



LET'S TALK ABOUT ATTENDANCE

Come To School - Your Attendance Matters

NOVEMBER
2025

1. Reading on Grade Level

Studies show that consistent attendance from Pre-K gives the best start for early literacy development. It starts that early!

2. Forming Lasting Friendships

Attending daily allows students to foster strong social bonds and an inclusive peer network.



3. Developing Effective Study Habits Early

Good attendance instills vital skills like punctuality, time management and self-discipline. **A big part of succeeding is learning how to learn.**

4. Demonstrating Responsibility and Commitment

Whether students are getting after school jobs in high school, or securing employment after graduation, good work habits are formed by consistent school attendance.

5. Maximizing Instructional Time With Teachers

The more time students have with their teachers, the more successful they will be.

6. Increased Lifetime Success

Excellent attendance correlates to higher career achievement and earnings potential. It also correlates to better physical and mental health, healthier relationships, and a happier quality of life.

UPCOMING EVENTS

GEARING UP FOR KINDERGARTEN
OCTOBER 21, 5:30 PM

GEARING UP FOR PRE-SCHOOL
NOVEMBER 6, 5:30 PM

POSITIVE DISCIPLINE
TBD



UPCOMING SESSIONS

GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL CAN BE
UNCERTAIN, BUT EXCITING
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF 2 OPPORTUNITIES
THEY ARE FREE AND JUST FOR YOU -



GEARING UP FOR PRE-SCHOOL

A BIG STEP FOR OUR 3 & 4
YEAR OLDS

- Classroom environment with parent, teacher and preschooler
- Experience essential academic and social skills

Starts February 12, 2026

Free Childcare for stress free attendance

Supper: 5:30-6:00

Session: 6:00-7:15

Call: (701)-456-0007

Register Now



GEARING UP FOR KINDERGARTEN

DO YOU HAVE A PRESCHOOLER WHO
WILL START KINDERGARTEN IN 2026?

Join Us...

Starts October 21, 2025

Free Childcare for stress free attendance

Supper: 5:30-6:00

Session: 6:00-7:30

Call: (701)-456-0007

Register Now



Helping kids Navigate Change Adjusting to the New School Cell Phone Policy



Change can be hard - for kids and adults alike. New school policy: no cell phones during the instructional day. It's an opportunity for students to learn resilience, flexibility and healthy habits that will benefit them for life.

Why Change Can Feel Tricky

When something familiar is taken away - like having a phone nearby - kids may feel uncertain, frustrated or even a little anxious. These feelings are normal. As parents, we can help by offering reassurance, understanding and practical support during the transition.

Helping your Child Adjust

1. Listen First

Listen to your child to share how they feel about the change.

2. Focus on the Positives

Talk about the benefits: more focus in class, stronger friendships and a break from the constant pings and pressures of social media.

3. Make a plan together

Decide when and how your child can use their phone before and after school.

4. Other alternatives

If they used their phone for certain tasks, (checking time, taking notes), help them find substitutes, like a watch or small notebook.

5. Model Adaptability

Kids learn how to handle change by watching us.



Encouraging Resilience

Every change is a chance for kids to practice problem-solving and adaptability - skills they'll need far beyond the classroom. Remind them that feeling uneasy at first is normal, but that over time, this new routine will become second nature.

Dickinson Public Schools

PANTRY AND CLOSET

OPEN TO ALL DPS FAMILIES

 THURSDAYS

 12:00PM - 2:00PM

 HAGEN BUILDING
402 4th ST W
DICKINSON, ND

Use North Entrance - Lower level

To learn more, make a donation, or request support, contact
Sherry Leavitt at sleavitt@dpsnd.org or Eunice Salgado at
esalgado@dpsnd.org or your school's social worker



WEST RIVER ICE SCREAM HALLOWEEN PARTY

WDPRC

HAPPY HALLOWEEN! Come dressed in your best costume and skate to a live DJ

AGES: All ages welcome, family friendly!

FEE: Free admission with \$3 skate rental

Free food and refreshments will be available (while supplies last). We'll have a photo booth and door prizes during the event

 November 1, 2025

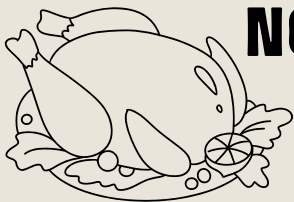
 6:00PM - 9:00PM

 West River Ice Center
1865 Empire Road
Dickinson, ND



Dickinson Community Thanksgiving DINNER

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER
27



Come celebrate Thanksgiving with us!

