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Sageville Elementary Newsletter

**September 13, 2018** 

# From the desk of Miss Mac:

Student safety has long been a priority for the Dubuque Community School District. We work each day to ensure that our students encounter an environment in our schools that fosters learning while being safe and inclusive. In recent years, the district has worked to revise its safety protocols to better respond to emergencies – in particular, enhancing our protocol for responding to active intruder situations. Working with area law enforcement, the district has transitioned from a one-size-fits-all model to an options-based approach that empowers individuals to make the best decision possible should they encounter an active intruder situation.

During the first part of each semester, students in all district schools participate in a safety training exercise. This exercise consists of a short video that introduces these updated safety protocols in an age-appropriate format. The exercise also gives students the chance to process the video with their teacher, and participate in a lockdown exercise in their classroom.

These training sessions discuss the options students and staff have should they encounter an intruder. Based on best-practice responses across the nation, the training includes the following main components:

- EVACUATE running to escape the situation is an option
- LOCKDOWN locking down is still an option, and now may include additional safeguards such as barricading doors to stay safe.
- COUNTER as a last resort, individuals may need to throw items, kick, scream or shout to escape a dangerous encounter.

While we know these are sensitive topics to discuss with students, they are important to address. Just as we regularly hold fire and tornado drills, we use regular discussions about active intruder situations to help students better understand their options for staying safe both in and out of school.

Overall, we hope this training is a positive, non-threatening way to raise awareness of safety issues and spark conversation. As always, schools have additional support for students wishing to further process the exercise. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Dubuque Community School District and our efforts to give all students a safe environment in which to learn and grow.



#### **Calendar of Events**

# Sageville apparel/gear orders due tomorrow

#### Monday-September 17

3:30-5:00 Soccer Practice 7:00 PTC meeting in staff lounge

#### **Tuesday-September 18**

School Picture Day! Bring your order envelope to school

#### Wednesday-September 19

3:30 Soccer practice PreK vision screening

#### Thursday-September 20

Cookie Dough Fundraiser starts

6:00-7:30 Open House

#### Friday-September 21

No School due to district professional learning

## Friday Focus:

Teachers will be collaborating with the Hoover School staff on learning standards and tasks.

We're off to a smooth start. From time to time I will share friendly hints and reminders:

Sageville School recognizes each student's birthday in a special way. However, we do not accept food items of any type due to the wellness guidelines of our school district, loss of instructional time and numerous allergies. You are welcome to send a non-food item to celebrate your child's birthday such as a book for the classroom, stickers or pencils as a suggestion, but it is not necessary.

Security: All doors are locked during the school day. Please have your driver's license available to check into the Raptor System if you have not already done so this year. All visitors will have a badge when they are in the building. Please check out of the office when leaving.

Field Trips/Volunteering: There are many opportunities for parents to drive for field trips and volunteer. Please make sure you have the background check packet completed in advance. They can take several weeks. If you drive for a field trip, please bring your driver's license and current insurance information to the office to be copied. This needs to be updated each year.

Dismissal: Please do not bring pets out of your car at dismissal time. This will prevent your pet from biting someone accidently. When your child's dismissal plans change, we try our best. If you're picking your child up at the back door and don't see them as all students exit, please bring it to the staff's attention. We use walkie-talkies and can easily retrieve a student from the bus if needed for back door. We do not send off the buses until all children are accounted for in each location. I give the highest compliment to all of our staff who make this happen each day!

So, Sageville families, how is it going for you? Do you have any friendly reminders for us? The school-home connection is powerful. Do not hesitate to contact me or your child's teacher(s) at anytime. Thank you!

### Imagine the Amazing

Imagine the Amazing with UnityPoint Health. Education is an essential part of living well and being well, and schools are at the heart of our communities. That's why we're launching a back-to-school contest to bring big dreams to life.

The winning school will win \$25,000 to enhance the well-being of students, teachers and/or learning environments. Ten runner-up schools will win \$1,000 to invest in a health and wellness need at their school. Every school has a need and every kid has a dream. UnityPoint Health is committed to investing in both to create a brighter tomorrow.

**How to enter:** Use the voting application at http://www.unitypoint.org/imaginetheamazing. Filter by state and city to select a school. There is no limit to how many times individuals may vote throughout the duration of the contest.

The school with the most votes win!

Vote for SAGEVILLE SCHOOL September 17-30.

# Sageville's PTC

Scrip News!

Wow, our first scrip order last week was almost \$10,000.00! That is \$400.00 profit for our school.

Please send in your orders by tomorrow for Sageville apparel and gear!



Never Forgotten! A student locker at Sageville this week

