

# The Groton Independent

Vol. 137 No. 50  $\diamond$  Groton, South Dakota  $\diamond$  Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2020  $\diamond$  Established in 1889

# Seven have opted for remote learning

Superintendent Joe Schwan reported that seven students have opted for remote learning instead of in-person education at the school. Five are in the elementary school and two in the middle/high school.

There was more discussion on the CO-VID-19 situation and how it can affect the school year. Athletics was discussed and Board Member Deb Gengerke basically compared it to a stop light - Green - Yellow - Red. The options are full fan support, a ticketing system, and parents only in attendance. A lot will be based on the new guidance from the Department of Health. Schwan said districts are still waiting for the DOH to launch the cases by school districts. Until then, the district has to go by Brown County COVID-19 cases which means a Tier 2 of limited fan support at events. Schwan said he anticipates full fan support if the district-wide COVID-19 case numbers are used.

There will be no two-courts for volleyball this year. The junior high will have their own nights for matches.

There was discussion on the state implementing random testing for school districts; however, Schwan said he was not sure of the value of the proposed system. In Groton, only one random staff per week would be tested. If there is a positive test, the 10-day last school board meeting. If someone is in isolation would begin from the day of the test and it could take 4-7 days before the test results are available. That would mean the staff member would be in isolation for just a few days. "It sounded like a great idea, but with only 1 test a week, I'm not does not mean they have to be quarantined. sure it's that great of an idea," Schwan said.

There have been some other changes since the



Superintendent Joe Schwan shows the remote of the new air conditioning units that have been installed. The air conditioning blower is pictured on the wall. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

isolation due to a positive test, they can be released after 24 hours of being fever-free without medication. It was 72 hours. And just because someone has close contact In addition, just because there is a positive case in the school does not mean the school will automatically be shut down.

There was discussion on the classification of school personnel. Schwan said all school staff members should be considered essential. The Associated School Boards of South Dakota (ASBSD) board is working on a policy to deal with essential staff members.

There are more decisions coming from the SDHSAA and the ASBSD and there will likely be a special school board meeting before the first day of school.

The bus routes are mostly longer this year. Route 1 has 16 extra miles. Route 2 is up six miles. Route 3 is up nine miles. Route 4 is down 5 miles. Route 5 is down 5 miles, but only because an extra route (Route 8) was created to pick up the students in the Bath area resulting in 32 extra miles. Route 6 is up one mile and Route 7 has no change.

The resignation of Sarah Dennert was approved. She was a special education paraprofessional for three years in the elementary school.

- Paul Kosel

## Superintendent's Report to the Groton Area Board of Education

#### by Superintendent Joe Schwan

**Remote Learning.** The enrollment period for optional remote learning for the first quarter of the school year closed on Friday, 8/7/2020. We have seven students across the district beginning the school year with remote learning. Keep in mind that there will be elements of remote learning for many students (students in quarantine or isolation, for example).

High School Air Conditioning. Allied Climate Professionals and Locke Electric have completed their work installing the air conditioning for the HS. The units are running and the rooms feel good.

day quarantine period provided they 1. Remain asymptomatic, 2. Monitor symptoms, including temperature checks twice daily, and 3. Wear a mask while at work. An email was provided today from School Administrators of South Dakota on this issue indicating that Associated School Board of South Dakota is working on symptom monitoring and SDHSAA return-tothe language for a formal board resolution on this issue.

Department of Health COVID Sentinel take their own kids to and from events. **Surveillance.** Last week the Department of Health announced that it would be rolling out sentinel surveillance testing for adult employees in K-12 schools if districts choose to participate. If we choose to participate, DOH will provide Mrs. Gustafson with the testing supplies and required PPE to test a random sample of our **asymptomatic** adult employees each week. Test kits would be transported by courier to the lab for analysis. Results will be provided to the employee through the Steady/incremental increase of community district. The program was briefly explained to our teaching staff at our second inservice meeting. At their request, we sent a survey to gauge interest. Results of the 34 respondents indicated support for participation 2:1. There munity active cases, new cases, and/or hosis no cost for participation. Based on the size of our adult staff population, we would test five employees each month or one per week (which is the minimum number of tests/week). **Fall Athletics.** Boys and Girls soccer began practicing on Monday, August 3. Football began on Thursday, August 6. Boys golf began today (August 10) and volleyball is scheduled to begin on Thursday, August 13. Our first today, which is county-level data, Tier 2 best competition is scheduled for Saturday, Au-

minutes) to continue working during their 14 gust 15 (Boys Soccer @ Freeman Academy [Hutchinson County] and Girls Soccer @ Garretson [Minnehaha County]). Our first home competition is scheduled for Friday, August 21 (Football) and Tuesday, August 25 (NEC Boys Golf).

Athletes are subject to pre-participation play protocols.

Transportation: We're advising parents to

SDHSAA suggested tiers for fan attendance: Tier 1 (Open attendance); Steady/Decreasing rates of community active cases, new cases, and hospitalizations. Tier 2 (Parents/Student Body Only); Slow/ intermittent increase of community active cases, new cases, and hospitalizations. Isolated cases, no evidence of exposure in large communal settings. Tier 3 (Student Body or Parents Only); active cases, new cases, and hospitalizations. Sustained increases, potential exposures in large communal settings. Tier 4 (No Fans); Sharp increase of compitalizations WITHOUT concurrent increase of cases/contacts within the school setting. Confirmed exposures in large communal settings. School District "heat maps" that we're anticipating having access to are supposed to give us a better idea of infection rates within our school district. Based on the data available describes our situation.

#### General COVID Plan Clarification.

We will start school on August 19 with regular in-person instruction.

Close contacts will be asked by Department of Health to guarantine for 14 days. Secondary close contacts are not subject to quarantine.

A positive case within a school or school building doesn't necessarily mean that we will need to close.

Symptomatic individuals need to stav **home.** Exclusion from school will follow the district's communicable diseases policy for non-Covid illnesses.

School Staff as Critical Infrastructure **Employees.** At the discretion of the employer, school employees can be declared as critical infrastructure employees. This declaration would allow an asymptomatic staff member that meets the definition of a "close contact" (within 6' of a COVID positive individual for a minimum of 15 consecutive



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# **Classifieds** and Card of Thanks

lished in both the Groton Daily Independent and the Groton Independent, and posted online at www.grotonsd.net. Cut rate in half if you just want it in the GDI or just the weekly.

1 Week: \$9 for first 30 words, 20¢/word thereafter 2 Wks: \$17 for first 30 words, 38¢/word thereafter 3 Wks: \$24 for first 30 words, 54¢/word thereafter 4th consecutive week is free 605/397-NEWS (6397) PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445

#### **AUCTIONS**

AUCTION: INTERSTATE AUCTION CENTER, Saturday, August 15 10 am, Machinery Consignment Auction. 3 miles east of Sioux Falls Exit 402, 605-331-4550. Visit our website auctionzip.com

#### EMPLOYMENT

HOT SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 23-2 is looking to fill the following position: Secondary Math Teacher, full- time, with/without coaching. Benefits and paid leave included. Apply online at hssd.k12.sd.us under Employment Opportunities. Email questions to troy.lurz@ k12.sd.us. Position open until filled.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT, BLACK HILLS WORKS: AR, AP, GL, and tenant eligibility for HUD subsidized apartments. Four Year Accounting degree or comparable experience preferred. Salary DOE. M-F, Full Time and/ or Part Time. Benefits. Apply online at www. bhws.com

POTTER COUNTY is accepting applications for Highway and Weed Superintendent. For application and job description: pcaudit@venturecomm.net, 605-765-9408, or 201 S. Exene St. Gettysburg, SD 57442. Potter County is an EOE.

CONSTRUCTION INC.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

#### NOTICES

ADVERTISE IN NEWSPAPERS statewide for The following rates are for Classifieds pub- only \$150. Put the South Dakota Statewide Classifieds Network to work for you today! (25 words for \$150. Each additional word \$5.) Call the Independent at 397-7460 for details.

#### Westport Town Lift Station **Re-Bid Notice**

ADVERTISEMENT WASTEWATER LIFT STATION REPLACEMENT RE-BID WESTPORT, SD

Sealed Bids will be received by the Town of Westport, 16 West Main St., Westport, South Dakota until 2 P.M. local time on the 2nd day of September, 2020 for the above referenced project. Bids shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with the Bidding Documents. The Town of Westport reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all Bids as set forth in the Bidding Documents

At or shortly after the time named above and within the office of Clark Engineering, 3314 Milwaukee Avenue NE, Suite 2, Aberdeen, SD such Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids will be reviewed by the Town of Westport at an upcom-

ing Town Board Meeting. The Project includes the following Work: Removal of an existing dry/wet well lift station and replacing it by furnishing and installing a new duplex submersible lift station. Work includes, but is not limited to: F&I sanitary sewer manhole over existing 8" gravity PVC sanitary sewer line, bypass pumping of existing waste water flows into existing force main, removal of existing lift station and generator, F&I duplex submersible lift station, F&I 4" PVC Forcemain by conventional trenching, F&I modular block retaining wall and base course, remove and replace air release valve, and miscellaneous items for importing fill, grading, gravel restoration, seeding and dewatering.

