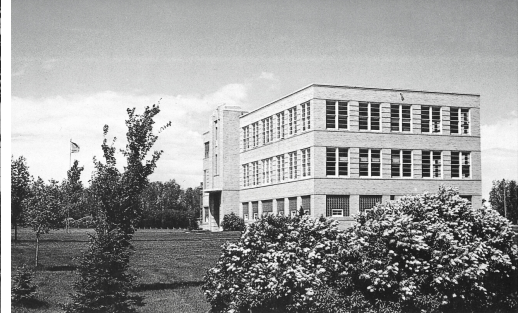


Alumni Newsletter

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF DAKOTA ADVENTIST ACADEMY,
PLAINVIEW ACADEMY, AND SHEYENNE RIVER ACADEMY



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A Family in the Making

Benjamin Dossenko, alumni president

Dear Alumni Family,

Recently the local alumni officers sat down and shared a meal with Dakota Adventist Academy's graduating seniors. As we sat and got to know each other, we talked about what it means to be a part of our alumni family. The seniors were able to ask questions and began thinking about their part in the association. We encouraged them to come back to reunions and to stay in touch with their classmates.

That is really what this association is all about - friends becoming family and lasting connections. With Alumni Weekend 2022 taking place in a few short months, your alumni officers would like to extend an invitation to all past graduates, students, and staff. Alumni Weekend has always been an all-school reunion, meaning all classes are always invited, but we have fallen into a rut of only returning for our honor years. This year we are seeking representation from every graduating class in the attempt to raise attendance and keep connections strong. A few events have been added to this coming weekend and we are open to new ideas in the future. We are very excited to bring back the golf scramble on Friday to start the weekend off and hope it sets an enjoyable tone for the following days. Among other former staff members who have committed to return this fall, Mr. Brendan Krueger has agreed to organize and lead a Dakota Singers reunion. Because this is your alumni association, we want to know what would motivate you to return, and what keeps you coming back.

I look forward to seeing the rise in attendance on October 7 and 8 as we show the upcoming alumni what it means to be a part of this family.



Alumni Officers

President -

Benjamin Dossenko,
DAA Class of '97

Vice President -
TBD

Treasurer -

Mitchell Merkel,
DAA Class of '98

Vice Treasurer -
Brenda Rexin Klein,
DAA Class of '92

Secretary -

Jodi Gottfried Dossenko,
DAA Class of '97

Vice Secretary -
Jaelyn Pickett,
DAA Class of '20



Students and Alumni President Ben Dossenko share a meal at the annual senior pizza feed.

Jodi Dossenko

The Alumni Website
is now live! Come
connect with us at:
dakota-alumni.org

SkillsUSA

Peter Hutaauruk, DAA math teacher

SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization serving high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical, and skilled service occupations. The organization provides quality education experiences through competition and leadership training. Each year Dakota Adventist Academy invites students who have shown outstanding skills and abilities in the areas of construction, autos, and related technical math to participate in the SkillsUSA competition.

This year five students accepted the invitation and put their knowledge and metrade skills to the test at the State SkillsUSA competition, which was held in Wahpeton, North Dakota, on April 3-5, 2022. Wylee Gareau, Skylar Longtin, and Jack Tretter competed in construction, Orrin Waldner in autos, and Ellisa Millirans in related technical math.

Jack and Orrin were excited to participate in their first ever SkillsUSA competition while the rest had the previous year's experience on their belt. Last year, Skylar and Wylee placed third and fourth respectively in construction, and Ellisa placed third in related technical math.

Throughout this competition, our students gained so many valuable lessons and experiences that will certainly make their résumé look good when they graduate from DAA. As noted by Mr. Peterson, it was very competitive this year but overall, the students did really well in their areas of competition. Ellisa won first place in related technical math. It is worth noting that our students have now won first place at the state level in related technical math two years in a row. DAA and the coaches are very proud of what the students accomplished at the competition this year. Ellisa Millirans, a sophomore, will represent North Dakota at the National SkillsUSA competition in Atlanta, Georgia, this June. Ellisa is thrilled to go and we wish her all the best!

Front row: Mr. Peter Hutaauruk, Skylar Longtin, Ellisa Millirans; Back row: Wylee Gareau, Jack Tretter, Orrin Waldner, & Mr. Ryan Peterson



Peter Hutaauruk

National Honor Society

Lynette Miller, development director

A special vespers was held on Sabbath, November 6, to recognize and induct Celeste Gareau, Kiera VanWart, Ana Weber, Ellisa Millirans, Noah Lee, Alyssa Boyko, and Zorryn Erickson into the Dakota Adventist Academy chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS). Each one of these students exemplifies the pledge of NHS, which is to maintain high scholastic standing, to hold as fundamental and worthy an untarnished character, to endeavor intelligently and courageously to be a leader, and to give themselves freely in service to others.

