



Bon Homme Hutterische Colony School



Springfield Elementary School

# Bon Homme 4-2 School Narrative Profile 2015-2016



Bon Homme Middle School / High School



Bon Homme Hutterische Colony  
Alternative High School



Tabor Elementary School



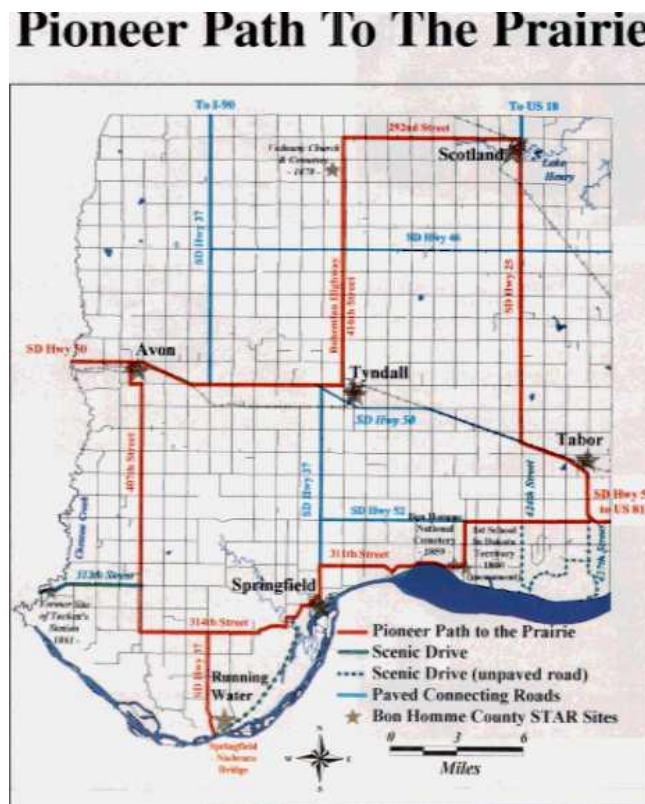
# Bon Homme School District 4-2

## School Profile

### 2015-2016

## Section 1: District Information

Bon Homme School District is located in Bon Homme County in Southeastern South Dakota. Tabor, Tyndall, Springfield, and the Bon Homme Hutterische Colony are the communities that comprise the Bon Homme School District. The communities vary in size, but each plays a part in giving the district a diverse blend of social, economic, and cultural personality. The district covers 317 square miles with the Missouri River as the southern boundary. This location contributes to a wide variety of recreational activities available in Bon Homme County including hunting, fishing, boating, and camping. Gavins Point Dam and the Lewis and Clark Campgrounds are located about 25 miles away and offer excellent recreational facilities.



The last national census in the United States took place in 2010 and it was confirmed at the time that the population of South Dakota was 814,180 which represented a rise of nearly 8% on the numbers declared in 2000. A 2014 estimate of the state's population places it at 853,175, which is an increase of 4.8% from April 1, 2010, to July 1, 2014, making South Dakota the 46th most populous state in the US.

According to the 2010 census data, Tabor has a population of 423 people and boasts a strong Czech heritage which is recognized in an annual celebration called Czech Days.

Springfield's population is 1,989 with 1,200 inmates of Mike Durfee State Prison in Springfield. Springfield, which borders on the edge of the Missouri River, offers many recreational activities as well as a variety of businesses and employment opportunities.

Tyndall, with a population of 1067, is the location of an elementary school, the middle and high schools, and the district school office. Tyndall also offers a variety of businesses and community opportunities.

The Hutterische colony is a small religious community committed to farming and other agricultural pursuits. It is located along the Missouri River about four miles south of Highway 52. The Bon Homme Hutterische Colony boasts the significance of being the original "mother colony" in America.

The schools in each of the communities are unique in many ways. Tabor and Springfield each have elementary schools made up of students in grades K-5 with total enrollment generally below 50. In 2014, due to increased enrollment, Springfield opened a preschool. Both have combination classrooms of K-1, 2-3, and 4-5. The colony supports a self-contained two-room classroom of students in grades K-8. Enrollment is generally in the mid 30's or 40's. Tyndall's site is the location of another elementary school with single grade classrooms with class size usually around 20 students and total enrollments generally in the 100's, a preschool, as well as the middle and high schools for the entire district. Kindergarten is offered all day, every day at each elementary site with a full day or partial day option, Junior Kindergarten, in Tyndall.

