



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

March, 2025

Newsletter – March, 2025
Superintendent
Randy Kort

As I write this it has snowed a few inches, the wind is predicted to pick up, and we are looking at wind chills between 18 and 28 below for the next couple days. Forecast is also predicting another 3"-5" of snow tonight. Then peeking ahead to next Tuesday's forecast, we are looking at 60-degree temperatures. Please be prepared for any drastic changes.

CRC Quiz Bowl has been postponed until March 3rd. With Meridian hosting there will be no students on Monday March 3rd.

We would like to congratulate our wrestlers and their showing at districts, Carter Haverluck and Kyan Sones with their 2nd place finishes while JD Adam won his weight class. Good luck at state!!!

As spring arrives, we have numerous activities the students will be involved in like Track, FBLA, FFA, Show Choir, Speech, district music, and many more. Please stay aware of your students grades and how they are proceeding. The 3rd quarter will conclude on March 13th.

BUSING INFORMATION

Within this newsletter is a Bus Information Update page for the 2024 – 2025 school year. Please have this completed and return to the School by May 1, 2024. We will be sending this same Bus Information Update flyer home with the students to ensure all families have an opportunity to complete the information. We will be reviewing our bus routes 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.

SUMMER SCHOOL

We are working to set up a QR code for registering students for the opportunity to attend summer school.

**Board of Education
Meridian Public Schools
District – 48-0303
Daykin, Nebraska, 68338
Monday, February 10, 2025**

Regular February 10, 2025 Meeting
Meridian Public School Board of Education met on February 10, 2025, as per notice in the Fairbury Journal-News.

President Rut called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. The open meeting law information was presented.

Roll call was taken: Barton – present, Niederklein – present, Sobotka – present, Rut – present, Davis – present, and Bartels – present. Also present were Superintendent Kort and Principal Hull.

Nothing new was added to the agenda.

No comments were heard from the public.

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

- A. Minutes of the Monday, January 15, 2025, Regular Meeting
- B. District Financial Report
- C. Activity Fund Report
- D. Hot Lunch Fund Report
- E. Bills

Vote taken: Barton – aye, Niederklein – aye, Sobotka – aye, Rut – aye, Davis – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 6-0.

Principal Hull presented the Curriculum Report to the Board.

Sobotka moved and Bartels seconded to accept, with regrets, the resignation of Ms. Landyn Cole. Vote taken: Barton – aye, Niederklein – aye, Sobotka – aye, Rut – aye, Davis – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 6-0.

Superintendent Kort presented the Elementary Principal's Report and Principal Hull presented the Junior High/High School Principal's report to the Board.

Superintendent Kort presented the Superintendent's Report to the Board.

The next regular meeting was set for Monday, March 10, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Davis moved and Barton seconded to adjourn at 6:35 p.m. Vote taken: Barton – aye, Niederklein – aye, Sobotka – aye, Rut – aye, Davis – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 6-0.

Jamie Niederklein,

Secretary Meridian District #48-0303



Every year in the United States, hundreds of people are killed and thousands injured because of the weather. Dangerous weather can take many forms, ranging from violent tornadoes to crippling winter storms. With the notable exception of hurricanes, Iowa can experience any of these dangerous phenomena.

While there is nothing we can do to stop dangerous weather from affecting us, there are proactive decisions that can be taken to remain safe when the weather turns nasty. Weather safety and survival - no matter what the hazard - depends on the following key items:

1. **KNOW THE HAZARDS** - Be aware of the hazards that you might face during a weather event.
2. **KNOW WHEN TO EXPECT DANGEROUS WEATHER** - Monitor forecasts and information from your local National Weather Service Forecast Office.
3. **PAY ATTENTION** - Be aware of all watches, warnings, and advisories affecting you.



4. HAVE A PLAN TO STAY SAFE -
Think about it before it happens and be ready to act to survive.

Dangerous weather in our area to be prepared to react to:

Tornadoes can occur at any time of day or night and at any time of the year. Although tornadoes are most common in the Central Plains and the southeastern United States, they have been reported in all 50 states.

Severe thunderstorms are officially defined as storms that are capable of producing hail that is an inch or larger or wind gusts over 58 mph. Thunderstorms also produce tornadoes and dangerous lightning; heavy rain can cause flash flooding.

Lightning strikes the United States about 25 million times a year. Although most lightning occurs in the summer, people can be struck at any time of year. Lightning kills about 20 people in the United States each year, and hundreds more are severely injured.

