

Tanagers' Nest News

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Spring is here ?



by [Jon Frey](#) on April 5, 2023

While it has been a very snowpacked winter, it seems that not only did March decide to exit ~ like a lion ~ April decided to enter as one, as well! Fortunately for us Vermillionites, residing in the “Miami of South Dakota” means that we will avoid this (knock on wood)



final? bout of school closures due to wind, snow and cold temperatures. They say temps will reach the 70s next week and along with every spring athlete longing to compete without parkas, I say, “it’s about time!”

As I put this final note regarding this April newsletter together, our

counselors are planning to head over to Vermillion Middle School to meet with 8th graders regarding course options for next fall as they prepare to transition to the high school. Last week, the counselors met with current 9th, 10th and 11th graders regarding their registration for classes for this fall. Each student was provided a form to complete by marking their course interests and return to Student Services later this week.

It is the goal of our counselors to enter all student course registrations this month with the intention of providing high school students with a look at their class schedule for next year prior to the end of this school year. If that occurs, the counselors will allow students to make any necessary adjustments this spring to avoid the headache of schedule changes on the first days of classes in the fall. While their plan is aggressive, I am confident that Ms. Suing and Mr. Hayes are up to the task and a great deal of time will be saved this fall due to their efforts this spring.

As always, do not hesitate to reach out to either counselor, Mr. Huska or me if you have any questions about the registration process.

Jon



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Important Upcoming 2022-23 Dates

- April 6th - **1:30 Dismissal** - Teacher Professional Learning Teams
- April 7th - **No School**, Easter Holiday
- April 10th - **No School**, Easter Holiday
- May 3rd - Senior Awards Ceremony, 2:00pm, VHS Auditorium
- May 8th & 9th - Senior Final Exams
- May 10th - Baccalaureate Service for Seniors (*optional*), 7:00pm, VHS Auditorium
- May 11th - Graduation Practice (MANDATORY ATTENDANCE), 10:00am, USD Sanford Coyote Sports Center
- May 13th - Graduation 1:30pm, USD Sanford Coyote Sports Center (Doors open: 12:30pm)
- May 19th - Final Exams (Grades 9-11)
- May 22nd - Final Exams (Grades 9-11)
- May 23rd - Final Exams (Grades 9-11) / Final Check-out / Last Day of School

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Important Upcoming 2023-24 Dates

- September 18th - Picture Day
 - September 29th - Homecoming Game vs. Chamberlain
 - October 25th - Picture Retake Day
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Native American Students Advisory

by [Jan Stalling](#), EdD, NCC, NCSC Native American Liaison on March 29, 2023

There will be a meeting for parents of Native American students on **Wednesday, April 5th at 5:30 PM** at Jolley Elementary Library.

As the school year draws closer to an end, it seems there are several items to discuss.

- April Dinner?
- April 14th Building Bridges Conference - USD - Registration - Bridges@usd.edu
- April 15-16th - Wacipi - Dakota Dome
- Beaded caps for graduating seniors
- Star Quilts for graduating seniors
- 506 Forms
- Attendance
- Medicine Wheel
- Other

I look forward to seeing you this next Wednesday, April 5th at 5:30 PM at Jolley Elementary Library.

[Jan Stalling](#), EdD, NCC, NCSC

Native American Liaison - Phone: 605-659-8517

Vermillion School District

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Activities News

by **Jason Huska** on March 27, 2023

This Means War! State ART WARS Competition!

1.



2.



- 1. Niu Niu Zhang - winning 3rd place at State Art Wars competition in Rapid City.
- 2. Gael Magana - winning best of show in Class A division of the annual State Visual Arts competition in Rapid City. He also won first place in the drawing category.

3.



- 3. Pictured left to right - Gael Magana (9th), Autumn Waters (12), Niu Niu Zhang (11), Brilie Mayer (11). Competed at State Art Wars competition in Rapid City.

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4. Pictured left to right - Sienna Lewis (12), Adeline Raiche (10th), Autumn Waters (12), Niu Niu Zhang (11), Brilie Mayer (11). Competed at Wayne State College in their annual high school art competition. Niu Niu Zhang took best in show. Sienna Lewis and Brilie Mayer received honorable mentions.

Other winners (not pictured) from this competition: Sienna Lewis - 1st Printmaking; 2nd Sculpture.

