

Welcome back to Garretson. We hope you have an excellent year. Thanks for doing your part in keeping us all here.



New changes due to COVID-19

The pandemic has caused a few shifts from the norm including masks

by **Rebekah Roth**
staff writer

Garretson School has made several changes this school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These adjustments are new to everyone, but are in place to aid in slowing the spread of the virus throughout the school. Superintendent Guy Johnson was interviewed about these new precautions.



Sophomores Marissa Smith, Dustyn Winterton, and Chloe Flahaven show off an extra required accessory this year, masks. Students have taken the opportunity to find styles and patterns to fit their needs and personalities.
Photo by Rebekah Roth

Q: Why are the elementary students released from school earlier this year?

A: The elementary teachers will take this time to sanitize and put together distance learning as well.

Principal Chris Long was also asked about the new modifications for Garretson School.

Q: Do you think masks and other precautions will be an all year expectation?

A: I think that will depend on recommendations from the Department of Health, we'll base it on what they say.

Q: How are students and staff adjusting to the new mask requirement?

A: It appears as though it's going better than many people thought it would. So far it seems that they're doing what they need to do when not being able to socially distance.

Q: Other than masks, what other measures are put in place to ensure student and staff safety?

A: We're stressing social distancing, it's the biggest thing we can do to ensure that there's distance from each other so we don't spread the virus.

Q: Why are only 3-4 students allowed per lunch table?

A: It's trying to create space and distance, and we're trying to minimize the students waiting in the lunch line.

Q: What happens if someone in Garretson School tests positive for COVID-19?

A: We'll be contacted by the Department of Health; we'll do contact tracing and notify the people who have been in close contact, and notify the school what we do from there.

Q: Is Garretson learning from other schools after they have had positive cases?

A: We haven't really talked to a school that has had positive cases, I think each school is left to make their own decisions based on their own situations.

Q: How is e-learning going for the students that chose that method?

A: We started on Tuesday, so far so good. The students have been able to get on and access their lessons.

Cross country jump starts their season

Runners take on the Beresford course in opening meet of the year

by **Peyton Hove**
staff writer

And they are off. The Garretson cross country team has their first meet of the season today in Beresford. Having many returning athletes, the XC team has been preparing since last fall for their return to state; where the girls team placed fifth.

"Practice has gone fairly well and we are at the point where we need to have a meet to see where we are at," stated Coach Bohl. Senior runner, Sam Konechne, is eager as well, "The preseason went pretty well, and I'm ready to run." If you are interested in running cross country, Freshman Kylie Christensen stated, "Practices usually include running three to five miles or a workout, where you need the right mindset."

One of the biggest obstacles runners face in the preseason is getting back into shape. You need to train

physically and mentally to get back into the shape you need to be in to compete for three miles. The runners representing the Garretson girls today are Payton Campbell, Makayla Heesch, Kylie Christensen, Adair Hanisch, Tayler

Benson, Eliza Potter, Lucie Frewaldt, and Serie Risty. Representing the boys team are Evan Debates, Devon Leedy, Sam Konechne, Preston Bohl, Chris Wynia, and Noah Schotzko.

Everyone is hoping for a full and healthy season. For Christensen and the girls team their goal this year is to get top five as a team in state. As for the boys, Coach Bohl states, "We



only return one runner with state meet experience and are hopeful that number will be higher this year." For today's meet Konechne states "I'm ready to go out there and run my three miles and call it good!" Good luck on the rest of your season cross country.

This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: The average family spends \$700 on school supplies each year.

LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK: If you are still trying to get into the school routine, save time each morning by setting out your outfit the night before.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: How is 1+1=3 like your left foot?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: Solve this rebus puzzle.

