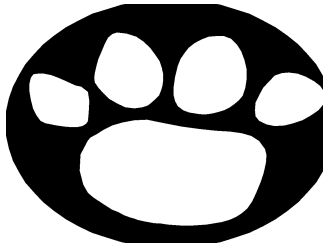


Defiance Elementary School News

400 Carter Road
Defiance, OH 43512
419-785-2260

Principal K – 2: Deanne Held
Principal 3 – 5: Jane Myers



SEPTEMBER 2018

Important Upcoming Events

August 28	Grade 3 Parent Curriculum Night @ 6:00 p.m.
August 29	School Pictures (Grades K-2)
August 30	Grade 4 Parent Curriculum Night @ 6:30 p.m.
August 30	School Pictures (Grades 3-5)
September 1	MAP Reading/Math Testing Begins (K-5)
September 3	NO SCHOOL – Labor Day Holiday
September 11	PTO @ 6:00 p.m. Elementary Library
September 13	Grade 5 Band Parent Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
September 14	KinderStart & Kindergarten Parent Luncheon @ 12:30
September 18	Grade 1 Parent Orientation Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
September 21	Grade 1 Parent Luncheon @ 12:30
September 25	Scheduled Two-Hour Delay - School begins at 11:00 a.m.
September 27	Grade 5 Camp Storer Meeting/Curriculum Night @ 6:00 p.m.
September 28	Grade 2 Parent Luncheon @ 12:30

Looking Ahead

October 3	Picture Retakes
October 8-12	Grade 5 to Camp Storer
October 15	NO SCHOOL – Teacher In-Service
October 26	End of Grading Period
October 30	Scheduled Two-Hour Delay - School begins at 11:00 a.m.



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DES Information

BUS TRANSPORTATION: We strongly support our bus drivers and the difficult task they have. We also want to ensure the safety of all children riding. For these reasons, any physical aggression shown by a student on the bus will result in an automatic removal for three days. Please talk with your children about the importance of keeping their hands to themselves. If you have any transportation questions or concerns, you may reach the garage by calling 419.782.7091.

CAFETERIA: Please maintain a positive balance in your child's lunch account. Student lunches are \$2.50. Breakfast is \$1.50, and milk is 60 cents. Our school policy is to serve your child a peanut butter and jelly sandwich until your account becomes current. If you have questions regarding your lunch account, please contact Deanna Hull, our cafeteria supervisor, at 419.782.6382.

SCHOOL SECURITY: Please remember that our building is time locked until 8:30 a.m. Please do not drop your child off before this time as they will be unsupervised outside. *Also remember, drop off can only occur in the front of the school.* Please stay away from our bus traffic. **Walkers and bike riders should not arrive on school property until after 8:30 a.m. and must enter through the Rosewood gate.** Crossing guards are on duty from 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. at St. Rt. 66 and at the Rosewood entrance gate.

NEW SAFETY/SECURITY POLICY: We want to be a welcoming elementary school; however, at the same time, we must provide the most secure environment for your child. For this reason, we are asking parents to drop your child at the front of the school and allow them to walk to class by themselves. Realizing this will take some time to train our young ones, we will allow parents to walk their child to class until October 1. ***After this date, we ask that you support our new policy for the safety of all children.*** Class volunteers and PTO officers will still have access to the classrooms, but a name badge will be provided to these parents. This identification must be obtained in the office to enter the building. If you have concerns or questions, please see your appropriate building principal.

BOOK FEES: Book fees are \$52.00 again this school year. Please make an effort to pay your school fees. We will also accept quarterly payments of \$13.00. Checks can be made to: Defiance City Schools. See your office secretary to submit a payment.

MONTHLY TWO-HOUR DELAYS: By now, you should have received a school calendar from your child's teacher. You may have noticed that each month there is a scheduled two-hour delay for professional development for our staff. The dates, which are all Tuesdays, are September 25, October 30, November 27, January 29, February 26, April 23 and May 21. Mark your calendar and remember that our doors will not open until 10:30 a.m. on those days. There are no delayed starts in December or March.

PTO: The DES PTO will hold its first meeting of the year on Tuesday, September 11th at 6:00 p.m. in the elementary school library. All parents are encouraged and welcome to attend. We hope to see you there!



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FUNDRAISER INFORMATION: The PTO fundraiser will begin on September 10. We encourage you to fully participate in our PTO fundraiser program. Please note that any child that has not returned outstanding fundraiser money from previous years will not be allowed to participate this year. More information will be coming home soon.

NEWSLETTER: This is the only hard copy of our school newsletter that we will distribute. Please view our school website (defiancecityschools.org.) for future newsletters. They can be found under the Elementary Link. Newsletters will be available online at the beginning of each new month. If you do not have online access, please send a written note with your child. We will gladly provide you with a hard copy.

FACEBOOK PAGE: Please take a moment to “like” our Defiance City Schools Facebook page. We often post exciting news regarding upcoming events at DES. This link will take you to our homepage: <https://www.facebook.com/DefianceCitySchools>.

CAR RIDER PROCEDURE:

IF you are picking your child up after school, here are a few reminders of the proper procedure.

1. Pick Up Lane-If using the pick up lane, remain in your car and *stay in the lane* until you reach your child’s grade pick up area. Older children are to stand with the youngest child in the family.
2. Parked Car-If you are parking your car, you **must get out** and come get your child. **PLEASE** use the crossing guard section. **Safety first!**
3. Speed-- Please use posted correct speed and be alert at all times.
4. Rain- in the event of rain, the students will take shelter under the overhang in front of the library.
5. Changes-If you have a change in the normal pick up procedure, (someone else picking up, i.e. Aunt, Grandma, etc.) please send a written note to school to notify us. In addition, this person should be listed on your Emergency Information Form.
6. Dismissal Time-Children are dismissed at 3:20. Please wait until the students have gone to their designated spots before greeting them. Please do not have the children run to you.
7. Missing Child- If you cannot locate your child, please see Mrs. Wank, our guidance counselor. She will use the radio to locate the child.

DES WALKING/BIKE RIDING POLICY: Students will be allowed to walk or ride their bikes to school. The following guidelines MUST be followed or the student will be denied these privileges.

1. A signed note from a parent/guardian must be on file in the office giving your child permission to be a walker/bike rider. Your child’s teacher must also be informed.
2. All walking/bike riding traffic MUST enter from Rosewood Drive. No students will be permitted to enter from Carter Road.
3. Crossing guards will be on duty (8:30-9:00 a.m./3:15-3:45 p.m.) on St. Rt. 66 to help children cross safely to Rosewood Drive.
4. Crossing guards will also be on duty to help students cross bus traffic in our back parking lot. Students will then follow the sidewalks to the back cafeteria entrance.



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5. Bike racks will be available for students to park just inside the Rosewood Avenue gate entrance. Defiance City Schools will not be responsible for lost or stolen bikes. Students are welcome to bring locks for their bikes.
6. Students must follow all rules and regulations to continue walking/riding their bike to school. This includes obeying the crossing guards on duty at all times.
7. Parents are not permitted to pick their child up in a car at the Rosewood Drive gate. All pickups must still occur in the front of the school. If a child is walking/riding their bike, they must travel all the way home; not to an alternate pickup location. However, parents may greet their child on foot/bike.

The following discipline will be implemented if a student does not follow policy:

1. First infraction will result in a warning to the student and the parent.
2. Second infraction will result in loss of privilege for one week.
3. Third infraction will result in loss of privilege for the semester.
4. Fourth infraction will result in loss of privilege for the remainder of the school year.

While walking/bike riding is open to all KS-5 students at DES, we would like parents to use sound judgment in allowing our younger students to do this without adult or older sibling supervision. If we feel it is unsafe for your child at any time, you will be notified.

GUIDANCE INFORMATION

Our school is fortunate to have two guidance counselors, Mrs. Renee Wank and Mr. Reggie Beck. Our counselors interact with your children on a daily basis, and are a very visible part of our school. If you have any needs for your child that you would like to address with our counselors, feel free to contact them for an appointment.

CHARACTER WORD: The K-2 word of the month is **self-discipline**. This is the ability to control one's feelings and overcome one's weaknesses; the ability to pursue what one thinks is right despite temptations to abandon it. During guidance lessons, the students will explore this word while also incorporating information from The Leader in Me and R Factor framework.

GRADE ONE ORIENTATION MEETING: Our guidance counselor, Mrs. Renee Wank, will work with the first grade teacher rep, Mrs. April Garrett, to offer important tips to parents of first grade students. Together, they will share suggested "Back to School" routines, including homework strategies for parents. All first grade parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. The meeting will be Tuesday, September 18 at 7:00 p.m. in our cafeteria. More information will come home with your child.

MENTORING OPPORTUNITIES at DES If you would like to spend some quality time with one of our KinderStart-Fifth grade students, we have several mentoring opportunities available to you throughout the school year. We will need you to complete an application (which is available on the elementary school website). The Defiance County Mentoring Supervisor, Ashley Sowder, will process your application, do a quick background check, offer training and you're all set! We ask that you visit with your assigned student at least once a month, but encourage once



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a week (avg. time is 30 minutes). This is a great opportunity to give back to your community and build the self-esteem of a child at the same time! Win-Win! *If interested, please contact Mrs. Renee Wank, our guidance counselor, to get started.*

K – 2 Information

SCHOOL PICTURES: School pictures for the K-2 students will be taken on Wednesday, August 29. All students are photographed for our yearbook; however, you are not obligated to purchase a picture package.

PARENT SCHOOL LUNCHEONS: The National School Lunch Day form was sent home in your child’s folder on their first day of school. If you need another form, please contact the office. Parent lunches are \$3.00. Be sure to have enough money in your child’s account to cover your lunch as well. If your child is on free or reduced lunches, they will eat free. However, you will need to pay for yourself. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING FAST FOOD TO OUR CAFETERIA ON THIS DAY.** This is to celebrate our school lunch program. We will follow the schedule below for September:

KinderStart & Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2
Friday, September 14 @ 12:30 Hotdog or Chili Dog	Friday, September 21 @ 12:30 Sloppy Joe	Friday, September 28 @ 12:30 Hamburger

3 – 5 Information

SCHOOL PICTURES: School pictures for the 3-5 students will be on Thursday, August 31. Information should have been sent home with your child. If you need another picture form, please stop in the office.

CURRICULUM MEETINGS: Early in the school year, each grade level will be holding parent meetings to share information regarding curriculum and structure of that grade. Please check the calendar on page one of the newsletter for dates. Look for more information to come home from your child’s teacher. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask the teachers!

THE BULLDOG WAY

This year we are excited to continue The Bulldog Way with our students and staff. The Bulldog Way is the idea that our character and behavior is shaped to positively represent Defiance City Schools. Third grade students are learning about what this means and about several Essential Rules that exemplify The Bulldog Way. We are consistent in using vocabulary such as ‘What would a Bulldog do’ when talking about appropriate behaviors. In addition, each new student will be assigned a House that they will be a part of throughout their time in grades 3-5. Our first very special House meeting will be held September 4. Check out this webpage to find all of the up-to-date information about The Bulldog Way! <https://sites.google.com/a/defianceschools.net/the-bulldog-way/home>

