

GARRETSON BLUE



DRAGONS FLIER



What's Happening?

March 4-7
School Breakfast Week
Come eat with your student!
Adult Price ~ \$2.45
Sibling Price ~ \$1.75



RESCHEDULED
FFA
Blood Drive
7:30-2:30
March 28
Call school for
an appt.



March 7
Parent/Teacher
Conferences and
Book Fair



No School
March 8 &
March 15



Pops
Concert
Band and Choir
March 11 ~ 7:00
serving
popcorn and
rootbeer floats
@ 6:15



March 2019

SCHOOL BOARD

Shannon Nordstrom, Pres. * Kari Flanagan, VP
Rachel Hanisch * Tony Martens * Ruth Sarar

ADMINISTRATION

Guy Johnson, Superintendent 594-3451 ext.300
Chris Long, MS/HS Principal 594-3452 ext. 302
Teresa Johnson, Elem. Principal 594-3453 ext. 303

MEETINGS

The Board of Education meets the second Monday of every month in the Library. All regular meetings begin at 5:45 p.m. Agendas are available in the Superintendent's office on the Friday before any meeting. The Garretson Gazette publishes the minutes of each meeting.

Garretson Names Alysha Kientopf Teacher of the Year!

submitted by Mr. Guy Johnson, Supt.

Congratulations to Alysha Kientopf, the Garretson School District Teacher of the Year! Ms. Kientopf was nominated for the honor by a colleague who noticed Ms. K's dedication to her students and her program here at Garretson High School. Ms. Kientopf teaches Ag education and is also the leader of Garretson's nationally recognized FFA program. Ms. Kientopf is a Garretson High School graduate, and has come back to teach in the District. This is her third year as a staff member. She is well known as a staff member who is willing to give her time to her students, and to the community. Most recently, she and her FFA students organized "meals of hope," in which volunteers from our community prepared close to 50,000 nutritious meals to be distributed to local food pantries. We often-times find her working with her students out in the community in a variety of service projects. In the classroom, Ms. K is known for pushing her students to learn new things, but also being flexible and fair. Congratulations, Ms. Kientopf! We're proud to have you on our staff!



Maker Space in the library

We've got some exciting things going on in the library! Libraries are changing. Not only are they a great place to read or check out a book, modern libraries have become centers for creativity and exploration. The library is a great place for students in all grades to learn how to "code" or program machines to do what they want. In order for that to happen, we need to purchase equipment that will allow our students to experiment and learn by doing. A special thank you to the Prairie Rose Community Fund for a generous \$3,000 grant that will allow us to move forward with the purchase of equipment for the library. We are excited to see how our students use this new equipment after it becomes part of our library program!

Fuel the Dragon

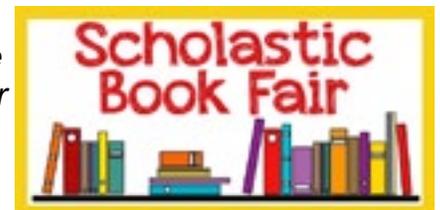
Fuel your dragon on the first Wednesday of the month! Palisades oil has generously committed to donating 10 cents out of every gallon of fuel purchased on the first Wednesday of the month to a variety of groups and projects around the school. The program kicks off on March 6th! The first project that will see funds from the Fuel the Dragon campaign is our library. As described above, we are working to transform our library into a center for creative learning, and in order to do that we will need to purchase additional equipment.

The Fuel the Dragon campaign will be on-going – the first Wednesday of the month, with funds going to a variety of groups and special projects around the school. A special thank you to Palisades Oil for dreaming up the program and their support of our school and our community!

Book Fair March 7

Parents, Friends, and Children of All Ages!

Welcome to a Dino-mite good time! That's right, we are having our last book fair of the year! With summer right around the corner come in and stock up on your books. We have all the latest titles coming to us March 7 the book fair is open --ALL-- day. From 7:30am to 8:00pm. We --LOVE-- books here at Garretson! Not only do we have more of the books you want for elementary/middle school grades but for the first time ever we will be adding in books for high school students and adults! We all know modeling is what really creates readers and parents certainly deserve a treat! Grab yourself a book as well. If we can make our goal of 2,500 we get to keep 70%!! That's huge for our school library. More books, more programs and more tools for our kids! It's a WIN/WIN! So stop right in the Garretson School Library March 7th after conferences anytime from 7:30a.m. to 8:00 pm!



