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Danville Hawkes Soar for Success !

Newsletter - September 2013

Principal News

Dear Danville Families,

Once again I would like to welcome you back to school! We are looking forward to a year of learning and student growth. Our teachers are implementing Common Core State Standards as guidelines for instruction. The standards define what all students are expected to know and be able to do at each grade level. While there is no one best way to instruct students, teachers will use their creativity to match curriculum with student learning styles. The Timberlane School District will continue to offer professional learning activities for all staff as we begin this important work.

The mission of Danville Elementary School is to provide students with a foundation in basic skills, to provide an introduction to the arts, to promote a positive work ethic, to create an environment that nurtures an atmosphere of tolerance and respect for each other, and to inspire an attitude of inquiry and enthusiasm for learning that will enable our children to become productive, responsible citizens. To that end, we will continue our school wide system of positive behavioral supports. The entire staff is committed to teaching behaviors that align with our core values of Respect, Responsibility, and Pride. The framework from which our work originates promotes effective practices to benefit all children socially and academically.

Danville School welcomes Ms. Rebecca Gianforte, teacher for children with Autism. Ms. Gianforte has taught students with disabilities at both elementary and high school level within the Timberlane School District. She has also taught in the District's extended year program for the past several years. Miss Jessica Helie is also a welcomed addition to our staff! Miss Helie is our strings teacher and will be in Danville on Tuesday for instrument lessons. Miss Helie joins us with experience as a private viola and violin instructor. She is a member of a chamber orchestra, a symphony, and has taught high school, college, and elementary students. Mrs. Blais is a familiar face teaching in a different grade! Mrs. Blais is happy to be teaching second graders getting them prepared for third grade curriculum that she knows so well. Miss Sarah Dawson is back in a new role as a Title One Tutor. Miss Dawson was a long-term substitute teacher at Danville School last year. We feel fortunate to attract true professionals committed to their calling. Introduce yourselves to our new staff when you are visiting the school.

You are receiving a copy of the school newsletter in Danville Delivery today. In the future, it will be posted to the Danville School website on the first Wednesday of each month. If you do not have access to the website or prefer to have a copy sent to you, please let Mrs. Berube in the main office know. Best wishes to all for a successful and productive school year. Educating children is hard work. We appreciate all you have done for your children as their first teachers. Let us continue the good work you have started.

Kind Regards,
Nancy Barcelos

Assistant Principal News

Welcome back to what should be a great year. Much is planned to make student learning successful for all students. As mentioned in many informational pieces, the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) continue to make their way into all that we do instructionally. The standards raise the bar on student expectations and require that students demonstrate their knowledge through direct performance based assessments. Thus authentic responses in reading, mathematics and writing will all be developed over time. Students will be asked to show that they have truly learned the skills necessary through their original work and creativity. Watch for additional information as the school year ensues.

On a personal note, it is wonderful to be back at Danville Elementary School with your terrific children, the dedicated staff, and to be once again part of the administrative team with Mrs. Barcelos. Danville Elementary School is truly a special place.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns (ext. 5302) as the year progresses.

W. J. Pimley
Assistant Principal

Nurses Notes

The Importance of Sleep

When children don't get enough sleep, they can't concentrate on their schoolwork, they have trouble remembering things, they become irritable and fidgety, and they become vulnerable to colds and flu. Here are some important things you can do to ensure that your child gets enough sleep every night of the week, including weekends:

- **Make time.** Don't allow their lives to get so full of sports, hobbies, and other activities that they can't get everything done without shorting themselves on sleep.
- **Set a regular time for bed each night and stick to it.** Saying "good night" at the same time each night will ensure a good night's sleep. The human body functions best on a regular timetable.
- **Be firm about your chosen bedtime.** Make sure that they understand that complaining about bedtime isn't going to get them anywhere. Alert your child a half hour before bedtime and then remind them again 10 minutes beforehand.

- **Empower your child.** Let him pick out his own pajamas to wear, stuffed animal to take to bed, etc.
- **Establish a relaxing bedtime routine,** such as a warm bath, playing soothing music, or reading a book. Reading is a great way to help children drift into sleep.
- **Beware of caffeine.** Avoid giving children anything with caffeine. Caffeine is a stimulant that can affect sleep.
- **Create a cozy sleep environment.** Keep your child's room cool, quiet, and dark (a nightlight is OK).

It's hard enough for children to get by with too little sleep for one or two nights, but it's even harder when sleep deprivation becomes a nightly habit - that's because the effect accumulates. Look at it this way, the more sleep your child gets, the more sleep you get!

News from the School Counselor

Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance

Did you know?

- Too many absences can cause children to fall behind
- Missing as little as 5% of the school year puts a child at risk for academic difficulties
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance
- Absences can impact the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help the absent child catch up.

What parents can do:

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine. Lay out clothes and backpacks the night before.
- Be sure to know the start time for school.
- Don't let your child stay home unless he/she is truly sick. Students must stay home if they have a fever, but sniffles alone can be managed at school.
- If your child seems to be anxious about school talk to their teacher and please call me at extension 5310 to discuss how we can make them feel comfortable and excited about their learning.
- To the extent possible, schedule appointments for a time that is the least disruptive to the school day.
- Avoid extended trips when school is in session

Remember that your child's school success goes hand-in-hand with good school attendance.

Louise Janelle, School Counselor

Physical Education

Hello Everyone!