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

funny funny
word word
word word

Upcoming Events

Friday, August 28

- XC @ Beresford (10:00)
- XC Parents Night (6:30)
- Football Parents Night (6:30)
- Football v. W/WS/SC (7:00)

Saturday, August 29

- VB (C/JV/V) v. Lennox (9:00/10:00/11:15)

Monday, August 31

- JH/JV Football v. Baltic (4:00/5:00)

Tuesday, September 1

- XC @ MCM (4:00)
- VB v. Viborg-Hurley

Thursday, September 3

- JH VB v. Baltic (4:00)
- C/JV/V VB @ Baltic (5:00/6:15/7:15)
- Soccer @ Mitchell (4:00/5:45)

Friday, September 4

- Football @ Beresford (7:00)

Worth Mentioning

Welcome to our new students and staff members! #BlueDragonPride

COVID-19 Numbers: From SD-DOH

New Cases Today	Active Cases	Recovered Cases
323	2,182	10,170
Currently Hospitalized	Ever Hospitalized	Deaths
80	995	165
Total Cases	Total Persons Tested	Total Tests
12,517	142,940	186,442
% Progress (June Goal: 44,233 Tests)	% Progress (July Goal: 44,233 Tests)	% Progress (August Goal: 44,233 Tests)
97%	106%	102%

Cases: Persons who meet confirmed or probable case definition according to the national surveillance case definition for COVID-19. A positive case moves from active to recovered status based on the CDC guidelines for removal from isolation.

COUNTDOWN TO BREAK: 8 Days

JOKE: Because it's not right

BRAINTEASER: Too funny for words

Lights, Camera, Action!

Exploring cinema, a place for movie enthusiasts has returned; other clubs make yearly debut

by **Oliviyah Thornton**
staff writer

Film club is back in full gear this year. Mr. Tim Hughes, High school teacher and supervisor of Film Club, will be in charge of the club this year. The first meeting was held on Thursday, August 27 to discuss further on what days Film Club should land on. They decided on Mondays and Fridays every week during lunch time up in Mr. Hughes’s room 215.

It gives students, who have a passion for cinema, a chance to discuss and enjoy movies. Students will learn about different camera angles/shots and lighting that director’s use in there movies and how these effects can change how watchers view a scene, and learn a little bit on how movies are made.

“I think its a good opportunity, well for a couple of reasons. One if you enjoy movies, its great opportunity to watch movies. Two, if you like movies its a great opportunity to learn a little bit about how movies are made and what goes into producing a good film and even what goes into producing a bad film.” Mr. Hughes continued to express what Film club offers and how it goes along with COVID.

“And I think, third, because of COVID, it would be nice to just get away and just have a breather time for the day. And I think this year more than anything people want some normalcy. And I think movies allow us to be normal, we can laugh, cry, we can joke, we can whatever and watch the movie and enjoy your lunch. Just adding to your day.”

Being a part of the club, has low commitment rules but its highly recommended that if someone joins, go to every meeting. This is due to, that every Monday and Friday the group will be watching the movies they have selected and missing one of these meetings a member could miss out on discussions, feel distant from other members, miss out on the benefits, and miss major parts of the movies.

To answer fully on how much someone is required to come, Mr. Hughes had this to say, “I

don’t require you to come every week so if that’s your question, no I don’t require you to come every week. I would highly encourage you to come every week so you don’t miss the movies and miss movies discussed.”

The clubs goal is to both educate about different films and have fun doing it. This is why the club is more run by the students and they get to vote on what movies they get to watch, that is the more fun part about Film Club. The more education part come from Mr. Hughes. He teachers students about the different part of films, angle shots, setting, lighting and a lot more concerning films. It gives students different appreciations and different ways to look at a movie.

Common question is the curiosity on what types of movies Film Club watches. Mr. Hughes explains more. “We watch everything, comedy, horror, drama, suspense, thrillers, once animation, we watched musicals, we’ve watched, you name it we’ve watched it.”

This is mainly do to how the students get to vote for what movies they want to watch. Mr. Hughes has tried to keep it that way and just goes off the preference of the students. The only rule he has is that the members must watch three to four movies he chooses.

