

# G r i f f i n s

Striving for Successful 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learners

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## Upcoming dates:

| May |   |
|-----|---|
| 3   | Kindergarten<br>Round-Up –<br>12:00-3:00  |
| 4   | Awards Night/8 <sup>th</sup><br>grade<br>promotion  |
| 6   | Ball Field Work-<br>Day (Start in<br>Odell @ 1:00)  |
| 7   | 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Dare<br>graduation-2:30<br>Booster Club<br>meeting - 7:00<br>p.m. in Diller |
| 8   | HS Fine Arts<br>Show/Spring<br>Concert  |
| 10  | Last day for<br>Seniors   |
| 11  | Elementary Field<br>Day   |
| 12  | Graduation-2:00   |
| 14  | Elementary<br>Awards-2:30   |
| 17  | Early dismissal-<br>11:00/11:15-<br>School out  |
| 21  | Driver's Ed starts  |

All dates and times  
subject to  
change

## Last Words and Thoughts from Mr. Vitosh

"Life is a journey, not a destination" by Ralph Waldo Emerson, for some of you Aerosmith! This seems an appropriate notion as I near retirement from education and anticipate the next adventure. I certainly hope it is about the journey and not the distance between two points in time or space. This occurred to me, as I was painting a room in the Rice Hospital, (beautiful project by the way) the room in which I was born; I could see the high school building from this window, sixty years to get 2 blocks! I am a fortunate man and grateful for many things, family, friends, and the educational system in this community. Our schools reflect everything good and right within our local communities.

Along one's journey, many things are collected; among my favorites are quotes, quips, and axioms (the math teacher in me will never go away!) Many are good humor, some thoughtful, and a few are reminders of the "principles" (*another play on words*) that guide us along our way. One that I am currently employing; "Be careful of your thoughts; they may become words at any moment."— Ira Gassen.

Another such mantra that comes from the last two lines of the Jaycee creed: "That earth's great treasure lies in human personality; and that service to humanity is the best work of life." I have had a great time serving in education for 38 years; indeed it has been a privilege. Privilege can have its pitfalls, if misinterpreted; Privilege does not imply entitlement, but responsibility and the greater the privilege the greater that responsibility. (*Sorry, but I had to get on the old soapbox one more time*) I tried to respond to this responsibility every day in the best way possible; I also tried to enjoy each day, keeping in mind that not all days are equal.

Forgive me for wanting to be an educational leader right up to the last day; Students, learning is a lifetime process so, continue to gather those things that will guide you and define you. Indulge me in an effort to influence you a last time. By the way, those who choose not to read are no better off than those that cannot; also, I watch a lot of movies! Here we go: "Your behavior is a function or your decisions, not your conditions." - Stephen Covey "The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that little extra"- unknown. From the movie The Rookie: "It's OK to think about what you want to do until it's time to do what you are meant to do!" From another movie Mr. Megoruum's Wonder Emporium, come these two: "You have to believe it to see it" (*yes, I wrote it correctly*) and "Anything is possible." I'm not sure where this comes from, but it has been with me a long time. "Life is mostly froth and bubble, two things stand like stone, kindness in another's trouble, courage in your own."

To all the wonderful people that have surrounded me these many years, Thank You. Thank you for your patience, understanding, and support. I thank many of you for your unwavering sense of humor. I hope that these relationships will continue. Barb and I plan to spend many retirement years as members of this community. I plan to devote many retirement hours as a grandparent, watching a few movies, traveling with my wife, cheering for Huskers, Griffins, and Yankees (*occasionally Bulldogs and Tigers*). Remember "Most smiles are started by another smile", you can quote me on that.



Graduation Ceremonies are May 12 at 2:00 in the High School Gym.

**From Mrs. Becker:**

Dates for the 2012-13 school year

**August**  
 13-14 Teacher in-service, no school  
 15 First day for students

**September**  
 3 Labor Day  
 24 No school

**October**  
 12 No school  
 15 No school

**November**  
 21 Early dismissal

**December**  
 22-23 No school  
 21 Early dismissal, winter break

**January**  
 3-4 Teacher report  
 7 Students report

**February**  
 15 No school  
 18 No school

**March**  
 7-8 No school  
 28 Early dismissal

**29-31** Spring break

**April**  
 1 Spring break  
 19 No school

**May**  
 8 Last day for seniors  
 11 Graduation  
 17 Last day of school

**High School Fine Arts Show-6:30 Spring Concert-7:00 - May 8**

**ACT Testing:**

Sign up for the ACT tests is on-line. To register for the ACT, go to [www.actstudent.com](http://www.actstudent.com). Please see Mrs. Becker if you need assistance with the cost.

| ACT          |          |               |
|--------------|----------|---------------|
| Test Date    | Deadline | Late Deadline |
| June 9, 2011 | May 4    | May 18        |

ACT Prep Books. . . I have ACT Test Prep books located in the Counseling Center office. Please check one out from me if interested.