News from the Elementary

submitted by Ms. Teresa Johnson, Elem. Principal

Conferences are coming up on Thursday, March 7, from 2:30 - 8:30. Garretson Elementary has had a long-standing tradition of holding student-led conferences during the second semester and this year will be no different. The benefits (for students) of student-led conferences are:

- Accountability and ownership for progress in their learning
- Self-assessment and independence
- Real-life presentation skills
- Increased self-confidence and self esteem
- Development of leadership skills
- Fostering of organizational, communication, and critical thinking skills



The benefits for parents are:

- Better understanding of their child's learning
- Active participation in their child's learning
- First-language communication
- More relaxed environment; less intimidating

Our primary reason for hosting student-led conferences is to increase interaction between children and parents. Giving your child your undivided attention throughout the conference will make your time in the classroom more meaningful for both of you. If possible, we ask that you find infant and toddler care for siblings and utilize our in-house childcare for school-aged siblings. Only having two or three from your family present is also a courtesy to other families visiting the classroom.

I am working on providing adult supervision for school-aged children waiting for or finished with their conferences and possibly having adult supervision in the library for infants and toddlers. More information will be coming as conferences get closer. Please plan accordingly to maximize this individualized time you have with your child on conference night. Our students look forward to sharing their learning with you!

I encourage all parents to engage in conversations with their children about their learning on a daily basis. "How was school today?" is often replied to with a short answer or shrug of the shoulders. What we ask will usually get us further:

- | | |
|---|--|
| "What do you like about school?" | < Information about their attitude toward school |
| "How are you feeling about school?" | |
| "What do you think your strongest/hardest subject is?" | < Information about their strengths and weaknesses |
| "Why do you think that?" | |
| "How are you getting along with kids in the class?" | < Information about social development |
| "Is there anything going on between you and others that we need to talk about?" | |
| "What can we do to help you with your homework?" | < Information about homework and home support |
| "What do you need at home to make a better learning environment?" | |
| "What is one thing you would like to accomplish this quarter?" | < Information about goals |

As a reminder, students generally give as much information as they know their audience is willing to listen to! Giving your student a daily five minutes of undivided attention to hear about their day will establish open communication and demonstrate your investment in their learning.

Kindergarten Quotes

submitted by Mrs. Alyxa Hoefert-Veldhuizen & Mrs. Jacki Liester

We are lucky because....

We are smart.

We can read.

We can tie.

We can count.

We can go to school.

We can learn the a,b,c's.

We can count to 100.

We have friends.

We have money.

We have family.

We have a calendar.

We can stay inside on cold days.

We are a kindergarten family.

We can add and subtract.

We can make projects.

We have clothes.

We can eat a warm lunch.

We get to go on trips with our families.

We get to go on field trips.

We have moms and dads that care for us.

We are loved.



RESCHEDULED

**FFA Brings the
Bloodmobile
to Garretson on Thurs.
March 28
7:30 - 2:30
Call Alysha Keintopf to
schedule a time
594-3451**



Sports Participation

Any students in grades 7-12 that plan to participate in a Spring sport this school year must have a physical on file at the school before they can practice or play.

Physical forms can be picked up in the main office.



School Closing due to Inclement Weather

Listen to radio stations KELO, KTWB, KKLS, KXRB, KIKN, KSOO, or TV stations KELO, KSFY, KTTW, or KDLT for school announcements concerning late starts, early dismissals or no school due to weather. A School Messenger message will also be sent out. Please don't call the school as the phone lines need to be kept open to make these calls. We will try to make these before 7:00 a.m. if possible. The safety of our students, staff and bus drivers is our number one concern.



