

North Gem News

*"Insuring our future by
developing Character,
Confidence and Competence"*

Volume IX Issue VIII

February, 2024

Events to Remember

**ALL ATHLETIC EVENTS CAN
BE FOUND ON PAGE 2 UNDER
ACTIVITIES**

**Activities and sports events
change constantly to stay in-
formed and up to date please
visit-sd149.com and download
the calendar link.**

February 1-Red Cross Blood Drive
9:00am –1:30 pm

February 5- School Board Meeting
6:30pm-Reed Library

February 16-HS/MS Idaho State Civic
Symphony at the Stephens Performing
Arts Center on the ISU campus on Feb
16 at 7:30 pm.

**February 19- Presidents Day
No School**

February 27- Ready for Kindergarten
5:00 -7:00 pm

March 4- School Board Meeting 6:30pm-
Reed Library

News Articles

Superintendents Letter– pg. 1

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Activities/Athletics - pgs. 3-6

Student Body News-pgs. 7-11

Job Openings pg. 12

Lunchroom New– pgs.12-13

Community News pg. 14-21

School Board Minutes can be found on
the District Web Page
[/www.sd149.com/school-board/board-
meetings/](http://www.sd149.com/school-board/board-meetings/)

Superintendent's Letter

Dear North Gem Community,

I hope this message finds you well as we embrace the month of February with enthusiasm and pride in the accomplishments of our students, educators, and staff. It is with great pleasure that I share some highlights and celebrate the ongoing success of our schools.

Academic Achievements:

Our students continue to excel academically, demonstrating the commitment to learning and a desire for developing new skills and knowledge. Whether it's in the classroom, through virtual platforms, fieldtrips, or in extracurricular activities, our students showcase their intellectual curiosity and dedication to personal growth. Congratulations to all for their hard work and commitment to learning. North Gem students continue to achieve at expected levels of proficiency and we are very proud of them.

Innovative Teaching Practices:

Our educators have been at the forefront of innovation, implementing creative teaching practices to engage and inspire our students. From incorporating technology in the classroom to adopting effective teaching methodologies, our teachers are fostering an environment that promotes critical thinking, collaboration, and adaptability. We are also working daily to give our students real world hands on experiences to prepare them for the opportunities they will have.

Student Involvement and Leadership:

Our schools are not just places of learning but also hubs of community and leadership development. Students are actively involved in activities, sports, and community service initiatives, showcasing their talents, leadership skills, and dedication to making a positive impact. We are proud to witness the emergence of future leaders within our school community.

Community Support and Engagement:

The success of our schools is a result of the collaborative effort of students, educators, parents, the PTA, Education Foundation, Boosters, and the broader community. Your support, involvement, and dedication to our educational mission play a crucial role in creating an environment where students can thrive and reach their full potential. Thank you for being integral members of our educational community. We will be hosting student led conferences and school showcase events again on March 7th and invite you to attend. Our last conferences had tremendous turn out and we hope you will all come again to see your students' goal achievements and projects.

In closing, take a moment to appreciate the collective achievements of our students. Each success, no matter how big or small, contributes to the overall growth and development of our students and the community at large.

Thank you for your continued support, and let's carry this positive momentum forward into the coming months. Wishing everyone a fantastic February filled with safe travels, good weather, a productive start to the calving season, and success for our community!

Sincerely,
Dr. Todd Shumway, Superintendent



COUNSELOR'S MESSAGE

Hello Cowboys!

We've had a great January! Congrats to all the students on starting the second semester classes. Keep up the good work!

This past month several of our high school students went with me to tour Brigham Young University - Idaho. We were able to attend a Tuesday afternoon devotional and explore the student center to see what daily life is like there. We were also able to connect with several professors and department heads who took groups of students to tour the communications department—including the publications and BYU-I radio station, the engineering department with its labs, shops, and garages, and the agriculture/horticulture department with all its varied greenhouses.

For our Juniors and Seniors and their parents—we are in the throws of scholarship and college application/acceptance season! If you haven't looked at or become familiar with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or are not familiar with the NextSteps Idaho initiative, Idaho LAUNCH program, or the Idaho Opportunities Scholarship then please consider the following opportunity!

