OCTOBER 2024 ISSUE 2

# DUNDEE DISPATCH



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF DUNDEE ELEMENTARY
PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION



The 2024-2025 Student Council Members

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Twenty-five students and family members joined in the fun to clean up the school grounds

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Oct. 2: National Walk to School Day & PTO

Meeting

Oct. 4: No School

Oct. 10: Dundee Panera Night

Oct. 11: Fall Festival

Oct. 12: Campus Clean-up

Oct. 17: Book Fair Starts & Conferences

Oct. 22: Picture Day; Book Fair Ends;

Conferences

Oct. 24-25: No School

Oct. 31: Classroom Halloween Parties

See all upcoming events at

www.DundeePTO.org

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## A NOTE FROM THE PTO **PRESIDENTS**



We're excited that fall has arrived! Join us in the library on Wednesday, October 2 at 6:30 pm for our next PTO meeting. Topics will include:

- What PTO events are coming up? How can I be involved?
- What is the OPS Parent Infinite Campus Portal? How do I login?
- What's new? We'll hear updates from Ms. Kennedy, principal, and Ms. Storm, school counselor

Free childcare is available in the cafeteria. If you have ideas for future speakers or information you would like to learn more about, please let us know.

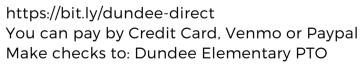
### **Dundee Direct Update**

Thank you, Dundee families, neighbors, and local businesses, for making Dundee Direct a success! Our goal is \$30,000. So far, we had reached \$25,751 and more donations are expected to come in this week. If you didn't get a chance to donate, you still can by scanning the QR code or clicking on the link or by sending your donation to the school.



A special thanks to Lauren Simpson for helping lead our efforts and so many volunteers for jumping in to help with events. Did you know, TJ Weiss, a parent of Dundee students, even promised to shave his beard if we met our goal!







### **Enrichment Clubs Underway**

Did you know that PTO helps support Enrichment Clubs? Students in first through sixth grades started in clubs this month including invention club, Lego challenge, loom band, fishing and sports club. There's something for everyone! Thank you to all the staff and parents that are leading the clubs! If you are interested in leading a club or have an idea, we'd love to hear it!



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### A NOTE FROM THE PTO PRESIDENTS

### **Upcoming Events**

We have a lot of fun events coming up and we need your help. If you can volunteer for any of these events, please join our Membership Toolkit at DundeePTO.org to sign up or email us at <a href="mailto:DundeePTO@gmail.com">DundeePTO@gmail.com</a>. Most opportunities are for just 30 min to an hour of your time . Sign up for what works for you!

**Grounds Beautification:** Shout out to Althea McMickell for leading a group of 25 volunteers to clean up the grounds in September. The area surrounding the blacktop looks amazing! The next campus clean-up will be October 12 from 10 am-12 pm. You can sign up (or just stop by) to help with planting, edging the front garden beds and other projects.

**Fall Festival:** Get ready for some fun! The Fall Festival is Friday, October 11 and entry is free! This year's festival will feature:

- "Are you better at corn hole than a teacher?" Jump in line to find out!
- Book Cart bring a book to share, and take a new one home
- Photo booth take a fun picture with a friend or your family
- DJ get your dance moves on!
- Crafts make a personalized bookmark
- Face painting & temporary tattoos
- The Pancake Man (\$5/plate)

**Parent-Teacher Conferences:** PTO is happy to provide meals to the teachers during the upcoming conferences (shout out to Ashley Aubry for organizing) on October 17 and 22. Conferences usually last about 15 minutes. It can be helpful to think about a few questions you would like to ask. Here are some ideas of questions to ask your child's teacher:

- What are my child's strengths/things that they are good at?
- What are some examples of work my child is doing this year?
- How is my child getting along with other students?
- What can I do at home to support my child?

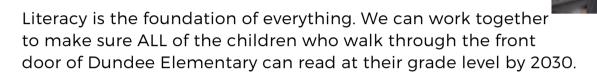
**Scholastic Book Fair:** Reading together at home is a great way to boost literacy skills. Mark your calendar to stop by the book fair from October 17 - 22. Older students often like to help with the book fair and are welcome to if an adult family member is volunteering too. Thank you Megan Hepburn for coordinating the Book Fair!

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

The 24-25 school year began with our new superintendent, Mr. Matt Ray, launching our moonshot for the Omaha Public Schools: All students will read on grade-level by 2030.



A few simple things you can do to help your child with literacy:

- Talk to your kids (a lot) reading is a language activity, and if you want to learn language, you need hear it.
- Read to your kids, with your kids, or set some time for older kids to read by themselves. Books, newspapers, magazines, online articles ... whatever they love to read is great.
- Ask questions! Who is the story about? What is happening? Where does the story take place? What character do you like? Etc.
- Talk about interesting words and the meaning of them.
- Make time for literacy every day.

Thank you so much for encouraging your child to read every day. Together, we can and will meet our goal!

With much care.

Kaye Kennedy Principal Dundee Elementary

Learning is a Journey that Never Ends

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### **COUNSELOR'S CORNER**



Hello families

Thank you so much for sending happy and **National** healthy children to school each day. I love Research shows that students with every scholar that comes through the greater breakfast line each day. We are working hard on continuing our learning of the Zones of Regulation. The zones are a way bystanders. While school counselors can to help people understand their feelings be leaders in bullying prevention efforts, and how to manage them. No zone is 'bad' it is important to remember that it is a or 'good' and we all experience them at shared commitment between school one time or another. The goal is to regulate staff and parents. ourselves back to the Green Zone when we need to regain control. Please take some We will again celebrate Red Ribbon time to ask your students about the Zones Week at the end of October. This is a of Regulation and work with them to time when we celebrate healthy, drugpractice some coping skills and strategies for each zone, to help them feel regulated and back in the "Green Zone!"

#### **Blue Zone**

A low-energy state where a person may feel sad. tired. bored. or sick.

### **Red Zone**

An out-of-control state where a person may feel angry, aggressive, terrified, or elated.

#### **Yellow Zone**

A high-energy state where a person may feel excited, frustrated, anxious, silly, or surprised.

#### **Green Zone**

A calm state where a person may feel happy, focused, content, or ready to learn.

While rounding out our lessons on the Zones, we will flow into October's **Bully Prevention** Month. social and emotional competency likely to are less aggressors, targets of bullying, or passive

and bully-free students. More details will be coming soon, but plan for some fun theme days from Oct. 28-Nov. 1.

Thank you for supporting the School Counseling programming at Dundee! If you ever have any questions or concerns, reach please out at jennifer.storm@ops.org.

Jenny Storm, M.S., M.Ed. School Counselor | Educational Leader

### **BULLYING IS...**

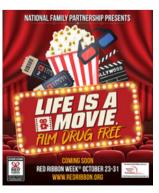
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Purpose





## OCTOBER NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH DRILLS EVERY WEDNESDAY

2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	-Walk to School Day -PTO Meeting School Library 6:30PM	3 Childcare e Cafeteria	4 No School	5
6	7	8	9	10 Dundee Panera Night - Saddle Creek	11 Fall Festival	12 Campus Clean-Up 10am- 12pm
13	14	15	16	17 Parent- Teacher Conferences Book Fair Starts	18	19
20	21	-Parent- Teacher Conferences -Book Fair Ends -Picture Day	23	No School	25 No School	26
27	28	29 Two Hour Late Start	30 (1)	31 Halloween Parade & Classroom Parties		



**CRAFTS & CORN HOLE GAMES!** BRING A BOOK, LEAVE WITH A BOOK!