



The Badger Barker



February 2024 Badger School District #676 Volume XXIX Issue 5
Student Editors: Hailey Lundgren & Alvaro Alves Sanchez

Welcome Foreign Exchange Student Alvaro Alves Sanchez Algeciras - Andalusia, Spain Host Family: Ket and Corey Christianson

How do school/classes work in Spain? In Spain, we stay in the same classroom during the day, and the teacher of each subject comes to our room the period we have the class. Another difference with how school works, would be that each day we have a different schedule that repeats weekly. Every Monday, we have the same classes, but the classes we have on Mondays wouldn't be the same ones we have on Tuesdays. In addition, in 10th grade we have to know already what type of degree we are going to study in the future. The high school classes from that moment for someone who is going to study to be a teacher are different than those of who want to become a scientist.

How does your school day at Badger compare to that of your home country? In my school, I finish school at 4:30 pm and start at 9:00 am. When I get home in the afternoon, I always have to do homework or study for tests. We usually take 4 or 5 tests each week, so I have to spend 2-3 hours on it each day. If I have time when I finish, I go to the gym, have dinner, and go to sleep. Here, I have more free time in the afternoons, which I like a lot.

What are your hobbies in Spain? I enjoy spending time with my friends and going to the gym or boxing.

What do you like most about staying with the Christiansons? It is fun having a younger brother. I enjoy spending time with him and with Corey, Ket, and Jasmine. What I like most about staying with them is having the feeling that I am part of their family. I am very grateful.

Have you joined any extracurricular activities? I joined football as a manager, FCCLA, Knowledge Bowl, and Math League. I am planning on joining a sport in the spring.

What do you miss most about Spain? I miss my parents, my twin sister, and my friends the most. I also miss the weather and the food.

What is the population like where you live, compared to here? I live in Algeciras, a city with 122,368 inhabitants.

How's the food in Spain? Spanish food is characterized for using fresh ingredients and traditional recipes, cooked with olive oil instead of butter, and eaten almost always with fresh bread. It is also famous because of "Tapas," which are different types of appetizers, prepared for sharing with friends and family at "Terrazas," which are tables outside the restaurants on the sidewalk.

What made you want to become a foreign exchange student? Being an exchange student has been a dream since I was little. My father also came to Badger in 1990 and 1991 to study in Badger School for one month each of those years. My father stayed with Corey Christianson's family and Corey was his host brother. Corey was 11, which is the same age that Nils is now. He has been encouraging me to come my whole life. This has been also one of the main reasons for studying English since I was little.

What do you like most of Badger School? I like that it is a small school. I also enjoy that it has lots of activities and things to do other than normal curricular high school classes. I like my classmates and teachers too.





Badger School Superintendent's News

I hope this February publication of *The Badger Barker* finds you and finds you well.

Mon-Feb 12 Badger School Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Feb 12-16 February is Minnesota School Board Recognition Month. During the week of February 12-16 we are joining school districts from across the state in celebrating School Boards to honor our local board members for their commitment to our students.

The key work of boards is to create a safe, orderly climate where students can learn and teachers can teach while focusing attention on the need for continuous improvement by questioning, refining, and revising issues related to student achievement. Even though we're making a special effort to show our appreciation this month, a school board members' work is a year-round commitment. Our Badger members listed in alphabetical order:

Jodie Davy, Treasurer: Starting fourth calendar year serving on the school board.

Treasurer Davy's original start date on school board was January 2021.

Cari Dostal, Clerk: Starting eighteenth calendar year serving on school board.

Clerk Dostal's original start date on school board was January 2007.

Jamie Isane, Chair: Starting fourteenth calendar year serving on school board.

Chair Isane's original start date on school board was January 2011.

Brent Olson, Director: Starting fourth calendar year serving on school board.

Director Olson's original start date on school board was January 2021.

Jeremy Swenson, Vice Chair: Starting tenth calendar year serving on school board.

Vice Chair Swenson's original start date on school board was January 2015.

Jared VonEnde, Director: Starting second calendar year serving on school board.

Director VonEnde's original start date on school board was January 2023.

Thu-Feb 15 Early out day for Parent-Teacher Conferences for spring semester is scheduled for Thursday, February 15th from 1:30 – 7:30 p.m. The school day will end at 12:30 p.m. and buses will run at that time.

Mon-Feb 19 No School on Presidents' Day

Wed-Feb 21 Midterm 3rd Quarter

Wed-Feb 21 Large Group Instrumental Contest at Roseau

Wed-Feb 21 Minnesota School Bus Driver Appreciation Day. Bus drivers transport the most precious cargo – our children! School bus drivers safely transport more than 760,000 students to and from school each day across the state of Minnesota. Statewide there is a recruitment effort for more drivers for this rewarding profession. If you are interested in acquiring a bus driver license, please contact the Badger School Bus Garage and we will help you.