On Thursday, February 15th at 7:00 North Gem will host a FAFSA and Scholarship night for Seniors, Juniors and their parents. Refreshments will be served. Bring your laptop, or come use the ones we will have available, to work on the FAFSA and find scholarships or programs. Please review the following website to understand what information you will need to have to complete the FAFSA:

<https://studentaid.gov/help/info-needed>

Parents are highly encouraged to come and ask questions about any of the Idaho scholarship opportunities, the FAFSA, or anything else aimed at getting our students to succeed in achieving their goals and plans. I will give a short intro presentation on NextSteps Idaho and Idaho LAUNCH and will have information on scholarships and programs.

Bring goals, dreams, ideas, plans, schemes and let's talk about ways we can make them a reality! Our students, your children, are incredible and have spent their entire lives working toward what comes after high school. Their potential is far greater than they can begin to see. Let's help them turn dreams into goals, goals into plans, and plans into reality!

To our Seniors and Juniors: *It can be done. You can do it. There is a way. Let's make it happen—whatever it is.*

All our students are fantastic and it's a humbling pleasure to work with all of them. Keep it up guys!

Sincerely,

Walter Eiman
Counselor





Activities



North Gem High School Girls Basketball 2023-24

Day	Date	Location	Opponent	Time
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Girls District Basketball Tournament January 27, 30, 31, February 3, 7, 8,

High Seed will host. Times TBD Please check the school website calendar

State Play in Game February 10 @ McCall

Girls State Tournaments in Boise February 16-17



North Gem High School Boys Basketball

Day	Date	Location	Opponent	Time
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Thurs. February 1, Home Alturas Prep 6:00 pm

Friday February 2, Home Rockland 6:00 pm

Tuesday February 6 Home Grace Lutheran 6:00 pm Senior Night

Boys District Basketball Tournament February 7, 9, 13, 14, 17, 21, 22,

High Seed will host. Times TBD Please check the school website calendar.

State Play in Game February 24 @ Cascade

Boys State Tournaments in Boise March 1-2



North Gem High School Wrestling

Day	Date	Location	Opponent
Friday	February 2	Away	Malad
Friday	February 16	District Wrestling @ Westside	
Fri-Sat	February 22-23	State Wrestling Holt Arena Pocatello Idaho	



North Gem High School Cheerleaders

Day	Date	Location	Event	Time
Friday	February 2,	Home	Mini Cheer Camp	10:00 am
Friday	February 9,	Snake River	District Cheer Competition	



North Gem Junior High School Boys Basketball 2023-24

Day	Date	Location	Opponent	Time
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Thursday February 1 Home Rockland 3:00pm

Wednesday February 7 Away Sho-Ban 4:00pm

Tuesday February 13, Away Rockland 4:00 pm

Thursday February 15 Away Watersprings 4:00 pm





Activities



North Gem Wrestling

By Coach Danny Barfuss



January has been tough with sickness, injuries, and weather. The boys started in Bear Lake shaking off the dust from Christmas break. We then went to the Aberdeen tournament and ended up with Lukky leading the team with a 3-2 record, Luke 2-2, and Haydn 2-3. Last week we went to Kooskia for the Clearwater Valley North/South Duals. This was one of the best tournaments we have ever been to. The boys being

able to compete against the north schools we never get to see except at the State finals. They competed in 10 duals with Potlatch, Nampa Christian, Clearwater Valley, St. Maries, Grangeville, Lakeside, Kellogg, Priest River, McCall, and Ririe. The first week of February is District Duals in Malad followed by the District tournament in Westside. They will be working hard the next couple of weeks trying to secure a spot at the state finals. I wish these boys good health and know they will work hard. Good luck at districts boys. Let's bring home some hardware.

Danny Barfuss

Girls Basketball Regular Season Ends

By Coach Ken Christensen

The Lady Cowboys finished their regular season having played twenty varsity games and eight junior varsity games. The girls finished up with an overall record of 9-11 and a conference record of 9-6. This puts us right in the middle, fifth out of ten teams.

I challenged the girls on the first day, don't be late for practice and don't miss practice. We haven't had any tardiness at all, however, illness and injuries are impossible to avoid. We still have five of the eleven girls who have not missed a practice yet. They include Indyana Hatch, Sage Daniels, Katelyn Whiting, Kymberli Jensen, and Dally Frandsen.

Each girl has been awarded the player of the game belt at least once this season. Each young lady has improved an incredible amount.

Senior night was held on Tuesday January 23rd. We celebrated our two seniors, Samantha Yost and Hayden Corta. Both girls are super young ladies and they will be sorely missed.

