

Jim Knott
High School Principal

Board Report
October 16, 2023

As we move towards mid-October, several important things are happening or are coming up at Douglas County West High School. High school parent-teacher conferences will be held on October 18th and 19th. Our attendance over the last several years has been around 100 parents/guardians over the two-day period. This year, the Wednesday conferences will be from 3:45-7:45 while the Thursday conferences will be held from 12:30-8:00. Core subject area teachers will be located in the library while elective teachers will be in the commons and cafeteria.

On Wednesday, October 18th, we will hold our fall standardized testing day for high school students (the testing schedule is attached on page two of this report). Seniors will have the day off while all 9th, 10th, and 11th graders will take the Pre-ACT. We started using this testing format two years ago with the idea of giving students more ACT practice before taking the actual ACT in the spring of their junior year. High School Counselor Ron Michael stated, "We are going on year three of this testing format and are hopeful that the extra ACT practice benefits the students before taking the National ACT during their junior year. After taking the PreACT, the teaching staff will analyze the results in order to provide extra practice in low performance areas." Like the nationally recognized ACT, the Pre-ACT provides tests in the areas of math, science, reading, and writing. However, the Pre-ACT tests are shorter in length and the results are only given to the students, parents, and staff members of DC West High School.

On Wednesday, October 11, we held our second Faculty Senate meeting. This representative group is made up one teacher from each subject area, high school administration, and the high school counselor. Members each serve two-year terms. Current members are Kim Remmick (social studies), Lindsey Boardman (science), Adam Loftis (PE, health, chorus, band), Dalton Tremayne (math), Lisa Leonard (art, industrial tech, business, STEM), Trey Baker (language arts, world languages), Randy Donner (special education), Sandi Kerkhoff (library, ELL, technology), Ron Michael (counselor), and Jim Knott (administration). The mission of the Faculty Senate is to discuss and work on topics to improve the high school building culture and overall opportunities for students. The group decided that the first topic they would work on this year is teacher morale and retention strategies. Some specific strategies discussed are listed below.

- "You Matter Mondays" where teachers can wear specially designed DC West T-shirts or sweatshirts with Jeans on Mondays.
- Creation of "Favorite Teacher Recognition Night" for each winter sport.
- Teacher Tailgate Competition at one winter sporting event.
- Multi-building chili cookoff in December.

October 18th PreACT

Seniors-Day Off/Great time for final College Visits or Job Shadow

Staff Arrival 7:30 in the HS library/Pick up Tests *(you may leave 15 min. early at the end of day, due to early arrival.)*

Student Check in from 7:45-7:55 in their testing rooms

Doors close at testing sites, 8:00 – Non-Test directions begin

Non test information will start at 8:00 and should be finished before 9:00

- ❖ Test 1 English (30 minutes) approx. 9:00-9:30
- ❖ Test 2 Math (40 minutes) approx. 9:35-10:15
- ❖ Break (15 minute) approx. 10:15-10:30
- ❖ Test 3 Reading (30 minutes) approx. 10:35-11:05
- ❖ Test 4 Science (30 minutes) approx. 11:10-11:40
- ❖ **Grades 9-11 will stay in Testing Rooms and collect test materials until 6th**

Period/First Lunch Starts

Lunch/6th,7th & 8th periods are normal

<u>Keystone</u>	<u>Supervisor</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Room</u>
Baker	Baker	10	Baker
Benson	Benson/Knobbe	10	Daigle
Boardman	Boardman	10	Boardman
Brockhaus	Brockhaus	11	Brockhaus
Cooper	Cooper	9	Cooper
Daehling	Daehling	10	Daehling
Dailey	Dailey	11	Dailey
Donner	Donner	11	Donner
Eggen	Eggen	9	Eggen
Hansen	Hansen	9	Hansen
Henderson	Henderson	9	Henderson
Hyatt	Hyatt	9	Hyatt
Leonard	Leonard	11	Leonard
Lindahl	Lindahl/Caldwell	11	Lindahl
Loewe	Loewe	9	Caldwell
Loftis	Loftis/Cox 4 th	11	Cox
Remmick	Remmick	10	Remmick
Sims	Sims	9	Wiemer
Thomas	Thomas/Troy 4 th	11	Troy
Tremayne	Tremayne	10	Tremayne

Test Helpers: Caldwell, Cox, Knobbe, Pralle, Troy & Wiemer