



# Meridian Public Schools

## "The Hoof Print" ~ Home of the Mustangs

### Mission Statement:

Meridian Public Schools will educate all students in a safe, nurturing environment while challenging them to develop their integrity, knowledge, and unique talents to become responsible, productive citizens.

Newsletter

[www.meridianmustangs.org](http://www.meridianmustangs.org)

August, 2016

Newsletter-August, 2016  
Superintendent  
Randy Kort

### New School Year

Yes, it is hard to believe but this is the August newsletter. I hope everyone has had the opportunity to enjoy some time with their family and enjoy a little vacation. I know with my girls being involved in camps, leagues, and softball I have had a great time watching them and the teams they play on. Reflecting on the teams and watching the girls' interaction, I feel very proud of the teamwork I see. We might not always be the most dominate team but it seems to me, our teams at Meridian have an aggressive – never give up - attitude and as a parent and fan that is enjoyable to watch. I missed the 18 and under state softball run, but from what I have gathered, that is a perfect example of this fight. Having lost their second game of the tournament, they fought back through the loser's bracket. They played several back-to-back games, in the heat, on both Saturday and Sunday to face the team that was undefeated in the tournament - the team who beat them earlier. The girls ended up beating this team twice to win class D 18 and under state softball. Congratulation girls on a job well done! This truly demonstrates your fight and determination.

Currently we are anticipating one of our higher enrollments over the past several years. An early count has our enrollment holding at 230 students.

We will have two new faces here at Meridian as we welcome Ms. Buck, our new PK-12 music teacher, and Mr. Trautman, who will be our new English teacher. Please stop in and welcome these new teachers as they begin their career here at Meridian Public Schools.

### Jr High Sports

With our projected enrollment of 13 boys and 22 girls for Jr. High, we are encouraging all students to consider this opportunity to be a part of the Jr. High athletic program. We continue to work on scheduling of games and practice to help students have minimal conflicts with these events. This is a great time for your child to have the opportunity to try a sport and be a part of a team.

### Fall Activities Parents Meeting

Students in grades 9 -12 Fall Activities Parent meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 16th, at 7:00 p.m. after Meridian's Open House. We are asking all parents of students who will be involved in Volleyball, Football, One Act, Cheerleading, Student Council, and FBLA to attend this meeting. A short presentation for all activities is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. with individual activity meetings and/or presentations to follow.

I want to share some rules that were passed last year dealing with sports in Nebraska High Schools. The NSAA (Nebraska State Athletic Association) which governs high school athletics in Nebraska, has passed new requirements for our football and suggested guidelines for volleyball practices and conditioning. Some of these rules limit the number of contact days, practice times, and so forth. Our coaches are aware of the changes and will be making any adjustments necessary to be compliant. Please know our number one concern is the health and well being of our students.

### Football

Conditioning will begin on August 1<sup>st</sup>, and conclude August 5<sup>th</sup>, the times will be 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Practice will begin on August 8<sup>th</sup>, with the first practice scheduled at 7:00 AM.

### Volleyball

Volleyball conditioning will begin on August 8<sup>th</sup>, the times will be given to the players.

### Gym Project

At the Board meeting held on July 11<sup>th</sup>, the School Board approved an agreement with Ayars & Ayars to build a second gym at Meridian Public Schools. The Fairbury paper had a front page article indicating that decision. That article was mistaken on two issues: the cost is going to be \$1.14 million *not* \$1.4 million; and the location of the second gym will be on the east side of the current gym *not* the south as indicated in the article. A hallway will be added between the existing gym and the new gym to the east (please see the diagram on Page 5 of this newsletter).

**Board of Education  
Meridian Public Schools  
District 48-0303  
Daykin, Nebraska 68338  
Tuesday, June 28, 2016**

**Special Meeting – Tuesday,  
June 28, 2016 -6:30 P.M.**

The Meridian Public School Board of Education met on Tuesday, June 28, 2016, as per notice posted in the post offices and local businesses.

President VanWesten called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. The open meeting law information was presented. Members present were Sobotka, Bartels, Miller, Scheer, Vorderstrasse, and VanWesten. Also present were Superintendent Kort, Principal Scott, Trish Endorf, Kathy Houser, David Endorf, Dana Peterson, and representatives of Ayars & Ayars Incorporated.

