

With the holiday season here, all of us at ADM wish you the best! As busy as this time of the year is, I hope you can take a few minutes to read our fall edition of District News. This edition includes updates on the new elementary building and major learning initiatives like professional learning communities, technology, an elementary science curriculum update, and other interesting stories of our year so far.

It is an exciting time to be a Tiger for sure! Our enrollment increased over 100 students from last year - an all-time high in our history. This kind of growth - and opening a new building - offers us a unique chance to reflect on our system as a whole and develop plans to help us reach our mission of high levels of learning for ALL students. The consequences for students graduating without being college and career ready are significant and will impact students for the rest of their lives. We take our mission seriously - we want every student to know we care about them and are passionate about their success.

Happy Holidays from all of us at ADM!

ADM Superintendent, Greg Dufoe



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New Elementary Building: Update

On June 25, 2019, a Special Election was held to authorize the ADM School District to contract indebtedness and issue bonds to construct, build, furnish and equip a new elementary building. **The measure passed with 80.01% YES and 19.99% NO.**

With the passage of the bond, ADM will construct a new elementary building that will alleviate immediate enrollment pressures due to continued growth. This will allow ADM to live its mission of engaging ALL students in a challenging and supportive environment that ensures ALL students learn at high levels.

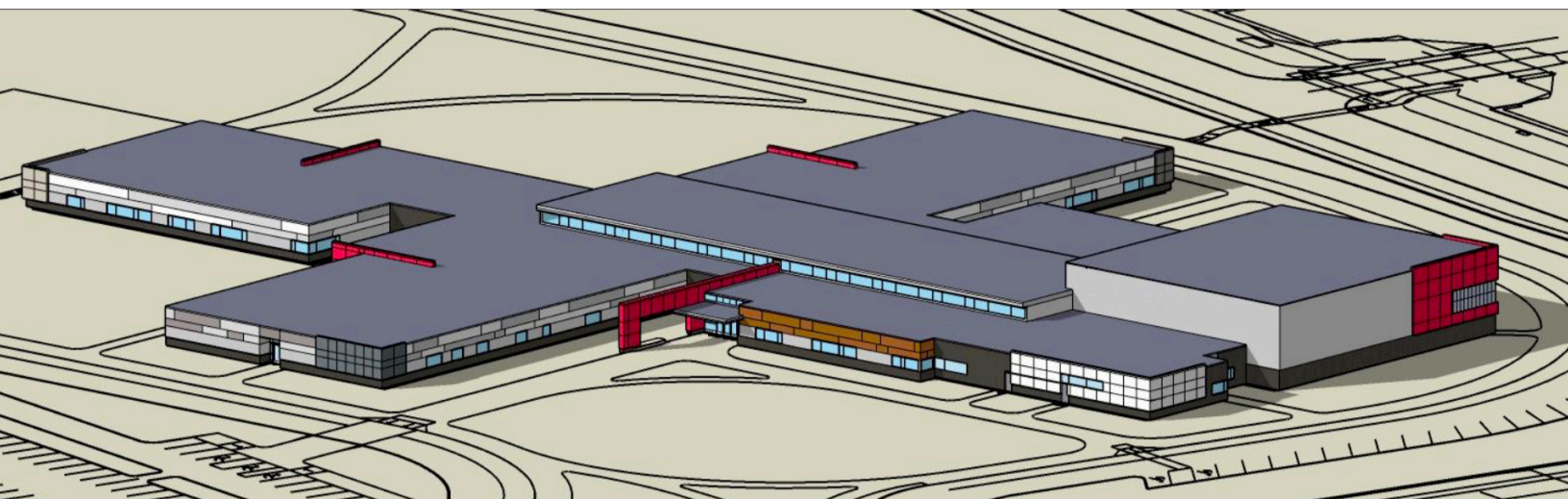


Image: The image above is the design that was approved during the design and development phase at the October School Board Meeting.

As part of the design process, FRK Architects and Engineers facilitated a series of user group meetings with teachers, directors, and administrators to gather input on the design and development of spaces that will be part of the new building. This input has been critical in designing a building that is focused on student learning.

