



Weekly Log



DAKOTA COLLEGE
AT BOTTINEAU

January 13, 2026

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

MONDAY, JAN 12
TUESDAY, JAN 13

- First full day of classes
- Book Read at 7:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, JAN 14

- KBTO Live Break, 8:30am, Michelle Cauley, Drone Boot Camp
- Basketball vs U of Jamestown
 - Women's at 5:00 pm
 - Men's at 7:00 pm

THURSDAY, JAN 15

- Men's Hockey at Denver, 8:15 pm

FRIDAY, JAN 16

- KKWZ & KZZJ Dakota College Weekly, 8:30am, Michelle Cauley, Drone Boot Camp
- Men's Hockey at Colorado, 5:00 pm

CALL FOR CONSERVATION AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Earth Day Committee and Natural Resources Department of is putting out an all-call for 2026 Conservationist of the Year nominees. The annual Conservation Award will be presented during the spring 2025 DCB Earth Day celebration on April 24.

DCB has developed a Nature, Technology, and Beyond focus which grew from its founding mission in 1906 of providing educational programming for students choosing a career that promotes care and concern for the environment. This focus is uniquely expressed in the college's original mission that prescribes practical and efficient training in forestry, horticulture, agriculture, nursery, and greenhouse practices, advocating for a trained eye to observe and a skilled hand to execute.

Carried through today's values, remaining student-focused and community-centered.

The DCB Conservation Award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated leadership and made notable contributions to the conservation, preservation, and enhancement of precious natural resources or to the education of such principles to instill a passion in the next generation. This person exceptionally contributes to the development, promotion, and implementation of projects and activities, making a significant impact on the common good. Through their efforts, this individual inspires and leads the way toward a more sustainable and environmentally responsible future.

There were two award recipients in 2025. The first recipient was Angie Bartholomay, whose work in Environmental Education was a

national model for others to follow. As a retired DCB professor, Angie worked tirelessly to share the knowledge of environmental ethics and practice with her fellow educators as well as thousands of youth and young adults throughout the state. Angie inspired a love of the environment and inspired many of her students to engage in careers in natural resources. The second recipient was Monica Yoder, who received the Young Conservatist Award. Monica, whose volunteerism in the realm of natural resources was impressive, graduated with an AS in Natural Resources and her AAS in Wildlife and Fisheries Tech.

Nominations may be made by contacting Michelle Cauley at 701-228-5498 or micelle.cauley@dakotacollege.edu. The nomination deadline is Friday, March 6, 2025.

QUESTIONS?
MICHELLE.CAULEY@dAKOTACOLLEGE.EDU

**DAKOTA COLLEGE
CONSERVATION AWARD**

The 2026 Dakota College at Bottineau Conservation Award is presented by Dakota College to an individual who has demonstrated leadership and has made notable contributions to the conservation, preservation, and enhancement of our precious natural resources. This person will have contributed in an exceptional way that has had a significant impact for the common good.

Nominations are Open!

Following are the criteria to be used for selecting the 2026 Conservation Award recipient:

1. Wide recognition for leadership, vision, and problem solving
2. Demonstration of enduring commitment
3. Development of partnerships
4. Generation and stimulation of community support
5. Promotion to audiences through educational efforts
6. Catalyst for positive change

Nominations Due Friday, March 6

CAMPUS DEAN INTERVIEWS SCHEDULED

The DCB Campus Dean Search Committee met last week and narrowed the applications down from 21 to 5 candidates. The semi-finalists are scheduled for virtual interviews January 20-January 30. On-campus finalist interviews and campus forum schedules will be set the early part of February. This will be followed by a final decision for the Campus Dean appointment sometime in February.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Scott Johnson, Search Committee Chair.

DCB's Aflac representative, Cassie Loard is moving into the ND Trainer position which means she will no longer be handling accounts or claims. She states, "I will truly miss this connection, but I'm so excited to instill exemplary service with our new agents, as well as refining veteran skill sets."

Our new contact is Rachel Florey

- Rachel_Florey@us.aflac.com

Please contact Rachel with any questions you may have moving forward.



Monthly Book Read

January 13th, 2026
The Heritage Room
@ 7:00 PM

Contact Gary Albrightson
for more information
gary.albrightson@dakotacollege.edu

SPICE HOSTED FOCUS GROUPS

On January 7, SPICE hosted two focus groups to help with strategic/implementation planning. Over the past three years, DCB has operated with a one-year Implementation Plan which aligns with the current Strategic Plan. Although one-year planning is valuable, DCB needs to include long-term planning. Inspired by this, focus groups with representation from all areas at DCB met to discuss:

- 1) What academic programs should DCB consider adding.
- 2) What improvements to facilities need to happen to improve our college.
- 3) What are some ways DCB could strengthen community connections, and
- 4) What is one thing DCB needs to do to adapt to changes in higher education?

Here is a synthesis of the focus group discussion. Across Bottineau and Minot, participants consistently emphasized:

1) Workforce-Driven, High-Demand Programming

- Strong support for CTE, trades, health sciences, and public safety programs.
- Desire for short-term, accelerated credentials (8-week CNA, EMT, CDL, welding, HVAC).
- Interest in clear pathways (high school → DCB → MSU/workforce).
- Caution against adding programs without sufficient demand or sustainability.

2) Facilities as a Limiting Factor

- Aging labs, outdated equipment, and fragmented spaces are inhibiting program growth.
- Athletics and student life facilities are viewed as both enrollment drivers and community assets.
- Minot participants emphasized consolidation, modernization, and student support spaces, while Bottineau participants stressed residential, athletic, and infrastructure needs.