The Colony school is operated by the Bon Homme School district which provides four full-time certified teachers in K-8, along with two classroom aides. They also offer a Title I Schoolwide program, as well as Special Education services, guidance, art, and music. The Colony Elementary also offers a half-day Junior Kindergarten program for the non-English speaking students to transition into school and the English language.

The Colony School also has an Alternative High School where the older boys attend school in the mornings and in the evenings during the spring and fall and all day in the fall and winter months.

Bus transportation is provided for students who live outside the city limits and attend the elementary, middle, and high schools. Transportation one way is also provided to the students who attend Jr. K and preschool if they need to be dropped off at a paid daycare provider after their half-day school.

The Bon Homme School District has been progressive in educational change and offers a four-day school week. This change was begun in 2006 and has been sustained since.

The school district offers many educational opportunities for students on some Fridays in which school is not held. These “tutor days” allow students to come to school from 8:00-11:00 for homework assistance, completion of work, or additional support or assistance from their classroom teacher(s). Time from 11:00-12:00 generally allows teachers time to collaborate on projects, have staff meetings, and work in their classrooms. Some Fridays are set aside for professional development as staff continually work to improve instruction in the Bon Homme School district.

Educational and extra-curricular activities that benefit the students in our area are offered by the Bon Homme School District. Speech, language, early childhood, and physical therapy are contracted through South Central Co-op. The district boasts a full range of athletic opportunities as well as a K-12 art program and both vocal and instrumental music programs. High school students may also develop their talents through membership in the National Honor Society, the FFA, and a very active Student Council. Bon Homme also offers an award winning drama and oral interp program. Educational opportunities beyond those offered within our district are available through a local long distance learning lab. College credit may be gained while attending classes at the Bon Homme High School.

In addition to the athletic programs available, the construction of a new Wellness Center at the Tyndall site was begun in the summer of 2011. This was solely funded by the Hoch Foundation, a charitable organization of the Bill Hoch family. Many donations from this foundation have made free breakfasts, technology advancements, and health and wellness possible for the students and staff of the Bon Homme School District.

Technology programs in our district offer computer training to all students from elementary to high school. Three middle school/high school labs offer classes ranging in topic and ability. Currently, all MS and HS students have been issued their own laptop to use throughout the school day. All elementary schools have computer labs as well as portable laptop and iPad labs. Every teacher in our district has at least one computer at his/her disposal, and practical use is made of the current level of technology by recording grades on a parent portal that makes it easy for parents to keep current on their child’s daily school progress. The district has completed its goal of assuring that Promethean White Boards are installed and used in all classrooms across the district, offering students the advantage of the latest technology in their classrooms. Through the generosity of the Hoch Foundation, iPads have been added to intervention groups at all sites, and Kindles are available with a “read along” function to help students who struggle with reading difficulties.

Tyndall Elementary and the Hutterische Colony school qualified for a Reading First grant in 2004. Reading First was a nation-wide K-3 reading reform model aimed at eradicating reading failure in schools across the country. The emphasis in Reading First was teaching to the identified dimensions of reading at the appropriate time with the appropriate intensity. The five dimensions, identified as phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, comprehension and fluency, were all integrated into the curriculum in the Bon Homme School District. All the elementary schools in the district adhered to the 110 minute

reading block, the additional phonics instruction, and the use of a core reading program to teach the five dimensions of reading. Another emphasis of Reading First was the use of early interventions to meet the needs of students who may be lacking in one of the five dimensions of reading. The federal Reading First program ended in 2010, but the strategies and principles of Reading First continue to define the reading program at the Bon Homme School District, including the use of benchmark assessment, progress monitoring, and timely interventions.

In 2014, the elementary schools expanded their use of benchmark assessments to include Dibels Math. Students are benchmarked three times a year, with regular monthly progress monitoring.

