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Dr. Cory Steiner- Superintendent  
Crysta Schenck- Elementary Principal  
Doug Margerum- Secondary Principal  
Bryce Laxdal- Activities Director  
Sam Johnson- Dean of Learners  
Paige Carlson- Business Manager

## August/September Events

August 17- Back to School Night 5:00-8:00PM

Level 6 orientation 5:00PM

August 23- 1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF SCHOOL

September 1- Scherlings Pictures

September 4- NO SCHOOL

September 11- Board of Education Public  
Hearing Meeting 6:30PM

September 18- NO SCHOOL

Professional Learning Day  
Homecoming Week

## Jaguar Athletics

<https://www.northerncassschool.org/page/athletics-home>

Varsity games will be broadcast on:

YOUR LIVE EVENT.COM

Back to School...  
Back to the Basics

Parent  
Guidance.org



## FREE Coaching for Parents...

Parents - You play an important role in your child's mental wellness. Sharpen your parenting skills by accessing the support of a Parent Coach...

- Learn what you are doing right
- Learn how to improve your relationships
- Get the parental support you need from a coach



Scan to register  
for Coaching

### FREE Parent Coaching includes:

- Weekly calls with a coach
- 24/7 texting with 24 hr response
- Guided, step-by-step resources
- Tools & tips to help you parent
- Confidential help

Or go to: <https://CookCenter.info/Get-Coaching>

## Learner Athletes: Your Checklist to make sure your athlete is sports ready

- Final Forms sports contract is read and signed by both parent and learner
- Physical is completed and uploaded to Final Forms or a paper copy is turned into Mr. Laxdal
- Student fees are paid through EZSchool Pay online or by cash/check in main office PRIOR to first practice
- Parent and athlete are both on Remind app and synced with coach's account

AS EASY AS  
1 → 2 → 3



Families,

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year! In less than two weeks, we will welcome all learners back to Northern Cass. It brings Northern Cass educators great joy to be able to serve those who attend our school. We understand the significance of the role we play in your learner's development. You trust us with your most prized possession and please know we take our responsibility seriously. As we begin the 2023-24 school year, I want to thank you for allowing us the wonderful opportunity to work with your learners.

At Northern Cass, we believe every learner can change the world; therefore, we will provide a world class education. To be able to do this, we follow our Collective Commitments which guide the daily behavior of educators. These commitments are 'what' we do at Northern Cass.

- 'We are dedicated and passionate about relationships, teaching & learning, self-reflection, acknowledging greatness, and service to the Northern Cass community.'
- 'We are driven toward continuous improvement.'

Our Northern Cass values are a commitment to purposefully build trust, develop authentic relationships, and engage in innovative practices which will empower learners to be choice ready.

## Looking Forward

Many of you have read something by Jon Gordon. In his book *One Word that Will Change Your Life*, he shares how focusing on one theme...idea...word can provide meaning to your life. For this school year, my one word is intentional. I'm going to be more intentional by choosing positivity. I'm going to be more intentional by choosing conversations (instead of email). I'm going to be more intentional by choosing to recognize greatness in the moment. I'm going to be more intentional...and I believe that is a good thing.

In my opinion, the start of the school year is the best time of year. There is a sense of optimism in all. When I say optimism, I'm not talking about every learner or family being excited to be returning to school as that indicates an end to summer (which unfortunately means winter is closer than further away). I'm talking about the optimism of what could be. In our world today, I see so many people living their life 'on' what could have been. They live a life filled with regret, unhappiness, and lack of a sense of their value. I believe it is one of the reasons our society is so polarized. When we focus on the mistakes that occurred in the past, it does not allow us the opportunity to look forward and imagine a world that will look different. When we engage in 'what could be' thinking, we strip away barriers that inhibit us from achieving greatness. James Clear said, "One of the great balancing acts in life is to be cautious and daring at the same time. Cautious enough to avoid stupid mistakes, prevent burnout, and maintain a margin of safety. Daring enough to bet on yourself to do the things you would regret leaving undone, and to be willing to be uncomfortable in the short term so you can learn and grow in the long term." We must choose to be daring in order to become who we want to become. It is why our theme at Northern Cass this year is 'brave before perfect'.

Steve Jobs, the co-founder of Apple, spoke about the importance of doing work you love. He once said, "Your work will fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work." Although I know he was speaking of Apple, I think his words can be generalized to our daily lives and the various roles we play. There is nothing we do in our lives which can't be considered great work if we do one thing. The one thing is not 'rocket' science. It is simply us making a choice to make it great work. Greatness has and will always be a choice. It is why I believe we are on the path to greatness. Each day, our educators and learners embrace the concept of choosing greatness. Choosing greatness is not about the results. It is about understanding you control the results. You control your greatness. I'm asking all of us this year to choose greatness!

Northern Cass committed five years ago to a transformation to a personalized competency-based learning (PCBL) system as its way to 'choose' greatness. We have continued to develop a system which recognizes every learner is different and deserves to be successful. We continue this transition with a focus on studio experience at all levels, flexible grouping in order to meet learner needs more efficiently, and a focus on building remarkable relationships. This is all driven by our 'why'. We believe every learner can change the world; therefore, we will provide a world class education. Because...when we know our 'why', we know our way.