Flooding is a coast-to-coast threat to some part of the United States and its territories nearly every day of the year. If you know what to do before, during, and after a flood you can increase your chances of survival and better protect your property. For instance, it is vital to know what to do if you are driving and hit a flooded road.

Winter weather poses a wide range of threats to the American public. Whether it be exposure to the cold, vehicle accidents caused by slick roads, or fires resulting from the improper use of heaters, hundreds of people are injured or killed each year as a direct result of winter weather. High winds, freezing rain or sleet, heavy snowfall, and dangerously cold temperatures are the main hazards associated with winter storms. Impassable snow drifts often maroon people at home without utilities or other services for days after an event. Heavy snowfall and blizzards easily trap motorists in their vehicles and make walking to find help a deadly effort. Severely cold temperatures and wind chills during and after a winter storm can lead to hypothermia and kill anyone caught outside for too long. The aftermath of a winter storm can impact a community or region for days, weeks or even months, incurring steep economic costs.

TERMS TO KNOW:

- **Snow Squall:** intense, but limited duration, periods of moderate to heavy snowfall, accompanied by gusty surface winds resulting in reduced visibilities and whiteout conditions. Rapidly falling temperatures in conjunction with the snow can cause dangerous impacts to surface transportation.
- **Blizzard:** *Blowing and/or falling snow with winds of at least 35 mph, reducing visibilities to a quarter of a mile or less for at least three hours.* Winds lofting the current snow pack and reducing visibilities without any falling snow is called a ground blizzard.
- **Freezing Rain:** Caused by rain falling on surfaces with a temperature below freezing. The rain freezes upon contact with the ground. Large build-ups of ice can down trees and power lines and coat roads.
- **Sleet:** Rain/melted snow that has begun refreezing when it reaches the ground. Sleet tends to be softer than hail and is easily compacted. Sleet can make roads slippery very quickly.
- **Wind Chill:** *The apparent temperature the body feels when wind is factored into the equation.*

For more information regarding weather safety, you can go to the National Weather Service website at weather.gov.



From the Horse's Mouth
by Matt Asche

The end of the third quarter is in sight. Unfortunately, winter weather has impacted several school activities and events in February. As a school staff, we definitely appreciate the flexibility of students and parents when dealing with unexpected changes to schedules. The beginning signs of Spring are just around the corner...hopefully.

With Parent-Teacher Conferences in the rearview mirror, I want to remind elementary parents whose conference was interfered with by Mother Nature to contact the appropriate teacher. You

are also reminded that the partnership between school and parents is ongoing.

Due to a weather postponement from February 19, Meridian will be hosting the CRC Quiz Bowl competition on Monday, March 3. There will be no school that day. Winter sports are approaching the finish line. In Wrestling, there was another significant milestone reached. Carter Haverluck notched his 100th career win. In addition, three Meridian wrestlers competed at the State Wrestling Meet: Carter Haverluck at 132, JD Adam at 175, and Kyan Sones at 285.

Some important dates to be aware of in the next month are as follows: CRC Quiz Bowl is March 3 (No School); Start of Spring Sports is March 3; Spring Break is March 7 (No School); Spring Break is March 14 (No School); Donkey Basketball is March 18; District Speech is March 21; CRC Honor Band/Choir is March 24; State Speech is March 28.

Matt Asche

PRINCIPALLY SPEAKING
WITH MR. HULL

March brings with it the end of the Winter sports and activity season and the beginning of our Spring activities. I want to congratulate our state wrestling qualifiers- Kyan, JD, and Carter. I also want to congratulate Jaylee Sobotka who signed to play volleyball for Central Community College. We are excited to see her future success as a Raider.

March begins with the first day of Spring practices on March 3rd and competitions beginning later in the month. Also coming up this month, Student Council will be sponsoring Donkey Basketball on March 18th, which is sure to be entertaining. Once again we will be sending students to Actions Day at CCC in Hastings on March 19th. Last year we had a great showing and are looking forward to another great day at Actions Day. We will have 9 band members and two choir members representing Meridian for the CRC honor clinic on March 24th. Finally, our Juniors will be taking the ACT on March 25th. We will be wrapping up the speech season at the end of March as well. Finally, Prom is coming up on March 29th.



We look forward to all of these exciting activities for our students and wish our students luck in their academics, athletics, and activities!



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.
• Work on the financial aid process. With all the changes in FAFSA, please read the information below to help guide you.
• Apply for scholarships. Local scholarships as well as state/regional scholarships are available on the counselor's website. You can also see ScholarshipQuest at EducationQuest.org to find Nebraska-based scholarships. You'll also find links to national scholarship sites that are EducationQuest-approved.
• 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. Students also have all scholarships in their google classroom. 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...it's time to narrow your college choices.