11:30AM TO 1:30PM

Dickinson State University
DOWNSTAIRS DINING ROOM
291 CAMPUS DRIVE

Volunteer questions contact Staci @ 701-590-8996
Donations or other inquiries contact Will @ 701-290-3100

**West Dakota Parent &
Family Resource Center**
Hagen Building
402 4th St West
701-456-0007

Stacy Kilwein-
skilwein@dpsnd.org
Dickinson Public Schools
Partners in Parenting Director
Sophia Vannett-
sophia.vannett@ndsu.edu
NDSU Extension SW Parent Educator
Melissa Praus-
mpraus@dpsnd.org
Dickinson Public Schools
Administrative Assistant

West Dakota Parent & Family Resource Center

Resilience Is Essential For Your Child's Academic Success

It's wonderful for students to be talented and smart, but educators know it's just as important for them to be resilient.

At one time or another, everyone faces a challenging task or a disappointing setback. The key is to remind your child to keep trying. Pushing forward—even when things are tough—is a key to success in school and in life.

To help your child bounce back and keep trying:

- **Talk about persistence** has already helped your child. Maybe your child kept trying and finally learned to ride a bike or play chess. What new challenge can your child tackle now?
- **Break big goals** into small parts. If your child wants to raise a grade, for example, offer support by developing a plan together.
- **Offer encouragement.** When your child is working on something challenging, say things like: *"I know you can do this."* *"I bet you'll figure it out."* *"You're making great progress."* *"You'll get the hang of it."* *"If it doesn't work that way, try another way."*
- **Focus on the process.** It feels great to go into a test with confidence, knowing you've studied hard. Even better, it feels great to learn! Talk about your child's accomplishments and what makes each so worthwhile.

Reprinted with permission from *The Parent Institute* 2025

📍 402 4TH STREET WEST DICKINSON 📞 (701)456-0007 📱

Your Partner in Parenting

1. BECAUSE YOUR CHILDREN ARE SPECIAL
2. ENCOURAGING EFFORTS OF PARENTS AND FAMILIES
3. RAISING SELF-RELIANT KIDS IN A SELF INDULGENT WORLD
4. PUT FUN BACK INTO PARENTING



Dickinson
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NDSU | EXTENSION



VISIT US ON
OUR WEBSITE!



parents are
difference
makers



/ˈdɪf(ə)rənt ˈmeɪkər/ noun

a committed individual who is capable of having a significant effect with just a few words or a small act. a person who improves the lives of others. someone who inspires and motivates others to progress and bring about change.

November Is Family Engagement Month

"FAMILIES ARE THE FIRST AND MOST INFLUENTIAL TEACHERS OF THEIR CHILDREN."

On Thursday, November 20, 2025, it is the National Family Engagement Day, a day to celebrate and promote family-school partnerships and the important role families play in a child's education and success. Watch for local events observed on November 20, 2025 in the community

Watch for staff to show appreciation for YOU!



LITERACY CORNER

Howdy Friends,



Reader is a bit excited to share another great home literacy habit with you!

LETTER T OF LITERACY IS FOR "THINK ALOUD".

Children learn best from books when they make connections between what they read and what they know. While reading with your child, stop and talk about what you are thinking. Invite your child to share his thoughts too. This "think aloud" conversation is a proven strategy to increase a reader's memory, comprehension, vocabulary and development. It's also a way to connect and bond with your child, making reading a fun and engaging experience at every age!

Think Aloud Ideas:

- Connect the book to your child's experience:
 - Example: This reminds me of when we went fishing with Grandpa.
- Make a prediction:
 - Example: I think the cat is going to run up the tree to get away from the dog.
- Share a personal feeling:
 - Example: I am nervous that the mouse might wake up the tiger.



Join Reader for a Literacy Adventure with your child.

Rhonda Kraenzel,  aka Rhinestone Rhonda
Parent Literacy Liaison
Dickinson Public Schools



LITERACY HABIT #3



IS FOR: THINK AND TALK

Use these pictures as your stories to talk about.

*First talk about who or what is in the picture and what it's about.

*Then continue to have a "think aloud" conversation by using words and phrases such as:

It looks like...