The National Honor Society is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. More than just an honor roll, NHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship with a GPA of 3.5 or higher, leadership, service and character. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginning in 1921.

Today, it is estimated that more than one million students participate in NHS activities. NHS chapters are found in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, many U.S. territories, and Canada. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments, but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service.

Celeste Gareau, Kiera VanWart, Anna Weber, Ellisa Millirans, Tasian Subigca, Noah Lee, Alyssa Boyko, Zorryn Erickson, PawLay Pway, & Anna McCarthy



Halle Garrett


Dakota Adventist Academy Now Has an App!?

Working with **Legit Apps**, DAA has leapt into the current times by developing an app to give parents, students, staff, and friends of the Academy easy access to communication, events, and more! There is access to online payments such as meals, tuition, and donations as well as discounts for merch from the School Spirit Store.

This app is available in both the Apple store and Google Play store under "Dakota Adventist Academy".


DAKOTA
Adventist Academy

Alumni Weekend: October 7 & 8, 2022



ALUMNI OF THE YEAR

NOMINATE WHO YOU THINK SHOULD WIN AT:
WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/ALUMNI_NOMINATIONS



Scan me!

All 2022 Alumni Weekend Meals are Free Will Donation!



The Alumni Association wants you on the team!




Vice President Position open! | **Contact us to apply today at:**
dakotaalumni@gmail.com

LEAVE MORE THAN A LEGACY

For every \$430 your class gives to refurbish a composite, we will match your donation to refurbish one class lost to time!



Contact us for more information or to sponsor a composite!
dakotaalumni@gmail.com




Golf Scramble

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7 2022

TOM O'LEARY GOLF COURSE
1200 N WASHINGTON ST #1, BISMARCK, ND 58501

PLEASE SCAN THE CODE OR FOLLOW THE URL TO ANSWER A TWO-QUESTION SURVEY ABOUT OUR GOLF SCRAMBLE TO HELP US PLAN FOR NUMBERS.

WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/GOLF_SCRAMBLE



SCAN ME

DAA Work Bee

Anthony Oucharek, DAA principal

April 3 was a dreary, drizzly, cold Sunday morning when 50 or so volunteers joined with about 20 students and teachers from the academy to form the first annual DAA work Bee. Lana Gibson served up a hearty breakfast to those who had arrived the night before, and by 8:30am, we were in the circle in front of the administration offices to be given our assignments for the day. Eric Garrett, the plant services director, did an excellent job of arranging work that was to be done and tools were all set out for the occasion.

Jodi Dossenko



When Elder Mark Piotrowski first proposed the plan, I was skeptical that we would have much of a turnout. After all, with spring arriving, gardens to plant, and so many other things clamoring for our attention, I thought most people would be too busy to come out for a day. Instead, our Dakota people responded. They signed up and they showed up. Many people brought specialized skills, while others put their hands to whatever tasks were assigned. The attitudes were great, and the day turned out to be a lot of fun.

While many of those who came to work were people I have seen on boards, at Campmeeting, or Regionals, there were a number of people whom I had not met before. In attendance were alumni from DAA, PVA, and SRA as well as individuals who actively and solidly support the school by flying their Dakota pride. We had people from each of the last four graduating classes, people from DAA's first graduating class, and people from everywhere in between. As we rubbed shoulders throughout the day, we shared stories and we got to know one another. The relationships formed were as meaningful as the work that was accomplished. As a child, I lived in a Ukrainian Orthodox community with multi-generational gatherings for everything from barn raising to harvest, weddings, and funerals. This event had all of the feel-good atmosphere of those days - a wide range of personalities, ages, and skills working together for one common purpose.

Many tasks were accomplished. Some work was done in dorm rooms that only see residents during Campmeeting or Alumni Weekend, repairs were done on walls that were long overdue. We also continued the ceiling tile project, completing the math room, the science room, and the room adjacent to the office. Desks were refinished, electrical connections were brought up to code, post holes were dug for fencing, and a host of other activities were completed. Perhaps the biggest job of the day was the removal of 80+ seats in the main chapel/auditorium. We look forward to seeing how it serves at Campmeeting this summer.

