By Jenny Thompson, Trina Kudrna and Lincoln Elementary Staff

Principal Tammy Peterson is a dedicated, enthusiastic, and driven leader with experience in motivating students and administrators to set and achieve goals. Her heart is dedicated to serving every student every day.

Congratulations to Mrs. Peterson for being selected as Region II Principal of the Year for the North Dakota Distinguished Principal Award. Following are a few thoughts from her Lincoln Team.

"Tammy is always so bubbly and happy when I see her in the hallway or with students. She always there whenever you or a student need her. She always puts the needs of her students and staff first. Tammy is a great role model and leader in the Dickinson public school system."

"Tammy shows great leadership in many ways. She always lends an open ear to listen and will share her words of wisdom as well. She truly cares for her staff and students. She really does make it a joy to come to work."

"Tammy has supported me and encouraged me to get out of my comfort zone to be the best teacher possible. Her kindness to everyone sets a tone for our school and culture. She is compassionate to all and always positive. I am blessed to be able to have her as my principal."

"Tammy is an enthusiastic team leader and always has a smile on her face! She handles disputes with a positive outlook. She is sympathetic and supportive. She truly has the best interests of our Lincoln Family at heart! So, all in all, what does Tammy mean to me? Selfless, Receptive, Self-driven."

"Mrs. Tammy Peterson’s empathy shines as she fosters many positive relationships with our students, staff, and parent community. Simply put, all stakeholders associated with Lincoln Elementary know that she cares about them. Tammy is innovative as she thinks outside the box and is willing to try new things. Whether these are techniques, strategies, evidence-based programs, curriculum, or partnerships with outside agencies, if it is in the best interest of students, Tammy is willing to take on the challenge and give it a go."

"Tammy has great management skills and shows her confidence in us as a team daily. She is quick to do what she can to help resolve issues and maintain team relationships. Tammy is flexible, positive, and encouraging. I am happy to be working with her as my boss."

"Mrs. Peterson is a great principal because I know that I can talk with her and get honest, productive guidance on almost any issue. Mrs. Peterson has an understanding of the children and their families in her school. Although the students are always at the top of her concern, Mrs. Peterson is also there to support and encourage the teachers. Thank you for being you, Mrs. Peterson!!"

"Caring is the first word that comes to mind when thinking of Tammy. She puts students first and wants what’s best for them, while supporting staff on that journey."

"Over the last few years, we have genuinely enjoyed Tammy’s leadership. The care she has for her staff and students is evident. She makes Lincoln feel like a family."

"Tammy, your family at Lincoln Elementary wants you to know you are a true leader and are proud to be part of your Lincoln Lion Team!"
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DHS Participates in the Annual UND Honor Band and Choir Festival

By: Matt Goettle
DHS Music Instrumental and Women’s Choir Director

Nine students were selected to participate in the annual UND Honor Band and Choir Festival on the University of North Dakota campus on January 21 - 23. An annual January event for over 30 years, the UND Honor Band festival provides an opportunity for talented high school musicians to perform in a select ensemble under the leadership of UND faculty. Gracie Cinnamyn, senior, also, had this to share of the experience, “(The festival was) “Very professional” - it was really cool! Everyone was serious about singing. The director was involved and made a personal connection with everyone!”

The festival concludes with a concert that features selected high school students from throughout North Dakota and Minnesota performing in the UND Honor Band, Mixed Honor Choir, Women’s Honor Choir, and Honor String.

Students from all over the state prepare solos, scales, rudiments, excerpts, etc., and go to a live audition at several sites across the state to be heard by a group of judges. Only the best musicians are chosen to join the band, orchestra, and choirs. Jacob Kirsch, senior, clarinet, reflected on the learning outcomes of attending the festival, “The University of North Dakota music festival was a unique experience for me as a musician. Being able to switch the parts we were playing for different songs allowed me to see a fresh perspective on each song as well as meet more musicians who were like me. The festival allowed me to collaborate with many highly skilled musicians from around North Dakota, and the result was an enjoyable concert for both the performers and the audience. Overall, I enjoyed playing beautiful music with North Dakota students just like me at the UND Music Festival.”

This year, Dickinson High School had a great showing, with nine students being chosen. Rehearsals were from Friday afternoon until Sunday morning, followed by a wonderful concert that concluded with the orchestra, band, and choirs performing together a beautiful rendition of “From Sea To Shining Sea.”

List of Students that participated in the event:
• Abigail Goettle - grade 12 - flute
• Kyle Anderson - grade 11 - Trombone
• Kyle Anderson - grade 11 - bari saxophone
• Elizabeth Goettle - grade 10 - soprano
• Elizabeth Keele - grade 11 - tuba
• Chesnee Wagner - grade 12 - French horn
• Elizabeth Keele - grade 11 - tuba
• Maacle Fisher - grade 12 - tenor
• Gracie Cinnamyn - grade 12 - alto
• Lauren Elhs - grade 12 - soprano
• Elizabeth Goettle - grade 10 - soprano

List of selected alternates:
• Tobias Spaengle - grade 10 - trombone
• Christopher Pleig - grade 11 - clarinet

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High school is a crazy experience in itself. Adding a global pandemic on top of it has definitely made it inter-
testing. This year has been a roller-
coster. When the school year started in August, I was quarantined due to an exposure to COVID-19, forcing me to do school online for about two weeks. Then, when I did go back, the district was on a hybrid schedule, so I went to school on Tuesday, Thursday, and every other Friday for the first five months of the school year. Then on my 18th birthday, my family and I got COVID-19, and I was quarantined for two weeks.

In those first five months, it almost felt like I wasn’t even going to school. I didn’t get to see all of my friends, do regular activities, or even have a homecoming dance. In December I was in the DHS production of Game of Thrones as the role of Ellie. I have been in theater since my freshman year, but that play was a totally dif-
ferent experience. We had to wear masks while performing on stage, and for the first time, the play was live-streamed, which was really nice because it allowed my family that didn’t have access to the play!

At the start of the third quarter, the district voted to go back to full-time school. In all honesty, after months of being on the hybrid schedule, I didn’t entirely want to go back full-time. Because of the hybrid schedule, I was able to work on the days I wasn’t at school, and it was nice to have a break every other day. I know many of my friends felt the same. But, as soon as we started going full-time, I loved it! I got to see all my friends again, and things just seemed more positive because life was start-
ing to get back to normal (of course, we still had to wear masks, but by then I barely noticed wearing one).

Around mid-February, everyone wondered if we were going to have prom, especially after it was canceled last year to the pandemic limiting. Being a part of Student Council, I was one of the first to find out that prom was happening! And once the news broke to the rest of the school, every-
one was super excited. In March 27th, we had prom. The theme was Ritz and Romance that had a 1920’s feel. There was also after prom, where there were games, food, and prizes! It was an amazing night!

With graduation just around the corner, it still baffles me how fast this year went and just how quickly 18 years of my life have gone by. I would never have imagined that I’d be grad-
aduating during a global pandemic but it has definitely made my senior year even more memorable and something I will never forget!