

Dundy County Stratton Public Schools  
***November 2007 “State of the Schools” Report***  
Dr. Dallas Watkins, Superintendent

Congratulations to:

-The Boys Cross Country Team and Coaches Scott Lambley, Tracy Lambley and Nathan Behlke for winning the state runner-up trophy in Class D at the state meet. I would also like to recognize individual medalist Brandon Shirkey (3<sup>rd</sup>) and Jared Shillington (6<sup>th</sup>). Team members of the boy’s team at the state meet in addition to Brandon and Jared included Kyle Thomas, Brandon Craddock, Tanner Nelson and Grant Jones.

-The Volleyball Team and Coaches Bill Wilson, Rami Hanes and Amber Drake for your 18 win season.

-The Football Team and Coaches JC Stroup, Marty Hughes and Greg McVicker for your winning season and making the state playoffs.

-Laura Lutz for being named to the Nebraska Attorney General’s Youth Advisory Council.

-Wendy’s High School Heisman State Finalist Kyle Glidden.

Dundy County Stratton Public Schools Communication Guide – The following list identifies some of our avenues for communication (electronic/print/television/radio) for information concerning the school district:

1. District Web Page: [www.dcstigers.org](http://www.dcstigers.org)
  - a. View school calendars including activities
  - b. View school announcements
  - c. View organizational information
  
2. Infinite Campus Parent Portal (access through District web page: [www.dcstigers.org](http://www.dcstigers.org))
  - a. View your student's grades
  - b. View your student's attendance
  - c. View calendar information
  
3. OnCourse Systems (access through District web page: [www.dcstigers.org](http://www.dcstigers.org))
  - a. View course lesson plans
  - b. View homework assignments
  - c. View special information from each teacher

4. School announcements are sent out via e-mail, please contact the High School office if you are not receiving these and wish to.
  
5. Monthly Superintendent 'State of the Schools' report in Benkelman Post, Hitchcock County News and the District Web Page: [www.dcastigers.org](http://www.dcastigers.org).
  
6. School Telephone Numbers
  - a. Benkelman Elementary 308-423-2216
  - b. Haigler Elementary 308-297-3275
  - c. Stratton Elementary 308-276-2281
  - d. Dundy County-Stratton High School 308-423-2738
  - e. Dundy County-Stratton Schools Bus Barn 308-423-5305
  - f. Dundy County-Stratton Toll Free: 866-463-2738
  
7. School Closing Information
  - a. Radio (KIOD, KRVN, KLOE)
  - b. Television (Benkelman/Haigler Cable, ABC Kearney NTV)
  - c. Electronic (<http://WeatherThreat.com>)

State Aid History - This item is intended to be an update on state aid since 1990. The state of Nebraska has an equalization formula (a needs versus local resources formula) that began in 1990 with the passage of LB1059. The law passed in 1990 did not include sparsity and transportation provisions to determine needs. Those factors were added in later legislation. We may see a new formula or amendments introduced again this legislative session. Changes have tremendous impact upon schools. The following information indicates the importance of state aid in our district.

Year	State Aid	Difference from 1997-98 (lowest year of LB1059)
90-91	\$160,985	NA
91-92	\$160,985	NA
92-93	\$160,985	NA
93-94	\$160,985	NA
94-95	\$176,119	NA
95-96	\$134,945	NA
96-97	\$177,455	NA
97-98	\$117,573	NA
98-99	\$386,580	\$269,007
99-00	\$954,968	\$837,395
00-01	\$780,310	\$662,737
01-02	\$813,775	\$696,202
02-03	\$754,893	\$637,320
03-04	\$524,786	\$407,213

04-05	\$697,890	\$580,317
05-06	\$691,385	\$573,812
06-07	\$854,699	\$737,126
07-08	\$1,023,980	\$906,407
	Total	\$6,307,536

Note: The above figures reflect just Dundy County Public Schools. The adjusted state aid with the merger is now \$1,559,355 (\$380,250 is incentive aid for the merger and \$1,179,105 is base state aid) for 2007-08 for Dundy County Stratton Public Schools

#### November Board of Education Meeting Highlights

Football – The official enrollment for the high school for the Nebraska School Activities Association is done on the last Friday in September for activity classification. Football is a two year cycle and all other activities are one year. Our count this year was for 11 man football. A district may participate in 8 man when they are above the cut number but are ineligible for the state playoffs if they do. Football was on the agenda to allow for action, no motion was made for 8 man football, so we will participate in the class we are eligible for (11 man). Football Coaches Greg McVicker and Marty Hughes presented information regarding scheduling, participation numbers and history to the Board during this agenda item. Coach JC Stroup was ill and was unable to attend the meeting. JC did help with the research presented.

Building/Renovation Project – The Steering Committee has met and continues developing ideas for the Building/Renovation Projects for Stratton Elementary and the High School. The Steering Committee and sub-committees will develop plans in November and December with the intent of presenting them to the Board of Education within the next 60 days.

High School Secretary –We are excited to report that Sonya Auffet has accepted the position of High School Secretary. Sonya brings over 15 years of work related experience and is a graduate of Oklahoma State University (BS Business Administration). Sonya and her husband Dr. Rod Auffet and their son Nate reside in Benkelman. We welcome Sonya to the staff. She began employment on November 13, 2007.