The last two years have been huge learning experience for all those involved. It has been two of my favorite years coaching ever. Last year, five of the ten girls were freshman, and though we were only able to muster five conference wins, it was enjoyable to work extra hard to help them understand the game. This year, four of the eleven girls again were freshman. This time we were able to earn nine conference wins, and again work extra hard to help them understand the game.

Bring on the district tournament!



North Gem Boys Basketball

January Report

The North Gem boys basketball team put together a successful month of January. At the time of this writing, the boys had won 6 and lost 3 during the first month of 2024.

The boys kicked off the new year with a big home win against Sho-Ban 63 – 33. Ryver Hayden led the way with 19 points and a career high 16 rebounds. The Cowboys followed this home win with a tightly contested win in Pocatello against Grace Lutheran. The game was much closer than the final score indicated as the boys battled for the entire game and eventually ended up winning 57 – 44. Evan O'Brien paced the Cowboys with a strong 26 points and 19 rebounds.

The following week saw the schedule get wrecked by the weather with a couple of games getting cancelled. The North Gem teams managed to squeeze in a conference game at Watersprings early in the week however. Despite a valiant effort in which the boys had whittled a double-digit Watersprings lead to just 5 several times in the 4th quarter, the Cowboys eventually fell 57 – 43.

The Cowboys split a couple of road conference games the following week, beating Sho-Ban 48-38 and losing to Mackay 61 – 55. In the Sho-Ban game, Gage Setser stuffed the stat sheet with 8 points, 4 rebounds, 5 assists, and 2 steals while Evan O'Brien turned in his usual double double with 12 points and 13 rebounds. Against Mackay, we had four players, Ryver Hayden, Craig Yost, Gage Setser, and Evan O'Brien all score in double figures in the losing effort.

The boys bounced back from their loss at Mackay with two important conference wins at home against Leadore and Taylor's Crossing. Both games were won by at least 25 points and represented the high water mark for the Cowboys offense so far this season with 72 and 65 points scored, respectively. The boys, playing their 4th game in 7 days, took a tough loss at Malad to end the games so far in January.

The boys have really come together as a team and have set themselves up to be in a position to host a district playoff game or two in a couple of weeks.

Tracey Corta
Head Coach



Senior Night
will be
February 6, 2024

Thanks to
Michalene Rindlisbasker
for the athletics pictures.



Student Body News

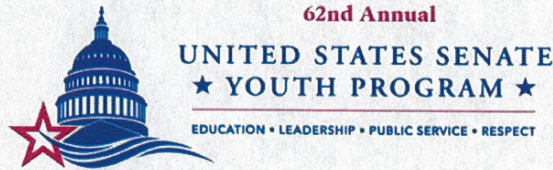


Idaho Student Selected for Prestigious United States Senate Youth Program

(BOISE) – Two exceptional high school seniors have been selected to represent Idaho at the prestigious 62nd annual United State Senate Program, to be held March 2 – 9 in Washington D.C. Students are selected for the program based on their service in high-level elected or appointed leadership positions. This year, senior **Alyson Reed** from **North Gem High School in Bancroft** will join other high-performing high school seniors and juniors from around the country for an intensive, weeklong experience in the nation's capital. Delegates will have the opportunity to hear major policy addresses by senators and cabinet members and will participate in meetings with the president and a justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. They will also be awarded \$10,000 scholarships for undergraduate studies at the higher education institution of their choice. **Congratulations Aly!**



The Official press release from the United States Senate Youth Program is on the following pages.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Questions about your state's delegates, alternates or state selection process:
Ms. Leslie Younger at Lyounger@sde.idaho.gov.

For general information about the United States Senate Youth Program:
Program Director Ms. Rayne Guilford (800) 425-3632 or rguilford@hearstfdn.org.

Idaho Students Selected for United States Senate Youth Program
Students Headed to Washington, D. C. and to Receive \$10,000 Scholarship

January 09, 2024, Washington, D.C. —The United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) announces that high school students Ms. Alyson Chloe Reed and Ms. AnnMarie Juliet Wolfley will join Senator Mike Crapo and Senator James E. Risch in representing Idaho during the 62nd annual USSYP Washington Week, to be held March 2 — 9, 2024. Alyson Reed of Bancroft and AnnMarie Wolfley of Blackfoot were selected from among the state's top student leaders to be part of the 104 national student delegation. Each delegate will also receive a \$10,000 college scholarship for undergraduate study.

