

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 tentative dates/time for the 2026 Cracker Barrels will be:

Saturday, January 31 at 10:00 am – CMTEA Facility

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

YSD Angel Fund

Are you looking for a way to help families in our community? Please consider donating to the YSD Child Nutrition Angel Fund. The Angel Fund is used to help families alleviate meal debt during some financial challenges they have encountered temporarily.

If you are interested in donating to the Angel Fund, please call or email our Director of Child Nutrition Laura Horacek at 605-665-8379 or by email at laura.horacek@k12.sd.us

You may also send your donation to:

YSD Angel Fund
PO Box 738
Yankton, SD 57078

Golden Lifetime Activity Pass Beyond Successful

Residents of the Yankton School District who are 65 years of age and above, I welcome you to stop by and obtain a Golden Lifetime Activity Pass. The pass allows for free admission into all Yankton School District regular season activities.

The **Golden Lifetime Activity Pass** may be obtained at the Yankton School District Administration Building. Those wishing to obtain the pass must show an I.D. with birthdate and residence verification. A driver's license would suffice as an I.D.

We have provided over 1800 Golden Lifetime Activity Passes since we began the program! This is a terrific way to get involved with the Yankton School District and enjoy a number of wonderful activities!

Early Release & School Buses Returning to School.

If inclement weather conditions are in the "forecast" impacting travel/road conditions the YSD may consider an Early Release.

We also know once an Early Release has been announced weather conditions can change very quickly with little regard to the "forecast". I trust our bus drivers and their judgement regarding visibility/road conditions. They may choose to return to town at any time during their bus route with children to ensure their safety.

The decision may also be made to return all buses to town or not send any buses out if the weather and travel conditions change quicker than the "forecast" predicted. If either of these situations would happen, we will communicate with parents.

If your child rides the bus, please make sure you have a plan in place for a family member or close friend to pick your child up from school if our buses are restricted from travel. We will work with you to keep the children safe at school until they are able to be picked up.

We appreciate your understanding and working together for the safety of our children. I will always do my best to keep our children safe.

Parents of any student who wish to pick their child up early on an inclement weather day or who choose not to have their child attend school with inclement weather pending/road conditions are welcome to do so.

2-Hour Late Start

We may use a 2-Hour Late Start when weather and road conditions interfere with a normal starting time. Weather conditions and road conditions can change very quickly. Utilizing a 2-Hour Late Start provides us additional time along with some daylight to further analyze the situation. A decision may also include the closure of school for the day.

The extra time also provides more of a window for the County, City and State to have sanding trucks, plows, etc. taking care of roads in more areas. This also allows the school district some additional time to work on the many parking lots, sidewalks, etc. for our students, parents and staff.

A 2-Hour Late Start is much easier to adjust pick-up times in town or out of town by simply adding 2 hours onto our normal bus pick-up times.

Note: Please remember the conditions in the rural areas may be much worse than in town, which can impact decision making for a **2-Hour Late Start**, an **Early Release** and a **School Bus Returning to School**.

There is also the decision to start school on time and/or not to have an early release. We all know living in South Dakota there will be some weather and road conditions, which require drivers to slow down, be cautious and know it may take a little longer to get to and from our destination safely.

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”**