The dedicated drivers currently serving in our Badger Transportation Department are (no one was intentionally left out): Tim Berger, Robby Christianson, Mike Coltom, Tommy Dann, Tom Dostal, Orlan Dvergsten, Jeff Howell, Lacey Foss, Curt Larson, Sylvia Maurstad, Kevin Ricke, Carla Sundahl, Jeremy Swenson, Alan Truscinski, and Ed Walsh.

Thu-Feb 22 BADGER GYM ~ Home Boys' Varsity/JV Basketball vs. LOW-Baudette

Fri-Feb 23 Field trip for grades 5 and 6 to Buena Vista Ski Area, Bemidji, MN

Wed-Feb 28 National Honor Society (NHS) Blood Drive service project (more details to be announced)

The Badger School District is a wonderful place to learn and work. Every student and employee is fortunate to be part of our vibrant school. Working together on behalf of our students is our number one priority. Thank you to all who help to make our school a gem of excellence in northwest Minnesota.

Thank you,
Kevin Ricke, Superintendent & Principal K-12





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Gator Sports

By: Caden Wojciehowski

For changes in schedule go to www.badger.k12.mn.us and click on "Gator Athletic Schedules."

February

Boys Wrestling

- 1 Crookston, Roseau @ BGMR
- 3 @ Fertile-Beltrami Tournament
- 13 @ Section Quarters @ High Seed
- 16 @ Section Team
- 24 @ Section Individual
- 29 @ State Tournament

Boys Basketball

- 1 @ Northern Freeze
- 2 @ Roseau
- 6 Kittson County Central @ BGMR
- 8 @ Warroad
- 10 @ Warren-Alvarado-Oslo
- 15 @ East Grand Forks
- 20 @ Fisher-Climax-Shelly
- 22 Lake of the Woods @ BGMR
- 23 @ Conference Tournament (TBD)
- 26 @ Red Lake
- 29 @ Blackduck

Girls Wrestling

- 3 @ Pine Island Invitational
- 10 Section Individual

Girls Basketball

- 1 @ Roseau
- 2 Red Lake Falls @ BGMR
- 5 @ Stephen-Argyle
- 8 Warroad @ BGMR
- 9 Warren-Alvarado-Oslo @ BGMR
- 13 Grygla-Goodridge @ BGMR
- 16 @ Win-E-Mac
- 19 @ Sacred Heart
- 22 @ Northern Freeze
- 23 @ Warren-Alvarado-Oslo
- 29 Section Play-In

March

Boys Wrestling

- 1-2 State Tournament

Boys Basketball

- 4 Section Pigtail @ High Seed
- 7 Section Play-In @ High Seed
- 9 Section Quarters
- 12 Section Semis
- 15 Section Finals
- 20-23 State Tournament

Girls Basketball

- 2 Section Quarters
- 6 Section Semis
- 8 Section Finals
- 13-16 State Tournament

February

- 4 Open Gym ~ 3:30 to 5:00 pm
- 6 ECFE ~ 6:00 pm
- 7 MSHSL Triple A Banquet @ Mahnommen
- 7 Regional Spelling Bee @ Thief River Falls
- 8 Jr. High Knowledge Bowl @ Grygla
- 9 Grade 2 Field Trip, Greenbush Nursing Home
- 11 Open Gym ~ 3:30 to 5:00 pm
- 12-16 FCCLA Week
- 12 Math League Meet
- 12 Wolf Ridge Grade 7 Students & Parents Meeting
- 12 School Board ~ 7:30 pm
- 13 Sr. High Knowledge Meet @ Thief River Falls
- 13 ECFE ~ 6:00 pm
- 15 Parent-Teacher Conferences ~ students dismissed @ 12:30 pm
- 15 Class Group Pictures
- 16 Daddy Daughter Dance
- 18 Knights of Columbus Free-Throw Competition
- 18 Open Gym ~ 3:30 to 5:00 pm
- 19 No School ~ President Day
- 20 Sr. High Knowledge Bowl @ Thief River Falls
- 20 Jr. High Knowledge Bowl @ Roseau
- 20 ECFE ~ 6:00 pm
- 21 School Bus Driver Appreciation Day
- 21 Third Quarter Midterm
- 21 Large Group Instrumental Contest @ Roseau
- 23 Buena Vista Ski Area, Grade 6/5 field trip
- 25 Open Gym ~ 3:30 to 5:00 pm
- 27 Sr. High Knowledge Bowl @ Thief River Falls
- 27 No ECFE ~ Precinct Caucus Day
- 28 NHS Blood Drive
- 29 Jr. High Knowledge Bowl @ Greenbush

