

OUR MISSION

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

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT REPORT

MIDDLE SCHOOL

VOLUME 25 | ISSUE 1 | SEPTEMBER 2025

THIS ISSUE

Notes from Mr. Johll.....	1-3
Attendance Procedure	3-4
Nurses Notes.....	4
Activities Office.....	4
Counselors Corner	4-5
PBIS	6
Music: Band	7
PTO Note	7-9
District Information.....	10

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

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NOTES FROM MR. JOHLL

Dear Roosevelt Families,

Welcome to a new school year and this first edition of our parent newsletter for 2025-2026. Our monthly newsletter is a collaborative effort between the Roosevelt staff and our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). I want to publicly thank our PTO board member, Kim Davis, for her work as the main editor, and to my secretary, Jordan Coleman, for her assistance in putting together this monthly newsletter. Also, thank you to our staff for contributing information to share with families.

It has been a wonderful beginning of another year of learning with our students. This is the start of our twenty-first year at Roosevelt! I have been impressed with the learning experiences that our teachers have designed and implemented, and the active engagement of our students with those lessons. The students have been respectful, responsible, and resourceful in their learning! We truly have a superb teaching staff that works with a wonderful group of students!



NEW STAFF | This year we have some new staff that we want to welcome to our Roosevelt team. They are:

- Kaitlyn O'Brien – Language Arts (House 6-3)
- Lisa Barbee – Science (House 6-3)

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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

@mspociask_ela

HOUSE 8-2

@house82_erms

@Mrs_Norby

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- Kainoa Gerard – Math (House 7-1)
- Lauren Fetzer – Language Arts (House 8-1)
- Brianna Burkart – Special Education
- Jennifer Fuller – Special Education
- Sara Dowell – Counselor (Grade 6)
- Linda Zillig – Instructional Coach
- Christa Greer – Paraprofessional
- Amber Edens – Paraprofessional
- Bethany Blankenship – Educational Interpreter

Please join me in welcoming them to Roosevelt!

ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH | Research shows that regular school attendance is an important factor that contributes to a student's academic success. Our high schools have closely monitored the connection between attendance and credit attainment, and what they have found is that students who attend at least ninety percent of the time are far more likely to earn credit in their courses. Here at Roosevelt, we see a similar pattern—students who have a ninety percent or higher attendance rate are more likely to be successful academically in their classes. To support strong attendance, we do offer help and resources to assist families and students in building strong attendance habits. If you need assistance establishing a consistent attendance routine for your child(ren), please don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to help. We also ask families to be thoughtful when scheduling absences. While we understand that certain situations are unavoidable, we ask that you consider alternatives that allow your student to be at Roosevelt whenever possible. At Roosevelt, we want to help every student learn and grow. Strong attendance will help them have the opportunity to succeed.



PARENTSQUARE, INFINITE CAMPUS AND CANVAS | Earlier this week, Mr. Spires, our technology coach sent a Parent Square message regarding Infinite Campus and Canvas. If you have not, please review the attachments that came with it. We will continue to utilize Parent Square as the primary online tool for communicating information with families. We ask that families check their email addresses and phone numbers on Infinite Campus for accuracy. Depending on your preference settings in Parent Square, both are potentially utilized to send messages home. You can also keep up with events at school by following our school website, our school Facebook page, or one of many Instagram pages that our staff use to show what is happening at school.

IREADY DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENTS | As you may have seen in a Parent Square message, this month our students took a diagnostic assessment to help us in meeting the individual learning needs of all students—the iReady Diagnostic Assessment. The iReady is done three times a year in the areas of math and reading. This online screener and program allows us to determine your child's strengths and areas for growth, it personalizes student learning, and it allows us to monitor progress. It also allows us to meet your child(ren) where they are at and provides us with data to inform future instruction. Our next round of diagnostic screening will be done in January. Look for more information coming home via Parent Square.

