nat LeSage and Robert Rieks took 2nd in Astronomy. Kyle Bachman and Erin Bernhardt took 2nd in Its About Time. Haley VanBeek and Malorie Konkol took 2nd in Write It Do It. Mason Roberts and Erin Bernhardt took 3rd in Forensics. Michael Buresh and Trevor Wavrunek took 2nd in Scrambler. Collin Klaubauf and Tyler Sekora took 2nd in GeoLogic Mapping. Isaac Blakeslee and Collin Klaubauf took 2nd in Mission Possible. The team now waits to see if they qualified for the State Competition in April.

Science Olympiad is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) based competition covering a wide variety of topics providing widespread appeal to a large diversity of students. Science Olympiad's goals are to create a passion for learning science by supporting Science Olympiad tournaments at local, district, state and national levels with an emphasis on teamwork and a commitment to excellence.



VIKING MATHLETES

Here are the results of the DHS math meet on Feb. 16 at Notre Dame: There was a three-way tie for fifth best scorer on the team. Matt Smeester, Cassie Otradovec, and Ben Kopetsky each scored 8 points. Tied for 4th best were Autumn Frerk and Matt Specht with 12 points. Third best was Brock Delebreau with 13 points. Anthony Rish had a good night and was 2nd best scorer on the team with 14 points. Our lead scorer for the night was Noah Brunner with an awesome 20 points! Also hats off to both Noah and Matt Specht for getting perfect 10's in the third round. Nice job to all our Viking Mathletes! Our last meet of the year is March 9 at Green Bay East



DENMARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL APPLICATION TIME

It's open enrollment time for school districts, and the Denmark Community School is excited to be hosting school visitations for interested students and parents!

What sets the Denmark Community School apart from other schools? Denmark Community School is a cutting-edge learning community where students actively drive their own education by pursuing their passions. Our students become purposeful adults by integrating creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication into standards-based academic pursuits. Utilizing the latest technology, students participate in both student and teacher led opportunities to put the tools they have available into practice, expanding their minds, and furthering their education.



Interested students and/or parents should contact Denmark Community School staff to set up a shadow. 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 projects, and guests will have the opportunity to see a student in action as a project is presented.

All of our students have chosen to attend the Denmark Community School. We hope that interested students will take advantage of this opportunity to visit and will take the time to ask them why. Their answers may change the way they think about learning.

If you have questions please call the Denmark Community School at (920) 863-4153, or email dupkem@denmark.k12.wi.us. We look forward to meeting with interested students and parents to share all of the exciting, student led opportunities available at the Denmark Community School!

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 2015-16 school year are February 2 to April 30, 2015. 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 2015-16 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.

4K & 5K REGISTRATION

Four-year-old and five-year-old kindergarten registration for the **2015-16** school year was held at the Denmark Early Childhood Center office the week of **Feb. 23-27**. Parents of children who will be four years of age by Sept. 1, 2015 are eligible for four-year-old kindergarten and students who will be five years old by Sept. 1, 2015 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 hours of 7:40 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. if you missed the registration week. 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 in early February.

If you didn't receive a registration packet, or if you have any questions or concerns, please call the ECC Office at 863-4175.

BROWN COUNTY LIBRARY TECH NIGHT

Tuesday, March 10
5:30 to 7:00 p.m.
High School—Room 207



Using Digital Media to Stay in Touch

Facebook
Twitter
Pinterest
Instagram

2015 SUMMER SCHOOL

Session I

June 10-12
June 15-19
June 22-26
June 29-June 30

Session II

August 3-7
August 10-14
August 17-21



DENMARK SCHOOL CALENDAR 2015-16

September 1	First Day of School
September 7	No School-Labor Day
September 25	PDT Day - Early Dismissal
October 29	No School
October 30	No School
November 20	PDT Day
November 25	No School
November 26	No School
November 27	No School
December 18	PDT Day
December 23	Last Day of School Before Holiday
January 4	First Day of School After Holiday
January 21	PDT Day
January 22	No School
February 19	PDT Day
March 24	No School
March 25	No School
March 28	No School
April 22	PDT Day
May 27	PDT Day
May 30	No School
June 2	Last Day of School

DENMARK VIKING FOOTBALL PANCAKE & PORKIE BREAKFAST



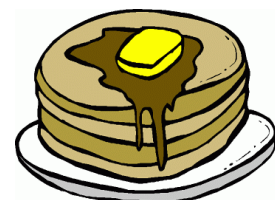
Sunday, March 15, 2015
7:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Denmark High School Cafeteria

Adults \$6.00
Children \$3.00 (6-12 years)

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.....

- **Open Enrollment 2015-16**
- **4K & 5K Registration**
- **State Competition**
- **Impact of State Budget**
- **School Board Election**
- **Thank You from the Community Cupboard**
- **Wisconsin Japan Bowl 2015**
- **Money Saving Energy Tips**
- **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.