All Bon Homme Elementary, Middle School, and High School sites are currently MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Support) schools. MTSS encompasses the elements of RtI and PBIS(Positive Behavior Interventions and Support). RtI (Response to Intervention) is a state program that assists in the identification and intervention of reading problems in a three tiered program. According to the National Center on RtI: *With RTI, schools identify students at risk for poor learning outcomes, monitor student progress, provide evidence-based interventions and adjust the intensity and nature of those interventions depending on a student's responsiveness, and identify students with learning disabilities or other disabilities.* (NCRTI, 2010) PBIS is the behavior part of the program. It works with positive reinforcements and interventions to prevent behavior issues.

The Bon Homme schools promote character education, counseling services, and charitable work in many activities. The student organizations are very active in collecting donations for local food banks, supporting student events, and raising funds for field trips.

The Bon Homme School District is committed to providing students with current educational practices and research based training, therefore, professional development is provided to teachers and staff to maintain best practices.

The following Bon Homme Schools have won Distinguished School Awards from the State Department of Education:

2004: Springfield Elementary, Tabor Elementary, and Tyndall Elementary

2005: Bon Homme High School, Hutterische Colony School, Springfield Elementary, Tabor Elementary, and Tyndall Elementary

2006: Hutterische Colony School, Springfield Elementary, Tabor Elementary, and Tyndall Elementary.

2007: Springfield Elementary, Tabor Elementary, and Tyndall Elementary

2008: due to a change in the calculation method for determining Distinguished Schools, *(To be eligible for the Distinguished School/District title, a school must have 10 or more*

*students in the grades tested in the school*) only Tyndall Elementary School qualified as a Distinguished School.

2009: Tyndall Elementary

In 2009, Tabor Elementary was selected as a South Dakota Blue Ribbon School.

2010: Tyndall Elementary

2011: Tyndall Elementary

In 2012, the State Department of Education changed the way schools were identified into categories of Exemplary (top 5% of schools), Status (top 10%), Progressing (between top 10% and lowest 5%), and Priority (lowest 5%). A Title I school could also be identified as “Focus” if it was in the lowest 10% of Title I schools and contributed to the achievement gap. In 2013, the Bon Homme Colony School was rated Exemplary, Springfield Elementary was a Status school, and Tabor, Tyndall, the MS and HS were all ranked as Progressing Schools. The Colony Alternative HS was ranked as a small school (enrollment less than 10) with no accountability and no data released due to confidentiality of student information. The 2014 report ranked Tabor Elementary as Exemplary High Performing, the BHHS as Status, and all of the remaining schools as Progressing.

All of the elementary schools in the Bon Homme district offer Special Education services and Schoolwide Title programs. These programs assist students who may be struggling with the regular educational program by offering support and interventions. The Middle School also operates a Schoolwide Title I program. Special Education services are offered K-12.

## Section 2: Student Information

The district has seven attendance centers. The October 28, 2015, enrollment data shows: Bon Homme Hutterische Colony Elementary School with 50 students enrolled, the Bon Homme Hutterische Colony Alternative High School with an enrollment of 6, Bon Homme High School with 130 students in grades 9-12, Bon Homme Middle School with 83 students registered in grades 6-8, Tyndall Elementary School with an enrollment of 123, Tabor Elementary School with 41 students, and Springfield Elementary School with 51 students for a total enrollment of 484.

The district has historically maintained a high attendance and graduation rate. In 2012, the state began an SPI (School Performance Index) ranking of schools that includes performance ranking on the DakotaSTEP test and attendance for the elementary schools, and performance, college and career readiness, and graduation rate in the HS. In 2013 Bon Homme students no longer took the Dakota STEP test (except in Science—grades 5, 8, and 11). No results were reported back to school districts from the new Smarter

Balanced test in 2013. The first report of the Smarter Balanced test came in 2015 SPI rankings (based on 100 possible points) are:

School	Student Achievement	Academic Growth	Attendance	Effective Teachers & Principals	School Climate	Total SPI
possible pts.	80	N/A*	20	N/A*	N/A*	100
Springfield 2014-15	46.16	N/A*	16.86	N/A*	N/A*	63.02
Tabor 2014-15	53.33	N/A*	19.09	N/A*	N/A*	72.42
Tyndall 2014-15	45.39	N/A*	17.94	N/A*	N/A*	63.33
BH Colony 2014-15	29.23	N/A*	20.00	N/A*	N/A*	49.23
BHMS 2014-15	31.11	N/A*	16.07	N/A*	N/A*	47.18
	Student Achievement	HS Completion	College Readiness	Effective Teachers & Principals	School Climate	Total SPI
possible pts.	50	25	25	N/A*	N/A*	100
BHHS 2014-15	36.29	23.06	18.55	N/A*	N/A*	77.90

N/A\* These indicators will not be in effect during any of the years on the chart.