Ayars & Ayars Incorporated reviewed proposals for their design/build plans for a second gymnasium. Proposed location, options, and construction schedules were



reviewed. The board requested additional information regarding sprinkler system options and options for a storage/safe room area.

Scheer moved and Vorderstrasse seconded to adjourn at 8:01 p.m. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

*J. Scott Sobotka,*

Secretary Meridian District # 48-0303

**Board of Education  
Meridian Public Schools  
District 48-0303  
Daykin, Nebraska 68338  
Monday, July 11, 2016**

**Special Meeting – Monday,  
July 11, 2016-6:30 P.M.**

The Meridian Public School Board of Education met on Monday, July 11, 2016, as per notice in the Fairbury Journal-News.

President VanWesten called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. The open meeting law information was presented. Members present were Sobotka, Bartels, Miller, Scheer, Vorderstrasse, and VanWesten. Also present were Superintendent Kort, Principal Scott, Gene Heidemann, David Endorf, Dana Peterson, and representatives from Ayars & Ayars.

Ayars & Ayars Incorporated reviewed the options for an additional storage room and safe room, the fire sprinkler options, and the option for a radon mitigation system. Ayars & Ayars stated they had met with the District Fire Marshal and if the second gym is used for events which limit the capacity to 299, a sprinkler system is not required. The building would be constructed so that sprinklers could be installed in the future if the proposed use of the facility changes. The cost to construct the storage room and safe area in an attached 20'x57' metal building was discussed. It was determined that a standalone building could be constructed in the future to save costs and to free up additional class rooms if needed. It was recommended to install the radon mitigation system as part of the new

construction.

Scheer moved and Miller seconded to enter into a contract with Ayars & Ayars to construct a second gym with bleachers and a radon mitigation system on the East side of the existing school for a cost of \$1,139,957.00. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Scheer moved and Miller seconded to adjourn at 7:32 p.m. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

*J. Scott Sobotka,*

Secretary Meridian District # 48-0303

**Board of Education  
Meridian Public Schools  
District 48-0303  
Daykin, Nebraska 68338  
Monday, July 18, 2016**

**Regular July 18, 2016 Meeting  
7:00 P.M.**

Meridian Public School Board of Education met on Monday, July 18, 2016, as per notice in the Fairbury Journal-News.

President VanWesten called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The open meeting law information was presented. Members present were Sobotka, Bartels, Miller, Scheer, Vorderstrasse, and VanWesten. Also present were Superintendent Kort, Randy Christianson, and Mrs. Schwan.

Vorderstrasse moved and Miller seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Minutes of the June 20, 2016 Regular Meeting
- Minutes of the June 28, 2016 Special Meeting
- Minutes of the July 11, 2016 Special Meeting
2. District Financial Report
3. Activity Fund Report
4. Hot Lunch Report
5. Bills

Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-

aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

The Annual Public Hearing on student fees, parent involvement, and bullying policies was held.

Miller moved and Scheer seconded to appoint Superintendent Kort as Administrator of the Federal and State Programs. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Scheer moved and Miller seconded to approve the milk price for the 2016-2017 school year at 30 cents per carton. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Miller moved and Bartels seconded to approve the breakfast prices as follows: PK-6<sup>th</sup> grade = \$1.30; 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade = \$1.55; and Adult = \$2.00 for the 2016-2017 school year. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Scheer moved and Miller seconded to approve the lunch prices for PK-6<sup>th</sup> grade at \$2.60, 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade at \$2.70, and Adult at \$3.50 for the 2016-2017 school year. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Scheer moved and Bartels seconded to approve the Student Fees Policy -5416. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Scheer moved and Miller seconded to approve the Parent Involvement Policy - 6400. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Scheer moved and Miller seconded to approve the Bullying Policy - 5415. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-



aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Vorderstrasse moved and Bartels seconded to approve the Student Handbook for the 2016-2017 school year. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Superintendent Kort stated that as part of the District's proposed bus rotation that a 2017 International bus that will serve as a route and activity bus is recommended for purchase with the trade of the 2006 bus. Sobotka moved and Vorderstrasse seconded to approve the purchase of a 65 passenger 2017 International bus in the amount of \$93,000 with the trade of the 2006 bus. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Randy Christianson reviewed the bid from Rome Service Inc. to install an AC unit in the gym's current system. The current gym will be used as the gathering location for public events to ensure the maximum occupancy is not exceeded in the second gym. Vorderstrasse moved and Bartels seconded to have Rome Service Inc. install an AC unit in the current gym at a cost of \$49,400. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Sobotka moved and Bartels seconded to adopt the Little Blue and Lower Big Blue Natural Resources Districts Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazard Mitigation Plan. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Superintendent Kort reported:

1. Update on Kitchen Dishwasher Project
2. Update on summer projects including parking area lights, score board, football field speakers, and general building maintenance.
3. Student Enrollment

Next Regular Meeting set for Monday, August 15, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.

Vorderstrasse moved and Miller seconded to adjourn at 8:04 p.m. Vote taken: Vorderstrasse-aye, Miller-aye, Bartels-aye, Scheer-aye, Sobotka-aye, and VanWesten-aye. Motion carried 6-0.

*J. Scott Sobotka.*

Secretary Meridian District # 48-0303



Wow! The summer is flying by and school is ready to start again. Students first day is Wednesday, August 17th. The school bell rings at 8 o'clock to start the day. Wednesday through Friday of that first week we will have a 1:30 pm dismissal.

We would like to welcome two new teachers this year. Miss Buck will be teaching our PreK-12 music. Mr. Trautman will teach high school English. Also, Mr. Scott will be our play production (one act) and speech coach, and direct the spring musical this year.

A lot of work was put in this summer to make the school look great! We want everyone to do their part to keep it looking great all school year. There's new carpeting in several areas of the building. Much of the woodwork and doors have been refinished to make them look almost like new.

We want to encourage all of our Junior High and Senior High school students to participate in school activities this year. You will find your school experience to be more meaningful if you are involved in one or more groups. Take a chance and try something new this year. We have many clubs and activities for you to check out.

I'm looking forward to a great year! Check us out on Facebook at Meridian Public School, on Twitter

@MeridianMustang, or the school website at [www.meridianmustangs.org](http://www.meridianmustangs.org). Go Mustangs!



**7-12 REGISTRATION DAY:**

Drop/Add and New Student Registration is scheduled for Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Students and parents can stop by during this time to enroll or make changes to an existing schedule. If you need to schedule another time to meet, please call Mrs. Kroon or high school secretary, Kathy Houser.

**OPEN HOUSE:**

Meridian will be hosting an "Open House" for ALL PreK-12 students on Tuesday, August 16, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. All students are encouraged to come to the school to visit their classrooms and meet (or get reacquainted with) their teachers. Elementary students can bring school supplies and high school students can find and organize their locker. Families can come and go as they wish during this time. The Meridian Partners in Education and the Meridian Foundation will be sponsoring a meal and will serve from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Activity passes will be available to purchase and drawings will be held to award prizes (must be in attendance)! I encourage ALL students and parents to take advantage of the Open House - establishing a positive parent-teacher-student relationship is an important part of the educational process!

**ACT:**

Incoming Juniors and Seniors: It's time to be thinking about the ACT! **For those of you interested in taking the September ACT, note that you must register before school begins in August.** Go to [actstudent.org](http://actstudent.org) to register. For those in need of a fee waiver, contact Mrs. Kroon.

2016-2017 ACT National Test Dates:

**Registration Deadline**

August 5, 2016

September 16, 2016



- November 4, 2016
- January 13, 2017
- March 3, 2017
- May 5, 2017
- Test Date**
- September 10, 2016
- October 22, 2016
- December 10, 2016
- February 11, 2017
- April 8, 2017
- June 10, 2017

### BENEFIT FOR JASMINE DANIELS

In June, Jasmine Daniels (a Sophomore at Meridian) was diagnosed with a very rare bone cancer, Ewing Sarcoma. To help with the overwhelming medical bills, a benefit is being held in the commons and gym at Meridian Public Schools on August 7th, 2016. A silent auction and a freewill donation meal will be served from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. A live auction will follow. A few of the items being auctioned are a tractor, a truck, a deer head, pictures, Saltdog tickets, and an impact wrench.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, you may do so at Jefferson County Bank in Daykin, or Meridian Public Schools. Please make your checks payable to the Jasmine Daniels Benefit. The benefit is being hosted by Jasmine's family, friends, and Meridian StuCo and Cheerleaders.

