



# Meridian Public Schools

## "The Hoof Print" ~ Home of the Mustangs

### Mission Statement:

Meridian Public Schools will educate all students in a safe, nurturing environment while challenging them to develop their integrity, knowledge, and unique talents to become responsible, productive citizens.

Newsletter

[www.meridianmustangs.org](http://www.meridianmustangs.org)

March, 2018

Newsletter-March, 2018

Superintendent  
Randy Kort

### WELCOME MARCH!

Once again we are winding down our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Winter sports have concluded, spring practice is about to begin. We had nearly 60 degree weather on Sunday and on Monday the temperature did not get over freezing. Good ole Nebraska!

I am starting to visit with the seniors (when I have the opportunity) about their future. I enjoy hearing about the careers they are looking to pursue and what paths they are choosing to get there. I feel this is the final step in their 13 year journey. It is great and energizing to see these students ready to take on the world. I feel as they move on to college, work or military they will always remember their time here at Meridian. They have been a part of many experiences they can reflect upon. Only two more months left until graduation. I wish the graduates the opportunity to enjoy these last few weeks of high school and the best of luck in their future endeavors.

### OPTION ENROLLMENT

If you are aware of other families who are considering Option Enrollment, please tell them to contact the school, schedule a walk through, and discuss the steps that need to be taken to enroll. The date to submit the option enrollment is March 15.

### TRACK

Track practice will begin on February 26, 2018.

### BUSING INFORMATION

Within this newsletter is a 2018-2019 Bus Information Update page that needs to be completed and returned to the School by March 26th. We will be

sending this same flyer home with the students to ensure all families have an opportunity to complete the information. We will be reviewing our bus routes this spring in preparation for next school year. Thank you for completing and returning the information promptly. If you have any questions, please call. Please feel free to write notes, comments, and/or requests on the survey.

**Board of Education  
Meridian Public Schools  
District – 48-0303  
Daykin, Nebraska, 68338  
Sunday, February 18, 2018**

### Regular February 18, 2018 Meeting 11:30 A.M.

Meridian Public School Board of Education met on February 18, 2018, as per notice in the Fairbury Journal-News.

President VanWesten called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. The open meeting law information was presented. Members present were Vorderstrasse, Sobotka, Bartels, and VanWesten. Also present were Superintendent Kort, Principal Scott, Mrs. Houchin, Mr. Jones, Sarah Thomas, and Adeline Beals.

There was nothing new to add to the agenda.

Bartels moved and Sobotka seconded to excuse members Scheer and Miller. Vote was taken: Vorderstrasse -Aye, Sobotka-Aye, Bartels-Aye, and VanWesten-Aye. Motion passed 4-0. Comments were heard from the public.

Sobotka moved and Bartels seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Minutes of the Monday, January 15, 2017 Regular Meeting
2. District Financial Report
3. Activity Fund Report
4. Hot Lunch Fund Report
5. Bills

Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-Aye, Sobotka-Aye, Bartels-Aye, and VanWesten-Aye. Motion passed 4-0.

Principal Scott gave the Curriculum Report. He is currently working on the Ag Education curriculum for next year.

Sobotka moved and Vorderstrasse seconded to approve Miranda Johnson as a local substitute. Vote was taken: Vorderstrasse-Aye, Sobotka-Aye, Bartels-Aye, and VanWesten-Aye. Motion passed 4-0.

Bartels moved and Sobotka seconded to hire Sarah Wollenburg as the Ag teacher and FFA sponsor. Vote was taken: Vorderstrasse-Aye, Sobotka-Aye, Bartels-Aye, and VanWesten-Aye. Motion passed 4-0.

Superintendent Kort reported on the 2018-2019 school calendar. He is currently working on finalizing the calendar and should have it ready for Board approval next month.

Principal Scott reported:

1. Currently 233 Students PK-12
2. Girls BB finished 3rd in CRC Tournament
3. Parent Teachers Conference – Pre-K – 6<sup>th</sup> (85%), 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> (50%)
4. Congratulation to Junior High Girls' Basketball Team for Winning the Meridian Invite, and for Jack Sobotka's 400th and 401st wins at Meridian.
5. Valentines for Veterans
6. Varsity Girls and Boys Sub-Districts
7. Wrestling State Qualifiers - Lane Barton and Micah Noel
8. Pennies for Patients



- 9. Meridian Hosting Its Own Version of the Olympics
- 10. Meridian will host CRC Speech on February 21st. No school for students.
- 11. Spring Sports Begin February 26th
- 12. Kindergarten Roundup on Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. Current anticipated enrollment is 18.
- 13. National Honor Society Blood Drive will be March 6th

Superintendent Kort reported:

- 1. Updating of School Pickup
- 2. Level 3 at Beatrice
- 3. Elementary Stu-Co
- 4. Legislative Update
- 5. Lockers - Stu-Co Project
- 6. Administrative Salaries
- 7. Non-Certified Salaries

Vorderstrasse moved and Sobotka seconded to go into closed session for protection of individuals reputation.