The USSYP was created by Senate Resolution 324 in 1962 and has been sponsored by the Senate and fully funded by The Hearst Foundations since inception. Originally proposed by Senators Kuchel, Mansfield, Dirksen and Humphrey, the Senate leadership of the day, the impetus for the program as stated in Senate testimony is "to increase young Americans' understanding of the interrelationships of the three branches of government, learn the caliber and responsibilities of federally elected and appointed officials, and emphasize the vital importance of democratic decision making not only for America but for people around the world."

Each year this extremely competitive merit-based program provides the most outstanding high school students - two from each state, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity - with an intensive week-long study of the federal government and the people who lead it. The overall mission of the program is to help instill within each class of USSYP student delegates more profound knowledge of the American political process and a lifelong commitment to public service. In addition to the program week, The Hearst Foundations provide each student with a \$10,000 undergraduate college scholarship with encouragement to continue coursework in government, history and public affairs. All expenses for Washington Week are also provided by The Hearst Foundations; as stipulated in Senate Resolution 324, no government funds are utilized.

Alyson Reed, a senior at North Gem High School, serves as the president of the Student Body. Hailing from the small town of Bancroft, she has faced challenges that propelled her into leadership roles. From serving as class president to leading her Young Women's group and participating in the 4-H ambassadors program, she honed her leadership skills, emphasizing effective communication and conflict resolution. Her commitment to community service shines through active participation in local blood drives, organization of service projects, and contributions to humanitarian efforts. Alyson's impact is evident in initiatives such as providing supplies for a women's shelter and participating in projects benefiting children in need in Africa. Her leadership roles and impactful community service showcase her dedication to making a positive difference. After graduation, she plans to go into radiologic sciences and become a radiology technician.

(more)

UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM
2024 Idaho Delegate Announcement
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Page -2-

AnnMarie Wolfley, a junior at Snake River High School, serves as the youth representative to the local Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) post, where she organizes events and donations to support the VFW and veterans in the community. Her involvement with the Veterans Day parade has allowed her to gain insight into sacrifice and leadership. Her roles as the Junior Class president, involvement in speech and debate, and recognition in the National Junior Honor Society highlight her collaborative, communications and character-driven qualities. Musical talents, resilience in cross country, and academic achievements reflect her dedication and mental strength. As a former Young Women's president within her church community, AnnMarie demonstrates organizational leadership and a commitment to service projects. She aims to explore the historical context of the government and hopes for firsthand exposure to the political world, aspiring to understand global conflicts and influential leaders' perspectives. She hopes to attain a bachelor's degree in English education with a minor in political science before attending law school, and would like to pursue a career as a prosecuting attorney and possibly work in the Idaho legislature.

Chosen as alternates to the 2024 program were Mr. Nicholas Mendez, a resident of Caldwell, who attends Caldwell High School and Ms. Jeni Hammon, a resident of Emmett, who attends Emmett High School.

Delegates and alternates are selected by the state departments of education nationwide and the District of Columbia and Department of Defense Education Activity, after nomination by teachers and principals. The chief state school officer for each jurisdiction confirms the final selection. This year's Idaho delegates and alternates were designated by Debbie Critchfield, Superintendent of Public Instruction.

