

DUNDEE DISPATCH

Issue 01 | September 2023



A Message from the Principal

September Greetings,



Welcome to the 2023-2024 School Year!

**Learning is NOT a Spectator Sport.
Get in the Game! TEAM DUNDEE!**

is our theme for this school year.



We were thrilled to welcome nearly 500 students to the Dundee Team this August.

It was great to see so many families at our Back to School Night. If you haven't returned the Student and Family Information packet, please do so as soon as possible. We want to make sure all of your information is accurate in our student information system, Infinite Campus.

A few reminders . . .

Device (iPad) Protection Plan

If you plan to participate in this plan, the \$20 per device fee is due September 8, 2023. We can take cash, credit card, or check (made out to Douglas County School District 001). The Device (iPad) Protection Plan will not apply until the \$20 is received.

Breakfast Program

Dundee provides a free, nutritious breakfast each morning to any student who would like one. All students enter the building at 8:30 a.m. Those participating in the breakfast program should check in with their teacher and immediately come to the cafeteria to pick up their breakfast. Thank you for timing your drop off accordingly. There is not adequate supervision before 8:30 a.m.

After School Activities

We understand emergencies during the day can happen, however, we receive many calls, at the last minute, regarding changes for a student. As you can imagine, the end of the day is very busy, and it can be difficult to get all those messages delivered by dismissal. Please discuss after school procedures with your child each morning. If an emergency occurs and you need to leave a message for your child, please call the school before 3:15 p.m.

Continued...



A Message from the Principal, *continued*



Looking Ahead

September is National Preparedness Month. At Dundee, we are committed to providing a safe environment for students, staff, and visitors. In order to prepare staff and students for possible emergencies, we will be practicing all of our emergency drills this month. Planned drills include:

Secure Drill - Wednesday, September 6

Takes place when an external threat is identified. All staff/students return to the building if outside and remain inside. Outside doors are locked. No entry into or exit from the school will be allowed until an "all clear" announcement is made.

Lockdown Drill - Wednesday, September 13

Takes place if an internal threat is identified at the school. All school doors are locked, and students are confined to classrooms. No entry into or exit from the school will be allowed until an "all clear" announcement is made.

Severe Weather/Shelter Drill - Wednesday, September 20

Students take refuge in designated areas to protect themselves from severe weather or other hazards.

Fire Drill - Wednesday, September 27

The building is quickly evacuated when the fire alarm sounds.

Hold Drill - Wednesday, October 4

Students clear the hallway and remain in their classroom. This could occur if a child got sick in the hallway, or another minor incident.

Evacuation Drill - Wednesday, October 11

In the event of certain building emergencies, students will be relocated to an evacuation assembly area.

Our evacuation site is A.V. Sorenson Community Center

Our alternate site, if A.V. Sorenson is closed, is Brownell Talbot

You can help us by ensuring that your child's emergency contact information is accurate and current. Please contact us if your cell phone, house phone, or work phone numbers change. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

Continued...



A Message from the Principal, *continued*



Student Cell Phone Use

It is the expectation of the Omaha Public Schools, that students in elementary grades shall leave their cell phone powered off and in their backpacks during school hours. "School hours" means the time a student enters the school bus or school property until the end of the school day when they leave the school property or get off the school bus.

Staff will be discussing this policy with students. We will be letting them know that if their phone is out during school hours, it will be kept overnight and returned to them the next day. No exceptions. If the problem continues, the phone will be kept until a parent can come to the office and pick it up. IF you need to get a hold of your child, please call the front office. We really appreciate your help in this matter.

*We are looking forward to partnering with you for another **GREAT** year!*

With much care,

Ms. Kaye Kennedy
School Principal
Dundee Elementary



kaye.kennedy@ops.org
(531) 299-1340



P T O U P D A T E S

WILDCATS

Presidents Article

Welcome back Wildcat Families! We are excited for the start of the new school year and are fully embracing this years' theme:

***Learning is NOT a Spectator Sport.
Get in the Game! TEAM DUNDEE!***

We hope this article finds you in high spirits as we embark on a exciting new school year! We want to extend our warmest welcome to each and every one of you - whether you are a returning family or new to our school community, we are thrilled to have you as part of **TEAM DUNDEE**.

TJ and I are excited to help lead the Dundee Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) this year and we have an amazing and active team supporting us, but we need you, too!

Engaging with the PTO is all about staying informed, connecting, and having the option to participate in all the fun events. It's your choice how involved you want to be and we encourage you to **GET IN THE GAME**, by creating a login on our PTO website www.dundeepto.org. We manage our calendar, volunteer sign ups, and distribute key information here.

Our PTO plays a crucial role in fostering unity and support within our school and we work to enhance the educational experience for our children by working collaboratively with teachers, administrators, and families. Through a variety of activities, our annual Dundee Direct fundraiser, and fun events, we aim to create a vibrant and inclusive school community.

September will kick off our annual fundraising campaign - the Dundee Direct. Be sure to check out the flyer at the end of this Dispatch issue and watch your Wednesday folders for more information to come. We have our highest ever goal to raise \$25,000 in funds this year and have a great team leading those efforts! Thank you Leslie Biehl and Lauren Simpson!

In the upcoming school year, you can expect to see exciting initiatives from the PTO and we encourage every family to get involved with the PTO, whether by attending meetings, volunteering your time and talents, or simply sharing your ideas and suggestions. Your involvement is essential to our success and to creating a nurturing, inclusive environment where our children can thrive.

Our first PTO meeting of the school year will be held on Wednesday, September 6th in the school library. We look forward to meeting you there and discussing our plans for the year ahead. If you are unable to attend but would like to stay informed, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at dundeepto@gmail.com or visit our website for updates.

Together, we can make this school year a memorable and enriching one. Here's to a fantastic school year filled with growth, learning, and meaningful connections.

*Kelly Kelly and TJ Weiss
PTO Co-Presidents*



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR 2023 - 2024 DUNDEE ELEMENTARY PTO CO-PRESIDENTS

Kelly Kelly and TJ Weiss

PTO Announcements

MEET YOUR 2023 - 2024 PTO BOARD

Presidents:	TJ Weiss and Kelly Kelly DundeePTO@gmail.com
Vice Presidents:	Jill Heggen and Sara Kupzyk
Secretary:	Jayme Aliano
Treasurers:	Peter Lilja and Nino Krilova-Lilja DundeeTreasurer@gmail.com
Past Presidents:	So Yun and Mike Grace
Principal:	Kaye Kennedy

PTO MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 6 Will be held the first Wednesday of each month in the library.
We hope to see you this Wednesday, September 6th at 6:30 p.m.

Join us in the Dundee Elementary School library. Meet other parents, hear from Principal Kaye Kennedy, and learn about what the PTO has in store this year.



Free childcare is provided in the lunchroom during each meeting.

2023 DUNDEE DIRECT - Let the Giving Begin!



DUNDEE DIRECT GET IN THE GAME!

2023 Dundee Elementary Annual Fundraiser

Updates From: Leslie Biehl + Lauren Simpson, Dundee Direct Committee Co-Chairs

Let the Giving Begin!

Dundee Direct, our annual direct-giving fund raiser runs throughout the month of September.

It is the simplest school fundraiser. Instead of having students sell something like candy or wrapping paper, we ask families to give what they can to support Dundee Elementary. Families can also invite friends, neighbors, and businesses to donate. You can also give by sharing your talents with PTO or in your child's classroom and visiting businesses that support Dundee. ALL of the money raised goes to the PTO to keep Dundee amazing for all children.

Our goal this year
is **\$25,000**
to help fund
the following:

- Teacher grants to buy classroom materials
- Classroom activities
- Improvements to the school grounds
- Enrichment clubs
- Resources for the library
- Student and family events

The Grand Finale when We Meet Our Goal

We will be tracking our progress on our PTO website. If we meet our goal, we'll have a blast with a ... SURPRISE END!

School Activities:



PEP RALLY & NEIGHBORHOOD WALK

On Thursday, September 14th, all of the students will participate in a school pep rally. The 2nd through 6th graders will also take a neighborhood walk with their homeroom teachers to invite neighbors to support the school. Look for a permission form in the Wednesday folder.



CLASSROOM CHALLENGE

Attention Students: bring in your loose change from around your house. Weekly prizes given to the classroom with the most change and a final grand prize will be awarded for the winning classroom with the greatest donation.

Ways to Donate:

Return Envelope to School



Send your donation in an envelope to school with your child. If donating by check, please make the check payable to Dundee Elementary PTO. No transaction fees.

Venmo

SCAN ME!



Charity Transaction Fees
Apply (1.9% + \$0.10)

Online

SCAN ME!



Donations can be made online via credit/debit cards at:
<https://dundeeppto.membershiptoolkit.com/story/291537>
Charity Transaction Fees Apply (4%)

Mailing Donations

Donations can be sent to:
Dundee Elementary - PTO
310 N 51st St,
Omaha, NE 68132
- OR -
Omaha Public Schools Foundation
Attn: Dundee Direct 2021-2022
Fund Raiser, 3861 Farnam St., Omaha, NE 68131

Thank you all for Staying in the Game to Support Learning!



Counselor's Corner


Hello and WELCOME BACK!

It has been wonderful seeing all of the smiling faces back in the hallways, playgrounds and sidewalks of Dundee. I am Jenny Storm, your students' School Counselor. As Dundee's counselor, my job is to provide each class with weekly lessons to provide Social and Emotional guidance, individual sessions using the Solution Focused Brief Counseling methodology, provide small group sessions for students, as well as serve the staff as a support.




The first few weeks of school have been full of hugs, rekindling friendships and learning procedures. I have been so lucky to be a part of these moments with your children and I encourage you to ask your students about these important moments.

In Counseling class, with primary students, I will be discussing what the counselor does, teaching about feelings and how to stay in control of our feelings while understanding the "Zones of Regulation". With the Intermediate grades, we will be talking about confidentiality, growth mindset, and resilience.

 *Should there be a need in your family for resources such as weekend food bags (provided by the Foodbank for the Heartland) or Hygiene kits (provided by United Way Shine Bright program), please reach out to me via email and I will be sure to send these items home with either you or your student.*

Should your 2nd through 6th grade student have a request to meet with me, I have provided each classroom with a QR code that will lead students to an online form that they would need to fill out. K-1st can ask their teacher or a parent can email me with the request to see me. For parent requests or concerns, please email me as this is the most reliable method for me to utilize.

 ***Please do not rely on email for emergent needs.** Please use Safe2Help Nebraska: 833-980-7233 where trained counselors will be available 24/7 to help with depression, anxiety, suicidal thoughts, alcohol/drug abuse, bullying, relationship issues, violence or to report a concern.*

Thank you for letting me be an important part of your students' experience at Dundee. I look forward to getting to know each and every student throughout our school year together!

Jenny Storm
PROUD School Counselor
Dundee Elementary School

If you would like to visit or have me visit with any of your children, the best way to reach me is through email.




My email address is Jennifer.Cooper@ops.org

Phone: (531) 299-5017



LOOKING AHEAD

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>CHECK OUT THE ATTACHED FLYER!</p> <p>ECREAMERY Dundee eCreamery Flavor All Month Long!</p>					1	2
3	4 No School	5	6 Walking Wednesday  Dundee Direct Kick-Off <p>JOIN US!</p> <p>PTO Meeting 6:30 p.m. Dundee Library</p>	7	8	9 DUNDEE GROUNDS BEAUTIFICATION CLEAN-UP North Side of the Building 9 - 10:30 am
10 DUNDEE GROUNDS BEAUTIFICATION CLEAN-UP South Side of the Building 9 - 11 am	11	12	13 Walking Wednesday Don & Millie's Night 4430 Farnam Street 4-8 pm	14 Dundee Direct Pep Rally & Walk Day  eCreamery Scoop of Support Day! 	15 No School	16
17	18	19	20 Walking Wednesday	21	22 No School	23 <p>CHECK OUT THE ATTACHED FLYER!</p>  Sunnyside on Center Dundee Morning 3528 Center Street 7 am - 1 pm
Enrichment Clubs						
24	25	26	27 Walking Wednesday	28	29  LAST DAY of Dundee Direct!	30
Enrichment Clubs						



Our new 23/24 Dundee Gear will be available for purchase at the Fall Festival !
Be on the lookout for our NEW Sweatshirts!



PTO ANNOUNCEMENTS

September
SCOOPS OF
SUPPORT



DUNDEE ELEMENTARY

We created Dundee Delicacy to celebrate the community of Dundee Elementary. We hope you will buy a scoop or a pint and support the Dundee PTO in continuing to make our school a fabulous place to be.

[Learn More](#)

SCOOP OF SUPPORT DAY

Thursday, September 14th

10% of ALL sales on this day will be donated.

SCOOP OF SUPPORT FLAVOR

Caramel Ice Cream with
Cookie Dough Bites
& Fudge Swirls

\$1 of every pint sold for the entire month
of September will be donated.

eCREAMERY

eCREAMERY



eCREAMERY



SEPTEMBER
SCOOPS OF
SUPPORT:





COME SUPPORT DUNDEE ELEMENTARY AT SUNNYSIDE ON CENTER!



STOP BY FOR BREAKFAST, BRUNCH OR LUNCH
ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD FROM
7AM - 1PM! MENTION YOU'RE WITH THE SCHOOL AND

15%

of all sales will go to support
Dundee Elementary School!



DUNDEE DIRECT GET IN THE GAME!

2023 Dundee Elementary Annual Fundraiser

Get in the Game- Supporting Learning is not a Spectator Sport!



DUNDEE DIRECT

The annual direct-giving fundraiser for
Dundee Elementary School

Proceeds go directly to Dundee!

Donate now and invite others to support!

This year, funds will help purchase:

- Teacher grants to buy classroom materials
- Classroom activities
- Improvements to the school grounds
- Enrichment clubs
- Resources for the library
- Student and family events

Ways to Donate:

Return Envelope to School



Send your donation in an envelope to school with your child. If donating by check, please make the check payable to Dundee Elementary PTO. No transaction fees.

Venmo

SCAN ME!



Charity Transaction Fees
Apply (1.9% + \$0.10)

Online

SCAN ME!



Donations can be made online via credit/debit cards at:
<https://dundeepto.membershiptoolkit.com/story/291537>
Charity Transaction Fees Apply (4%)

Mailing Donations

Donations can be sent to:
Dundee Elementary - PTO
310 N 51st St,
Omaha, NE 68132
- OR -

Omaha Public Schools Foundation
Attn: Dundee Direct 2021-2022
Fund Raiser, 3861 Farnam St., Omaha, NE 68131

www.dundeepto.org