The Work to be performed under this contract shall be substantially completed by October 15, 2021

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Security as described in the Bidding Documents. The Successful Bidder will be reguired to provide Payment and Performance Bonds as described in the Bidding Documents.

Bidding Documents may be examined at the locations listed:

Town of Westport 16 West Main St. Westport, SD 57481 Ph: 605-290-5610 Clark Engineering Corp. 3314 Milwaukee Ave NE Ste. 2 Aberdeen SD 57401 Ph. 605-225-3494 Clark Engineering Corp. 1410 W Russell St. Sioux Falls SD 57104 Ph: 605-331-2505

The Bidding Documents may also be examined at the following locations: Aberdeen, SD Builders Exchange; Rapid City, SD Builders Exchange; Sioux Falls, SD Builders Exchange; Plains Builders Exchange, Šioux Falls, SD; Dodge Data & Analytics, Hot Springs, AR; Construction Plans Exchange of Bismarck-Mandan, Bismarck, ND; Construction Plans Exchange of Fargo-Moorhead, Fargo, ND, Dodge Data & Analytics, The Blue Book Building & Construction Network, constructconnect.com.

An electronic copy of the Plans and Specifications on a compact disc may be obtained from the Aberdeen office of Clark Engineering Corporation upon payment of \$40.00 to Clark Engineering for shipping and handling or Plans and Specifications may be downloaded from the HYPERLINK "http://www. clark-docs.com" http://www. clark-docs.com web site upon a payment of \$20.00. A printed 11" x 17" size set of Plans and Specifications may be obtained from the Aberdeen office of Clark Engineering Corporation upon payment of \$100.00 to Clark Engineering for shipping and handling. All payments are non-refundable. Upon request, one copy of Plans and Specifications shall be furnished, without charge, to each Contractor resident in South Dakota who intends, in good faith, to bid upon the project. BY:

Doreen Hertel Finance Officer PUBLISHING DATES: August 12, 2020 August 19, 2020 Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$75.22. 19171





#### The Groton Independent

21 N Main, Groton 605/397-NEWS (6397) Paul Irvin Kosel, Publisher paperpaul@gro-

Tina Kosel, Office Manager office@grotonsd.

Deadline to submit items: Noon Monday] Yearly Subscription Rates are listed below. The Groton Independent (USPS# 230-440) is published weekly with its periodicals postage

Groton Independent, PO Box 34, Groton, SD



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#### **Groton School** Aug. 10, 2020 Meeting Minutes

UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF EDUCATION GROTON AREA SCHOOL DIS-TRICT NO. 06-6

**REGULAR MEETING** 

August 10, 2020

President Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Elementary School Com-mons Room. Members present: Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, Principals Sombke and B. Schwan, and Business Manager Weber.

Moved by Weismantel, second Rix to approve the agenda with the following amendments: under Old/Continuing Business Item #4 – second reading and approval of policy JHCC-R, under New Business Item #3 – acknowledge public school exemptions, and under New Business Item #4 – approve open enroll-ments. Motion carried.

Pursuant to SDCL 23-3, there was no potential conflict disclosure reported.

Moved by Pharis, second Fliehs to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: District minutes of July 13, July 20, and July 27, 2020, bills, financial reports, custodial accounts and investments, open enrollment #21-12 and #20-13, public school exemption #21-02 and out-of- district transportation request from Langford Area pursuant to SDCL 13-29-4. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND: Net Salary 61,308.94; FIT – 6,416.72; Medicare – 2,294.62; FICA – 9,811.58; SD Retirement – 7,427.08; Waddell & Reed 625.00; Horace Mann - 250.00; AFLAC - 940.55; Delta Dental 1,085.98; SD Supplemental Retirement - 502.29: Wellmark – 15,995.00; Standard Life – 211.51; Avesis Vision 66.10; Amazon – supplies,
309.87; American Solutions – timecards, 59.90; Automatic Business Controls - service fee, 480.00; Award Decals - decals, 394.18; Boston Fern – flowers, 41.00; Butler Machinery - battery, 198.74; Carson-Dellosa Publishing – supplies, 91.76; Cole Papers – paper, 3,502.69; Custodial Fund – advanced pays, 17,931.89; Dakota Supply lighting, 175.35; Dependable Sanitation – service, 1,238.00; Didax – supplies, 53.47; Dollar General – bleach, 25.50; Seth Duncan – dues, 70.00; Seth Erickson - dues, 35.00; Groton Area – food, 342.75; Groton Chiropractic - physical, 95.00; Groton Daily Independent – le-gals, 574.53; Chelsea Hanson dues, 140.00; Hartford Steam Boiler - fee, 450.00; Hauff - supplies, 149.00; Hillyard - supplies, 889.79; Innovations Associates subscription, 110.00; JW Pepper music, 216.99; Ken's – food,
249.90; Lakeshore Learning – supplies, 140.77; Lori's - card, .99; McLeod's – supplies, 90.78; Menards - lights, 19.94; Nasco – supplies, 206.26; Northside Implement – repairs, 6,970.83; Northwestern Energy - utilities, – supplies, 189.08; OTC Brands 268.44; Really Good Stuff - supplies, 158.56; Robotics Foundation – fee, 550.00; rSchoolToday - service fee, 75.00; Scholastic - subscriptions, 4,288.69; School Datebooks - planners, 588.00; School Specialty - supplies, 3,856.05; SD Dept of Labor – claim, 355.25; Stan Houston – supplies, 124.25; Teacher Created Resources - supplies, 228.51; Teacher Direct - supplies, 1,367.22; Trugreen Aberdeen – service, 456.00; Shaun Wanner – dues, 35.00. Total General Fund - \$154,730.30. CAPITAL OUTLAY: Amazon texts/equipment, 2,217.20; American Solutions - board/ library film, 1,214.95; Apple – iPads, 4,799.60; Brainpop – subscription, 2,550.00; Choice Financial – lease, 23,824.05; Custodial Fund – advanced pays, 29,194.49; D2L Ltd - software, 15,000.00; DigitalBuyer – equip-ment, 743.00; Don Donley – construction, 3,975.00; Hauff – equipment, 491.90; Hewlett Packard – léase, 16,637.87; Lakeshore Learning - equipment, 1,038.22; Mapshop – maps, 714.52; Menards – COVID shields, 1,972.11; My Turn Playsystems - woodchips, 2,920.00; NASCO – equipment, 51.82; NCS Pearson – software, 1,895.25; OTC Brands – equipment, 39.77; Palos Sports – equipment, 49.93; Really Good Stuff - equipment, 463.51; Renaissance - subscription, 10,356.00; School Specialty – equipment, 503.58; Taylor Music – cart, 615.00; Virco – desks, 13,527.28. Total Capital

Outlay - \$134,795.05.

SPECIAL ED: Net Salary -817.79; FIT - 152.03; Medicare - 32.62; FICA - 139.28; SD Retirement - 134.78; Avera St Luke's - PT/OT, 1,240.12; Custodial Fund – advance pays, 440.54; Rebecca Erickson grant, 887.13; NCS Pearson supplies, 110.00; OTC Brands supplies, 58.31; School Specialty – supplies, 260.82; Super Duper Publications – supplies, 176.69; Sydney Wilkinson grant, 840.00. Total Special Ed

\$5,290.11. ENTERPRISE: Food Service: Net Salary – 1,844.51; FIT – 236.89; Medicare – 70.10; FICA – 299.78; SD Retirement – 302.32; AFLAC – 82.81; Wellmark – 763.00; Standard Life - 1.92; Avesis Vision - 19.06; Loren & Katie Osterman – refund 18.45; Reinhart Foodservice supplies, 1,194.81. Total Fund 51 – \$4,833.65. OST: Net Salary 2,289.41; FIT - 52.83; Medicare – 78.66; FICA – 336.36; SD Retirement – 325.50; Groton Area – mileage refund, 2,212,56 Total Fund 53 – \$5,205.32. Total Enterprise Funds - \$10,038.97. CUSTODIAL FUND: Total \$88,717,41.

**RECEIPTS:** Local Sources Taxes – 581,257.01; Other Lo-cal Sources – 5,934.69; Coun-ty Sources – 2,303.39; State Sources – 2,107.13; Federal Sources – 342.00. Total Receipts \$591,944.22.