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Vermillion High School Student Services Office 605.659.8513 (ph) / 605.677.7042 (fax)
 Luke Hayes, School Counselor (A-K) - Laura Suing, School Counselor (L-Z)
 Rebecca Olson, Administrative Assistant

Student Services News

By [Luke Hayes](#), [Laura Suing](#), and [Brittney Goggin](#) on February 28, 2023

Registration for 2023-24

Discussions are underway with staff and departments at the high school regarding course offerings for the 2023-24 school year. High school registration meetings with students occurred the week of March 27. Registration forms are due back in Student Services the week of April 3-6.

Visit the Student Services page of the high school website and on the Registration tab, select the [2023-24 Course Description guide](#) to get the lowdown on planning courses for the upcoming year with your student.

Scholarships

Scholarships are now available. Now is the time to have your student stop into Student Services and regularly check their email for more information. Most deadlines are in March so it's important to have your student complete, review, and submit their scholarship application before the deadline. If your student has questions about scholarships and/or would like assistance with completing a scholarship application, please have them stop into student services. If your student needs a recommendation for their application, please

Vermillion High School Administration 605.677.7035 (ph) / 605.677.7042 (fax)
 Jon Frey, Principal ~ Jennifer Badke, Administrative Assistant
 Jason Huska, Assistant Principal / Activities Director ~ Jasmine Stewart, Administrative Assistant



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remind them to ask for those recommendations as soon as possible so it allows people time to prepare them.

FAFSA

The 2023-2024 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is available now!. FAFSA can provide your student with grants, loans, and work study funds from the Federal Government. It is best to get it done early since some of the funds are available on a first come first served basis. For a short video on how to fill out the FAFSA form, please click [here](#). To fill out your FAFSA form, please visit [the FAFSA website](#). Please contact student services if you have questions about filling out the FAFSA or your student would like help in filling out the FAFSA.

What are the deadlines for filling out the FAFSA form?

To be considered for federal student aid for the 2023-24 award year, you can complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form between Oct. 1, 2022, and 11:59 p.m. Central time (CT) on June 30, 2023.

Any FAFSA form corrections or updates must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CT on Sept. 10, 2023. However, many states and colleges have earlier deadlines for applying for state and institutional financial aid, use Find your state's deadline. Check with your college or career school about its deadlines. Because of the variation in state and college deadlines, it's highly recommended that you fill out the FAFSA form as soon as you can after Oct. 1 to ensure that you don't miss out on available aid.¹

Need a Tutor? Here are two free tutor options!

By [Rachel Franks](#), Education Director at Boys & Girls Club



Boys & Girls Club of Vermillion's Tutor Club is a FREE after-school club that provides a safe & positive space for Vermillion High School students to focus on their academic workload and receive extra support on homework and other school related skills. Tutor Club provides daily snacks, homework help, and fun and

Department of Education, Accessed June 28, 2022.

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engaging activities, all at zero cost to families! Tutor Club can also provide transportation services at the end of the day to ensure all members get home safely.

Tutor Club is held Monday-Friday, 3:30-5:30 in Vermillion High School (room 16). As a member, students are expected to attend daily unless involved in school activities or are working some weekday, in which case a mutually beneficial schedule can be worked out.

If you are interested in enrolling your high school student, please use the following link to complete the referral form: <https://forms.office.com/r/AYszSrJP3M>. This form is necessary for Tutor Club staff to begin preparing to serve your student as well as possible. To enroll your student, please complete the Boys & Girls Club of Vermillion online registration form by following this link: www.greatfuturessd.org/vermillion-membership. Once the enrollment process is complete, you will be contacted by BGCV Education Director, Rachel Franks, to schedule a Parent Orientation meeting.

If you would like to receive further information, please contact Rachel Franks at rfranks@greatfuturessd.org or 605-672-2028.



The [Dakota Dreams Online Tutoring Program](#) provides free online tutoring to K-12 students in South Dakota in the subjects of English/Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Parents can register students for virtual one-on-one tutoring sessions using a simple and secure online platform. Once registered, sessions can either be pre-scheduled or accessed on-demand. All sessions are taught by university students already accepted into the School of Education at Northern State University or Black Hills State University.

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

Vermillion High School

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