The new elementary building will have a **capacity of 650 students** and will serve **2nd - 4th grade students**.

The new building will be located just west of 15th street in Adel and northwest of the Adel Aquatic Center. Construction is set to begin early this winter.

New
Configuration



Adel Elem.
(PS-1)



New Building
(2-4)



DeSoto Inter.
(5-6)



Middle School
(7-8)



High School
(9-12)

Project Timeline

JUNE 2019

Bond Passed With
80.01% Yes Vote

JULY 2019

Schematic Design
Approved

AUGUST 2019

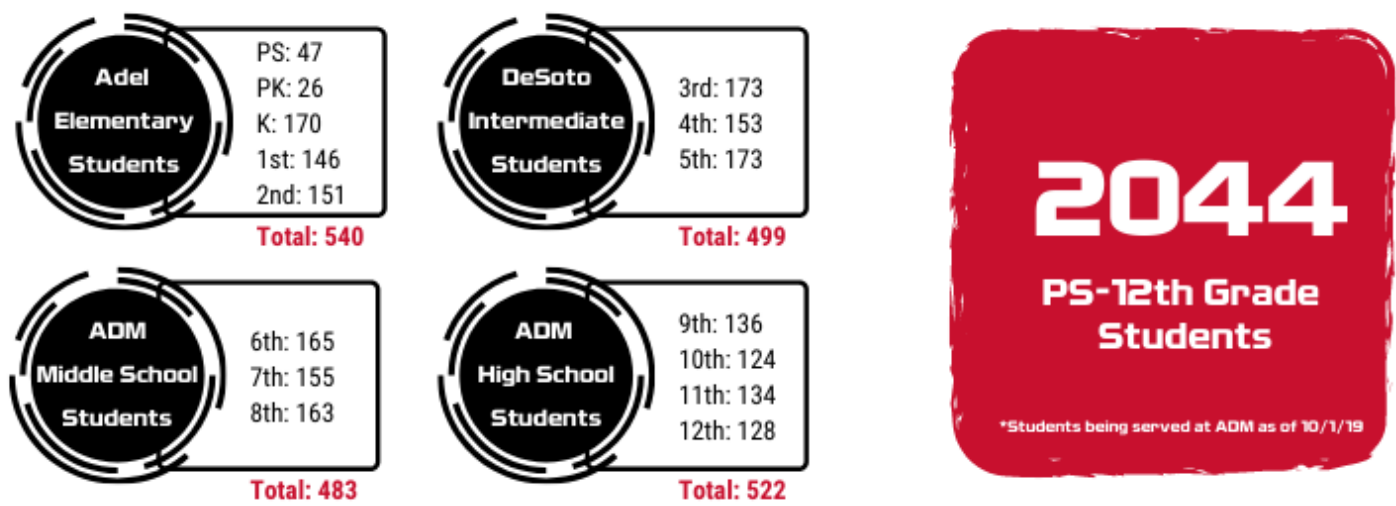
Site Concept
Developed

OCTOBER 2019

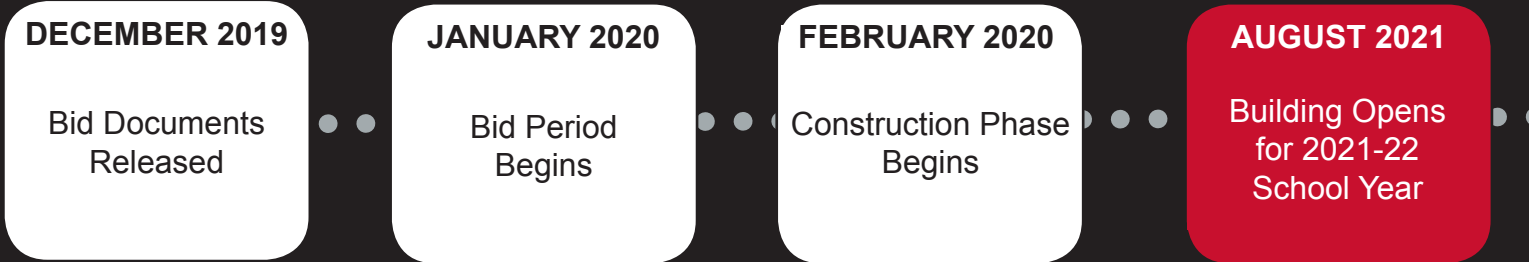