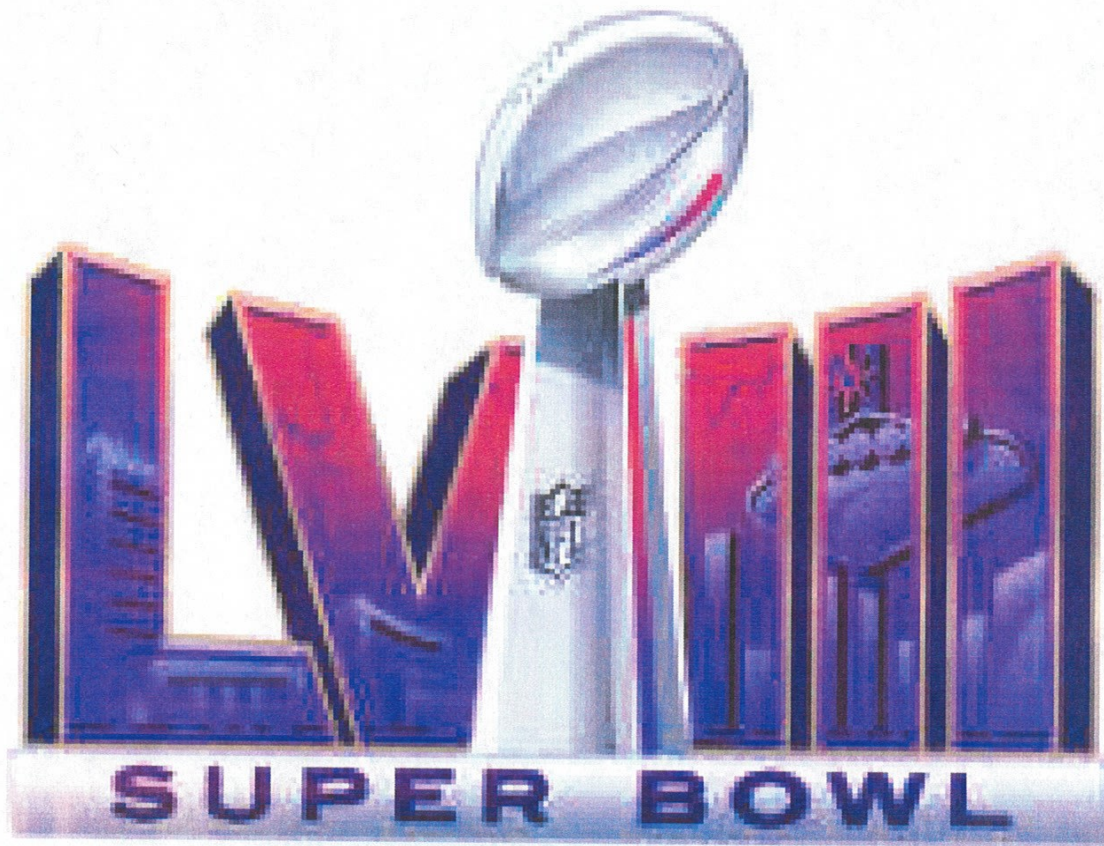
During the program week, the student delegates will attend meetings and briefings with senators, the president, a justice of the Supreme Court, and leaders of cabinet agencies, among others.

In addition to outstanding leadership abilities and a strong commitment to volunteer work, the student delegates rank academically in the top one percent of their states among high school juniors and seniors. Now more than 6,100 strong, alumni of the program continue to excel and develop impressive qualities that are often directed toward public service. Among the many distinguished alumni are: Senator Susan Collins, the first alumna to be elected U.S. senator; Secretary of Transportation and former Mayor of South Bend Indiana, Pete Buttigieg, the first alumna to be appointed as a cabinet secretary; former Senator Cory Gardner, the second alumna to be elected U.S. senator and the first to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives; former New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, the first alumna to be elected governor; former Chief Judge Robert Henry, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit; former Ambassador to West Germany Richard Burt and former presidential advisors Thomas "Mack" McLarty and Karl Rove. Additional notables include former Lt. Governor of Idaho David Leroy, former Provost of Wake Forest University Rogan Kersh, military officers, members of state legislatures, Foreign Service officers, top congressional staff, healthcare providers and other university educators.

Members of the U. S. Senate Youth Program 2024 annual Senate Advisory Committee are: Senator Catherine Cortez Masto of Nevada, the 2024 USSYP Democratic Co-Chair and Senator John Barrasso, M.D. of Wyoming, the 2024 USSYP Republican Co-Chair. The full USSYP Senate Advisory Committee consists of the vice president of the United States and the Senate majority and minority leaders who annually serve as the program's Honorary Co-Chairs; two senators, one from each party, serving as acting Co-Chairs who each have keynote speaking roles, and an eight-member bipartisan Senate panel, four senators from each party, who lend their names in support. Serving on the Advisory Committee for the upcoming program are: Senator John Fetterman of Pennsylvania, Senator Maggie Hassan of New Hampshire, Senator Edward J. Markey of Massachusetts, Senator Alex Padilla of California, Senator John Boozman of Arkansas, Senator Katie Britt of Alabama, Senator John Hoeven of North Dakota and Senator Thom Tillis of North Carolina.

For more information please visit: www.ussenateyouth.org

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**Elementary Super Bowl AR
Reading. Starting Feb. 5-8
Which team will be the BIG
winner?**

Muffins with Mom

When: Tuesday February 13th, 2024

Where: North Gem Lunchroom

Time: 7:15-8:00am

Who: Kindergarten—5th grade



Come and enjoy a Muffin with a loved one and then go
and visit the book fair going on in the Library.