Members of the public are allowed five minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. With no public members requesting to speak, the board proceeded with their agenda items.

Superintendent Schwan discussed COVID-19 issues as they relate to the upcoming schoo year. Topics included remote learning registration, high school air conditioning, school starting on August 19th with regular in-person instruction, close contacts to quarantine for 14 days, secondary close contacts not subject to quarantine, a posi-tive case may or may not close a school building, symptomatic individuals should stay home, individuals with exclusion from school will follow the district's communicable diseases policy for non-COVID illnesses, ASBSD working on formal resolution to treat all school staff as Critical Infrastructure Employees, continue consideration of Department of Health COVID Sentine Surveillance testing program, Fall athletics protocols and discussion of fan attendance at home and away events.

The following topics were discussed in administrative reports: Brightspace learning platform, Kindergarten starting August 20th, preschool starting the week of August 24th, teacher evaluations, updating on-line programs from Amplify, Ed Platform and Renaissance Learning, 15 gallons of hand sanitizer donated by POET, recess and hallway supervision, elementary lunch schedule, Dual Credit student schedules, MS/HS Schedule Change Day on August 12th, 6th grade open house on August 14th, 4th quarter profit/loss statement and Assigned General Fund accounts. Bus Supervisor Loren Bahr presented 2020-21 school bus routes for review. Moved by Weismantel, second Harder to adopt as presented. Motion carried. Moved by Rix, second Fliehs to approve resignation from elementary paraprofessional Sarah Dennert. Motion carried. The board acknowledged receipt of public-school exemptions #21-03, #21-04 and #21-05. Moved by Gengerke, second Pharis to approve open enrollment applications #21-14 and #21-15. Motion carried. Moved by Fliehs, second Weismantel to adjourn at 8:38 pm. Motion carried.

M. J. Weber, Business Manager

Steven R. Smith, President The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes

as official. Published once at the total approximate cost of \$122.45. 19172

#### Westport Town Aug. 3, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Town of Westport General Meeting

August 3rd, 2020

The Town of Westport met on August 3rd, 2020 with Shane torm, Mike Wilson, and Doreen Hertel present.

The following expenses were presented:

City General

NWPS (\$253.52), Groton In-dependent (\$37.90), Darin Mc-Gaugh (\$330.64), Brown County Treasurer – Mosquito spraying (\$290.40), Intuit-checks and supplies (\$316.97), State of SD – Overpayment (\$1,876.53), Darwin Hinz (\$500.00), & Tim Selzler (\$25.00).

Sewer

NWPS (\$47.02) & NRWA -loan repayment (\$210.13), Dakota ump and Control (\$581.63).

Water WEB (\$1,749.98) & Water

Maintenance District (\$408.16). Shane Storm made motion to pay all bills; second by Mike

/ilson. The following deposits were

resented: City General

Brown County Collections (\$487.84), State of SD \$3,789.18), Building Permits \$50.00), Sacred Heart Church Mowing (\$1,070.00) & Interest

(\$3.53). Sewer

Resident Payments-\$2,100.00).

Water

Resident Payments -

3,892.62). NEW BUSINESS:

2021 budget was presented and approved.

Discussion was held on name specific volunteers that could be covered under workman's comp for \$10 extra per volunteer. The board will table until later.

A letter was received by the city for failure to report chlorine residuals. Shane will call Water Maintance district to find out why we were not in compliance.

Derek Schoenfelder was appointed to fill Tim Selzler board position. Then Mike Wilson gave is resignation. Mitch Wilson was then appointed to fill Mike's position. At next meeting it will be decided who will be President and Vice President.

may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 171 ATTEST:

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor (0805.0812)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$22.92. 19161

#### **Brown County** Gabler Rezoning Notice NOTICE

Application has been made by Bradley Gabler and Brian Brakefield to the Brown County Board of Commissioners for a change of zoning. Hearing to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota on August 18, 2020 at 8:45 A.M. for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG):

Lot 1 & 2, Gabler-Brakefield Addition in the NE1/4 of Section 22-T122N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota; Lot 1, "Johnson South Subdivision" and Lot 1, "Johnson South 2nd Subdivision" in the NE1/4 of section 22-T122N-R64W, Brown County, South Dakota. (38585 139th St and 38579 139th St)

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the amendment to Second Revision Brown County Ordinances pertaining to rezoning the described property. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 173

ATTEST: Cathy McNickle, Brown County

Auditor (0805.0812) Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$27.04.

#### 19163 Brown County Aug. 4, 2020 **Meeting Minutes** AUGUST 4, 2020 - GENERAL

MEETING

Meeting called to order by Commission Chair Kippley at 8:45 A.M. in the Community Room, Courthouse Annex Basement, Brown County, SD, Present were Commissioners Wiese, Feickert, Fjeldheim and Sutton. Commissioner Fjeldheim led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

Moved by Fjeldheim, sec-onded by Wiese to approve the general meeting minutes of July Ž8th, 2020. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. CLAMS:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by

Inc \$1,500.00; Sanford Health Occupational \$192.00; SD De-partment of Environment & Natural Resources \$13,803.49; SD State 4-H Office \$65.00. Publishing: Aberdeen American News \$652.53; Groton Independent \$402.57. Repairs & Maintenance: Aberdeen Plumbing & Heating \$819.14; Custom Sheet Metal \$206.50; Dakota Sup-ply Group \$54.53; Farm Power \$48.05; Timothy C. Gardner \$131.00; Haar Plumbing & Heat-ing Ing (56 565 10); Common Lux ing Inc \$6,565.10; Cameron Lux \$2,589.00; APH Stores \$8.54; House of Glass \$2492.21; Jake's Heating & Cooling \$170.70; Jebro Inc \$120.00; Jensen Rock & Sand Inc \$1,209.30; Leidholt Electric LLC \$225.43; Loiseau Construction Inc \$185,521.34; Pro Windmill Inc \$320.00; Otis Elevator \$60.60; Ringgenberg Electric Inc \$214.44; Vosika Fencing \$786.00; Woodman Re-frigeration \$1,875.95. Supplies: Agtegra Cooperative \$1,397.49; Fedex \$11.82; Heartland Paper \$3,520.43; APH Stores Inc \$25.99; Jebro Inc \$79,856.97; Labsource Inc \$251.80; Mac's Inc \$158.94; Marco Inc \$31.09; Menards \$239.51; State of South Dakota \$1,336.26; Runnings \$297.96; Share Corp \$306.00. Travel & Conf.: Stan Beckler \$18.33; Darwin Bettmann \$5.08; Canterbury \$412.50; City of Groton \$211.68; Patrick Keatts \$22.74; Dale Kurth \$75.02; David North \$70.32; Jerome T. Streckfuss \$23.32; Rachel Wilson \$299.76. Utilities: AT&T \$320.84; Quest Corporation \$2,208.62; James Valley Telecommuni-cation \$215.90; Midcontinent communications \$128.81; Montana Dakota utilities Co. \$29.22; Northwestern Energy & Communication \$18,733.31; Northern Valley Communication \$2,460.74; Zastrow's Sales & Service 85.09. Other: Terry Aesoph \$100.00; John Anderson \$200.00; Karla Anderson \$100.00; Arbonne International \$375.00; Jeff Arnesen \$200.00; Steven & Sue Arnesen \$200.00; Michele & Scott Bretsch \$200.00; Mandy Bunke \$100.00; Carolyn's

Doll Closet \$640.00; Kayla &

Tim Cavalier \$160.00; Kent Chapin \$200.00; Dazzle for Days \$375.00; Domino's Pizza \$1,100.00; First United Method-

ist \$695.00; Tigh Fliehs \$200.00;

ies \$400.00; Rich Gross \$200.00;

HB Enterprises USA \$400.00;

Tara Hall \$200.00; Angela & Chris Hase \$225.00; Amy Heim

\$100.00; Ed Heinz \$200.00; Tina

Hoellein \$160.00; Shelly Holida

\$100.00; Holscher Carpentry \$320.00; Steven Holm \$160.00;

Jordan Holt \$160.00; Kristie

Hoon \$200.00; Jeff Howard \$225.00; Justin & Lisa Jessop \$200.00; Mary Lu & Mike Job

\$200.00; Ken-Rich Enterprises

HR REPORT:

Custodial

Fund

0.00

0.00

4,092.08

86,472.74

86,472.74

86,472.74

161,560.84 3,624,964.19

161,560.84 3,624,964.19

165,652.92 4,216,883.41

79,180.18 3,729,420.55

79,180.18 3,729,420.55 0.00 (0.00) 4,092.08 591,944.22

Total for

591,919.22

487,462.86

487,462.86

487,487.86

District

0.00

0.00

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to approve the fol-lowing HR Office Report, which includes the following personnel changes: Acknowledge resignation of Justin Yablonski Brown County Correctional Officer, full-time, effective August 15 2020 and approve request to fill vacancy. Approve hiring of Joseph Kretchman, Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, full-time, starting wage \$16.65 per hour; effective August 10, 2020. All members present voting aye. Motion carried