PTO FUNDRAISER | Beginning on September 19 and continuing into early October, our school will once again be conducting our annual school fundraiser in partnership with our PTO. We will continue to work with Pinnacle Fundraising, as we have since the opening of our school in 2005. We will be selling magazine subscriptions, various frozen food items, and holiday themed

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ADDITIONAL ERMS INSTAGRAM USER NAMES

@ermslibrary
@msmontanaerms
@feldermanwellness
@lucaswellness1002
@erms.orch
@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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Click **HERE** for our **PTO** page!

items. Look for more information coming home with your child(ren) and also a Parent Square message.

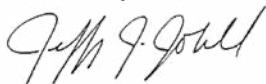
ATHLETICS | It's been exciting to see so many students engaged in our fall after-school athletic programs. Across seventh and eighth grade volleyball, cross country, and football practices—as well as our sixth-grade track program—students are not only building skills but also experiencing valuable learning opportunities. We are grateful for the dedication and hard work of our coaches, whose support makes these programs possible. Their commitment helps build teamwork and sportsmanship in all students who participate. We look forward to a great season ahead!

MARCHING BAND | Congratulations to the marching band students who performed in the Labor Day Parade downtown. They sounded great!

ID's | Student IDs are required to be worn at all times during the school day. The school has provided each student with an ID and a lanyard. If your child(ren) loses their ID, replacement IDs can be purchased for three dollars. Please help your child(ren) develop a good routine for their ID to avoid needing to purchase a replacement. One routine that works especially well is to have your student keep their ID in their locker if they don't need it that night.

Thank you for allowing us to partner with you in the education of your child(ren) here at Roosevelt. I wish each of you a wonderful September and fall season!

Sincerely,



Mr. 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.

Best procedure for your convenience: ERMS Attendance procedure for picking up your student for an appointment during school hours.

- 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 he or she 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.

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CONTACTS

Main Office: 552-5000

Principal: Mr. Jeff Johll

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. Dana Sullivan

Guidance Office: 552-5013

Grade 6: Mrs. Sara Dowell
Grade 7: Mrs. Casie Kaiser
Grade 8: Mrs. Amy Glennon

Records/Counselors Secretary:
Ms. Mo Dietzel

DCSD Anonymous Tip Line: 552-3075

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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 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.**

NURSES NOTES

Reminder, students must be evaluated by the Health Office before going home ill. The absence is unexcused if a student calls or texts a guardian for pick up.

- 1. We can no longer give cough drops or Tums to students.**
- 2. Written consent has to be obtained before giving Tylenol or Motrin to students. We can no longer call home for verbal consent.**

ILLNESS REMINDERS: Students with a temperature of 100.4 F or higher should stay home until fever free for 24 hours without any fever-reducing medication.

If your child is ill, PLEASE keep them home to avoid passing the illness to their class. DCSD requires a student to be free of fever (without Tylenol or Ibuprofen), vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school.

ACTIVITIES OFFICE

Submitted by: Mark Lawler, Assistant Principal/Activities Director

We are well underway with fall sports and seeing many Raptors finding new opportunities for learning and success. We shared with all the student-athletes that passing your classes and following the 3Rs are critical to that success and teamwork so that failing grades and behavior referrals do not limit your time with your team on the field, court, or course.

Students have also had opportunities to apply for Student Council, FIRST LEGO League (FLL) and FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC)—our two robotics programs at school. Those teams are just warming up for their seasons.

A community partner is the Dubuque Esports League, and they offer a non-competitive middle school esports club on Monday nights 6-8 p.m. Students can register at www.dbqesports.org.

There will be other opportunities on the horizon for being involved in after school activities, as well as some during school. Students and families should keep an eye on the announcements for alerts. On the Roosevelt website, clicking on the megaphone will take you to the daily announcements to stay up to date.

As always, if you have any questions you can contact us in the Activities Office at **563-552-5010** or tamico@dbqschools.org.