Job Openings @ North Gem

- Transportation Assistant
- Bus Aide
- 1:1 Elementary Aide
- Substitute Bus Drivers
- Substitute Custodial
- Substitute Teachers



Lunchroom News

SCHOOL LUNCH PRICES 2023-24

MONTH		REDUCED	K-4TH GRADE	5-12TH GRADE	ADULT
Day rate		0.40	3.20	3.40	4.70
August	8	3.20	25.60	27.20	37.60
September	15	6.00	48.00	51.00	70.50
October	18	7.20	57.60	61.20	84.60
November	16	6.40	51.20	54.40	75.20
December	12	4.80	38.40	40.80	56.40
January	17	6.80	54.40	57.80	79.90
February	16	6.40	51.20	54.40	75.20
March	12	4.80	38.40	40.80	56.40
April	18	7.20	57.60	61.20	84.60
May	14	5.60	44.80	47.60	65.80
TOTALS		58.40	467.20	496.40	686.20

- 2024 -

FEBRUARY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

North Gem School District #149

"Improve the Health and Enhance the Ability to Learn Through Better Nutrition"

Milk and Choice Bar Offered Each Day

FREE BREAKFAST SERVED DAILY TO ALL STUDENTS

1

Bbq Chicken Chunks w/
Pretzel Rod
Deli Bar
Roasted Broccoli
Mandarin Oranges

2

8

Tator Tot Casserole w/ Roll
Deli Bar
Baked Squash
Pears

9

15

Glazed Chicken Leg
w/ Bread Stick
Deli Bar
Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy
Fresh Sliced Oranges

16

22

Bacon Ranch Flatbread
Deli Bar
Brocc./Caul. Bake
Pears

23

29

Walking Tacos
Deli Bar
Sunshine Carrots
Apple Pie Parfaits

7

Bbq Chicken Slider
Deli Bar
Spinach Salad
Mixed Fruit

14

Bbq Korean Flatbread
Deli Bar
Broccoli Salad
Apricots

21

Super Nachos
Deli Bar
Refried Beans w/ Cheese
Pineapple Tidbits

28

Chicken/Tomato Soup
Tuna/Egg Sandwich
Deli Bar
Corn
Oranges

6

Bbq Western Hamburger
Deli Bar
Baked Beans
Peaches

13

Hordogs
Deli Bar
Sweet Potato Fries
Ambrosia Salad

20

Shepherds Pie w/ Br. Stick
Deli Bar
Roasted Baby Carrots
Peach Parfaits

27

Baked Potato Bar
w/Chili or Brocc. Cheese
Deli Bar
California Spinach Salad
Peaches

5

Biscuits and Gravy
Breakfast Sandwich
Deli Bar
Green Beans
Pineapple Crisp

12

Spaghetti w/ Fr. Bread
Deli Bar
Green Salad
Cinnamon Apples

19

No School
Presidents
Day

26

Cereal Fun Lunch Elem.
Sunrise Breakfast HS/MS
Deli Bar
Fresh Baby Carrots
Tropical Fruit Salad

Community News

City of Bancroft

Please remember to remove your vehicles from the street to allow for clean up after heavy snow storms.



Please remove your garbage cans from the street as soon as possible after they have been emptied on Thursday, to assist with the maintenance and clean up of the streets during the winter.



CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL STORY

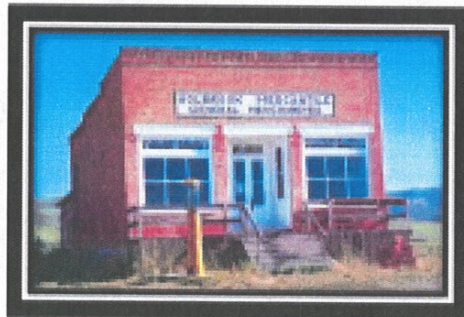


CHESTER CALL FILE, DUP HISTORY COLLECTION

Being a bishop and a polygamist, Chester Call was a prominent figure pursued by federal agents and U.S. marshals. For about ten years, from 1882 until 1893, Chester spent considerable time avoiding arrest. On one occasion while he was attending a church service, marshals stationed themselves at the doors to arrest polygamists when the meeting ended.

Chester was informed that the agents were waiting to capture him. As soon as the meeting was over, he changed clothing while another man by the name of Mabey, who was dressed like Chester and about the same size and age, left the church looking as suspicious as possible. As soon as he caught the eyes of the agents, he ran down the street.