President VanWesten stated that it was moved and seconded to go into closed session at 12:07 p.m. for the protection of individuals reputation.

Returned to open session at 12:38 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting was set for Monday, March 19, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.

Vorderstrasse moved and Sobotka seconded to adjourn at 12:42p.m. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-Aye, Sobotka-Aye, Bartels-Aye, and VanWesten-Aye. Motion passed 4-0.

*Jason Bartels,*

Secretary Meridian District #48-0303



Our current student count:  
(As of 2-12-18)

Pre-Kind	13	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	15
Kindergarten	17	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	18
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	10	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	18
+1			
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	18	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	19
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	13	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	23
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	16	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	<u>24</u>
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	15		
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	<u>12</u>		
Total	114	Total	117

Grand Total 231  
+1 (change from January)

The high school girls finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the CRC basketball tournament.

Junior high girls' basketball team won the Meridian invite. The games were Jack Sobotka's 400th & 401st wins! Congratulations, Jack, and thank you for your commitment to Meridian Public Schools' athletics.

Parent Teacher Conferences were held Monday, February 5, and Wednesday, February 7. Elementary attendance was 85%. Secondary attendance was 50%.

Meridian students participated in the Valentines for Veterans project again this year. Valentines were taken to the Veterans Home in Grand Island and to the VA Hospital in Omaha.

Congratulations to Lane Barton and Micah Noel for qualifying for the State Wrestling tournament.

Pennies for Patients fundraiser continues this week. Students have been doing a great job collecting loose change to donate.

Meridian High School is hosting its own version of the Olympics. Classes are competing in several different events.

Meridian will again host the CRC speech meet. It will be held on

Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. There will be no school for students that day. Teachers will be working throughout the day. District speech will be March 12<sup>th</sup>, at Humboldt. We will be competing in class C2.

Spring sports practice will begin on Monday, February 26. The first track meet is scheduled for March 15<sup>th</sup>, at Concordia University.

Kindergarten roundup will be held Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm. Current anticipated enrollment is 18.

National Honor Society blood drive will be March 6<sup>th</sup>.



**SENIORS:**

Stay on track for college by completing these second-semester tasks:

- **Watch your grades.** If you slack off and get poor grades, your college admission could be revoked.
- **Complete the financial aid process.** By now, you should have filed your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). If you haven't, apply at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov).
- **Compare financial aid award notifications.** The colleges you listed on your FAFSA will send you notifications detailing the financial aid they're offering. Compare the notifications to determine which school provides the best package.
- **Apply for scholarships.** Local scholarships as well as state/regional scholarships are available on the counselor's website.
- **Make your final college selection.** Notify the other colleges so they can take you off their mailing list.
- **Be aware of deadlines** to accept financial aid and college admission offers, submit your housing deposit, and register for new-student orientation.

**SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Local scholarships have been updated and are available on the school website



under the administration-counselor tab. Many of the scholarships are due April 15th, but students have been encouraged to start on them now. If you have questions about a scholarship, please ask! Remember, additional scholarships can be found on the counselor website, and students are encouraged to check it often! Seniors and Parents...Please make sure you inform the counseling office of any scholarships you receive.

**JUNIORS:**

Registration deadline for the April 14th ACT is March 9th (\*Note that all juniors will also be taking the ACT on April 3rd as part of state testing, free of charge). Please go to www.actstudent.org to register. If you qualify for free & reduced lunches, you may be able to use a fee waiver. Please see Ms. Hermsmeier if you have questions.

**IT'S COLLEGE VISIT TIME!**

Spring is a great time for juniors to take an individual tour of a college of interest! Many schools offer "Junior Visit Days," or an individual tour can be arranged. Please see Ms. Hermsmeier if you need help in setting up a visit. Remember, every junior is allowed one excused absence and every senior is allowed two excused absences to visit colleges.

