



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

October, 2022

Newsletter - October, 2022
Superintendent
Randy Kort

Since harvest has begun, we ask that everyone take a little extra time in their travels to and from school and other activities. When you are behind a combine, tractor, or truck please be careful before passing. This time of year the sun begins to play a large factor in your visibility. BE SAFE!

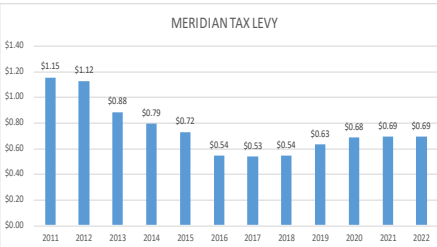
It is also the time of year where our fall activities are halfway through their respective seasons. The volleyball team ended up winning the Deshler Quad, and WON Mudecas B Division, currently the girls are 10-1 and off to a great start. The football team has put themselves in games and are working to finish strong. Please come out and support our fall sport teams.

The Meridian band marched at Alexandria Days and during the State Fair. They will be marching in the Harvest of Harmony Parade in Grand Island on Saturday, October 1. Please come support our band.

The Meridian Board of Education met on September 19, 2022; the Board approved the 2022-2023 Annual Budget as presented. The Budget Hearing was held at 7:00 P.M. and the 2022-2023 Tax Request Hearing immediately followed.

The District Assessed Valuation increased 2% to a total of \$431,724,166 from last year's \$423,943,288. Based upon this evaluation the Board of Education approved tax requests and levy requests of: \$2,947,011 (\$0.682614 per \$100 assessed valuation) for the General Fund; \$50,505 (\$0.011698 per \$100 assessed valuation) for the Special Building Fund; \$0 (\$.0 per \$100 assessed valuation) for the Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund; \$0 (\$.0 per \$100 assessed valuation) for the Technology Bond Fund. Each of the

amounts includes the County Treasurer's one percent commission. The total tax request for the 2022-2023 budget is \$2,997,516 (\$.694312 per \$100 assessed valuation; last year was \$.690963).



NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK

October 17th through the 21st is National School Bus Safety Week. Meridian would like to thank our great bus drivers: Elizabeth Noel, Janelle Heiserman, Charles Houser, Tonya Griffin, and Wendy McKenzie. These individuals safely transport our students to and from school during daily routes, field trips, and school activities. Safety is their number one priority. Please thank them when you have an opportunity. Please encourage your child/children to obey these School Bus Safety Rules:

1. Be at the bus stop at least 5 minutes early.
2. Always use bus handrails when entering or exiting the bus.
3. Take your seat promptly.
4. Keep aisles clear at all times.
5. Stay seated until the bus stops or as directed by the driver.
6. Be quiet to avoid accidents - there must be absolute QUIET at a railroad crossing stop.
7. Keep your head and arms inside the bus at all times.
8. Cross street/roads only when it is safe.
9. Obey the bus driver.

If you are interested in learning more about being a substitute bus driver, please contact Mr. Kort for further information.

**Board of Education
Meridian Public Schools
District - 48-0303
Daykin, Nebraska, 68338
Monday, September 19, 2022**

Special Budget Hearing - 7:00 P.M.

Meridian Public School Board of Education met on September 19, 2022, as per notice in the Fairbury Journal-News.

President Bartels called the hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. The open meeting law information was presented.

Roll call was taken: Vorderstrasse - present, Niederklein - present, Rut - present, Scheer - present, and Bartels - present. Also present were Superintendent Kort and Principal Scott.

Nothing new was added to the agenda.

Niederklein moved and Scheer seconded to excuse Sobotka from the meetings. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse - aye, Niederklein - aye, Rut - aye, Scheer - aye, and Bartels - aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Superintendent Kort provided information regarding the proposed 2022-2023 Budget.

No comments were heard from the public.

Vorderstrasse moved and Rut seconded to close the Special Budget Hearing. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse - aye, Niederklein - aye, Rut - aye, Scheer - aye, and Bartels - aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Special Tax Hearing

Meridian Public School Board of Education met on September 19, 2022, as per notice in the Fairbury Journal-News.

President Bartels called the hearing to order at 7:05 p.m. The open meeting law information was presented.

Roll call was taken: Vorderstrasse - present, Niederklein - present, Rut - present, Scheer - present, and Bartels - present. Also present were Superintendent Kort and Principal Scott.