Dates to Remember

By: Jaden Kukowski

March

- 3 Open Gym ~ 3:30 to 5:00 pm
- 4-8 Read Across America
- 4-8 National School Social Workers Recognition Week
- 5 ECFE ~ 6:00 pm
- 6 Large Group Vocal Contest @ Badger
- 6 Young Authors Conference @ NCTC
- 7 Jr. High Knowledge Bowl @ Thief River Falls
- 10 Daylight savings time, turn clocks ahead
- 10 Open Gym ~ 3:30 to 5:00 pm
- 11 State Math League
- 11 Jr. High Knowledge Bowl @ Lancaster
- 11 School Board ~ 7:30 pm
- 12 No ECFE ~ Township Election Day
- 19 ECFE ~ 6:00 pm
- 21 Preschool Field Trip, TRF Sanford Fitzzone
- 21 Badger Music Revue
- 22 Badger Music Revue
- 22 End of Third Quarter
- 25 No School ~ Teacher In-Service
- 26 ECFE ~ 6:00 pm
- 28 Jr. High Knowledge Bowl @ Thief River Falls
- 29-1 No School ~ Spring Break



Senior Spotlight Jordan Lee

Parents: John & Gretchen Lee

Siblings: Greta, Ada

Nickname: Jordo

Favorite:

Sport: Softball

Food: Pasta

Color: Blue

Hobby: Hanging out with people and being spontaneous.

Quote: "Chase your dreams but always know the road that'll lead you home again." ~ Tim McGraw

If you found a genie, what would be your three wishes? My first wish would be to be really, really rich so I can build my dream house; my second wish would be for my friends and family to always be strong and healthy; and my third wish would be to have a successful career.

If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be? If I could change anything in the world, I would put an end to gun violence. The amount of innocent kids and adults who die due to gun violence is sickening.

If you could take a road trip with one person, who would it be and where would you go? I would take my twin sister Ada and we would go travel Europe. There are so many cool sites and places I would love to visit and explore. I also want to try all sorts of new food while traveling there.

What do you think you'll be remembered by most? By being the dumbest smart kid ever. The amount of blonde moments I have is unreal.

What is the craziest thing you've done in high school? Me and my friends Raegon and Theron hit a cow on the way home from the volleyball section championship game last year. The craziest part was that it ended up being one of our friend's cows that we hit.



Senior Spotlight Arianna Grugal

Parents: Shawna & Corey Grugal

Siblings: Xander, Devyn

Nicknames: Ari, Anna

Favorite:

Sport: Volleyball

Food: Lasagna

Color: Pink & blue

Hobby: Reading & relaxing

Quote: "Respect your parents. They passed school without Google."

If you found a genie, what would be your three wishes? My wishes are world peace, end world hunger, and fix planet Earth to be livable for everything not just humans.

If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be? Fix ocean pollution so the animals can live without worry.

If you could take a road trip with one person, who would it be and where would you go? My mom and we would go to Wyoming because that's where I was born.

What do you think you'll be remembered by most? The one girl that gets her AR book taken away for reading when I'm supposed to be working.

What is the craziest thing you've done in high school? I went to prom by myself when everyone else had a partner.





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Elementary Viewpoint

By: Adysen Gregerson

Would you rather visit every country or fly to outer space?

Everlee Sletten (1st grade): Visit every country because I want to see every place that I can live.

Azalea Haugen Johnson (2nd grade): Visit every country because some countries have different candy I want to try. You can learn a different language too.

Annalie Yonke (3rd grade): I would visit every country. I would love to learn about each country. I would like to travel with my family.

Zaya Bieber (4th grade): Space because the stars are so very pretty, especially the moon and Saturn. It would be cool to see the solar system.

Tatum Rinde (5th grade): Every country because I love visiting new countries. If there is war, I will just go to a different country.

Autumn Turpitt (6th grade): I would rather visit every country. It takes a long time to go to space and sitting in a rocket for so long sounds boring. I would like to see a lot of the countries. I think it would be so cool and awesome. I also think visiting every country would be fun and interesting.



Empire Biscuits

<https://www.iheartnaptime.net/empire-biscuits/#recipe>

By: Measha Troxel

Ingredients:

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup butter, softened
1 cup powdered sugar
1 large egg
1 egg yolk
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 $2\frac{3}{4}$ cups cake flour, can sub for sifted all-purpose flour
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon Kosher salt

Filling:

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup raspberry jam

Icing:

1 cup powdered sugar
2 tablespoons hot water
1 teaspoon almond extract



Directions:

1. Combine the butter and powdered sugar in a large bowl. Beat with a mixer until light and fluffy. Add the egg and egg yolk and beat on medium speed until combined. Add the vanilla and beat again.
2. With the mixer on low speed, slowly add the flour and salt. Press the dough between two sheets of wax paper or plastic wrap and refrigerate for 1 hour.
3. Preheat oven to 350°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or a silicone baking mat.
4. Roll out the dough $\frac{1}{8}$ " thick onto a baking mat, parchment paper, or a well-floured surface. Press a 2" cookie cutter into the dough and carefully move to the baking sheet. Repeat until you have 32 cookies.
5. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes or until the edges are slightly light golden. Remove from the oven and allow to cool on the pan for 2 minutes. Then transfer to a cooling rack.
6. Once the cookies are cooled, spread the raspberry jam onto the back side of the cookies. Press another cookie gently on top. Then whisk together the icing ingredients in a small bowl until it is smooth and glossy. Use a small spatula to frost the top of the cookies. Add a heart sprinkle to the center if desired.



