

What's coming up

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

Elementary Title Family Night, 6 p.m. at Frederick Area School

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

Battler Invitational track meet in Gettysburg. Field events 1 p.m.; running events about 2:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14

Britton-Hecla Invitational golf meet in Britton, 10 a.m.
Warner Junior High Early Bird track meet. Field events 4 p.m.; running events 5 p.m.
Frederick Area School board meeting, 7 p.m. in the school library (rescheduled)

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

Roncalli Geffdog Relays in Warner. Field events 2 p.m.; running events 3 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 20

State FFA Convention in Brookings. Continues Tuesday and Wednesday.

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

Webster Area Invite golf meet (varsity), 10 a.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

Junior high track meet in Groton

Middle school / JV golf meet in Ipswich, 1 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

Ipswich Tiger Relays. Field events at 10 a.m.; running events at noon.

Varsity golf meet in Ipswich, 10:30 a.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 27

Lake Region Conference golf meet (middle school), 2:30 p.m. in Ipswich

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

Groton track meet

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

Lake Region Conference golf meet (JV/varsity), 10 a.m. at Rolling Hills in Aberdeen

Continued on page 3



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APRIL 2026

Promenading in 2026



Silly string and confetti poppers, along with air horns, added to the fun during Leola and Frederick Area's joint prom on March 28.

Schools to co-op for cross country

The boards of Leola and Frederick Area schools voted to approve a co-op for cross country starting in fall 2026.

The decision was made at the joint athletic cooperative meeting on March 24.

Each school will retain a head coach, according to the motion that was approved.

Forming co-op teams for both track and field and golf were also discussed, but decisions on those possible partnerships were tabled.

In other sports news, Jeff Kusters submitted his resignation as head girls basketball coach at the March 9 school board meeting. The co-operative is currently advertising to hire for that position, as well as for coaches for volleyball, junior high football, junior high boys basketball, and junior high girls basketball.

School will have many staffing changes



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

BY JESSICA RINGGENBERG
Frederick Area K-8 Principal

Spring is a season of change, not only in the land and weather, but in our school setting as well. We celebrate all we have accomplished over the last school year as we transition to the next.

As noted in the last edition of the F.Y.I., my professional life has taken

me down a different path and come July will be working in the Aberdeen School District. Stacey Sumption, the school administrative assistant, will be joining her son at the Elm Valley Vet Clinic. After a long career (32 years), Mrs. Janelle Barondeau will be retiring as our high school math and business teacher. Mrs.

Continued on page 3



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205 3rd Ave., Frederick**

No local elections required

Three local public boards will have new or returning leaders soon, with no elections for those positions required.

Derik Bretsch of Frederick and Troy Podoll of Westport turned in valid petitions for two open seats on the school board and will take the places of Jon Ellwein and Eric Sumption, whose three-year terms expire in June. Both Ellwein and Sumption had served multiple terms on the board.

Mitchell Wilson's three-year term on the Westport town board is expiring, but he turned in a valid petition to start a new term. As the only one to do so, he will continue in his seat without an election.

And the term of Scott Campbell on the Frederick town board is also expiring. Campbell was the only one to submit a valid petition and so will continue to serve on the board.

Frederick Area Third-Quarter Honor Roll

Ending March 2026 • grade level in parentheses

Straight A Honor Roll

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Eden Podoll (8) | Jayden Ellwein (10) | Erik Losure (12) |
| McKenna Sumption (8) | Howard Sumption (10) | Elijah Stugelmeyer (12) |
| Ruby Dallmann (9) | Katelyn Bretsch (11) | Milo Sumption (12) |
| Tristan Tschappat (9) | Titus Kippley (11) | Westyn Thorpe (12) |
| Jaxon Ellwein (10) | Winston Clark (12) | |

A Honor Roll

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Fred Sumption (6) | Case Bretsch (10) | Christopher Voeller (11) |
| Yuri Bain (7) | Arabella Clark (10) | Kalyce Achen (12) |
| Dawson Clark (7) | Eli Nickelson (10) | Emily Dallmann (12) |
| Charlie Foley (7) | Ian Nickelson (10) | Nevan Jensen (12) |
| Abel Janke (7) | Jace Thorpe (10) | Hunter Kern (12) |
| Hadleigh Hoggarth (8) | Samantha Dallmann (11) | Ayden Larsen (12) |
| Addison Wolbeck (8) | Jax Holmes (11) | |
| Andrew Schlosser (9) | Preston Sumption (11) | |

B Honor Roll

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Arabella Dosch (6) | Mileah Holmes (9) | Ella Kempf (11) |
| Hailey Jones (6) | Quinn Huettl (10) | Adalynn Lloyd (11) |
| Teresa Rojas (6) | Jameson Winterberg (10) | Domenick Pool (11) |
| Andrew Arneson (8) | Karli Achen (11) | Abigail Reed (11) |
| Taryn Meidinger (8) | Gage Burns (11) | Chloe Akin (12) |
| Jacob Bain (9) | Abby Elsen (11) | Mia Bain (12) |
| Tate Dosch (9) | Zoie Fischbach (11) | |

Groundskeeper position available

Alpha Circle is seeking a groundskeeper for Wayside Cemetery, located just northeast of Frederick. The work involves mowing and trimming. Anyone interested should contact Connie Groop at 605-329-7177 to get more details about the role. Bids should be submitted by April 15.

