

KINDLE'S KORNER

Dr. Wayne Kindle, Superintendent

Yankton School District

District 18 Legislative Cracker Barrels

Yankton County citizens will have the opportunity to hear from and submit questions to their District 18 legislators at the Legislative Cracker Barrels sponsored by Yankton Thrive.

The remaining dates/time for the 2026 Cracker Barrels will be:

Saturday, February 21 at 10:00 am – CMTEA Facility

Saturday, March 7 at 10:00 am – CMTEA Facility

Cracker Barrels will be during the South Dakota State Legislative session. Local Legislators will be available to answer questions.

For more information, please contact Yankton Thrive at (605) 665-3636 or visit their website at: www.yanktonsd.com

Benefits in Family Engagement

- **Improved Academic Performance:** When families are actively engaged in a student's education, it often results in higher academic achievement. Students receive more support with their homework, have better study habits, and show increased motivation to succeed academically.
- **Enhanced Behavioral Outcomes:** Engaged families play a pivotal role in shaping positive behavior in students. They provide the support and guidance needed for children to thrive socially and emotionally.
- **Increased Graduation Rates:** High school graduation rates tend to rise when families take an active role in their child's education. The encouragement and guidance provided by engaged families can help students stay on track to earn their diplomas.

- **Improved Student Achievement:** Family engagement significantly contributes to student achievement. Involving families in education leads to better academic and social performance, as well as faster literacy acquisition.

School Attendance

The importance of attendance in student success can't be overstated. Research consistently demonstrates that chronic absenteeism sets off a chain reaction of negative effects on academic performance, with consequences that compound over time.

Early attendance patterns are particularly crucial. Students who experience chronic absences in preschool, kindergarten, and first grade often struggle to achieve grade-level reading proficiency by third grade. This milestone is critical, as students who don't meet it are four times more likely to leave high school without graduating compared to their peers who read proficiently.

What's more, attendance patterns in later years continue to play a significant role. Irregular attendance serves as a strong indicator of potential dropout, with persistent low attendance in grades 8-12 substantially raising the risk of not completing high school.

When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating.

It is important to recognize that a habit of good attendance is not only a school readiness skill, but a life skill. Consistent, on-time attendance creates a discipline that carries into adulthood.

See Something Say Something

- **“See Something Say Something”** is a national campaign to raise public awareness regarding school and public safety
- Reporting suspicious activity
- Empowering the public, students, parents etc... on the importance of reporting suspicious activity
- Yankton School District has participated for several years
- Signs posted throughout the Yankton School District
- Reporting to any school staff and School Resource Officers
- Reporting to Law Enforcement
- Calling 911

School Board Meetings

Yankton School District Board Meetings are scheduled for the 2nd Monday of the month beginning at 5:00 pm. Yankton School Board Meetings are held at the Yankton School District Administration Building in the School Board Meeting Room.

School board meetings are live-streamed, as well as recorded and re-aired on public access channels on our local cable television. The meetings are also archived on the YSD Website <https://www.ysd.k12.sd.us/o/ysd/page/video-archive>

The public is always welcome to attend.

Superintendent Presentations

Thank you for the trust and confidence you have placed in me to lead the Yankton School District. You are welcome to contact me at any time to visit. I would be happy to visit with you personally or speak to your group/organization.

I am also willing to host your group at our Administration Building or one of our school buildings. I would also come to your facility or meeting place.

If there is a specific topic you would like for me to address in the future, please call me at 665-3998 or email me at wayne.kindle@k12.sd.us

Wishing you a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year!

Henry Ford stated, **“Coming together is a beginning. Staying together is a process. Working together is a success**