Campus Comment

By: Arianna Grugal

What is your favorite candy?

Ava Gust (7th grade): My favorite candy is Sour Patch Kids and the blue bag of Nerd Clusters and the pink bag of Gummy Nerd Clusters. Why, because they are sweet and very good to eat. My favorite candy is Kit Kat because it makes me feel happy.

Asher Clark (8th grade): My favorite candy is Reese's Peanut Butter Cups because it has chocolate and peanut butter together. It makes me feel good when I eat it. They are very delicious.

Isaac Olson (9th grade): My favorite candy is Twix because I like chocolate, caramel, and the wafer in it. I like the way it melts in my mouth.

Quillan Wirta (10th grade): Sour Patch Kids because it was my childhood candy. I would love getting it on Halloween. It is also sour.

Landon Christianson (11th grade): I like chocolate. Just plain milk chocolate of no specify brand. I like the simplicity of it. Simple, elegant, classic.

Measha Troxel (12th grade): Life Savers Gummies because they're so ooey gooey and delicious.

Mrs. Lambert (Health/PE Teacher): My favorite candy is Starburst. I like the way they taste!



Plum and Pecan Muffins

<https://www.allrecipes.com/plum-and-pecan-muffins-recipe-8302598>

By: William Peterson

Ingredients:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- ½ cup white sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 1 pinch salt
- 1 cup plain Greek yogurt
- ½ cup orange juice
- 2 large eggs
- ¼ cup melted unsalted butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups diced pitted plums
- ½ cup chopped pecans



Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Spray a 12-cup standard muffin tin with cooking spray or line with paper liners.
2. In a large bowl, stir together flour, sugar, baking powder, ginger, baking soda, and salt.
3. In a separate bowl, whisk yogurt, orange juice, eggs, butter, and vanilla until well combined.
4. Make a well in the center of the dry ingredients; pour yogurt mixture into the well and stir just until batter is combined. Gently fold in plums and pecans. Evenly spoon batter into the prepared muffin tin cups.
5. Bake in the preheated oven until muffins are golden and a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean, 20 to 25 minutes.
6. Allow muffins to cool in the pan for 5 minutes, then remove to a wire rack to cool completely.



Ramp-Up Topics for February 2024

Submitted by: Stacey Warne, Dean of Students

GRADE 6: Students will be looking at the different types of postsecondary educations available. They will start by identifying what they already know about college and move on to looking at the four types of colleges and how they are similar to and different from one another. Part of students getting ready for postsecondary education is helping them to think about their dreams and aspirations and to start thinking about how they can get there. Building this belief at this age is one of the most important aspects of college and career readiness.

GRADE 7: Seventh graders will explore the idea of Growth Mindset – basically, that our abilities and intelligence can change through our effort and learning. Parent tips for Growth Mindset can be found at <https://www.mindsetworks.com/webnav/parenttips>. Seventh grade students will update their Postsecondary Plans.

GRADE 8: During January, students will be asked to identify factors to consider when they are exploring the best postsecondary fit for them. The different types of colleges and majors are discussed. We don't expect students to make a decision on a college, but we do want them to investigate the range of available options and learn that the availability of majors they are interested in should be a primary factor when they do choose a postsecondary school down the road. Eighth graders will also spend time focusing on the importance of budgeting for now and in the future when they may be college students. The Postsecondary Plan will be updated as well.

GRADE 9: Ninth grade students will continue exploring the basics of decision making – Clarification, Brainstorming, Evaluation, Decision, and Double Checking. These phases can be used throughout a person's life for helping make important decisions, not just about where you want to go to college. In addition, 21st century skills will be addressed with a focus on career and technical education and some of the opportunities available in those career fields. Ninth grade students will be updating their Postsecondary plans in February.

GRADE 10: How will I pay for college? This unit will describe ways that students can and do pay for college. Students will look in depth at scholarships, grants, loans, and work-study. There is a good set of videos available to parents and students about paying for college at www.mnprivatecolleges.org/paying that can help answer many questions parents and students have about paying for college. Students will also take time to update their Postsecondary Plan.

GRADE 11: Juniors will be studying the concept of “envisioning possible self” during the month of February. Research shows that students who have a positive vision for their future are more likely to be invested in themselves now and do things that will benefit their future “possible self.” In addition, juniors will be looking toward finding the right postsecondary fit for themselves. In doing so, they will explore which colleges offer degrees, internships, and majors that are of interest to them. Students will discover there are a range of options available to suit their interests. February will also see juniors updating their Postsecondary Plans.

