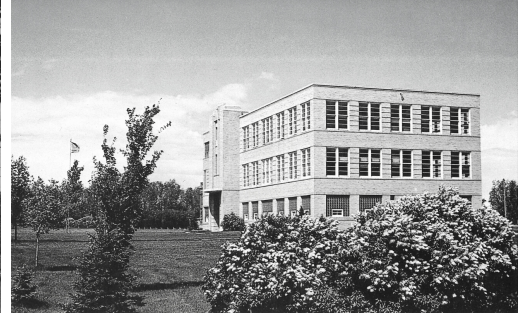


Alumni Newsletter

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



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CELEBRATION OF PRAISE WEEKEND

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GIVING OPTIONS

Come. Connect. Rekindle.

Brenda Rexin Klein, alumni association officer



We were taking our turn sitting at the registration table at DAA's alumni weekend celebration when the alumni association president asked me a question that I couldn't easily answer. "Why did you volunteer for your assistant treasurer position with the alumni association? What's your vision for your time here?"

Oh boy. Those are tough questions for me. It caught me off-guard and with my mind completely blank. The words I shared with him were hesitant and not well put together. Now that some time has passed since he's asked me those questions, I'm able to share a better response.

The short answer is that the exiting treasurer called me on the phone to recruit me. After that phone call a few years ago, I talked it over with my then-husband, and he encouraged me to volunteer. I think he knew my confidence had taken some huge hits and he felt that a return to the

people and passions of my youth might help to restore my sense of self. I'm grateful for his insight and kindness in encouraging me to say yes.

In my youth, I chose to attend the academy to establish my own identity. In the process I gained a sense of belonging. I laughed with new friends, joined new groups like clown ministries and the big brother/big sister program, and grew my passion for music. All these things drew me closer to God.

Now I'm volunteering. It gives me a sense of belonging when I make calls and text messages to people who've spent their youth in the same parochial school system as me. I enjoy hearing stories from the past and shared experiences of Friday night chili and rolls, of camp week, and of gaining an appreciation for science in the same labs I sat in years ago. These people know how to build a haystack and they know what it meant to be put "on social." (And for the record, yes, I was put on social once. It was miserable.)

My vision for my time as treasurer is to help plan gatherings that continue to remind us what it means to belong.

We hope to give special groups a chance to connect through shared interests, like with the honor choir and the golf scramble this past weekend. The future may include special gatherings for perhaps gymnastics or classic cars. Wouldn't that be fun?

This, mixed in with our weekend of worship, good food, and good fellowship, reminds us that we have an eternal longing to have reunions in heaven where every single soul has the opportunity to attend.

And it will be awesome.

2023
Dakota Adventist Academy
School Preview Days

FEBRUARY 23 - 26, 2023

Now is the time to plan
 your route through
HIGHSCHOOL...

Let DAA be there to guide
 your journey to your future.



REGISTER TODAY
WWW.MYDAA.ORG
 tracyjo.peterson@mydaa.org
 701-258-9000 ext 213

Alumni Officers

President -
 Benjamin Dossenko, DAA Class of 1997

Vice President -
 Neil Biloff, SRA Class of 1968

Treasurer -
 Brenda Rexin Klein, DAA Class of 1992

Vice Treasurer -
 TBD

Secretary -
 Jodi Gottfried Dossenko, DAA Class of 1997

Vice Secretary -
 Jaelyn Pickett, DAA Class of 2020

Donate to a Special Project

Would you like to help the school by donating money to a specific project? Please designate on your donation check what project you have chosen. Here are some things to choose from:

- Cameras for graphic design & photography class (4 cameras x \$600) = \$2,400
- Gymnasium basketball safety wall pad and stage pad = \$2,400
- Sound boards for music department (2 areas needed) = \$1,700 and \$3,300
- Drinking fountain/bottle filler = \$1,000
- De-thatcher for mower = \$775
- Shelving for a school storeroom = \$2,000

JOIN US FOR
Celebration of Praise
 COUPLED WITH THE BISMARCK REGIONAL

Come experience a "Rebirth" with Jesus, DAA, & within.

Schedule of Events

Friday, December 16:
 7:30p - Community / School Program
 - Social Hour to follow

Sabbath, December 17:
 10:00a - Sabbath School
 11:00a - Church
 12:15p - Lunch
 1:30p - Seminars by conference workers
 4:30p - DAA Christmas Concert

Fall Festival

Tracy Peterson, recruiter

Every fall Dakota Adventist Academy hosts their annual Fall Festival to welcome the community to the school and celebrate the bounty of life. This event is all about food and fun, but also it is about support. DAA student classes and clubs, Adventist elementary schools, as well as Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs make up the vendors at this event.

DAA's Student Association coordinates the booths so that there is a maximum variety of games and goodies for all to enjoy. This is the only fundraiser for many of the clubs which makes this event a tremendous boost in supporting the youth of the Dakota Conference.

