



W.I.T. (Whatever It Takes) Coalition

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FOR THE NOVEMBER 2016 NEWELL CITY & SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

Things that come about for the community/school because WIT exists.

Tobacco Prevention: The WIT Coalition is finishing up a grant from the Department of Health that focuses on Tobacco Prevention. We would like to continue to look at having the City parks and grounds policies to read as Tobacco Free areas.

Lifeskills Classes: The Freshman Class is taking part in a National Buckle Up Campaign. This particular campaign runs until 11-15-16. They will be working with the Elementary and MS students by having them take part in a Buckle Up coloring contest and they will be doing some social media filming and why they feel it is important to Buckle Up. On Wednesday, 10-26-16, we partnered with the Butte County Sheriff's Office and did a Seat Belt Check out in front of the school during their class period. During that 40 minutes they stopped 68 vehicles and 17 people were not Buckled Up. They handed out brochure to them about Distracted Driving, Highway Safety Laws, and about 2nd and 3rd hand smoke in vehicles and how it effects their passengers. We may be doing this again before the campaign is over. The students/deputies had fun and it was educational. They reminded people that they are precious cargo, so please buckle up—Every Trip.



SoDakSACA Conference: The SADD Team presented at the SoDakSACA Conference in Deadwood on Saturday, 10-15-16. They had the room set up so 24 teachers could be in on our presentation but there ended up being 32 teachers in the room before they closed the doors and we ended up presenting longer then planned as teachers had so many questions and just wanted to talk to the students in general. This was a fun and educational activity and the students were proud of themselves for what they do. We also took time to stop in Spearfish to enjoy a Chinese buffet before heading home. Eve Vavra went along as a parent chaperone.

Educated Voter Event: Secretary of State, Shantel Krebs, met with all of the HS students in an assembly the afternoon prior to the Educated Voter Event. She was surprised at how well informed the seniors were about how the law works and about Government so kudos to Mr. Phelps. We had 75 people take part in the Educated Voter Event and Chris Nelson, PUC Candidate and former SOS, said that Newell is the only one of two in the state that holds this type of event. Salem, SD held their first one this year so we are leaders in educating individuals about these important issues. An article ran in the Butte County Post.



Salvation Army: Through a partnership with the Salvation Army 16 students received a new winter coat and 9 students had the opportunity to go on a shopping trip at the Spearfish Walmart to buy school clothes. They each received \$100 to spend to buy new shoes, pants, tops, etc. All of these students expressed their appreciation and need for new items.

Meetings: The WIT Coalition monthly meetings for November will be held in conjunction with the Veteran Day Program which will be held in the Austin Auditorium on 11-10-16 at 9:00 am and the December meeting will be held on 12-9-16 at the Brain Trauma Training in Rapid City, SD. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the WIT Coalition and our efforts. Many events are being planned for 2017.

Respectfully submitted, *Sabrina Harmon*