GRADE 12: Grading and preparing for class and tests are often quite different at the postsecondary level. Seniors will learn more about postsecondary expectations and how to prepare for them through the use of good study habits and study groups. Seniors will update their individual Postsecondary Plan.

Trivia

By: Alvaro Alves Sanchez

- What is the world's lightest mammal alive today?
 - Etruscan shrew
 - Bumblebee bat
 - African pygmy mouse
 - Narrow-nosed planigale
- What geometric shape is used for stop signs?
 - Circle
 - Octagon
 - Heptagon
 - Hexagon
- What is the last letter of the Greek alphabet?
 - Beta
 - Gamma
 - Alpha
 - Omega
- What is the nationality of the painter Picasso?
 - Spanish
 - French
 - Italian
 - Mexican

Trivia Answers

1. A 2. B 3. D 4. A



Band Musician of the Month Alex Lunde

Grade: 11

What instrument(s) do you play and why did you choose this instrument? I play trumpet and bass guitar in band. I chose trumpet because it really was the only thing I could make a sound on. I then was included as the backup bass player. Also, I love the sound of the bass.

If you could learn a new instrument, what would you pick? If I had the opportunity, I would probably learn drums/percussion because my bass playing is derived from my fascination of the drums. Drums are the most overlooked part in a band, and I feel drummers don't get enough credit.

What is your favorite song to play? *Low Rider* (pep band) because it gets the hands moving on the bass.

If you could pick a theme for Music Revue, what theme would you pick? If I were to pick a theme, it would be bands/musicians from different time periods and how they shaped music today.

What is your most memorable moment in band? I feel like most everyone says this, but it is going to state. Besides playing down there, I loved spending time with my friends and even recording songs and demos with them.

What advice would you give to younger musicians? Perfection does not happen overnight. It may take you months or it may take you years, but when you finally get to where you're playing what you want to play, the hard work pays off and it'll all be worth it. Trust me.

Who inspired you to be part of band? Nobody necessarily inspired me to join band. I've just always enjoyed music and wanted to try out for band.



Student Opinion

By: Kylee Gust

Would you rather have telekinesis or telepathy?

Payton Hill (10th): I would rather have telekinesis. My reason for this is because I don't see how telepathy could help me in any way like telekinesis could. For example, if I was attacked by someone, I could just pull their weapon from their hand, and if I need something I can't reach, I could grab it. If I had telepathy, all I could do is talk to people in their heads.

Kaylie Streich (7th): I would rather have telepathy because you can read people's minds and tell what people are thinking. I would be able to tell what my mom and my sister are thinking about. At school I would be able to tell what everyone is thinking. Then when I go to the store, I can tell what people are thinking about too.

Quynn Washington (8th): I would rather have telepathic powers because I think it would be cool to know what people are thinking about. It would also be nice to communicate in ways that people don't hear the conversation. A lot of people sometimes get into the conversation that they weren't included in, and it's rude. But the bad thing is that there will always be a voice inside your head that you can't get out. The voice at sometimes would be disturbing during school and practices or games. If someone were to want to talk to you and you were busy, it would get annoying.

Emery Christensen (9th): I would rather have telekinesis. If I had telekinesis, I could do stuff like turn off the lights or grab a Gatorade while just sitting around. I could even multitask by doing my homework while I eat. I feel like having telepathy would get annoying always hearing peoples thoughts.





Choir Musician of the Month Adysen Gregerson



Grade: 9th

What section are you in? Alto/Mezzo Soprano.

How long have you been in choir? 3 years.

What styles of music do you like to sing? I like everything, but I especially like when we sing a cappella.

What do you enjoy the most about being in choir? Just singing, honestly.

What are you looking forward to this year in choir? Ensemble and the Music Revue.

What advice would you give other vocalists in choir? Don't be afraid to do lessons by yourself. Personally, I think it's better to do it solo rather than being with a group of people.

What is your favorite choir memory? When we did the Music Revue when I was in 7th grade.

Have you participated in any solo or ensemble contest, or done any singing outside of choir? Yes, I have participated in both ensemble and solo contest. Last year Emily Burkel and I did ensemble and sang *Homeward Bound* (folk) arranged by Jay Althouse. We received a Superior rating. This year at solo contest I sang *Shenandoah* (tradition folk) arranged by Jay Althouse and I received a Superior and an Outstanding Performance Award.