Alpha Circle is also accepting donations to support maintenance of the cemetery.

Checks should be made out to **Alpha Circle – Wayside Cemetery Fund** and can be dropped off at the bank, or mailed to First National Bank of Frederick, PO Box 576, Frederick, SD 57441.

Corner: Math, elementary teachers have been hired

Continued from front page

Morgan Johnson, our elementary special education teacher, has accepted a position teaching in Leola next school year. These are valuable, cherished members of the Frederick Area staff, and we will miss their daily contributions and dedication to our students and staff.

These changes have prompted a domino effect in staffing at the school. Miss Hanna, currently our Title I teacher, will be moving into the special education position. Mrs. Zinter is excited to transition from second grade to the elementary Title I teacher spot. We have hired a new second-grade teacher, April Tollefson, who lives in the Frederick district and has elementary teaching experience. We also welcome Jayden Streifel to the high school math position. He has taught high school math for ten years now and is familiar with our curriculum.

At the time of this writing, we still have open positions and hope to find people who want to join the Frederick Area team. These positions and applications are posted on our school website. Opportunities include bus driving, coaching, substitute teaching, custodial,

paraprofessionals, and an administrative assistant. A librarian/study hall monitor position will be opening soon as well. If you, or know of someone, who may be interested in any of these openings, please encourage them to apply.

I also want to take a moment to congratulate the graduating class of 2026! We have an amazing group of seniors who are sure to go on and accomplish great things in this world. I appreciate their hard work, leadership, and outgoing personalities—they will be missed! If you want to join us in celebrating them, graduation is on May 16th at 1 p.m.

Finally, as this is likely my last F.Y.I. column, I want to thank everyone in this community for the cherished memories and support over the last 20 years of my career. I have been blessed to have worked with you and your children in multiple capacities and will always hold Frederick Area School in high regard! This community supports its school, staff, and students and understands the value of a quality education. This doesn't happen everywhere and is something of which to be proud. I will miss everyone greatly but know that you are in good hands moving forward!

What's coming up

Continued from front page

Junior high track meet in Warner

FRIDAY, MAY 1

Howard Wood Relays, Howard Wood Field in Sioux Falls. Qualifying athletes will attend.

SATURDAY, MAY 2

Eureka Invitational golf meet (varsity), 10 a.m.

MONDAY, MAY 4

Middle school / JV golf meet in Faulkton, 1:30 p.m.

Town of Westport board meeting, 7 p.m. at the Westport Town Hall

Frederick FFA banquet

TUESDAY, MAY 5

Eureka Lions track meet. Field events at 10 a.m.; running events at noon.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

Town of Frederick board meeting, 7 p.m. at the Community Center

THURSDAY, MAY 7

6-12 Spring Music Concert, 7 p.m. in the Frederick Area gym

FRIDAY, MAY 8

Middle school golf meet in Ipswich, 11 a.m.

BankNorth Twilight Track Meet in Warner. Field events at 4 p.m.; running events at 5 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 11

Pre-Region golf meet (varsity), 9 a.m. at Lee Park in Aberdeen

Frederick Area School board meeting, 7 p.m. in the library

TUESDAY, MAY 12

Lake Region Conference track meet in Ipswich. Junior high and varsity. Field events at 10:30 a.m.; running events at 12:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

Sports Physicals

Awards Night, 7 p.m. in the Frederick Area gym

THURSDAY, MAY 14

Varsity golf meet in Ipswich, 11 a.m.

Elementary Music Concert, 7 p.m. in the Frederick Area gym

SATURDAY, MAY 16

Frederick Area Graduation, 1 p.m. at Frederick Area School

MONDAY, MAY 18

Region golf meet (varsity), 9 a.m. at Lee Park in Aberdeen

Dial-A-Move Last Chance Meet in Warner. Field events at 9 a.m.; running events at 1 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 19

Ipswich Middle School Track Meet. Field events at noon; running events at 1:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 21

Last Day of School at Frederick Area

Webster Area Invitational. Field events at noon; running events at 1 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 28

State Track Meet in Sioux Falls.

Have a news item to share?
Email it to news@fredericksd.com.

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Community Store reports improvement at annual meeting

Attendance was small at the Community Store's annual meeting on March 26, which board member Thersia Cox said was not unexpected after two well-attended community meetings in recent months.

The store reported a loss of about \$1,900, an improvement from an \$8,000 loss the previous year. They are making up ground by working without a manager.

Board members said the store averages about \$34,000 in monthly income and is working to rebuild inventory while maintaining steady cash flow. The store did not receive any donations in 2025, but they have heard from some who might be willing to donate this year, which could help them get ahead a little more quickly.

One change at the store is that pizza can no longer be sold by the slice. To do that, as well as serve other prepared foods, someone

would need to go through a food safety certification course, which costs \$600.

The potential impact of a new convenience store near the highway in Frederick was discussed, with some uncertainty about how it may affect the store and the community.

