



Brookings School District

Empowering all learners to embrace and be inspired to realize their potential

DAKOTA PRAIRIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Sarah Weber, Principal

111 26th Street South • Brookings, SD 57006 • Phone 605-696-4900 • Fax 605-696-4905

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Sarah Wiebersick, Dakota Prairie Elementary Principal

RE: Administrative Report

DATE: October 1, 2024

A Great Place To Learn

- ★ Mrs. Holm organized a lunch meet-and-greet for new students in grades 1-3, with over 40 participants attending across four lunch periods. The event included a Q&A session and opportunities for the students to get to know one another. Many of these learners also attended our New Family Tour Night held on August 26th. Please see the photos below for highlights of the event.
- ★ We have a testing "Sweep Team" who are trained testers that will go to each building 3 times/school year to conduct the testing using our new screener, Acadiance. Using a team of testers is an efficient and consistent practice for screening, and it doesn't take away pertinent instruction time from classroom teachers and students.
- ★ A panel of 3rd-grade learners participated in an online conversation with author Lawrence Diggs.

A Great Place To Work:

- ★ This month, our reading teachers collaborated with Kim from Compass (MTSS) during both grade-level and building-level meetings. The focus was on understanding RTI (Response to Intervention) and aligning our Tier 1 literacy plan for grades K-5.

A Great Place To Collaborate:

- ★ The SDSU Softball team participated in our High Five Fridays event, warmly greeting and welcoming our students as they arrived at school.

- ★ The SDSU Dairy Club collaborated with our 2nd graders for this month's Ag Club activity, which focused on the dairy industry. The lesson provided insights into dairy production, and the students enjoyed a hands-on experience by making ice cream.
- ★ Some students from Brookings High School Football and Cheerleading came to celebrate Homecoming with our learners. Our kids enjoyed cheering, playing catch, and getting attention from their role models.

A School District of Excellence

- ★ Kate Mogard won an Innovation Grant from SDEA to create Calm Corners in every classroom. Providing sensory support throughout our school environment will promote regulation, focus, and engagement. Previously we had one man Calm Corner in our office, which provides a quiet, calm, space for our learners to regulate and work on calming their mind and body so they are ready to learn. We realize that all learners can benefit from this and so we wanted to create this space in every classroom. Mrs. Mogard used this grant, along with some funds from Thrivent, to purchase items that support calm spaces for every classroom in ECE, PreK, and the Jk - 3rd grade.