This year there was a phenomenal turnout of people enjoying the ability to support the event. Attendance and involvement of the community do not go unnoticed by our young people. So, we are taking this opportunity, as an extended group of Dakota youth, to say "thank you" to each of you who attended, baked, cooked, bought, and played with us during this Fall Festival 2022.

National Honor Society

Jovannah Poor Bear-Adams, vice-principal

Dakota Adventist Academy's National Honor Society (NHS) welcomed five new members on November 5th. NHS president, Noah Lee, welcomed Jessica Winistorfer as former NHS president and guest speaker. Each year, current members have the privilege of "pinning" new members into the group and welcoming them into the prestigious academic group.

The National Honor Society prides itself on upholding high academic standards, community involvement, leadership, and service. By being a part of this group, students must participate in extra community service activities, demonstrate high moral character, and maintain a GPA of 3.5 or higher throughout their high school experience. This group provides the students with a leg up on their resumes and college and scholarship applications.

It is anticipated that the students will find themselves in a group where they not only encourage each other to achieve excellence but also encourage their peers to do the same. DAA's group is unique from other NHS groups in that a spiritual aspect of the program is also emphasized. The sponsors believe in the students and encourage them to use their gifts and talents given by the Lord that are meant to help them in their lives. Their teachers hope to assist each member in growing in their spiritual and academic life.

Zak Adams



Lynette Struntz



Abby Chin, Liz Struntz, Kaeden Miller, Kiara VanWart, Jack Tretter

Honor Classes From Alumni Weekend 2022

Class photos taken by Zak Adams



SRA Class of 1953 - 70 years
Lenhardt Kungel and friends



SRA Class of 1968 - 55 years
Steve Erickson, Darleen Tachenko Erickson, Julie Timothy Brude, Neil Biloff



SRA Class of 1973- 50 years
Fonda Bender Opp, Ava Widicker Fadness, Bob Tarasenko, Valgene Kreiter, Thomas Deede, Gary Kleven, Melvin Eichele, Jonell Haning Johnson, Videll Wetenkamp Ahrens



DAA Class of 1978 - 45 years
Brent Hinger, Inez Johnson Boyko, Kevin Boyko, Ted Glaser, Kimber Boyko, Ronda Geier Cheatham, Terry Johnson, Tim Choban



DAA Class of 1983 - 40 years
Kristi Fandrich Griffith, Jolene Flemmer Engelhart, Tammy Kahler Johnson, Joe Ager, Tracy Reinke Chilla, Della Weber Johns, Sandra Dickhaut Blackburn



DAA Class of 1988 - 35 years
Grant Boyko, Mary Snyder Ludwig



DAA Class of 1998 - 25 years
Travis Kreiter, Heather Baker, Scott Juhl, Susie Reis Kahler, Brad Kahler, Mitchell Merkel, Josh Rittenbach



DAA Class of 2003 - 20 years
Aaron Reinke, Philip Deede, Zach Timothy, Kristin Gottfried, Curtis Shumaker, Chelsea Flemmer Christensen, Ross Eichele, Dustin Sprenger



DAA Class of 2008 - 15 years
Charlotte Messer Merkel, Kendra Styron Staff



LET'S FUND OUR ACADEMY
\$10 PLAN

SMALL DONATIONS FOR A BIG IMPACT

We have 2,000 Alumni Families. What if we could each donate less than the cost of a Netflix Subscription to funding our Academy's future. Join the Mandan Seventh-day Adventist Church in partnership with Dakota Adventist Academy to ensure that Adventist Education will always be an option for the young people of North and South Dakota.



ALUMNI FAMILIES: 2,000
2,000 FAMILIES X \$10 = \$240,000
2,000 FAMILIES X \$35 = \$840,000

LET'S DREAM BIG

If we have 2,000 Alumni Families who faithfully commit to donating \$10 for the next 12 months, it will bring us to \$240,000 towards our \$363,000 deficit. That's \$240,000 toward funding the 22/23 school year.

But what if we dreamt a little bigger? If 2,000 Alumni Families committed to \$35 dollars for the next 12 months. It would bring us to \$840,000 ensuring that we can operate well beyond the 22/23 school year.

Large donations are helpful. But through small donations each one of us can contribute to the future of Adventist Education in the Dakota Conference.

MAKE YOUR DONATION BY SCANNING THE QR CODE.




Contact Lynette Miller at 701.751.6177 if you have questions regarding the \$10 Plan.

Why Do I Attend Christian School?