The cafeteria was full at lunchtime and the buzz of conversation was exciting to take in. At the end of the day, when the work bee ended, any mess that had been made was cleaned up and the school was returned to what it had been just the day previous. In fact, students or staff who had not been able to be there on the weekend might have missed some of the changes made. But those of us who participated came away from the day inspired, revitalized, and ready to return to work with a renewed sense of purpose. Thank you to all those who came, who participated, and who cast a vision for what could be done in a short time by a small band of motivated individuals.

Jodi Dossenko & Susie Kahler



Senior Class of 2022



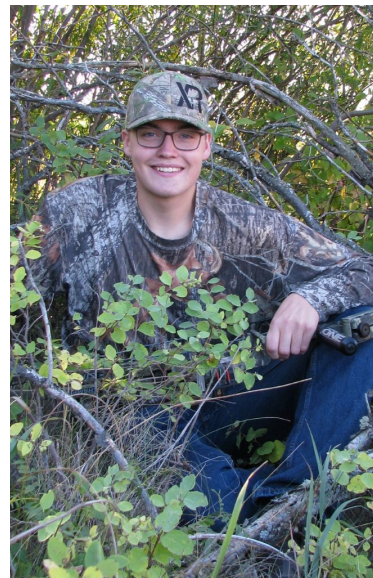
Nathaniel Blackburn



Emily Davidson



Sabrina Douglas



Wylee Gareau



Halie Garrett



Alison Hoffman



Kyungmin (Isaac) Kim



Skylar Longtin



Anna McCarthy



PawLay Pway



Caleb Tachenko

CLASS AIM:
Onward and Upward

CLASS MOTTO:
One step at a time, but always forward.

CLASS VERSE:
Be Strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

CLASS COLORS:
Forest Green, Gold, and White

In Remembrance

Janet Jones Biloff

3.25.2022
SRA Class of 1961

James D Bledsoe

2.6.2022
SRA Staff 1953-1954

Shawn Boyko

4.28.22
DAA Class of 1986

Joan Frederickson Bromme

4.25.2022
SRA Class of 1955

Sylvia Johnson Christensen

9.21.2021
SRA Class of 1948

Marlene Hoffman Eichelberg

3.12.2022
SRA Class of 1960

Barbara Jean Stotts Stratton

1.27.2022
SRA Class of 1945

Rodney Widicker

5.5.2022
SRA Class of 1966

Melodie Rittenbach

5.2022
DAA Class of 1982

Caring Heart Award

Wylee Gareau, senior, received the Caring Heart Award, a \$500 scholarship from the North American Division, for his commitment to selfless acts and witnessing activities.



Tracy Peterson

Scholarships Awarded

Lynette Miller, development director

In 2016, Plainview Academy alumni established the Ron Purkapile Scholarship Award to benefit students from South Dakota who were attending Dakota Adventist Academy. Thanks to the generosity of PVA, \$1,750 was distributed this year. Recipients are PawLay Pway, Madisen Utley, and Tori Haar.

Tracy Peterson



PayLay Pway, Madisen Utley, & Tori Haar are awarded Ron Purkapile Scholarships.

In 2021, the Kungel Family Endowment Scholarship Fund was established to provide two Dakota students with a \$1,500 scholarship to attend Dakota Adventist Academy. Tasian Subigca and Ellisa Millirans were the recipients for the 2021-2022 school year.



Tasian Subigca and Ellisa Millirans are awarded scholarships from the Kungel Family Endowment Scholarship Fund.

End of Year Activities

Tracy Peterson, recruiter

Over the weekend of May 14-15, Dakota Adventist Academy had a busy weekend filled with family and fun.

To start things off, the Music Department put on their annual spring concert. There were melodies shared by the choir, bells, orchestra, and band that brought smiles to the faces of the audience. Because graduation is just around the corner, Mr. Ballesteros honored the senior musicians with flowers, and some even performed solos during the concert. To wrap up the concert, students played and sang familiar movie songs which allowed them to have fun as well as challenge their musical skills.

Following the concert, the Acrolights shared a short performance highlighting moves they have learned throughout the year. Basket tosses, duos, and a final routine with the whole team ended the night with a lot of excitement!

Sunday dawned bright and beautiful, almost perfect for highway clean-up. Though there was a fierce wind, it didn't stop students and staff from making certain that the road from Bismarck to the DAA was free from trash.

After a quick clean-up and wood tick check, Student Association officers instructed everyone to load onto the coach to head into Mandan for bowling and a pizza party. Crashing pins and lots of pizza made for a spectacular close to a special weekend. Busy, happy, blessed.

