



# Knapp Elementary Newsletter



February 1, 2024

## From the Principal

We have a series of important opportunities to strengthen our school-family partnership this month:

**Parent-Teacher Conferences** will be on Tuesday, February 6th and Thursday, February 8th from 4:00-7:45pm. Conferences are a wonderful opportunity to connect with your child's teacher and learn more about your student's growth as well as set academic and social-emotional goals for the remainder of the school year.

**Attendance** is an essential part of a student's success. Please make every effort to help your child get to school on time and consistently. If your child is not present, please call or email us. Students are reminded that they have a maximum of 10 school days that can be missed during the school year for personal illness or family activities. If a student needs to attend an appointment during school hours, a note from that business office needs to be turned into the Knapp office upon returning to school.

SDMA residents will be asked to vote on a **School Referendum** on February 20th, 2024. Information about the [referendum](#) is posted on the school district website. Your support for the Knapp staff and students contributes to quality instruction, social-emotional growth, and the variety of school-related opportunities available for your child.

Have a great February!

Mrs. Branch

Mrs. Shannon Branch, Principal

## Read Across America Week

Read Across America is the nation's largest celebration of reading — it begins on the birthday of the beloved author, Dr. Seuss. The entire month of March, in fact, is dedicated to reading.

We will celebrate reading March 4 - 8 with fun activities at school. More info sent home soon!



## February Calendar

- 2 Popcorn Friday
- 5 100th Day of School
- 6 Parent / Teacher Conferences
- 8 Parent / Teacher Conferences
- 9 NO SCHOOL
- 12 NO SCHOOL
- 14 Valentine's Day parties
- 29 K-2 Field trip



## Arrival to School

Playground supervision begins at 8:15 a.m. Students can go directly to the playground to play as they arrive at school.

Please drop off down below the hill at the end of the sidewalk to allow your child to go onto the playground. The front circle is reserved for the buses arriving to drop students off. Drop off in the cul de sac (South Street) on the upper side of the playground is also safe option.

**School starts at 8:35 a.m.** The warning bell rings at 8:30 a.m., signaling students on the playground to line up to come inside.

## School Highlights



Author Stephanie Poeschel visits K-2



Outdoor PE in January!  
Students enjoyed some outdoor PE time while they worked on their dance and jump rope unit



Celebrate the 100th Day of School on February 5th!

## Student Council News

### PENNY WARS

To benefit the Dunn County Humane Society and Stepping Stones, each class will be collecting from February 2 - 29.

To participate in the WAR- add points by putting either pennies or bills in your classroom container. Pennies are worth 1 pt., \$1 bill is worth 100 pts., \$5 bill is 500 pts., and \$10 bills are 1000 pts. To subtract points from other classes...put silver coins in their container. Nickels subtract 5 pts., dimes 10 pts., quarters 25 pts.

The winning class will earn an ICE CREAM PARTY!  
GOOD LUCK!

### Author Visit for Grades K-2

Local author Stephanie Poeschel visited our school on January 30 to read from her book "Tilly's National Park Adventure". Students had a lively question and answer session afterward!

## KNAPP SCHOOL HISTORY

First two-story school built on the site of the present Knapp School in 1884. This picture was taken in 1896.





## Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your child to her teachers and classmates before school starts to help her transition.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

### When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

For more on school readiness, visit [attendanceworks.org](http://attendanceworks.org) and [reachoutandread.org](http://reachoutandread.org)

# MUSIC NOTES

with Mrs. McMahon

## LAST MONTH

Last month we made passports and 'traveled' to our first country of the month - Germany! We learned all sorts of fun facts and songs about Germany! We even got to virtually meet Greta (a German foreign exchange student) and ask questions about Germany!



Kindergarten playing xylophones and counting to 10 in German!



1st Grade practicing rhythms with popsicle sticks!

## FEBRUARY COUNTRY OF THE MONTH - FRANCE

This month we will be using our passports to travel to France!

**Fun Fact:** The oboe was invented in France, but the French horn isn't even French (it's from Germany)!