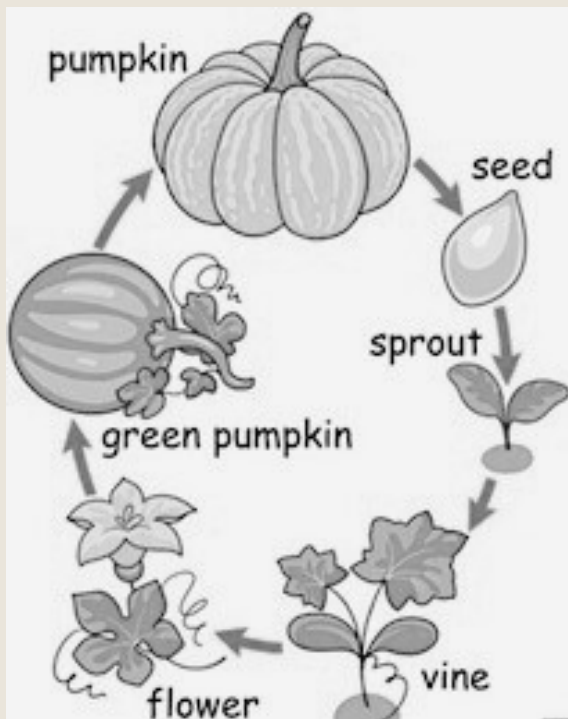
I noticed that...

I think...

I wonder...

I hope...

This reminds me of...



DID YOU KNOW THAT
READING AND TALKING TOGETHER
CAN HELP YOU AND YOUR CHILD
BOND AND SOLVE
REAL LIFE PROBLEMS?



Southwest Corner:



Did you know...

That **November 20th** is **National Family Engagement Day!** Take some time celebrate your family! Here are some ways to make the day Special.

1. Have a special dinner or breakfast!
2. Have a family game night!
3. Have a party! With just your family, cousins, or friends and celebrate this day with others!
4. Build a fort in the living room and 'camp out' with your kids!
5. Create a scavenger hunt throughout the house!
6. Volunteer together and as a family, help other families!
7. And so much more! What can you think of?

3-Ingredient Salsa:



1 (15-Ounce) can of black beans,
drained and rinsed.

1 ½ cups of canned corn, drained and
rinsed (or use leftover cooked,
refrigerated corn)

2 cups of salsa of choice

- Mix ingredients and refrigerate.
Serve as a dip with whole grain
tortilla chips.

Here's a healthy
and kid-friendly
snack that's
ready in
minutes. Perfect
for an after-
school snack!

Julie Garden-Robinson, Ph.D., R.D., L.R.D., and Food and
Nutrition Specialist

Susan Quamme Wehlander, M. Ed., Child Development
Specialist



Word Search Activity:

NDSU

EXTENSION

Here is an **Activities** themed wordsearch. This is a fun game that you and your child can do together. While this might be challenging for younger kiddos, achieving a challenge with a parent can help boost a child's self-esteem, boost resilience, and help foster a healthy parent-child relationship. See how many words you can find!



Y	S	T	N	Y	F	T	E	G	Y	P	T	E	L
B	H	K	R	G	N	I	T	N	I	A	P	O	B
M	G	P	A	A	G	F	R	F	F	R	U	L	I
A	N	G	A	T	V	S	E	L	Z	Z	U	P	W
R	I	N	Y	R	E	E	C	I	G	S	O	G	V
T	W	I	J	D	G	B	L	O	E	G	J	N	H
I	A	M	Q	I	E	O	O	I	O	W	S	J	W
A	R	M	Y	U	K	G	T	A	N	K	K	Y	K
L	D	I	O	Y	N	Q	J	O	R	G	I	Z	W
A	Z	W	T	I	Z	V	F	G	H	D	U	N	D
R	T	S	P	D	F	B	R	U	E	P	I	T	G
T	G	M	X	N	E	U	W	Q	H	I	G	N	P
S	A	A	G	A	R	D	E	N	I	N	G	L	G
C	M	G	N	I	R	E	E	T	N	U	L	O	V

WORD BANK:

SKATEBOARDING
VOLUNTEERING
MARTIALARTS
PHOTOGRAPHY
GARDENING
TRAVELING
SWIMMING
PAINTING
CAMPING
PUZZLES
DRAWING
COOKING