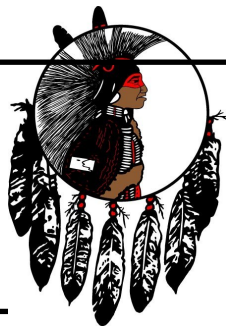


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**In this issue:**

**PE, Dakota,  
OST, Music, &  
Computers**



*Enemy Swim Day School*

**Let Our Voices be Heard**

“Naunkih’ Unpi”

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# Toka Nuwan Wayawa Tipi - Enemy Swim Day School

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Monday, February 16th, 2026

[www.esds.us](http://www.esds.us)

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## **ESDS Music Program**

As we wrap up the first half of the 2025–2026 school year, I’m excited to share the wonderful progress and experiences our students have had in the Music Program. From learning rhythms to playing instruments and connecting to culture through Dakota music, each student has contributed to a semester full of joy, creativity, and growth.

This fall, our students not only worked hard in the classroom but also shined on stage during our Annual Holiday Program, and many had the special opportunity to learn directly from Londel Seaboy, a respected Dakota culture bearer and musician, during his workshop on Dakota music and traditions.

### **Kindergarten - 2nd Grade**

Our youngest musicians have been busy building their musical foundation through rhythm, movement, and song. They practiced keeping a steady beat using rhythm sticks and body percussion, and they began learning to read quarter notes, eighth notes, and rests through fun play-alongs and visual aids.

A major focus this semester was learning and singing songs in the Dakota language, such as Wičháŋpi Hé Čistína (Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star) and B-I-N-G-O. Through these songs, students not only built musical skills but also connected with their cultural roots. They were excited to take the stage during our Holiday Program, performing winter-themed Dakota songs with joyful energy and pride!



# ESDS Music Program

## 3rd - 5th Grade

Our upper elementary students expanded their music-reading abilities through recorder playing, focusing on rhythm, pitch, and breath control. They explored the families of instruments, learned to identify sounds, and discussed the role of music in different cultures and genres.

A memorable experience this semester was the Dakota Music Workshop with Mr. Londel Seaboy, where students learned about traditional Dakota songs, drums, and the deeper meaning behind them. This workshop helped them understand how music preserves stories, identity, and connection to community.

## 6th - 8th Grade

Our middle school students continued to develop their ensemble skills in Beginning Band, building on the basics of tone production, intonation, and music reading. They started working on Grade 0.5 to Grade 1 band literature, exploring exciting repertoire that prepares them for more advanced playing.

The band performed a fun and crowd-pleasing set during the Holiday Program, including well-loved pieces like Jingle Bells, and cheer-style music that showcased their progress. It was a proud moment to see them perform with confidence and joy after only a few months of playing their instruments!





# Computer Class

## KINDERGARTEN & 1ST GRADE

In Kindergarten and First grade, computer class introduces students to the basics of using technology in a fun and developmentally appropriate way. Students learn how to use the mouse pad by practicing clicking, dragging, and scrolling, which helps build fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination. They also begin navigating simple programs and educational games, learning how to open activities, follow on-screen directions, and move between pages or screens. Through guided practice and repetition, students gain confidence using the computer independently while developing foundational digital skills that support learning in all subject areas.

## 2ND GRADE & 3RD GRADE

Second and Third grade students use a typing program in computer class to develop proper keyboarding skills and improve their typing accuracy and speed. They learn correct finger placement, posture, and how to type without looking at the keyboard through guided lessons and practice activities. As students progress through the program, they build confidence and efficiency, helping them become more comfortable completing digital assignments and preparing for more advanced technology use in later grades.

## 4TH GRADE, 5TH GRADE & 6TH GRADE

Fourth through sixth grade students continue to strengthen their keyboarding skills by using typing programs and completing typing tests twice a month to track their speed and accuracy. Regular practice helps students build endurance and confidence as typers, preparing them for increased digital work across subjects. In addition, students are introduced to Canva, where they learn to design presentations, posters, and other creative projects while developing skills in digital design, organization, and effective visual communication.



*Rion Reddary*



# DAKOTA OYANKE

## TAKU ECUNK'UŋPI HE?

*Students did lots of project based learning while learning and using Dakota. Students made beaded ornaments, decorated hunška (socks), put together medicine pouches, learned the values of our medicines of the seasons, grinded chokecherries, dyed and learned to quill. Four teams participated in Lower Sioux's Dakota Language Bowl.*



*Dakota wicoie onge*

*kaski - to grind something such as chokecherries*

*Pata- to butcher something*

*Caŋpa- choke cherries*

*Icamna- blizzard*

*Azidya- to smudge*

*Ipata- to decorate something with quills*





# PE Newsletter

During **Kindergarten** PE, structure and encouragement are key as students work on dribbling, passing, and building confidence with ball control. When students enter the space and quickly begin simple, guided activities, they feel more comfortable and ready to participate. This supportive routine keeps them engaged, promotes success, and makes learning new skills fun and approachable.