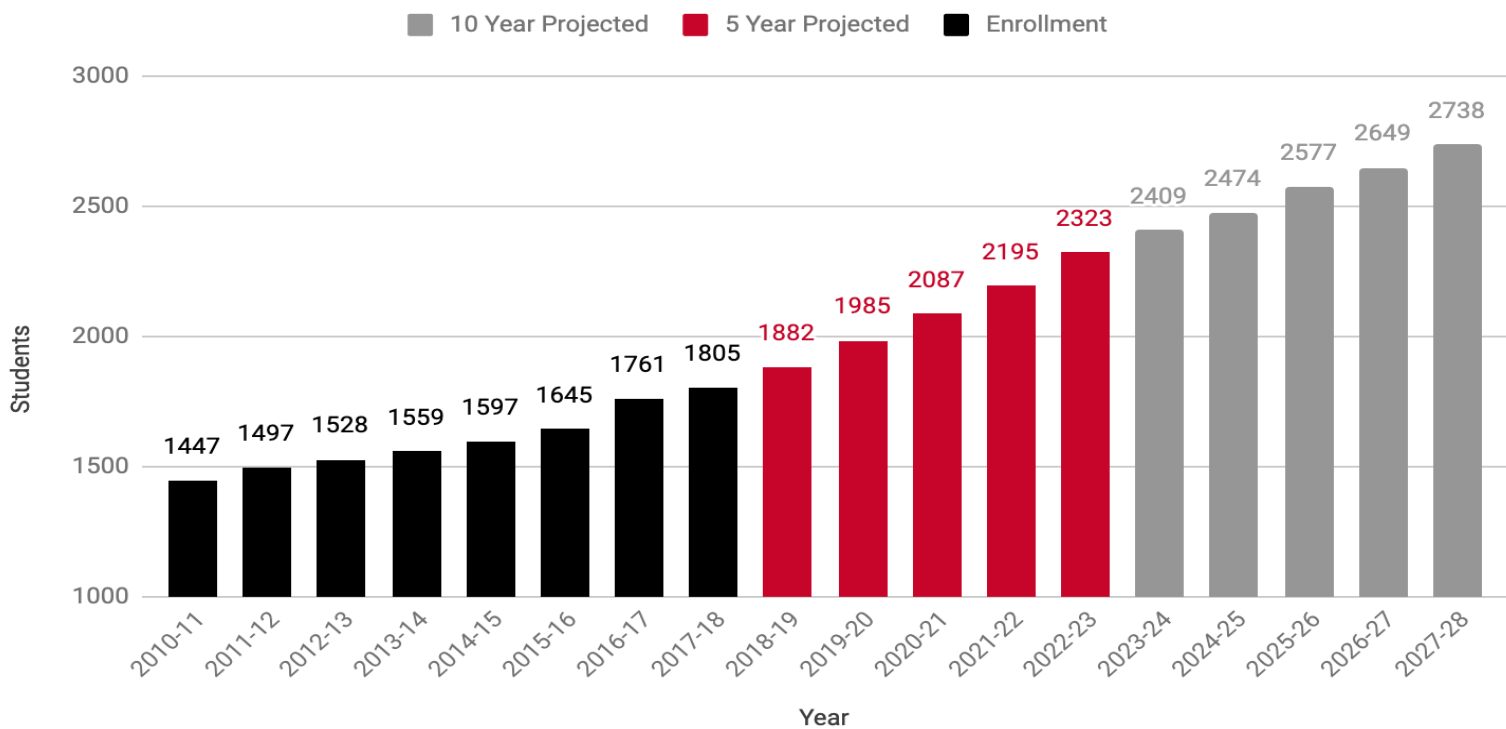
Design and
Development
Approved

Enrollment: Planning For Growth

The following table identifies the number of students at each grade level being served at ADM as of October 1, 2019



The chart below shows ADM's most recent 5 and 10-year projected enrollments. The enrollment figures in the chart **take into account the recent changes in Adel's Tax Abatement program**. As of October 1st, the number of students being served at ADM was **2044 students for 2019-20**, slightly above the enrollment projection listed below which does not include preschool students.



