

# WOKSAPE

“The Wise Book”

## Some Local Schools Choosing to Start Later

BY ELEANOR RHODES

Yankton High School started classes on August 17th. Other nearby schools, like Harrisburg High School, also started in August, but the Sioux Falls School District made a change this year and started school September 8th.

The Sioux Falls Catholic schools continue with the August start date.

Sioux Falls public schools will end June 2nd.

Semester tests become an issue with a later start date. If school starts late, it will push tests back to after winter vacation.

The Sioux Falls school district said their reasoning behind introducing a later start date had to do with the weather. They said that starting school in September means there is a greater possibility students will get to spend more of their summer enjoying the weather. They also stated that it costs “an average of \$7,000 to air condition the school during the month of August.”

“Starting school in August helps with the sports schedule. In Sioux Falls they sometimes had football practice twice a day because they weren’t in school, and

when track season rolls around, their kids will still be in school after state track is all over,” varsity coach, Mr. Arlin Likness said.

There appear to be mixed opinions among the students.

“I think starting in August is better because then you don’t have to be in school until June,” sophomore Trevor Rafferty said.

“Summer feels longer when school starts in September,” said sophomore Oakley Palmer.

Back to School



## New Parking Lot Welcomes YHS Students

BY AUSTIN JERKE



The newly repaved and repainted parking lot at Yankton High School has gone through changes over the past summer.

The main parking lot was refinished to smooth out the surface of the lot that was in need of repair. The companies responsible for the resurfacing work were Topkote, Inc., out of Yankton, and Midwest Striping, also out of Yankton. Jennifer Johnke, principal of Yankton High School, did not have a specific price available for the project.

“The parking spots are a lot bigger than last year.” She continued, “For the past six years, the district has wanted to increase the width of the spots and also to have diagonal lines to reduce the amount of door dings, accidents, and to make it safer and easier to back out.”

The new parking lot was put to the test by students on August 17, the first day

of school.

Johnke estimates that there are 400 students who drive to school. Currently the parking lot has just under 390 spots. This is a decrease from last year, where the lot had approximately 500 spots.

Within the first week of school, during all of the class meetings, Johnke told all students if the main parking lot is full, they should use the tennis court parking lot. If that is full, students should park in the activities parking lot.

Johnke said, “The parking lot isn’t what I wanted it totally to be, but it is a lot better than it was last year.”

She said the parking lot will be due for another resurfacing in three years. In the next parking lot, the district will try to address the lack of spaces in the lot.

## Leaping onto the Stage

BY CATHERINE PERAKSLIS



This year marks the second time the Academy of Dance will perform *Sleeping Beauty*. Like *The Nutcracker*, *Sleeping Beauty* is performed every other year. It is directed and choreographed by Dorota Dannenbring, with some help from Linda Haar and Kathryn Reimler.

*Sleeping Beauty* has three leading ladies who will alternate through three parts each night. Aurora, Bluebird, and Waltz 1-3 will feature dancers Rachel Frick, Samantha Kanaly, and Elle Hiltunen. This year’s prince will be played by Gabe Dannenbring. Lilac Fairy will be performed by Mckenna Golden.

Performances will take place on November 21-22 with two matinees and one evening performance. The first performance will be on Saturday, November 21, 2015, at 2 p.m. The first performance will feature Samantha Kanaly as Aurora.

The second performance will be on Saturday, November 21, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. The second performance will have Rachel Frick as Aurora.

The final performance will be held on Sunday, November 22, 2015, at 2 p.m. Elle Hiltunen will be Aurora in the final performance.

Of the process, Frick states, “It is great and wonderful. I love it.”

For all of the seniors this is the last ballet they will do as part of the Academy of Dance. Notes Frick, “It is sad, but exciting.”

## Teacher Parking Lot Raffle a Success

BY SHIANN BAKER

The raffle for a spot in the teachers’ parking area took place on October 14, 2015. Students had the opportunity to purchase tickets in order to be eligible for a parking spot. Tickets were \$1 for one ticket, \$5 for six tickets, or \$10 for fifteen tickets.

The raffle was put on by the YHS Student Council as a fundraiser event to raise money that will be going into the school’s fund. The money raised by these events may go to other school events or may even be donated.

Five spots were given away: one each to a senior,

junior, sophomore, and freshman. The extra fifth spot was open to anyone in any grade.

The winners of this quarter’s raffle were senior Alex Huntley, junior Kendra Hunhoff, sophomores Leah Wade and Alex Palecek, and freshman Dustin Gusso.

The winners’ parking spots will be good for the entire second quarter, and then future raffles will be held for both the third and fourth quarters.

## Junior Editor's Note

Hey, everyone! I’m your new junior editor, Sammi Simonsen.

School just started two short months ago, and we’ve already finished our first quarter. If you’re like me, that quarter really flew by!

Freshmen are becoming more comfortable, and the seniors are one step closer to receiving their diplomas. Juniors and sophomores have kicked off testing by taking the PSATs.

This is our second issue as the new *Woksape* with a brand new staff, including our advisor, Mrs. Powell.

One article I’m hoping to include each issue is called “Inside a Junior’s Mind,” which would describe the basic elements of a junior girl’s life.

Be sure to watch out for the *Woksape* each month to hear all the news at YHS!

—Sammi S.

## Senior Editor's Note

Hello! My name is Samantha Wenzlaff and I will be your senior editor this year. I enjoy people and studying the way they react among one another, so my plan is to introduce various stories concerning the population.

Starting my senior year, I decided to try some new activities. I participated in the fall play, *Almost Maine*, and I also decided to join the *Woksape*. Along with being in the paper and play, I am a member of NHS.

I try to give back to the community with my free time. All of my activities and events include many wonderful people and stories, which I feel should not go untold.

Being around different people all the time is an interesting way to learn more about our community. Everyone is different, and I have had the opportunity to meet some talented, interesting, and fun individuals. I would like to share with you some of my experiences I encounter throughout the rest of the school year.

—Samantha W.

## Yankton Student Council Gives Back

BY HOLLY HICKS



On Thursday, November 12, supporting Yankton High School Student Council will never be so easy! Stop by Yankton’s local Dairy Queen and have a blizzard or cone. YHS Student Council members will be working from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., bussing tables and making conversation with customers.

10% of sales will be donated directly to the YHS Student Council, and the Student Council will be donating the funds they raise all year to give to the Children’s Miracle Network (CMN). The South Dakota Student Council Association (SDSCA) has chosen to donate all the money fundraised this year by all student councils around the state to the Children’s Miracle Network. So please stop by Dairy Queen and enjoy a yummy cold treat while supporting your very own YHS Student Council!

## Pumpkin Spice Everything

BY SAMMI SIMONSEN

When most people think of fall, they think of leaves changing and carving pumpkins, but for some people, fall means the return of the pumpkin spice latte.

According to [www.starbucks.com](http://www.starbucks.com) and [www.neatorama.com](http://www.neatorama.com), since the creation of the pumpkin spice latte in 2003, coffee-drinkers have consumed over 60 billion calories, or over 200 million cups, because of this warm beverage.

This flavor is so popular with coffee drinkers that most people just refer to it by its acronym, PSL.

What causes the craze for this latte? It is steamed milk with espresso, plus some traditional fall spices, such as cinnamon, cloves, and nutmeg. It is then topped with

whipped cream and pumpkin pie spice. Can’t you just smell the warm spices drifting up from the cup and reminding you of your mom pulling out fresh pumpkin pie from the oven?

The next time you feel like channeling your inner autumn attitude, drive over to your local coffee shop and sip into fall.



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