3) Community Connection as a Strategic Asset

- Strong desire to deepen partnerships with:
 - K-12 schools (dual credit, internships, camps)

- Local employers and healthcare providers
- Community organizations and events
- Marketing and visibility—especially in Minot—were seen as critical gaps.

4) Need for Strategic Focus and Adaptation

Participants called for DCB to:

- Identify and invest in a clear niche
- Use program review data to sunset low-demand offerings
- Improve internal coordination between Bottineau and Minot
- Expand flexible delivery models (high-flex, accelerated, IVN)
- Treat dual credit as a core growth strategy, not a side function

At both the January and February Campus Conversations, we aim to formalize and prioritize items brought up during focus group discussion. We are looking forward to the participation of the entire campus community in this endeavor, so please try to attend.

- Dr. Lexi Kvasnicka-Gates

CTS COMMUNITY CONVERSATION FEEDBACK RECEIVED

Community Conversations are held twice a year, with schedules coordinated in partnership with the campus Information Technology department. We have received feedback from the CTS Community Conversations held on campus November 25. Summary Report Highlights

Campus attendance

A total of 397 individuals attended

the 11 on-site campus events, representing 42% increase compared to the June 2025 sessions.

Participation satisfaction

Post-meeting survey results remained consistent, with an average satisfaction rating of 4.3 out of 5.

Participant questions and responses

A summary of questions asked, along with responses is available on

page 2 of the Summary Report. The [November 2025 Community Conversations Folder](#) contains includes:

[Nov 2025 Community Conversations Summary Report](#)

[Presentation slides](#)

[Individual meeting recordings](#)

organized in a dedicated folder

If you have questions or would like to share feedback, please touch base with Jacob Nelson, Director of IT.

LOGGER APPLAUSE



Shoutout to **Danielle** for making grading / incompletes / the whole process so seamless and simple - and she is always so positive. Your smile makes ME smile! - Michelle Cauley

Thank you to **Cody** and **Chris** for their work on our Campus Tree Inventory - I appreciate it! Our Tree Campus Application was approved by the state and that's in a large part due to the work you two did. Thank you! - Michelle Cauley

Finally, a huge thank you to **Jo** and **Michael** for stepping up to host a session at the DCB Earth Day Community Event coming up in April! - Michelle Cauley

Thank you to **Jacob** for wonderfully organizing the hardware and web page switch! - Heidi Hauf

Contact Sandy Hageness if you have a shout-out to share. sandy.hageness@dakotacollege.edu

Below is a list of events for DCB events. Please provide me with updates. sandy.hageness@dakotocollege.edu

JANUARY	2026
Jan 13	First Full Day of Classes
Jan 19	Martin Luther King Jr Day – Campus Closed
Jan 27	Bottineau Community Rockhounds 6pm-7pm
FEBRUARY	
Feb 10	Book Read
Feb 10	Campus Conversations
Feb 12	Giving Hearts Day
Feb 15-21	Smokey's Week
Feb 16	President's Day Campus Closed
Feb 17	Professional Development Day
Feb 24	Bottineau Community Rockhounds 6pm-7pm
TBD	Giving Hearts Day
TBD	Smokey's Week
TBD	Future Fest
TBD	Spelling Bee
MARCH	
March 1	Dental Hygiene Applications Due
March 1	Nursing Apps Due
March 10	Book Read
March 15	Dental Assisting Applications Due
March 24	Bottineau Community Rockhounds 6pm-7pm
March 28-29	Hoopsters
TBD	PTK Recognition, BSC
APRIL	
April 1	Paramedic Apps Due
April 9	NE Regional Science Olympiad
April 14	Book Read
April 17	Earth Day Community Celebration
April 22-23	Water Festival
April 30	Employee Appreciation Lunch
April 31	Bottineau Community Rockhounds 6pm-7pm
MAY	
May 12	Book Read
May 15	Caps & Apps – LEAP Grads
TBD	Scholastic Chamber Awards
May 15	Graduation
May 26	Bottineau Community Rockhounds 6pm-7pm

GIVING HEARTS DAY **February 12**

Be the heart behind a student's success!

All donations go toward DCB student scholarships.
All donations qualify for the ND Challenge Grant Matching Grant...your donation will go even farther!

Scan here to donate 

SAVE THE DATE

SMOKEY'S WEEK

FEBRUARY 15TH - FEBRUARY 21ST



Come together for a week of cheering on our fellow Lumberjacks and celebrating the pride, connection, and tradition of the Lumberjack family.

Announcement of events to follow



Bottineau Community Rocks!



Tuesday, January 27
6:00—7:00 pm
DCB Campus at Thatcher Hall
Alumni Conference Room

Come join us for this FREE event on the Dakota College of Bottineau Campus. Bottineau Community Rocks! is a community and family event for those interested in learning more about geology, minerals, fossils, crystals and more!

We meet once a month in the Alumni Conference Room in Thatcher to hear presentations and speakers, hear of exciting news in the geology realm, discuss our experiences and rockhounding tales, and share the love of geology.

Our January topic is:

Nature's Treasure Boxes—Geodes!

This month we explore nature's little surprise packages—plain looking rocks on the outside with stunning crystal formations within. Geodes can be found all around the world and come in all sorts of colors, shapes, and sizes. Come explore the hidden world inside these beauties, learn about locations, and how best to open your very own mini-crystal cave of wonders.

Sponsored by—DCB Community Education and Bottineau Community Rockhounds
Questions? Email - michelle.cauley@dakotacollege.edu