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## DLHS MISSION:

*“Empowering students to be life-long learners in an ever-changing world.”*

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### Graduation

The 2021 Graduation Ceremony will be held at the Devils Lake Sports Center on **Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm**. All students participating will be required to attend the graduation practice during the final week of school. Information will be distributed to seniors as we get closer to the date. The only exemptions from the graduation practice will be for students who are participating in an extra-curricular activity which has them out of the building. Students who are going to miss graduation practice will need to meet with Mr. Hanson prior to being absent.

***Please ensure the following have all been completed by the date necessary:***

- All course work, tests, and detention time by May 26<sup>th</sup>.
- All independent study, online, and correspondence coursework by May 12<sup>th</sup>.
- All bills due in the office, activities department, media center, etc... paid by May 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Cap and Gown have been ordered and paid for – should already be done.
- Senior pictures have been provided for the yearbook – should already be done.

***A few other reminders regarding graduation:***

- If you do not plan to participate in the graduation ceremony but still wish to receive a diploma, you must meet with Mr. Hanson before May 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Students planning to participate in the graduation ceremony are expected to dress in an appropriate manner. Shorts, flip-flops, and alterations to the cap, gown, tassel, and honor cords are not allowed. Shoes are required.
- No food, drink, or gum are allowed for participants during the ceremony.
- Reservations are not allowed, but we will work with families in need of special seating for elderly or handicapped. Please call the office regarding these needs.

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**Only students who have completed all necessary requirements for graduation will participate in the graduation ceremony.** The final list will be approved on May 26<sup>th</sup> at the latest. Students not on this list may still be eligible for Summer School Graduation. A reminder that students must remain full-time students to participate in the graduation exercises.

### Semester Exams

The tentative schedule for semester exams: Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, and Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. The last day of school will be Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. Remind students they must have all detention completed before they may take exams. Seniors will need to have all coursework completed before they can graduate. Summer School graduation becomes the next option if all requirements for graduation are not met.

### Summer School

Devils Lake High School will again host Driver's Education and Summer School. Registration booklets are available in the office. Please sign up as early as possible as we need to have a minimum number of students to offer a section of a class. If you have failed any semester of a core class: (English, Science, Mathematics or Social Science), you will need to re-take that semester during the summer school session. If you have any questions about summer school, please contact Mrs. Brodina at the Lake Area Career and Technology Center at 662-7650.

### Crucial Conversations

I spent several minutes at the last Firebird of the Month discussing two very important topics. The first was sexual assault. Several TikTok users became aware of a video which was proclaiming April 24<sup>th</sup> as National Rape Day! I could not believe when I heard this, but I also knew I needed to act. I cannot believe someone would be so horrible to do something like this. I let students know this is NOT an event. It is not something which should be joked about or made light of – EVER! I also discussed the need to seek assistance if they or anyone they know are in an abusive relationship. Make certain you are talking to your children about what is okay/not okay in a relationship.

The second topic was about the recent trial and ultimate verdict which was reached in Minnesota. I discussed with students the fact they are living through a very historical time in their life. I did not discuss the trial or the verdict, but instead it was about leading. I reminded them this was their school. What they allow to

occur or to be said sends the message they are okay with it. This is the student's school and they need to lead.

I challenged our students to make a difference. To be patient and kind. To change the world. I discussed ensuring they have valid sources of information, to analyze both sides of a story, and understand each person's perspective, and to be good advocates of self and others. I also told them education is the key – their education and their assistance in educating others. I told them I love them and trust them to lead our school, community, state, and country into a better place. Please continue to have discussions with your children at home during this historical time in our life.

**Thank you!**

The end of each school year is a time of thanks. The biggest of which goes to the families of our students. This year, I wish there were words bigger than just THANK YOU! I have been so appreciative of the patience and support you have all provided us during the last year (and then some) of school. Your kindness and understanding have been very important as we have made our best attempts at navigating this difficult year. Please know how grateful I am to be the principal of a school with such great students, parents, and families. I know the entire staff has sincerely appreciated the support we have all felt. I wish you all a great summer!