Welcome Back! It’s hard to believe that it’s time for school! After a great summer we are looking forward to the start of the 2019-2020 school year. We will have an Elementary Open house on Monday, August 19th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. We invite you to come with your children and meet their teachers and visit their classrooms. You will also have the opportunity to take care of any other details such as lunch money, activity tickets, etc.

NEW PRINCIPAL
Mr. Troy James is our new principal. The Beresford native has taught 3rd and 4th grades in Beresford for the past 6 years. Prior to Beresford, he taught in Canton for 9 years. He is excited to continue to build and grow the great culture and learning environment at the Elementary School. He is passionate to serve the students, staff, families, and community of Beresford in his new position. His wife, Renee is the school’s Education Technology Director and they have 3 sons Malachi (6th grade), Dexton (4th grade) and Micah (3rd grade). Feel free to stop by school to introduce yourself if you haven’t already met him!

NEW FACILITATORS
We’ve added some outstanding people and excellent teachers to fill our open teaching positions.

Mrs. Marysa Van Voorst will become our first Junior Kindergarten (JK) teacher. Last year, Mrs. VanVoorst was a preschool teacher at Watchpuppy Preschool. That experience is going to be a great transition for the learners in JK. Mrs. VanVoorst and her husband, Sam, were married this summer. Our JK leaners and families are going to love her!

Miss Ann Marie Anderson is joining our 1st grade team. Miss Anderson graduated from Augustana in May after student teaching last year in Harrisburg. Miss Anderson is passionate about learning and eager to begin her teaching career. Her experience in customized learning in Harrisburg makes her a great fit here at Beresford.

Mission: Together, we Aspire, Act, and Achieve
Vision: Creating servant leaders through quality academic and activity programs
Academic Pillar Focus: Customizing instruction and experiences to help learners take their next step
Miss Rosalyn Rasmussen will be teaching 4th grade after teaching in Wilmot, SD for two years. While in Wilmot, she incorporated customized learning into her classroom. Her experience in Wilmot will be very valuable as she jumps into our customized learning environment. A Viborg native, she is excited to be back in southeast South Dakota and we are excited to have her teaching in Beresford.

Mr. Jacob Meyer is joining our 5th grade team after graduating from USD this past spring. Last year, Mr. Meyer fulfilled his teacher candidacy here in 5th grade. Mr. Meyer is dedicated to the teaching profession and showed to be a very capable facilitator last year. We are lucky we were able to bring him aboard!

Mrs. Mary Vander Laan will be our K-3 Special Education teacher. Mrs. Vander Laan has been teaching at West Sioux High School in Hawarden for the past 11 years. Prior to West Sioux she taught at Woodfield Center. We are excited to fill to this position with a person with the experience and knowledge that Mrs. Vander Laan has. Mrs. Vander Laan’s husband, Todd, farms and they reside in rural Beresford. We are excited that she is back teaching in Watchdog Territory!

Mrs. Candace Zweifel will be serving our learners as our Speech Language Pathologist. Mrs. Zweifel has been practicing at Sanford Vermillion Medical Clinic. She is very knowledgeable and passionate about her profession. We are very fortunate to have someone like Candace serve our learners! She’s excited to be in the same building as her own children. Her husband, Greg, is a farmer and contractor, and they live in rural Beresford with their two sons Garrison and Hugh.

**Elementary Staff for 2019-2020**

- Junior Kindergarten - Marysa Van Voorst
- Kindergarten – Ann Kropuenske, Tory McCreary
- First Grade – Karen Kirkebak, Gina Soukup, Ann Anderson
- Second Grade – Lourdes Reaves, Stephanie Schoellerman, Courtney Cowan
- Third Grade – Sara Cain, Jodi Erickson
- Fourth Grade – Mikala Larson, Rosalyn Rasmussen, Michelle Andrews (1/2 time), Scott Ebert (1/2 time)
- Fifth Grade – Sara Delay, Jacob Meyer
- Special Education – Krislyn Carlson, Jessica Jorgensen, Mary Vander Laan
- ABC – Vicky Cahoon
- Music – Becky Sanderson
- Art – Julie Saugstad
- Physical Education – Kelly Knutson
- Band – Brian LeMaster
- Reading Recovery – Erika Hansen
- Title I – Susan Jensen
- Guidance – Dianne Neilson
- Library Aide – June Lewison
- General Classroom Aide – Kaye Kennedy
- Special Education Aides – Angie Anderson, Kaye Gylfe, Lois Savey, Kathy Ward, Angie Twedt, Becky Woods, Alicia Cahoon, Pam Vik
To maintain safety and congestion in the hallways at the end of the day, if you are picking your child up, please wait in the Commons for your child to come to you! We are discouraging parents/guardians to go to the child’s classroom to pick up their child. If you need to pick your child up before dismissal, please come to the office to check your child out.

PEERS
One of the best ways to be involved at the school and your child’s education is to be part of the Beresford Elementary parent group known as PEERS. What makes a great parent program? Parents who are willing to help out! We encourage all parents to get involved and give our learners special experiences through PEERS activities.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
The staff and students of Beresford Elementary School invite you to volunteer your time and talents during the 2019-20 school year. Volunteering can happen in many different ways, not just helping out in the classroom. If you are interested in being a part of this program, or would like more information, please call the school at 763-5012.

LET’S COMMUNICATE
Everyone benefits from good communication: students, parents, the school, and the community. Everyone needs to do their part in making the 2019-2020 school year a success for students. Please share your concerns and ideas. Feel free to call or stop in to discuss your child’s educational experience. Working together works for kids!

A great place to find information about Beresford Elementary is our web site. From upcoming events to interactive projects for students, our web page is a very useful site for parents and students during the school year. Our web address is www.beresford.k12.sd.us.

