

Important Dates:

Sept. 2: No School Due to Labor Day

Sept. 6: Grandparents Day

Sept. 13: Picture Day

Sept. 17: Midterm

Sept. 19: School Board Meeting 7 p.m.

Sept. 20: 12:30 Dismissal

What's Happening

DC Elementary Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2019

WELCOME
BACK
to
School

On behalf of the faculty and staff of Dallas City Elementary School, I welcome you to the 2019-2020 school year. This year is bound to be one of the best yet! Please reach out to one of us! We are eager to assist you in providing a quality education.

New to DCE

If you have visited DCE lately, you have probably noticed the new solar panels that are being installed along Disco Road. The solar panels will provide the energy needed to power our school building. We will also be installing solar panels to the roof of the bus barn to provide electricity to our barn. This is a great opportunity for our school. Mohrfeld Electric helped us to secure investors to pay for the cost of the panels and installation. We then will pay the investors for our energy costs for the next several years. The great part of this arrangement is our electrical costs will be locked in at the current rates and after the determined period of time, we will own the solar panels and system. This is a cost savings measure approved by our school board. Please be sure to thank them for helping our school be energy and cost efficient!



Walking Path

The next time you are at the school, please check out our new walking path. The walking path goes from the north end of the drive around the ball diamonds, along the back fence, around the solar panels and ends up at the school drive from Disco Road. The walking path is open to all students, parents and community members that want a place to walk safely.

Attendance Policy

The attendance policy this year has a MAJOR change you need to be aware of. Students will be permitted 3 personal illness days per semester. That means parents can call their child in sick 3 times from August to December and 3 times from January to May. Read on for information from our student handbook (page 16) regarding this policy.



Parents/Guardians hold the key to good attendance. The student who is permitted to miss school for anything other than a legitimate reason is often the one who soon loses interest in school and becomes a potential dropout. Parents and students should be aware that there is no way the actual classroom experience can be recreated. Regular punctual patterns of attendance are expected of each student enrolled at Dallas City Elementary School. Absences and tardiness are to be kept at a minimum. Regular school attendance is vital to a student's success in school. After an absence, the student must assume responsibility for seeking out and completing his/her assignments. There are two types of absences: excused and unexcused. The school may require documentation explaining the reason for the student's absence to determine an absence being counted as excused or unexcused. Excused absences include:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Illness | medical appointment |
| observance of a religious holiday | death in the immediate family |
| family emergency | situations beyond the control of the student |
| attending a military honors funeral to sound TAPS | |
| circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the guardian for the student's safety or health | |
| other reason as approved by the principal | |

---All other absences are considered unexcused---

Students will be permitted 3 personal illness days per semester. After 3 days of illness, a doctor's excuse will be required to be considered excused. In the event of any absence, the student's parent or guardian is required to call the school at 217-852-3201 before 9:00 a.m. to explain the reason for the absence.



Check Out the NEW Water Cooler/Drinking Fountain

In an effort to help our students stay hydrated while at school, we have installed a new drinking fountain. The drinking fountain is equipped with a faucet that allows users to fill up a cup or bottle. All of the water that goes through the new drinking fountain is cooled and filtered.

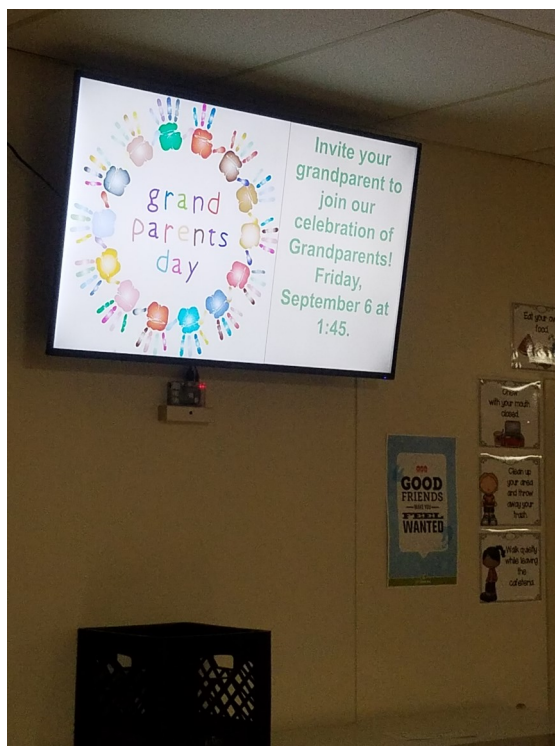
Students may bring a water bottle to use during the school day. Water bottles must be CLEAR with a lid. The water bottles must come to school EMPTY and go home EMPTY. Students are responsible for taking their water bottles home for cleaning. Students will be given an opportunity during the school day to fill up water bottles.

Techy Display in the Cafeteria

Our Dallas City Elementary PTO sponsored the purchase of a television and mini computer called a Raspberry Pi for our cafeteria. The television is set up to be a digital display sharing information in our school cafeteria.

The techy display, is run by the Raspberry Pi that is on a shelf below the television. Our student leaders will be preparing the slide show to tell about upcoming events and to honor students and student groups.

A BIG thank you goes out to our PTO for making this dream a reality!



Please note, Grandparent's Day is FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6. We apologize for the confusion with an incorrect date printed in the August Newsletter.



Celebrating Grandparents

The DCE Celebration of Grandparents will be held Friday, September 6 from 1:45 until the end of the day. Grandparents are invited to visit classrooms and have light refreshments baked by our amazing cafeteria staff. Students are welcome to go home with grandparents following the visit as long as we have a note or phone call to give permission for a change in the "going home" routine.

DCE Grandparent's Celebration
Friday, September 6
At 1:45