

Dundee Dispatch



Issue 03 November 2023

A Message from the Principal

November Greetings!

As we turn the calendar page from October to November and move from Halloween celebrations to Thanksgiving, I always think about how grateful I am to work with wonderful people who make up the Dundee School community. Dedicated staff, supportive parents, and children who make me laugh every day contribute to the daily gratitude I feel.

November is National Gratitude Month, and I hope you join me with an "attitude of gratitude" this month. Having a grateful mind gives us a positive perspective and contributes to our overall happiness. Let's keep that attitude going and watch the change we can make! *Continued on next page ...*



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A Message from the Principal continued...

Some practical ways to show gratitude

*Write thank you notes to people you appreciate, people who help you when you need it, or people you simply think need to hear a happy word or two.

*Say "Please" and "Thank You." At home or out in public, these words are an offering of fundamental respect and kindness.

Strive for **95**

We continue to monitor attendance and tardiness as part of our District-wide initiative, Strive for 95.

During the 1st Quarter of school, our 3rd graders had the top attendance percentage followed closely by our 4th graders.

It is so important for students to be on time and in school every day.

A Message from the Principal continued...

Character Counts

Respect

1st Quarter Students of Distinction

During the 1st Quarter of school, Dundee staff and students focused on the 'Character Counts' trait of RESPECT.

Students showed their respect for other people by accepting their differences; believing that their ideas, thoughts, and feelings matter; treating them with kindness; and being courteous by using their manners.

Congratulations to the students who were selected to represent their class as a student of distinction in the area of respect:

Joslynn McKibbin
Alexis DeMata
Macklin Hanna
Parker Cohen
Johnny Kudlacz
Georgie Egermayer
Hayes Carlson
Fiona Cox
Millie Leigh
Neil Feeney
Maddox Bender
Aisha Shinwary
Laney Brown
Asher Kavanaugh
Asa Brown
Norah Conley
Grayson Wanzenreid
Riley Murdock
Hugo Lilja
Aryana Pedersen
Aidan Gray

McKinley Karpf
Vondero Vasser
Mary Kate Rosenkranz
Grace Gelber
Henry Kleymann
Georgie McIlvain
Miles Conley
Yaretzi Rendon
Allison Drake-Lo
Norah Lang
Lucas Zacharias
Mae Jeffrey
Lachlan Struthers
Llewelyn Walker
Jackie Kelly
Estelle Hadden
Alvin Bernard
Audrey Ayers
Kellan English
Elianna Dixon
Everett Rosenkranz

A Message from the Principal continued...

Character Counts

Responsibility

During the 2nd Quarter, we will be working on the character trait of RESPONSIBILITY.

Developing life skills such as respect and responsibility will help you feel good about yourself, build strong and caring relationships with others, and make your home, school, and community better!

We look forward to partnering with you as we help our students learn how they can be responsible and then practice the skill.



In closing, I hope you join us for the intermediate (grades 4, 5, and 6) vocal music showcase, "Jukebox Time Machine," on November 10th.

There will be two shows, one at 9:30 a.m. and one at 2:30 p.m. Look forward to seeing you soon.

With care,
Ms. Kaye Kennedy



Presidents' Article

It's hard to believe the second quarter is already in full swing! As we look ahead, we have two amazing speakers planned for our next PTO meeting on Wednesday, November 8th, that we would like for you all to have a chance to hear from.

Nick Theilen – On the New OPS Superintendent Search

As the search for the new OPS superintendent continues, active participation and family input are integral in ensuring the selection aligns with our community's needs, priorities, and values. The active engagement of families in this process is crucial to achieving a superintendent who can best lead and support the educational journey of all students. Nick Theilen will speak about the Superintendent search and gathering feedback about what we want to see in the next OPS Superintendent.

Johnathon Lueth – On the Dundee Robotics Program and 2024 Tournament

Johnathon will be speaking to the growth of the Dundee Robotics program, along with a general overview of the 2023-2024 Robotics program and practice schedule, the new play field and obstacles, and the tournament that will be hosted at Dundee this year.

Amidst a flurry of activities that we have had, as we enter into November we will truly get into spirit of giving and giving thanks. Teacher Wish List updates are underway. Be on the lookout for the link to the latest teacher wish lists in next month's newsletter (along with a flyer in a future Wednesday folder)!



The PTO served teachers and staff hot meals during conferences.