Students “Excel-ing” at GHS

submitted by Mrs. Kelly Blok

Our district does a great job at preparing students for the future with high standards for computer education requirements. One of the most sought-after skills in the workplace is proficiency in Microsoft Excel. This past month, students in both Foundations of Technology and Advanced Computer classes have been sharpening their skills in Microsoft Excel. We are learning how to solve real-world problems and practice “What-if” decision making each day in class by creating products such as budgets, invoices, and sales reports. In these projects, students utilize Excel’s powerful formulas, functions, scenarios, charts, and pivot tables. At the end of the unit, both classes complete projects where they design their own Excel workbooks to solve real-world personal and business problems. In Foundations of



Technology, students create a personal budget using formulas and functions and representing that data in a chart. In Advanced Computers, students come up with a company model of their choice, then create scenarios, pivot tables, and pivot charts to analyze their customer and sales data. These projects are designed to instill higher-order, out-of-the-box thinking while giving students practical tools for their future personal and professional lives.



High School Science and Math

submitted by Mrs. Bev Howe

Chemistry

The current topic in Chemistry is ionic and molecular compounds. Students will be using the charges of atoms and polyatomic ions to write chemical formulas. They will also be using electron dot structures to determine the chemical formulas of compounds. At the conclusion of this unit students should be able to write formulas and name chemical compounds.

Trigonometry

The Trigonometry class is plotting polar coordinates and graphing polar equations. They will be converting between polar and rectangular coordinates and writing equations in rectangular and polar form. Following this unit, the Trig class will be using the properties of exponents to evaluate and simplify expressions.

Physics

The Physics class has just completed a unit on momentum. They have been solving problems and performing lab activities to reinforce the concept. The topic of the next unit is Energy. They will be discussing kinetic and potential energy and doing a variety of labs to help them better understand how energy is changed from one form to another.

Consumer Math

Health and life insurance protect us and our families from financial loss in case of a serious illness or accident. Knowing the type of insurance policy that you need or want can help you make a wise choice in purchasing coverage for you or your family. Currently the Consumer Math class is discussing health and life insurance. The goal is to gain a better understanding of how individual needs of one may be totally different from the needs of another when it comes to insurance.



3rd Grade Happenings

submitted by Mrs. Angela Bly & Miss Amber Williamson

We are 100 days smarter...Students loved turning their selfies into 100 year olds! They then wrote about the "Day in the Life of a 100 Year Old." As they wrote, they focused on using sequencing words to explain their day. We continue to work hard during RTI to prepare for the Smarter Balanced Test. Third grade is the first time students take the test, and they are excited to show all of their knowledge!

In math we are starting to focus more on fractions. By the end of our fraction unit, students will be able to divide a whole into equal parts, show and name part of a region, use a fraction to name part of a group, find a fractional part of a set, use a number line to represent a fraction, find a missing fraction on a number line, and use a fraction to name part of a length. We also will continue hammering away at memorizing our multiplication facts!



Questions to Ask Kids About School

submitted by Miss Sherri Schoenfish

1. Did you find anything difficult today?
2. What questions did you ask today?
 3. What made you smile today?
4. What made your teacher smile today?
 5. What rule was hard to follow today?
6. What challenged you today?
 7. What made you laugh today?
8. Did you help anyone today?
 9. Did anyone have any exciting news to share today?
10. What did you do in PE today?
 11. What was the most interesting thing your teacher said today?
12. Which subject did you enjoy most today?
 13. Did anything you learned about today make you want to find out more?
14. What did you do that made you feel proud today?
 15. Who do you enjoy talking to at school?
16. Is there anything worrying you about school?
 17. Is there anything you learned today that you aren't sure about and I can help you with?
18. What homework do you have today?
 19. What would you change about your day?
20. What are you looking forward to tomorrow?

<https://www.mykidstime.com>



**4th & 5th
Grade
Students**

Breathe Easy Lock-In
Come celebrate your healthy

Brought to you
by:



When: March 22, 2019

Time: After School-7:30

Where: Garretson

What will we do?

Inflatables– Tobacco Lessons- Movie-Food

Please bring \$5 -if paying \$5 is not a possibility for your family please talk to your school counselor.

