



2026



Homecoming Royalty Candidates



Connor Wright, Dawson Timmermans, Sawyer Schmidt

Macayla Gerlach, Cadyn Plooster, Claire Gerlach

From the desk of: Mrs. Linzi De Boer

Financial Aid Night at the high school
on October 26th starting at 5:15pm.

College and Career Fair on October
22nd for the juniors and seniors.

Greetings from the Elementary PE Department! The students are back at it and working hard. I enjoy all of them immensely. We are currently working on our throwing and catching skills. It is such fun watching the little ones develop these skills. Getting that ball or bean bag to go where you want it to go is harder than you think when you have little hands.

I want to thank Linda Assmus for her donation to the PE department. Linda dropped off several bags filled with equipment we will utilize while practicing our throwing skills. Thank you, Linda!

I also want to thank another donor, a former student of our district. He was very generous, and we were able to purchase some useful and fun equipment to help us meet a host of standards. The students have had an opportunity to use some of this equipment already. They noticed the new "stuff" right away. Thank you to the donor for adding a spark of fun to the program. We appreciate it so much.

Thank you to all of you in the district for the wonderful support you give on a daily basis. I truly appreciate you all.

Kelly Selland, Elementary PE Teacher

*Happy
Harvest*



Reminder you can find a copy of our Title I School wide plan, LEA Plan, Parent/Teacher/School Compact, District Parent Engagement, and School Parent Engagement policies on the school's webpage under the Academics tab or Students tab.

FYI you can see what assessments your student will be taking by checking out the school website Home Page and clicking on South Dakota District Testing Dates 26-27.



Title I Tidbits

Top 10
Benefits of
Reading for
fun Everyday



The American Library Association has found a strong connection between daily independent reading and overall student performance. Here are the top 10 benefits of independent reading on a daily basis. **We encourage YOU to encourage your students to READ!**

1. **Reading exercises our brain** – Reading is a much more complex task for the brain rather than watching TV. Reading strengthens brain connections and builds NEW connections.
2. **Students who read often get better at it-** Practice makes perfect in almost everything students do and reading is NO different.
3. **Reading teaches students about the world around them** – By reading a variety of books, students learn about people, places and events all around the world.
4. **Reading IMPROVES concentration** – Students have to sit still and quietly so they can focus on the story when reading. If they read often, they will develop the skills to do this longer.
5. **Reading develops a student's imagination** – When students read their brains translate the descriptions we read of people, places and things into pictures. When students are engaged in a story they are imagining how a character looks and is feeling. Students then bring this knowledge into their daily lives.
6. **Reading IMPROVES vocabulary and language skills** – Students learn new words as they read. They learn how to structure sentences and how to use words and other language features in their writing and speaking.

7. **Reading is FUN** – A book doesn't take up much space, so students can take them anywhere and never be bored.
8. **Reading helps a child develop EMPATHY** – As students develop they begin to imagine how they would feel in that situation they are reading about.
9. **Reading is a GREAT way to spend time TOGETHER** – Reading together, bedtime stories and visiting a library are great ways of spending time together.
10. **Children who read often ACHIEVE better in SCHOOL** – Reading promotes achievement in all subjects, not just English. Students who are good readers tend to achieve better across the curriculum.

We the Staff of Corsica-Stickney Elementary have made it our GOAL this school year to bring more reading into our student's daily lives. Most of the teachers have taken a professional development class titled "Pathways to Proficient Reading". These classes gave our teachers knowledge in the Science of Reading. This was a research based professional development course that prepared our teachers to explicitly and systemically teach the Five Pillars: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Vocabulary, Fluency, and Comprehension. The goal is to have all students become proficient readers and this course gave our teachers the skills to make this goal a reality. We are also taking an opportunity EVERYDAY to READ ALOUD to our students! Modeling fluent reading helps students become better readers themselves.

I encourage you all to encourage your students to take time to read independently every day. **Please consider reading aloud to your students at home each day as well.** The benefits will come to them ten-fold in the long run!

Ms. Gillette
Title I Director



Local Oral Interp Night

Corsica-Stickney's oral interpretation team held their local contest in the high school music room on Monday, September 21st, 2026.

The following pieces advanced to **the CBH meet** in Mitchell on Tuesday, October 13th, 2026:

Briella Johnson and Evelyn Vilhauer's humorous duet "Dud Wars"

The following pieces advanced to **the District meet** in Mitchell on Tuesday, November 10th, 2026:

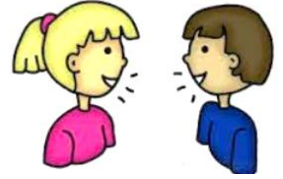
Aubrey Schuman's humorous solo "Madhouse"

Emily Beckman's serious solo "Wispy Boy"

Elizabeth Bultjes's non-original oratory "Taylor Swift's Woman of the Decade"

Graham Van Genderen and Korbin Gahl's humorous duet "Two Old Men"

Brailey Mulder, Wyatt Timmermans, Alexis Gerlach, Reed Woerner, and Max Vanden Hoek's readers theater "Revolting Characters"



Each performer and piece has made significant progress since the start of the season and will continue to improve with more practice for the next level of competition. The team is eager and excited to share their pieces with other teams the next couple of months.