FCCLA STAR Events State Bound

Submitted by: Gretchen Lee, FCCLA Advisor

On Wednesday, February 24, Badger FCCLA members traveled to Ada-Borup-West High School to compete in the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Mid-Winter Students Taking Action with Recognition (STAR) Events competition. Our very own Northern Area Officers Emily Burkel and Bethanie VonEnde led the opening session for the seven FCCLA chapters in attendance: Ada-Borup-West, Badger, Greenbush-Middle River, LaFayette, Nevis, Tri-County, and Warren-Alvarado-Oslo

Bethanie VonEnde presented her National Program in Action upcoming event for Families Acting for Community and Traffic Safety (FACTS) and received a Gold rating. Alvaro Alves Sanchez encouraged others to become exchange students through his Professional Presentation, "See the World." He earned a Gold ranking. Emily Burkel shared her Interpersonal Communication "De-Vice" night project for a Gold rating. Paige Rybakowski and Ava Warne explained their Chapter Service Project Display for their "Made with Love" Cooking Class and also earned a Gold ranking. Adysen Gregerson showed her Promote and Publicize FCCLA plan and advanced to the State Conference along with Keegan VonEnde and Avearah Hanson in Everyday Equations math test. All presenting members did extremely well and will continue on to the State FCCLA Conference April 6-9, held at the Hyatt Regency downtown Minneapolis.

After presenting at the State Conference, the top two events in each category statewide will advance to represent Minnesota at this year's National Leadership Conference to be held in Seattle, Washington, on June 29-July 3, 2024.

We look forward to celebrating their achievements during FCCLA Week February 12-16 here at Badger High School. FCCLA will again host a Daddy Daughter Dance for grades Pre-K through grade 6 on Friday, February 16, from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm in the cafeteria. Members will also be selling candy-grams for Valentine's Day delivery as a fundraiser for the registration and travel/hotel expenses associated with attending these conferences.





Concert Band & Concert Choir Perform at Greenbush Manor

On Wednesday, December 20, the Concert Band and Concert Choir performed at LifeCare Greenbush Manor. The students performed selections from their winter program. The music was enjoyed by all. After the concert, students got the chance to visit with residents and staff before heading back to school. Students enjoyed visiting with residents and learning about their lives. One student commented after the visit, "This is what I want to do. I want to work here." We appreciated the invitation to participate in this community building event and look forward to sharing more music with the residents and staff in the future.





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Random Riddles

<https://parade.com/947956/parade/riddles/>

By: Caine Larson

1. If two's company and three's a crowd, what are four and five?
2. What word is pronounced the same if you take away four of its five letters?
3. What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never weeps, has a bed but never sleeps?
4. Speaking of rivers, a man calls his dog from the opposite side of the river. The dog crosses the river without getting wet and without using a bridge or boat. How?
5. What can fill a room but takes up no space?
6. What breaks yet never falls, and what falls but never breaks?
7. I have lakes with no water, mountains with no stone, and cities with no buildings. What am I?

Random Riddles Answers

1. Nine
2. Queue
3. A river
4. The river was frozen
5. Light
6. Day and night
7. A map

Shout Out To...

Quynn Washington & MacKenzie VonEnde for helping cut out laminated art projects for the elementary.

Decland Moore in 2nd Grade for helping out 5th graders by cleaning up their lunch table.

Renee Rhen & Kaitlyn Emery for judging FCCLA STAR events in Ada.

Tom Dostal for bussing the FCCLA members to their STAR events.

De-Vice Night volunteers Heidi Warne, Alex Burkel, Corey Christianson, & popcorn popper Nellie Hagen all deserve a round of applause.

Seniors Macy Majer, Jordan Davy, Amelia Wilt, Jordan Lee, & Ada Lee for leading stations for the kindergarten class STEM activities. They helped the students learn through ramps and balls, a gumdrop/toothpick activity, stackers, and a puzzle game.

FCCLA Winter Formal Dance

Brooke VonEnde for creating a gorgeous charcuterie board and being a fabulous mixologist.

John Lee, Ada Lee, Treston Nichols, Julia Dostal, Bethanie VonEnde, Emily Burkel, Keegan VonEnde, & MacKenzie VonEnde ~ the best decorating crew.

Deb Pries & Becka Nubson for photographing the many memories ~ much appreciation!

Naomi Rybakowski for chaperoning.

Elementary Basketball Tournament

Stacey Warne & Conner Wojchowski for reffing.

FCCLA for selling concessions.

Jordan Davy for announcing

Ashton Pickhartz for taking tickets

Jordan Lee, Ada Lee, Masen Swenson, Taylor Davy, Tryg Olson, Grant Olson & Ava Warne for coaching.

Sara Olson for making the programs.

Carol Ricke for running the clock

Badger Target Team for selling 50/50 tickets.

Janice Mostofi for taking team pictures.

Custodial Staff for clean-up.

The Badger Staff for all their work behind the scenes.



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Elementary Basketball Tournament



K: Hotshots



Gr. 1: Little Gators



Gr. 2: Mighty Wolves



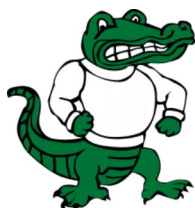
Gr. 3: Bacon Bits



Gr. 4: Gold Rush



Gr. 5: Wolves



Grade 6



Rockets





Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition

Congratulations to these Gators who participated in the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition and now advance to the District Competition being held in Badger on Sunday, February 18, at 1:00 pm.

