

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

R.F. Pettigrew Elementary School

7900 W. 53rd Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57106
605-362-3560

Relay Service for Hearing
Impaired: dial 711, then desired
number

Principal
Mr. Kevin Dick,
Kevin.Dick@k12.sd.us

School Hours
8:10 a.m. to 2:55 p.m.

Playground is supervised
beginning at 7:50 am

If your Child is sick...
If your child will miss school be-
cause of illness, please call the
office at 362-3560 before 8:30am.
Feel free to leave a message on
the voicemail if you have trouble
getting through or if you need to
call before school hours.

If your child will be absent in the
morning, but will return by his/
her lunch time, remember to call
the office before 8:30am to add
to the day's lunch count. Other-
wise, you must pack a lunch to
ensure your child has something
to eat.



I will continue my series on the services we offer at Pettigrew, as some of these might not be fully understood by our parents and readers. This month, I will talk about Occupational Therapy (OT) and Physical Therapy (PT).

Occupational and Physical Therapy services are offered at Pettigrew for Early Childhood and elementary students who need additional support to benefit from their special education programs.

Occupational Therapy works with students to develop their fine motor and visual processing skills to improve their ability to manipulate school material such as writing utensils, glue bottles, scissors, small objects, etc. Emphasis is also placed on completing self-care tasks such as being independent in tasks related to dressing, eating and using the restroom.

Physical Therapy works with students to develop gross motor or large muscle skills to improve their ability to access the school environment independently, and sitting in their chair, and walking in the classroom and hallways. There is also skill development for students who lack strength to jump, balance, throw and catch a ball.

Students work with therapists individually or in small groups in the therapy room, classroom, hallways, or a variety of locations around the building. At Pettigrew we have two part time Occupational Therapists working in our building named Mary Kueber and Barb Milbauer. We also have the services of two part time Physical Therapists named Joy Shafer-Powers and Nancy Jensen.

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PTO BOARD AND CONTACT INFORMATION

President: Ruth Parkhurst
ruthparkhurst@hotmail.com

Co-Vice Presidents:
April Grabow
april_grabow@yahoo.com
And
Marianne Mergen
mariannelynn@hotmail.com

Secretary: Sarah Stokes
smstokes@sio.midco.net

Treasurer: Rachel Nelson
rnelson0309@gmail.com

Fundraising Chair: Tracy
Chiappetta
CassandAlexmama@yahoo.com

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One common misperception is that Occupational or Physical Therapy is available in the school as a stand-alone service, similar to what Speech Services are offered. OT and PT can only be offered in a public school using federal special education dollars when they are related services, so in other words, they must support students who qualify for Special Education Services under other criteria, and only then can they get served in school in the state of South Dakota. This is different from some of the same services that might be offered in a hospital or by another provider to respond to either a short term situation, like an injury, or a specific condition that only requires these services and does not have a significant educational impact in the classroom. However, for those who qualify for these services, they provide a vital link to receiving their important educational programming.

During the last week of March, we had a nice group of future kindergarten students enroll for next year’s classes, with the largest group we have ever hosted at that event at Pettigrew. This means that our school year will soon be coming to an exciting conclusion and we will continue to make plans for next year as well. We will have a book fair and art show that you will find information about in this edition and on Facebook. We have concluded our third quarter, and report cards will be issued to students to take home on Friday, April 15 (another important date for forms in our world!!). We have already been testing our 5th graders on Dakota STEP Science, and next week, two grades will begin the Smarter Balanced testing that all grades 3, 4 and 5 will take during the month of April.

The school board will soon add our final make up day to the calendar for this school year, so we will be out on June 3 as the last day for students. So, after this edition, you will receive the May edition and then we will have one more month of school. Some other calendar adjustments include Field Day on May 31, Tuesday after Memorial Day, and all our award days will be held on June 3. Classes have planned a number of field trips in April and May, so stay tuned to teacher’s messages about those exciting events. I hope you are all enjoying a great spring.

Help Wanted!

PTO is currently looking for volunteers to fill a few roles for the next school year!

If you are looking for a fun rewarding way to get involved at

Pettigrew, please contact any PTO board member!

Some events PTO helps with or plans:

Pizza Bingo

Skating Party

Book Fairs

Movie Night

Picture Day

Conference Meals

Yearbook

Pettigrew Day

Box Tops

Newsletters

SkyZone Night

Teacher Appreciation

IMPORTANT DATES APRIL, MAY AND JUNE 2016

Date	Time	Activity
April 11– April 15	All Week	National Volunteer Week
Thurs April 14	7:00pm	2nd Grade Vocal Concert
Tues April 19	6:30-8:00	PTO Meeting in the Pettigrew Library-Childcare Available
Thurs April 21	3:00-8:00pm	Pettigrew Night at SkyZone
Fri April 22	5:00-7:00pm	Art Show & Cookie Social/BOGO Book Fair- Pettigrew Elementary Hallways
Thurs April 28	AM-Noon	Pettigrew Day
Thurs April 28	1:00pm	Early Dismissal– Staff Inservice
Fri April 29	All Day	No School
May 2-6	All Week	Teacher Appreciation Week
Tues May 3	AM & 7:00pm	4th and 5th Grade Orchestra Concert
Thurs May 19	3:00-8:00pm	Pettigrew Night at SkyZone
Tues May 24	6:30-8:00pm	PTO Meeting in Pettigrew Library– childcare Provided
Fri May 27	All Day	Field Day
Mon May 30	All Day	NO SCHOOL– Memorial Day
Wed June 1	All Day	5th Grade Retreat
Fri June 3	All Day	Last Day of Quarter 4
Fri June 3	8:45 & 10:00	Award Ceremony in Pettigrew Gym

Dates are subject to change.