**17 & 18 YEAR OLD MALES:**

The law requires that all males must register with the Selective Service within 30 days of their 18th birthday. It is now possible to submit registration information early, as long as the person is at least 17 years and 3 months old. Selective Service will keep your information on file and process it automatically within 30 days of your 18th birthday. To find out more information go to https://www.sss.gov. You can also register online.



**2017-2018 CLASS REGISTRATION:**

Over the next month, I will be meeting with each student in grades 8-11 to register for classes for next year. For next year's juniors and seniors, taking dual credit college classes may be an option. These students may also take college classes as part of SENCAP (Southeast Community College's Career Academy). These are great opportunities for students to obtain college credit while still in high school! As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.  
Lisa Hermsmeier  
[lhermsmeier@meridianmustangs.org](mailto:lhermsmeier@meridianmustangs.org)  
402-446-7265 ext. 1253

**2018-2019 PRE-K**

All children who have turned 4 by July 31, 2018, are eligible for Pre-K this fall. If your child qualifies, please contact Judy Grummert at 402-446-7265 extension 1123 and let her know if you plan on sending your child to Meridian. Mrs. Paul plans on holding a parents' meeting on April 9th, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. We will send more information as it is available.



**2018 JH Girls' Basketball**

The 2018 Meridian Junior High girls' basketball team finished their season 10-2. They were runner-up in the Dorchester Tournament. They were also runner-up in our conference division to the eventual 13 member CRC champs. The girls competed in the Exeter-Milligan Tournament defeating E-M in the championship. In our final tournament, held at Meridian on February 5, 2018, the girls gave me my 400th win at Meridian by first defeating Lewiston and then 401 in the championship game defeating Sterling. The girls played with a lot of heart, winning both championship games in the final seconds. I was proud of them; they never gave up!

Luv Ya Man!  
Mr. Sobotka

**STUCO NEWS**

As the months continue to zoom by toward the end of the school year, your Student Council continues to try and make these last few months as fun as possible. The Meridian Winter Olympics and Valentine's carnations are just two of the fun filled activities we had this past month. There will be many more opportunities for fun in the coming months.

The Meridian Winter Olympics began this month with the first few teams competing in the ice hockey games. A bracket was created and teams have been getting knocked off all week. There will be other games being played in the coming weeks. These games include: ice hockey, luge, curling, skeleton, biathlon, slalom skiing, ski jumping, and speed skating. Although we do not have the "proper" equipment or the "safest" ways to play these games, it will surely be very fun getting to experience these different games. We have had a very good time getting these games set up, and I am sure everyone who participates will have a good time playing the different games. Good Luck to all the competitors!

Another fun thing that we do annually is sell Valentine's carnations. People can buy a white, red, or pink carnation for two dollars from the Student Council. The white carnations stand for secret admirer, the red for love, and the pink for friendship. This year we had a lot of carnation orders, more than usual. That is wonderful! It means that more people are willing to buy flowers for their friends and loved ones, which in my opinion is one of the sweetest things anyone can receive on Valentine's Day.

These next few months will definitely come and go in a flash, but we will always try to make school a fun place for everyone. Through activities like the winter Olympics and Valentines carnations, we try to put a little fun back into school. Let's all try to make these last couple months of school as fun as possible for everyone.

Wishing you Marvelous March,  
Public Relations, Jacqueline Dimas



**Randall L. Kort**  
Superintendent

**Phone: 402-446-7265**  
**Fax: 402-446-7246**  
**www.meridianmustangs.org**

**Harold L. Scott**  
Principal

**Busing Information Update**

Meridian Public School is reviewing its bus routes and needs your assistance. If your family is planning to ride the Meridian Public School bus during the 2018-2019 school year (*on a regular basis or not*), please complete the information below and return the form to Meridian Public School by **Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018**. We will publish bus routes with specific pick-up/drop-off points in our July newsletter.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kort at 402-446-7265. Thank you.

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**AND**

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Child(ren) Riding: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Pick-up/Drop-off Location(s): \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

*(This will usually be at the end of the lane or a specified location.)*

**Early (1:30 p.m.) Dismissal Information Request**

Meridian Public School has nine (9) scheduled 1:30 p.m. dismissals this coming school year. The early dismissals are for in-services, parent-teacher conferences, and vacation breaks. We understand these early dismissals create a disruption in the regular school day family supervision plans. Since the disruption is our making, Meridian would like to assist in minimizing the hassles created by our scheduling.

Meridian Public School will create "Early Dismissal (1:30 p.m.) Bus Routes". The routes will be similar to the regular daily routes – same number of routes, various drop-off locations, and an estimated time schedule. Because these routes may be different than the regular daily routes with additional or different drop-off locations and times, we need your assistance.

