

Dunsmuir Dragon's Weekly Parent email

November 23, 2022

Student Attendance — Is your child going to be absent??

Email Dunsmuir Email Account at dunsmuir@sd62.bc.ca and we also ask that you email the teacher(s) - If your child is going to be absent, late or signing out early.

Please do not call in your attendance.

Please include your child's first and last name, teacher's name and reason for absence.



Upcoming Dates:

- ⇒ Mon-Thurs, November 21-23rd—Scholastic Book Fair (students only during school time)
- ⇒ Thursday, November 24th—Craft Fair and Bake Sale, 1-8:00pm (parents/families)
- ⇒ Thursday, November 24th—Early Dismissal (3 hours) at 12:10pm
- ⇒ Friday, November 25th—Non -Instructional day
- ⇒ Friday, December 2nd—First term ends
- ⇒ Thursday, December 8th—Purdy's pick up orders
- ⇒ Tuesday, December 13th— Winter Concert, 7-8 pm

As I often mention to our students, involvement is key to make the three years at Dunsmuir successful. Whichever activity or talent that your child has, he or she wants to know that you care about their abilities. Set expectations high—but be realistic. It is always a good idea to weave those expectations in everyday conversations. Be specific as to what you mean. For example, if you want your child to do well in a Math test, remember to ask about it. How did it go? Were there any questions that you had trouble with? These little strategies help open the lines of communication around success.

LOST & FOUND

Please take a moment during the parent-teacher interviews to look for missing items of clothing located in the lost and found at the front of the school by the vending machines.

VISITORS TO OUR SCHOOL

Safety of our students is of utmost importance to us at Dunsmuir Middle School. We have noticed an increase of adults visiting our school and in most cases parents or grandparents are bringing students lunches, homework, uniforms, etc. Thank you very much for doing this! As a gentle reminder, please check in at the office, and we will be more than willing to call the student down from class or deliver the item to the student. If you need to talk to your child, we will have them called down to the office. This will help us keep our hallways clear and our school safe and secure. Thank you!

COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING

Student progress reports for teachers using MyEd will be available on the parent portal of MYED on December 9th by 3pm for full year courses including Language Arts, Social Studies, Math, etc. Points of progress from ADST teachers are currently available on the parent portal as well. Other teachers not using MYEd to provide
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learning updates would have previously communicated their points of progress to parents already. Term 2 for full year courses begins on December 5 and Term 2 began for ADST courses on November 14.

It is important for all students to reflect upon successes and have a focus on next steps in regards to both learning and effort. It is important for parents/guardians and students to realize the report card marks take into account "most recent evidence" of learning, meaning concepts that students may have struggled with early in the year, but can be demonstrated later, are taken into account. Put simply, new learning counts.

As we head into Term 2 for our full year courses, it is recommended to consider having conversations with your child(ren) about remaining focused on their learning. Kindly help remind them to submit assignments – sometimes this simple step helps reduce anxiety and further helps your child(ren) overcome other obstacles and challenges.

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES

Parents are reminded to bring your child(ren) to the student led conferences tomorrow night. Note that these are different than the older format parent-teacher conferences. Traditional parent teacher conferences provide parents/guardians with updates on their child's progress and opportunities to see their child's work. They also open communication between school and home. However, students often are passive, or even absent, during these traditional parent-teacher conferences. In student led conferences, the students are responsible for their own work, progress and successes, and share their reflections on achievements and challenges. In the student-led conference format, students and teachers prepare together, and then students lead the conference while teachers facilitate.

PIZZA

Provided by MyChosen Pizza: Pepperoni, Hawaiian, Cheese or Vegetarian. 1 slice for \$3.50 or 2 slices for \$6.75.

Pizza will be pre-ordered each week through School Cash Online.

School Cash Online is open now and will close on Wednesday morning at 8am.

Pizza_5_Dec. 2nd

Pizza_6_Dec. 9th

Pizza_7_Dec. 16th

There are no refunds for unclaimed pizzas.

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CURRENT NEWS —CONT'D

CRAFT FAIR

Tomorrow is our holiday Craft Fair. From 5:00-8:30 pm come support our student and community vendors. It's bound to be a good time!

PURDY'S

Thank you to everyone who supported the Purdy's Chocolate Fundraiser – we sold \$4000 worth of chocolate; hopefully you know a good dentist! Orders will be available to pick up after school in the Library Learning Commons on Thursday December 8 from 3:30-5:00 pm. Mr. Duque-Park will communicate out once the orders arrive and are sorted.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

A reminder that tomorrow (Thursday Nov 24) the book fair will be open from 1-8pm (closed for a break from 4:30 to 5:30 pm).

Dunsmuir Values Survey Closes November 24 @ 4:00 pm- please complete the survey attached as we review and perhaps adjust our Dunsmuir Values to best reflect our current school community. We will engage the students in conversations and dialogue around this at school. The survey attached is intended to involve and include parent feedback through this process. Thank you in advance. Click link here: <https://forms.gle/Z6k9UvrQvNWLt8tB9>

Thank you to the families who have been able to provide their feedback.

Affordability Fund–

Foods/Band online fee refunds were processed this week. For Communication from last week, go to Parents; [Community](#) page for details about the affordability fund. If you know DMS families that should be aware of this, but may not receive or be able to access this information, please inform them of this opportunity and do not hesitate to reach out to the school.

Mr. Kaercher on Medical Leave- Mr. Kaercher will be on a medical leave beginning on November 19- during his absence, Mr. Smyth will fill in as the acting principal. Please contact Mr. Smyth at csmyth@sd62.bc.ca should the need arise. Mr. Kaercher is expected back following winter break. Mr. Clegg will be the acting vice principal during this time along with vice principal, Ms. Mckean.

PREVIOUS NEWS—BELOW

Student Led Conferences Reminder- November 24- see last weeks memo for more information. On this day, students are dismissed at 12:10.

Thank you, Mark

PARENT PORTAL - QUARTER 1 APPLIED DESIGN SKILLS AND TECHNOLOGY POINTS OF PROGRESS

Will be posted to the Parent Portal by Monday Nov 21st. To view your students Points Of Progress, please login to the Parent Portal Account. If you have not activated the account, please email dunsmuir@sd62.bc.ca with your name/students name and a login ID and Temporary Password will be emailed to you.

PARENT PORTAL?

Parents who have not accessed their parent portal account, may ask 'why do I need to activate my account and what can I access with this?'

There are several reasons to activate your account:

1. View your child's attendance
2. View your child's Report Cards as ADST report cards are posted on the parent portal only...No paper copies sent home.
3. View Parent contact information-phone/address/email address'
4. View the current emergency contacts that the school has in the system.
If your information needs to be updated, you can email dunsmuir@sd62.bc.ca with the correct info.