Narrow your college choices soon to prepare for these upcoming activities:

- ACT Test. When you take the ACT this spring, you'll be asked to provide a list of colleges that should receive your score. Note: All juniors will

take the state ACT free of charge on March 25.

- Completion of the FAFSA early next fall. You and your parents can complete the FAFSA beginning October 1 of your senior year. The colleges you list on the form will receive the results.
• College applications. Early next fall, it will be time to apply to your top college choices. Meridian will hold an Apply2College even early next fall.

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 and senior is allowed two excused absences to visit colleges. Questions to ask during your visit are also available from the counselor's office.

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.

2025-2026 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 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
402-446-7265 ext. 1253

PLANT SALES

Meridian students will not be selling plants and seeds through Janet's Jungle this year. If you are interested in plants, Meridian FFA will be selling a variety during their Open

House in May. Additional information will be included as it becomes available.

PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN PARENTS' MEETINGS

If your child has turned four by July 31, 2025, they are eligible for Pre-K and if they have turned 5 by that date, they need to be registered for Kindergarten. Please contact Kelli Schoenbeck at Meridian (402-446-7265 extension 4) to let us know if you are interested in registering your child for the 2025-2026 school year. The parents' meeting will begin in the Commons of Meridian on April 14th, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.. The Pre-K and Kindergarten will separate and go to their perspective rooms to meet with the teacher immediately following the group meeting. Meridian Public Schools will be sending packets to those who have shown an interest in registering their child. Included in these packets will be information as to what materials we will need to enroll your student.

THANK YOU

MPIE (Meridian Partners in Education) would like to thank everyone who supported our basket raffle. We appreciate everyone who bought raffle tickets and the businesses and families who generously donated a basket or made a monetary donation. All money raised will go towards activities and projects throughout the year for the students and staff and scholarships for the class of 2025.

Families & Businesses:

- AKRS
The Image
Craig & Stacy Lutjemeyer
Amy Rains, Rains Agency LLC
Neal & Tami Filipi
Heartland Bank
Eric & Jamie Niederklein
Milligan Insurance Agency
Scott & Wendee Sobotka
First State Bank
Farmers Cooperative
Mike & Chris Haake
Scott & Joy Wolfe
Jack & Jean Sobotka
Larry Schafer, Channel Seeds
Bear-N-T's
Derrick & Megan Haake
LandMark Implement
Jimmy & Anne Simms
Panko Ag Services
Road Runner Bar & Grill
Blue Skies Photography
Daykin Lumber



March 2025

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| Breakfast is also served with fruit, juice & milk. Cereal is a substitute for any breakfast entrée. | | | | | | 1 Menu is subject to change without notice. |
| 2 Fresh fruit & Vegetable bar Offered each day. | 3 NO SCHOOL | 4 Pancakes Chicken Sandwich Scalloped Potatoes Green Beans | 5 Ham & Egg Bar Taco Refried Beans Churro | 6 Cinnamon Roll Hamburger Chips Apple Crisp | 7 NO SCHOOL Spring Break | 8 |
| 9 | 10 French Toast Sticks Cheese Quesadilla Green Beans Cookie | 11 Breakfast Sandwich Mac & Cheese Little Smokies Corn/Roll | 12 Breakfast Pizza Pork Fritter Hashbrown Patty Peas | 13 Omelet & Toast Bunza Chips Fruit Cup | 14 NO SCHOOL Spring Break | 15 |
| 16 Choice of 1% white & chocolate milk is offered each day. PK get 1% white milk only. | 17 Breakfast Burrito Chicken Fried Chicken Mashed Potatoes Corn/Roll | 18 Sausage Egg Tornado BBQ Rib Sandwich Hash Brown Peas | 19 Pop Tart Hot Dog Sauerkraut Baked Beans Fruit Cup | 20 Blue Berry Muffin Hot Ham and Cheese Tomato Soup Cookie | 21 Donut Creamed Turkey Mashed Potatoes Peas Roll | 22 |
| 23 | 24 Pancake on a Stick Pizza Green Beans | 25 Breakfast Casserole Chicken Fajitas Lettuce/Salsa Spanish Rice Corn | 26 Apple Frudel Lasagna Roll Up Carrots Breadstick | 27 Ham & Egg Bar Sloppy Joes Hash Brown Patty Mixed Vegetables | 28 Funnel Cake Cheesy Bread Marinara Sauce Mixed Vegetables Pudding Cup | 29 This institution is an equal opportunity employer. |
| 30 | 31 Omelet Pork Fritter Hashbrown | | | | | |



K—12 Family Science Night

Sponsored by M-PIE (Meridian Partners In Education)

Monday,

April 7th

Program 6:00 p.m.