## **The Northern Cass Community Health and Wellness Center**

The Northern Cass Community Health and Wellness Center continues its journey to becoming a reality. In the past few months, we have accomplished many things. They include:

- We have been approved as a non-profit in the state of North Dakota and are waiting for final approval from the federal government.
- The non-profit board of nine members has been identified and will be meeting soon.
- We have begun our fundraising campaign with PACE Fundraising. We have participated in multiple meetings and are working through the steps to begin engaging with potential donors in the near future.
- We are working on our 'Case Statement' which is the 'why' of the project. We did some of this work with our community meetings but are extending it as we have grown more in our understanding of the project.

## **Other**

Please make sure you pay any fees online via EZ School Pay. If this is not an option for you, please plan to pay your fees at the school prior to the start of the year. By doing this, you help our administrative assistants greatly as there is no shortage of things that need to be done at the start of the year.

## **Miscellaneous**

I will be continuing to send a Weekly Update which will include a variety of information about Northern Cass. At times, we may include information from our communities. If you have an event you want advertised, please let me know and I can potentially include this information.

I again thank you for being part of the Northern Cass team and look forward to the great things which are sure to come in the 2023-24 school year!

**Dr. Cory J. Steiner**



# Welcome



## Level One Educator

My name is **Maddi Schulze**! I graduated from North Dakota State University with my Elementary Education and Human Development and Family Science degrees in May 2023. I also recently got married this past October to my lovely husband, Brandon! We live in Fargo and enjoy all that Fargo has to offer - especially summer. Some hobbies I have are biking, walking, reading, drinking coffee, meeting with friends, and playing on a sand volleyball team! On top of all those awesome things, I also nanny two sweet little girls for some family friends. I am so eager to begin my journey as a first-year educator and be a part of this community!



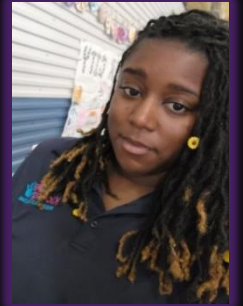
## Secondary School Counselor

Hi, my name is **Linsey Davis**. I'm originally from Cooperstown, N.D. I graduated from NDSU with a mass communication degree in 2003 and worked with the university's marketing team for nearly 18 years. In the summer of 2019, I started the NDSU master's program in school counseling part time. My husband, Ben, and I have three children, Aiden, Jude, and Elle, and live in West Fargo. My hobbies include travel, photography, and interior design.



## Level 7 and Civics Social Studies Educator

My name is **Christine Ward**! Returning now as a Northern Cass graduate myself, I received my BA in Social Sciences Education from NDSU in May 2020. I spent my first year teaching virtually (Covid, ugh) and the last 2 years teaching reading intervention and special education at Liberty Middle School, West Fargo. I got married this past October to another graduate of Northern Cass, Hunter, so this school is near and dear to our hearts! We live in Fargo and have an 8.5-month-old "goldendoodle" named Lincoln; quotations required because he received no poodle traits whatsoever, he's a golden retriever through and through. I'm an emerging golf and pickleball player, an obsessive reader, and always looking to get a laugh with a quick quip. My Pinterest boards and Spotify playlists are my babies, and I could spend an entire day sifting through a single thrift or antique store. Can't wait to connect with you all!



## Paraprofessional

My name is **Donyelle Best** and I'm excited to start my journey at North Cass School District. I moved from Arkansas to North Dakota in June of 2021. I've been working with children since 2018, starting at a Pediatric Preschool, teaching, and caring for children on the autism spectrum. Once settled in North Dakota, I then started working at a preschool and childcare center.



## School Nurse

My name is **Allison Gregory** and I have been a nurse for 16 years. I received my bachelors in nursing from the University of Mary and my masters in nursing from Capella University. I have a wide variety of experience in nursing, but my most favorite role has been as a school nurse. I am married to Peter, and we have a daughter named Della, who will be a kindergartener at Northern Cass this fall. My favorite thing to do is spend time with my family, but I also enjoy reading, playing piano and sewing. I am so excited for my new role and can't wait to get to know everyone and provide compassionate care to the learners!



## School Psychologist

Hi! My name is **Ryan Hoiland**, I graduated high school from West Fargo High School (with Dr. Steiner as my principal 😊) and later received my master's and Specialist degree in School Psychology through MSUM. I live in Horace, ND with my two kiddos, Greyson (2) and Elliette (1). We enjoy spending time outdoors, visiting family and traveling when we are able. I look forward to meeting you all this school year!



### Special Education Educator

**Lindsey Lugsch-Tehle** (pronounced Lou-Sh-Tea-Lee), LT for short, is thrilled to be joining the Northern Cass family. She brings with her a wealth of experience, from capacities specific to her role as a Special Education Teacher to capabilities rooted in her love of creativity—look out for a super cozy classroom—and a skill set rich in detail-oriented and “imagineering” thinking. Lindsey truly believes everyone is both a learner and educator, and she looks forward to learning from and alongside everyone at Northern Cass. Lindsey holds a MAT in Special Education from Cumberland University in Kentucky and a MA in Social Justice—Interfaith Action—from Claremont University in California. She is also trained in AVMR I, II, & Fractions through the Math Recovery Council.



**Leila Samuelson- ELA Educator-Level 7**-Leila went to Duluth Denfeld High School and is graduating from Concordia College in Moorhead with a major in elementary education and a minor in psychology. Her hobbies include being with family and friends, being outdoors (especially the lake!), shopping, and reading.