ABATEMENTS:

Moved by Fjeldheim, sec-onded by Feickert to approve the following abatements from tax deed sale: Brown County Lt 15-16 Blk 2 Park Addition Westport City in the amount of \$484.27; Brown County Lt 5 Blk Nicollet Park Add Aberdeen City in the amount of \$2,349.66; Brówn County W1/4 Lt 5 & Lt 6 Blk 75 Hagerty & Lloyd Ad-dition Aberdeen in the amount of \$4,995.79; Brown County W42' Lt 7 & W 42' of 12.5' Lt 8 Bk 80 Bennett & Thomas Addition Aberdeen in the amount of \$3,029.64. All members present

voting aye. Motion carried. CARES ACT REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to authorize chair sign CARES ACT State of South Dakota local government Covid recovery fund reimbursement agreement between Brown County and the State of South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. LOTTERY PERMIT:

Moved by Fjeldheim, sec-onded by Wiese to approve the following lottery permit: Aspire Foundation Inc raffle at August 15, 2020. Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert- aye, Sutton- abstain, Wiese – aye, Fjeldheim- aye, Kippley – aye. Motion Carried.

SUMMER FEST CONTRACT:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to approve the fol-lowing Summer Fest Contracts: Keith Raymond (entertainment) @ \$4,000; Freddie Prez (enter-tainment) @ \$11,500; Glberg Entertainment (Swampsong, LLC) (entertainment) @ \$4,000; Pauer Sound & Músic (sound systems); All member present voting ave. Motion carried

Justin Freeland \$225.00; G-Haak Sales \$320.00; Grassland Good-APPLICATION FOR OCCU-PANCY:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve the following application for occupancy sub-mitted by Northern Valley Communications for occupancy of Brown County Highway Number 12W, in section 17 & 20. townshin Range 64, Brown County, SD for telecommunications. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Feickert, seconded Sutton to annrove

#### MONTHLY DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 06-6 For the reporting period beginning July 1, 2020, and ending July 31, 2020

Special

0.00

7,498.47

7,498.47

8,289.47

7,498.47

0.00

0.00

**Education Redemption** 

282,971.70157,818.14

282,971.70157,818.14

8,289.47 1,797.00

291,261.17159,615.14

283,762.70159,615.14

283,762.70159,615.14

Bond

0.00

0.00

0.00

0.00

0.00

0.00

1,797.00

Enterprise

51,718.27

51,718.27

Fund

0.00

(25.00)

51,693.27

8,918.29

8,918.29

42,774.98

42,774.98

8,943.29

0.00

0.00

0.00

Capital

Outlav

0.00

0.00

0.00

1,494,432.18

1,494,432.18

11,542.71

1,505,974.89

132,772.95

132,772.95

1,373,201.94

1,373,201.94

11,542.71

132,772.95

General	Assigned
Description Fund	Gen Funds
1. Beginning Balance 1,310,020.82	166,442.24
a. checking1,310,020.82	166,442.24
b. petty cash 0.00	0.00
2. Transfers in	
3. Revenue to date	0.00
4. Total accounted for 1,876,243.78	166,442.24
5. Transfers out	,
6. Expenditures to date 249,555.74	2,244.67
a. encumbrances0.00	0.00
b. disbursements	2,244.67
7. Ending Balance1,626,688.04	164,197.57
a. checking1,626,688.04	164,197.57
b. petty cash (0.00)	<b>0.00</b>
June Receipts	0.00
June Expenses	2,244.67
Custodial Checking	213,832.45
District Checking	2,015,588,10
Certificate of Deposit	1,500,000.00
Total all Funds	3,729,420.55
	-,, 120100

Doreen Hertel, Finance Officer Published once at the total approximate cost of \$20.86. 19173

#### **Brown County Brewer Rezoning** Notice

NOTICE

Application has been made by Amber Brewer to the Brown county Board of Commissioners for a change of zoning. Hearing to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota on August 18, 2020 at 8:45 A.M. for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG):

East 30 Rods of South 55 Rods in the SE1/4 of Section 25-T124N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. (12891 388th Ave)

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the amendment to Second Revision Brown County Ordinances pertaining to rezoning the described property. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission

Wiese to approve the following claims and payroll: Payroll: Commission

\$4,285.10; Auditor \$8,730.13; Treasurer \$13,499.36; SA \$23,621.70; SVAWA \$1,730.76; Maintenance \$6,354.30; Assessor \$12,798.94; Register of Deeds \$8,983.39; VSO \$2,415.67; GIS \$2,387.50; IT \$7,915.83; HR \$2,173.85; Sheriff \$42,646.88; Jail \$53,412.97; Court Security \$5,733.66; JDC \$23,579.21; Welfare \$2,077.70; Museum \$6,919.51; Parks/Fair-grounds \$6,446.76; Fair Board \$4,953.76; 4-H \$614.01; Weed \$4,360.94; Planning & Zoning \$4,522.11; Highway \$44,285.49; Dispatch \$27,866.66; Emergency \$4,119.58; Teen Court \$648.61; JDAI \$1,941.53; 24/7 Sobriety \$531.65; Landfill \$15,297.89; Matching benefits: FICA \$21,430.07, Medicare \$5,011.88, Wellmark BCBS \$119,908.40, Delta Dental \$7,166.25, Life Insurance Dearborn National \$1,064.54, South Dakota State Retirement \$62,217.65.

Claims: Insurance: SDACC \$16,914.00. Professional Fees: Bantz, Gosch & Cremer LLC \$392.81; Clark Engineering Inc \$21,000.00; Christopher A. Haar \$6,937.05; Helms & Associates Inc \$202.50; Schwan Electric

\$800 00 er \$160.00• Tim Kess Darla Knox \$160.00; Jeremy Krueger \$200.00; Donn & Madonna Kuhfeld \$160.00; Doug Larson \$160.00; Lee Unlimited \$1,015.00; Torri Lesnar \$100.00; Little Blue Elephant \$1,100.00; Jeff McLoud \$100.00; Midnight Moon LLC \$320.00; Lonny & Krysti Mikkonen \$160.00; Jim Miller \$160.00; Cody Monson \$100.00; Don Pikarski \$200.00; Troy & Melanie Podoll \$160.00; Procomm Builders LLC \$800.00; R. Clausen Enterprises \$375.00; Tim Reitan \$140.00; Roy Boe Jr \$160.00; Codey Sauer \$200.00; Jeff Scheel \$160.00; Melis-sa Schultz \$225.00; Theresa Schumacher \$160.00; SD Attorney General's Office \$528.00; SD Right To Life \$320.00; SD Right To Life \$320.00; Jeremy Skoglund \$160.00; Darin Stange \$200.00; Mu-riel Stoecker \$648.90; Michelle Sumption \$100.00; The Brass Kettle \$1,100.00; The Junction \$900.00; Mike & Amanda Thorpe \$100.00; Jack Transport \$100.00; \$100.00; Jack Torrence \$160.00; Tuning Element \$480.00; Vogel's Street Treats \$800.00; Jonna Waage \$160.00; Taylor Walser \$200.00; Dale Wampler \$160.00; Scott West \$600.00; Jenna Wil-liams \$160.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ing application for occupancy submitted by Lawrence Escobin for occupancy of Brown County Highway Number 12W, in section 18, township 123N, Range 64W, Brown County, South Dakota for Network extension to T-Mobile A1R08474. All member present voting aye. Motion carried.

Highway Update:

Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent gave an update on effect of flooding at Elm Lake on roads. EMERGENCY DISASTER DEC-LARATION:

Scott Meints (Emergency Manager) met to give discuss Emergency Disaster Declaration status. Currently Brown County is not qualified and will not be applying for emergency disaster declaration.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:30a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Work Session held from 8:00a.m – 8:45a.m and from 9:30a.m. to 12:00 pm to work on 2021 budget.

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$87.86. 19174

Groton Independent  $\diamond$  Wed., Aug. 12, 2020  $\diamond$  3

#### **Groton City** Aug. 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes August 4, 2020

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00pm at the Community Center for their first monthly meeting with the following members present: Wells, Blackmun, Fliehs, Babcock and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also présent were: Attorney Drew Johnson, Finance Officer Hope Block, Paul Kosel, Emily Kappes, Darrell Hillstead, and Shawn Boesl.

Ward 2 Council person Damian Bahr's written resignation was accepted on a motion by Blackmun and seconded by Babcock. All members voted aye.