The Bon Homme School supports a rigorous educational program which enables our students to compete successfully in scholastic competitions across the curriculum. The District's math program has placed at the Mertin Haase contest for several years in a row. In 2007, the Bon Homme students won the 51<sup>st</sup> math contest. SDSU awarded four out of five of their annual engineering awards (outstanding freshman, sophomore, junior, senior, and graduate) to Bon Homme graduates in 1994.

Physiology, Chemistry, and Physics are offered as weighted classes. This protects students' GPAs while encouraging them to take challenging upper level science courses.

The Special Education students in the Bon Homme School District took the regular Smarter Balanced test with their peers (with accommodations as indicated by their IEP).

Bon Homme students have also shown exemplary achievement in fine arts. The Bon Homme band has been building a tradition of success for the last dozen years with fifteen consecutive superiors at contest. BHHS Band and Choir sponsor an annual variety show with the community. The band has performed three different times in the Dome at the University of South Dakota, and has played at several state basketball tournaments. The band performs four concerts a year, including a patriotic concert in the fall and a pops concert in the spring. In February of 2007, the Bon Homme Concert Band was one of four high school groups selected to perform at the South Dakota Music In-service. Members of the band have an opportunity to be part of a semi-annual trip. These trips

have included the cities of Chicago, Denver, and St. Louis. In addition, the Jazz Ensemble has also earned superiors at the Coyote Jazz Festival.

The High School choir is an auditioned choir and is open to all 9-12 students. The choir is active in our local Variety Show, holiday, and patriotic performances, as well as spring performances and contest work at our Region I Vocal contest. The choir also welcomes in professional coaches from the collegiate level to come in and work with them in preparation for the Region 1 Large Group Contest.

The Middle School is open to 7th and 8th graders. The 6th graders meet in their own choir also but separate from the MS Choir. Both groups work on learning to read Unison to 3 part music, performing in front of an audience, concert etiquette, musical theory, history in relations to music, and other basic principles related to music in the concert setting and in real-world application.

Visual Arts is taught to students in K-8, which gives them a basis for creative problem-solving. Art I and Art II are offered as electives to the high school students, and reinforce the students' learning in art production, art history, art criticism and aesthetics. In each of the past three years, Bon Homme high school students have earned 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in the South Dakota Aviation Art Contest. Several K-12 students placed in the South Dakota Junior Duck Stamp Contest over the last 7 years. Bon Homme had one senior place 2nd in the State Poppy Poster Contest in 2010. Art reinforces and brings to life what students learn in other subjects, and gives understanding of multicultural values and beliefs.

## Section 3: Instructional Information

The Bon Homme School District has employed 50 certified, highly qualified, teachers, 2 program coordinators, 2 guidance staff, and 1 ½ technology coordinators/integrationist in 2015, offering a teacher-student ratio of 1:11 with the largest class remaining under 25 students and the largest elementary class having 23 students.

The Bon Homme School District is extremely proud of its dedicated and experienced staff. Many of the teachers in the district, both past and present, have received awards and accolades for their work, including the Bon Homme Teacher of the Year Award, the Outstanding High School Science Teacher Award from the School of Mines and Technology, the Distinguished Service Award in Mathematics presented by SDCTM, an award for contributions to the Civil Engineering Profession from the American Society of Civil Engineers, the South Dakota Reading Council's Literacy Award, and the National Federation of State High School Association Speech-Debate-Theatre Outstanding Educator Award for South Dakota.

The Bon Homme School District employs four full-time administrators. The District superintendent serves all of the schools while the Middle School, the High School, and



the Colony Alternative High School are served by one principal. Tabor, Springfield, and Tyndall Elementary Schools share one principal while the Colony Elementary School is served by one part-time principal who also works as the superintendent. The business manager serves the entire district.