**1st – 4th Graders** benefit from a clear and consistent structure, especially when they begin their set workouts as soon as they enter the gym. Having students line up, listen for brief instructions, and immediately start familiar exercises helps maximize activity time and sets a positive tone for the lesson. This routine builds independence, reinforces expectations, and keeps students focused and engaged while supporting safe movement and smooth transitions throughout class.



**5th – 8th Grade** students follow a structured yet flexible routine that builds both fitness and teamwork. They've been working toward a weekly lap goal by running at their own pace, completing at least a mile each day to promote endurance and personal responsibility. Alongside conditioning, students focus on basketball skills such as pivoting, trapping, and effective ball movement between teammates. Emphasis is placed on communication, helping students understand how talking on the court supports teamwork, improves play, and leads to overall success.





# Toka Nuwan Wayawa Tipi

## OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM



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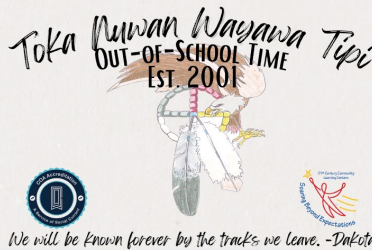

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 12<sup>th</sup> - Family Academic Night
- February 16<sup>th</sup> - Treaty Day/No School
- February 21<sup>st</sup> - 6-8 Grade Ski Trip
- March 6<sup>th</sup> - No School
- March 11<sup>th</sup> - Spring Family Night
- March 25<sup>th</sup>&26<sup>th</sup> - Parent Teacher Conferences
- March 27<sup>th</sup> - No School
- April 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> - Spring Break
- April 15<sup>th</sup> - Dakota Family Night
- May 1<sup>st</sup> - Spring Concert
- May 8<sup>th</sup> - No School
- May 14<sup>th</sup> - Last Day of Afterschool Program
- May 15<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Formal
- May 21<sup>st</sup> - Last Day of School
- May 22<sup>nd</sup> - Graduation Wacipi
- June 1<sup>st</sup> - Summer Academic Program Starts

## Getting back to Afterschool... 2025-2026

The Afterschool Program resumed August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025. We are always excited to resume programming with our students after a break. For the first semester of the 2025-2026 school year 163 students have attended.



Students attending the program are served a healthy snack, get additional academic time, receive homework help, can get extra help from teachers, and enjoy choice time activities with their friends.







## Veterans Day Program

The annual Veterans Day Program took place on Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade participated in a coloring contest and 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students submitted essays with the subject, "What Does Veterans Day Mean To You?" All winners received a cash prize. A special thank you goes out to the First Grade Class that led the program with *The Pledge of Allegiance* and the ESDS Drum Group led by Eric Jens for the Honor Song. Wopida eciciyapi to our SWO Veterans, Mike Greeley, Delvin Lufkins, and Geri Opsal for joining us. Your presence helps to show the students the importance of this event.



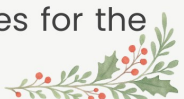
The annual Lights On Event took place nation-wide on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025. This event helps to raise awareness about the importance of Afterschool Programming. The Out-of-School Time Program along with Nurse Liberty hosted their Lights On Afterschool & Health Fair to celebrate. There were 189 attendees for the event. Those in attendance were able to enjoy a variety of activities such as: Food Group Relay, Making a Working Set of Lungs, Chair Yoga, Dance Break, Sensory Bottles, Stress Balls, Photo Booth and more! Community Partners joined in the celebration with activities, give away items, and even vaccinations.

## Lights On Afterschool



## Service Learning

Every holiday season the ESDS Afterschool Program students enjoy making table center-pieces for the Elderly Holiday Dinner hosted by the tribe. Wopida eciciye to Liz for letting us brighten up the tables for the celebration.

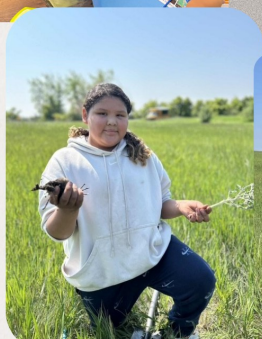
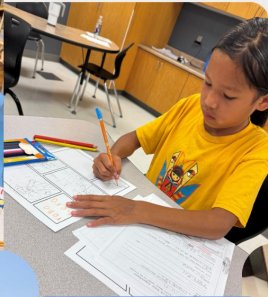




# Summer Academic Program 2025

## Memories

We were able to impact 107 students through-out the 6 weeks of summer programming!



Our kindergarten programming was able to pick up the pace this summer with 16 incoming kindergarten students in attendance. Summer is a great way for the new kindergarten students to get to know their new teachers, classroom, classmates, and school!

Summer Time



### Culture Camp

6th-8th Grade Culture Camp was a success. Twenty-one 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students attended the four day camp. Students learned about the Tipi, and set up the lodges that they slept in. Students went on daily hikes to learn about the variety of plant medicines in the area while harvesting.