Dear Parent or Guardian:

From March 6 - May 3, South Dakota students in grades 3-8 & 11 will take the Smarter Balanced Assessment in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Fifth, eighth, and eleventh grade students will be administered a Science test as well. The purpose of this letter is to give you an understanding of the test. It will also give you a few ideas for helping your student do her/his best on the test.

The Smarter Balanced assessments measure student achievement in relation to our state standards in the areas of English Language Arts and Mathematics. In addition to providing overall scores in those two subjects, score reports will provide information on student performance in the following areas:

- o English Language Arts: reading, writing, listening, and research
- o Math: concepts and procedures; problem solving and modeling/data analysis; and communicating reasoning

Your child will take the tests on a computer. The assessments are unique in the way they adapt to be appropriate for your child's level of learning. As a result, each student has the same opportunity to succeed and maintain a positive attitude towards testing. These tests are not timed, but we estimate that it will take a similar amount of time as did past assessments. We estimate the English assessment will take 3.5 hours and the math assessment will take 2.5 hours.

While your child's grades will not be impacted by their performance on this assessment, this assessment serves as a way for the school to see how well we are helping students meet rigorous learning standards. Shortly after the testing period is complete, you will receive a report showing your child's scores.

There is no need to study in preparation for the assessments. We do, however ask that you encourage your children to do their best and get plenty of rest the night before the assessment. It is important that you make sure your child comes to school on days that he/she has tests. Making up a missed test means time out of class and losing important learning time that cannot be made up. Information about the assessment and access to the Practice Tests can be found at <http://sd.portal.airast.org/training-tests.shtml>. Click on the Students and Families tab for more details.

Thank you for supporting your child and our school during the test. We know our students are well prepared and capable of success. Please call the school if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Teresa Johnson
Elementary Principal

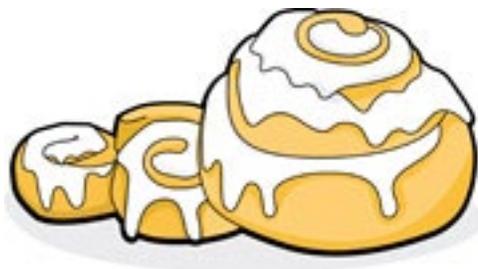


Chris Long
MS/HS Principal

Pastries with Parents

(or your favorite adult)

**March 22
7:30-8:00**



**Pastries and Juice
provided by the
Garretson PTO**

**Student must be accompanied
by an adult**



National School Breakfast Week March 4th -7th

Everyone is welcomed to join your child,
grandchild, niece or nephew for
breakfast during National School Breakfast Week at
7:30 am-8:15 am
Adult Price \$2.45
Sibling Price \$1.75

Come & check out what's happening in the lunch
room!

**MY LUNCHTIME
MY CHOICES!**

HOW MUCH SCREEN TIME IS OKAY? HOW DO I LIMIT MY CHILD'S SCREEN TIME?

American Academy of Pediatrics Screen Time Guidelines:

- ◆ Avoid screen time other than video chatting for children **younger than 18 months**
- ◆ If you choose to introduce media to **children ages 18-24 months**, find high-quality (educational) programming and co-view and co-play
- ◆ Limit screen use to 1 hour per day of high quality programs for **children ages 2-5**
- ◆ Create a family media plan with consistent rules and enforce them for **older kids**. This is vague, however they do also say for a healthy kid an average day would include “school, homework time, at least 1 hour of physical activity, social contact, and 8-12 hours of sleep”. They state “whatever is left over can be screen time”.

<https://www.common sense media.org/screen-time/how-much-screen-time-is-ok-for-my-kids>

<https://www.cnn.com/2016/10/21/health/screen-time-media-rules-children-aap/index.html>

Kristi VanDeRostyne, BS, CAC, CPS
Garretson
Prevention Counselor
kvanderostyne@carrollinstitute.org



EFFECTS OF TOO MUCH SCREEN TIME

Studies are showing that excessive media use can lead to a variety of problems:

- **Obesity**— Much of screen time is spent sedentary
- **Sleep Problems**— Light emitted from screens can interfere with the sleep cycle
- **Behavior Problems**— Kids are more likely to have emotional, social, and attention problems if they have too much screen time.
- **Educational Problems**— Students that have large amounts of screen time per day, have been shown to do worse on academic testing than their peers.
- **Violence**— Being exposed to TV shows, movies, music and video games that show/promote violence desensitizes them to it.