ADM is a professional learning community (PLC). While the definition of a PLC can take many forms, at the core is an intense focus on going beyond ensuring that students have been taught to **ensuring that students learn**.

In generations past, the school experience often focused on teaching rather than learning. This could be seen in a system that focused on a process of teaching, testing, and moving on. Students that “got it” scored well and those that “didn’t get it” scored poorly. The teacher “taught” the curriculum and it was up to the student to perform.

At ADM we are working to provide **a system focused on learning**. If a child needs extra time and supports to learn at high levels, we want to guarantee he or she will receive it. This is aligned to ADM’s mission of ensuring high levels of learning for all.

ADM Repeating Process for Each Unit



In order to meet ADM’s mission and provide a system focused on learning, ADM has implemented a consistent early release at 2:00 each Friday. **Teachers use this time to collaborate and focus on student learning**. ADM uses the Repeating Process for Each Unit (shown above and described on page 4) to help guide teacher collaboration and efforts pertaining to student learning.

Learning Community

▶▶ “The fact that teachers meet together during the day will do nothing to improve student learning. The purpose of collaboration will only be accomplished if teams **focus on the right things.**”

- DuFour, Eaker, & DuFour, *The Power of Professional Learning Communities at Work: Bringing the Big Ideas to Life* (2007)

The ADM Repeating Process for Each Unit (shown on page 3) is ADM's attempt to conceptualize the “right work” of collaborative teacher teams. Around the outside of the cycle you will see the four critical questions that teams must answer to guide their work.

1. What is it we want all our students to know and be able to do?
2. How will we know if each student has learned it?
3. How will we respond when some students don't learn it?
4. How will we extend learning for students that have demonstrated proficiency?

The center of ADM's Repeating Process for Each Unit identifies (in red) critical steps that collaborative teams must complete as they plan and implement units of instruction.

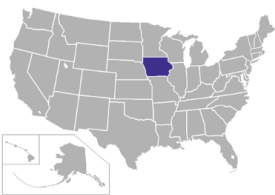
The critical steps (in red) focus collaborative teacher teams on identifying what is to be taught, how it will be taught and assessed, identifying students that have not learned, and providing intervention and additional instruction for any students needing additional support. All of this work is done prior to administering an end-of-unit assessment.

Even after an end-of-unit assessment has been given, collaborative teacher teams review the results and determine how to best provide additional support for students who have still not learned.

At ADM we believe this is the “right work” and the work that will ultimately help us meet our goal of ensuring that **all students learn at high levels.**

Data Spotlight

Iowa's Average ACT Composite Score Ranks **#1** in the Nation



21.6

ADM's 2019 Graduating Class ACT Composite Score



22.5

73 out of 115 seniors took the ACT in 2019

Statistics About Students Who Drop Out Of School:

- Earn on average \$12,000 per year as an adult
- 50% less likely to have pensions or healthcare plans
- More likely to experience health problems as an adult
- Nationally, 1 in 6 students drop out of HS each year

Rouse/Muenning, 2005: www.centerforpubliceducation.org
Miller, Tony. "Partnering for Education Reform." U.S. Department of Education

ADM's Graduation Rate



97%



Technology for Learning

In the fall of 2018, ADM launched the Technology for Learning Initiative providing increased access to technology. The purpose of this initiative is to promote **active digital citizenship**, and to enhance **student learning** through **innovation**, **risk-taking**, **communication**, **collaboration**, **critical thinking**, **creating**, and engagement with the global **community**.

One way to monitor the implementation of this initiative is to measure how frequently specific resources that are aligned to ADM's vision of Technology For Learning are being utilized. The following provides usage data from the 2018-19 school year from a few key digital resources:



637

Users Edited Video

464

Users Exported Video



7,306

Assignments Posted

249

Courses Actively Updated



12,514

Student Created Artifacts

19,804

Digital Visits By Families



87,584

Total Usage Events Logged

66,213

Events of Text-To-Speech



32

Classroom Libraries

929

Digital Books Created

A critical component of ADM's Technology for Learning Initiative is the promotion of **active digital citizenship for students and staff**. In September, all ADM teachers participated in professional development related to concepts of digital citizenship. The goal of this learning was to increase teacher awareness and understanding of digital citizenship topics as well as to increase the frequency in which these concepts are taught in the classroom.

