



What's Up for June? Take a Look Inside...

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School District Offers Free Breakfast and Lunch to Area Kids

By Amanda Rombough
Information Services Officer

School is out for the summer, however, for some students, that means they do not get a guaranteed meal like they did while they were in school. But the Rapid City Area School Food Services is working to ensure that students are fed through the summer with their free summer meals program, going on now. Two new sites were added this year at Canyon Lake and Rapid Valley.



Food Services Director Janelle Peterson said the summer feeding program allows them to spend more time with the kids because there is not a tight schedule and they are able to feed all kids, not just students in the district.

“Feeding kids is what we do best and we are happy to be able to continue to do that even when school is not in session,” Peterson said. “We are especially excited that we are able to add two additional sites this year: Canyon Lake and Rapid Valley.”

Breakfast and lunch are served to kids throughout the city for free during the summer. Kids do not need to be enrolled in the school district to participate and the meals are for kids ages 0-18. Day care providers are also welcome to bring their kids for breakfast or lunch at any time during the summer. Adults can join their children for a meal by paying \$2.50 per adult meal. The following is a list of schools where free meals are offered.

Breakfast is offered at:

- General Beadle Elementary - June 1-August 14 - 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
- Knollwood Elementary - June 1-July 17 - 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
- Central High School - see rcas.org for more information

Lunch is offered at:

- General Beadle Elementary - 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- Canyon Lake Elementary - 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- Robbinsdale Elementary - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Valley View Elementary - 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- Rapid Valley Elementary - 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Central High School - see rcas.org for more information



Classroom on Wheels Teaches History and Culture of Historical Lakota Landmarks

By **Amanda Rombough**
Information Services Officer

While students are in the classroom for summer camps, the adults also took some field trips of their own to various Black Hills locations to gain a deeper understanding of the Lakota culture. The Classroom on Wheels project brought in various community leaders, including Superintendent Tim Mitchell and School Board member Dave Davis, to visit various landmarks and teach them more about the land and the culture.

The Classroom on Wheels project took leaders to Buffalo Gap, Wind Cave National Park, Ardmore, Fort Robinson, Bear Butte, Reynolds Prairie, Red Cloud Indian School, Pine Ridge, Wounded Knee, Badlands National Park, Devil's Tower, Inyan Kara Mountain, Crazy Horse, Oglala Lakota College, and Wingsprings, just to name a few locations. Locations visited were sites that laid within the boundaries encompassed by the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty.

"Not only was it the places that we visited and the coursework we were dealing with," Davis said. "From the minute we were on the bus we were in class. We were working on projects or we were watching

a video or we had one of the facilitators speaking to us."

Dr. Craig Howe, director of the Center for American Indian Research and Native Studies, along with the Oceti Sakowin Ambassadors led the daily field trips for a full week. Each morning began with a traditional Lakota greeting and participants were loaded onto a charter bus. Mitchell and Davis said one of the more interesting parts of the trip was that every roughly 30 minutes, everyone was unloaded from the bus and received a new seat arrangement and got to sit next to a new person. By the end of the week, each person had sat next to everyone else on the bus.

"By the end of the week we had an opportunity to spend 20 to 30 minutes with every single other member on that bus and it's really hard to have a prejudice against someone when you're face to face with an individual," Davis said. "A lot of barriers were thrown down. By the end of the five days we were worn out, we were tired, but we didn't want to leave. It was like summer camp, you knew you weren't going to see these people again."



The Classroom on Wheels project is supported by a \$178,000 Bush Foundation Community Innovation Grant that was awarded to the Rapid City Public School Foundation and is in partnership with the Rapid City Area Schools Office of Indian Education. The goal of the project is to develop learning groups and connect that learning to a larger community in a spirit of respect, and Davis and Mitchell both agreed that goal was achieved.

"Overall it was a great experience," Mitchell said. "It was a great group of people and they really made it a pleasure. The relationships that went on will be positive for the school district and the community and I'm excited for the next steps."