All current board members were reelected, including president Miles Bretsch, along with Dale Geffre, Wyatt Sumption, Mike Morlock and Cox.

Cox also highlighted the support of store employees and volunteers, noting that staff members have stepped up to cover shifts and assist one another as needed.

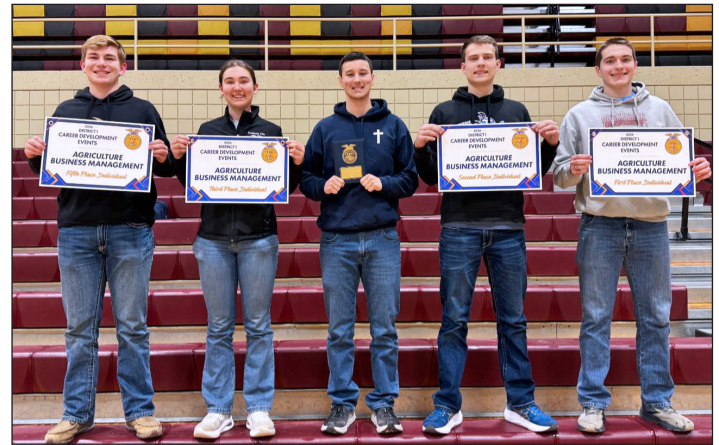
Cox said the overall message from the meeting was that the store is making progress. Continued support from the community is needed and appreciated.

Teams qualify for state FFA



Members of the Nursery/Landscape team are Dawson Clark, Hadleigh Hoggarth, and McKenna Sumption.

Two Frederick Area teams qualified for state at the District 1 Career Development Events competition on March 24: The Nursery/Landscape team, pictured at left got second place, and the Ag Business team, pictured below, got first place.



Members of the Ag Business team are Winston Clark, Katelyn Bretsch, Jax Holmes, Titus Kippley, and Erik Losure.



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Students bring home honors from NSU Science Fair & Quiz Bowl on March 26



Gage Burns received two honors for his project titled "Cast is King" in the Engineering/Computer Science/Mathematics category. He received special recognition from the Yale Science & Engineering Association and special recognition from the NSU Bookstore.



Milo Sumption and Erik Losure received special recognition from the Regional Science Fair for their project titled "Striding Forward: Future of Footwear" in the Physical Science (Team) category.



Jayden Ellwein and Howard Sumption received special recognition from the U.S. Air Force for their project titled "Soak It Up: Study of Moisture Absorbency in Pelletized Bedding" in the Physical Science (Team) category.



Tristan Tschappat and Andrew Schlosser received special recognition from the Regional Science Fair for their project titled "Propulsion Without Ignition" in the Physical Science (Team) category.



Frederick Area's high school quiz bowl team received third place at the NSU competition on March 26. Pictured are Howard Sumption, Jayden Ellwein, Erik Losure, Milo Sumption, and Eli Nickelson.



Frederick Area's junior high school quiz bowl team received third place at the NSU competition on March 26. Pictured are McKenna Sumption, Dawson Clark, Andrew Schlosser, and Tristan Tschappat.



North Brown Community Foundation Treasurer Scott Campbell presents a \$500 check to Amanda Wolbeck, representing the Frederick Booster Club. The funding will support snacks and personal hygiene items for students.



North Brown Community Foundation Treasurer Scott Campbell presents a \$850 check to Sheila Rahja, representing Alpha Circle. The funding will additional flower planters on Main Street.



North Brown Community Foundation Treasurer Scott Campbell presents a \$2,000 check to Amanda Wolbeck, representing the Frederick Athletic Association. The funding will baseball field improvements.

NORTH BROWN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Investing in a bright future.

Local organizations receive funding for projects



North Brown Community Foundation Vice President Melissa Ellwein presents a \$3,000 check to Georgia Smith, representing the Frederick Forward. The funding will support the production of the *Frederick Area F.Y.I.* community newsletter.



North Brown Community Foundation President Heidi Marttila-Losure, second from left, presents a \$5,000 check to Justin Ellefson, left, and Troy and Brendan Tschappat, representing Westport Community Days. The funding will support safer fireworks equipment for the annual event.



North Brown Community Foundation President Heidi Marttila-Losure, right, presents a \$1,000 check to Mitch Mikkonen, representing the Frederick Area Historical Society. The funding will support window replacement at the Frederick Area Museum.



FBLA students raise funds, collect donations for local Humane Society

As a community service project called "Purrs and Paws" for FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America), Frederick Area students Aaron Kippley, Eden Podoll, Addison Wolbeck, and Hadleigh Hogarth encouraged other students to donate funds or useful items for the Aberdeen Area Humane Society. To make it fun, the school was divided into four teams, and the team that brought in the most points received an ice cream party as a reward. The team of second grade, sixth grade, eighth grade, and 12th grade won the competition. Overall, the project raised roughly \$2,500 in cash and item donations.

FASD PHOTO

Town of Westport General Meeting, March 2, 2026

The Town of Westport met on March 2, 2026 at 7:00 p.m., with Mitch Wilson, Shane Storm, Troy Tschappat, Larissa Bain, and Deb Schlosser present.

Public Comments: Larissa Bain inquired on how to rent the town hall.

