

## Area dentist provides dental screenings to Wau-Pal preschool to 6th grade students

Written by Wauneta Breeze

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**Dr. Kaitlin Haag (center) performed free dental screenings for approximately 134 W-P preschool through sixth grade students last week. Amanda Chubb (right) compiled the results of the screenings. W-P school nurse, Tammi Simpson (not pictured), will send the results of the screenings home to parents.**

**By Sheri Hink**

**The Wauneta Breeze**

Area dentist, Dr. Kaitlin Haag, performed dental screenings for Wauneta-Palisade's preschool through sixth grade students last week. In total, approximately 134 students received dental screenings.

"I was delighted when Dr. Haag called and offered to perform dental screenings for our students. She's providing a wonderful service for our kids," says W-P School Nurse Tammi Simpson.

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February has been deemed National Children's Dental Health Month by the American Dental Association. So, it was timely that Haag and her staff performed the screenings last week at the Palisade and Wauneta attendance centers.

"I remember receiving dental exams when I was in school so I wanted to offer this service to Wauneta-Palisade students. Plus, I wanted to see the kids - it's fun and a great way to reach out to the community," says Haag.

The screenings, which consisted of a basic exam intended to pinpoint unknown cavities or other dental issues, is not a replacement for a professional dental exam says Haag. She encourages parents to take their children to their regular dentist for a full dental exam.

Haag and her team provided dental hygiene education to W-P students as well. They covered topics such as good brushing habits and good/bad foods for your teeth. After the exams the children were given a sack of educational materials that included a new toothbrush.

Simpson stated that the school is required by law to provide dental screenings to students. The results of the screenings will be shared with parents.

W-P is the first school district where Haag has provided screenings, but she says she would like to offer the service at other area schools as well.

Dr. Haag is a southwest Nebraska native who joined the Southwest Nebraska Dental Center team in 2011. The practice offers dental services from their McCook office and from their Imperial office 4 days per week.

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good dental hygiene and dental benefits (with) speak to their Wau-Pal elementary grade class about