

THE WATCHDOG

2023 SPRING EDITION

Watchdog
FOUNDATION



2023 Graduation

On Saturday, May 13, 2023, at 2 pm, the Beresford School District recognized 62 graduating seniors. Principal Dr. Renee Anderson presided over the ceremony. The Beresford High School choir performed “I Am Still Your Dreamer” by Pinkzebra. The Beresford High School band performed “Yesterday” arranged by Longfield in addition to the traditional processional and recessional selections. During the ceremony, **Macy Quartier** (Student Body President), **Lane Klarenbeek** (Valedictorian), and **Juliann Seeley** (Salutatorian) delivered messages of hope and resiliency to all in attendance.

Twenty-six Beresford High School seniors earned a South Dakota Board of Regents’ Scholar Diploma. Thirteen seniors graduated with Highest Honors (4.00 & Above GPA), 23 students graduated with High Honors (3.50-3.99 GPA), and seven seniors graduated with Honors (3.00-3.49 GPA).

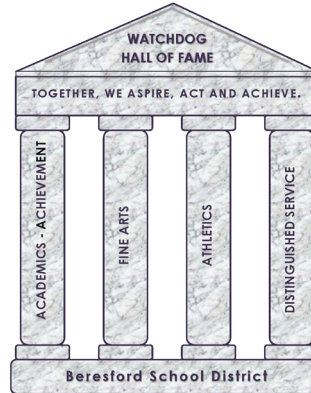
Shanna Rae Christensen Memorial Scholarship



Visit our website for scholarship award winners!

The Watchdog Foundation Board is pleased to announce that **Brenna Dann**, **Annie Farley**, **Irelyn Fickbohm**, **Adyson Hansen**, and **Eva Schaap** earned a Shanna Rae Christensen Memorial Scholarship.

The David and Susan Christensen family, in memory of their daughter Shanna Rae, set up a special scholarship fund called the Shanna Rae Christensen Memorial Scholarship. The fund agreement was set up with the South Dakota Community Foundation as a sub-fund of the Watchdog Foundation and an affiliated fund of



Watchdog Hall of Fame

The sixth Watchdog Hall of Fame induction ceremony will be held on Saturday, September 23, 2023, at 7 pm (Bridges of Beresford). At 6 pm, inductees, friends, family, and community members will partake in a catered banquet.

On behalf of the Beresford School District, Watchdog Foundation, Beresford Area Arts, and Beresford Athletic Booster Club, we are excited to welcome the following individuals into the Watchdog Hall of Fame: **Dr. Robin Brown** (Academics), **Mr. Ove Hanson** (Fine Arts), **Mr. Ed Westberg** (Fine Arts), **Mr. David Dolan** (Athletics), and School Board Members – **Robert “Bob” Kennedy**, **Gordon “Gordy” Tornberg**, and **Susan “Sue” Christensen** (Distinguished Service). More so, we are proud to announce the induction of the 1956 Football Team.

The 7 pm ceremony is open to the public. If you would like to join us for the banquet, please contact Dustin Degen by email (Dustin.Degen@k12.sd.us) or mail (301 W Maple St, Beresford, SD 57004) for ticket prices and menu details.



Looking to nominate someone for the Hall of Fame? Fill out our [form here!](#)

the Beresford Area Foundation. The scholarship is for Beresford High School seniors whose intended plans for post-high study are in the area of special education, rehabilitation, or nursing. The senior must have two letters of recommendation from individuals who can speak to character and activity involvement. The senior must have a 3.0 GPA or higher, demonstrate good moral character, and be involved in the community, church and/or school activities. Work and/or volunteer experience with special needs children is preferred but not required.



Watchdog Foundation Innovative Education Grants

The vision of the Watchdog Foundation is “Building the future of Beresford, together.” Our mission is to assist and advance our community’s pursuit of excellence, create lifelong connections, and build strong and mutually beneficial ties between the Beresford School District, the community, and its diverse alumni. This year, the Watchdog Foundation awarded \$7,500 worth of “Innovate Education Grants.” Grants were awarded to the following:

- **Mrs. Ann Tornberg** submitted a grant application to help send her National Debate Qualifiers to the National Competition in Phoenix, Arizona. The grant funds will help send two high school students and eleven middle school students to the competition.
- **Dr. Renee Anderson** was awarded a grant to help Beresford Middle School continue to implement its Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). The PBIS program supports the academic and social-emotional growth of all students.
- **Dr. Dustin Degen** submitted a grant application to receive funds to help the building project steering committee advertise and market future Beresford School District building projects that impact the school and community.
- **Mrs. Amber Sorensen** earned a grant from the Watchdog Foundation for the Girls on the Run program implemented at Beresford Elementary School. The program helps young girls learn how to handle emotions and social situations better while training for a 5K race.
- **Mrs. Pratt** submitted a grant application to help send Juliann Seeley to the National HOSA-Future Healthcare Leaders Conference in Dallas, Texas. Ms. Seeley is a back-to-back state champion in sports medicine.

Scholarship Award Winners

- **Build Dakota:** Michael Kjose
(Sponsored by DAD’s Auto Repair)
- **Showdown USD/SDSU Scholarships:**
USD – Brenna Dann, Annie Farley, Irelyn Fickbohm, Olivia Fry, Evelyn Schaap
SDSU – Adyson Hansen, Mason Heiberger, Lillian Traxler
- **Roger Price Scholarships:** Annie Farley, Mason Heiberger, Lane Klarenbeek, Ryne Klungseth, Devan Limoges, Derek Maas, Macy Quartier, Evelyn Schaap, Juliann Seeley, Lillian Traxler
- **Avera Health Scholarship:** Mason Heiberger, Olivia Fry, Irelyn Fickbohm, Alondra Ibarra, Eva Schaap
- **Elizabeth (Westra) Yerdon Memorial Scholarship:** Olivia Fry
- **Alan Ende Memorial Scholarship:** Macy Quartier, Mason Heiberger, Adyson Hansen, Maiya Muller, Zachary Boden
- **Robert Chadwell Memorial Scholarship:** Haidyn Lounsbery, Maiya Muller, Hope Namminga, Evelyn Schaap
- **Bob (Henrich) Dolan Memorial Scholarship:** Evelyn Schaap
- **Beresford Booster Club Scholarship:** Savannah Beeson, Adyson Hansen, Landon Schurch, Ryne Klungseth

Visit our
website
for details
about
scholarship
award
winners!



2022-2023 Achievements

Together we aspire,
act, and achieve!



Academics
& Achievements



Fine Arts



Athletics



Distinguished
Service

December

- Beresford FFA Wins 2-Star National Chapter Award
- Peyton Fridrich, Landon Schurch, and Jaxsen Tadlock were named to Big East All-Conference Football Team.
- Rachel Zanter was named to Big East All-Conference Volleyball Team.
- BHS Oral Interp team advances to State Contest in five events.
- BHS has first-ever Media Day to highlight the upcoming winter seasons.

January

- Marshall Lyle ranked in the top three for the Governor's Student Art Competition. Marshall's piece "Evening Mountains" was on exhibit at the capitol in Pierre, January-March 2023.



February

- High school choir students performed at the Naturalization Ceremony in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



- School bus driver Anita Stephenson went on a mission trip to Uganda. While on the trip, she helped the local community by teaching sewing, preaching, buying school uniforms for children, and using her trip dollars to buy bibles, sports equipment, and more.
- Laney Andrews, a sophomore at Beresford High School won a \$2,000 scholarship on Sunday, February 12, 2023, in Huron when she received first place at the State American Legion Oratory Contest.



- Beresford FFA held its annual Pancake Breakfast. The breakfast feed took place on February 18, 2023. All proceeds were donated to the Rescue Network.

- Annie Farley represented the Beresford School District by serving as a Page in the South Dakota Legislature. She was appointed to the Senate and served for two weeks during the third term. Annie was sponsored by Senator Jim Bolin.



- Alondra Ibarra won a superior design in costuming and Eva Schaap won a superior design in theatrical marketing at the SDHSAA State One Act Festival. Our play won a State Superior Technical Theater Award, Superior Ensemble Award for the entire cast, and a State Superior Play. Dr. Merriman serves as our Director/Advisor.



- Tate Van Otterloo scored his 1,000th career point on a dunk against Wagner on February 20, 2023.
- State Wrestling Qualifiers for the BAH Rams were Aaron Larson, Robert Watkins, Peyton Fridrich, Landon Schurch, Dexton Miller, and Reese Olson.