The following bills were presented:

City General:

NW Energy- utilities	\$72785
Groton Independent- Feb, zoning minutes	\$32.24
Fire Safety First-annual fire ext maint	\$5750
Mitch Wilson-payroll	\$825.00
Shane Storm-payroll	\$250.00
Troy Tschappat-payroll	\$200.00
Deb Schlosser-payroll	\$900.00
SD Public Assur. Alliance-insurance	\$4111.06

Sewer:

NW Energy-Lift Station utilities	\$63.05
Richard LaBay-sewer	\$498.00

Water:

Public Health Laboratory-water testing	\$20.00
WEB-water	\$1910.48
Water Maintenance Dist-water testing	\$688.78

Shane Storm motioned, second by Troy Tschappat to pay all bills.

The following deposits were presented:

City General:

State of SD	\$1805.27
Brown County Collections	\$2143.40
Interest	\$43.93

Sewer: Resident Payments \$224743

Water: Resident Payments \$337119

OLD BUSINESS: Motion by Shane Storm, second by Troy Tschappat to put the Minor Non-Discharging Domestic Wastewater Treatment Facilities application back on the table. Motion by Troy Tschappat, second by Shane Storm to approve the Minor Non-Discharging Domestic Wastewater Treatment Facilities application.

NEW BUSINESS: Motion by Shane Storm, second by Troy Tschappat to approve the 2025 Annual Report. The 2026 Equalization meeting will be held on March 16, 6:00-7:30 at the Town Hall.

Meeting dismissed at 7:28 p.m.

Deb Schlosser, Finance Officer

City of Frederick March 4, 2026 Minutes

Frederick's town board meeting was held Wednesday, March 4, 2026 in the Frederick Community Center beginning at 7:00 PM. Attending the meeting were Chairman Scott Campbell, Board members Troy Millard and Marty Morlock, Finance Officer Jennifer Morlock and Assistant Finance Officer Mariah Heine, and Utility Manager David Losure. Also attending the meeting was Kevin Barton.

Chairman Campbell opened the meeting and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the February meeting were read and approved with a motion by Millard/Morlock; motion carried.

Marty Morlock, Kevin Barton, and David Losure left the meeting.

The financial statements were reviewed and accepted with a motion by Millard/Campbell; motion carried. The March accounts payable

were approved with a motion by Millard/Campbell; motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

MDU electric BP/Wtr/Mun Bldg/SP/Sts/Swr/EBL	\$1,431.17
Badger Meter fees Swr	\$137.77
Brown Co Sheriff's Off. deputy svcs Gen'l	\$1,041.67
Century Bus Products copies Gen'l	\$25.00
David Losure utility wage Wtr/Swr/Sts	\$419.93
Dependable Sanitation Grbg	\$1654.00
DRN Readitech service FO	\$29.40
EFPTS taxes Gen'l/FO/CC/EBL/Sts/Wtr/Swr/Cmty	\$1,071.32
Farmer's Union Oil propane Gen'l/EBL	\$871.80
Frederick Area Ambulance, 2025 assessment, Fire/Amb	\$500.00
FDC Gen'l	\$1,200.00
J. Morlock wage FO	\$1,558.47
JVT Gen'l/Wtr/EBL/FO	\$289.47
M. Cox wage EBL	\$572.66
M. Heine wage FO	\$1,311.07
M. Morlock brd member Gen'l	\$46.17
McQuillen Creative minutes Gen'l	\$56.16
R. Bakeberg supervisor wage Wtr	\$240.11
Richardson, Wyly, Wise, Sauck & Hieb, LLP attorney, Attny	\$1,142.88
S. Campbell wage Gen'l	\$69.26
SD Dept of Health labs Wtr	\$20.00
SD Dept of Rev sales tax Gen'l	\$64.64
T. Millard wage Gen'l	\$46.17
VISA supplies Gen'l	\$78.00
USDA-RD loan Wtr	\$475.00
USDA-RD loan Swr	\$3,763.00
WEB Water Wtr	\$4,467.15

OLD BUSINESS

The board discussed adding water and sewer service to the west side of Maple River. Board Vacancy open for 3-year term; petitions will be due March 24, 2026.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to accept the 2025 annual report made by Campbell/Millard; motion carried. Equalization week is March 16-20, 2026 and meetings will be held in the Community Center beginning on Monday, March 16th at 7 PM. Motion to act as a passthrough agent for the Frederick Athletic Association and Alpha Circle for grants through North Brown Community Foundation and Wayside Cemetery Foundation, respectively made by Millard/Campbell; motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, April 6th at 7PM.

Motion to adjourn made by Millard/Campbell at 7:29PM; motion carried.

M. Heine, Assistant Finance Officer.

Town of Westport Equalization Meeting, March 16, 2026

The Town of Westport met on March 16, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. with Mitch Wilson, Shane Storm, Troy Tschappat, and Deb Schlosser present.

No residents appeared before the Board to review 2025 assessments.

Meeting dismissed at 7:31 p.m.