Nothing new was added to the agenda.

Scheer moved and Niederklein seconded to excuse Sobotka from the meetings. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Scheer – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Superintendent Kort provided information concerning the proposed 2022-2023 Tax request which will be .694312. The levy is going up .003349 cents.

No comments were heard from the public.

Vorderstrasse moved and Rut seconded to close the Special Tax Hearing at 6:09 p.m. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Scheer – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Regular September 19, 2022 Meeting

Meridian Public School Board of Education met on September 19, 2022, as per notice in the Fairbury Journal-News.

President Bartels called the hearing to order at 7:10 p.m. The open meeting law information was presented.

Roll call was taken: Vorderstrasse – present, Niederklein – present, Rut – present, Scheer – present, and Bartels – present. Also present were Superintendent Kort and Principal Scott.

Nothing new was added to the agenda.

Scheer moved and Niederklein seconded to excuse Sobotka from the meetings. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Scheer – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

No comments were heard from the public.

Vorderstrasse moved and Niederklein seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- A: Minutes of Wednesday, August 15, 2022 Regular Meeting
- B: District Financial Report
- C: Activity Fund Report
- D: Hot Lunch Fund Report
- E: Bills

Vote taken: Vorderstrasse – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Scheer – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Superintendent Kort presented the curriculum update to the board.

Rut moved and Vorderstrasse seconded to approve the 2022-2023 Tax Request Resolution. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse –

aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Scheer – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Scheer moved and Vorderstrasse seconded to approve the 2022-2023 Annual Budget. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Scheer – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.



Negotiations with the Meridian Education Association (MEA) will begin on Sunday, October 16, 2022.

Niederklein moved and Rut seconded to use North Star Negotiation Software for the 2022-2023 teacher negotiations.

Superintendent Kort gave an update on ESSER/Safe Return.

Principal’s Report:

- Current student count – Elementary – 121 and High School – 102, including 1 exchange students.
- A reminder that on Fridays we dismiss at 3:12pm. (30 minutes early) We ask that parents be aware that students will be dropped off 30 minutes earlier on Fridays!
- Additional early releases have been added to Friday, September 16 @ 12:45p, Friday, September 30 @ 1:45p, and Friday, October 7 @ 1:45p.
- Student handbooks have included the PBiS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) matrices for the elementary and secondary. We are adding “Positive tickets” and “Think Sheets” Positive tickets are given to students who are caught doing things “The Mustang Way”. Their names are put in a weekly drawing for prizes like “first in line at lunch” and “sit in special chair”. Think sheets are for additional practice for appropriate behavior.

Superintendent’s Report:

- °NASB Meetings
 - Regional Meeting in LaVista
 - State Meeting in Omaha on November 16 – 18

Next Meeting was set for Sunday, October 16, 2022, beginning at 3:00 p.m. with a Negotiations Committee meeting at 2:45 p.m.

Scheer moved and Rut seconded to adjourn at 7:38 p.m. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Scheer – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 6-0.

Jamie Niederklein,

Secretary Meridian District #48-030



Student Count for 2022-2023

(as of 9-19-22)

PreK	10 +1	7th	18
Kindergarten	11	8th	12 -1
1st	21 -1	9th	20
2nd	16	10th	20 +1
3rd	13	11th	12
4th	18	12th	20
5th	16		102
6th	16	Exchange 1	
	121		103
Grand Total	224		

A reminder that on Fridays we dismiss at 3:12pm. (30 minutes early) We ask that parents be aware students will be dropped off 30 minutes earlier on Fridays.

Additional early releases have been added to Friday, September 30 at 1:30 p.m., and Friday, October 7 at 1:30 p.m. We will be in session all day on October 3 instead of dismissing at 1:30 p.m.

Student handbooks have included the PBiS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) matrices for the elementary and secondary. We are adding “Positive tickets” and “Think Sheets” Positive tickets are given to students who are caught doing things “The Mustang Way”. There names are put in a weekly drawing for prizes like “first in line at lunch” and “sit in special chair”. Think sheets are for additional practice for appropriate behavior.