"I first came to DAA because of bullying at my old school. When I got here I was accepted with open arms and was not judged for being who I am. This school has become a safe place as well as a home." - Christiana Blackburn, senior

"DAA has been one of the most important factors in life so far. With academics that push you outside your box, teachers that care and want you to succeed in every step of life, and an environment that helps nurture these aspects; DAA was built to create the ultimate leaders and next generation Christians. There are kids and staff here that feel safer than anywhere else. We have friends here from all over the world and people we consider brothers and sisters whose lives were saved by this building. It's not only a school but a home, where you know someone will have your back and you're not going to be alone. They teach you to rely on God and each other while also building confidence in yourself to be independent. I've grown so much in such a small amount of time here and I can't imagine what I would be without this place. People truly care about you and you are able to really prepare yourself for the world." - Ana Weber, junior

"In my final two years there, I had Mrs. Poor Bear-Adams as my English teacher, and she made that English class one that I looked forward to. She really cares about each student and encouraged us to do our best in the medium that we do our best. She encouraged me to do "Poetry Out Loud", and I ended up making it to state finals. All the boys in the dorm wanted me to join basketball since I joined my sophomore year. I ended up wanting to join too late that year, but signed as soon as I could during my junior and senior year. Coach Woll, Mr. Gibson, all the other temporary coaches, and my teammates encouraged me to keep trying and practicing, and eventually I was actually enjoying a sport I never imagined I could figure out. By the end of my senior year, I didn't even want to graduate. I wanted to stay in that school forever because it meant so much to me. Mr. Ballesteros encouraged me at every moment to play drums and improve, and I was able to finish the year playing the hardest song I could image, and everyone seemed to love it. I'd like to think a part of me and my class is left at that school, as it has seemed to for the other classes before me. If I could go back to that school for all four years instead, I would in a heartbeat. I love DAA, and can't imagine it being gone." - Caleb Tachenko, class of 2022

"DAA is a school where I truly feel accepted. The community is something that you can't find at just any school. I have grown so close to the students and teachers it feels like they are my family. One thing that has helped me personally grow closer to my classmates and deans has been my dorm experience. I value the memories made with my friends and all the responsibilities I have being more independent. There is a lot of homework and while that is not very much fun, I know it is to help further my education and I value that. I appreciate how much time DAA puts into my education." - Hannah Miller, sophomore

Community Service at the Zoo

Peter Hutaurok, math teacher

Dakota Adventist Academy students had the opportunity to help the Dakota Zoo clean up some areas on Friday, October 14. Since a majority of the students went to Rapid City for the Regional, the remaining few on campus were able to help out in this activity. Few hands that we had were still relatively many hands when cleaning up the area around the playground - which was visibly covered by many twigs and leaves due to strong winds a few days before.

As noted by freshman Ané du Plessis, "Everyone enjoyed working together as a team". Our group spent nearly an hour and a half cleaning up the area. Orrin Waldner, a senior, felt that this community service was unique since this was the first time he had done it at the zoo. Liz Struntz, a junior, thought the clean-up was a great way to give back to the community. She commented, "It was evident that the work we did really helped the workers there and made the zoo a better place."

The grounds maintenance director of the Dakota Zoo noted a job well done by our students and was appreciative of what we did. Louis, the goat in the petting area and a permanent resident of the zoo, noticed us work the entire time and seemed to appreciate what we did as well. Because of this, we decided to take a picture with him. Interestingly enough, when we came over to take a picture with Louis who at that time was by himself in the pen, the other goats came over quickly for the picture. It was as if Louis had called them over for the photo opportunity. Overall, the clean-up at the zoo was a memorable experience and a blessing for all of us.

Submitted by Peter Hutaurok



In Remembrance

Lillian Vietz Krueger

6.10.2021
SRA Class of 1939

Joyce Gottfried Fischer

8.31.2022
SRA Class of 1953

Aryla Kae Unruh Swanson

10.27.2022
SRA Class of 1956

Loretta Loewen Koenig

12.28.2021
PVA Class of 1942

Roger Dickhaut

9.13.2022
SRA Class of 1964

Dr. John Boyd

11.13.2022
SRA Former Staff

Joyce Rodie

12.27.21
SRA Former Staff

Ivan Sievers

9.9.2022
SRA Class of 1943

Winona Schrenk Rodacker

11.22.2022
SRA Class of 1951

Dorothy Weisz

4.2.2022
SRA Class of 1945

Paul Schumacher

9.25.2022
Class of 2018

Kerry Adams

8.30.2022
DAA Class of 1989

**ViDell Harchenko
Tremaine**

9.30.2022
SRA Class of 1955



Please send us your news, weddings, anniversaries, deaths, and births to include in our quarterly newsletter. Pictures are welcome and will be included if space allows. It's a great way to keep your classmates informed. We would love to hear from you! Very soon, the newsletter will have a digital option. To sign up, use the QR code above.

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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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CALENDAR

December

- 16 Celebration of Praise -DAA
- 17 Celebration of Praise & Bismarck Regional -DAA
- 17 Afternoon Christmas Concert -DAA
- 17-1 Christmas Homeleave

January

- 12-30 MAPS Testing
- 22 K-12 Board Meeting

February

- 1-4 Union College Music Festival
- 8-11 Music Festival at DAA
- 15-19 Homeleave & UC Basketball Tournament
- 23 Ski & Rec Day
- 24-26 Academy Days

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 still open for the 2022-2023 academic year. Visit mydaa.org to apply online or call Tracy Peterson at: 701.258.9000.