Peer Leadership Workshop Teaches Students Peer Collaboration Skills

By **Amanda Rombough**
Information Services Officer

It may be summer, but students are not slowing down in the work they are doing to better themselves and keep growing. Central High School Internship Coordinator Tim McGowan hosted a Peer Leader Summer Workshop the week after graduation, in coordination with other schools across the state to help promote collaboration and growth.



McGowan said he got the idea to do the workshop, which is the first of its kind, after getting input from other schools and students involved in *Cobbler 2 Cobbler*. He said there were a lot of students who wanted to be involved in more peer collaboration. McGowan said there is no model for what he put together, but it was solely based on the theory of how to do peer development. TF Riggs, Custer High School, Natrona County High School from Casper, Rapid City High School, Ateyapi, and Central High School were all involved in the two day workshop, with about 50 kids attending.

"There really is a network of people out there in our lives and we're not in this alone," McGowan said. "We want to let kids decide what that support looks like. It's not a competition between high schools. There's a collaboration between them."

Students came together and participated in team building activities to help build collaboration and trust amongst each other. McGowan said when the students went back to their schools, it would be up to them to determine what their school needs most and put it into action. The workshop was driven by the students, he said, with no adult predetermined end or agenda.

"Part of my job is to give kids leadership opportunities," he said. "We want to invite the kids to the table."

Central High School Graduate Khalil Ford said the best part of the seminar was just going through his normal routine and seeing other students start to understand and get why it works.

"I want to get more perspectives on why people do things," he said. "I want to

Jump to A3: Peer Leadership

AmeriCorps Hosts Series of Summer Camps for Continued Learning

By **Amanda Rombough**
Information Services Officer

While for many students, summer means relaxing, watching TV, and lots of days spent at the park or pool, for some students, it means camp and Extended Learning School with AmeriCorps. The camps run for approximately 10 days and each one has a theme. Camps include History, Ghost Towns and Lakota Culture Camp, MediCamp, Sports Camp, Art Camp, and Science Camp.

"I am so excited to offer an opportunity for students to experience education in a new way," North Rapid Community Coordinator Morgan VonHaden said. "Learning is all around us, not just in a book or a piece of paper. If we show kids that math and reading is used in sports, science, history, pretty much everything, then we are bringing education alive."

Camps include not only classroom time, but also hands on activities and field trips to local areas to help teach the lesson. The camps also have guest speakers, such as people in the medical field for MediCamp. VonHaden said she wants to keep kids engaged during the summer and show them that continuing to learn can be fun, not boring.

"Our camps do have academics, but we also do many hands on activities and are able to go on field trips," she said. "Why are we doing these camps? To show kids that learning is fun, what they are learning in school will help them in the real world."

History, Ghost Towns and Lakota Culture camp took place from June 1-5 and fea-

tured a trip to Bear Butte, the Homestake Open Cut in Lead and Adams Museum in Deadwood, and Wind Cave National Park and included activities such as panning for gold and learning about important famous local personalities such as Wild Bill and Seth Bullock.

The MediCamp took place from June 8-18 and included a visit from a local vet, paramedic, lessons about germs and crime scenes, and students even got to dissect crawdads. A guest from the Clin-



ical Laboratory of the Black Hills visited to show them healthy and sick organs and the students visited Lifescape to learn about prosthetics and therapy.

Sports Camp takes place June 15-July 1 and kids will get to not only play sports such as basketball, volleyball, and football, but they will also learn about different strategies for the games. Students will get to learn about different famous athletes from the area and they will get to research their favorite sports team or player. They will also learn other strategy games such as Speed, War, Slapjack, and High or Low and be given a lesson in

fun. They brought both upper and lower classmen and he said it's been good to see them form relationships together.

"We're using them as a bridge to relay information to the other kids," he said. "It's their turn to step up and take it all in."

McGowan said he hopes to continue this sort of collaboration and use it as a way to grow leadership skills amongst the students and schools. He said he hopes this workshop serves as an example for other schools to follow suit and do something similar.

sportsmanship.