Garretson Clubs	When/where	Supervisor
Film Club	Room 215 During lunch Every Monday and Friday	Mr. Tim Hughes
Teens Against Tobacco Use (TATU)	Room 214 During lunch First and third Tuesday of every month	Ms. Michelle Pliska
Coffee with the Counselor	Room 214 During lunch First and third Wednesday of every month	Ms. Michelle Pliska
Culture Club	Room 214 During lunch Second and fourth Wednesday of every month	Ms. Michelle Pliska

LEARN ABOUT ALL DIFFERENT TYPES OF PEOPLE AROUND SOUTH DAKOTA AND THE WORLD

CULTURE CLUB



HELD THE SECOND AND FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
LOCATION: ROOM 214
WHEN: DURING LUNCH

Other clubs that will be starting next week are Culture Club, Coffee with the Counselor, and Teens Against Tobacco (TATU).

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

FILM CLUB BACK IN ACTION

GIVING MOVIE ENTHUSIASTS A CHANCE TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES IN A CLUB


EVERY MONDAY AND FRIDAY DURING LUNCH
LOCATION: MR. HUGHES’S CLASSROOM (214)

COME AND ENJOY SOME MOVIES AND LEARN MORE ABOUT MOVIE ANGLES/SHOTS AND LIGHTING



COFFEE WITH THE COUNSELOR

FIRST AND THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH DURING LUNCH IN ROOM 214



Convincing win over Bearcats generates extra energy and excitement for the football season

by **Peyton Hove**
staff writer

The Blue Dragon football team kicked off their season last Friday in Webster against the Bearcats. With new faces and new leaders, the Dragons were able to pull off their first win of the season. To start off the game, Garretson lost the coin toss which led them into kicking off the ball first.



The offensive line holds off Webster for quarterback Dylan Kindt (#2) to find an open receiver. Garretson took down the Bearcats 42-0.
Photo by Peyton Hove

However, that didn't stop the defense, Webster went three and out which forced a punt on their first possession. With a great start by the defense, Garretson was able to score on their first drive after only four plays. By the end of the first half Garretson was on top 28-0. After halftime, Garretson scored two more touchdowns which ended the night with a score of 42-0. Losing nine seniors last year, the underclassmen had big shoes to fill. With 11 "new" leaders, senior captain Dominic Abraham expressed how him and his teammates were well prepared for their first game! "We knew what we had to do going into the game to come out with a win, and I feel like we executed very well," stated junior quarterback Dylan Kindt. Abraham led the team with three touchdowns, rushing for 106 yards. For passing, Kindt led the team with 88 yards in 12 attempts. Cooper Long and Cadyn Ockenga received for 39 and 38 yards. Cody Erickson also ended the night six for six on PAT's. On the other side of the ball Trevon Cross led the team in tackles with seven, followed by Jake Schroeder with six, and Evan Bly with five. Tonight the dragons will face the blackhawks of



The cheerleading squad (Morgan Damman, Logan Bly, Grace Hove, Kenzie Henseler, Kaycie King, and Mya Long) got a workout in on their opening night with jumping jacks for each point scored, each time. Despite the extra fitness routine, the girls were excited to cheer on the "new and improved" football team.
Photo by Peyton Hove

WWSSC. Both junior Jayse Miller and sophomore Jaden Richter mentioned the team has been focusing on plays and plan on carrying the energy from last Friday to tonight.