Questions/Concerns? Contact Gina Kroon @ [gkroon@meridianmustangs.org](mailto:gkroon@meridianmustangs.org) or (402)446-7265 ext.1253.

#### 1st Grade Back-to-School List

1. 20 pencils
2. Crayons (24 count)
3. 2 large erasers
4. Scissors
5. Pencil Box
6. Colored Pencils (optional)
7. Crayola Markers (optional)
8. Kleenex - 2 boxes
9. Clorox Wipes - 2 Containers
10. Germ-X - 1 bottle

#### 2nd Grade School Supply List:

- \* Pencils (No Mechanical "Punchy" Pencils)
- \* Eraser
- \* Crayons (24-48 count)
- \* 1 box of Kleenex
- \* Scissors
- \* Book Bag
- \* P.E. Shoes (no dark soles)
- \* Notebook (1)
- \* Pocket Folder (1)
- \* Paint Shirt
- \* Clorox Wipes-2 containers
- \* Pencil Box or Container (make sure it will fit in your desk)
- \*Please no pencil sharpeners**

#### Optional Items:

- \* Colored Pencils
- \* Markers
- \* Ruler
- \* Glue Sticks

#### 3rd Grade Back-to-School List

1. Pencils and erasers
2. Colored pencils, markers, or crayons
3. Scissors
4. One bottle of glue
5. Two glue sticks
6. Pencil case or box: To hold all of the above
7. Spiral notebooks- 1 or 2
8. Pocket folders- 4
9. Loose-Leaf Paper
10. A ruler: One with both inches and centimeters.
11. Boxes of tissues
12. One box Clorox Wipes
13. One bottle hand sanitizer
14. Paint shirt for art
15. PE Shoes

#### Supplies for 4th Grade

- 12 Pencils (Get some that stay at home for homework, too!)
- Pens (no black or unreadable neon colors)
- Big Eraser or Eraser Tops for Pencils
- Dry Erase Markers (Eraser is optional)
- Crayons, Colored Pencils, **OR** Markers
- 3 Pocket Folders with 3 Hole Fasteners
- 2 Notebooks
- 1 Composition Notebook (not spiral)
- 3 **JUMBO** Sized Book Covers
- Trapper Keeper (to keep supplies for Science & Soc. Studies)
- 1 Roll Paper Towels
- 2 Containers Disinfectant Wipes
- 1 Small Bottle Hand Sanitizer
- Two (2) Boxes of Kleenex
- Book Bag
- PE Shoes - **NO DARK SOLES**

#### OPTIONAL ITEMS

- Ear Buds
- Shelf for Locker
- Highlighters (yellow, green, pink, orange, blue)

#### PLEASE DO NOT BRING

- Glue Bottles
- Glue Sticks

#### Supplies for 5th Grade

- Trapper Keeper
  - Spiral Notebooks (at least three to start year) **OR** three ring notebook paper for trapper keeper
  - Pencils (10-12 to start the year) **NO MECHANICAL (PUNCHY) PENCILS**
  - Eraser
  - Colors (24-48 count)
  - Two (2) rolls of paper towels
  - 2 containers of disinfectant wipes (Clorox or other brand)
  - Scissors
  - Book Bag
  - PE Shoes (tennis shoes with no dark soles)
  - Highlighters (pink, yellow, green, blue)
  - Glue Stick
  - Two (2) boxes of kleenex
  - **JUMBO** size Book Covers (3-4 needed for textbooks) **THEY NEED TO BE JUMBO**
- Approximate book measure 10 ¼ x 12**