ADM has implemented a K-12 digital citizenship curriculum with identified lessons and concepts that are being taught in each grade. The goal is to implement a guaranteed and viable curriculum of planned instruction while supporting teachers to engage in "just-in-time" conversations as topics related to digital citizenship arise in the classroom.

Lessons being taught in the classroom address the following 6 categories of digital citizenship:

Media Balance &
Well-Being

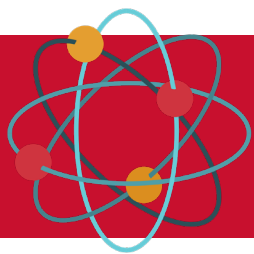
Privacy & Security

Digital Footprint &
Identity

Relationships &
Communication

Cyberbullying, Digital
Drama and Hate Speech

New & Media
Literacy



K-5 Science Curriculum

In 2015 the state of Iowa adopted new K-12 science standards. The new science standards infuse the three dimensions of science learning:

Cross Cutting Concepts

Crosscutting Concepts help students explore connections across the four domains of science, including Physical Science, Life Science, Earth and Space Science, and Engineering Design.

Science & Eng. Practices

Science and Engineering Practices describe what scientists do to investigate the natural world and what engineers do to design and build systems.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

Disciplinary Core Ideas (DCIs) are the key ideas in science that have broad importance within or across multiple science or engineering disciplines.

ADM elementary teachers have been studying the new science standards and developing units of instruction to meet the requirements of the Iowa Core. Teachers began implementing the new units of instruction during the 2018-19 school year and are fully implementing all units for the 2019-20 school year. The following are some of the many units that students in grades K-5 will experience at ADM:

Kindergarten:

- Forces, Machines, and Engineering
- Plants and Animal Needs

First Grade:

- Properties of Light and Sound
- Spinning Sky: Sun, Moon, and Stars

Second Grade:

- Properties and Phases of Matter
- Earth's Surface Processes



Third Grade:

- Animal Development & Survival
- Using Magnetic Force

Fourth Grade:

- Organism Structures and Behaviors
- Communicating Using Wave Energy

Fifth Grade:

- Matter and Energy Flow in an Ecosystem
- Interactions of Matter



North Gym: Floor Refinishing Project

This summer ADM refinished the wood floor of the North Gym located at the Middle School / High School complex. The floor had not been fully sanded and refinished since the original installation in 2006. The full refinishing process included sanding of all wood elements to prepare the wood for striping, new logos, and a new finish.

The refinishing project provided an opportunity to update the center court logo to the new ADM Tiger Head. Additionally, updated ADM lettering and the Tiger Paw logo were added to the sidelines of the main court. New lines were also painted for the basketball and volleyball courts.

In total, the project required the gym to be closed for 3 weeks as crews completed the work. After the refinishing and painting had been completed, the floor required an additional 3-4 weeks to fully cure.

The end result is a brighter and cleaner look that highlights the beauty of the natural wood. ADM students and fans have enjoyed the new look this fall during the volleyball season and physical education courses taking place in the North Gym. The Tigers look forward to hosting the upcoming girls and boys basketball games starting in late November.

Image: North Gym showcasing refinished floors, new floor graphics, and new wall pads.





North Gym: **New Wall Pads**

Image: Karen and Bryan Jansen in front of donated wall pads in the North Gym

ADM Community Schools would like to thank and recognize Bryan and Karen Jansen for their generous gift of new wall pads in ADM's North Gym and their ongoing support of ADM Schools! The new pads are 7 feet tall, and run over 75 feet in length at each end of the gym. The new design provides an updated consistent look throughout the gym and prominently displays ADM's new Tiger Head and other brand elements!