2023-2024 PTO Board

Presidents: Kelly Kelly and TJ Weiss, DundeePTO@gmail.com

Vice Presidents: Jill Heggen and Sara Kupzyk

Treasurers: Peter Lilja and Nino Krilova-Lilja, DundeeTreasurer@gmail.com

Principal: Kaye Kennedy

Past Presidents: So Yun and Mike Grace



PTO presidents TJ Weiss and Kelly Kelly display their school spirit.

Also, save the date on Wednesday, December 6th, for our adults-only PTO Social at Site 1 Brewery! Join us for appetizers, great conversation, and a festive time celebrating all the great things we are able to accomplish through the volunteering of time and talent with the PTO. Our community is truly something special and we can't wait to celebrate that with you!

The month of October was bustling with several Dundee PTO activities where we saw a blend of family friendly activities with the Fall Festival, the National Walk to School Day, Donuts with Grown Ups, and the Book Fair; as well as support for our amazing teachers and staff with by organizing conference dinners for each night of conferences to provide teachers and staff with meals and snacks to show our gratitude for their dedication to our students and families during conferences.

We are so grateful to have the amazing support of our event Chairs who make it possible to hold these fun events at school where we can come together to celebrate, visit with each other, and have a great time.

Thank you again to all who volunteered and participated in making the fall festival, book fair, conference dinners, and our donut events at school so enjoyable in the last month. In particular, we would like to give kudos to the following Chairs that helped make October such a fun month for our students and families – with some taking over for the first time this year!

Continued on next page ...



Special Thanks to ...

- Dan Carpenter for taking over and running National Walk to School Day this year!
*New Chair this year!
- TJ Weiss and September Wanzanried for getting the Dundee School Store up and running in October and making Tuesdays extra exciting for our students.
- Ashley Aubry for taking over and running Conference Dinners to help support our wonderful staff, with amazing themes and display for our staff to take a break and enjoy delicious and festive dinners!
*New Chair this year!
- Althea McMickell for continuing to lead our grounds beautification efforts all the work that went into the clean-up efforts in October, and to her team that replaced the roof on the garden shed!
*New Chair this year!
- Megan Hepburn for continuing to run Dundee Book Fair, where proceeds support our PTO. We had a large Book Fair this year with an amazing setup that transformed our library into such a bright and fun place to shop!
- Brittany Dabastani for running Donuts with Grownups and giving our families a fun morning to gather together at school!
- Jen Wulf, Abbey Koch Johnson, and Kelsey Landenberger for the incredible effort that went into pivoting the Fall Festival indoors and pulling off another family-favorite event this year!
- TJ Weiss and Greg Murdock for helping with School Picture Day and helping our students bring their brightest smiles to the camera!
- Sara Tingelhoff for her work with our Enrichment Clubs, and to the Enrichment Club Leads who provide our kids the opportunity to explore new skills, have fun with friends, and play sports!
- Meg Rutledge for her awesome new sweatshirt designs for toddlers, kids, and adults!

We will see you at the PTO meeting on November 8th! You can stay up-to-date on news, events, and volunteer opportunities on our PTO website at www.dundeepto.org. Thanks for all the wonderful support you provide to our students and staff!

Stay connected and well!

Kelly Kelly and TJ Weiss



Photos left to right: Grins from the volunteer grounds crew; Donuts for the win; A bustling Book Fair transformed the library.

UPCOMING PTO MEETINGS

NOVEMBER
8



WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 8TH
AT 6:30 P.M.

WITH SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS:

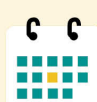
Nick Theilen - on the OPS Superintendent search

Johnathon Lueth - on the 23-24 Dundee Robotics program



Free childcare is provided in the lunchroom during each meeting.

DECEMBER
6



PTO PARENT SOCIAL
DECEMBER 6
6:00 - 8:00 PM



Join us for the Dundee PTO
Adult Social at Site-1 Brewing
December 6th from 6-8 PM!

This is a PTO-sponsored event and the PTO will provide appetizers and beverages for those who attend.

WHERE: 2566 Farnam St Omaha NE 68131

WHAT TO BRING: Your holiday spirit

WHAT TO WEAR: Anything festive and/or comfortable

WHAT NOT TO BRING: Your kids, this is an adults only event

CONGRATS TO MS. WALZ'S CLASS

Pumpkin Decoration Winners

This little mouse is unsqueakably cute!



SIGN-UP TODAY



**REGISTER YOUR
INFORMATION
ONLINE AT** →

[DUNDEEPTO.MEMBERSHIP
TOOLKIT.COM](https://DUNDEEPTO.MEMBERSHIP
TOOLKIT.COM)

BENEFITS

- Full calendar of school events
- Access to online directory of Dundee students & families
- Notice of volunteer opportunities
- Connection with PTO leadership to share questions and ideas



MORE INFORMATION

DUNDEEPTO@GMAIL.COM

Thank you

for your
generous support
of Dundee Direct!