**Elle Larson- Kindergarten Educator-** I am originally from Hunter, North Dakota and graduated from Northern Cass in 2019. I attended the University of North Dakota to obtain a double major in Early Childhood and Elementary Education with a Minor in Special Education. During my time at UND I was also involved in my sorority, Gamma Phi Beta. I enjoy traveling, going to the lake, spending time with family, friends and my significant other. I am looking forward to coming "home" to Northern Cass and teaching Kindergarten!



**Markie Taubert- Administrative Assistant-** I recently moved to the area from Steen, MN to be closer to family. I live with my fiancé Wyatt, 2 sons (Arthur and Kale), and 3 dogs. In my free time I enjoy surrounding myself with family, reading, and spending time on the lake. I'm excited for my new role and getting to know everyone.



**Kiley Kolnes- Para Educator-** I live in Harwood with my husband Jeff and 2 sons, Ethan (9) and Colton (4). I grew up in Ada, MN on a farm with my parents and 5 siblings. I have a Business Management degree and I have been doing daycare for 10 years to stay home with my boys. Now that they will both be in school fulltime, it was time for a change. When I'm not running kids to activities or cooking for them, I enjoy a DIY project (like refinishing furniture) or going on a fun family adventure.



**Jenny Evenson- Para Educator-** I live in Arthur with my husband, Matt, and our two daughters, Lily (5th) and Sadie (PreK). For the past 10 years I have been a licensed home childcare provider and I am excited to be able to continue to work with learners in my new role as a Para! My family and I love to go camping in the summer. We also enjoy going to rodeos and own a bucking bull named “Delivery Man” that we enter into various events across the country! We are both from South Dakota, so we spend as much time visiting family there as we can.

**NORTHERN CASS**  
**2023-2024 FEE SCHEDULE**

**A. HOT LUNCH**

Breakfast PK-5	\$2.00/meal		
Breakfast 6-12	\$2.25/meal		
Breakfast-Adults	\$2.75/meal	<b>SECONDS</b>	
Lunch PK-5	\$3.40/meal	Lunch 2-5	\$1.25/meal
Lunch 6-12	\$3.65/meal	Lunch 6-12	\$1.75/meal
Lunch-Adults	\$5.00/meal		

**B. MILK/JUICE BREAK**

Grade PK	\$1.00/milk + snack	\$20.00/20-punch ticket
Grades K-3	\$0.50/milk or juice	\$10.00/20-punch ticket

**C. GATE ADMISSION**

Students	\$5.00/game
College Students	\$5.00/game
Senior Citizens (age 60+)	\$5.00/game
Adults	\$8.00/game
Adult Activity Pass	\$150.00/year
Two purchased for the same family	\$250/year
(The activity pass will let you in to all home, regular season games for the year.)	

**D. BEHIND-THE-WHEEL DRIVER EDUCATION - \$250.00**

**E. CLASSROOM PROJECT FEES PER CLASS**

**Grades 9-12**

Art	\$25.00
FACS	\$25.00
Ag Ed	\$25.00
High School Studio	\$25.00

**Course Assessments**

Dual Credit and Center for Distance Education - \$100 per course

\* These fees may be removed if a family or individual qualifies for free or reduced meals through the Food Service Program.

**F. MANDATORY LEARNER SCHOOL FEE**

Level K-3	\$30 per learner
Level 4-5	\$50 per learner
Level 6-8	\$65 per learner
Level 9-12	\$75 per learner

(family cap of \$275.00) includes free entry into all home regular season games

Fee covers learner expenses related to activities and fieldtrips. A full detail will be provided if requested.

**G. COMPUTER USAGE FEE - \$50.00\***

\* This is for all learners of the district grades K-12, even if you use your own device. This allows for insurance on devices along with the ability to upgrade on a consistent basis. Any computer damage above \$50 will be assessed to the learner.

**H. RENTAL OF BAND EQUIPMENT**

(Waived if requested to play)	\$25.00
Band Instrument Maintenance Fee (school owned)	\$25.00

**I. RENTAL RATES FOR EVENTS – Does not include custodial cost for the event**

**IN DISTRICT**

Gym	\$250
Concessions & Commons	\$175
Kitchen	\$175
Auditorium	\$175
Library	TBD
Baseball and/or Softball Field	TBD

**OUT OF DISTRICT**

All rates are tripled

**J. WEIGHT ROOM USAGE FEE - \$100.00**

**K. CONCESSIONS PROCEEDS**

When School in Session	40 %
Weekends	50 %



# PAW SHOP ONLINE

**NEED SOME NEW  
JAGUAR GEAR  
FOR 2023-2024?**

**FIND THE PERFECT PIECE OF  
CLOTHING AND CUSTOMIZE YOUR  
DESIGN TO INCLUDE YOUR NAME,  
GRADUATION YEAR, OR ACTIVITY**



**SHOP ONLINE NOW**

- BAGS
- HATS
- JACKETS
- POLO SHIRTS
- SWEATSHIRTS
- WATER BOTTLES



WEBSITE: [SHOP.GAME-ONE.COM](https://shop.game-one.com)  
SEARCH BY STATE AND CHOOSE 'HUNTER' AS THE CITY

PASSCODE: JAGUARS (ALL LOWERCASE)



In addition to our Paw Shop Online, Northern Cass alum Paige Verwest has provided a link to order from her line of Jaguar gear. 20% of proceeds will go towards our Dual Credit program which allows secondary learners to enroll in college courses at a reduced rate. The options are listed below. Please follow this link, to place your order <https://forms.gle/nNWr1E9Sz4sBRjrQ6>

### Vintage Jaguars

Adult Sizes S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3X

Youth Sizes XS, S, M, L, XL

Toddler 2T, 3T, 4T, 5T



Gold Sweatshirts NOT available in Toddler sizes



All items are unisex sizing available in adult, youth, and toddler.