COUNSELOR'S CONNECTION
by
Lisa Hermsmeier

Testing:

• The On To College Prep (formerly John Baylor ACT Prep) is an investment provided by our school to assist your student in preparing for the ACT. All students have access to this test prep. All seniors are more than welcome to take it this semester, and all juniors will take in next semester before the required state ACT test. For more information, talk to Ms. Hermsmeier.

Seniors:

It is time to start the admission process! College may still seem far off, but admission deadlines will hit as early as December. Follow these steps to stay on track:

Contact your top colleges NOW and ask:

- About application deadlines for admission, college-based scholarships, and financial aid.
- If you need a separate application for scholarships.
- If you should apply online or submit a hardcopy application.
- About application fees.

Much of this information can be found by visiting their website and visiting the college rep when they come to Meridian.

Follow these tips to increase your chances of earning scholarships:

- Don't pay for scholarship services! Free resources include ScholarshipQuest at EducationQuest.org, your school counselor's office, and EducationQuest offices in Omaha, Lincoln, and Kearney.
- Focus on college-based and local scholarships. You're more likely to earn them over large national awards.
- Keep an updated list of activities, honors, and volunteer or paid jobs.
- Earn the best possible ACT/SAT scores by taking the exams in the spring of your junior year and again in the fall of your senior year. Use the On To College Prep to help study.
- Use quality references such as a teacher, coach or counselor. Give them advance notice (at least 2 weeks), a specific deadline, and a copy of your Activities Resume.

- Ask at least two people to proofread your college or scholarship application.

Senior "To Do" List:

- ___ Create an FSA ID for you and one for a parent. You'll need them for FAFSA. You can also do this at the EducationQuest Financial Meeting in October.
- ___ Complete the FAFSA on or after October 1.
- ___ Complete college applications.

EducationQuest Website a Useful Tool

EducationQuest provides a FREE service to students, parents, and schools in Nebraska for:

- Nebraska-based scholarship search
- Nebraska college search and links to Nebraska college websites
- College Funding Estimator (estimates students' eligibility for financial aid)
- Countdown to College – students may sign up for monthly college planning tips by email (grades 9-12)
- College preparation and financial aid information
- Student loan calculations

The website for EducationQuest is: www.educationquest.org or you can contact them for free personal help and make an appointment: Omaha – 888.357.6300, Lincoln – 800.303.3745, Kearney – 800.666.3721.

Resources for Students with Disabilities

If you have a disability that may require accommodations in college, ask Ms. Hermsmeier for a copy of College Planning for Students with Disabilities. In addition, visit Educational Opportunities Beyond High School at: <http://www.unl.edu/ssd/content/accommodations>.

**Just a 🎵
From the Music
Department**

October, already? This is sure to be a fun month for our musicians! On Saturday, October 1, the band is traveling to Harvest of Harmony in Grand Island and the following Sunday, October 9, our junior high and high school musicians will have their fall concert at 2pm.

We wanted to take this opportunity to reach out to members of our school community who might have an extra musical instrument they'd like to donate to our band program or sell to a beginning band student. Music stores around the country are currently facing an instrument shortage, and as a result, we are needing a little extra help in locating instruments for our beginning fifth graders to utilize. If you or someone you know is interested in donating or selling an instrument, please reach out to Ms. Drees!

We are so proud of all of the students' hard work, and would love to invite you to support our musicians at any of their upcoming performances. Please feel free to contact either of us with any questions: ldrees@meridianmustangs.org or mhalama@meridianmustangs.org.

**CALENDAR NOTICES
AND CHANGES**

Please note the following dates and changes to the October, 2022 school calendar:

October 3rd

3:42 p.m. Regular Dismissal
JH FB is HOME versus Sterling at 5:00 p.m.

JV FB is HOME versus Sterling at 6:30 p.m.

October 7th

1:30 Early Dismissal

SUNDAY, October 9th

Junior High/High School Fall Concert at 2:00 p.m.

October 10th

JH FB @ Parkview Christian is CANCELED

JV FB @ Parkview Christian is CANCELED

October 24th, 25th, and 27th

VB Sub-Districts
(Most likely to be played at Meridian)

October 29th

VB Districts
(Most likely to be played at Meridian)



NOW SHOWING  **Public Health Solutions**

PREVENTING THE FLU...

STARRING YOU!