COUNSELORS CORNER

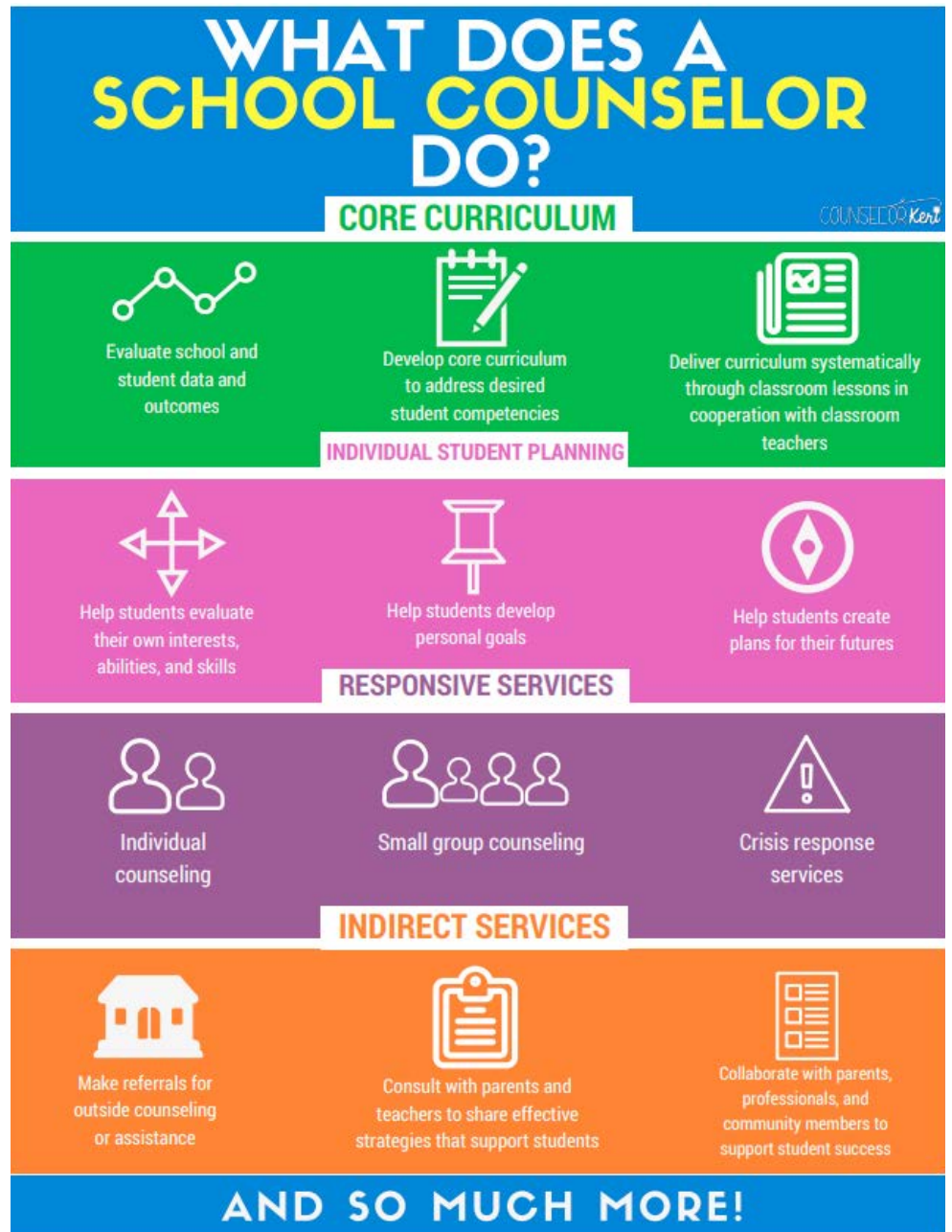
Submitted by: Sara Dowell, Counselor

WELCOME BACK!!!

We are super EXCITED to start the 2025-2026 school year! Each counselor is assigned to a grade at ERMS and will follow the students all 3 years. Mrs. Dowell has 6th grade, Mrs. Kaiser has 7th grade and Mrs. Glennon has 8th grade. Your student will continue to have access to a Counseling Canvas Page, which will

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include resources and lessons. We also invite parents/guardians to follow our canvas course!