All items are made to order and made in the order I receive them. Please use the link and fill out completely to place your order.

More options on next page...



## Pricing

Crew	
Adult	\$40
Youth	\$30
Toddler	\$25
Hoodie	
Adult	\$45
Youth	\$35
Toddler	\$25
Tee	
Adult	\$24
Youth	\$18
Toddler	\$15

### Jag Football

Adult Sizes S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3X

Youth Sizes XS, S, M, L, XL

Toddler 2T, 3T, 4T, 5T

Gold Sweatshirts NOT available in toddler sizes



### Jag Volleyball

Adult Sizes S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3X

Youth Sizes XS, S, M, L, XL

Toddler 2T, 3T, 4T, 5T

Gold Sweatshirts NOT available in toddler sizes



### Lets Go Jaguars

Adult Sizes S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3X

Youth Sizes XS, S, M, L, XL

Toddler 2T, 3T, 4T, 5T





## NORTHERN CASS

Program Update



### *Beauty Inside and Out.*

It's what BIO stands for. We are showing young girls how to build self-worth based on their values, talents, philanthropy and individuality, not how they look. We are on a mission to build the self-esteem of girls through empowerment of self and service to others. BIO Girls is a 12-session program proven to improve self-esteem, emotional well-being and physical well-being of participants.

### *6 in 10 Adolescent Girls Battle Low Self-Esteem.*

In 2022,  
7 of 10 participants  
experienced increased overall  
self-esteem & 50% of participants  
experienced decreased anxiety  
by the end of the  
program.



#### Program Details:

Girls going into levels 2-6 of all abilities are welcome to participate!

Start Date: Sunday, August 27, 2023

End Date: Sunday, November 12, 2023

Race Date: Sunday, November 5, 2023

Meet Day & Time: Sundays 3:30-5:00

Location: Northern Cass Auditorium

Fee: \$67.50 suggested/participant, Pay what you can option

**Online Registration Date: August 1st**

**Register: [www.biogirls.org/register](http://www.biogirls.org/register)**

**Contact: [northerncass.nd@biogirls.org](mailto:northerncass.nd@biogirls.org)**

The time has come again at Northern Cass Dollars for Scholars to ask for your support with some of our fundraisers for our learners. This letter is to illicit your support for our football and volleyball teams for the 2023-2024 season.

**Football:** As in years past the football fundraiser is **“\$20 a Touchdown”** for each touchdown our Jaguar players score at a specific home game. If they score one (1) TD your support would garnish \$20.00, if they score three (3) touchdowns then your support for that specific game would be \$60.00 and so on. You can sponsor multiple games if you wish.

**Volleyball:** On the volleyball side the **“Buck an Ace or Dig”** remains the same. For each ace or dig our volleyball players serve/return your support would garnish \$1. If during a specific sponsored game, the players served a total of 25 aces and returned with 37 digs your support would garnish \$62, if they served/returned 40/10 respectively then your support would garnish \$50 and so on. You can sponsor multiple games if you wish.

Your sponsorship is greatly appreciated, and all funds go directly to your local Northern Cass Dollars for Scholars as part of our scholarship program each year. Each year our Chapter awards roughly \$35,000 - \$45,000 dollars in local scholarships to our outgoing seniors for that year and the money raised through these fundraisers is part of that awards process and more valuable than you may think. Your continued support will be greatly appreciated.

Enclosed with this letter is a listing of available sponsorship games/dates/opponents being played for 2023-2024 season for your review. If you find one you like just drop a line to our email address [dollarsforscholars@northerncassschool.com](mailto:dollarsforscholars@northerncassschool.com). If you would like to support more than one or mix and match between football and volleyball, please be specific as to which date(s) you would like to sponsor.

Once we have your name or organization for sponsorship, we will also list it on our Northern Cass Dollars for Scholars website [northerncass.dollarsforscholars.org](http://northerncass.dollarsforscholars.org). You can also follow the website if you missed the actual viewing of the game for final scores of each.

If you know of anyone else that may be interested in supporting our learners and their future educational choices please provide them with this information and have them contact us at the email provided above and we will add them to our list(s) and website as well.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

## Dollars for Scholars 2023-2024

\$20.00 A TD	Sponsor/Address or email	Opponent
FB - 8/18/23	BankNorth, Hunter Insurance	Lisbon
FB - 9/1/2023	Dakota Heritage Bank	Central Cass
FB - 9/8/2023	AGRI Valley Insurance, Lockhart Elevator Company, CHS Inc., Kyle & Kristin Kemmet, Matt & Kate Leichtenberg	Hillsboro-Central Valley
FB - 9/22/23	Eric & Kristi Richman	MayPort-CG
BUCK-AN ACE & DIG	Sponsor/Address or email	Opponent
VB - 8/31/2023	Jamison & Jen Jenson, Brian & Jessica Rust, Eric & Kristi Richman, AGRI Valley Insurance	Oak Grove
VB - 9/12/2023	BankNorth	Tri-State
VB - 9/26/2023	Lockhart Elevator Company	Sargent County
VB - 10/9/2023	Triebwasser Appraisal Service, Hunter C & I	Nelson County
VB - 10/10/2023	Dakota Heritage Bank	Maple River
VB - 10/24/2023	Jamison & Jen Jensen, Hunter Insurance, Hunter Insurance, CHS Inc.	Lisbon



