

EDUCATION

## **Fergus Falls School Board May Have To Move From Long Time City Hall Location**

03-15-16

For many years the Fergus Falls School Board has held its bi-monthly board meetings at the Fergus Falls City Hall Council Chambers. This is about to change. In a open letter sent to the school board, Acting City Administrator Dan Edwards gives notice to the board that discussions must begin about an alternate location or at the least alternate dates as more and more members of the public are attending various meetings of the board and commissions.

Mr. Edwards cites the Planning Commission having to meet in an employee lunchroom of City Hall on the same dates as School Board Meetings. Edwards also mentions that being able to meet in council chambers would also better meet technology needs.

Although the letter was included with the regular school board agenda for Monday night's meeting. It was not discussed. It is not clear as of press time how the school board plans to proceed with the request or when conversations would begin.

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## **Extra College Grants**

02-27-16

As college student debts continue to climb across the country, Minnesota is giving thousands of students a little extra financial help. The state is awarding 95-thousand students an extra two-hundred dollar grant increase this year. The extra money is coming in part from a drop in the number of students enrolling in public colleges and a recent bump in the federal PELL grant. Larry Pogemiller (POH-guh-mill-er) with the Minnesota Office of Higher Education says low-income and middle-class students could use the extra resources...

..."bit for most students." :13

According to the Project for Student Debt, Minnesota has the fifth-highest debt ranking in the nation. Most state students leave college with more than 31-thousand dollars in financial burdens.

## Tuition Grant Increase

02-19-16

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... "for most students." :13

(Tuition A)

According to the Project for Student Debt, Minnesota has the fifth-highest debt ranking in the nation. Most state students leave college with more than 31-thousand dollars in financial burdens. The Minnesota State Grant Program has awarded up to 180-million dollars to students in need. Pogemiller says with a drop in enrollment, the program had about 12-million dollars leftover, which is now being redistributed to students who qualify. So why the drop in enrollment? Pogemiller says since the economy is doing better, fewer students are signing up for community college...

... "two-year colleges." :10

(Tuition #2)

According to a statement from Governor Mark Dayton's office, he and state lawmakers have set aside an extra 125-million dollars in the Minnesota State Grant Program over the past five years.

## **Elbow Lake Library Gets Grant To Renovate**

02-22-16

A major renovation is set to begin soon on the main upper floor of the library in Elbow Lake. Sue Kulbeik, Chamber President says funding for the library project has already been secured...

EL LIB 32 SEC

OUTCUE: "...and speakers of all kinds."

Renovation has already started and is expected to continue into the first few weeks of March. However, library patrons will be able to access some materials and the internet at stations in the lower level of the building. Volunteers will be needed for the entire process, if interested contact the Elbow Lake Chamber Of Commerce.

## **Perham/Dent SB Meeting**

01-28-16

The Perham-Dent School district held its first group work session Wednesday since the building referendum passed in November.

School board members, administration, principals, architects and others involved with the planning process gathered to bring each other up to date with their progress.

Currently, plans are to put bids out for the preschool and elementary projects first - with construction starting as early as June - then follow up with finalizing the high school and middle school projects.

Architect Tony Stoll said a priority has been ensuring new structures are designed with the possibility of future expansions in mind.

To learn more, see preliminary drawings, and give opinions - the public is invited to attend the next work session on Wednesday, February 24 at 5pm in the Perham high school student union - followed by an open house at 6pm. Additional open house sessions are planned for when more details are available for discussion.

The school board also moved its regular February meeting to the 17th, due to conflicts with Ash Wednesday. It will still begin at 5pm and be held in the Perham High School student union.

## Mstate Named Among Top 150 Colleges

01-29-2016

Minnesota State Community and Technical College has been named one of the top 150 community colleges in the United States by the Aspen Institute, making M State eligible to compete for the \$1 million 2017 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. Peter Wielinski with M State...

MSTATE WEILINSKI 10 SEC

OUTCUE: "...that are eligible to compete for the national prize."

M State, with campuses in Detroit Lakes, Fergus Falls, Moorhead and Wadena, has been ranked among the nation's top community colleges three times before by the Aspen Institute, most recently in 2014.

The Aspen Prize recognizes two-year colleges for exceptional student outcomes in four areas: student learning, certificate and degree completion, employment and earnings, and access and success for minority and low-income students. The Institute's top 150 colleges are chosen from more than 1,000 public community colleges nationwide.

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## **NYM Cultural Center Exhibit**

01-30-16

A new gallery exhibit at the New York Mills Cultural Center features Stencil Prints of Navajo Sand Paintings by Maud Oakes. The exhibit will be on display from February 3<sup>rd</sup> through March 5<sup>th</sup>.

The exhibition features stencil prints from a 1943 portfolio by anthropologist and artist Maud Oakes, who recorded a rare Navajo war ceremony called "Where the Two Came to Their Father." Temporary sacred images, popularly called sand paintings, are essential to Navajo ceremonies.

Oakes created her originals in watercolor, on site, during the telling of the ceremony by medicine man Jeff King over several meetings in 1942 and 1943. Later, these prints and narrative were collected and published as a book, with commentary by famous mythologist Joseph Campbell, and as a set of prints. Today, it is still the most complete first-hand record of a Navajo ceremony available.

There is a second story to the collection. The reason for its circulation today is that it was rediscovered in a trunk on the scenic Mallard Island home of Minnesota environmentalist Ernest Oberholtzer. "Ober," who battled for the establishment of our nation's largest green space, The Boundary Waters Canoe Area and adjacent preserves, was also an adventurer, storyteller, artist, lobbyist, collector and mentor. The exhibition of the prints allows people today to retell his life story and remember his gift.

Gallery hours at the Cultural Center are Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm, Fridays from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Saturdays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.



## More Board Proposals Revealed

02-09-16

Many teachers and union officials once again descended upon Monday's Fergus Falls School Board Meeting. Teacher Vicki Hanneman says she feels the school board has let down the teachers and the public.

Viki Hanneman 32 sec

Immediately after Hanneman's comments, everyone in the group got up and left before the school board could respond to them face to face. In a public response from the school board, Board Chair Matt Lemke revealed more details of what they are willing to offer.

Matt Lemke 32 sec

Lemke also says the board is willing to meet before March 29th and hopes that with the mediator, more issues can be resolved.

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## Shootin' for a Cure

02-03-16

The Fergus Falls Otters Boys and Girls basketball teams will be "Shootin' for a Cure" when they host a double header against Willmar for their cancer awareness night on Friday at the Kennedy Secondary School gymnasium.

The varsity girls matchup begins at 6:00 pm and the boys game begins at 7:30.

Several fundraising and awareness events are planned for the night, including raffles for several gift baskets. There will also be opportunities to sponsor a player or team by donating money for each point scored that night. A "Wall of Honor" will be displayed in the hallway outside the gym giving fans a chance to honor loved ones touched by cancer for a free-will donation.

Everyone is encouraged to wear pink or purple to the games as a show of support for the local fight against cancer and there will be custom "Shootin' for a Cure" t-shirts available.

All proceeds from the event will go directly to the Lake Region Healthcare Cancer Care and Research Center in Fergus Falls.

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