



MUSTANG MONTHLY™

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Empowering Every Student to Take Charge of Their Future.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

DCG Community,

We have some exciting news to share with you this month. The first projects following the 2025 DCG CSD Bond Referendum are officially getting started!

On Tuesday, June 2, we will officially close North Ridge Elementary and Dallas Center Elementary for the summer. Both campuses, including playgrounds, will be closed for the entire summer. DCE and NRE families received additional updates in an earlier email.

There will be significant, simultaneous construction projects underway. Our project list includes secure entrances, HVAC upgrades, fire alarm improvements and playground upgrades.

Our construction timeline begins on the first day of summer break and will most likely go right up until our teachers return in mid-August. Stay tuned to ParentSquare and our district's social media channels for updates throughout the summer!

The playgrounds at all four elementary schools and DCG Middle School will be closed for the summer as they receive the upgrades that were included in the bond referendum. The district will work through additional details with the daycares using our facilities.

These are important projects, and our goal is to get them to the finish line without impacting the school day (2025-26 or 2026-27).

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we enter into this exciting stretch of construction at Dallas Center-Grimes!

Dr. Scott Blum - DCG Superintendent



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Home of the Mustangs



www.dcgschools.com

CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

May 6, 13, 20, 27 - Early Dismissal - 12:30 Oak View - 1:00 All Other Buildings
May 25 - No School - Memorial Day
June 1 - Last Day of School for DCG Students

DALLAS CENTER-GRIMES COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OFFICES

Elementary Offices

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Transportation Office/Jeff Wolfe, Transportation Director
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Central Office/Business Office
Dr. Scott Blum, Superintendent
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DISTRICT UPDATES

Register for the 2026-27 School Year at Dallas Cen- ter-Grimes! - The time is now!

Make plans to register your student/s for the 2026-27 school year at DCG! The QR code (right) directs you to our registration page. Current students and new students need to complete this process each year! By enrolling now, our registration team gets a jump start on their planning for next school year! There are so many exciting things on the horizon at DCG, we'd love for you to join us! The 2026-27 school calendar is available at DCGschools.com



Parent Panel - DCG's incredible associates gathered together to celebrate Paraprofessional Appreciation Day and participate in a meaningful professional development opportunity. Parents of students

with disabilities led our team in a powerful conversation through the lens of the family. Communication, consistency and appreciation were just a few of the topics. DCG CSD is incredibly grateful for our associates and the students and families they serve!

Goal Setting - District and building leaders gathered together in April to begin the goal-setting process for the 2026-27 school year! These talented educators are working collaboratively to create meaningful goals that drive student



outcomes! We will formalize these goals and bring them to the DCG School Board in the near future!

Yearbook - Last chance to order your 2025-2026 DCG High School Yearbook! We will submit our final order count on Friday, May 1st.

2. Senior parents -- Do you want to recognize your senior with a special grad ad in their last yearbook? Do so by May 1st! Go to jostensadservice.com to customize your ad with photos and fonts of your choice!

HIGH SCHOOL



Spring Blood Drive - DCG High School held their Spring Blood Drive in late March, and the results were incredible! 127 eligible donors. 143 units of blood collected. 429 lives saved or enriched! 32 first-time donors! This is such an impactful way to help our community!



DCG High School Inducts 61 Students to NHS - Dallas Center-Grimes High School National Honor Society inducted 61 new members at their annual ceremony on Wednesday, April 8. These new members commit to the four pillars of NHS: scholarship, service, leadership and character. Congratulations to the following students: Ava Bashara, Gabriel Bennett, Sharla Benning, Taylor Blum Isabella Boots, Zoey Boots, Olivia Borcharding, Ava Brooks, Emily Campbell, Caleb Carlton, Bailey Clark, Jocelyn Cottrell, Abigail Cyr Evelyn Dahm, Allyah Dotson, Blaire Ehlert, Madison Finkenauer Leah Folkerts, Liam Fredericks, Evan Friesen, Roxanne Gao, Eleanor Graeve, Elana Hamp, Paisley Heidgerken, Madden Humes, Mayci Huynh, Graham Ibeling, Kendall James, Aaliyah Jacobo, Kylie Janssen, Jalas Johannsen, Max Johansen, Audrey Juergens, Rory Kading William Kampman, Noah Kerndt, Layla Khosravi, Nia Kiley, Brody Lansink, Carson Mandernach, Rebecca Mathesius, Samuel Maxfield Anna Mikkelsen, Lukas Miller, Silas Miller, Gracie Neal, Tyde Nelsen Elijah Oberreuter, Peyton Olson, Megan Peterson, Teag Phillips Isabelle Powell, Milo Rouse, Shiloh Schock, Caelyn Short, Jacob Short, Charlie Simon, Landrey Smith, Kellen Spooner, Bryson Todd and Baylie Van Der Molen.

DCG Cume Folder Reminder - Class of 2023 DCG High School graduates - pick up your Cume Folder by the end of this school year! Make plans to grab your folder by contacting the DCG High School Office at 515-986-9747. Thanks for your partnership!