<https://www.verywellfamily.com/the-negative-effects-of-too-much-screen-time-1094877>



10 STRATEGIES TO LIMIT SCREEN TIME

- 1.) **Make Screen Time a Privilege**
- 2.) **Model Healthy Habits**— when it comes to your own screen time, try to promote a healthy amount of screen time
- 3.) **Discourage Multitasking**— this interferes with productivity
- 4.) **Establish Clear Rules About Electronics**
- 5.) **Encourage Physical Activity**
- 6.) **Educate Your Teen About Media**— discuss how advertisements try to trick people to buy their product and the dangers of too much violence
- 7.) **Don't Allow Electronics During Meal Times**
- 8.) **Create Screen Free Days**
- 9.) **Schedule Family Activities that Don't Involve Electronics**
- 10.) **Hold Family Meetings to Discuss Screen Time**

<https://www.verywellfamily.com/strategies-limit-your-teens-screen-time-2608915>

MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Looking Ahead . . .</p> <p>April 6 Prom</p> <p>April 17 Spring Pictures</p> <p>April 19-22 NO SCHOOL, Easter Break</p> <p>May 4 Kindergarten Roundup</p> <p>May 18 Graduation at 1:00</p>						<p>Blue Dragon Classic at Home</p>
					<p>6:30-8:00 Region 3A Boys Basketball Tournament at Augustana/ Elmen Center (Semifinals)</p>	
 <p>National School Breakfast Week: 7:30-8:15 Come Join Your Kids, Grandkids, Nieces & Nephews for a Special Breakfast!</p>	<p>Region 3A Girls Basketball Tournament Sweet 16: Location & Time TBA</p>  <p>7:00 Booster Club Meeting</p>	 <p>Region 3A Boys Basketball Tournament Sweet 16: Location & Time TBA</p>	<p>7th & 8th Grade Honor Band & Choir Celebration of Music Festival at Brandon</p>	<p>Bookmobile</p>  <p>Book Fair in the Library</p> <p>1:30 Early Dismissal Parent/Teacher Conferences 2:30-8:30</p>	<p>NO SCHOOL</p>	
<p>Daylight Saving Time Begins</p>	<p>HS Choir Solo/Small Ensemble at Augustana University</p>  <p>5:00-7:00 Art Show</p> <p>5:45 School Board Meeting</p> <p>7:00 Music Department Pops Concert: Serving Popcorn & Rootbeer Floats at 6:15</p>		<p>10:00 FFA at Howard</p>  <p>End of the 3rd 9 Weeks</p>	<p>Boys & Girls State A Basketball Tournament at Sioux Falls</p>	<p>1:30 Early Dismissal: Staff Inservice</p>  <p>No School</p>	
	<p>10:00 FFA at Tri-Valley</p>  <p>Honors Band at Sioux Valley</p> <p>Girls & Boys Track Practice Starts</p>	<p>Regional Science Fair in Brookings</p> 		<p>10:00 FFA at Flandreau</p>	 <p>7:30-8:00am PTO Sponsored Breakfast: Students Bring your Favorite Adult!</p> <p>T.A.T.U Lock In starting at 3:00 (4th & 5th Graders)</p>	
	<p>FFA at Tri-Valley</p> <p>4:00 7-9 HS Quiz Bowl at Baltic</p> 	<p>4:00 Junior High Quiz Bowl at Home</p>		<p>Bookmobile</p> <p>7:30-2:30 FFA Blood Mobile (Rescheduled)</p>  <p>10:00 FFA at Lennox</p>	<p>11:00 MS Choir & Band Large Group Contest at Parker</p> 	
	<p>Girls and Boys Golf Practice Starts</p> 					