Volleyball shuts down opening week opponents

by **Morgan Pierret**
staff writer

Garretson opened up play against Tri-Valley and Beresford this week, wins both

After so much uncertainty if fall sports were going to happen, the volleyball team was very eager to get back on the court when they found out their season was still on. Losing three seniors last year, the seniors this year had to step up to the plate. Peyton Hove, Lauren Heesch, Kennedy Buckneberg, Lizzie Olson, Mad-den Lardy, and Mattea Fiegen finally had their turn to be the team leaders. Heesch, the team's libero, has noted the team's positive response to the new seniors, "So far it's been good! Everyone's listening to the advice that they've been given." The Lady Blue Dragons kicked off their volleyball season on Tuesday with a win against the Tri-Valley Mustangs. The game went into four sets with the scores of 25-17 in the first set, 25-13 in the second set, 21-25 in the third set, and 25-6 in the final set. Lily Ranschau led the team with 18 kills, followed by Logan Bly with eight, and Kennedy Buckneberg with seven. The girls also had 11 aces and 64 digs as a team. Buckneberg and Jaelyn Benson both had three aces, and Heesch popped up 16 digs followed by Ranschau with 14. "I think the game went pretty well, I think we worked good as a team and I think that our crowd was great, as well", responded Ranschau. The Dragons battled as a team on Tuesday to pull off these scores, and they won across every level. A clean sweep! The Blue Dragons also had a game yesterday. They played the Beresford Watchdogs and took them down in three sets. The girls played fiercely and worked together as a team. In the first set of the night, the Dragons came out on top 25-12. The second set the girls also won, 25-10. Winning the third set, and also the game, the Dragons beat the Watchdogs 25-17. C-team, JV, and varsity all won last night, another clean sweep! Coming off of last year's impressive season, the girls have big goals for this year. Last year, the Blue Dragons had one of their best records in years, finishing as consolation champions of the conference and earning a number two seed in region play. The girls made it into the SoDak 16 last year, but unfortunately. They ended the 2019 season with a record of 17-11. Although they fell one game short



Setter Jaelyn Benson tips back a tight pass for Logan Bly (#2) to come in for the attack. Despite the Beresford blockers, Bly got a kill on the play; one of her 7 on the night.
Photo by Morgan Pierret

of making it to state last year, Heesch says one of the team's goals this year is to make the state tournament. Tomorrow, Garretson takes on the Lennox Orioles at home. C-Team opens up play 9:00; JV starts at 10:00am, and varsity is scheduled to start at 11:15am. The Blue Dragons play two games next week, taking on the Viborg-Hurley Cougars on Tuesday at home in the Dragons' Lair, and then the school's rival, the Baltic Bulldogs, on Thursday in Baltic.

Construction chaos

by **Dustyn Winterton**
staff writer

On your way to school, you may have noticed that we are still dealing with construction. You may have wondered why they are still here. Well there isn't much left for them to do on High-

way 11. They have completed from Risty Corner to Corson. They have also completed the turning lanes and resurfacing of the road from 250th to Garretson. In town, the construction crew is redoing pipes and updating utilities leading into the buildings along main street. The construction is said to be finished by the end of the year.

Word search

O F V N T C D V T J F W Y K W Z O Q Z O
N D R E H Q X F F U X C F E E M T S I V
O A H I R Y E E B C G N N F O V C J R B
A Z L F V W F G L A C W J H G S B T N G
T L M Y I X U F R O Z L C N K I U A X B
S Z K A B U P N Y V V A O J D E F D D V
U U A V S F A W N M L I Z L K B I A Z N
S Y R E P K E A T Z T P R A O X U S W D
A R E I A E S V G S M L F Z Q E S K R L
B K Y A V H U H E O A J C O E L V U H Q
N S R T C A A G X R U D E K D T U H S U
P H E Q H P N U I E F G L B F Q O K Q F
N S C H S O I O G T R P H H L C O C F J
H L P C C Q B C R A A G Y B L K T C B O
N G N Q D A B H C O T F M K O B R R N E
S X J L T M D R S R C P G S U C P D D G
T E V E J R S A O H H V X K S T M T P R
M Y Z A Z W C D E T R W E X N I C S S Z
Q Y X G M F O A J H K T H F M E L U V E
R P T H Q Y I A F D I S T F K R J T U W

CHILLS
CONGESTION
CORONAVIRUS
COUGH
FATIGUE
FEVER
HEADACHE
HEADACHES
MASKS
NAUSEA
SORE
THROAT

Word search created by Oliviyah Thornton using
[http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/
code/BuildWordSearch.asp](http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/code/BuildWordSearch.asp)

New faces in the halls

by Camas Johnston
staff writer

This year we have some new faces to the Garretson schools. Please welcome these new students to our school. In total we have five new high school students and six new middle school students.