DCG High School Fashion & Art Show - Make plans to join us on Thursday, May 14 at 6:30 for the DCG High School! You'll be amazed by the creativity and talent of our students! The entry fee is \$1 or a non-perishable food item that we can donate to the Grimes Storehouse! See you on May 14!

Education Foundation Update - The details for the Dallas Center-Grimes Education Foundation Senior Awards Night are set!

Date & Time: Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Location: DCG HS Auditorium

What: DCGEF and community scholarships will be awarded.

Scholarship applicants and their parents are encouraged to attend; however, applicants are not guaranteed an award. If you're unable to attend awards night, don't worry—you will not lose your scholarship. You will receive your scholarship packet at graduation rehearsal.

With over \$210,000 across more than 140 scholarships to be awarded, we look forward to recognizing the DCG Class of 2026!

BUILDING NEWS

DCG Heads to Special Olympics - Twelve students from DCG High School participated in the West Central Special Olympics competition on Wednesday, April 16! Before they left to compete, our athletes received a clap out from their classmates! What a great day at DCG!



Summer Camps and Clinics - Are you looking for ways to keep your students connected to DCG this summer? Keep checking the DCG Ebackpack for all of your camps and clinics! This page is updated frequently and will be home to all of the important information! Use the QR code below to visit the DCG EBackpack today!



DCG Creators - Help us celebrate our latest set of DCG Creators! This group of professionals was nominated by their colleagues for living our district's core values!

DCG Creators - March 2026

Cindy Armstrong, North Ridge Elementary Encore Staff, Lindsey Updike, Caitlin Sulentic, Tara Ellingson, Jordan Ray, Mark Lux, Eric Meyer, Lucy Seiwert, Jorge Maldonado, Austin Rix, Ronda McCarthy, London Erdman, Justine Draisey, Cathy Scholl, Brooke Pfaltzgraff.



End of Year Information - Here are a few important dates to keep in mind as we close out the school year at DCG!

Friday, May 22 - Graduation for the DCG High School Class of 2026
Monday, June 1 - Final day of school for DCG students
Thursday, June 4 - Final day of school for DCG teachers
Monday, August 24 - First day of the 2026-27 school year

MIDDLE SCHOOL



Magnetic Poetry - Students at DCG Middle School participated in National Poetry Month with a fun activity in the library! Sixth graders built their own poems with magnetic words on a white board, expanding their learning and creativity! What a fun way to celebrate poetry in April!

Battle of the Books - DCG Middle School hosted the annual Battle of the Books at the end of March. 64 teams from all around Iowa were at our building for this competition, 10 of whom were from our school. These 39 students made the commitment to come in during recess and lunch multiple times to prepare for this competition, and all did a great job! Special thanks to staff members Tom Clark, Amanda Christiansen, Sara Cockrum, and Trish Owens for all their hard work preparing for this event!



BUILDING UPDATES



Preschool Celebration - The DCG Preschool program held its annual celebration in late March. The program included songs, dances and a special showcase of future plans! You read that right! Our preschoolers shared their plans for the future! Empowering all stu-

dents to create their future is our district's mission statement and we are so excited to share in this journey with our youngest learners. Visit DCGschoools.com for a look at this special occasion!

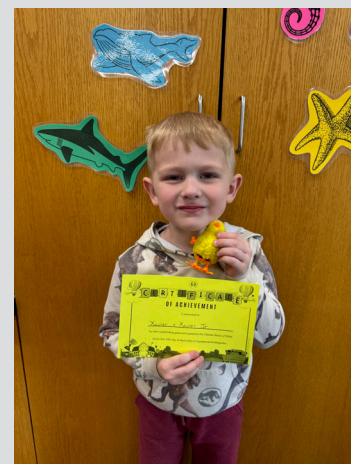
Learning About History - Kindergarten students wrapped up a unit on non-fiction writing from the past. Students learned about historical people and places as they worked through different generations. At the end of the unit, NRE Kindergarten Teacher Sarah Irlmeier invited her mom to class for a day, allowing students a chance to interview her! What a great way to connect the generations!



Building Connection through Music - Sixth grade students at DCG Middle School recently traveled to DCG High School to play with and learn from our high school musicians! This was a powerful way to start dreaming about the future!



Earth Day in Action - DCG students spent part of their Earth Day cleaning up our campus! We are grateful for the ways our kids are helping the place we call home! Our buildings are cleaner because of your hard work!



TK Chicken Races - Students in Transitional Kindergarten at North Ridge Elementary participated in egg races! They learned about caring for eggs with responsibility and dedication. At the close of the learning opportunity, the eggs "hatched" and wind-up chickens were placed in the incubators! Students then raced their chickens, focusing on sportsmanship and celebration of classmates! A special shout out to the winners of the chicken races - Xavier and Afton!

DCG Celebrations - There are several celebration days we are excited to showcase this spring!

April 22 - Administrative Professionals Day

April 28 - National School Bus Driver Appreciation Day

May 1 - National School Lunch Hero Day

May 4 - Teacher Appreciation Week begins

May 6 - National School Nurses Day

These talented professionals make DCG a great place to be!

