



Brookings School District

Working Together...Educating with Excellence...Inspiring Learners for Life

MICKELSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Todd Foster, Principal • Matt Christie, Assistant Principal

1801 12th Street South • Brookings, SD 57006 • Phone 605-696-4500 • Fax 605-696-4506

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Todd C. Foster, Mickelson Middle School Principal
RE: Administrative Report—May Board Report
DATE: April 28, 2023

April/May Highlights

1. Time for a Bobcat Bash



We will be celebrating positive behavior at MMS with our 2nd annual Bobcat Bash on Thursday, May 25. Students will be able to pick from a variety of choices offered by staff members. This is a culminating event for our work with PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Systems). Some new additions to our PBIS work for the 2023-24 year was the utilization of the SWISS program (which tracks our learner behaviors), and during second semester we implemented the

PBIS Rewards System with our Bobcat Store. The store was open on Fridays during lunch periods where learners were able to buy gum, pens, stickers, trinkets, Bobcat apparel, and also the opportunity to go have lunch with the principal. The store has been a huge success and this will continue into the next school year.

2. Building Transitions for Students

Current 8th grade students will be touring the High School to preview their fall admission to BHS. Students will hear from administration, the counseling department, and other students. They will get a tour of the building and have opportunities to ask questions. This time gives students the opportunity to see what BHS has to offer them in the fall.



Current 5th grade students will be touring MMS to get a lay of the land for their upcoming fall transition. Students will be led by the counseling department, exploring the common areas in the building while having the opportunity to ask questions and become familiar with their new academic adventure.

3. Life Skills Class—Chickens and Ducks

Mrs. Hamann's Life Skills class completed their Chicken Lifecycle project this quarter! Our learners started the project by gathering information to get their project approved by administration. They presented, and the project was given the green light! Mrs. Hamann received funding through Donor's Choose to purchase all incubation and post-hatching supplies, and Brian Lueders donated the chicken eggs.

Our learners learned about the biology of chickens and their lifespan development. They collected data daily while the eggs were incubating and learned how to care for the chicks once they had hatched properly. It was an absolute joy to learn alongside our crew, and for all who participated in our project, it has been the highlight of our year! The class has so much fun and learning with the chickens that they decided to hatch duck eggs as well.



4. Teacher Appreciation Week



Mickelson Middle School will be celebrating our teachers during the week of May 8-12th. Each day we will be doing something special for the staff.

- Monday—Bagels for breakfast serves with cream cheese and jam, along with donut holes to start their day out right.
- Tuesday—SDSU will be proving us with ice cream
- Wednesday—PTSA will be providing staff with lunch
- Thursday—Midwest Fresh will park their food truck outside MMS from 10:45 am to 1:15 pm. Everyone will be entered into a drawing for six \$10.00 gift cards to purchase their lunch that day.
- Friday—There will be pop, Gatorade, Hot Dogs, Nachcos, Popcorn and candy treats in the lounge to end the week.

5. Student Writing Achievements/Awards

Mickelson Middle Students recently have had some outstanding achievements in submitting writings for contests that were held:

- Maya Edmison (grade 8) was awarded first place in SDSU's annual Jerome Norgren Poetry Creative Writing Contest for the middle school division. Maya's poem is titled "King Cockroach." There were hundreds of poetry and prose entries from all across the state, so all students should be proud of their accomplishments.
- Alesha Hofer's short story "Scripts and Knives" has been chosen as a 2nd place recipient, and Sarah Hoaglund's short story "White Roses" has been selected as a 3rd place recipient for the SDSU Paul Witherington Prose Creative Contest in the middle school division.
- Ace Bartlett (grade 7) has been chosen as the 2nd place recipient, and Tex Wampler IV (grade 7) has been chosen as the 3rd place recipient of the 2022-23 VFW's Patriots Pen youth essay contest.
- Marley Huyck (grade 8) was awarded an honorable mention for the essay she submitted to the Student Sound-Off contest sponsored by the Association for Middle Level Education. The judges noted that Marley's essay "was selected from among hundreds from around the world for its thoughtful approach and authentic perspective on the middle grades experience."

6. Upcoming Mickelson Middle School Activities

April

- 27 Testing—Smarter Balanced—2 hour late start schedule
- 28 Track Meet @ Huron

May

- 1-5 Book Fair
- 2 Orchestra Concert @ High School @ PAC—7:30 pm
- 3 Staff Meeting
- 5 8th Grade Orientation @ High School
- 5 Talent Show—5:30 pm
- 8-12 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 8 Track Meet @ Yankton
- 8 MMS Girls Golf @ Edgebrook
- 11 MMS Band Concert @ PAC—7:00 pm
- 12 MMS Track—ESD @ Pierre
- 15 6th Grade Track Meet
- 16 MMS Girls Golf @ Mitchell
- 19 MMS Track—Big 4 @ Mitchell
- 22 Camelot Track Meet—8th graders to help
- 25 PBIS Bobcat Bash
- 26 8th Grade Graduation
- 26 Last Day of School—Noon Dismissal