



Bison School District 52-1 Patron Letter

April 2019

Dear Parents and Students;

It's hard to believe it's April already and hopefully spring has arrived to stay. We ended the third marking period on March 7th and began the final quarter of the school year on March 11th. This year is flying by. Check out this month's events!

Just a reminder about attendance! If your child is going to be absent from school, please call the office and let us know. If we do not hear from you, someone will be calling to verify the absence. We still have 35 days left of school and students are only able to miss 9 days per semester. On the tenth day a doctor's note is required if the absence is to be excused. If a student goes over their 9 or 10 days they are required to make up time after school or on Fridays. Please refer to your student handbook for more information. I recently sent home warning letters to parents of students who have 5 or more days absent so far this semester.

It may seem winter is over but please be aware that our students go outside for recess if the temperature (air or wind chill) is above zero degrees. Right now, the playground is still snow covered but sections are very muddy. Please make sure your children have the proper outerwear to be outside in these conditions. They will still need to have coats, boots, snow pants, hats and gloves.

The Momo Challenge is a viral internet hoax that has showed up on various apps such as Facebook, YouTube, and Snapchat. It tries to scare young children into committing violent acts or even suicide. Images of the devilish bird-lady supposedly pops up on your screen with creepy messages and commands children to do things. I have enclosed an information sheet that you can use to speak with your children regarding this.

Smarter Balanced Assessment Program is continuing this month. Smarter Balanced is the state assessment for South Dakota. We will be testing students in grades 3-8 and 11. A letter was sent home previously with testing schedules for the various grade levels. This state assessment replaces the DSTEP testing in English and Math. The DSTEP Science test will be computerized and students in grades 5, 8 and 11 will be taking that assessment as well this month. Dates for the DSTEP Science testing will be sent home with students affected.

The Children's Theater Program will be visiting Bison School the week of April 1st-5th and is open to all students in grades K-12. Rehearsals are after school all that week. The performance will be Friday evening, April 5th in the gym at 7:00PM. This year's performance is entitled- *Treasure Hunt*. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for students.

Leonard studios will be taking spring sports and club pictures on Monday, April 1st at 10:30AM. Forms will be available in the high school office.

FFA will have CDE's in Philip on April 3rd and will be traveling to the State Convention on April 7th -9th in Brookings to represent our school.

Tuesday, April 11th at 6:00PM will be our Winter Sports Awards Program in the gymnasium. All are welcome to attend.

The next school board meeting will be Monday, April 8th at 7:00PM.

Family Library Night will be held April 11th in the Library from 5:00-6:00PM. All families with students in grades K-6 are invited to attend and participate.

Bison High School will be attending the Quiz Bowl on Monday, April 15th at the Dakota Lodge in Lemmon, SD. This contest is sponsored by KBJM and KNDC radio.

On Wednesday, April 17th representatives from Bison High School will be traveling to McIntosh to participate in Academic Olympics.

Progress reports for the fourth quarter will be mailed home on Thursday, April 18th, 2019.

There will be no school on Monday April 22nd, in observance of Easter Monday.

The Bison High School Prom for students in grades 9-12 is scheduled for Saturday, April 27th. The Grand March will begin at 8:00PM. The community is invited to see our students all dressed up for this special event!

Students in grades 4-8 will be participating in the 2018 Math Meet on Friday, April 26th in McIntosh. Students will compete against other teams from surrounding area schools. This is our second time in this competition and everyone is very excited to participate.

Track held its first practice on Monday March 18. The following track events are scheduled as follows: March 23 at 10:00AM in Rapid City, March 29 at 12:00PM in Rapid City, April 2 at 2:00PM in Bowman, April 5th at 9:00AM in Spearfish, April 13th at 9:00AM in Belle Fourche, April 16th at 2:00PM in Bowman, April 18th at 10:30AM in Lemmon, April 23 at 11:00AM in Belle Fourche, and April 27th at 11:00AM in Sturgis. Attendance at the Bowman track meets is tentative.

Golf has begun and the golf meets are scheduled as follows: April 5th at 9:30AM in Rapid City, April 12th at 9:30AM in Wall, and April 26th at 9:30AM in Newell.

Eligibility policy check dates are as follows: April 4, April 18, May 2, and May 21. Students who are receiving a failing grade are ineligible to participate in sports and extra-curricular activities including prom. They will become eligible if they are passing at the next check point date. Seniors who receive below a C in any class at eligibility check are not eligible for Senior Privilege until the next eligibility check and will attend a study hall.

Kindergarten Roundup will be held on May 2 from 8:00AM -12:30PM. Due to the number of Kindergarten students, there will be no school for our current Kindergarten students on that day. Visiting students will get to experience what being in Kindergarten is all about. They will attend Music, PE, and have lunch in the cafeteria. More information will be sent home to parents with incoming students.

The Freshman Impact program is back again this year and our 9th grade students will be attending on May 7th in Faith.

Mrs. Vanderpool wanted me to put a plug in for our upcoming Spring Concert. Mark your calendars. The Spring Concert will be May 7th at 6:00PM.

Thank you all for your cooperation and support!

Marilyn L. Azevedo
Superintendent/Principal