It is a new year and a new beginning for Danville P.E. class! First off, I want to say thank you to all of the parents who offered kinds words to me as I was recovering from my knee surgery last March. I am just about back to normal these days and really look forward to being back to my old self again! I am excited to get back to participating right along with my students in my class this year as well. We are starting off the year with welcome back activities and tag games for the first few weeks. As we move toward the end of September, we will be starting our soccer unit. The plan is to give the students as much movement time, per class, that I can. I always wish I could see them for more than 45 minutes a week! I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer and I look forward to the 2013-14 school year! As always, if you have any comments or questions, feel free to email me and I will get back to you as soon as I can! I hope this note finds you happy and active!

-Patrick Ard

Danville P.E.

Patrick.Ard@timberlane.net



From the Danville Library Media Center

Respect + Responsibility = Pride

Dear Parents,

The Danville School Library Media Center has been busy preparing for the school year. It is so exciting to see young children exploring the library and older students looking for favorite titles and authors. The Danville Library Media Center has wonderful resources that your child will be able to take advantage of throughout the year. This week, your child will spend some quality time in the library. During this time, we will discuss proper behavior and book care. I hope the library is a place that your child visits frequently. The library is everyone's classroom and is accessible for all students and families of the Danville community. Please stop in and visit any time.

The Media Center operates on a flexible schedule. This enables maximum access for all staff and students. Students are welcome to come to the library any time for circulation, recreational reading and research with the classroom teacher. The goal of the library program is to create lifelong learners who are efficient and enthusiastic consumers of information.

First graders and kindergarteners will be able to visit the library once a week to check out a book. All resources are due back in one week. They are welcome to exchange or renew their selection during the week with teacher permission. Please read and enjoy the stories with your child. *Reading aloud with children is one of the best ways to develop their language skills and foster a lifelong love of literature.*

The rules of proper book care will be reviewed. Please help you child find a safe place at home to keep the resources they have checked out of the library. It is the policy of the Timberlane Regional School District to charge students the replacement cost of lost or damaged library materials.

Thank you and we look forward to helping your child take full advantage of our library resources this year. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 382-5554.

Mrs. Beth Kisiel, LMS

Mrs. Gail Murphy, LA

"Read to them before the time, before the chance, is gone." Steven L. Layne

Music Note

Music Note

Mrs. Cook

Welcome back!

Band: Mark your calendars!

- December 18th 7pm Danville Concert
- March 24th & 25th Rehearsal & Concert for all 5th grade band students
- April 16th Concert for all 4th grade AND 1st year 5th grade band students

All About Art!

Hello Family and Friends of Danville!

I am Mrs. Rice the Art teacher at Danville Elementary School. I am looking forward to a fantastic year! Throughout the year, we will look at and talk about various artists, major works of art, styles of art, and create our own masterpieces using the elements and principles of design. Only some artwork will be sent home throughout the year. This way, the students have a variety of artwork to choose from for their very special art piece that will be in the Art Show that takes place in April sometime. Remember that art can be very messy so be sure not to have your child dressed in their very best

on the day they have art. I am in need of some supplies for the upcoming art projects. If you would like to donate some of these items, please drop them off at the front office labeled "Art room" and I will pick them up.

I need...

- ✓ Paper towel tubes
- ✓ Newspapers
- ✓ Small pieces of wood-square/rectangles no bigger than 6"x12"

Please take a moment to read this information:

Importance of the Visual Arts in Education

Today more than ever the arts are needed by our young learners as an opportunity for **safe expression, communication, exploration, imagination, and cultural and historical understanding.**

Below are a list of reasons why the visual arts are so important at each grade level:

1. **Brain research confirms** that Arts education **strengthens student problem-solving and critical thinking skills**, adding to overall academic achievement, school success, and preparation for the work world.
2. Art classes provide students a chance to **develop cognitive and creative skills**, and to **develop their imaginations.**
3. For some students Art is their **motivation for coming to school** and an area where they have success or excel, providing an important balance in their total educational experience.
4. The arts **teach** our students to **be more tolerant and open through multicultural and historical perspectives** and through their **involvement in the creative process** itself.
5. Due to the collaborative nature of art, **students develop crucial skills in cooperative decision-making, leadership, clear communication, and complex problem solving while working with others.**
6. Regular participation in the arts **develops self-confidence, self-discipline, persistence, and the knowledge of how to make multiple revisions to create high quality work.**
7. The **skills and experience that students develop by learning to perform, create, and respond to works of art** provides a foundation for the kinds of literacy students must have to **communicate and work successfully** in our ever-changing media, technology, and information age.
8. Art Education supports not only the adolescent's intellectual and educational development but also their **personal and social development.**
9. Arts education helps develop a **positive work ethic, flexibility, and pride** in a job well done.

Thank you for your support in the Visual Arts!! Feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns:

Jennifer.rice@timberlane.net

603-382-5554 x5307

Greetings from the Reading Room

Title One (Mrs. Doherty, Mrs. Farrell, and Ms. Dawson) and the Literacy Specialist (Mrs. Rockwell) are newly housed in Room 226 at extension 5334. Ms. Dawson is our new Title One Tutor. Some of you may remember when Ms. Dawson substituted for Mrs. Newman last year.

Title One, a federally funded program, will be servicing reading and math this year. Title One Parents will receive a monthly publication with practical ideas for parents to help their children. If anyone has any questions regarding Title One, please contact one of the Title One teachers. Information regarding a Title One Open House will be forthcoming.

Mrs. Rockwell will be working with students in all grades as determined by teachers at each grade level. "Building Readers" is an online publication that has book recommendations and activities. Please check it out.

The Reading Room will again be collecting Box Tops! Send them in as soon as you can.