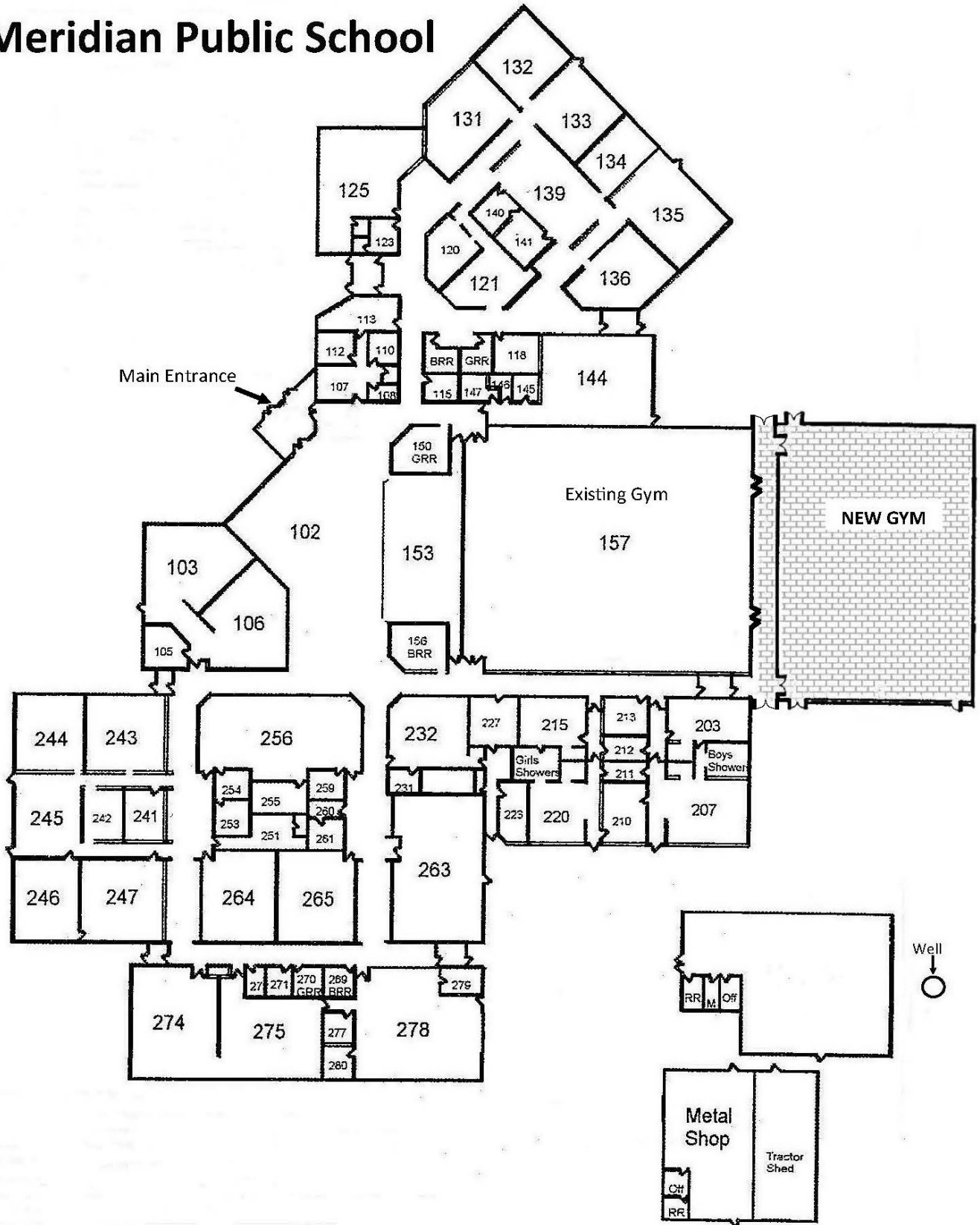
#### Supplies for 6th Grade

- 10-12 Pencils - **NOT PUNCHY**
- Eraser
- Colored Pencils
- Crayola Markers
- 2 Rolls Paper Towels
- 2 Containers Disinfectant Wipes
- Scissors
- Book Bag
- PE Shoes - **NO DARK SOLES**
- 2 Composition Notebooks
- Standard Writing Notebook
- Pocket Folders
- Ruler
- Dry Erase Markers
- 3 Boxes of Kleenex
- Plastic Storage or Pencil Box
- Lined Paper - College Rule