Emily Kappes was appointed to fill the vacant Ward 2 council person seat on a motion by Fliehs and seconded by Babcock. All members voted ave. Mavor Hanlon gave Kappes the Oath of Office.

Jon Cutler entered the meeting at 7:02pm. Darrell Hillstead and Shawn

Boesl explained the Fly In at the Groton Municipal Airport September 12th. They asked for assistance in serving food at the event, and would appreciate anyone being able to help to let them know soon.

Public comments were welcomed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1, and Block announced that Doug Hamilton wanted the board to be aware that the American Legion will be adding six new service flags, one new American flag, and new rocks at the Veteran's Circle at the cemetery. The approximate cost of the renovations is \$8,000. The board gave thanks to the American Legion. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved on a mo-

Cutler. All members voted aye. Moved by Fliehs and seconded by Kappes to authorize the following bills for payment. All members voted ave

Payroll, \$32,683.59, Employee salaries; Executive, \$577.19, Administrative, \$3,092.48, Public Safety, \$8,337.29, ; Public Works, \$9,462.20, ; Culture & Recreation, \$11,214.43, ; First State Bank, \$9,506.37, SS and WH ; First State Bank, \$466.66, HSA contributions; Dakotaland \$1,050.00, Employee sav-FCU, ings; Aflac, \$338.26, Employee insurance; Allied, \$10,410.74, Employee insurance; Colonial Life, \$340.78, Employee insurance; Guardian Insurance, \$140.52, Employee insurance; Employers Mutual Ins, \$85.20, Employee insurance; SD Retirement, \$9,330.95, Employee retirement; United States Treasury, \$66.04, PCORI fees required for enrollment in a health care program; City of Groton, \$189.29, Family crisis utility payments; City of Fountain Hill, \$46.19, CC payment mistakenly received, returned to owner; Pressure Washer Central, \$190.85, Valve kit for shop; Runnings, \$38.84, Oil, air filters; Share Corp, \$231.53, Cleaners at shop; Stan Houston, \$214.95, Blade; Lien Transportation, \$1,298.67, Hot mix; Fire Safety First, \$402.30, Annual inspection, recharges, first aide supplies; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$305.00, Employee

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G Months \$26.63
□ 9 Months
□ 12 Months \$42.60
'
Name:
Mailing Addres:
City

Implement, \$43.66, Cemetery mower belt; Poolweb Pool Spa & Supplies, \$286.84, Pool ropes, floats, hooks: Colonial Research, tion by Wells and seconded by \$125.55, Shop cleaners; Core & Main, \$28.63, Bends; S&S Lumber, \$595.89, Sewer plug, ring, cap, screws, bit, glue, live traps, sprayers, bolts, washers, bushing, gloves, outlet, spray paint,

trimmer line, field marker, starting fluid, chain link, hitch pin, screws, reflective letters, cable ties, angle, blades, basketball net; NW Energy, \$612.20, Natural gas; SD Municipal League, \$50.00, Elected official workshop registration fee; RDO, \$1,048.48, 1420 lawn mower radiator repair, replace gasket; Dustbusters, \$2,703.00, Dust control; Hy-doKlean, \$1,510.00, Jetting line west of town; Farmers Union, \$1,524.06, Fuel; Darrel's Sinclair, \$30.00, Bucket truck tire repair; Associated Supply Co., \$3,743.53, Pool chemicals; Groton Independent, \$236.91, Receipt books, publishing; Coca Cola, \$995.00, Soda for resale; Hansmeier & Son, \$117.50, Seed; Drew Johnson, \$950.00, Legal fees 7/20; A&B Solutions, \$386.63, Copier rent

supplemental retirement; Harry

Moved by Babcock and sec onded by Wells to approve the second reading of Ordinance #735 Water Rates. All members voted ave

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Cutler to allow Clark Engineering to submit the cost estimate for painting the water storage tank to the state water plan application. All members voted aye.

Babcock explained that the 5th Annual Pumpkin Fest will be held October 10th, 2020, and that the event insurance was free this year. Modifications will be made to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

Kami Lipp and Karla Pasteur entered the meeting at 7:26pm. Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Wells to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal items 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 7:32pm. All members voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:39pm. Moved by Wells and seconded

by Cutler to adjourn the meeting at 8:39pm. All members voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor

I

Hope Block, Finance Officer Published once at the total approximate cost of \$48.78. 19175

#### **Brown County Bierle Rezoning** Notice NOTICE

Application has been made by Randy Bierle to the Brown County Board of Commissioners for a change of zoning. Hearing to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota on August 18, 2020 at 8:45 A.M. for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07

Mini-Ag District (M-AG): Lot 2, "HAPI 2020-1 Subdivision" in the NE1/4 of the NW1/4 of Section 6-T123N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. (1522 130th St NE)

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the amendment to econd Revision Brown County Ordinances pertaining to rezoning the described property. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordi-nance No. 172

business hours and is available on our website Brown.SD.US

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance lo. 174. ATTEST

Cathy McNickle, Brown County

Auditor (0805.0812)

Published twice at the total pproximate cost of \$24.10. 19164

#### **Groton City** Larson/Kutter Variance

NOTICE OF VARIANCE HEAR-ING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Groton Planning & Zoning Commission will be holding a public hearing on August 24 2020 at 6:00pm CDT at City Hall, 209 N Main St, Groton, SD for a variance of Chapter 9, Section 9.0106 of the Groton Zoning Ordinance. This application was made by Terry Larson & Carol Kutter, 1106 N 1st St, Groton, SD, for the reduction in side yard to be 4 feet from the south property line on property legally described as Randall's Addition, Block 8, Lots 3-4. A variance is required for the reduction in required minimum side vard size in a Residential (R-1) District.

Any person wishing to present testimony for or against this variance may appear in person or by representative at the above time and place.

Hope Block

Zoning Administrator Published once at the total approximate cost of \$10.77. 19170

#### Groton City **Ord. 735** Water Rates

ORDINANCE NO. 735 An Ordinance entitled Amending Rates for Groton Municipal Utility Customers" to e effective October 1, 2020.

Be it ordained by the City of Groton, South Dakota that Section 4 of Ordinance No. 8-1-4 be amended to read as follows:

8-1-4 Rates Section 4. Water Rates:

The schedule of rates governing Residential or General Service Consumers of water in the City of Groton which follows is to be used for billing on a monthly basis throughout each year. Each water service is figured independently from any other water service at each customer's location.

a. Residential and General Service Water Customers Meter Charge: \$9.62 plus

Minimum charge: \$19.85 \$20.05 per month which in-

udes 0-2,000 gallons Next 18,000 gallons at \$5.16 5.26 per 1,000 gallons

Over 20,000 gallons per month at \$4.58 \$4.68 per ,000 gallons.

Plus, Water Surcharge: \$11.50 per customer who receives or benefits from the new water tower (this surcharge is to be implemented whether or not the water is capped, to be removed in July of 2049)

b. Bulk water rate: \$6.00 per 1000 gallons

c. Residential Low Income Discount

A \$9.62 per month discount will be allowed on the meter charge of residential consumers for a period of 12 months (from January to Decembe consumer provides proof that the family is eligible to receive low income fuel assistance (LIEAP). d. Residential or General Service consumers found to be using unmetered water furnished by the City of Groton water system shall be disconnected until a meter is installed by the property owner. Passed First Reading: 7/21/20 Passed Second Reading: 8/4/20 Published: 8/12/20 Attest:

by Rasmussen the following warrants: General: GDI, publishing, 303.18; Missi Smith, 14.5 hr mow, 147.31; Dacotah Bank, city hall loan, 573.55; James Valley, telecommunication's , 89.00; NWE, street lights and power, 471.; Charla Rye, wage, 350.00; WSSW: NWE, sewer, 101.87 BDM, water purchased, 1336.00; RD-USDA, loan, 576.; Vacating 8th Ave. has been tabled for the time being.Water will be shut off for non payment of bills on a motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Spencer. Motion carried. On a motion by Spencer and seconded by Rasmussen to adjourn. Motion carried. CRye F.O.

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$10.58. 19177

### 2020-2021 Groton Area **School District Back to School Information**

#### Groton Area School District 06-6 -'Mission Statement"

Each school will foster a school climate conducive to learning by encouraging good behavior and citizenship, good attendance, a thirst for knowledge, and high academic standards. Teachers will employ strategies and approaches to instruction to meet the needs of all children assigned to them. With proper motivation and instruction, all children can learn!

#### **Teacher Qualifications**

All teachers of core academic subjects must hold at least a bachelor's degree, have full state certification, and demonstrate knowledge in the core academic subject they teach. For information regarding the qualifications of your child's teachers, you may contact the superintendent's office at 397-2351.