Garretson gained four new freshmen and one senior in the high school this year. Senior Trevon Cross gave some insight from his first week as a Blue Dragon.

Q: Why did you decide to come to school here?
A: It was the closest school besides Dells.

Q: Where did you go to school before?
A: Dell Rapids public school.

Q: Do you plan to join any extracurricular activities?
A: Yes

Q: Is it difficult to remember people when they have their masks on?
A: Yes it is and I am not good with names.

Q: What is your favorite part so far?
A: Football

Kickoff to a new season

by Morgan Pierret
staff writer

Soccer’s first month shows progress and potential

Although school started on the August 20, soccer began their season a few weeks prior.

The Lady Blue Dragons had their first game August 14 against the Vermillion Tanagers, and had a rough first game, losing 0-5. Vermillion currently has the second highest seed points for class A and are the reigning champs, but the Garretson girls put up a tough fight.

The Blue Dragons’ second game of the season resulted in a draw against the Groton Area Tigers.

In the third game of the year, on August 20, Garretson earned their first victory. They played at home against Huron. The Blue Dragons went into halftime with a 1-0 lead, after battling with the Tigers for 40 minutes. The hometown girls ended up scoring another goal, and the Blue Dragons were victorious and won their first game 2-0.

August 22 was their fourth game of the season, and after putting up a strong fight against the Tea Area Titans the Blue Dragons did not come out on top. Although the girls worked hard to try and stop the Titans from scoring, they fell one goal short, and lost 0-1.

Yesterday, the girls had their fifth of a dozen games in the season, squaring off against the Sioux Falls Christian Chargers. Unfortunately, the girls came up one goal short and lost 0-1. The soccer team's record is currently 1-3-1.

Kaycie King, being the only senior this year, has big shoes to fill because last year six seniors graduated. This means that the underclass men also have to step up and become leaders.

With a variety of girls from all grades, seven juniors; four sophomores; two freshmen; two eighth graders; and four seventh graders, the soccer team has a lot of opportunities for younger kids to shine. “I play with some of the greatest girls and I know that playing my last game with them will be the hardest goodbye of my senior year,” said King.

One thing that separates soccer from other sports at Garretson is the players from Dell Rapids. Since Dells doesn’t have a soccer team, the girls that desire to play join the Blue Dragons. I asked one of the girls from Dells, Miriam Pickard, some questions about what it’s like.

Q: What’s it like playing soccer for a different school?
A; “Everyone from Dells agrees that we love to play for Garretson, because it allows us to meet a ton of new people and make a whole new set of friends.”

Q: How long do you have to get to practice after school?
A: “School gets out at 3:18 and practice is supposed to start by 4:00 so we have about 40 minutes.”

Q: Do you guys all ride together?
A: “There are eight girls from Dells. It takes a couple cars to bring everyone from Dells to Garretson each day, but we make it easier by having a couple carpool groups.”

Q: How have the games gone so far this season?
A: “We have definitely improved every time we have been on the field. The first game against Vermillion didn’t go as we were hoping, but last week we played Tea and played better than in years passed. Which is something that motivated us all.”



Jordyn Williams (#11) fights off Tea Area’s midfielder, Josi Swanson, in a battle for possession. Garretson held the score at a 0-0 draw for the first 75 minutes before the Titans snuck a goal in for a 1-0 win.
Photo by Mrs. Buchholz