**SKIP Clinic Premiering
at your school on:**

**Meridian
Thursday
October 20
9:00 am**

Bring your signed consent forms, copy of insurance card,
and COVID vaccine card, if applicable



Meridian Vinyl Decal Order Form



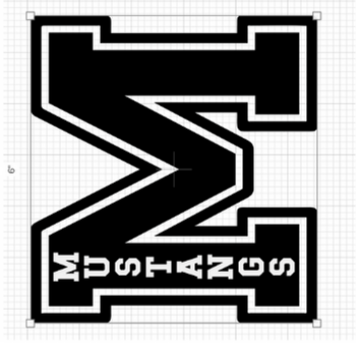
Red: 6x3 QTY _____
Black: 6x3 QTY _____
\$10



5x5 _____ \$10
3x3 _____ \$8



5x5 _____ \$10
3x3 _____ \$8



5x5 _____ \$10
3x3 _____ \$8

Name _____
Total \$ _____

Orders Due October 10th

Thank You for Supporting the
Junior Class Of 2024

Make checks out to Meridian Activity Fund



Meridian Public Schools | 72380 560th Ave, Daykin, NE 68338 | 402-446-7265

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO INVEST IN MERIDIAN STUDENTS

Thanks to our generous patrons, the Meridian Foundation has been able to benefit the present and future students at Meridian. Projects that the Foundation has been able to support include the Green House, Community Fitness Center, Fitness Center upgrades, and most recently an updated lighting and sound system for the stage and gym. The new state of the art lighting and sound system will benefit the music, drama, and athletic departments. The Foundation also awards scholarships to Seniors to help facilitate their college education. We are asking for your help to invest in our Mustang community and students. Please consider donating to the Meridian Foundation.

Thank You for your continued support!

Jason Bartels
Meridian Foundation President



Meridian Foundation
P.O. Box 190
Daykin, NE 68338

Monetary or Grain Donations Accepted!

I would like to donate: _____

Please Email bartels.jason@meridianmustangs.org or call 402-446-2005 with questions.



Camp Spook 2022

Saturday October 15


Alexandria State Lakes




Trick-or-treaters welcome 6-10

Campers are encouraged to decorate their site & pass out candy trick-or-treaters. Please remember to clean your site before you leave.

Game and Parks stickers are required to drive in.

Daykin Lumber Co.
DAYKIN, NE 68338
READY MIXED CONCRETE · BUILDING MATERIALS
ASTRO BUILDINGS · PRATT & LAMBERT PAINT
CONCRETE FEED BUNKS
PH. 402-446-7305 daykinlumber@windstream.net
800-637-9711



JONESGROUP
INSURANCE | FINANCIAL SERVICES
Scott Woitalewicz
Agent
402-821-2156
swoitalewicz@jones-ins.com
113 W 3rd St, Wilber, NE 68465

Craig's Automotive

Sales & Service
Of All Makes & Models
Irrigation Engines
AUTO & AG
EQUIPMENT REPAIR



CRAIG BURKHART • 402-446-7435 • DAYKIN

First State
BANK NEBRASKA
Member FDIC



1FSB.BANK
WESTERN | 104 N. West Ave. | 402.433.2601

Western Oil

Western, NE 68464
402-433-4156
402-300-1178



PANKO AG SERVICES, LLC

Dave Panko Patrick Ondrak
402-587-0367 402-587-1865
404 Nichol Ave, Daykin, NE 68338

Amy Rains
Crop Insurance Agent
CNCS
305 Tullis Ave
Daykin, NE 68338
Mobile: 402.228.6255

Heartland Bank

Daykin Branch | 402-446-7233
Fairbury Branch | 402-729-3344
MyHeartland.Bank | Member FDIC | EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

HR Husker Rehab
504 E St.
Fairbury, NE
402.729.2639
www.huskerrehab.com

Milligan Insurance Agency, Inc.
P.O. Box 248
MILLIGAN NE 68406
402-629-4531

www.zaleskyonline.com

Zalesky REALTY & AUCTION LLC
1241 Main St. • Box 159 • Crete • Nebraska 68333
Deb Schwisow, SALESPERSON
402-243-3012
dschwisow3@gmail.com

Auto Repair Plus
306 East Main
Plymouth, NE 68424
402.656.5155 Car
402.656.4245 Truck




JOHN DEERE **LANDMARK IMPLEMENT**

www.landmarkimp.com
Beatrice, NE Hebron, NE
402-228-3478 402-768-6077