#### **Registration**

Anyone new to the District should contact the respective building principal(s) as soon as possible. Middle School and High School Schedule changes can be made on Wednesday, August 12, 2020 from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. New student registration for students entering grades JK-5 will be held on Tuesday, August 6 at the Elementary School.

#### **School Supply Lists**

Students' school supply lists for the elementary school (preschool – grade 5) are posted on the District's web site at <u>www.grotonarea</u>. com under the District Info Heading. Students in the middle school (grades 6-8) will be required to have the same color notebook, folder, and book cover for each class. Math will be green; English, blue; reading, red; science, purple; and social studies, black. The students can choose their own colors for PE, art, health, and computer classes.

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Welcome Walk – Friday, Au-<u>qust 14</u>

Groton Area Middle School is hosting a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Welcome Walk on Friday, August 14 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Students and their parents are invited to contact the MS/HS Office at 605-397-8381 to schedule an appointment to get a class schedule and other important information from the school office, find the student locker and classrooms, and begin to learn the new building.

#### Tablet PCs or Ipads Issued to All Students

Prior to being issued their tablet PC, students and their parents must sign and return une following documents: Laptop Computer Protection Agreement, the Student Pledge, E-mail Acceptable Use Agreement, the Groton Area School District Network/Internet agreement, and the Parental Consent to Publish Student Photos/Work. Required forms can be picked up in the School Office or will be sent home with students on the first day of classes.

State, Zip Code

Phone Number

The following will be used for your log-in information.

E-mail

Password



Pay with Paypal. Type the following into your browser window:

#### paypal.me/paperpaul

Mail Completed Form to: Groton Independent P.O. Box 34 Groton, SD 57445-0034 or scan and email to paperpaul@grotonsd.net

ATTEST Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

(0805.0812) Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$23.51. 19162

#### **Brown County** Titles 4-5 Hearing Notice NOTICE OF HEARING OF THE

BROWN COUNTY COMMIS-SION

REGARDING AN AMENDMENT TO SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDI-

NANCE, TITLE 4 AND TITLE 5 A public hearing will be held by the Brown County Commission on the 18th day of August, 2020 beginning at 8:47 a.m. in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, to consider an ordinance amending Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, Title 4 Zoning, Chapters 4.01 – 4.07 and 4.32; Title 5 Subdivision Regulations, Chapter 5.01. The proposed ordinance will be made available for public nspection at the Brown County

Scott Hanlon, Mayor

Hope Block, Finance Officer Published once at the total approximate cost of \$22.86. 19176

#### **Claremont Town** Aug. 4, 2020

Meeting Minutes The board of trustees for the town of Claremont met in regular session on 8-4-2020 at 7:00p.m. in city hall. President Johnson called the meeting to order with trustees Rasmussen and Spencer present. The minutes of the July meeting were approved on a motion by Rasmussen and seconded

by Spencer motion carried. On a motion by Spencer and seconded

#### First Day of School – Wednesday, Au-<u>gust 19</u>

The first day of school is on Wednesday, August 19. Buses will run and school lunch will be served. Each route driver will contact parents to confirm bus arrival times. Other bus route questions may be referred to transportation supervisor, Loren Bahr, at (605) 397-8117. The GRASP (OST) program at the elementary school will be available on the first day of school.

Continues on next page

#### Continued from previous page

#### Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten

The District offers all-day, every day kindergarten classes. Children may enter kindergarten if they are 5 years of age on or before September 1 of the year in which they are to enter school. The District offers a junior kindergarten program each day from 12:15PM - 3:31PM for students that are eligible to attend kindergarten, but are not quite ready for kindergarten. Students enrolling in first grade must be 6 years of age on or before September 1 of that school year.

#### Non-Resident Enrollment

For out-of-district students, applications to open enroll may be accepted throughout the school year. Applications are available from any school district administrative office. All open enrollment requests and related questions should be referred to school superintendent, Joe Schwan, at (605) 397-2351.

#### 2020-2021 School Hours

Groton Area Elementary: 8:15AM: Arrival Time (Supervision)

8:22AM – 3:31PM: Classes in Session Groton Area MS/HS: 8:13 AM: First Bell 8:18AM – 3:40PM: Classes in Session

#### **GRASP (OST) Program**

The GRASP program services children in junior kindergarten through grade five with before and after-school homework help, supervised learning activities, and snacks. The GRASP program will be held in the Groton Area Elementary School from 7:00AM -8:00AM and 3:31PM – 6:00PM each day that school is in session. Rates are \$2.75 per hour, per child. Any OST questions or registrations may be directed to Elementary Principal, Mr. Brett Schwan, at (605) 397-2317.

#### K-12 Breakfast and Lunch Program

The school provides breakfast and lunch for all students each day school is in session. All meals are on a cash basis (i.e. pay as you go), while recognizing the provisions for free and reduced price meals. Guidelines for 2020-2021 applications for free and reduced priced meals were mailed out the week of August 10<sup>th</sup>. Parents are encouraged to apply for free and reduced priced meals if there is a possibility they may qualify. Prices are as follows:

Groton Area Elementary:

Daily Breakfast: \$2.50

Daily Lunch: \$3.25

Prices for second servings at the elementary are \$1.00.

Groton Area Middle School/High School: Daily Breakfast: \$3.00

Daily Lunch: \$3.75

Prices for second servings at the middle/high school are \$1.25.

#### Activity Tickets

Activity tickets are intended to admit all students to regularly scheduled home activities or events, with about the only exceptions being tournaments and the Pops Concert. Students in grades 1-5 may purchase an activity ticket, if they wish. All students who participate in activities for which an activity stipend is paid are required to purchase an activity ticket as a condition of participation since they are the primary beneficiaries of the activity programs. For example, staff activity stipends include: all sports, marching band, forensics, cheerleading, drama, oral interp, DI, FFA, FCCLA, FBLA etc.

addresses (when available) to the school so that a selected calling list can be created. Emergency cancellations will be broadcast over TV stations KSFY, KDLT, and KELO as well as the District Facebook page and website, <u>www.</u> <u>grotonarea.com</u>, and by push notifications on the District app (Groton Area Tigers, SD).

#### Groton Area Tigers, SD Mobile App

The Groton Area School District has a mobile application available for both Apple and Android devices. Search "Groton Area Tigers, SD" in your app store and download the free ously conducts a "Child Find" search to identify app. Be sure to set up the app to allow push notifications to receive timely and important updates from your child's school. The app includes event calendars, athletics schedules, staff contacts, school menus, access to upto-date news and information and access to archived documents.

# <u>13-28-7.1)</u>

State law requires that any pupil entering school or an early childhood program in the state shall, prior to admission, be required to present the appropriate school authorities states each year for Title I services. The goal certification from a licensed physician that the of Title I is to provide extra help in math and new child has received or is in the process of receiving adequate immunization against poliomyelitis, diphtheria, pertussis, rubeola, rubella, mumps, tetanus, and varicella, according to recommendations provided by the Department of Health. The Department of Health may modify or delete any of the required immunizations. As an alternative to the requirement for a physician's certification, the **fication** pupil may present:

the physical condition of the child would be Title I dollars (Groton Area Elementary), such that immunization would endanger the child's life or health; or

or guardian that the child is adherent to a religious doctrine whose teachings are opposed to such immunization; or

or guardian requesting that the local health department give the immunization because the parents or guardians lack the means to pay for such immunization.

Students enrolling in 6<sup>th</sup> grade are required to get one dose of Tetanus, Diptheria, Pertussis (Tdap) vaccine and one does of Meningococcal vaccine on or after their 11<sup>th</sup> birthday.

#### Harassment and Bullying Policies

The district has harassment & bullying policies in place in both buildings. Bullying among students can be defined as intentional, repeated hurtful acts, words or other behavior, such as name-calling, threatening and/or shunning committed by one or more students against another. This definition also includes the Groton Area School District #06-6 are "cyber-bullying" which is the sending or posting of cruel or harmful texts or images using the Internet or other digital media such as cell phones, etc. For a complete copy of the district's harassment or bullying policy, please

recipient on a selected list. Parents will be stakeholder who has a complaint regarding asked to provide phone numbers and e-mail the use of federal funds and is unable to solve the issue, may address the complaint in writing to the district's superintendent. Disputes addressing the enrollment, transportation, and other barriers to the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness are also addressed under this procedure. For a copy of the complete policy, contact the school superintendent or refer to the District web site. Child Find

#### Parents or guardians are to be informed that the Groton Area School District 06-6 continuand evaluate District children ages 0-21, with special education needs. Persons who know of a child with un-served education needs may refer the child, by name, to the appropriate building principal. With the parent or guardian's consent, an evaluation will be made. After the evaluation has been completed, a **Immunization Requirements (SDCL** placement committee will meet with the parent or guardian to determine if special assistance is needed.