Deb Schlosser, Finance Officer

Frederick Area School District #6-2 Regular Board Meeting, March 9, 2026

A regular meeting of the Frederick Area Board of Education as called to order on



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March 9, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. by President Rich Schlosser. Members present were Rich Achen, Jon Ellwein, Alex Hart and Eric Sumption. Also present were Superintendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic Director Jeff Kusters, PreK-8 Principal Jessica Ringgenberg and Business Manager Shauna Severson. In attendance: Derik Bretsch, Jim Sumption, Steph Sumption; others were also present via Zoom.

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. No public comment.

2026-084 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart to approve the agenda as presented. All voted Aye. Motion carried. No conflict of interest disclosures.

2026-085 Motion by Achen, second by Ellwein to approve the following consent agenda items. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

February 9, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

February 2026 Financial Report

February 2026 Payroll

District Bills

FINANCIAL REPORT:

General Fund:

Bal 2-1-26:	\$87,290.41
Receipts:	\$129,694.43
Disbursements:	\$231,598.61
Transfer from Investments:	\$30,000.00
Bal 2-28-26:	\$15,386.23

Investments:

Bal 2-1-26:	\$1,018,841.46
Interest:	\$63.62
Transfer to Checking:	
(\$30,000.00)	
Bal 2-28-26:	\$988,905.08

Ending Fund Balance: \$1,004,291.31

Imprest Fund:

Bal 2-1-26:	\$2,900.80
Receipts:	\$2,708.26
Disbursements:	\$472.20
Bal 2-28-26:	\$5,136.86

Capital Outlay Fund:

Bal 2-1-26:	\$607,935.15
Receipts:	\$19,064.34
Disbursements:	\$306.66
Transfer to Investments:	
(\$30,000.00)	
Bal 2-28-26:	\$596,692.83

Investments:

Bal 2-1-26:	\$2,663,060.84
Transfer from Checking:	\$30,000.00
Bal 2-28-26:	\$2,693,060.84
Ending Fund Balance:	\$3,289,753.67

Special Education Fund:

Bal 2-1-26:	\$85,907.98
Receipts:	\$5,172.75
Disbursements:	\$23,462.83
Bal 2-28-26:	\$67,617.90

Investments:

Bal 2-28-26:	\$1,307,468.23
Ending Fund Balance:	\$1,375,086.13

Food Service Fund:

Bal 2-1-26:	\$20,457.36
Receipts:	\$9,903.49
Disbursements:	\$13,162.44
Bal 2-28-26:	\$17,198.41

Drivers Ed Fund:

Bal 2-1-26:	\$4,747.60
Receipts:	\$2,000.00
Bal 2-28-26:	\$6,747.60

Custodial Funds:

Bal 2-1-26:	\$64,354.51
Receipts:	\$5,779.97
Disbursements:	\$1,293.71
2-28-26:	\$68,840.77

Ovid J Stevens Scholarship:

Bal 2-28-26:	\$85
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Investments:

Bal 2-28-26:	\$21,913.29
Ending Fund Balance:	\$21,914.14

CLAIMS APPROVED:

General Fund salaries	110,044.75
Special Education salaries	14,012.75
Food Service salaries	3,967.07
AFLAC-supplemental insurance	1,874.73
American Funds-retirement	225.00
Delta Dental-insurance	2,303.66
EFTPS-fed income tax/SS/Medicare	33,687.60
ID Shield-identify theft	8.45
Northern Plains Ins Pool-insurance	20,822.50
Optilegra-insurance	442.57
SDRS-retirement	18,375.56
SDRS Supplemental-retirement	3,483.33
Security Benefits-retirement	2,739.18
The Standard-life insurance	177.42
Total:	\$212,164.57

BILLS APPROVED:

General Fund:

Aberdeen Floral-supplies	281.43
Aberdeen YMCA-post prom party	1,220.00
Agtegra-fuel	4,380.43
Amazon Capital Serv-Supplies/prom	1,056.83
Avera St. Luke's-PT Athletes	304.56
Barondeau, Derek-winter sports worker	315.00
Beyond the Balloon-prom supplies	200.00
Black, Christopher-winter sports worker	30.00
Cash-Wa Dist Fargo-FFVP/Concessions	1,123.86
Century Business Prod-Copier Coverage	383.53
Clark, Arabella-winter sports worker	50.00
Clark, David-winter sports worker	200.00
Cole Papers-supplies	2,405.04
EduTrak-lunch billing program	1,880.40
Ellwein, Jayden-winter sports worker	105.00
Farmers Union Oil-bus repairs/parts	1,925.24
FASD Imprest Fund-Misc	472.20
Foreman Sales -Bus Repair/Camera	3,161.00
Girard, Dan-winter sports worker	175.00
Goehring, Troy-winter sports worker	660.00
Guthmiller, Rachel-winter sports worker	240.00
Haas, Wayne-coaching course reimb	35.00
Hal Leonard Corp-music	66.23
Hanna, Sadie-education reimbursement	45.62
Hoffman, Nathan-winter sports worker	300.00
Hoggarth, Hadleigh-winter sports worker	15.00
JVT-Phone	250.56
Jostens-yearbook	1,050.80
JW Pepper-Music	622.98
Kens- concessions	9.87
Kessler, Jackie-mileage	39.50
Kevin Lovegreen-library books	36.99
Kusters, Jeff-winter sports worker	36.99
Kusters, McKinley-winter sports worker	60.00
McQuillen Creative Group-publishings	105.82
Menards-concessions	47.84
Merchant Services-CC Processing Fees	317.22
Mid-American Res Chemical-Supplies	1,764.31
Midco-fitness center cable	109.15
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.-Utilities	5,433.47
Mueller, Jeff-winter sports worker	90.00
Nickelson, Eli-winter sports worker	255.00
Pantorium Cleaners Inc-supplies	133.40
Pashen, Jennifer-education reimb	134.00
Ringgenberg, Jessica-assessment workshop	
lodging/meals/mileage	258.06
Russo, Megan-coaching course reimb	35.00
Schlosser, Andrew-winter sports worker	80.00
Schlosser, Rich-winter sports worker	400.00
SD FBLA-state leadership conf reg	1,235.00
Simenson, Derek-winter sports worker	220.00
Sumption, Austin-winter sports worker	345.00
Sumption, Howard-winter sports worker	22.50
Sumption, Milo-winter sports worker	37.50
Taylor Music-Repairs	51.99
Town of Frederick-utilities	640.56
VanTilburg, Trevor-winter sports worker	150.00
WalMart-supplies	29.21
Waverly-SS School-region GBB expense	10.90