# TICKET TAKERS NEEDED

## FOOTBALL AND VOLLEYBALL

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0948a5aa2da3fdcf8-football#/>

It's that time of year again!  
Here's your opportunity to show your school spirit and make a Jackson or two while you're at it! Sign up links are now available for all home football and volleyball games. Football games will need two ticket takers, while indoor sports will only require one.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0948a5aa2da3fdcf8-volleyball#/>

### Support Learner Programming

Northern Cass School has recently partnered with Gate City Bank to now offer School Spirit Cards. With every card ordered, Northern Cass will receive \$10 which will go to support learner programming. The cards can be ordered at the following link: <https://www.gatecity.bank/checking-and-savings/debit-cards/debit-card-order/>

Bell Bank has been a continued supporter of the custom card donation program as well - those cards can be ordered at the following link: <https://bell.bank/banking/checking/personalized-debit-card>

## Making your Own Kind of Music, In Northern Cass, North Dakota

Those of a certain age will remember “Mama Cass” of the folk-rock quartet The Mamas & The Papas (and known, simply, as “Cass Elliot” during her solo career). Elliot had a beautiful, clear voice that made her a beloved pop star. One of her hits was “Make Your Own Kind of Music.” The lyrics are lovely and inspiring:

“You've gotta make your own kind of music /  
Sing your own special song /  
Make your own kind of music /  
Even if nobody else sings along.”



And that’s precisely what Northern Cass School District Superintendent Dr. Cory Steiner is helping his students, and students across the country do!

As far as we know, there is no connection between Northern Cass and Mama Cass. But the Cass-Cass link provides a timely coincidence that we were reminded of when we joined up with Cory, his team, other Yass Prize awardees, and hundreds of innovative educators from around the country dedicated to personalized learning.

The event was called the Northern Cass Personalized Learning Institute, the fourth annual, where educators and leaders who want to help students learn to “make their own kind of music” were gathered in full force. Joining them were six of our very Yass Prize alumni who traveled to North Dakota to support Dr. Steiner while sharing about their own innovative schools and practices with those gathered in attendance.

While most districts around the country remain wedded to a system that crams all students into the same, small box, Northern Cass makes its own kind of music, providing a personalized competency-based learning system that allows learning outside the school walls for credit in any content area. It’s an approach that made Northern Cass a 2022 Yass Prize finalist, and we’re happy to report, that keeps them singing their own special song...even if nobody else sings along.

Northern Cass prepares its students to be “choice ready” and learners describe to us how the internship model allows them to explore various jobs and industries during their high school years. A rising junior shared how interning at an HVAC business not only exposed him to learning a trade but also “made me more responsible.”

Given the school’s rural location, internships at businesses are limited but this hasn’t stopped the program. The district has created internship opportunities within its schools – providing great experiences for its learners at a cost-saving to the district. To wit, a rising senior worked as an IT support intern at the district, gaining real world experience and fantastic mentoring from the district’s IT Director.

Northern Cass also uses a 6-week studio model of student-driven learning focusing on the personal interests of individual students. During studio learning, students participate in a collaborative process and hold themselves accountable with milestones.

This unique model provides learners with the freedom to focus on content that piques their curiosity and interest while honing creative and analytical skills. One learner’s passion for automobiles led to an effort centered on the Nissan Skyline and why it’s one of the best street race cars – an experience that required a focus on STEM and extensive research and culminated in the production of a 3-D model of a “street ready” Nissan Skyline.

As Dr. Cory Steiner, Superintendent of Northern Cass School District, has said, “We want to make sure our students have exactly what they need to become who they deserve to be.” When it comes to supporting students and how they wish to learn, “we embrace a culture of ‘yes’.” Make your own kind of music. Sing your own special song. Even if nobody else sings along.



The Yass Prize team and alumni joined Dr. Cory Steiner at the Northern Cass Personalized Learning Institute. From left to right: Michael Musante (The Yass Prize team), Jeff Imrich (Rock by Rock), David Lipkin (LIFT Learning), Robin Nolan (The Yass Prize team), Dr. Cory Steiner (Northern Cass), Kenisha Skaggs (SOAR Academy), Brian Curcio (Rapunzl), Mike Long (SailFuture), Scott Bess (Purdue Polytechnic High School).





## Case Study

Northern Cass School District  
Hunter, North Dakota

### The Challenge

Northern Cass Public Schools is a rural school district in North Dakota consisting of around 700 students enrolled in elementary through high school. As with all schools, they are tasked with preparing learners to be productive members of society by either attending college, starting a career, or joining the military. Due to being 25 miles outside of the nearest metro, the district has a lack of access to expose students to career exploration opportunities. Some of Northern Cass' barriers included time, finances, safety, and most notably—distance.

