

# HAMLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT 28-3

## *STATE OF THE SCHOOL*

August 19, 2025

5:00 pm

# Enrollment K- 12

- 2026 – 867 (projected next year)
- 2025 – 862 (projected this year)
- 2024 – 867
- 2023 – 841
- 2022 – 835
- 2021 – 838
- 2020 – 847
- 2019 – 842
- 2018 – 810
- 2017 - 783
- 2016 – 749
- 2015 – 727
- 2014 – 726
- 2013 – 715
- 2012 – 677
- 2011 – 696
- 2010 – 681
- 2009 – 687
- 2008 - 658
- 2007 – 652
- 2006 – 622
- 2005 – 644
- 2004 – 618
- 2003 - 594
- 2002 – 646
- 2001 - 660

# Enrollment (K-12)

- Kindergarten: 73
- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: 76
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: 80

6<sup>th</sup> grade (71), 9<sup>th</sup> grade (70) the only other classes above 70

# Special THANKS!

## Video Board & Scoreboard Advertisements!!

- BRYANT STATE BANK
  - HAMLIN COUNTY FARMERS COOP
  - LAKE NORDEN FARMERS ELEVATOR
  - RELIABANK – also sponsored the hot dog meal tonight
  - AVANTARA of Lake Norden
  - BECK'S – Thue AG
- 
- Still advertisements available
  - Expect to use this for all events (Veteran's Day program, athletic events, elementary programs, etc.)

# New Staff

## **Doug Strande**

High School Building Trades,  
Wood Working, & Automotive Classes



## **Maren Fischer**

Middle School Teacher



# New Staff

**Riley Seeds**

Special Education Teacher



**Samantha Ching**

US History/Government Teacher



# New Staff

**Catherine Ward**

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher



**Kylee Thue**

1<sup>st</sup> Grade



# New Staff

## **Courtney Haug**

Principal/CTE Director/Title Director



## **Chad Laqua**

Wrestling Coach





# New Staff

**Kate Rich**

MS/HS Para-Professional



**Jacob MacDonell**

MS/HS Para-professional & MS FB Coach



# Hired after the start of school last year...

- James DeSalvo – MS PE/Health/Science
- Gisela Sayler – Custodian
- Cambria Beld - Custodian
- Tami Steffensen– Para-professional

# School Lunch

- The number of people who applied for Free & Reduced Lunches went up again last year. Thank You!!
- Applications are online
- Crystal Maag will GLADLY help with the application

# School Lunch: Why Apply?

- Possible Reduced Lunch & Breakfast price (or free)
- The school benefits from the number of people that apply, since it is a federal program.
- Grants, Title, etc. often influenced by the % within your school
- Students may qualify for reduced fees for ACT or SAT tests.
- May qualify you for discounted rates on home internet service.
- This goes into effect the day the office receives your application. If we receive it on November 5, then it starts then – NOT the start of school.

# Lunch ticket & Milk ticket

- Ladies in the front office will take money for lunch tickets
- Classroom teacher will take money for milk tickets
- Milk tickets price has increased!! We no longer qualify for a grant and the price of the milk ticket has not changed in years.
- Milk ticket is now \$15

# Busing: Issues

- Driver will warn the student once during the year.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense – parent will be contacted and the student will serve a detention and not be allowed to ride that time.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense – Parent will be contacted and the student will NOT be allowed to ride the bus for 5 school days.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense – Parent will be contacted and the student will NOT be allowed to ride the bus for minimum of 10 school days
- 4<sup>th</sup> Offense – Suspension from bus transportation for the remainder of that given school year or until determined

# Bus issues

- Boisterous (loud, rowdy, disorderly)
- Failure to follow bus regulations
- Profanity or vulgarity
- Failure to remain in seat while bus is in motion
- In need of frequent correction
- Arms or any part of the body exposed outside the windows
- Failure to follow bus driver's instructions
- other

# Bus issues...

- The majority of our students are OFF the bus by 4:00 PM
- If there is an issue on the bus, contact the driver and Mr. Neuendorf.
- We have cameras on all the buses.



# Busing...see Mark or your bus drivers tonight!!

- If you have a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader or younger, they should sit towards the front of the bus!!
  - If you want them to sit by a sibling have the sibling sit closer to the front of the bus!!
- If you live in the town of Hayti, Lake Norden, Bryant, or Hazel the pick up times and locations will be similar to last year

Dismissal time & pickup (Same as last year)

Elementary start 8:30 done 3:30

MS/HS start 8:20 done 3:20

- **AVOID students running across traffic.**
- AVOID students & cars in the area where a bus may back up.
- Make sure to CALL AHEAD if your child is riding with you or a change in way home
- One lane of pickup. Yes, it gets long at times.
- If your child is NOT riding the bus they will come out the north end of the school (playground)
- JUST KEEP THINKING OF THE SAFETY OF OUR KIDS.
- **Pull ahead...keep the line moving forward!!**

*Change to be aware of...*

*10:00 AM start on weather related Late Starts*

- 10:00 start on weather related late starts
- No more 2- hour late starts or 1-hour late starts
- Still no breakfast, still no AM Pre-School on these days
- Give us more time to educate prior to dinner
- Pickups will be approximately 1.5 hours after regular pickup times