All families who plan to utilize Meridian's bus service on *early dismissal days* need to complete and return the information below by **Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018**.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kort at 402-446-7265. Thank you.

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**AND**

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Child(ren) Riding: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Pick-up/Drop-off Location(s): \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

*(This will usually be at the end of the lane or a specified location.)*

**BY MARCH 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018, please return to:**  
**Bus Route Data**  
**Meridian Public School**  
**PO Box 190**  
**Daykin, NE 68338**



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# MERIDIAN MUSTANGS 2018 YEARBOOK ON SALE NOW

It is that time of the year again to order your 2018 yearbook. The 2018 yearbook will go on sale beginning Tuesday, March 6. There are two incentives for buying the first day of sales:

- The price the first day is only \$45.
- Students will get their name stamped on the cover free.

Starting Wednesday, March 7, yearbooks will sell for \$48.

Names stamped on the cover will be an extra \$2.

Name stamping deadline will be April 30.

Orders may be given to Mrs. Soukup,  
Mrs. Houser, and Mrs. Endorf.

We have a few left from the previous years if you forgot to order at that time. See Mrs. Soukup for the year you are missing.



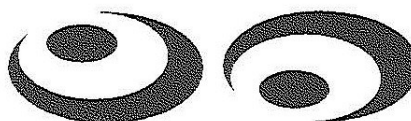
**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Yearbooks:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name on Yearbook:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Due:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to Meridian Activity Fund.**







**Meridian Alumni Banquet - 50 Years!!**  
**June 9, 2018**

Activities are being planned for the Meridian Alumni Banquet to be held Saturday, June 9, 2018, at the Tobias Auditorium.

This is the 50th year since the first graduating class in 1968, so special activities will be held to celebrate this anniversary.

Honored classes for this year will be: 1968, 73, 78, 83, 88, 93, 98, 03, 08, and 2013. We would like representatives from those classes to help organize any new activities. We will be contacting the graduates for help with the Banquet.

Our goal is to have an attendee from each class at the Banquet this year. Let's join the caravan to reach this goal.

We are working on special entertainment at this time.

Until we have additional volunteers to help this year, please contact one of the following for input and help with the Banquet.

Larry Miller (402)446-7271

Paul Bachle (402)446-7243

**Meridian Alumni Banquet**

**June 9, 2018**

**Deadline: May 31, 2018**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Banquet Only** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yr Graduated** \_\_\_\_\_ **T-shirt Size** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Banquet Only** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yr Graduated** \_\_\_\_\_ **T-shirt Size** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Volleyball** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Volleyball**

**Enclosed is my check for \_\_\_\_\_ (\$18/35) Checks payable to Meridian Alumni.**

**Mail registrations to: Meridian Alumni, PO Box 172, Daykin, NE 68338**



# **Blood Drive Meridian High School**

**Gym  
72380 560th Avenue**

**Tuesday, March 6, 2018  
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

Please contact a NHS Member or call the school office at 446-7265  
or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter: MeridianMustangs to schedule an appointment.

Walk-Ins Welcome!

[redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) | 1-800-RED CROSS | Download the Blood Donor App

# NOTICE!

**There is a change to the calendar for March - Actions Day will be on the 28th, *NOT* the 14th.**

**The students who are attending will still be competing at CCC in Hastings - *ONLY* the date has changed!**





5<sup>th</sup> Annual Meridian Student Council  
**Dodgeball Tournament**



Who: Anyone (student / staff / community member)  
7<sup>th</sup> grade and up

What: 6 person dodgeball tournament

When: Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:30 PM

Where: Meridian's NEW Gym

Why: Meridian Student Council Fundraiser

Cost: \$30 per team

Registration packets AND money will be due to  
Mr. VanderSchaaf or Mr. Baber by  
Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018

To Sign-Up: Call Mr. VanderSchaaf or Mr. Baber @ 402-446-7265  
OR  
Get a packet from Mr. VanderSchaaf's Room

Rules:

1. 6 person teams with 1 alternate.
2. The winner is best 2 out of 3 in 5:00 periods.
3. At the end of the period, the team with the most people still in win unless same number on each team. Then there will be a 1:00 sudden death showdown.
4. The tournament is double-elimination.



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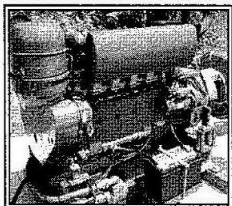
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