### Immediate Impact

Northern Cass School District initially invested in CareerViewXR access and four VR headsets for use across high school, middle school, and elementary levels in 2022. One headset was placed in the media center for learners to use at their convenience. CareerViewXR opened doors for their students, allowing them to see careers first-hand despite the physical work environments not being nearby. Students were able to gain a deeper understanding of various career opportunities. Subsequently, this made it easier for them to do further research and connect with real professionals in the region.

*"It was surreal, thinking I could just witness a day-in-the-life of my possible future career. I wish I had more experience with it, or had access to it earlier, because knowing for sure what kind of things I'd do in so many different careers would help me figure out what I wanted to do so much quicker."*

-Class of 2024 Learner  
Northern Cass School District

### Why CareerViewXR?

Northern Cass is an innovative school district that is in a period of transformation to personalized, competency-based learning. They were looking for new ways to use technology and get learners engaged and interested in career exploration content. They chose CareerViewXR because its content is compatible with various VR headsets and features in-demand careers in skilled trades, healthcare, manufacturing, and more.



### Results & Future Plans

Overall, Northern Cass students' feedback on CareerViewXR has been overwhelmingly positive. Due to the significant impact the platform has had on learners, the district invested in additional VR headsets for use around the school. Mackenzie Tadych, Director of College, Career, and Life Readiness uses the platform as a tool to help learners be choice ready as they approach graduation. We are proud to share that Northern Cass School District continues to be a subscriber as well as a cheerleader for CareerViewXR and its growing content library.

*"The virtual experiences have opened learners' eyes to careers they did not know existed as well as created interest and a deeper understanding of career opportunities."*

-Dr. Cory Steiner, Superintendent

Learn more at  
[careerviewxr.com](https://careerviewxr.com)



### Career Exploration for the Modern Classroom

CareerViewXR experiences use 360-degree technology to produce interactive web-based tours and companion virtual reality videos that get viewers into the heart of a career. Students and job seekers love getting up close and personal with our experiences, having fun and learning about high-demand industries, such as health care, skilled trades, energy, and more.

Students can explore dozens of experiences for less than the cost of taking a single class on a single field trip. No permission slips needed!

### CAREER ACCESSIBILITY ANYWHERE, ANYTIME, FROM ANY DEVICE

While you can access the platform with a headset, you don't need one to enjoy our experiences. CareerViewXR is compatible with the devices you already have in your classroom—including computers, smart phones, tablets, smartboards, and more!

### Your Annual CVXR Membership Includes

- Creative, engaging, immersive, and versatile web-based content on the CareerViewXR platform. With 40+ all-new experiences being added annually, your students will always have something new to check out!
- Virtual reality video files to load onto your VR devices. These are yours to keep, even if you don't renew your subscription.
- Admin dashboard featuring 24/7 access to VR video files, student analytics, and account information.
- Training resources, support, and advice from the CVXR team on how to effectively implement in the classroom.

### Need help with costs? CareerViewXR is eligible for ESSER, Perkins, and more!

While CareerViewXR is a great investment, we know that spending decisions often need to be discussed and planned within your institution. The platform is an eligible expense for ESSER, Perkins, and other funds and grants that allow spend on career exploration. We are so grateful for these programs that allow us to get more students exposed to potential life-long careers.

For more information and to discuss next steps – reach out to us – we're here for you!

Contact us at  
[sales@careerviewxr.com](mailto:sales@careerviewxr.com) or 1-833-GET-CVXR





### President's List

The President's Honor Roll recognizes students who completed 12 semester hours or more of VCSU classes for which grade points are earned with a 4.0 grade point average.

### Dean's Honor Roll List

The Dean's Honor Roll recognizes students who completed 12 semester hours or more of VCSU classes for which grade points are earned with a grade point average of at least 3.50.

### Honor Roll

The Honor Roll recognizes students who completed 6 to 11 semester hours of Valley City State University classes for which grade points are earned with a grade point average of at least 3.50.



### President's List

Riley J.  
Jana R.  
Greta C.  
Josie J.  
Hanna C.  
Aidan H.  
Jocelyn A.

### Honor Roll

Cole C.  
Noelle E.  
Cadence E.  
Annika H.  
Isaac J.  
Benjamin K.  
Landon M.  
Eleise S.  
Andrew S.

### Dean's Honor Roll

Abby R.  
Kasey T.  
Kyle F.

Kayla T.  
Ceejay F.  
Ellie S.  
Ashley P.  
Grace M.  
Keegan N.  
Mary J.  
Landon N.  
Devin W.  
Annika S.  
Makayla Al.  
Kayce F.  
Trey H.  
Skylar J.  
Jordan L.  
Jace S.  
Hannah A.  
Emily B.  
Nolan S.  
Nora S.  
Heather V.  
Rose G.  
Brody G.  
Emma S.





August 2023

## *The Clarence Johnson and Eunice Iwen Community Foundation for Arthur, ND*

# 2023 Annual Update

### *Friends -*

The Clarence Johnson and Eunice Iwen Community Foundation for Arthur, ND (Johnson/Iwen Community Foundation) was established in 2005 with a generous gift from their estates and is a component fund of the North Dakota Community Foundation.

Every year since its inception, this foundation has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants to projects and programs that improve the quality of life in Arthur, Hunter, and the surrounding area. It is led by an advisory committee made up of local residents that can serve up to two three-year terms.