Zinter, Tonya-winter sports worker	400.00
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Capital Outlay Fund:

Century Business Products-copier lease	306.66
Sawvas-6-12 ELA curriculum	27,928.80

Special Education Fund:

Avera St Luke's-OT/PT	3,008.56
Best Western Ramkota SF-sped conf	214.00
Hanna, Sadie-sped conf meals	60.00
Kusters, Christine-sped conf meals	60.00

Food Service Fund:

Cash-Wa Distributing-food/supplies	5,784.26
Cox, Jeff-lunch refund	53.40
Pantorium Cleaners Inc-Supplies	133.00

Imprest Fund:

Deutsch, Justin-ref/mileage	191.00
Lorenz, Daren-ref/mileage	125.00
Moench, Jordan-ref/mileage	156.20

Custodial Funds:

Dairy Queen-GBB meal	99.47
Dominos-GBB meal	59.15
FA School-concessions CC machine	113.12
Hobby Lobby-FFA supplies	124.49
Kesslers-FBLA supplies	49.56
One Less Thing-FFA supplies	1,560.00
Target-FBLA supplies	85.89
Wal-Mart-FFA Supplies	335.10

The following reported to the Board:

- Jeff Kusters: Superintendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic Director
- Jessica Ringgenberg: PreK-8 Principal
- Co-op Committee: Achen/Hart

The Board discussed combining with Leola for Cross Country, Track and Golf. The Board determined the decision timeline for Track for the 2026 was too accelerated and will not proceed with the combination this year.

Steph Sumption was present for the discussion regarding the building of an Ag Building.

The Board publicly opened bus bids for a 2025 (or newer) 71-Passenger School Bus. One bid was received from Foreman Sales & Service. The bid was reviewed and discussed.

2026-086 Motion by Sumption, second by Achen to accept the bus bid from Foreman Sales & Service in the amount of \$135,500.00. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

2026-087 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to open Negotiations for the 2026-2027 school year. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

2026-088 Motion by Hart, second by Ellwein to accept resignations from Stacey Sumption-Admin Assistant and Jeff Kusters-Head GBB Coach. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

2026-089 Motion by Sumption, second by Achen to offer and approve contracts: Jayden Streifel-HS Math and April Tollefson-Second Grade. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

The board would like to recognize and thank Stacey Sumption for her time with the district as well as Jeff Kusters for his time as the GBB coach. Congratulations to Kaitlyn Mueller for All-Conference Second Team as well as Kalyce Achen and Arabella Clark, Honorable Mentions.

2026-090 Motion by Sumption, second by Ellwein to go into executive session at 6:41p.m. for SDCL 1-25-2 (1) Personnel. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Schlosser declared the board out of executive session at 7:41 p.m.

2026-091 Motion by Achen, second by Sumption to approve the Contract Addendum for Jayden Streifel. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

2026-092 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart to adjourn at 7:42 p.m. All voted Aye.

Motion carried.

Rich Schlosser, President
Shauna Severson, Business Manager

Frederick Area School District #6-2 Joint Board of Education Meeting, March 24, 2026

The joint athletic cooperative meeting of the Frederick Area Board of Education and Leola Board of Education was called to order on March 24, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. by President Rich Schlosser at the Frederick Area School gymnasium. Frederick Area school board members present were Rich Achen, Jon Ellwein, Alex Hart and Eric Sumption. Leola school board members present were Samantha Kallas, ReEtta Sieh, Richard Westphal, Arnie Wollman, Trevor Zantow. Others present were Superintendent/Athletic Director Jeff Kusters, Leola Superintendent Domenic Paolo, Leola Principal/Athletic Director Brett Flemmer, Business Managers Shauna Severson and Kayla Casey. Others in attendance: Max Waltman.

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

2026-093 Motion by Achen, second by Sumption to approve the agenda as presented. All voted aye. Motion carried. No public comment.