#### <u>Title I</u>

The federal government provides funding to reading for eligible students. Students are selected for the program based on information provided by classroom teachers, parents, and achievement test results. Title I services in our district are provided to students in grades K-5, with a strong emphasis on students in grades K-3.

# <u>Title I Right to Know – Teacher Certi-</u>

As a parent or guardian of a student at-Certificate from a licensed physician stating tending a school that is receiving Federal you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the teacher(s) and instruc-A written statement signed by one parent tional paraprofessionals who instruct your child. We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask: 1. Whether the teacher met state qualifica-A written statement signed by one parent tions and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching; 2. Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and; 3. What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

You may also ask whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional. If your child receives this assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

#### Federal Compliance Notice

Students, their parents, and employees of hereby notified that this school district does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, national origin, color, age, disability or religion in employment practices and educational activities. To ensure compliance with Section 427 of GEPA, effective steps shall be taken to remove potential barriers so as to ensure equity of access and participation in grant programs and to achieve high standards. Any person having inquiries concerning compliance or application of Title VI, Affirmative Action, Title IX, Section 504, and the Americans with Disabilities Act is directed to contact Federal Program compliance coordinator, Joe Schwan, there is a need to share your concern, contact Superintendent, Groton Area School District 06-6, Phone 397-2351 or, Department of Education, Civil Rights Office, 8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037, Kansas City, MO 64114; Phone: (816) 268-0550; TTD (800) 4370-0833; FAX: (816) 823-1404; Web link: http://www.ed.gov/ about/offices/list/ocr/index.html?src=mr

#### Activity Ticket prices for 2020-2021 are as follows:

Grades 1-5: \$25.00 Grades 6-12: \$30.00 Adults: \$45 (10 events) Adults – All Events: \$75.00 Admission Prices: Adults = \$5.00; \$6.00 for double headers Students, Grades 1-12 = \$4.00**School Cancellations** 

All school cancellations or early dismissals due to inclement weather or emergencies will be sent out via the Apptegy Messenger System. Within minutes, Apptegy automatically sends a pre-recorded message to every

contact the building principal.

#### **Grievance Procedure**

In an effort to maintain effective communications, if you have a particular concern about your child's progress or about what is happening on the bus, at school, in a class or activity, first discuss it with the driver, teacher, or director of the activity. If your concern or grievance remains unresolved at that level, or if the principal in charge of the school in which your child attends. If the concern/grievance remains unresolved at that level, contact the superintendent. If school policy is at issue or if the concern grievance remains unresolved, you may request that the superintendent include the subject on the school board meeting agenda. To maintain confidentiality, student matters may be confined to an "executive session" with the Board and administration.

#### Complaint Policy for Federal Programs and Homelessness Policy

#### **FERPA Notification of Rights**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible

#### **Continues on next page**

A parent, student, employee, or district Groton Independent & Wed., Aug. 12, 2020 & 5

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students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the Groton Area School District receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the Groton Area School District to amend a record should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or sup-

cal staff and law enforcement unit personnel) an institutional service of function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and main- students, parents, employees, and all protenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer.

The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Groton Area School District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202 **Student Directory Information** 

discloses names, addresses, and telephone on the periodic monitoring of the condition numbers to the South Dakota Board of Re- of asbestos (ACBM) remaining in the school gents, South Dakota Technical Institutions, and buildings. Anyone that would like to see the upon request, to military recruiters, subject Asbestos Management Plan can contact a to a parent's or eligible student's request not building principal or superintendent.

port staff member (including health or medi- to disclose such information without written consent. Parents or eligible students who wish or a person serving on the school board. A to opt-out of the disclosure of this information school official also may include a volunteer or may contact the school office for the appropricontractor outside of the school who performs ate document or may obtain it here: https:// bit.ly/3fFyC58

#### Notice of Nondiscrimination

Applicants for admission and employment, fessional organizations holding negotiated agreements or professional agreements with the school district are hereby notified that this district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, age, gender, disability, national origin, or ancestry in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities.

#### Section 504

Section 504 is the part of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 that applies to persons with disabilities. Section 504 is a civil rights act that protects the civil and constitutional rights of persons with disabilities. It states that no person with a disability can be excluded from or denied benefits of any program receiving federal financial assistance. Section 504 and special education are two separate services.

#### Notification of Asbestos in School Building(s)

In compliance with the Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools Rule, the Groton Area School District had its school buildings inspected on 3/19/2019 by an asbestos inspector, accredited by the state of South Dakota. During that inspection, areas of suspected asbestos (ACBM) were identified and inspected. The Groton Area School District has an Asbestos The Groton Area School District routinely Management Plan which provides information

SOUTH DAKOTA NEWS WATCH

Inform. Enlighten. Illuminate.

# Smoking, and possibly vaping, can increase risks of serious health consequences from COVID-19

Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

A growing body of medical research shows nesota (14.5%). that cigarette smokers and possibly e-ciganon-users.

Medical professionals across the country increase a person's chances of getting CO-VID-19 in the first place, though research on month. that connection remains anecdotal or incompiete.

Youth use of tobacco and vaping prod- cy Ellefson, a respiratory therapy program rette users face a significantly higher risk for ucts in South Dakota is also a concern for specialist at the Sanford Wellness Center in serious complications from COVID-19 than health officials. In 2017, 10.1% of South Da- Sioux Falls. "If people are worried about COkota high school students reported smoking VID-19 and having infection or getting a secigarettes at least once in the past month, vere infection, there's one thing you can do are also worried that smoking or vaping may while 17.3% of high-schoolers and 2.5% of quickly, and that is you can guit smoking and middle-schoolers reported vaping in the past you can guit vaping."

to quit.

control efforts by states and the nation.

are just adding fuel to the fire," said Dar-

The federal Centers for Disease Control The American Lung Association in 2020 & Prevention lists smoking among a dozen gave South Dakota "F" grades in four of five conditions that might put people at greater

The research is strongest on the connec- measurements it uses to gauge tobacco- risk of severe illness from COVID-19. tion between smoking and COVID-19 in regard to the risk of severe complications, including death.

Doctors and researchers are also increasingly concerned that vaping, using hookahs and smoking marijuana may carry many of the same risks as cigarette smoking when it comes to the coronavirus, an airborne virus that attacks the respiratory system.

The findings are highly relevant in South Dakota, which in 2019 led all neighboring states in the rate of cigarette smoking, with 19.3% of adults currently smoking, according to the American Lung Association. That rate is 18% higher than the national average of 16.4% and more than 25% higher than smoking rates in Nebraska (15.4%) or Min-

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**Darcy Ellefson** 

Reports in the New England Journal of Health professionals in South Dakota and Medicine in April and May found that smokacross the country are highlighting the dan- ers were 2.4 times more likely to have segers of smoking and vaping to inform the vere symptoms from COVID-19 and 1.79 public and improve overall public health, but times more likely to die than non-smokers. also to send a mes- The Nicotine & Tobacco Research group resage that increased ported in May 2020 that an analysis of 19 health risks amid the peer-reviewed studies indicated that propandemic should pro- gression of COVID-19 symptoms occurred at vide one more reason nearly twice the rate in smokers compared to non-smokers.

> "I think we just need In South Dakota, about 22% of the roughly to use our common 9,000 cases of COVID-19 reported as of Aug. sense in that smok- 3 were either in smokers or former smokers, ing and vaping cause according to Joshua Clayton, state epidemiinflammation in your ologist. About half of the ongoing chronic lungs, and COVID-19 conditions reported by COVID-19 patients in attacks the lungs, so South Dakota were related to smoking, Claysmoking and vaping ton said.

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Breaking data down by gender, male CO-VID-19 patients had a higher rate of smoking or being former smokers (23.7%) than they are currently smokers, the highest smoking rates were in the age range of 20-29 (12.4%) and the range of 30-39 (12.8%).

A News Watch analysis of COVID-19 case counts across the Great Plains does not appear to indicate a clear connection between the smoking rate and rate of infection from the coronavirus. The review showed that South Dakota has not seen a disproportionate number of cases compared to neighboring states with lower smoking rates.

Still, Clayton said smokers should do their best to quit as soon as possible.

may increase your risk of severe illness from COVID-19," Clayton wrote to News Watch in an email. "If you currently smoke, quit. If you used to smoke, don't start again and if you've never smoked, don't start."

Clayton urged people who want help quitting to visit the South Dakota Quitline website at sdquitline.com or to call 1-866-737-8487.

Smoking cigarettes or marijuana, vaping nicotine or nicotine-free gels, or using a hookah can heighten the dangers associated with COVID-19 in a handful of ways, most tied to the inflammation they all cause in the lungs.