Bryan and Karen own Sport Construction Midwest, a company that provides flooring and other sports equipment. When asked about their generous gift, they shared "This work is in our wheelhouse and we spend a lot of time in the north gym. For over 20 years, our company has worked in schools, colleges and private facilities around the Midwest. Wall pads are such a focal point of a high school gymnasium and we love getting to help design them. This was a no brainer for us as it is something we could easily do for the district and the students at ADM."

Bryan and Karen have 2 children, Grant (7th grade) and Paige (11th grade) who attend ADM. The Jansens moved to Adel from Clive in 2013 in search of a smaller school district with a close knit community feel for their kids. Another reason they moved to Adel was to find land to build a gymnasium to showcase everything their business is able to do. "We love the fact that we have been able to share our home gym with local teams and families....whether having a basketball practice, hitting in the batting cage, having a birthday party, or a snow day dodgeball tournament," said Karen Jansen. "We have such a unique company. One day we might be installing the wall pads at Kinnick Stadium or the equipment in a new school gym and then the next day we might be installing basketball hoops in driveways or building a backyard court."

When asked what they hoped to see ADM accomplish in the future, Bryan Jansen stated "We love the fact that in a district like ADM, students can participate in so many activities, whether sports, fine arts or clubs. That is what drew us to moving to the district. We hope ADM continues to allow these opportunities for all students!"

The addition of new wall pads along with the newly refinished gym floor and new floor graphics create a space and atmosphere that exudes Tiger Pride! ADM invites the community to attend fall events to experience the new look and feel of the ADM North Gym.



Iowa Statwide Assessment of Student Progress

Iowa has adopted statewide standards in English Language Arts, Math, and Science to ensure all students move from grade to grade with the academic knowledge and skills necessary for success. Because Iowa has raised the bar for what students are expected to know and be able to do, the state also changed the way progress is measured through state tests.

A new state test, the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress, replaced the Iowa Assessments as Iowa's accountability measure for schools. In the spring of 2019, ADM students took the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) for the first time. English Language Arts and Math tests were given to students in grades 3-11, while Science tests were given in grades 5, 8, and 10.

Student performance on the ISASP is scored in three ways: Advanced, Proficient, and Not Yet Proficient. ISASP better reflects what is being taught in the classroom and how students are progressing toward grade-level expectations outlined in Iowa's academic standards.

Over the summer a committee of 185 Iowa educators met to determine performance levels, or cut scores which define the range of scores for each category of proficiency. Because the new test is better aligned to Iowa's academic standards, it is more challenging. The results from Iowa's spring 2019 ISASP assessments will serve to re-set the "baseline" for future progress on the new ISASP and are unable to be compared to Iowa Assessments scores from previous years.

The results will be used to report to parents and the community as well as be applied to Iowa's school accountability system required under federal law (ESSA). Furthermore, ADM will use the results to identify strengths and opportunities for growth. Below are a few data highlights from ADM's first administration of the ISASP.

Data Spotlight

DeSoto Intermediate (3-5)



English Language Arts

68%

ADM students proficient or advanced on the ELA ISASP Assessment

67%

Iowa students proficient or advanced on the ELA ISASP Assessment

Math

75%

ADM students proficient or advanced on the Math ISASP Assessment

71%

Iowa students proficient or advanced on the Math ISASP Assessment

Science

60%

ADM students proficient or advanced on the Science ISASP Assessment
* Only Grade 5 Assessed

52%

Iowa students proficient or advanced on the Science ISASP Assessment
* Only Grade 5 Assessed

ADM Middle School (6-8)



English Language Arts

78%

ADM students proficient or advanced on the ELA ISASP Assessment

68%

Iowa students proficient or advanced on the ELA ISASP Assessment

Math

78%

ADM students proficient or advanced on the Math ISASP Assessment

70%

Iowa students proficient or advanced on the Math ISASP Assessment

Science

65%

ADM students proficient or advanced on the Science ISASP Assessment
* Only Grade 8 Assessed

58%

Iowa students proficient or advanced on the Science ISASP Assessment
* Only Grade 8 Assessed

ADM High School (9-11)



