

## Dakota's Diary

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BeYOUtiful



The high school environment, the groups, the judgment, the fake people, where does the list end? The second that you walk the stage to graduate, what really matters? Which parts of high school will you remember and bring with you?

Out of all the things that teens focus on, the most useless ideals are rendered as the biggest topics in their brains. I think that people don't realize this as they're going through high school, but once it begins to come to an end is when it's made apparent to them.

So much of the things we spend our time on are going to be useless in just a few years, if not a few weeks after graduation is over with. People are going to move away, get new jobs, go to college, and ultimately the only things that are going to matter from their high school years are going to be miniscule compared to the stress that they put upon themselves during the years. Friends, memories, and legacies will last

much longer than the every day stresses that high schoolers task themselves with.

A school record that was broken, or a paper that was the best the teacher had ever seen. Those are things that will leave a lasting impression on what is left behind. But for how long? Records are made to be broken, and people are always striving to get better. The real question at hand is what is worth the time and effort, and what will end up making the real impact?

The stresses that kids put on themselves to be the best version of themselves is a necessary one for them to grow, but that pressure should be

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**Conformity is the jailer of freedom, and the enemy of growth.”**

-John F. Kennedy

put on them by themselves, not their peers or teachers, or anybody else for that matter. Should you care what others think of you in a day or a week, or should you focus on what others will remember you for the rest of their lives? Don't let someone else stress you out for what they might think of you, just be you.

## SNOW WAY TO WIN



### Staff Editorial

The recent snow day Eaton High School (EHS) has employed brings up the ongoing dilemma that parents have to deal with relating to these days off. The decision to call a snow day in theory is an easy choice, but in practice is quite the opposite. There is always going to be an unhappy party regardless of if the day is taken off, or students have to go to school.

The kids' opinion on the matter is a pretty obvious answer. Most kids want to enjoy their day off and not have to worry about going to school. They can enjoy the cozy inside while doing whatever they want, or they can go outside and play in the snow if they're feeling adventurous. The parents perspective is where the problem of the matter occurs.

Sure, most parents would want their children to be able to have a day off, and a break. But it's not that simple. Some parents have jobs that they can't take off of work, and this is where the issue sparks. If a parent has little kids, and they can't take off work to watch them, what do they do now? Many parents

have to hire a babysitter last minute, or have their older kids watch their siblings if they have them.

The school is notorious for waiting until virtually the last minute to call off these snow days, and it gives no time for the parents to prepare. For the most recent snow day, District 6 schools and many other local schools called the snow day the day before it occurred. Eaton, on the other hand, waited until the morning of. This causes all kinds of problems for those with kids, having to scramble to find someone to watch their little ones.

Senior Aaron Hernandez has little siblings that he is put in charge to take care of on these days off. "It means that I can't go out and eat or go to the gym, which sucks because then I have to go later once my parents are home. My parents can't call out, so it's really up to me to take them to school when we have late starts too, which can be dangerous and it means that I have to be late because I drop my siblings off at two different schools," Hernandez said.

The problematic circumstances don't just fall on to the parents, but even the older siblings as well. Calling a snow day last minute is beneficial to nobody, because of the uncertainty factor.

On the other hand,

people will have problems if they don't call the day off. There is a fine line between an unnecessary day off, and a necessary one because of the danger of driving to school. The reason in which these days are called off is because it is too dangerous to get to the school. If they don't end up calling off the day and students get into crashes on their way to school, the blame can fall into the hands of the school for not having the day off due to weather.

Senior Grant Hernandez has parents that are both school teachers. "I think it's more of a safety thing, because it doesn't matter how good of a driver I am, if there are a lot of drivers with little experience in the snow," Hernandez said. It doesn't matter if the individual is a good driver, there is always going to be some level of danger.

No matter which choice the school ends up choosing, there will always be somebody that is unhappy with the decision. People will seek to find something to complain about. The choice of whether or not to call school off for the day is a tough decision that isn't to be made lightly. The only certain complaint that comes across as universal is that if school is to be called off, make sure that it is done in advance, not just the morning of.