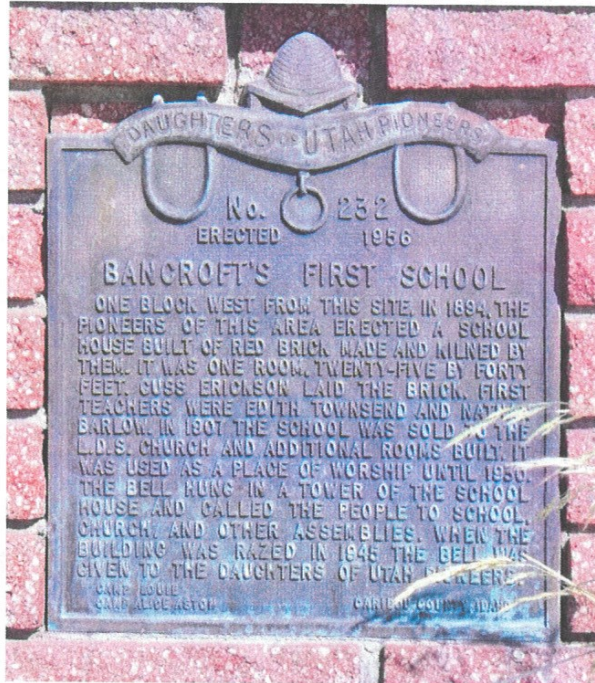
As hoped, the agents chased him. When they finally caught him, they demanded to know his name. "Are you Chester Call?" "Mabey," he answered. "Maybe it is and maybe it ain't, but you're under arrest," charged the marshals. Meanwhile, Chester had slipped out unnoticed, jumped onto his buckboard, and escaped undetected."



*If you have a Historic Chesterfield story to share please contact our school office and we'll get it in the next newsletter.

BANCROFT HISTORICAL STORY

Bancroft's First School



Bancroft's First School Marker

Inscription: One block west from this site, in 1894, the pioneers of this area erected a school house built of red brick made and kilned by them. It was one room, twenty-five by forty feet. Cuss Erickson laid the brick, first teachers were Edith Townsend and Nathan Barlow. In 1907 the school was sold to the L.D.S. Church and additional rooms built. It was used as a place of worship until 1930. The bell hung in a tower of the school house and called the people to school, church, and other assemblies. When the building was razed in 1945 the bell was given to the Daughters of Utah Pioneers.

Location. 42° 43.174' N, 111° 53.121' W. Marker is in Bancroft, Idaho, in Caribou County. Marker is at the intersection of Main Street and 1st Street South, on the right when traveling north on Main Street. Marker is at or near this postal address: 95 Main Street, Bancroft ID 83217

Other nearby historical markers. At least 8 other markers are within 10 miles of this marker, measured as the crow flies. Chesterfield (approx. 4.8 miles away); Ivins Pioneer Cemetery (approx. 5.4 miles away); Hudspeth's Cutoff (approx. 6.4 miles away); Lava Hot Springs' healing waters (approx. 9.2 miles away)

*If you have historical stories about the Bancroft area and are willing to share please send them in to our school office for publication in the next newsletter.

About READY!

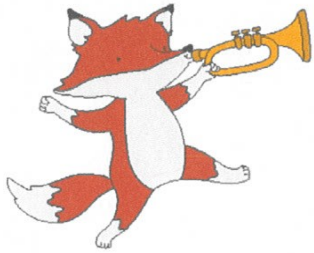
READY! for Kindergarten® is a series of parent education workshops designed to teach parents how playing with their child is the best way to prepare them for Kindergarten. READY® has identified 26 skills that are most associated with academic success and social- emotional wellbeing in Kindergarten. These skills are called the READY! Targets.

Parents attend a series of 90- minute workshops which each focus on 10 of the 26 school readiness skills, or READY! Targets. In the workshops, the 10 targets are explained to parents through hands-on activities and active engagement in conversations. Parents are taught how to intentionally play with their child, or "play with a purpose," to help develop these skills.



At the end of each workshop, parents not only leave with the knowledge and confidence to "play with a purpose," but also with a free tool kit full of high quality materials, including books, puzzles, and games, that directly supports the 10 targets covered in every workshop.

Phil Knox



Birth to age 5 is the time to get your child...