Back: Lexie Dahl, Addison Dvergsten, Amity Foss, Levi Olson, Kaden Randall, Quin Faken

Front: Onah Gregerson, Tucker Rinde, Axel Stenberg, Brielle Byre



Spelling Bee Competition

Submitted by Heidi Warne, Spelling Bee Coordinator

Badger School held its annual Spelling Bee on Wednesday, January 24, in the Badger School cafeteria. Eight students from grades 5-8 earned the honor to be involved in the Bee. These students were selected to participate through a preliminary round held earlier in January. The students who competed were Back Row: Charles Peterson, Deegan Hanson, Aaron Jasiqi; Front Row: Delyla Carpenter, Willow Rud, Tayleigh Stoppleman, Abigail Wojciechowski.

After several rounds of words, "aerosol" would be spelled correctly by Charles Peterson to win the Spelling Bee. He now advances to Regions, which will be held February 7 at Northland Community & Technical College in Thief River Falls. Judges for the event were Karla Rislov and Bev Holm. Good luck at the regional event, Charles!





The Badger Barker



Let someone know how special they are, send a



Deliveries will be made

Wednesday, Feb. 14th

Orders will be taken through noon the 13th!

Order early to ensure your choice!

**All Treats are \$2.50
(Movie size)**

1. Reese's Pieces (I Love You to Pieces)
2. Whoppers (You're a Whopper of a Friend)
3. Mike & Ike/Berry Blast (It's a Blast to be Your Valentine)
4. Nerds (Don't Be a Nerd, Be My Valentine)

Alternate Greetings: **(A)** You're a Sweet Friend **(B)** You're a Sweet Kid **(C)** Be My Valentine
(D) You're a Whopper of a Kid

Deliver to (student or staff name)	Grade	Treat #	Alt. Grtg.

From: _____

***Orders may be returned with payment to Mrs. Lee (FCS room) or School Office**



The Badger Barker



FCCLA

**Daddy Daughter Dance for
Pre-K to grade 6**



**Friday
February 16
6:30-8:00pm
Badger School
Cafeteria
\$5 per family**





Helping Children Learn®

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

Badger Independent School District #676



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

February 2024

Self-regulation skills help your child stay focused and achieve

Research shows that learning to control impulses and work toward goals improves children's success in school. With family support, even young children can learn these key self-regulation skills.

To improve your elementary schooler's ability to self-regulate:

- **Help your child set goals** that are tough but achievable, like reading a whole chapter book or learning to jump rope. Ask your child to picture what it will be like to reach the goal. Then, have your child imagine possible obstacles and ways to overcome them. Your child might ask for help with unfamiliar words in the book or practice jumping rope on grass so tripping and falling won't hurt.
- **Coach your child before heading into situations** where self-control may be a challenge. Say things like, "We have to run errands today. What can you do if you feel frustrated?" Together, brainstorm solutions, like playing I Spy in the grocery store or stacking coins at the laundromat.
- **Praise your child for showing self-control.** Be specific so your student can repeat the behavior in the future. You might say, "I know you really wanted pizza, but you ate your chicken without complaining," or "I noticed you practiced your addition facts every day this week—way to go!"



Source: University of Zurich, "Early self-regulation boosts children's educational success," ScienceDaily.



Take steps to ensure safety online

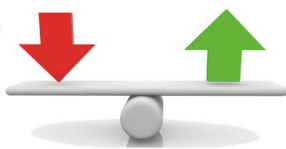
Students' digital safety is a growing concern for elementary school teachers and families. Fortunately, adults can protect children by supervising their online activities and teaching them to make positive choices. At home, you can:

- **Filter out** inappropriate content. Keep devices where you can see them, and use parental controls. Talk with your child regularly about what is and isn't allowed.
- **Monitor online gaming.** Cyberbullying is on the rise among gamers. Playing only with people your child knows and trusts in real life reduces the risk. Tell your child to report cyberbullying to you.
- **Discuss online privacy.** Teach your child never to share full names, passwords, etc.
- **Keep young children** off social media. More than a quarter of teens report using social media before meeting network age requirements. Insist on waiting until at least the minimum age.

Source: E. Martin and others, "Teacher and School Concerns and Actions on Elementary School Children Digital Safety," TechTrends, AECT.

Discuss the pros and cons

Children's experiences with the world are limited, so it's hard for them to imagine the possible results of their actions. So even if your child knows whether an action is right or wrong, consider the pros and cons together. What could happen in the short and long term? After your talk, your child will understand *why* the right choice is right.



