

BUCCANEER BUZZ

7th graders give advice to 6th graders

By Emily Helsper
While brainstorming article ideas, the Buccaneer Buzz decided to interview sixth graders about how they feel about moving up to junior high next year.

We reminisced about our own time as sixth graders, when the school seemed like a huge maze and getting lost felt inevitable.

I interviewed incoming sixth graders about their thoughts on the transitioning in the fall.

The sixth graders laughed as they shared their favorite memories of elementary school. When asked what they were most looking forward to, many mentioned sports and “freedom.”

Personally, I would trade that “freedom” for extra recess and designated snack time.

One student wrote, “I am looking forward to having no lines at the end of classes, because I can’t wait until we can just leave the room.”

Unfortunately, even at the senior level, students still line up, or at least try to slowly sneak out before the bell rings.

When asked about their favorite elementary memories, responses included “the last day of school when I get to leave” and “sleeping in class,” which might sound familiar to some high school students.

Others shared more sentimental memories, such as “drawing a cow with everyone in first grade” and “having such a great time with all the teachers.”

I also asked if they had questions about moving up. Many wondered whether junior high is “hard” or “fun.” Since I am nearing graduation, I decided to bring in current seventh graders to offer advice from a more recent perspective.

After compiling the sixth graders’ questions, I asked seventh graders to respond and share additional advice. Opinions



Photo | Maria Marman

LINCOLN ELEMENTARY 6th graders are pictured after filling out their questionnaires.

were mixed on whether junior high is fun. Some said, “Yes, because you can buy snacks,” and “The days feel faster,” while others said, “No, the work is harder,” or “I guess, it’s fun because there are snacks.” It seems the younger generation is very food-motivated.

Seventh graders also shared advice, ranging from “Get your work done

as quickly as you can” to “Wait until the last day to do your work.” More common suggestions included being respectful to teachers and turning in assignments on time.

One question asked, “What do you do in study hall if you don’t have any work?” Nearly every seventh grader responded, “Play games on your computer ... but secretly.” Unfortunately, their se-

cret may not be so secret anymore.

It was interesting to hear the sixth graders’ thoughts about being in junior high. The experience brought back memories of elementary school, when senior year felt far away.

Now, graduation is just around the corner, but I’ll still play a few computer games along the way.

Insurance ABSTRACTS

Insurance companies doing business in North Dakota are required by law to publish an annual Abstract of Statement indicating the company’s assets, liabilities and the amount of business conducted in the state.

ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025

11523
Wright National Flood Insurance Company
In the state of Texas
Total Assets 48,574,220
Total Liabilities 12,645,263
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus 0
funds
Common Capital Stock 3,500,000
Preferred Capital Stock 0
Aggregate Write-ins for Other Than 0
Special Surplus Funds 0
Surplus Notes 0
Gross Paid in and Contributed Surplus 11,983,176
Unassigned funds 20,445,782 (surplus)
Total Capital and Surplus 35,928,958
Total Liabilities, Capital And Surplus 48,574,220

NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2025

Total Direct Premiums Earned 485,085
Total Direct Losses Incurred -3,041
Total Accident and Health Direct Premiums Earned 0
Total Accident and Health Direct Losses Incurred 0

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

I, Jon Godfread, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true Abstract of Statement, as officially filed by the Company in this office.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of this office at Bismarck, the first day of March, A.D. 2026 (SEAL).
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE COMPANY’S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the above corporation duly organized under the laws of its state or country of domicile, has filed in this office a sworn statement exhibiting its condition and business for the year ending December 31, 2025 conformable to the requirements of the laws of this State regarding the business of insurance and WHEREAS, the said company has filed in this office a duly certified copy of its charter with certificate of organization in compliance with the requirements of insurance law aforesaid, NOW THEREFORE, I, JON GODFREAD, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named company is fully empowered through its authorized agents and representatives, to transact its appropriated business of authorized insurance in the state according to the laws thereof, until the 30th day of April, A.D. 2027.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Bismarck this first day of March, A.D., 2026 (SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
(Published April 30, May 7 & 14, 2026)

ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025

86509
Voya Retirement Insurance And Annuity C
In the state of Connecticut
Total Assets 146059694218
Total Liabilities 143909683338
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus 61425120
funds
Common Capital Stock 2750000
Preferred Capital Stock 0
Aggregate Write-ins for Other Than 0
Special Surplus Funds 0
Surplus Notes 0
Gross Paid in and Contributed Surplus 1476055383
Unassigned Funds 809780377
Total Capital and Surplus 2150010880
Total Liabilities, Capital And Surplus 146059694218

NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2025

Total Life and Annuity Premiums Written 16108764
Total Life and Annuity Direct Losses Paid 533331
Total Accident and Health Direct Premiums Written 0
Total Accident and Health Direct Losses Paid 0

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ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025

39845
Westport Insurance Corporation
In the state of Missouri
Total Assets 753,654,377
Total Liabilities 650,000,605
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus 0
funds
Common Capital Stock 6,345,000
Preferred Capital Stock 0
Aggregate Write-ins for Other Than 0
Special Surplus Funds 0
Surplus Notes 0
Gross Paid in and Contributed Surplus 99,481,815
Unassigned funds (2,173,043) (surplus)
Total Capital and Surplus 103,653,772
Total Liabilities, Capital And Surplus 753,654,377

NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2025

Total Direct Premiums Earned 0
Total Direct Losses Incurred 898,573
Total Accident and Health Direct Premiums Earned 0
Total Accident and Health Direct Losses Incurred 0

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ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025

21172
Vanliner Insurance Company
In the state of Ohio
Total Assets 390605691
Total Liabilities 185547285
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus 0
funds
Common Capital Stock 3000000
Preferred Capital Stock 0
Aggregate Write-ins for Other Than 0
Special Surplus Funds 0
Surplus Notes 0
Gross Paid in and Contributed Surplus 4217173
Unassigned funds 197841233 (surplus)
Total Capital and Surplus 205058406
Total Liabilities, Capital And Surplus 390605691

NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2025

Total Direct Premiums Earned 598840
Total Direct Losses Incurred 128078
Total Accident and Health Direct Premiums Earned 0
Total Accident and Health Direct Losses Incurred 0

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ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025

87645
United Fidelity Life Insurance Company
In the state of Texas
Total Assets 1,129,815,645
Total Liabilities 205,873,337
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus 6,205,025
funds
Common Capital Stock 4,000,000
Preferred Capital Stock 0
Aggregate Write-ins for Other Than 0
Special Surplus Funds 281,085,754
Surplus Notes 0
Gross Paid in and Contributed Surplus 187,139,670
Unassigned Funds 445,511,859
Total Capital and Surplus 923,942,308
Total Liabilities, Capital And Surplus 1,129,815,645

NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2025

Total Life and Annuity Premiums Written 2,855
Total Life and Annuity Direct Losses Paid 11,033
Total Accident and Health Direct Premiums Written 0
Total Accident and Health Direct Losses Paid 0

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ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025

80055
Wysch Life And Health Insurance Company
In the state of Wisconsin
Total Assets 21,983,772
Total Liabilities 9,082,272
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus 202,838
funds
Common Capital Stock 2,500,000
Preferred Capital Stock 0
Aggregate Write-ins for Other Than 0
Special Surplus Funds 0
Surplus Notes 0
Gross Paid in and Contributed Surplus 80,003,359
Unassigned Funds (69,804,697)
Total Capital and Surplus 12,901,500
Total Liabilities, Capital And Surplus 21,983,772

NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2025

Total Life and Annuity Premiums Written 5352
Total Life and Annuity Direct Losses Paid 0
Total Accident and Health Direct Premiums Written 0
Total Accident and Health Direct Losses Paid 0

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