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Danville Hawkes Soar for Success !

Newsletter - September 2014

Principal News

Dear Danville Families,

I wish you all a Happy New Year! This is the time of year I look forward to the most. It is a joy to welcome our students back to school and to meet new friends. Students in all grades are encouraged to practice skills taught at school during free time at home. At Danville School our goal is to develop lifelong, independent learners. We want to develop an imagination, a love of reading, and capacity for developing critical thinking. We are excited to expand our early primary class opportunities by offering a full day Renaissance Kindergarten Program. Our youngsters will be learning Spanish through the Foreign Language in Elementary Schools (FLES) program. Our hope is to add the FLES program to a grade each year. When students enter middle School they will be prepared to study a second language.

School hours have been slightly adjusted to 8:30-3:10. If your child is not here by 8:30, he/she will be marked tardy. Please make every effort to have your child on time for school. It is very challenging to be tardy and try to catch up to others. You cannot learn if you are not in school.

Our student's safety and security are of utmost importance to all of us. Please remember some key points:

- Please do not drop your child off until 8:20, as we cannot provide adult supervision until that time.
- Everyone needs to sign in at the front entrance and have a badge when they are in our building.
- If your child is going to change transportation arrangements or adjust who they are riding with you must send in a note. If we do not recognize the person picking your child up, we will ask for identification. We are sticklers for safety.

We welcome Mrs. Goodman as our school nurse, Mrs. Salemi, school counselor and Ms. Dranka, Pre K teacher to our school. Mrs. Harmon is our new Title One Tutor. All are experienced in their field and bring their skill and enthusiasm to Danville. Stop by and introduce yourself when you are at school. Mrs. (Therault) Gantz has a new position as the ASD teacher.

The mission of the 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.

The Hawke is our mascot. Our core values are Respect, Responsibility, and Pride (R+R=P). Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a program we will continue to use to promote and maximize academic achievement and behavioral competence. It is school-wide strategies for helping all students achieve important social and learning goals. We know that when good behavior and good teaching come together, our students will excel in their learning.

Whitson's Food Service continues to service our cafeteria. They have raised the prices on lunches for students and adults. Breakfast is \$1.50, student lunches are \$2.25, and adult lunches are \$3.75. Milk remains the same at \$.50. Meal Assistance Program is federally funded and provides a lunch at a free or reduced cost to you. This is a lunch program not a milk program. If you choose to send a lunch from home you must either pay for a milk or send a drink with your child's lunch. There are eligibility forms for free and reduced meals if you believe you qualify on the school website. This information goes directly to the Superintendent's office and is confidential. You can set up a lunch account for your child at MySchoolBucks.com.

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. Here's hoping memories of sunny beach days continue to fill your memory bank as we begin our journey on a new school year.

Kind Regards,

Nancy Barcelos, M.Ed.

Assistant Principal News

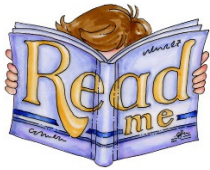
The new school year has gotten off to a great start. Students have been quickly engaged and show interest in all the instruction that the teachers are providing. Students are displaying respect and responsibility at all grade levels.

Students will participate in STAR Assessment testing early in the school year. Star Assessments will allow for teachers and administration to gather information regarding skill proficiency in math and reading areas. The information gained will allow teachers and our data teams to fine tune the skills taught during tiered instruction periods. STAR Assessments will be administered at the beginning, middle and end of the year for the majority of students. Additional testing times may be added for students for whom more current data is needed.

A focus area for teachers this year will be additional training for Guided Reading. Using the knowledge gained through assessments, teachers will be able to work with students using high quality literature that is specifically developed to focus on a reading skill in need of improvement or enhancement. Teachers will be involved in training throughout the school year in order to update instructional practices with Guided Reading.

Thanks to all for the wonderful turn out at our Open House. It was a wonderful way to begin the new school year. Enjoy the remainder of the good weather!

William Pimley
Assistant Principal



Danville School Library Media Center
Respect + Responsibility = Pride

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back! We hope you had the opportunity to spend some quality time with friends and family, enjoying the long warm days of summer.

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 has wonderful resources that your child will be able to take advantage of throughout the year. Next week, your child will spend some quality time in the library. During this time, we will discuss proper library behavior and book care. We 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 the HUB of our school, 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.

All Students are able to visit the library once a week to check out a book. All resources are due back in two weeks. At this time, students may renew their selection, or choose something new. Please read and enjoy 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 your 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. Please help them to become responsible for the materials they check out.

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, ext. 5340

Mrs. Beth Kisiel, LMS
Mrs. Gail Murphy, LA

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

Counselor Corner

Welcome Back Danville School Family and Friends!

Hello and welcome to the first 2014-2015 Counselor Corner! My name is Elissa Salemi and I am Danville School's new school counselor. I have worked in the district for the past six years and am very excited for a wonderful year at Danville School! This section of the newsletter will focus on ways that children, their caretakers, and the school can work together to promote social and academic success in the lives of Danville students. It is here where I will post updates, helpful tips, and information regarding the guidance curriculum.

As we begin the 2014-2015 school year, it is important to learn about all of the new things happening in your child's classroom and school. In the past, I have heard parents say that it's often difficult to find out about their children's school day. I hope the information below will help you learn more about your child's day with us and for your child to gain practice in conversational skills.



Tip: Finding out about your child's day at school

Sometimes getting more than a one-word answer about your child's school day can be frustrating. Remember, asking questions that only require one-word answers will produce just that. In order to encourage your child to give you more information, ask more situation specific questions. Here are some conversation starters, which might help:

"What did you do on the playground today? Whom did you play with?"

"Tell me the best part of the story your teacher read today."

"What was interesting about show and tell today?"

Start a story with your child about school and let him/her fill in the blanks. For example, you can begin with: "Today I went to school and sat next to _____. Then we opened our backpacks and _____. At lunch I sat next to _____ and played _____ at recess." Continue until you are satisfied that you heard more than your child would normally volunteer.

Ask your child, "Is this a good time to talk about school?" Your child has been working hard all day and may need time to unwind before entering into a conversation about school. Family dinnertime is often a good time to talk about the day. One fun way of initiating conversation at dinnertime is to have each family member talk about his/her "highs and lows" for the day. In other words, what were the best part and the hardest part of the day? From time to time you might hear information that may concern you. It is then you might want to ask, "Are you sure?" Check out information with the teacher rather than express worries or fears or call the school counselor.

Remember, conversation is a skill children need to acquire. Learning to begin with a greeting, ask questions, make eye contact, use appropriate body language and close with an ending are all components of a good conversation which can be effectively modeled by parents.

Please let me know if you have any questions about these suggestions or any part of the guidance program. I look forward to meeting and working with you and your children. Please contact me at any time!

Elissa Salemi
School Counselor
elissa.salemi@timberlane.net / 382-5554 x5310.

"They may forget what you said, but they will never forget how you made them feel." -Anonymous"

Music Note

From Mrs. Cook

Welcome back!

Band: Mark your calendars!

January 16th 7pm Holiday concert including both 4th and 5th grade students.

March 30th and 31st Concert for all 5th grade band students.

April 15th Concert for all 4th grade AND 1st year 5th grade band students.

More information will be sent home as the dates approach.

Physical Education

Hello Everyone!

It is a new year and a new beginning for Danville P.E. class! 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 2014-15 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