- Peyton Fridrich (4th Place -SD State Wrestling) and Landon Schurch (7th Place -SD State Wrestling) placed at the state wrestling competition.

2022-2023 Achievements

Together we aspire,
act, and achieve!



Academics
& Achievements



Fine Arts



Athletics



Distinguished
Service

Mrs. Twedt was announced as a Golden Owl Ag Educator of the year finalist. April Hamilton (SD FFA Leadership & Program Manager) and Don Riley Jr. (Owner/Agent of Four Quarters Insurance Group) presented the honor on Tuesday, February 21, 2023.



Haidyn Lounsbery and Max Josko represented the Beresford Educators Rising Chapter at the State Conference on the campus of Black Hills State University. Throughout the 2022-2023 session, Haidyn Lounsbery served as the state president. These two were able to attend breakout sessions and compete in a variety of events while at the conference. Max Josko placed first in Creative Lecture, qualifying to attend and compete at the National Conference. We are very proud of these future educators!



State Art Wars competitors were Ashlynn Rozeboom, Lexy Dobney, Ciara Neuman, Max Josko, Ashley Ramos, Maddie Erickson, Alondra Ibarra, and Kate Regehr. Alondra Ibarra placed first in photography. Max Josko placed fourth in photography and sculpture. Kate Regehr placed third in drawing.



March

At State Speech & Debate, Laney Andrews was a State Champion in Original Oratory, with Emma Andrews placing second. Emma also received second in the State in Informative speaking. Max Josko advanced to finals in US Extemporaneous Speaking and took 5th in the final round. Laney advanced to finals in International Extemp and received 6th. The team took third place.



South Dakota's first sanctioned softball game took place at the Dordt Dome in Sioux Center, Iowa. The Watchdogs lost to the Quarriers 11-1.

Nicholas Antonson (2013) earned a \$240,000 National Science Foundation Post-Doctoral award for Behavioral and Physiological Innovations Facilitating the Evolution of Brood Parasitism.

Beresford alumni, Jackson Heiberger's (2020) cyber defense team from Dakota State University earned a spot in the national cyber defense competition.

Addy Wills was named the 2023 Senior Artist of the Year during the Sweet Sights and Sounds event held at BHS on March 28, 2023.



April

Juliann Seeley was the 2023 State Champion of HOSA Sports Medicine. Ms. Seeley was the 2022 State Champion of HOSA Sports Medicine.



2022-2023 Achievements

Together we aspire,
act, and achieve!



Academics
& Achievements




Fine Arts




Athletics




Distinguished
Service


 The Beresford Watchdogs Softball team earned their first win of the season in Wagner on Monday, April 10th in extra innings. Beresford scored two runs in the top of the eighth inning to win 5-3.

 Eva Schaap, Bethany Latendresse, Olivia Fry, Juliann Seeley, and Macy Quartier won second place at the HOSA Anatomage State Competition.





 Dr. Thomas Merriman directed the community play, Big Fish, on April 14, 15, and 16.

 During the FFA state convention, BHS students earned the following proficiencies: Chloe Hazel - 3rd Beef Entrepreneurship; Cassandra Twedt - 3rd Diversified Livestock Entrepreneurship; Jackson Hofer - 1st Landscape Management Placement; Tessa Henderson - 1st Veterinarian Science Placement; and Laney Andrews - 2nd Swine Production Placement.

 Alex Jensen, Chloe Hazel, Jackson Hofer, Jayden Carlson, Josie DeLay, Macy Quartier, Michael Kjose, and Sylar Carlson earned their State FFA Degrees during the 2022-2023 school year.





 Dr. Renee Anderson earned the Southeast Area Principals Pyramid Award as a Visionary and Progressive Change Agent.

 Beresford High School alumni, Caleb Weiland (2020), was awarded the Truman Scholarship for \$30,000. Mr. Weiland is attending the University of South Dakota.





May

 BHS Band and Choir students returned from their trip to Tennessee.

 The Beresford Athletic Booster Club celebrated the year with its annual athletic banquet on Thursday, May 4, 2023.

 The Beresford School District celebrated senior academic accomplishments on Monday, May 8, 2023.

 Senior students organized and conducted the community Baccalaureate service on Wednesday, May 10, 2023.

 The Beresford School District's high school graduation took place on May 13, 2023. Sixty-two Beresford High School students participated in the ceremony.