2026-094 Motion by Hart, second by Achen to approve a coop with Leola for Cross-Country and keep one head coach from each district. All voted aye. Motion carried.

2026-095 Motion by Ellwein, second by Sumption to table the decision to coop with Leola for Track & Field. All voted aye. Motion carried.

2026-096 Motion by Achen, second by Hart to table the decision to coop with Leola for Golf. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The 2026-27 Sports Coop Activity Schedules were presented.

Both the Student Activity Handbook and Sports Coop Agreement updates will be reviewed in June. Boards to approve at regular meeting in July.

2026-097 Motion by Achen, second by Ellwein to approve the 2025-26 reconciliation. Leola owes Frederick \$10,086.72. Remaining invoices will be split and reimbursed after payment. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

2026-098 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart to go into executive session at 8:14 p.m. for SDCL 1-25-2 (1) Personnel. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Schlosser declared the board out of executive session at 9:43 p.m.

2026-099 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart, to approve opening and advertising the Junior High Girls Basketball and Junior High Boys Basketball positions, as recommended by the Leola and Frederick Athletic Directors for the 26-27 school year. Upon roll call vote: Aye—Ellwein, Hart, Schlosser, Sumption; Nay—Achen. Motion carried.

2026-100 Motion by Sumption, second by Achen to adjourn at 9:46 p.m. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Rich Schlosser, President
Shauna Severson, Business Manager

Celebrating and creating art



Six Frederick Area students participated in the Dakota Student Art Exhibit, hosted by the Aberdeen Area Recreation and Cultural Center and the Dacotah Prairie Museum on March 27. Pictured above are Leah Groteleuschen, Ruby Dallmann, and Mileah Holmes; pictured below at left are Emma Schmidt and Dallmann, and at right is Abigail Reed. Also participating was Aliyah Eckhart.



Two athletes compete at national powerlifting



Case Bretsch (pictured at right) of Frederick Area and Tarren Wurtz (center) of Leola competed at the National High School Powerlifting Meet on March 26 in Killeen, Texas. Case lifted a total of 345kg (760.59 lbs) and Tarren lifted a total of 365kg (805.68 lbs) while representing the Titans on the national stage. They are pictured above with their coach Chandler Cox.



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Three players receive postseason recognition

Three Titans received Lake Region Conference awards at the end of the 2025-26 boys basketball season. Westyn Thorpe and Winston Clark were named to the first team, and Milo Sumption received second-team honors.

This is Thorpe's second time being on the first team and Sumption's second time being on the second team. Sumption also received an honorable mention as a sophomore.

Westyn Thorpe also received honorable mention All-State accolades for his senior season.

"Westyn has been the model of consistency for our program over his career," according to boys basketball head coach Brock Pashen. "His sophomore year, he was our first guard off the bench during our state tourney run, and during his junior and senior years, he took over more ballhandling responsibilities and was instrumental in getting us into our offense. Not only did he produce, but he needed get easy shots for everyone else as well."

Over his junior and senior years, he averaged 10.4 points per game, 3.5 assists per game, and had a free-throw percentage of 63.5.

"He has been a huge part of our program's run of success winning 58 games in the last three years and leaving a mark for future Titans to aspire to," Pashen said.

Westyn joins Noah Kippley (twice), Brayden Sumption, Brian Sumption, and Aaron Kappes (twice) as Titans to be named to All-State teams. Other past honorees from Frederick and Frederick/Hecla include Tanner Knecht, Jesse Frohling, Jim Sumption (twice), Dean Marske, Lee Wilson (twice), and Bob Prunty.

BOYS BASKETBALL



ABOVE: Driving to the hoop for fast-break points was one of Westyn Thorpe's key ways to score. This was taken during the Titans' region game against Wilmot March 3 in Leola. **TOP RIGHT:** Winston Clark made many of his points from beyond the three-point arc, such as this shot during the Wilmot region game. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Milo Sumption did most of his damage in the paint, scoring here on a driving finger roll during the Titans' game against North Central on Jan. 13 in Eureka.

PHOTOS BY HEIDI MARTTILA-LOSURE

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Team focused on steady improvement

By HEIDI MARTTILA-LOSURE

For the 28 athletes—22 boys and six girls—on Frederick Area’s track team this year, new head track coach Sarah Sumption is emphasizing well-rounded, long-term development as the key to success.

“One of our main goals as coaches is to work on overall athleticism in all our athletes,” Sumption said. “We are working on strength, speed, and agility in addition to their track and field events.”

That approach includes intensive warm-ups focused on mobility, injury prevention and agility, along with weight lifting and core training. And, of course, plenty of running.

The process builds patience and perseverance as well as muscle.

“We talk about how this is a process, and results may not or will not happen overnight,” she said. “The work they are putting in now will pay off.”

Frederick Area will look to build on its past years’ successes in relays. The team has regularly qualified many relays for the state meet and earned several medals there.

The team goal, as usual, is to qualify as many athletes as possible for the state meet and earn top finishes once they get there.

But personal goals are just as important.

“We have lots of talented kids, but more importantly we have lots of kids who want to work hard and be the best they can be,” Sumption said. “Success will follow those who trust the process and work to improve themselves daily.”