You can also keep track of your student’s academic progress, lunch account and attendance by logging on to the Parent Portal on the Infinite Campus website. For more information on the Parent Portal, please contact the school.
P E S H O E S
All students must wear tennis shoes for P.E. class, but this does not mean that you must purchase shoes just for P.E. If your child wears sandals, cowboy boots, or another type of shoe to school on their P.E. days, please make sure they bring their tennis shoes with them to change into. Thank you for your help with this matter.

P I C K I N G  U P  Y O U R  C H I L D  E A R L Y?
Your first stop must be the school office. Students are released during the school day only after their parent/guardian has signed them out in the office. Please do not go to your child’s classroom. We will call them to the office. The entrance doors adjacent to the office are the only doors that are unlocked during the school day.

S A F E T Y  F I R S T
To insure the safety of our children, the exterior doors of the elementary building will be locked during school hours (8:25 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.). The northeast, south, and gym doors will be open prior to the start of the school day. The entrance adjacent to the office is unlocked from 7:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and visitors should enter the building at that location and sign in at the office.

L E T ’ S  E A T
During the lunch period students may eat in the cafeteria or go home. Students going home for lunch must have a request form on file in the office. Students without a request on file may not leave the school grounds. It is very important that we know where our students are. We do not want any of our students uptown during any part of the day. Parents, please support us in this matter.

Following are the prices for student elementary meals: Breakfast $1.55, Lunch $2.80, Extra Milk $0.45. Students that qualify for reduced meals will pay $0.30 for breakfast and $0.40 for lunch. Students are also given the option of purchasing an extra entrée for $1.55. Please let the office know if you want to put a block put on your child’s lunch account to prevent the purchase of an extra entrée and/or extra milk. Parents are encouraged to eat lunch with their children. The price of an adult lunch is $3.60.

You can deposit money in your child’s lunch account through the parent portal or you can pay at the office. Parents are now able to make recurring
payments to their family's lunch account online through the Parent Portal. You can schedule a payment to be made at regular intervals such as weekly or monthly. Or you can schedule an automatic payment to process when your family's lunch account balance reaches a level that you determine. You will receive email notifications when payments are made.

To make online payments to your family's lunch account, access the Parent Portal: https://sis1.ddncampus.net/campus/portal/beresford.jsp. Click on Family > Payments.

Please call the school office at 605-763-5012 if you have any questions, or need to sign up for the Parent Portal.

A start of the year payment form is located at the end of this newsletter. Applications for Free and Reduced Price Meals are available on the school district website or in the office. Families that qualified for free or reduced meals last year will need to apply again. Please get this done as soon as possible.

**KINDERGARTEN & 1ST GRADE SNACK MILK**
Kindergarten and 1st grade snack milk will be billed to each child's lunch account weekly for snack milk, at 45¢ per day. Snack milk is not a part of the free and reduced meals program. If your child is absent, their account will not be charged for milk for that day. The School Board’s limits on charging still apply, so we ask that you make sure there is sufficient money in your child’s account each week to cover their snack milk.

**STUDENT MESSAGES**
If you need to leave a message for your child, please call before noon, as the students are more accessible in the mornings. Also, a call to request assignments needs to be received before noon so that the teachers have time to get the materials ready to be picked up.

**STUDENT ACTIVITY TICKETS**
Activity tickets may be purchased in the elementary school office. The cost is $10.00 for kindergarten – 5th grade students. The activity tickets will admit the students to all regularly scheduled home events.
INSURANCE INFORMATION
Student accident insurance will be offered through Jensen Insurance Agency. If you are interested in student accident insurance please contact Brad Antonson. His email is brada@jensenagencyonline.com

SUPPORT THE WATCHDOGS!
We must ask all parents to supervise their own children at school activities! Please do not use the gym or athletic field as a babysitting service by dropping your young children off for a school activity. Everyone should be seated while the game is in progress! It is important for the children’s safety and the enjoyment of the event for all the fans.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE
There is a powerful link between attendance and academic success in school. Students are expected to attend every day unless they are ill. The Beresford School District has established a priority goal regarding student attendance. All students will attend school at or above 94% of the days of the school year. At this rate, no more than 11 days of school are missed, counting both excused and unexcused days. Please notify us as soon as possible by calling 763-5012 if your child is going to be absent from school, for any reason. For your child’s safety, we need your cooperation and assistance in this matter.

STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK
The Elementary Student/Parent Handbook is available on the school website. It is the responsibility of parents to read the handbook fully and become familiar with our school policies and procedures.

OUR TEACHERS
The federal education law called “No Child Left Behind”, requires that all parents in a Title I school be notified and given the opportunity to request information about the professional qualifications of classroom teachers instructing their child. If you are interested in this information, you may send your request to the building principal who will provide a response.
Start of Year Payment Form

Parent(s) Names:

E-Mail Address:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Student Fees:</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Dues</td>
<td></td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Food Service Program:
- **Breakfast**: JK-12 - $1.55/meal; Reduced - $0.30/meal
- **Lunch**: JK-12 - $2.80/meal; Reduced - $0.40/meal
- **Milk**: Sack Lunch or Extra - $0.45/carton

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Band Maintenance Fees - School-owned Instruments Only!!
- **Percussion Instrument**: $20.00
- **All Other Instruments**: $30.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Activity Tickets
- **K-5**: $10.00
- **6-12**: $20.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Athletic Booster Club
To purchase Booster Club memberships and adult season passes, please visit the Booster Club website:

http://www.watchdogboosterclub.com/watchdog-individual-membership/

**TOTAL PAYMENT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office Use Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Check # _______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash _______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees ____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Svc ____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Tickets____</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>