READY! for Kindergarten®



Did you know?

- From birth to age 5, a child learns at a speed unmatched the rest of his or her life. Those early learning experiences influence success in school and beyond.
- Parents and caregivers are a child's first and most influential teachers.
- Every year 40 percent of children walk into kindergarten one-to-three years behind. These students struggle to catch up. Sadly, most of them never do.
- Students who start kindergarten behind form the largest group of dropouts, and they have less than a 12 percent chance of attending a four-year university.



But there is something you can do about it!

- A child's learning journey begins long before they start school – it starts at home.
- Birth to age 5, children are learning every waking moment.
- Reading, talking and purposeful play with a child beginning at birth helps their minds grow strong and bright.



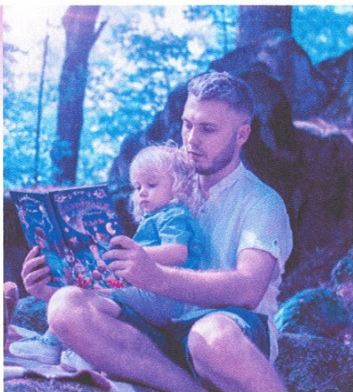
READY! for Kindergarten shows you how.

- **READY! for Kindergarten** is the national model for school readiness, engaging parents and caregivers in their child's learning from birth to age 5.
- **READY!** builds strong parent engagement and teaches families new skills and helpful tips to nurture a child's development in ways that foster essential early literacy, math and social-emotional skills.
- **FREE workshops**, learning targets, and take-home activities and tools, equip parents and caregivers to help babies and young children develop strong brain connections for success in school.

**Ask your school or library about the
next workshop!**



www.idahoaeys.org/ready



PARENTS ARE THEIR CHILD'S FIRST AND MOST INFLUENTIAL TEACHER

“

We all know that parents are the first teachers, so making sure we have the skills and equipment necessary to make our interactions with our children meaningful is huge. Quality child care is hard to find and is hard to afford in my community, but knowing that all parents can have access to this quality material to use at home is crucial.”

READY! For Kindergarten Parent, Kuna

“

It's changed how I view learning at home. These workshops shifted my thinking away from structured lessons and towards how I can use what we're already doing to learn and work on skills. It's really helped us to get so much more learning in.”

READY! For Kindergarten Parent, American Falls

“

A program like this helps give many students the much-needed leg-up they need prior to kindergarten. The fact that it occurs after work hours, with dinner and child care provided, makes it accessible for working-class families - I can't stress enough how much that piece matters and makes it truly equitable!”

READY! For Kindergarten Parent, McCall

READY!  **for Kindergarten®**

Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI)

The Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI) assessment measures literacy proficiency and is conducted in the fall and spring semesters of each school year. According to Idaho's IRI scores, almost half of Idaho's children enter kindergarten below grade level and nearly a third of them are still not performing at grade level at the end of the school year.

Fall 2022 48 %

Spring 2022 65 %

“

This Fall (2022), 93% of our READY! graduates scored in the Tier 1 [at grade level] and Tier 2 [near grade level] on the Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI)”

-Panhandle Alliance for Education

READY! for Kindergarten®



WHEN WE INVEST IN OUR CHILDREN, OUR COMMUNITIES WIN

READY! For Kindergarten is a proven program developed by the Children's Reading Foundation and administered across the country through local partners, such as the Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children. All READY! For Kindergarten workshops feature a facilitated lesson by a trained instructor and offer free, quality early learning materials, resources, and activities for families to work on at home.

The READY! For Kindergarten program empowers parents to provide the foundational skills their children will need to be successful in school and life.

Research shows children who have quality early learning experiences are:



Less likely to
be held
back a grade



Less likely to
need special
education



More likely to
graduate from
high school



Have higher
earnings as an
adult



Less likely to
become
dependent on
welfare



Less likely to be
involved with law
enforcement



When you read, talk and play with kids, you help:

- Build self confidence (READ)
- Develop communication skills (READ)
 - Nurture creativity (READ)
 - Expand vocabulary (READ)
- Build brain connections aiding in comprehension (TALK)
- Manage their emotions in healthy and productive ways (TALK)
 - Develop social and emotional skills (TALK)
 - Foster healthy relationships (TALK)
 - Reduce stress (PLAY)
 - Keep physically fit (PLAY)
 - Build problem solving skills (PLAY)
 - Promote independence (PLAY)
 - And much more!!

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