HALEY SECURITIES, INC.



**Tom Manley
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WILDCAT SPOTLIGHT

Thanks to Tim Cayford for transforming tree stumps on Dundee's campus into gathering spots for chess and checkers. Check out the heart-warming story in the Oct. 28, 2023, edition of the Omaha World-Herald.



Thanks also to Greg Murdock for constructing a beautiful new little library for the community's enjoyment.

We are grateful for our school parents' time and talents.

Panera
FUNDRAISING



Help support us!

DUNDEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

**Give yourself a break during the
busy holiday week + support Dundee!**

Tuesday, November 21, 2023

4:00 pm to 8:00 pm CDT

344 N Saddle Creek Rd, Omaha, NE

25%
**OF SALES
WILL BE
DONATED**

Use code FUND4U at online checkout, in the Panera App,
or at the kiosk in-café.*

Bring this flyer or show a digital copy to your cashier when ordering at the café or enter the
promo code FUND4U at checkout on Panerabread.com or the Panera App to ensure your
organization gets a portion of the proceeds.**

Learn more at fundraising.panerabread.com

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*Gift card and catering order placed on Panerabread.com, and delivery orders placed through third-party sites are excluded and will not count towards the event. Other restrictions apply. For complete details, visit: <http://fundraising.panerabread.com/terms-conditions/>. **Services vary by café.



Counselor's Corner



Hello Dundee Families,

There is so much to be thankful for this season. We had an amazing October with Red Ribbon Week, Fall Festival, Parent-Teacher conferences, Halloween parties, and our Student Of Distinction assembly. We were busy at Dundee!

October lessons wrapped up our lessons on emotional regulation, naming our big feelings, Zones of Regulation, and coping strategies. In November we will be talking about personal safety and the power of healthy choices. Please ask your students' about our weekly counseling lessons. My goal is to create meaningful lessons that will teach lifelong skills.

There is nothing more powerful than hearing feedback from grown-ups regarding the positive ways your kids are utilizing the School Counseling lessons. THANK YOU to those who have already reached out and shared highlight moments that your student(s) bring home. Those little notes go such a long way!

Please Note: Student Council is sponsoring a non-perishable food drive for Food Bank for the Heartland from Nov. 8-15. Find labeled boxes near every main door.

"Love the trees until their leaves fall off, then encourage them to try again next year." – Chad Sugg



Again, thank you for allowing me to be a part of your child's life as their School Counselor. Happy Fall y'all!

Jenny Storm
School Counselor

From School Counselor Jenny Storm

Cell Phone Contract

Congratulations! You are now old enough and have proven yourself responsible enough to be the owner of a cell phone. But acceptance of this phone comes with certain responsibilities. The goal of this agreement is to help you become a well rounded person who can coexist with technology, not be ruled by it.



1

My parents will always know the passwords on my phone. I understand that they have the right to look at my phone any time they ask.

2

I will always answer calls from my parents. If I miss a call from them, I will call them back immediately. I will not lie about where I have been or how I am using the phone.

3

I will hand the phone to one of my parents promptly at ____ pm every school night and every weekend night at ____ pm. I will get it back at ____ am.

4

I understand that my behavior on my phone can affect my future reputation. I will not engage in sexting, spreading rumors or gossip, and hateful conversations. If my friends try to get me to participate in this behavior, I will show my parents my phone immediately.

5

When I am old enough, I won't text and drive. I know it is very dangerous.

6

I will use good cell phone manners . I will not text when in the company of friends and family, will turn off my cell phone while at the movies, at dinner, or in public.

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Lastly, I understand that my parents own my phone and can take it away if I am not acting responsibly. If they do, I realize it is because they love me and want the best for me.

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1 No school	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 PTO Meeting 6:30pm	9	10 Jukebox Time Machine 9:30am 2:30pm	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 No school	21 No school Panera Dine Out Night	22 No school	23 No school Thanksgiving	24 No school	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Dundee will hold Kindergarten Roundup for the 2024-2025 school year on January 18th at 5:00 p.m. in the library. If you have a child, or know someone in Dundee who has a child who will turn 5 by July 31, 2024, please contact the school office. We will get your child's name on our list.

**4TH-6TH GRADE
PRESENTS**



JUKEBOX TIME MACHINE



**FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 10TH**

9:30 & 2:30