25 classified personnel are employed by the Bon Homme School District to offer student and teacher support, as well as financial, office, cleaning, and clerical work.

## Section 4: Financial Data

Bon Homme 4-2 offers a high quality education on a frugal fiscal budget. The table below indicates the revenue sources for the school district for the 2013-14 school year as provided by the business manager:

General fund revenue	\$3,556,463
Capital funds	\$955,499
Special education funds	\$835,493
Title funds	\$154,590
Ag levy	\$1.782
Non ag levy	\$0
Owner occupied levy	\$4.252
Other non ag/utilities levy	\$9.106
Special education levy	\$1.478
Capital outlay levy	\$3.00
Pension fund levy	\$0.30
Per-pupil spending--Gen & Spec Ed	\$8,561
Federal revenue	\$177,255
State revenue	\$1,782,732
County revenue	\$23,377
Local revenue	\$1,356,009
Opt outs	\$0
Debt service	\$168,488

## Section 5: Community Data

The Bon Homme School District is supported by parent volunteers, retired teachers, parent organizations (PTO and PACE), and parent booster groups that support extra-curricular programs and athletics. Parents volunteer as coaches and assistant coaches for many athletic programs. The school district cooperates by allowing the use of the gym for many parent led athletic programs.

The school district offers many opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's education including:

- two parent-teacher conferences yearly
- Book Buddies events two times each year in all elementary sites
- One "Math with Moms" event in each elementary site
- One "Students' Choice" Games Galore event for either a reading, math, or thinking skills activity
- Title I Spring Fling events
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade night prior to the beginning of the school year
- open house at all sites
- Tyndall Elementary Reading Fair
- winter and spring concerts as well as Veteran's Day program
- sporting events throughout the year
- financial aid parent night for seniors

The communities that make up the Bon Homme School District have many employment opportunities including Mike Durfee State Prison, St. Michael's Hospital and Wellness Center, Springfield Academy, Bon Homme Family Practice Medical Clinic, Springfield Medical Clinic, B-Y Electric, as well as many retail businesses.

Medical, vision, dental, and senior living services are provided in the communities that make up the Bon Homme School District.

Several features of the Bon Homme area are well known in neighboring communities and draw business into our region including the Tyndall Bakery, Sandra Rose (bridal salon) and restaurant and recreational activities. The area is based primarily in agricultural services and offers four grain elevators in or near the towns that support the school system.

Besides the camping, fishing, and boating activities offered in the area, there are also two beautiful nine-hole golf courses, one just outside the city limits of Tyndall, and the other along the scenic Missouri River near Springfield. Tyndall has reopened its bowling alley which offers league and open bowling for youth and adults. The area also has both public and private small airports for the pilots in the area. Hunting for deer, turkey, pheasant, and waterfowl are popular pastimes for many residents of Bon Homme county. The area is a popular location for many out-of-state hunters during the fall seasons especially in the bed and breakfast hunting lodges in and near Springfield called Fin and Feather and the Cogan House.

Bon Homme county also hosts many artists and artisans. The Tyndall Art and Antique Gallery frequently showcases the talents of both adult and student artists as well as carrying on a retail sale of art and antiques. Springfield is known for the work of its talented stone carver, Ron Livingston, as well as the framing, screen printing, and sale of art work by Bison Enterprises.

A wide variety of churches are located in Bon Homme county. They support both child and young adult educational opportunities. Many churches in our communities have women's and men's organizations that are active within each of their communities.

Annual community celebrations are held in each of the towns. Tabor hosts a large celebration of their Czech heritage in mid-June at Czech Days. Springfield has been the place to be for the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration, and Tyndall features "Hot Dog Night" in early June.

Tyndall's Horizon organization has been very active in bringing the Cavalier Corner (a thrift store supplied by local donations) and The Puzzle Pieces Daycare to our community. The Cavalier Corner has made many charitable donations to the community from the revenue its sales generate.

Youth and amateur athletic programs are found in all communities offering soccer, baseball, and softball. All three towns have a swimming pool that is open during the summer months and is a popular location with the children in each community. Both Tyndall and Springfield host swim teams in their communities. Dance and gymnastics classes are available in the nearby towns of Wagner and Yankton.