As the season progresses, Sumption said she is looking forward to seeing athletes develop both on and off the track.

“I am most excited to see the improvements and personal growth that these athletes make throughout this season and life,” she said.

TRACK & FIELD



Frederick Area sophomore Noah Heuer had a strong finish in the 200-meter dash at the Northern State Open indoor meet on March 31, finishing third with a time of 24.97.

Frederick Area senior Hunter Kern, right, brought home the top finish from Frederick Area’s first track meet, the Northern State Open in Aberdeen on March 31, by placing second out of 88 runners with a time of 24.71 seconds in the 200-meter dash. Kern also placed third in the 55-meter dash with a time of 6.98 seconds.



Erik Losure jumped just shy of a personal best (1.62 meters, or 5 feet, 3.75 inches) for a fifth-place finish in the high jump at the Northern State Open on March 31.



ABOVE: Frederick Area junior Katie Bretsch started the season with a sixth-place finish and a personal best in the 400-meter dash, ending with a time of 1:12.58. **RIGHT:** Titus Kippley takes off to start the 4x400-meter relay at the Northern State Open. The relay finished sixth.





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GOLF

Snow, cold may affect start of golf season

BY HEAD COACH JEFF KOSTERS

The first allowable date for golf practice to begin was Monday, March 30. Just in time for Mother Nature to throw a small spring snow storm our way. As I'm writing this, I just finished moving snow at school, and going outside for golf practice this coming week doesn't appear to be in the cards.

There are ten golfers participating this spring, with seven from high school (six boys and one girl) and three from middle school (one boy and two girls). Seniors include Westyn Thorpe and Winston Clark; sophomores Eli Nickelson, Jace Thorpe, Jaxon Ellwein, Jameson Winterberg, and freshman Ruby Dallmann. Middle-schoolers include eighth-graders Addison Wolbeck and McKenna Sumption and seventh-grader Dawson Clark.

The first scheduled golf meet is Tuesday, April 14, with both Britton-Hecla and Bowdle hosting meets that day, though the recent snowfall may make those meets difficult to be held. The Lake Region Conference Meet will be held on Thursday, April 30, at Rolling Hills in Aberdeen; with the Region 1B Meet taking place on Monday, May 18, at Lee Park in Aberdeen.

An abundance of relay runners



PHOTO BY HEIDI MARTILA-LOSURE

Frederick Area runners—shown here in their new uniforms—had enough varsity boys athletes to field three relay teams at the first track meet of the year on March 31 at Northern State University in Aberdeen. Pictured above are, from left, back row, Hunter Kern, Milo Sumption, Jayden Ellwein, Titus Kippley, Erik Losure, Winston Clark, and Noah Heuer; and front row, Westyn Thorpe, Brayden Heuer, Chris Voeller, and Howard Sumption. Relay runner Ian Nickelson is not pictured.

FREDERICK AREA GOLF SCHEDULE

DATE	LEVEL	SITE	TIME
Tues, Apr 14	Varsity	Britton	10:00 am
Tues, Apr 21	Varsity	Webster	10:00 am
Fri, Apr 24	Middle School / JV	Ipswich	1:00 pm
Sat, Apr 25	Varsity	Ipswich	10:30 am
Mon, Apr 27	Middle School (LRC Meet)	Ipswich	2:30 pm
Thurs, Apr 30	JV / Varsity (LRC Meet)	Rolling Hills	10:00 am
Sat, May 2	Varsity	Eureka	10:00 am
Mon, May 4	Middle School / JV	Faultkon	1:30 pm
Fri, May 8	Middle School	Ipswich	12:00 pm
Mon, May 11	Varsity (Pre-Region)	Lee Park	9:00 am
Thurs, May 14	Varsity	Ipswich	11:00 am
Mon, May 18	Varsity (Region)	Lee Park	9:00 am
Mon, June 1 - 2	Varsity (State Meet)	Brookings	

FREDERICK AREA TRACK & FIELD SCHEDULE

DATE	LEVEL	SITE	TIME
Tues, March 31	Varsity	Aberdeen, SD	3 p.m.
Fri, April 10	Varsity	Gettysburg, SD	1 p.m.
Tues, April 14	Junior High	Warner, SD	4 p.m.
Fri, April 17	Varsity	Warner, SD	2 p.m.
Fri, April 24	Junior High	Groton, SD	
Sat, April 25	Varsity	Ipswich, SD	10 a.m.
Tues, April 28	Varsity	Groton, SD	
Thurs, April 30	Junior High	Warner, SD	
Fri-Sat, May 1-2	Varsity	Sioux Falls, SD	
Tues, May 5	Varsity	Eureka, SD	10 a.m.
Fri, May 8	Varsity	Warner, SD	4 p.m.
Tues, May 12	JH / Varsity	Ipswich, SD (LRC)	10:30 a.m.
Mon, May 18	Varsity	Warner, SD	9 a.m.
Tues, May 19	Junior high	Ipswich, SD	noon
Thurs, May 21	Varsity	Webster, SD	noon
Thurs-Sat, May 28-30		Sioux Falls, SD	