First, smoking or inhaling any chemicals into the lungs can damage or kill the cilia in the lungs that, when healthy, act like brushes to clear away dirt and viruses from sensitive lung tissues, thereby reducing the chance of infection. Damage to cilia can make lungs more susceptible to any virus, including coronavirus.

Smokers also tend to have more phlegm in their lungs, which can grab hold of viruses and increase the chance of infection, Ellefson said.

Cigarette smoking is also linked to other serious health problems, including a host of respiratory illnesses, that are known as comorbidities to coronavirus, or pre-existing conditions that increase the risk of serious complications from COVID-19.

People who smoke or vape also tend to make many hand-to-mouth movements each day, increasing the chance of introducing the coronavirus into their systems, Ellefson said.

One of the emerging risk factors from nicotine taken by smoking or vaping is an increase in what are known as angiotensinconverting enzyme-2, or ACE2, epithelial cells in the bronchial system. ACE2 enzymes are part of what allows viruses to attach or take hold in the lungs, making smokers and possibly vape users more likely to suffer infection from any virus. In regard to the SARS CoV-2 virus, the coronavirus now sweeping the planet, one unique feature is that it appears to be much more likely to bind to ACE2 cells than other viruses. That may make smokers and vape users more susceptible to COVID-19 than non-users of nicotine, according to a May 2020 article in the European Respiratory Journal. "Cigarette smoke has been identified and linked to increasing expression of the binding site for the cause of the 2020 pandemic," the May article noted. "With this, an avoidable and potentially gigantic risk-factor has emerged for COVID-19."

regard to vaping, numerous articles highlight the increased risks of vaping in relation to cardiovascular health, and particularly lung health.

As a lung doctor who is also a pediatrician women (16.2%). Among those reporting and a parent, Brian Williams of the University of Wisconsin said he was disappointed to see e-cigarettes and vaping products marketed as a safe replacement for cigarette smoking, and he remains concerned about the increased risks related to COVID-19.

> Williams said the emergence of nearly 3,000 cases of what is called Vaping-Associated Lung Illness across the country over the past year, coupled with respiratory problems he has seen in patients who vape, make it clear that vaping carries its own set of risks for lung inflammation and disease.

So far, South Dakota has reported 13 cases "Being a current or former cigarette smoker of the vape-associated lung disease that can lead to hospitalization or death, according to the state health department. Many of the vape-associated cases across the country involved people with pre-existing respiratory conditions and were also tied to the use of cannabis products introduced into vaping gels.

Zach



Zach Burckhard

tion, which represents vape-product outlets across the state, said the use of vape products remains a safer alternative for adults who want to avoid the known dangers of smoking tobacco. The vaping industry

secretary of the Da-

kota Vaping Associa-

Burckhard,

has taken several steps to keep youth away from vape devices and

supports laws restrict-

ing youth use. He also said proprietors do their best to keep patrons fully informed about vaping and the latest research on use.

"The Dakota Vaping Association and its member businesses take the virus seriously, recommending the guidelines set forth by the state and CDC be followed," Burckhard wrote.

#### SMOKING RATE AND COVID-19 CASES IN GREAT PLAINS STATES

This chart shows the percentage of current smokers, the number of COVID-19 cases, population and per-capita rate of COVID-19 cases for South Dakota, its neighboring states and the United States. Case data is from Aug. 8, 2020.

State	Smokers	CV cases	Рор	CV rate
SD	19.3%	9,371	885K	1.059
WY	18.7%	3,000	579K	0.518
ND	18.3%	7,508	762K	0.985

#### The varsity GBB (finally) held its awards ceremony for the 2019-20 season.



Gracie Traphagen: Third-Team Northeastern Conference (NEC) and the Hustle and Heart Award **Pictured with Coaches Trent Traphagen and Matt Locke** 



Alyssa Thaler: Offensive MVP **Pictured with Coaches Trent** Traphagen and Matt Locke



**Kaycie Hawkins: Coaches** Award, Tiger Award, Class A Academic All-State. Pictured with Coaches Trent **Traphagen and Matt Locke** 

While the research on the risks of smoking and COVID-19 is more advanced than in

MT	.17.2%	4,888	1.1M	0.457	
IA	.17.1%	47,865	3.2M	1.517	
NE	15.4%	28,104	1.9M	1.452	
MN	14.5%	60,101	5.6M	1.066	
US	16.4%	4.95M	328M	1.508	
C			11	<b>C</b>	

Sources: American Lung Association; U.S. Census; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Smoking rates from 2019.



Joyce Walter took this photo of the sunrise Monday morning.



#### Allyssa Locke: Defensive MVP **Pictured with Coach Matt Locke** Thanks to Deb Gengerke for these photos!

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# Activities board, staff share concerns, priorities amidst pandemic

#### By Dana Hess, For the S.D. Newspaper Association

BROOKINGS — Putting on high school athletics and activities during a pandemic is going to take patience, flexibility and constant communication. That was the consensus during a strategic planning session of the South Dakota High School Activities Association board of directors and executive staff.

During Wednesday's session in Pierre, which was live-streamed on the internet, board members shared their concerns based on the school groups they represent. The board is made up of superintendents, secondary principals, activities directors and school board members.

As a superintendent, Jerry Rasmussen of Dakota Valley said it was key for school districts to communicate with the SDHSAA office as a district and not have a variety of school staff members voicing competing concerns.

"I would just encourage all schools to do that," Rasmussen said.

Communication has to go back to the schools as well, according to Tom Culver, superintendent at Avon.

"It is important for us as superintendents to be aware of what's going on," Culver said.

Rapid City Central High School Principal Michael Talley said he has been impressed by the amount of time activities directors have been spending on the phone trying to schedule events in uncertain times.

With safety an overriding concern, Talley said its inevitable that some events may be canceled leading to a loss of revenue.

"Schools are going to take some hits in that area," Talley said.

Brookings Activities Director Randy Soma said he's been hearing concerns from other activities directors about SDHSAA's new contact for the sale of T-shirts at state events, noting that some districts may



lose as much as \$12,000.

"That's a concern for most schools that host," Some said. "Some people might start turning down some tournaments because of that."

Soma was also concerned about his district's lack of communication with the S.D. Department of Health, noting that he's found out about staffers who came in contact with an infected person through personal phone calls from local businesses.

"That concerns me that people have to self-report," Soma said.

nd executive staff. During Wednesday's session in Pierre, which was live-streamed on the this fall, a challenge that has Soma wondering about safety precautions. "How do I logistically run that meet?" Soma asked.

Aberdeen School Board Member Mark Murphy predicted difficult times ahead for school boards.

"It's going to come down to your local board making some tough decisions," Murphy said.

Faulkton Superintendent Craig Cassens, also the SDHSAA board chairman, advised board members to listen to concerns without being confrontational.

"We're all in this together," Cassens said. "There are worse things out there than missing a contest."

SDHSAA Assistant Executive Director Jo Auch said that the association is taking some heat on social media for going on with fall sports when some major college conferences have decided not to play.

"At the end of the day, this is the body that needs to make those decisions," Auch said.

One of those decisions may be terminating a sports season after just a few weeks of play due to a spike in coronavirus cases.

"When do you call it enough is enough?" Auch asked.

Auch also noted for the board a decrease in the number of people who are willing to work as officials. Some are put off by the chance of getting the virus, Auch said, while others have given up officiating because of money they lost last year when school athletic events were canceled.

SDHSAA Executive Director Dan Swartos likened the way he's been feeling during the pandemic with the emotions he felt during a military deployment overseas. "There's this constant feeling of unease," Swartos said.

Despite his unease, Swartos was able to find something positive in the current situation.

"It's going to be a good year in that it's going to push us and that's how you grow," Swartos said.

### **Upcoming Events**

Sat., Aug. 15: Girls Soccer at Garretson, 1:00 Sat., Aug. 15: Boys Soccer at Freeman Academy, 3:00 Mon., Aug. 17: Boys Golf at Sioux Valley, 10:00 Wed., Aug. 19: First Day of School Thurs., Aug. 20: Boys Golf at Milbank, 10:00 Fri., Aug. 21: Football hosts Mobridge-Pollock, 7:00





#### Fryer catches on fire at Groton Dairy Queen

It couldn't have happened at a more inopportune time. There was a long line at driveup during the noon hour when the fryer caught on fire at the Groton Dairy Queen on Saturday. The Groton Fire Department was called to the scene, the employees were evacuated and the business closed up. Smoke can rolling out the top of the building through the ventilation system

and the fire department personnel had blowers to try and get as much smoke out of the building. There were no injuries. The fryer needed to be replaced before the business can open back up, according to owner Dale Grenz. The store reopened Wednesday at 12:30 p.m.