We think it is important to report back to you about the fund's activities so we are creating this annual update. It gives some information about our fund's history, where the grant dollars went this year (so far), and how to apply for a grant.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact any member of the Advisory Committee.

#### Current committee members:

Tim Timian, Chair, term ends in 2024  
Dale Lako, first term ends in 2024\*  
Deb Gebeke, first term ends in 2025\*  
Sue Iwen, first term ends in 2026\*  
Nichol Sorvaag, term ends in 2025

\* eligible for a second, three-year term

#### Johnson/Iwen Community Foundation

- **Established in 2005**
- **Market Value of Fund (as of 12/31/22):  
\$6,084,736**
- **Total grants awarded in 2023 (so far):  
5 grants totaling \$29,400**
- **Total grants awarded since inception:  
297 grants totaling \$3,887,842**

### **\$29,400 Awarded in Spring 2023 Grant Round**

The Johnson/Iwen Community Foundation awarded the following grants in the spring of this year:

- **\$10,000 to the Clarence Johnson/Eunice Iwen Scholarship Fund** to build a permanent scholarship fund for graduating seniors of Northern Cass School
- **\$9,500 to the Arthur Fire Department** for Personal Protective Equipment
- **\$5,000 to the Community of Care** for general operating support
- **\$3,000 to the Clarence Johnson/Eunice Iwen Scholarship Non-Endowment Fund** for immediate scholarships to graduating seniors
- **\$1,900 to the City of Arthur** for Arthur Beautification and Community Recreation in 2023

**The Foundation will hold another grant round in the fall with applications due by October 1.** Grants are limited to those organizations and/or projects that provide a direct service or benefit to the Arthur area. Organizations must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit or a governmental agency (such as a school district) or must have a fiscal sponsor in order to apply. There is \$239,480 available for grants in the 2023 fall round.

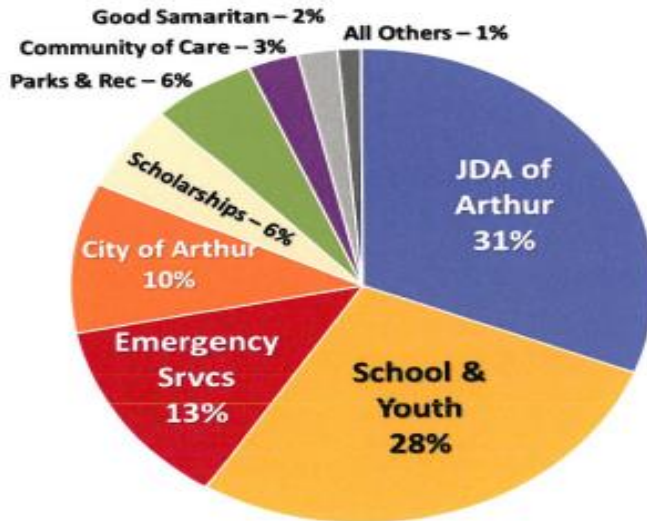
More information and the online application process is available at [www.NDCF.net/Arthur](http://www.NDCF.net/Arthur). If you need assistance in applying online, contact Amy Stromsodt with the North Dakota Community Foundation at 701-741-3193 or [Amy@NDCF.net](mailto:Amy@NDCF.net).





## Where Have Our Grants Gone?

The Johnson/Iwen Community Foundation has awarded over \$3.8 million in 297 different grants since 2005 to various organizations and entities in our area. Here is a breakdown of where those grant dollars have gone:



JDA of Arthur	\$1,207,297
Schools & Youth	\$1,088,961
Emergency Services	\$498,814
City of Arthur	\$397,907
Scholarships	\$228,856
Parks & Rec	\$221,000
Community of Care	\$108,050
Good Samaritan	\$86,445
All Others	\$50,512
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,887,842</b>

### Questions or want more information?



Johnson/Iwen Community Foundation  
Attn: Tim Timian, Chair  
1825 161st Ave NE, Arthur, ND 58048



701-412-3160 (Tim)

Arthur@NDCF.net

[www.NDCF.net/Arthur](http://www.NDCF.net/Arthur)

## About Clarence and Eunice

Eunice Iwen and Clarence Johnson were partners in a successful farm and cattle-ranch operation near Arthur, North Dakota. When Eunice died in 2004, she left the majority of her estate to Clarence.



Clarence passed away a year later and left instructions in his will to use their combined estates to create a permanent endowment fund to benefit Arthur and Northern Cass County, where they had been so successful.



Thanks to their generosity, we have been able to support many projects and programs in our communities and have some amenities that most rural areas don't have, including the Arthur mall. Included in the projects that have received grants from the Johnson/Iwen Community Foundation over the years:



Because the Johnson/Iwen Community Foundation is a permanent fund, there will always be grants available for community projects in this area and scholarships for local youth. Thank you, Clarence and Eunice!



The Clarence Johnson and Eunice Iwen Community Foundation for Arthur, ND is a component fund of the North Dakota Community Foundation (NDCF). Established in 1976, NDCF provides charitable giving and fiduciary services, including donor gift planning, bequest planning and an annual audit. For more information about NDCF or if you'd like to have a confidential conversation about charitable-giving, contact Amy Stromsodt, NDCF Development Director at 701-741-3193 or [Amy@NDCF.net](mailto:Amy@NDCF.net).