Meet the Foreign Exchange Student

1. Who are you/where are you from:

My name is Karl and I'm from the Northern part of Germany. I'm 17 years old. I like to play basketball after school and meet friends.

2. Tell us about your family:

Back home in Germany, I live with my parents and my two younger sisters in a house. My sisters are twins and we all go to different schools. My family is close – we often get together with my relatives at the weekends.

3. Why did you choose here:

I haven't heard of Corsica before. My exchange program placed me here. I was surprised and I'm happy to be here.

4. What do you hope to learn from being here:

I hope that I will learn more about the American culture and how people live here. I also want to improve my English. Meeting new people and making new friends is also important to me.

5. How does Corsica, South Dakota differ from your hometown:

Corsica is much smaller and quieter than my hometown in Germany. There are app. 100.000 people living in my hometown. It's easier to get to know people over here. So far, I've only met people who are very friendly and welcoming.

6. Anything else you would like to share:

I'm very grateful for the opportunity to spend time in the United States. I'm very happy and thankful to the Hellengas for hosting me and giving me the chance to see what life is like in the U.S. I would also like to play basketball and be part of the school team.

Welcome Karl...we hope you enjoy your time here at Corsica-Stickney!! 😊



Karl Wilhelm Spoerlein



The 2026 South Dakota Blue Ribbon Schools are:

- Corsica-Stickney Elementary School
- Mount Vernon Middle School
- O’Gorman High School
- Tea Area’s Legacy Elementary School



SOUTH DAKOTA
**BLUE
RIBBON
SCHOOL**

“These schools have made significant strides in ensuring they match the needs of their students,” said Secretary of Education Dr. Joseph Graves in the news release.

Corsica-Stickney Elementary School is now a four-time Blue Ribbon recipient. According to the DOE, this year, the Jaguars are placing “greater emphasis on literacy through the implementation of the Science of Reading principles.”

South Dakota Blue Ribbon Schools are selected based on data studied over a long period of time that demonstrates high proficiency in English Language Arts and math. The DOE says they also factor in notable attendance for elementary and middle schools and high school graduation rates.



Dr. Joe Graves visited the C/S Elementary and congratulated the school students and staff.

He is pictured above with 3-5th and below with K-2nd (Along with some of the staff.)



A program is scheduled for October 8th at 2pm in Stickney which will be open to the public. Watch the website for more info.

Football

FRIDAY NIGHT

under the LIGHTS

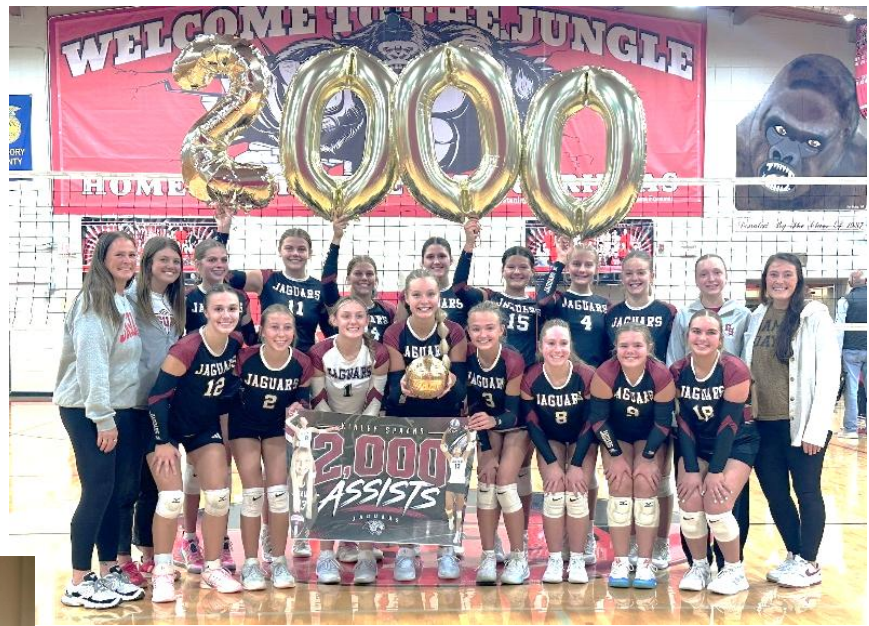


Left: FB Cheerleaders: Olivia, Bristol, Brynlee, Lexi, Brailey and Brooke.