English Language Arts

91%

ADM students proficient or advanced on the ELA ISASP Assessment

73%

Iowa students proficient or advanced on the ELA ISASP Assessment

Math

87%

ADM students proficient or advanced on the Math ISASP Assessment

67%

Iowa students proficient or advanced on the Math ISASP Assessment

Science

77%

ADM students proficient or advanced on the Science ISASP Assessment
* Only Grade 10 Assessed

53%

Iowa students proficient or advanced on the Science ISASP Assessment
* Only Grade 10 Assessed

ADM CARES

ADM Community Schools would like to offer a sincere thank you to the Dallas County Emergency Medical Services and their ongoing support of ADM students and staff. This fall, Dallas County EMS provided essential resources, equipment and expertise to support CPR training for ADM staff and students. Resources provided included manikins and trainer AED's to be used by staff and students during the training. In August, 46 staff members were trained in CPR and by the end of 2019-20, it is anticipated that all seniors will be trained and certified in CPR.

In August, Dallas County EMS also provided Stop the Bleed Training to all ADM Middle School and High School Staff. Stop the Bleed is a national awareness campaign intended to cultivate grassroots efforts that encourage bystanders to become trained, equipped, and empowered to help in a bleeding emergency before professional help arrives. The support of Dallas County EMS for this training was extremely helpful in the preparation of ADM staff for unpredictable situations when bleeding emergencies occur.



Image: High School Nurse, Morgan Walker with Dallas Counter EMS

"I cannot say enough great things about working with these community members" said ADM Secondary School Nurse, Morgan Walker, "their support and willingness to partner go beyond appreciation as they are an extension of the medical team provided at school." Walker continued, "The generosity of Dallas County EMS and their willingness to collaborate with ADM Schools has created and equipped a safer environment at ADM."

This fall ADM implemented a lunchroom "share cart" at ADM Middle School and High School. The share cart is a simple program with the goal of reducing food waste and feeding hungry students. Students are able to drop off any unwanted food or beverage items that are pre-packaged or unopened from their school provided lunch for other students to take at no additional cost. The share cart includes a "share zone" for items that do not need to maintain a temperature control and a "cold zone" for items such as unopened yogurt, cheese sticks, and milk.

The USDA estimates that approximately 30% of the United States food supply goes to waste. The share cart concept is one way that ADM can help to combat food waste and support students with more opportunities to access food if hungry. The USDA is in full support of the share table or share cart concept and views it as an "innovative strategy to encourage the consumption of nutritious foods and reduce the waste in the National School Lunch Program."

Although the program is new, ADM students are already using the share cart. "We are so excited to start this program with our students," said ADM Food and Nutrition Director Abigail Costigan. "Giving the students an opportunity to help in reducing food waste and making them aware of the issue is such a valued lesson. It also reminds students to think of others first." Costigan will monitor the program at the Middle and High School levels and hopes to extend the program to the elementary levels as well.



Image: Share Cart at ADM Middle School Cafeteria

Adel DeSoto Minburn Community Schools
215 North 11th Street
Adel, IA 50003



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ADM School Board



Image: ADM Board Members Pat Steele and Kim Roby

School Board elections took place November 5, 2019. The unofficial results indicate that Bart Banwart (incumbent), Tim Canney (Incumbent), Heith Hockenberry, and Nikki West were elected to the ADM School Board. They join remaining board member Rod Collins to form the new ADM School Board.

ADM would like to thank Kim Roby and Pat Steele for their service on the ADM Board. The December board meeting will be the last for Kim Roby, who decided not to run for re-election after serving on the ADM School Board since 2004. Her 15 years of service were marked by a strong commitment to do what is best for the students and community of ADM.

When asked about her service, Kim shared “15 years ago I ran for the ADM school board. I looked at it as a way to “give back” to the district that had offered me my first teaching job years before that. What I learned is what an amazing school district we have! Being able to represent the ADM School district will always be a time I will be proud of! Once a tiger, always a tiger!”

The December board meeting will also be the last for Pat Steele. Pat was appointed to the board in May to fill a short-term vacancy until the November election. Pat had previously served on the ADM Board from 2002-2008.

ADM thanks Kim and Pat for their service and dedication to the students and families of ADM.

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