Zak Adams



Giving to Dakota Adventist Academy

Many who give to DAA experience the satisfaction of knowing their gift makes a real difference in the life of a young person. You help in "Build Friendships for Eternity." Your gifts will help us serve this generation and beyond. Working together we can help our youth build friendships for eternity and a home in Heaven.

Annual Fund Goal

\$275,000 / year

Gifts to the Annual Fund are unrestricted donations that are valuable to the operation of the school. They contribute to the stability and security of the school program and are applied where the need is greatest.

Worthy Student Fund Goal

\$125,000 / year

These gifts go to work immediately in assisting students with financial needs. Approximately half of our students currently receive assistance from this fund. Support is needed annually, especially in these financially difficult times.

Dorm Renovation Goal

\$80,000 / year

Our students spend many hours in their dorm rooms throughout the school year. It is their home away from home. Here they study, sleep, relax, and spend personal time in worship. In addition, the dorms are used during Alumni Weekend, Campmeeting, and other special events.

Non-cash Gifts

Donations of shares of stock, land, and crops are just a few ideas for non-cash donations.

Ways to Give

As you consider what type of gift to give, we encourage you to consult your CPA or attorney. You may also want to speak with Conference or DAA administration to understand the areas of need. Undesignated gifts that are received through estates are unrestricted and their use will be determined by the K-12 Board of Education.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to a scholarship fund should make their check out to Dakota Conference Corporation, mark it for the scholarship of their choice and mail it to Dakota Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 7200 N. Washington St, Bismarck, ND 58503-6301.

Apply for a Scholarship

Call Lynette Miller at the Dakota Conference office: 701.751.6177.

Legacy Gifts

Gifts left in the form of a legacy through your estate plans play a vital part in the operation of DAA. As you determine how your estate will be handled after your death, you can plan to give a portion to DAA. These gifts have tax implications and are often transmitted through a legal document such as a Will or Trust.

Gifts-in-Kind

Gifts of a non-monetary nature will benefit the school. They enrich programs and capital improvement. Examples could include furniture, landscape materials, library books, or musical instruments.

Special Funds

Donors may give to a variety of programs including music, mission trips, art, basketball, or special projects. These enrich the quality of the programs offered to our students.

Gifts of Time & Talent

Do you have time or expertise in an area that might benefit DAA? Contact us to see what projects need assistance and how we might work together.

Memorial Gifts

Gifts may be made in memory of a loved one or a classmate.

Endowment Gifts

These gifts are a major contribution to the school's future stability and are often considered a legacy gift. These gifts, held by the Dakota Conference Corporation, include permanent funds that provide lasting financial resources to DAA and its programs. Invested in interest-earning accounts, the income is used annually for the designated purpose of the endowment.

Kungel Family Endowment Fund

Established by Lenhardt & Darlene Kungel, this fund will provide two Dakota students a \$1,500 annual scholarship.

PVA-Ron Purkapile Student Scholarship Fund

The purpose of this scholarship is to provide South Dakota students with supplemental funds to attend DAA. Recipients will need to meet scholarship requirements. Students will be selected on a yearly basis by the scholarship committee.

Dakota Adventist Academy

Development Office
15905 Sheyenne Circle
Bismarck ND 58503-9228
www.mydaa.org

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CALENDAR

May

- 1 K-12 Board of Education
- 2-6 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 6-8 Boys' & Girls' Club Retreats
- 14 Spring Concert
- 17-19 Semester Exams
- 20-21 Graduation Weekend

June

- 1-4 Dakota Campmeeting
- 15-19 Cub Camp (ages 8-10) at Flag Mountain
- 19-26 Junior Camp (ages 11-13) at Flag Mountain
- 26-3 Teen Camp (ages 14-17) at Flag Mountain

July

- 13-17 Cub Camp (ages 8-10) at Northern Lights
- 17-24 Junior Camp (ages 11-13) at Northern Lights
- 24-31 Teen Camp (ages 14-17) at Northern Lights

STAY CONNECTED

We love to hear from you and your classmates love to keep up with you. Please send us your news, photos, and changes of address, marriages, births, etc.

For those of you who spend the winter months away from home, send us your winter address and the time frame you will be gone so you don't miss an issue of this newsletter. Thank you.

Email: development@dakotaadventist.org

Website: dakota-alumni.org

APPLY TODAY

Apply to attend Dakota Adventist Academy today! Registration is open for the 2022-2023 academic year. Visit mydaa.org to apply online or call Tracy Peterson at: 701.258.9000.