# Meridian Public School





**ALL Meridian PreK-12 Students and Families**

**You're Invited to an**

# **OPEN HOUSE**

**Tuesday, August 16, 2016**

**5:00-7:00 p.m.**

**Meridian Public School**

**\*See your classrooms and bring school supplies**

**\*Visit with Administration and Teachers**

**\*Eat Free Food**



Sponsored by M-Pie & Meridian Foundation

Questions, Please Contact  
402-446-7265





**NEVER LOSE HOPE ♡ TEAM JASMINE**  
Sophomore at Meridian High School

Benefit for  
**Jasmine Daniels**



**Sunday - August 7, 2016**

**Meridian School Commons and Gymnasium**  
**Freewill Donation**

**Meal served from 4:30-7:00 p.m.**

**Silent Auction 4:30-7:00 p.m.**

**Live Auction 7:00 p.m.**



Funds raised will assist with medical bills incurred from diagnoses of

**Ewing Sarcoma cancer**

-Which is a very rare bone cancer

Monetary donations may be left at

Jefferson County Bank-Daykin

or Meridian Public School

Checks % Jasmine Daniels Benefit






**Daykin Lumber Co.**  
DAYKIN, NE 68338  
READY MIXED CONCRETE · BUILDING MATERIALS  
ASTRO BUILDINGS · MARTIN SENOUR PAINTS  
CONCRETE FEED BUNKS

PH. 402-446-7305    daykinlumber@windstream.net  
800-637-9711

*The*  
**Daykin Pub**   
705 Francis  
Daykin, NE  
68338

 402-446-7477



**FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES**  
Insurance • Investments

Doug Francis: 402.243.2233    [www.agentdougfrancis.com](http://www.agentdougfrancis.com)  
Damara Woitalewicz: 402.433.5300    Toll Free: 800.239.5823  
Scott Woitalewicz: 402.433.5256    Fax: 402.243.2369

201 State Hwy. 74 AND 113 West Third  
Tobias, NE 68453    Wilber, NE 68465



**Jefferson County Bank**  
P.O. Box 220, Daykin, Nebraska 68338-0220



PHONE 402-446-7233    FDIC    FAX 402-446-7234

**PLYMOUTH ELECTRIC INC.**

YOUR KEY TO ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING SINCE 1979

402-656-4505 · 800-759-4950

PLYMOUTH, NE 68424  
[www.plymouthelectric.com](http://www.plymouthelectric.com)

**First State BANK NEBRASKA** 

Beatrice-Cortland-DeWitt-Dorchester-Filley-Firth-Hallam-Hickman  
Lincoln-Pickrell-Valley-Waverly-Western-Wilber-Yutan

[www.1fsb.com](http://www.1fsb.com)    Member FDIC    877.303.9737

**Craig's Automotive**

Sales & Service  
Of All Makes & Models  
Irrigation Engines  
AUTO & AG  
EQUIPMENT REPAIR



CRAIG BURKHART • 402-446-7435 • DAYKIN

Magical Memories Photography  
~AND~  
Lily's Flowers & Gifts  
412 E St. Fairbury, Ne  
402-729-5305



**Western Oil**

Western, NE 68464  
402-433-4156  
402-300-1178



**MAMA D's**  
Western, NE 68464  
402-433-4151  
Daily Dining Specials



EST. 2006

**RJ's**  
BAR & GRILL  
DEWITT, NE 68341  
402-683-4935




**NAU COUNTRY**

Paul Bachle  
Claims Supervisor  
NAU Country Insurance Company  
305 Tullis Ave  
Daykin, NE 68338  
Phone: 402.446.7243  
Mobile: 402.223.7742  
Fax: 402.446.7312  
[paul.bachle@naucountry.com](mailto:paul.bachle@naucountry.com)



**JOHN DEERE**



**LANDMARK IMPLEMENT**

[www.landmarkimp.com](http://www.landmarkimp.com)

Beatrice, NE    Hebron, NE  
402-228-3478    402-768-6077



**Go Mustangs!**



**Lichti Oil**  
Gas • Diesel • Propane • Lubricants  
Lennox Heating & Air Conditioning

Bruning Hebron    402-627-2235 • 1-800-848-3778    Shickley Geneva

**Valentino's PIZZA EXPRESS**

Hebron - 402 768-6140 / Bruning - 402 353-2040