

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

First Day/Enrollment – The first day of school had its share of excitement, curiosity, challenges and lighter moments. We were pleasantly surprised with the increase in students (above the projected merger estimates). We expected approximately 375-385 students, Dundy County was estimated to be 315 – 325 and Stratton projections were about 60-65 of 80-85 students. Our enrollment currently stands at 397 students. The grade by grade and building count has been forwarded to the Benkelman Post and Hitchcock County News.

Parent/Guardian Newsletter – All parents/guardians should have received a mailing that provides information related to the school year, if you did not receive the newsletter please let us know and we will get one to you.

Senior Citizen Passes – If you are 65+ and would like a pass to our activities, we would like to give you one. Please stop by the high school to pick one up. We may ID many of you because you do not look old enough!

School Activity Schedules – School activity schedules are accessible electronically on the internet at [highschoolsports.net](http://highschoolsports.net).

School Announcements – The daily announcements are available electronically via email; if you would like those forwarded to you please contact the high school.

Thanks – We would like to thank BWTelcom, Randy and Loretta Raile for making a generous donation to the Kindergarten Snack Program. All three elementary schools have implemented the Kindergarten Snack Program. We would not have been able to do such without the donation.

Hansen Foundation Donation – Once again, the Hansen Foundation will be helping the school purchase technology equipment. They have notified us that we will receive an \$85,000 donation over the next three years to purchase necessary equipment for student and staff laptop computers. Jim Kent, Secondary Principal and Lisa Fox, Technology Coordinator will be implementing the laptop computer program we have in place and will utilize this grant to help it become reality.

Congratulations – Lori Rettele has been chosen to serve on the state FCCLA again state board. Way to go Lori!

## August Board of Education Meeting Highlights

New Teacher Contracts – We would like to welcome two teachers to our school system who were extended contracts at the August Board meeting. Laura Blomstedt will be a full time Special Education Teacher at Stratton Elementary. She is married and is from the Wauneta and Palisade area. Laura is a first year teacher; her husband is serving in the military and will be out in the near future. The other contract was extended to Connie Guernsey. We are very excited that Connie was willing to come back after she retired last year. Connie will be working half time at Haigler Elementary in the Special Education program.

Teacher Resignation – The Board released Amanda Osborn from her teaching contract.

Activity Assignments – Action was taken at the meeting to approve the following activity assignments: Junior High Student Council and Concessions (Julie Burrell, Sally Hudson), Assistant K-12 Annual (Sally Hudson).

Elementary Maintenance/Custodian Position – Clayton Baney will be leaving the district in the next month, I would like to thank Clayton for his service. He has done a good job at Benkelman Elementary and I wish him well. We have run an ad for this position and plan to have it filled by the end of the month.