South Dakota Teachers Rewarded

By: Dr. Brian Maher, Superintendent



No matter your political affiliation or your status as an East River or West River resident, the 2016 Legislative Session could be considered one of the most historically significant of all times. The Session will forever be marked as the turning point for providing a livable wage to the dedicated men and women who have chosen one of the noblest professions - teaching.

Somehow in the flurry of progress, we lost sight of the impact good teachers make on our world. We would not enjoy the medical advancements of today if it were not for teachers who nurtured the minds of brilliant scientists, taught them how to analyze information, and use high-level questioning in their research. If it were not for teachers, there would be no demand that the Constitution of the United States be upheld to its intent. If it were not for teachers, you would not be reading this column today.

Unfortunately, overlooking the true value of teachers is nothing new. During one of his last public appearances, Albert Einstein, the founder of the theory of relativity, was quoted as saying, "You ask me to answer to all sorts of questions, but no one has ever wanted to know who was my teacher, who showed me the way to higher mathematical science, thought and research. I simply say that my teacher was the unrivalled Greek Konstantinos Karatheodoris, to who we owe everything..."

In truth, we *do* owe everything to great teachers. These highly educated professionals deserve our respect and admiration. And after much debate and hard work by legislators, I am pleased beyond words that South Dakota teachers will see a fair financial wage for their work.

Even with the significant increase in teacher salaries, we must keep in mind this is not a "one-time" fix. Neighboring states – two of which are less than 30 miles from Sioux Falls – still outpace South Dakota in teacher salaries and their work to entice our best and brightest across the border will not stop. We must continue to advocate for competitive teacher pay.

Not only do we owe it to those who have carefully chosen education as their profession, but we also owe it to the next Albert Einstein; the next doctor who finds a cure for cancer; and to every student who chooses a profession that will help move this great country forward.

Come to our

BUY ONE,
GET ONE

FREE BOOK FAIR!

Pettigrew Elementary

Friday, April 22nd

4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

During the Art Show



STOCK UP FOR SUMMER READING!



Pettigrew PTO 2015-2016 Meeting Topics

Parent Teacher Organization

Fall Fundraiser

PTO is wanting to try something NEW for 2016/2017!
We are looking for more parent input, Please Attend!

April 19th

Preparing for Middle School

Principal Carrie Aaron

May 24th

DID YOU FORGET TO ORDER A PETTIGREW YEARBOOK?

PTO orders a few extra yearbooks each year.
If you would like to be put on a list to possibly
purchase a yearbook, send an email to:

pettigrewyearbook@sio.midco.net

Include you student's name, teacher and classroom in the email.

Orders will filled in the order emails are received!

Yearbooks will arrive the end of May

\$15.00



Congratulations to the following students for being nominated for the Youth of Character Awards. These students were selected because of their continued demonstration of positive behavior and values. These nominations are for 4th grade through 12th grade students in the Sioux Empire. On March 29th, students and their families were invited to a banquet to celebrate their hard work.

Awesome job, Panthers!!

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|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Kylie Reisenweber | Taylor Chesley | Brynn Sommervold | Karn Singh |
| Ryan Rysavy | Chloe Dondlinger | Jack Radel | Grace Weaver |
| Jaidyn Dunn | Zackery Diaz | Cohen Nelson | Cody Koepke |

Will You Have A Preschooler Next Year?

New for 2016/2017

Learning Adventures Preschool

is adding a NEW

West Side location at Discovery Elementary!

The Preschool is led by certified early childhood professionals, providing an instructor to student ratio of 1:8.5. Learning Adventures offers a fun and academically enriching experience for your little learner. Students must be 4 years old by September 1st, 2016. No transportation provided. There is a \$25 Enrollment Fee and Tuition is processed bi-weekly at a rate of \$125.00 - sixteen payments per school year. The program starts September 12, 2016, and students will meet Monday through Thursday from 8:15 am – 11:15 am.

To register your child or for additional information, please go to:

[Learning Adventures Preschool.](#)





**Pettigrew
Art Show
and
BOGO Book
Fair**

Friday, April 22

5-7pm

Etiquette Teas

Mindful Manners!

Join Aleta Lindel, etiquette educator & owner of Miss Jaspers' House for tea! Dress up & learn through games & crafts with a time for treats. Manners can easily become your "cup of tea" & will be used your entire life. Parents welcome to stay!



Etiquette Tea class details & registration go online to www.sf.k12.sd.us or call 367-7999

CAMP FILLS QUICKLY! SIGN UP TODAY!



BOYS & GIRLS SUMMER CAMP FOR THOSE ENTERING 3RD-8TH GRADE IN THE FALL OF 2016

ABOUT THE CAMP

Learn Lacrosse skills and game strategies then apply during daily scrimmages at this four day camp. Lacrosse is a great cross-training sport for kids who play other sports. No previous experience for this introductory camp needed. Camp includes skill training, various Lacrosse workshops and scrimmages.

Registration Deadline - May 20th!

OUR PROGRAM

Dates: June 13 – June 16, 9am-4pm
-Rain or Shine-

Location: Memorial Middle School located at 1401 S. Sertoma

Camp Cost: \$140, which includes an official Lacrosse stick, ball & unique camp t-shirt.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Eye Goggles are mandatory!
A mouth guard is highly encouraged.

Please send a sack lunch and a water bottle. A snack will be provided each morning and afternoon.

Coaching is provided by experienced Sioux Falls SPARK Lacrosse coaches and players.

SUMMER IS FOR TRYING NEW THINGS! OPEN TO ALL SKILL LEVELS!

To register, go to: www.sf.k12.sd.us & click on the Community Education logo, then click on 'Register Online Here!' –or call– 605-367-7999