# *Change to be aware of... Starts August 25*

## *ELEMENTARY Arrival Options*

- **ELEMENTARY Arrival Options**
- **Recess:** Students choosing recess will go directly to the playground upon arrival.
- **Breakfast:** Students choosing breakfast will go straight to the lunchroom. They will not be allowed to stop at their lockers before breakfast.
- **Preschool:** Students will choose breakfast or go directly to Mrs. Poppen's room.
- **Bell Schedule & Transitions**
- **8:00–8:20:** There should be **no students in the classroom hallways** during this time unless it is an inclement weather day. Students must choose recess or breakfast and stay in those areas until the first bell.
- **8:20 – First Bell:**
  - Recess students will line up to come inside.
  - Breakfast students, if finished eating, will be released to classrooms.
- **8:30 – Tardy Bell**

# Attendance, Attendance, Attendance...

- Point of emphasis from the SD DOE
- Funerals do NOT count against your child IF you inform the school prior to absence and limited # of days.
- If you miss the same class period or are tardy numerous times, the state is cracking down on schools for attendance.

# PRIDE IN YOUR SCHOOL...

- Talk to your kids about destruction of property and treating the building with PRIDE.
- Talk to your kids about looking out for others and reporting issues if needed. We don't want to "take things away."
- This is at ALL grade levels

# Cell Phones...hot topic, the past year

- KEEP THEM AT HOME!! The very first thing other states say in their policy!
- NO TEACHER has EVER requested a student to bring them to school.
- If you as a parent do NOT think schools should allow phones in school, then you have the right as a parent to keep your child's phone at home.
- IF YOU KEEP THEM AT HOME LET THE OFFICE KNOW!!
  - IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND FOR ONE DAY...LET THE OFFICE KNOW!!

# CELL PHONES...

- Elementary Students: Cell phones and smart watches should NOT be seen or heard UNLESS they are in the teacher's possession. Even in the hallways!
  - ***Parents do NOT message or call your elementary student during the school day on their phone. Call the school.***
- Middle School Students: same as elementary
  - ***Parents do NOT message or call your middle school student during the school day on their phone. Call the school.***



# CELL PHONES...

- High School students – each classroom will have a “shoe rack” and that is where the phone is for the class period. If a student leaves the class to use the “bathroom” the phone stays in the classroom.
  - Attendance in the class will be taken by the cell phone in the rack
  - High School Students may have their cell phone between classes and at lunch.
  - Parents –message them at lunch time if you need to message them

# CELL PHONES...

- KEEP THEM OUT OF THE BATHROOMS!
- **Do NOT let them take pictures of staff members or other students without permission.**
- **Talk to your kids about this!!**

# Building update...

- New Addition is done.
- Carpet has been updated in some Middle School Classrooms
- Front Sidewalk has been updated
- Playground fence will finally be enclosed.
- All classrooms have been moved finally!! Many elementary classrooms moved this summer. Directions are on the ceiling in the hallway.

# Information

- First Day of School is Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Tomorrow (Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>) – Teachers will have an in-service tomorrow
- The school will be open tomorrow for self guided tours 9:00 to 2:30
  - If you have the student that wants to come in a practice their locker padlock
  - If you forgot school supplies and just want to drop them off in the room
  - If you have the student that just wants to come again to check out the classroom and walk the halls to be comfortable.
  - I can NOT promise you that your child's teacher will be available to visit tomorrow with the in-service

We will give our teachers a head start and they may leave while we finish up.

# School messenger about tonight

- Option 1: Today
- ALL MESSAGES
- Option 2: About 2 weeks ago
- No voice.

# Still looking for...

- Bus driver – over \$50 per route
- Substitute teachers (Substitute Teachers meeting tomorrow at 11:00)
- Applications online or at the main office

# MS/HS Students will take semester tests again this year

- IF they are PASSING the course, they will have the opportunity to OPT OUT of the semester test if they meet the attendance requirements.
- Please remind your child NO hats (baseball caps) in the building for MS & HS students. Keep them in the car or at home. Except for “hat day”



# Hamlin moves with the ever changing student

- Internships for juniors & seniors
  - Pre-requisite is Employability Class
  - May intern for up to one credit
  - See Mr. Sheehan for more information
- As a parent help guide your child with their registration and don't wait until middle of their senior year...

# Hamlin moves with the ever changing student

- Dual Credit for juniors & seniors is very strong!! Mrs. Popham has a meeting tonight in the Commons right after this!! Students need t
- Graduate in 3.5 years
- Senior Privileges have been changed in recent years
  - If as a junior you received a Gold, Silver or Bronze in attendance and you are on pace to graduate, you get your senior privileges 9 weeks earlier
- Mrs. Popham will have a short presentation immediately following in the Commons right across the hallway for junior and senior students & parents taking dual credit as well as any 10<sup>th</sup> grade students or parents who would like to listen as well

# PACH Program is taking donations tonight

- They are set up across from the main office. Items of interest are individual meals or individual snacks.
- PACH: People Against Childhood Hunger
- PACH provides meals for students on weekends
- If you would like to donate money to help fund the program see either Mrs. Mittlider or Mr. Hulscher

To prepare and equip our students to become responsible  
citizens and succeed in an ever-changing world.

Hamlin School Motto

August 19, 2025

COPIES OF THIS PRESENTATION WILL BE ON THE WEBSITE