ACTIVITIES



TSA Success - DCG Technology Student Association (TSA) students attended and competed at the annual Iowa TSA conference this spring. During the two-day event, more than 200 students met and competed in multiple STEM-related events and activities. Our DCG students represented themselves very well and came back with several new trophies for the year.

Architectural Design:
3rd Place. Katelyn Daugherty, Tobi Miller, Gwen Schlak, Paige Wubbena

Fashion Design:
2nd Place: Isabella Boots, Zoey Boots, Sam Hinrichs, Berkeley Lemon-Davis, Adeline Swigart

Forensic Science:
2nd Place: Zoey Boots, Sam Hinrichs

On Demand Video:
1st Place: Gwen Schlak, Adeline Swigart

Video Game Design:
3rd Place: Katelyn Daugherty, Levi McNese, Gwen Schlak

Katelyn Daugherty was elected as an Iowa TSA State Officer to serve the 2026-2027 competition year.



Girls Soccer Stops by Heritage Elementary - We are loving this community connection at DCG! Soccer season is in full swing, and our Mustangs are staying busy both on and off the field! Several members of the DCG Girls Soccer team stopped by Heritage Elementary in April to read books to our youngest learners! This is a powerful partnership between the defending state champions and the next set of student athletes at Dallas Center-Grimes!

From the Booster Club - Join us in the fairways at the Annual DCG Booster Club Golf Outing scheduled for 10:00 AM on Tuesday, June 16th at Beaver Creek Golf Course, Grimes. Whether you're a seasoned golfer or just a fan of the cause,



come out and enjoy a day of golf while supporting DCG athletics. Registration is open for groups of four and hole sponsors. Visit the sign-up page at the QR code (left) and let's #FuelTheStampede!



Heitland Receives Recognition - DCG Football Coach Scott Heitland has received national recognition from two premier organizations!

Heitland was recently named the National Federation of High Schools' 2024-25 Iowa State Football Coach of the Year! He is also one of eight finalists for the National High School Athletic Association's National Coach of the Year in the sport of football! The eight finalists will gather together at a banquet in July, where one will be selected as the winner. Heitland was nominated for this award by his colleagues across the state.

Milestone Victory - A special shout out to DCG Girls Soccer Coach Dan James! Coach James picked up his 350th win in a victory over Indianola on April 21! The Mustangs are off to a great start this year!

ACTIVITIES



DCG Shines at Little Hawkeye Conference Art Show - Students from Dallas Center-Grimes High School participated in the Little Hawkeye Conference Art Show in April. Ten incredible artists received all-conference recognition.

DCG All-Conference Artists - Computer Aided Art: Karin Danickova, 1st place, Wearable Art/Jewelry: JoElla Duncan, 3rd place, Non-Functional Ceramics: Axel Boerre, 3rd place, Sculpture: Hailey Swanson, 1st place 3D Mixed Media: Lilly Derry, 1st place, 3D Mixed Media: Axel Boerre, Honorable Mention, Craft, Fiber, & Glass: Anka Wathen, 1st place, 2D Mixed Media: Roxy Monner, 2nd place, Oil & Acrylic Painting: Sammy Heim, 1st place, Oil & Acrylic Painting: Zofiana Woollums, 3rd place.



State Jazz Recap - DCG Musicians had an incredible showing at the State Jazz Competition this spring. Let's start with DCG High School's Jazz Choir! Modulation and Dissonance put on quite the show at the Iowa Vocal Jazz Championships! Modulation walked away with 8th place and Dissonance took home 6th place. Kayla Atanga was selected as an Outstanding Soloist for the day. DCG Jazz 1 had a fantastic performance as the first 4A band to go at the Iowa Jazz Championships. They performed a challenging set and received a standing ovation from the audience at the end. Four students were recognized as outstanding performers: Holden Quandt on drum set, Kellen Spooner on Bass Trombone, Archer Ervin on Soprano Sax, and Nathan Fitch on Tenor Sax.

DCG Sends 12 Events to Drake Relays - It was a busy week on the Blue Oval for our DCG Track teams. The Mustangs competed in 12 events at the 2026 Drake Relays. Boys 3200 Meters – Graham Ibeling, Boys 110m Hurdles – Darien Walker, Boys SMR 1600m – DCG – Ethan Carlson, Chase Heitland, Eli Oberreuter, Jack Meggison, Boys 4x110 Shuttle Hurdles – DCG – Chase Heitland, Mason Strang, Christopher Opoku-Sekyere, Girls 4x100 Relay – DCG – Madden Seeman, Nevaeh Mayfield, Khloe Crawford, Sydnee Keller, Boys 4x100 Relay – DCG – Ethan Carlson, Chase Heitland, Osborn Grimm, Sam Keller, Boys 4x800 Relay – DCG – Graham Ibeling, Eli Oberreuter, Cael Ramsey, Jack Meggison, Girls 4x800 Relay – DCG – Leighton Stanford, Addison Dooley, Lilly Pudenz, Tenley Heidgerken, Girls 400m Hurdles – Leighton Stanford, Girls 1500 Meters – Tenley Heidgerken Boys 1600 Meters – Graham Ibeling, Boys Long Jump – Elijah Gaie