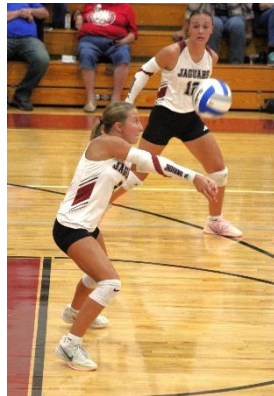
Right: FB Seniors: Connor, Sawyer, Karl, Quinten, Dawson & Elijah



Volleyball

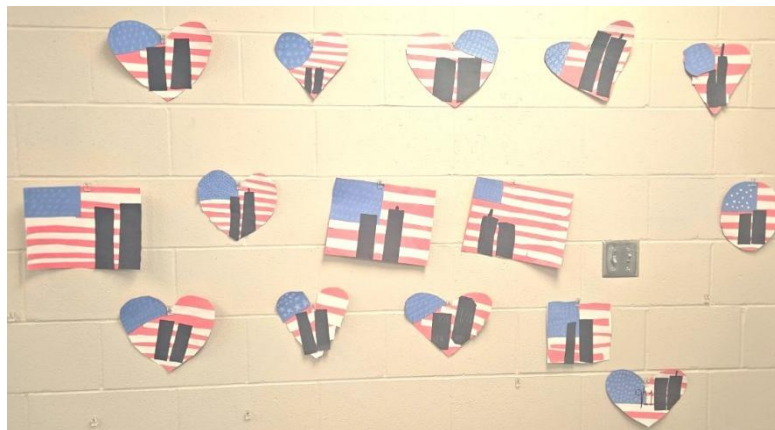
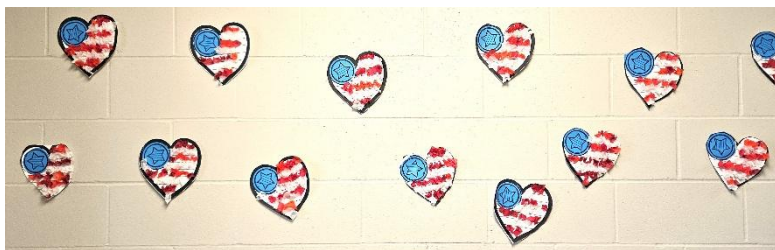


Jaguar junior, Kinley Spaans got her **2000th Assist** at the Gregory game on Sept 24th. Congrats!! 😊



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October
2026

It doesn't matter what others are doing ...

It MATTERS what **YOU** ARE DOING !!!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 VB -TDA @ Corsica JH at 4:30pm	2 Stickney Parade-1pm Corsica Parade-2:15pm JH FB @ 5:00 pm HOMECOMING - 7:00pm FB - TDA / ACDC @ Corsica	3 VB -GPC Tourney @ Lake Andes
4	5 JH FB vs Burke & Avon In <u>C</u> at 4pm VB -ACDC @ Corsica JH at 4:30pm	6 Parent/Teacher Conferences (2:30 - 8:00 pm) DISMISS @ 1:30	7 Health Screenings School Board Mtg In <u>C</u> at 7pm	8 Blue Ribbon Program In S at 2pm VB -Freeman @ Corsica JH at 4:30pm	9 NO SCHOOL TEACHER IN-SERVICE @ Mitchell FB - Gregory @ Gregory	10 VB-Northwestern Tourney @ Mellette
11	12 NO SCHOOL Native American Columbus Day	13 CBH Oral Interp @ Mitchell	14	15 VB -Winner @ Winner C at 5:15pm	16 <i>End 1st of 9-weeks</i> FB - Conference Game @ TBD	17
18	19 "Muffins for Mom" At S at 7:30am	20 VB -Avon @ Corsica C at 5:30pm	21 Flu Shots	22 Jr/Sr College/Career Fair FB - Playoff Game	23	24
25	26 Financial Aid Night in C at 5:30pm	27 VB -Scotland @ Scotland C at 5:15pm	28	29 FB - Playoff Game	30 <i>All-State Chorus</i>	31 Halloween @ Rapid City

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Breakfast Lunch				1 Bagels Chili	2 Mini Donut Sub Sandwiches	3
4 Breakfast Lunch	5 Pancake on a Stick Chicken Nuggets or Shrimp	6 French Toast Hotdogs	7 Coffee Cake Crispito	8 Muffins Pulled Pork	9 No School Teacher In-Service	10
11 Breakfast Lunch	12 NO SCHOOL Native American Columbus Day	13 Breakfast Sandwich Quesadilla	14 Yogurt Rib or Fishwich	15 Cinnamon Rolls Tacos	16 C-Pop Tarts S-Breakfast Cookies Hamburgers	17
18 Breakfast Lunch	19 Cereal & Toast Corn dog	20 Waffles Sloppy Joe	21 Banana Bread Orange Chicken S-also Chic Nuggets	22 Long John Tatortot Hotdish	23 Scrambled Eggs Ham & Cheese	24
25 Breakfast Lunch	26 Pancake on a Stick Country Fried Steak	27 Breakfast Pizza Italian Dunkers	28 Cinnamon Twist Chicken Alfredo	29 Bagels Pizza	30 Mini Donuts Cheeseburger Mac	31 
					Fruit and Milk served at breakfast and lunch daily	2026