Set expectations that fit

High family expectations for students are linked to high outcomes. But to be motivating, your expectations for your child also need to be realistic. Consider these questions when setting expectations:

- **Are they geared to my child?** Take your child's development, personality and maturity into account.
- **Are they important?** Choose a few expectations that focus on school success behaviors you want your child to develop, such as effort and responsibility.
- **Are they easy to understand?** State your expectations in clear terms.

Source: M. Pinquart & M. Ebeling, M., "Parental educational expectations and academic achievement in children and adolescents—A meta-analysis," Educational Psychology Review.

Play a math strategy game

A box of toothpicks is all you need to play a game that helps your child practice math reasoning. To play Last One Wins, lay 12 toothpicks on the table. Take turns with your child to remove one or two toothpicks. The player who takes the last toothpick wins. (A winning strategy is to try to leave three toothpicks on the table to guarantee a win on your next turn.)





Helping Children Learn[®]

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

February 2024



How can I stop my child from turning into a bully?

Q: Last year, my child was picked on by a group of kids in school and was miserable. So I was shocked when the teacher told me that my fifth grader is now part of a group who is being mean to another child. How can I stop this?

A: Watching your child be mean can be just as painful as watching your child be a target of nastiness.

Unfortunately, your situation is not uncommon, particularly among families of girls at this age. And you are right, it's essential to take action.

Here are some things to do:

- **Make things clear to your child.** Say that you can appreciate that it feels good to be part of a group. However, just as it was wrong for others to be mean to your child last year, it is wrong for your student to do it now. Remind your child how it felt to be teased—and that it is important to take a stand against such behavior.
- **Find out the school's policies** about bullying and review them with your child. Your student may face consequences if this behavior continues.
- **Talk with the teacher.** Ask what the classroom rules are about teasing and exclusion. Explain what you are doing at home, and work together to redirect your child's focus onto learning—and away from mean behavior.



Are you positive about math?

Research shows that family attitudes can affect how well students do in math. Kids do better when their families show that math is useful, interesting and fun. Is your math attitude helping your child? Answer *yes* or *no* below:

1. **Do you express** confidence that your child can do well in math?
2. **Do you avoid** saying things like "Math is so hard. I hated it, too"? Instead, say, "This is a challenge, but I know you can figure it out."
3. **Do you play** math games with your child?
4. **Do you talk** with your child about the ways you use math in your daily life?
5. **Do you create** opportunities for your child to use math,

such as looking for bargains at the grocery store?

How well are you doing?

More yes answers mean you are showing that you think math is worth learning. For each no, try that idea.

"Math is like going to the gym for your brain. It sharpens your mind."

—Danica McKellar

Reinforce responsibility

So many student success factors—effort, timeliness, diligence, etc.—are tied to responsibility. To raise a responsible student:

- **Assign meaningful tasks**, such as getting up to an alarm, caring for pets or plants, seeing jobs through by tidying up afterwards, etc.
- **Let your child make decisions** and learn from consequences of poor choices.
- **Teach your child about budgeting** and saving, as well as spending.
- **Adjust rules and limits** as your child shows more responsibility.

Encourage practice tests

Studies show that when students practice recalling information, it helps them remember it better. That's why taking practice tests is an effective way to study. Your child can take advantage of this study strategy:

- **In class.** Taking quizzes is an opportunity to practice recalling the material.
- **In groups.** Your child might invite a friend or two over to study and quiz one another. Or you can call out questions.
- **Independently.** Help your child look over notes, reading and handouts and create questions the teacher might ask. Then, your child can answer them.

Send a confidence boost

Give your child's self-confidence a boost this

Valentine's Day by sending a valentine fan letter.

Praise your student's efforts in

school in a note, poem or silly riddle. Then, send it through the post office or tuck it somewhere your child will be sure to find it. Sign it, "From your biggest fan."



Helping Children Learn[®]

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Kindergarten Korner

By: Hailey Lundgren

Brynlee Moore

What are you enjoying about kindergarten? I like that we do homework. I liked the dog toy homework.

What is your favorite season?

Summer because I do cartwheels and handstands. I play with my two brothers too.

What is your favorite holiday?

Christmas Eve because we open presents. I got a jewelry set this year.

What do you want to be when you grow up? A cop because I can arrest people.

If you opened a store, what would you sell? I'd sell fruits. My favorites are strawberries and lemons.

If you had a time machine, what time would you go to? I'd go to the store tomorrow to get Skittles. I like the purple Skittles.



Taylor Randall

What are you enjoying about kindergarten? I like when we play and nap because it's fun.

What is your favorite season?

Winter because it's my birthday and I turned six. It's fun to build snow angels and snowmen.

What is your favorite holiday?

Thanksgiving because there's good food and Valentine's



Day because we make cards.

What do you want to be when you grow up? A singer, a basketball player, or a gymnast because they're really fun.

If you opened a store, what would you sell? Every toy and every food. I'd sell everything in the world.

If you had a time machine, what time would you go to? 7 o'clock. I'd play games like *Simon Says* and *Shark Attack*.