Art Camp takes place from July 6-16 and they will get to experience all forms of art. They will take a field trip to the Journey Museum, Art Alley, the Dahl Arts Center, Main Street Square, Red Cloud Indian School, and Memorial Park to learn about the different types of art on display there. Students will learn how to paint, draw, and design art and will even submit a piece of art to the Red Cloud Indian Youth Art Show. Students will also learn about photography and videography, as well as music.

The final camp, Science Camp, takes place July 20-30 and students will learn about things such as volcanos, astronomy, physics, paleontology, and botany. They will travel to the Journey Museum, Dinosaur Park, the Mammoth Site, Sioux Park, and Reptile Gardens. Activities will include egg drops, leaf rubbings, and building paper mache projects.

Students are welcome to come to any and all of the summer camps that are available.

See more pictures on A4



**Want to see yourself,
class or activity in**

The Reporter?

Email your photo or idea to:

RapidCityDistrictCommunications@

k12.sd.us

Cont. from A2: Peer Leadership

know everyone else's why and have the motivation to do this and take initiative."

Wade Kippley from TF Riggs said that he was interested in what McGowan did with Cobbler 2 Cobbler and visited Central High School to see it in action. He figured out a way to make it work at their Pierre high school and will implement it next year. He said it's been rewarding to see the students working together and laughing and having

AmeriCorps Summer Camp



Two Schools Receive Bronze National Healthy Schools Award

Teachers: Have a student who wrote something awesome, took a great photo, or made an amazing art project? Share it with the rest of us by emailing it to

RapidCityDistrictCommunications@k12.sd.us

and it could be featured in an upcoming issue of *The Reporter!*

By Amanda Rombough
Information Services Officer

Black Hawk Elementary and Knollwood Elementary were chosen to receive the 2015 Bronze National Healthy Schools Award through the Alliance for a Healthier Generation for being healthy schools and promoting a healthy lifestyle for students.

The award was presented to Black Hawk and Knollwood Elementary Schools for changes that they have made to their school to make it a healthier school. At Black Hawk, students have been participating in the Fuel Up to Play 60 (FUTP60) program, following programs to help them create a more sustainable school. Such changes have included following daily 2-3 minute workout videos in the morning to get moving led by students, using FUTP60 grant monies to purchase stability balls for a first grade classroom, Olympic Themed Family Fitness Night, Family Fitness Breakfast, and purchasing blenders to use for

making healthy smoothies, made by older students to teach younger students about healthy ingredients.

Black Hawk also started a program called the 100 Mile Club where the entire student population vowed to walk, jog, or run 100 miles at school within the school year, culminating with a Celebration Family 3K Run/Walk in April. Additional teacher training and education has also helped spur Black Hawk on to be a more sustainable school.

"We are proud of our entire Black Hawk community," Tari Phares, a teacher at Black Hawk said. "This has been a team effort with students, staff, parents, and community members joining forces to try and create a healthy environment for students and staff to learn and work. We believe our students are getting the message early in their educational experience about the importance of physical activity and healthy eating. We hope to establish these healthy habits at an early age so they will continue for a lifetime."

Check out the great things our staff & students are doing!



The Discovery Classes at General Beadle are hard at work this summer making sure they don't fall behind.



The Ready Start class at General Beadle is working on making sure they are ready for kindergarten in the fall.



Members of Teen Up hosted a social media talk with Arts Rapid City to discuss the importance of social media.



Canyon Lake Elementary is holding a summer reading program through the summer to help students continue reading and not fall behind over the summer months.



Sports Physical Challenge

\$25* SPORTS PHYSICALS

- Each sports physical performed at Black Hills Urgent Care will earn a donation of \$5 for the school of the student athlete.
- The school with the most sports physicals performed at Black Hills Urgent Care by August 30th, 2015, will receive an additional \$250 donation to their athletic department.

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**Price listed is cash price. Not filed to insurance.*



Rapid City Area Schools Now Hiring

Bus Drivers!



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www.rcas.org
or call:
355-3707