# Northern Cass School Calendar 2023-2024

Start Dates	August 23* & January 3
BACK TO SCHOOL/MEET THE EDUCATOR EVENT AUG 17 from 5-8pm	
End Dates	December 20 and May 22
Wednesday PLCs	school starts 9:00am Buses run on schedule (normal route times)
Graduation	May 26 at 2pm
End of Semester	January 5 (semester 1=79 days semester 2=89 days)
<b>Holidays/Breaks for Learners</b> * Indicates educators have professional learning /indicates storm day	
Labor Day	September 4
No School	September 18*
NDCEL Conference	Oct 19 & 20 (no school October 18*, 19, 20)
Veterans Day	November 11 (no school November 9* & 10)
Thanksgiving	November 23 (no school November 22, 23, 24)
Christmas/New Years	December 25 & January 1 (no school December 21-January 2*)
Martin Luther King Day	January 15*
Winter Break	February 15, 16 & 19*
Spring Break	March 14, 15, 29 April 1, 26*
Parent/Educator Conferences	October 16 & 17 March 11 & 12
Total Learner Contact Days =	168 days
NC Total Learner Hours= 1092 hours (168 x 6.5 hours)	
State requirement= 962.5 for elementary and 1050 for secondary	
<b>Educator Professional Learning Days</b>	
New Staff	August 7, 8, 9, 10
All Certified Staff (before school)	August 15, 16, 17*, 21 *17:30worktime 12:00-2:00meal from 5-6; meet educator K-6
Throughout Year certified educators	Sept 18, Oct 18, Nov 9, Jan 2, Jan 15, Feb 19, Apr 26
EDUCATOR COMP DAYS	November 22 and March 15



Northern Cass Public School  
16021 18th St SE  
Hunter, ND 58048



Northern Cass School District #97



@NCSD97

Board Approved (4/12/23) first reading

UPDATE: June 6 2023

<b>August</b> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 7 days No PLCs Aug 23rd	<b>January</b> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 20 days
<b>September</b> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 19 days	<b>February</b> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 18 days
<b>October</b> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 19 days	<b>March</b> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 18 days
<b>November</b> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 17 days	<b>April</b> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 20 days
<b>December</b> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 14 days	<b>May</b> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 16 days
2023 Learner Contact Days 76 days	2024 Learner Contact Days 92 days

\* Whole grain bread, fruit and vegetable available daily

## August

## 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			23 Waffle Bites, Fruit, Juice, Milk  Garlic Cheese Bread, Green Beans, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	24 Strawberry Bagel, Fruit, Juice, Milk  Chicken Nuggets, Mashed Potatoes, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	25 Nutrigrain Bar, Yogurt, Fruit, Juice, Milk  Big Daddy's Pizao, Corn, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	26
27	28 Cini Mini, Fruit, Juice, Milk  Hamburger, Tater Tots, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	29 Pumpkin Bread, Fruit, Juice, Milk  Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	30 Assorted Cereal, Yogurt, Fruit, Juice, Milk  Corn Dog, Baked Beans, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	31 Blueberry Muffin, Fruit, Juice, Milk  Chicken Strips, Mashed Potato, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk		

# September 2023

\* Whole grain bread, fruit and vegetable available daily

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 French Toast Bites, Fruit, Juice, Milk 2 Spaghetti/Meat Sauce, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	
3	4 NO SCHOOL	5 Strawberry Pop Tart, Yogurt, Fruit, Juice, Milk Chicken Sticks, Puzzle Tots, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	6 Long John/Choc Icing, Fruit, Juice, Milk Meatballs in Gravy, Mashed Potato, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	7 Banana Bread, Fruit, Juice, Milk Stuffed Cheese Sticks, Corn Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	8 Chocolate Chip Muffin, Fruit, Juice, Milk 9 Chicken Patty/Bun, French Fries, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	
10	11 Cinnamon Bagel, Fruit, Juice, Milk Pizza Quesadilla, Peas, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	12 Blueberry Waffle Bites, Fruit, Juice, Milk Chicken Alfredo & Pasta, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	13 Assorted Cereals, Yogurt, Fruit, Juice, Milk Sloppy Joes, Potato Chips, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	14 Chocolate Chip Bar, Fruit, Juice, Milk Popcorn Chicken, Mashed Potato, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	15 Cinnamon Streusel Muffin, Fruit, Juice, Milk Garlic Cheese Bread, Corn, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	16
17	18 NO SCHOOL	19 Cinnamon Pop Tart, Yogurt, Fruit, Juice, Milk Chicken Nuggets, French Fries, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	20 Lemon Bread, Fruit, Juice, Milk Tator Tot Hotdish, Green Beans, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	21 Apple Frudel Fruit, Juice, Milk Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	22 Fruit & Yogurt Parfait, Granola, Juice, Milk Pepperoni French Bread, Broccoli, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	23
24	25 French Toast Bites, Fruit, Juice, Milk Big Daddy's Pizza, Corn Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	26 Cini Mini, Fruit, Juice, Milk Walking Tacos, Toppings, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	27 Chocolate Bread, Fruit, Juice, Milk Hot Ham/Cheese on Bun, Chips, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	28 Strawberry Bagel, Fruit, Juice, Milk Fr. Toast Sticks, Sausage Hash Br. Patty, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	29 Choc Chip Breakfast Bar, Fruit, Juice, Milk Chicken Quesadilla, Black Beans, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Milk	30

‘This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider’