

OUR MISSION

The mission of Eleanor Roosevelt Middle School is to develop respectful, responsible learners through a rigorous curriculum in a caring, diverse community.



VOLUME 24 | ISSUE 3 | NOVEMBER 2024

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OUR NEWSLETTER

The Roosevelt Report is sponsored by the ERMS PTO and the ERMS Staff. In future issues we hope to bring you important information about events and activities at ERMS.

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS



EBLYONS
Nature Center

NOTES FROM MR. JOHLL

Dear Roosevelt Families,

I hope this newsletter finds you enjoying the warm fall weather! Here are a few items of information to share with this newsletter.

ATTENDANCE | Regular attendance at school is so important. Research has shown many times that it has a significant impact on a student's academic success! It is vital for several reasons. First, it fosters a sense of community and belonging among students, which can enhance their social skills and emotional well-being. Additionally, consistent classroom participation allows students to absorb lessons more effectively, leading to better academic performance. Research shows that students who attend school regularly are more likely to graduate and pursue additional learning after high school.

The impact of absenteeism on student learning can be profound. Research consistently shows that chronic absenteeism—defined as missing 10% or more of the school year—can lead to significant academic setbacks. Students who are frequently absent miss critical instruction, which can result in lower test scores and diminished engagement in learning. Moreover, students who miss school regularly are at a higher risk of dropping out, which correlates with long-term consequences such as lower earning potential and increased likelihood of health issues. Beyond academics, absenteeism can hinder development socially also. Students who are not present may struggle to form relationships with peers and teachers, leading to feelings of isolation and disengagement from the school community.

Addressing absenteeism requires a collaborative effort between schools and families to create supportive environments that encourage regular attendance. Thank you for your support with the importance of attending school. By prioritizing its importance, both at school and at home, we can help ensure that all students can succeed both academically and socially.

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FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

ERMS Houses each have their own Instagram accounts. On a computer type in the following website and add the house user name after the "/" without the "@" symbol. Go to:

Instagram.com/_____

OR

via the free Instagram app, create an account if you don't already have one, then search for the user name listed below. Make sure to include the "@" symbol.

THEN

Make sure to click "FOLLOW" on each of the pages.

HOUSE INSTAGRAM USER NAMES

HOUSE 6-1

@erms6.1

HOUSE 6-2

@erms6_2

HOUSE 6-3

@ermshouse6_3

HOUSE 7-2

@7.2raptors

HOUSE 7-3

@ermshouse73

HOUSE 8-1

@mskresshistory
@msyagerscience
@mrscummingsmath
@mspociask_ela

HOUSE 8-2

@erms_82
@Mrs_Norby

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COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERIES EVENT

Scroll Less. LIVE MORE. HAVE FUN.



PRESENTED BY: **best-selling author and
award-winning journalist Catherine Price**

STOP THE SCROLL | Heads up on a great parent event opportunity. Our district will have best-selling author, Cathrine Price, presenting on November 13th at 6:30 p.m. in the Dubuque Senior High School Auditorium.

"As a district, we are committed to engaging our families and students—especially when it comes to educating about current topics facing today's young people," said Rebecca Fellenzer, the district's director of student services. *"There is probably no more notable issue facing today's students and adults alike than navigating a world reliant on screen-based technology at our disposal instantaneously at all times. We look forward to learning from Catherine as she shares her expertise with us on how to disconnect from our screens and add more authentic fun into our lives."*

For more information on this event please visit the Dubuque Community School District's web page:

[Lecture to Tackle Always-Connected, Screen-Based World](#)

VIRTUAL LEARNING DAYS | With the changing of the seasons comes the potential for our school day to be impacted by inclement weather. You will be notified via Parent Square in the event of an early release, late arrival, virtual day, or canceled day of school. In the event of a virtual day being implemented, students at the secondary level will be expected to engage in learning opportunities on their school issued laptops via their class Canvas pages.

Work for classes will be posted to Canvas no later than 8:00 a.m. Teachers will be available to video conference with students via TEAMS from 10:00-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-2:30 p.m. on these days. Please take some time to establish expectations around these days with your student so they are prepared.

TRIMESTER 2 | It's hard to believe that in a few days we will begin the second trimester of the 2024-2025 school year. The first day is Tuesday, November 19. Because your child(ren) will have a new specialist class (Art, Health, or Gen. Music), it would be great if you could review their schedule with them on Infinite Campus.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES SURVEY | Thank you to our families for taking the time to attend Parent Teacher Conference sessions. We would like to know your thoughts on your experiences this fall. Whether you attended virtually via Microsoft Teams or in person at Roosevelt, please help us by completing a short survey so we can gather your feedback. This survey is identical to the one sent out in the previous two years. By using the same

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ADDITIONAL ERMS INSTAGRAM USER NAMES

Therapy Dog Layla
@alaylaaday

Library
@ermslibrary

Mrs. Glennon, Counselor
@mrsglennonerms

Ms. Montana, Student Needs
Facilitator
@msmontanaerms

Ms. Putchio, Instructional Coach
@msputchio

Ms. Lucas, Health and Wellness
@lucaswellness1002

Orchestra
@erms.orch

FAME
@erms.fame

MEDICAL APPOINTMENT TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to **medical** appointments is available through RTA transportation bus and funded by United Way Dubuque.

For more information please contact Roosevelt School Nurse:

Katie Vogt
PH: 563-552-5016
FAX: 552-5001

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<https://tinyurl.com/ERMSonFB>

PTO:
www.facebook.com/PTOERMS

questions, we can collect comparative data to assist with planning for next spring and next year. I will share the results of the survey in a future newsletter article. Here is a link to complete the survey:

<https://forms.office.com/r/PkULNygqJ0>

FALL FUNDRAISER | I want to share my sincere appreciation to all students and parents, along with the Roosevelt PTO, for another successful fall fundraiser. Our distribution of fundraiser products, including frozen food, will be on Tuesday, December 3, from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. More information will be coming from the school via Parent Square. The money raised from the fundraiser, with the support and advice of the PTO, will be used to support our students in their learning experience here at Roosevelt.

ERMS FACEBOOK | If you have not done so already, please consider following the Roosevelt Facebook page. We share pictures of learning, activities, athletics and much more, along with other important information. Many of our PBIS activities are featured on our Facebook page.

Have a great Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,



Jeffrey J. Johll, Principal

ERMS ATTENDANCE PROCEDURE

If your child(ren) will be out for an extended period of time for a non-illness reason such as a family trip, we ask that you please provide notification to the office a minimum of one week in advance of the first day of absence. There are three options for communicating this with the main office:

1. You can send a note with your child, OR
2. You can call the attendance line at 563-552-5012, OR
3. You can send an email to ermsattendance@dbqschools.org

Please include the student name, the dates of the absence and the reason. The student will then receive a letter from the Main Office to be reviewed by each of their teachers so that they are informed of the dates.

ERMS Attendance procedure for picking up your student for an appointment during school hours... Option 1 (Best procedure for your convenience): Send a note with your student in the morning.

- The note should include: student's name, pick-up time, reason for leaving early, and parent's signature.
- The student should bring that note to the main office first thing in the morning. He or she will be given a pass out of class in exchange for the note.
- Then your student will meet you at the east door by the flag pole and can come out when you pull up to the curb.

Option 2: If you know in advance that your child will miss school you can send an email to ermsattendance@dbqschools.org. Please include your child's name, pick-up time and reason for leaving early.

If you need to pick up your student due to a last-minute situation, call the attendance line at **552-5012**. If we received the information through a phone

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CONTACTS

Main Office: 552-5000

Principal: Mr. Jeff Johl

Business Manager/Principal's
Secretary: Mrs. Jordan Coleman

Activities Office: 552-5010

Assistant Principal/Athletic
Director: Mr. Mark Lawler

Assistant Principal's Secretary/
Activities: Mrs. Tiffany Amico

Attendance Office: 552-5012

Assistant Principal: Mrs. Bobbie
Jones

Attendance/Assistant Principal's
Secretary: Mrs. Amanda Herrig

Health Office: 552-5016

Nurse: Mrs. Katie Vogt
Health Para: Mrs. LaKasha Rea

Guidance Office: 552-5013

Grade 6: Mrs. Casie Kaiser
Grade 7: Mrs. Amy Glennon
Grade 8: Mrs. Kerry Elliott

Records/Counselors Secretary:
Ms. Mo Dietzel

DCSD Anonymous Tip Line: 552-3075

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<https://tinyurl.com/ERMsonFB>

PTO:

www.facebook.com/PTOERMS

call, then you have to meet your student in the building. When picking up your student, you will need to enter the building through the door by the flag pole. Then check in with the secretary at the window. **Please notify us as early in the day as possible so that we can better serve you.**

COUNSELORS CORNER

Submitted by: Casie Kaiser, School Counselor

It's hard to believe that we are almost at the end of 1st trimester!

2nd Trimester begins on, November 19th. Please take a look at your students grades in Infinite Campus and Canvas and connect with their teachers if your student needs improvement. If your student is struggling to complete their homework, you can follow your student on Canvas and see the teacher's agenda and what was assigned.

HOMEWORK HELP | ERMS has a homework help program after school on Wednesday's and Thursday's from 2:30-4:00 p.m. If you are interested in your student attending homework help, please contact your student's School Counselor. The Multicultural Family Center is also offering tutoring in all subjects for middle school students on Monday-Thursday from 3:30-5:00 p.m.

CLOTHING PANTRY | As you are aware, the weather is getting chilly! If you are in need of some winter gear, please stop down at our Dubuque Community Clothing Pantry located at NICC Dubuque Center, 700 Main Street. It is open on Monday's from 2-4 p.m. and Wednesday's from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Thanksgiving resources are below:



FOOD AVAILABILITY: THANKSGIVING WEEK 2024

Turkeys, Food Boxes, Meal Bags

Thanksgiving Food Box Giveaway Saturday, November 23, 8:00 - 9:30am Church of the Resurrection, 4300 Asbury Rd. Drive through pick-up in lower church parking lot. One family food box per vehicle.	Thanksgiving Meal Bags Week of November 25th Resources Unite Call by Nov 21st to reserve a Blessing Bag: 563-231-6280. Pick up your reserved bag the week of Nov 25th at Resources Unite, 1900 JFK Rd.
10th Annual Turkey Giveaway Saturday, November 23, 11am Dubuque NAACP Multicultural Family Center, 1157 Central One turkey per family; first come, first served. Please bring ID.	

Free Meals - Thanksgiving Week

Wednesday, Nov. 27 Dinner: 5:00 - 5:30pm St. Patrick's Church, 1425 Iowa St.	Free Community Thanksgiving Meal Thursday, Nov. 28, 11:30am - 1:00pm Sit-down meals - everyone welcome 7 locations across the community: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crescent Community Health Center, 1620 Elm St., Dubuque• Dubuque Rescue Mission, 398 Main St., Dubuque• Hills & Dales Lifetime Center, 3505 Stoneman Rd., Dubuque• Lu Lu's Seldom Scene, 23 Sinsinawa Ave., East Dubuque, IL (call 815-747-8816 to reserve)• Salvation Army, 1099 Iowa St., Dubuque• St. John's Episcopal Church Parish House Community Center, 1458 W. Locust St., Dubuque• Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2155 University Ave., Dubuque Hot meal deliveries for homebound, disabled, shut-ins: Call The Other Side between the hours of 9am - 11am or 2pm - 8pm at 815-747-9049 to provide an address and choose a delivery time.
Thursday, Nov. 28 Breakfast: 7:30am Dubuque Rescue Mission, 398 Main St.	
Friday, Nov. 29 Breakfast: 7:30am; Lunch: 11:30am; Dinner: 5:00pm Dubuque Rescue Mission, 398 Main St.	
Saturday, Nov. 30 Breakfast: 7:00am - 8:30am Dubuque Area Labor Harvest, 423 W. Locust St. Lunch: 11:30am Dubuque Rescue Mission, 398 Main St. Dinner & Food Pantry: 5:00 - 6:00pm St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 1199 Main St. "Food for the Soul" Sit-down meal & food pantry.	

ACTIVITIES OFFICE CONTACTS

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the following staff in the Activities Office:

Mr. Lawler

mlawler@dbqschools.org

Mrs. Amico

tamico@dbqschools.org

Ms. Montana

dmontana@dbqschools.org

PHYSICAL PACKET

Visit the page below to download the complete packet under "Athletics"

<https://www.dbqschools.org/parents/quick-links/forms/>

LEAP INFORMATION

Visit the LEAP page to view upcoming events. Students will either be given a permission form to take home or can pick one up from the Activities Office.

<https://roosevelt.dbqschools.org/activities/leap/>

FOLLOW US ON  :

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PTO:

www.facebook.com/PTOERMS

PBIS PAGE

Submitted by: the PBIS Leadership Team

PAST PBIS EVENTS

Monster Mingle | On October 30th ERMS became a haven for all that is Halloween. Walking through the halls you might have run into witches, goblins and even the occasional banana. If you have a keen eye, you might have spied Waldo. Students tested their knowledge of Halloween trivia and revealed their creative side by decorating pumpkins. A spooktacular day was had by all.

Cocoa in the Courtyard | While the weather was warmer than expected, nearly 750 students participated in this year's PBIS Cocoa in the Courtyard held on October 29th. Marshmallows in hand, students spent their time socializing with their peers and sipping hot chocolate in one of our three courtyards.

UPCOMING PBIS EVENTS

Bingo | Get ready for some fun and excitement at our upcoming PBIS Bingo event! Students can participate with their grade level on either November 22 (8th), November 25 (7th) or November 26 (6th) during 8th period on special schedule days. This event is open to all middle school students and promises a lively atmosphere filled with friendly competition, great prizes, and plenty of laughs. Admission to this event is 7 Raptor Tickets.

PBIS Incentive | As an acknowledgment of meeting Roosevelt's 3Rs, those students who have 1 or fewer major referrals AND 2 or fewer minor referrals are invited to participate in our PBIS Incentive. Each house or grade level will determine what kind of fun events will be offered to students. This event will take place on November 22 (7th), November 25 (6th) and November 26 (8th) during 8th period on special schedule days.

Recognition Rally | On December 9th, Roosevelt will host its first Recognition Rally, where we'll celebrate the accomplishments of our middle school students! This special event will honor students for their achievements in athletics, involvement in school activities, and outstanding behavior. It's a wonderful opportunity for us to recognize their hard work, dedication, and positive impact on our school community.

TEACHING AND RETEACHING EXPECTATIONS

We started the school year with staff focusing on looking for students who are showing respectful behavior. We looked for students who greeted others, used polite language, had positive interactions, and were inclusive of others. Hopefully your child received Raptor tickets for being respectful during the first couple months of school.

We have looked at our referral data and we see that defiance and disruption are the highest reasons for referrals, so our goal in November and December is to reduce those behaviors by 50%. Our plan emphasizes the skills of following directions and accepting feedback appropriately, and we have incentives and data points along the way. We appreciate it when students follow the 3Rs and look forward to great progress as a school. Students who have not met that criteria will have a reteaching lesson.



MUSIC: ORCHESTRA

Submitted by: Natalie Backes, Orchestra Director

Congratulations to Noel Kim! Noel will be at the Iowa Junior Honors Orchestra Festival on November 22nd. Noel currently plays violin in the 7/8 orchestra, Presto orchestra and the Accidentals Quintet coached by Mr. Tyler. This is one of the highest accomplishments for a middle school musician!

WHAT IS FIRST TECH CHALLENGE?

FIRST® Tech Challenge (FTC) is a national competition where students design, build, program and operate a robot to compete in two-on-two matches on a set playing field. Students employ STEM skills to run their robots in an autonomous mode, followed by a controller mode. From coding and engineering to community outreach, the teams build skills and confidence that will be applicable in real-world settings.

Our school has two teams, made up of 7th and 8th graders, that compete in FTC each year—the Robo Raptors and the Royal Robots. The teams are guided by two dedicated leaders, Coach Sendt and Coach Steckel.

To stay up-to-date on the teams, follow them on social media:



Robo Raptors (Team# 20097)
YOUTUBE
@FTC20097dbq

INSTAGRAM
@ftc.20097



Royal Robots (Team# 22479)
INSTAGRAM
@royalrobotsftc_

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PTO:
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FTC: SPOOKY STEAM NIGHT

Submitted by: *Melissa Sendt, First Tech Challenge Coach*

On October 22, Roosevelt's FTC robotics teams hosted a fantastic "Spooky STEAM Night," filled with engaging engineering challenges and hands-on activities that allowed participants to explore the wonders of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) in a fun and festive way. A huge THANK YOU to all the families for your support, and to the students who dressed up in creative costumes! Your enthusiasm made the event truly special. We're proud of our team's hard work and can't wait for more exciting events ahead!



SAVE THE DATE: Join us for our first competition on Saturday, November 23rd at the University of Dubuque Chlapaty Recreation & Wellness Center. Teams check-in at 7:30 a.m. and the event will begin after all the teams are set up and robots have been inspected. That means the start time for matches isn't set, but a range is between 9-10 a.m. The event will run until around 2 p.m.



PTO BOARD

Jeff Johl, School Principal
Bobbie Jones, Asst. Principal
Mark Lawler, Asst. Principal
Angela Pickel, Staff Rep.

2024-25 OFFICERS

President:

Brenda Nank
ERMSPTO@yahoo.com

Vice-President:

Open Position

Treasurer:

Tammy Rausch
trausch2@yahoo.com

Secretary:

Angela Pickel

2024-25 COMMITTEES

Sports/Activity Booster:

Mark Lawler
mlawler@dbqschools.org

Dance Committee:

Open Position

Hospitality:

Open Position

Newsletter & Social Media:

Kimberly Davis
kmdavis@gmail.com

Spirit Nights:

Open Position

Spirit Wear:

Lynn Valley
lynn.valley11@gmail.com

Yearbook:

Alex Schiavoni
aschiavoni@dbqschools.org
Stacey Bryson
sbryson@dbqschools.org

NEXT PTO MEETING

Our next meeting is December 5th at 6:00 p.m. Please follow us on Facebook (see link below) to stay up-to-date with new info and events.

FOLLOW US ON :

School:

<https://tinyurl.com/ERMsonFB>

PTO:

www.facebook.com/PTOERMS

ERMS PTO

SPIRIT NIGHT | A great way to make dinner plans and support Roosevelt's PTO is by joining our monthly "School Spirit Fundraising Nights." **Our next Spirit Night is on Wednesday, November 13th at Your Pie. They have generously offered to donate 10% of the fundraiser sales back to our PTO to benefit our school!** So mark your calendar and tell your friends and family. See below for details.

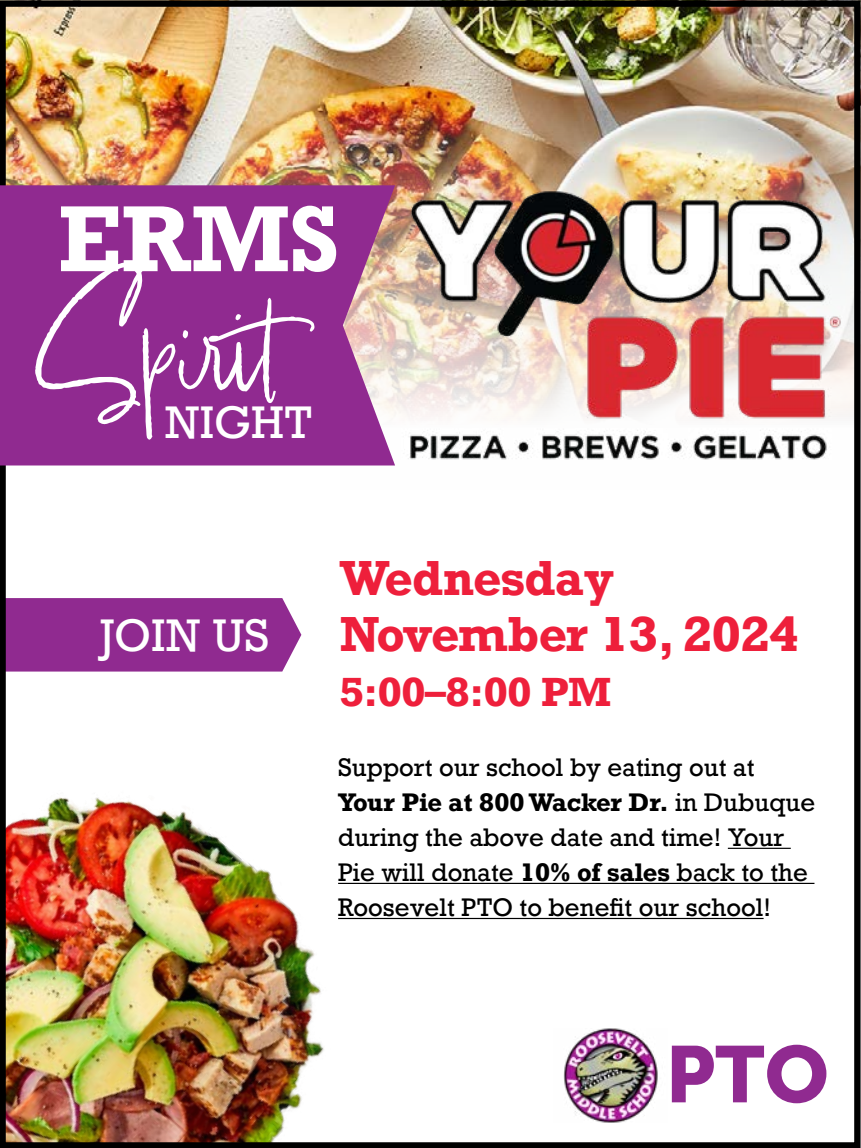
Also, watch our social media for when we have more details on our December Spirit Night at **Texas Road House**.

PTO MEETINGS | Join us at our next meeting on **Thursday, December, 5th** in the school library. Block out your calendar with all of our meetings dates:

December 5, 2024
January 9, 2025

February 6, 2025
March 6, 2025

April 3, 2025
May 1, 2025




ERMS
Spirit
NIGHT

YOUR
PIE
PIZZA • BREWS • GELATO

JOIN US

Wednesday
November 13, 2024
5:00–8:00 PM

Support our school by eating out at **Your Pie at 800 Wacker Dr.** in Dubuque during the above date and time! Your Pie will donate 10% of sales back to the Roosevelt PTO to benefit our school!

 **PTO**



ELEANOR ROOSEVELT MIDDLE SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 7GBB @ Jeff 8PGBB vs Jeff 8SGBB vs WD Red	3 Fundraiser Distribution 7GBB vs WD Black 8PGBB @ WD Black 8SGBB @ Mazz Choir Concert 7pm	4 Wrestling @ Home	5 7GBB vs Mazz 8PGBB @ Mazz 8SGBB @ WD Red PTO Meeting 6pm	6 Winter Dance 2:30-4:30	7 FLL Competition NEIBA Honor Band
8	9 Wrestling @ Wahlert HS 7GBB vs Wash 8PGBB @ Wash	10 8SGBB vs Jeff	11	12 Fundraiser Fun Fest 8SGBB vs WD Black	13 8 th Grade Career Fair	14 FTC Meet
15	16 8 th Grade Senior Orchestra/Band Fly Up	17	18	19 Holiday Ensembles @ Kennedy Mall	20 Music Day	21
22	23 NO SCHOOL	24 NO SCHOOL	25 NO SCHOOL	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL	28
29	30 NO SCHOOL	31 NO SCHOOL				

DISTRICT INFORMATION

SAFE ZONE

This school is free of harassment, bullying and discrimination. The Anti-Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination Assurance Statement and School Board Polycys #1001/#1005 is available at The Forum, 2300 Chaney Road, Dubuque, Iowa 52001. Questions can be directed to 552-3000.

LUNCH MENU HOTLINE

Call the lunch menu hotline for the DCSD menu of the day at 552-3250. NSF CHECKS (NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS) There is a \$20.00 charge for all NSF checks per DCSD guidelines.

ABSENCE PROCEDURES

When a student is absent from school, the parent or guardian should call the Attendance Office (563-552-5012) before 9:00 a.m. Please be sure to give your name, student name and reason for the absence. If you prefer send us an email to ERMSAttendance@dbqschools.org.

PAY STUDENT FEES ONLINE

Parents, can pay student fees and deposit breakfast/lunch money into your child's meal account by using the Infinite Campus website or app under "My Accounts".

WEATHER HOTLINE

The Dubuque Community School District has a "Weather Hotline." When school may be closed due to inclement weather, individuals may call 552-3035 for school district updates. In addition, YOU CAN NOW press "1" for athletic contest changes and press "2" for fine arts activity changes. You can also sign up for Iowa School Alerts at: <https://schoolalerts.iowa.gov>