**Program starts at 6:00 p.m. followed by hands on
science stations in the Competition Gym.**



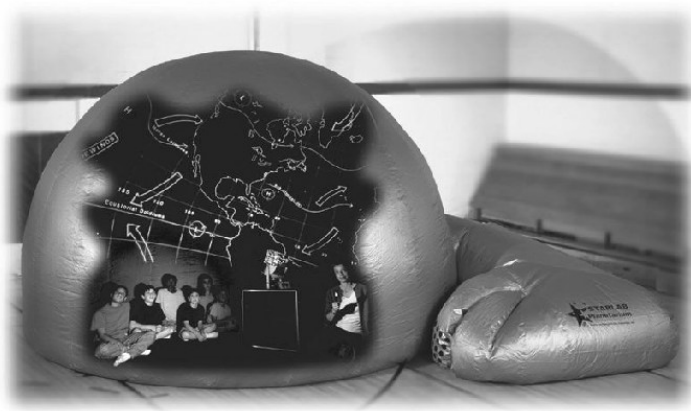
Science Stations



Families Sharing



Exploring



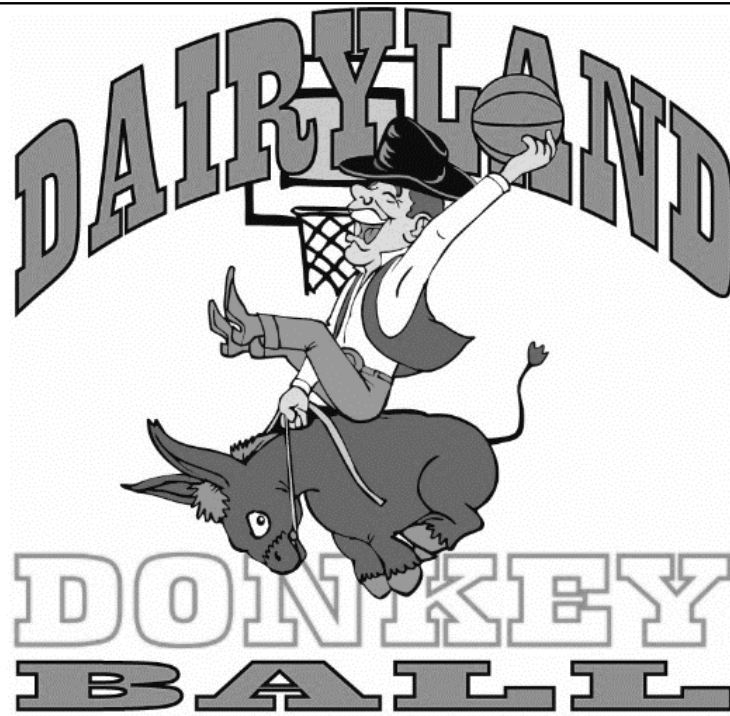
Star Lab



Knowledge



Hypothesis



Meridian Student Council

PROUDLY PRESENTS:

DONKEY BASKETBALL

TICKETS: Pre-Order - \$9.00 At Door - \$13.00

Preschool and Under - Free

Date: March 18, 2025 **Time:** 7:00 p.m.

The Donkeys

Ex-Lax * Mr. Ed * Enforcer * Rigor Mortis (Capt.)

Super Stupid * Earthquake * Killer * Elvis (Capt.)

Substitutes: Hemorrhoid * Widow Maker




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 cell: 402-433-5256
Account Executive office: 402-821-2156
swoitalewicz@jones-ins.com
113 W. 3rd | Wilber, NE.

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
AGENT

1290 COUNTY RD I
DORCHESTER, NE 68343
402.228.6255
RAINSAGENCYLLC@GMAIL.COM



Heartland Bank

Daykin Branch | 402-446-7233
Fairbury Branch | 402-729-3344

MyHeartland.Bank | Member FDIC | EQUAL HOUSING LENDER



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




Reinke ReinCoat

**PROUD OF OUR AREA
ATHLETES AND THEIR
ACHIEVEMENTS**

REINKE MANUFACTURING CO., INC.
Deshler, NE • (402) 365-7251 • reinke.com