**College Visits**

Spring is a perfect time for juniors to make visits to colleges of interest. A guide for making the most of your college visit can be found in the Counseling Center or online with EducationQuest.org.

Juniors should also begin looking at next year's schedule and find dates that would work to go visit colleges of choice. Use our fall break and other days off to your advantage by scheduling your college visits then.

**2012-2013 Registration**

Next year's enrollment for all 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders has been completed. If your student has not enrolled, have them do so a.s.a.p. by contacting Mrs. Becker.

**JUNIORS and SOPHOMORES;** If you are interested in participating in the SCC-Beatrice Career Academy please see Mrs. Becker. The programs meet during regular school hours for the 2012-2013 school year. There is an application process and the deadline is May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

**2012-2013**

Next year's *PLAN* assessment given to ALL sophomores will be October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

Next year's PSAT for *all interested juniors* will be October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The

Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is a program cosponsored by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). It's a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT®. The PSAT/NMSQT measures critical reading skills, math problem-solving skills and writing skills.

The most common reasons for taking the PSAT/NMSQT are to:

- Receive feedback on your strengths and weaknesses on skills necessary for college study. You can then focus your preparation on those areas that could most benefit from additional study or practice.
- See how your performance on an admissions test might compare with that of others applying to college.
- Enter the competition for scholarships from NMSC (grade 11).
- Help prepare for the SAT. You can become familiar with the kinds of questions and the exact directions you will see on the SAT.

**From the Nurse:**

If your child has a dental exam, physical or eye appointment over the summer, please send a note or forms to the school from the doctor for our records.

**\*\*\*\*ATTENTION\*\*\*\***

The summer newsletter in July will be the last one mailed to all patrons of the district. Our school newsletter will be available on our website [www.dillerodell.org](http://www.dillerodell.org). There will be copies of the newsletter available at the community centers in Diller and Odell and at each bank location.

We want our website to be the best tool for "go to" information.

The last day of school for students is May 17 with an early dismissal of 11:00/11:15. Teachers last day is May 18.

**Diller-Odell K-12 Booster Club  
Volunteer Form 2012-2013 School Year**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**I am willing to volunteer my time to these Booster Club sponsored events:**

(Please select as many as you would like)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Booster Bash Organizing         | <input type="checkbox"/> Booster Bash Worker         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Football Concessions Organizing | <input type="checkbox"/> Football Concessions Worker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elementary Carnival Organizing  | <input type="checkbox"/> Elementary Carnival Worker  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reading Buddies Program         | <input type="checkbox"/> Booster Buttons             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pocket Calendars                | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent's Nights             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Appreciation          | <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty/Staff Appreciation  |

**I am unable to volunteer my time, but would like to help out by donating:**

\$10.00       \$25.00       \$50.00       other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This form will help supply the constant need of Booster Club volunteers that support our students, teachers and our school. Thank you all for your help!

**Please return this form to school with a student or mail by May 7.**

Diller-Odell Elementary School  
Attn. Booster Club  
PO Box 8  
Diller, NE 68342

**Driver's Ed:**

Driver's Ed will start May 21 at 8:00 a.m. until approximately 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at the high school. A schedule will be set up during that time for driving. The fee for the class is \$225 payable to the school.

**Awards Night and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion** is May 4.

**Summer Weights**

The weight room will be opened starting May 29 from 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. It is strongly encouraged that all athletes take advantage of using the weight room this summer. Not only will it help each athlete individually, but it will improve and strengthen the team! Please talk to your coaches for their expectations and lifting programs.

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Dare Graduation – May 7 @ 2:30**

**Elementary Awards – May 14 @ 2:30**

**Congratulations to the Class of 2012!**

|           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| Alejandro | Salasar   |
| Stacy     | Grabowski |
| Zachary   | Hajek     |
| Mark      | Hicok     |
| Ethen     | Hroch     |
| Parker    | Jones     |
| Brandon   | Kostal    |
| Cassandra | Lottman   |
| Falisatey | Novotny   |
| Conner    | Pahl      |
| Brittany  | Reed      |
| Cristell  | Diaz      |
| Colton    | Rupprecht |
| Riley     | Sasse     |
| Kolin     | Scheele   |

Wishing the class a successful future!

Please mark your calendars for the May 7 Booster Club meeting at 7:00 in Diller. This is for anyone interested in helping the betterment of our school in all areas.

Diller-Odell  
Schools  
PO Box 188  
Odell, NE 68415

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