Please feel free to contact your student's counselor with any questions or concerns.

Sara Dowell, 6th grade
563-552-5008
sdowell@dbqschools.org

Casie Kaiser, 7th grade
563-552-5009
cakaiser@dbqschools.org

Amy Glennon, 8th grade
563-552-5007
aglennon@dbqschools.org

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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. It is the first link on the page titled: Athletic Participation Required Forms (PDF)

<https://roosevelt.dbqschools.org/athletics/forms-and-documents/>

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/>

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PBIS PAGE

Submitted by: PBIS Leadership Team

Families, you may have heard your student talk about the PBIS assembly, tickets, or events. PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) is a framework that many schools across the nation and our school district uses to create a positive school environment. PBIS helps the adults at school design a multi-tiered continuum that supports the academic, social, emotional, and behavioral competence of all students. We teach our expectations, recognize students when they meet expectations, provide reteaching and consequences when needed, and use data to analyze our progress.

Our expectations are the **3Rs** that you probably have heard about. They are:

- **Respectful:** How we interact with one another
- **Responsible:** How we get our work done
- **Resourceful:** What we need to get our work done

We break those down further and teach students six Essential Academic and Social Behavior Standards, and each of them has more specific skills that we will teach throughout the year. Those behavior standards are:

- I organize and prioritize my work.
- I follow directions and initiate tasks.
- I persevere to get the task done.
- I use responsible decision-making to meet expectations.
- I accept feedback from others and respond appropriately.
- I interact with others in kind and respectful ways.

For the first part of the school year, we have focused on respectful interactions, like greeting others, being kind to peers, and treating staff respectfully. When students do that, we try to recognize them with Raptor tickets. Students can use those tickets for small things in the house that teachers allow, Lunch on the Lawn, as well as monthly PBIS events like Chill-N-Chat, BINGO, trivia, dodge ball, movie day, raffles, and others.

We are also teaching students lessons about school safety, how to report if they see or hear anything threatening, how to not use threatening language, and what bullying and harassment is and how to avoid it.

We are going to have school-wide recognition assemblies in the gym at the end of each trimester, and Raptor Raves will be announced at those assemblies, with families of the students invited to attend. Each house will recognize two students for being Respectful, two for being Responsible, and two for being Resourceful. We will also recognize students who have been leaders on their teams and groups, always demonstrating the 3Rs, with the Positive Impact Award.

Additional recognition of students with few referrals will occur at the end of each trimester. Behavior referrals are separated into two categories: major (office-managed) and minor (classroom/teacher-managed). House teachers will provide an incentive like a field day outside, playing games in the gym, walking to Asbury Park, playing board games in the classroom, etc. Students will be able to participate if they have less than 2 major referrals or less than 3 minor referrals during the trimester. Students who have more referrals than that will stay in a classroom and staff will provide reteaching through a restorative circle, as well as time for reflection.

Another fun activity you may hear about is the Birthday Box. On the day of each student's birthday, we will wish them a Happy Birthday and let them choose a gift like a pencil, mini squishy, fidget, etc. We will also make sure to provide a gift to students who have a birthday on a day when we are not in school.

We appreciate your support to encourage students to follow the 3Rs, as they are expectations students will experience at school, home, and other places they go. We also hope you hear about some of the fun things we are doing at school to create a positive, safe environment for students to learn.

MUSIC: BAND

Submitted by: Staci Amosson, Band Director

ERMS BAND PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

DATE	TIME	EVENT	WHO	LOCATION
Tuesday, November 11, 2025	7:00 p.m.	1st Trimester Band Concert	All Band Students	ERMS Auditorium
Thursday, December 11, 2025	TBA (during the school day)	Jazz Band & Presto Performance	Jazz Band Students & Presto Students	Kennedy Mall
Thursday, February 12, 2026	TBA (during the school day)	NEIBA Large Group Festival	All Band Students	University of Dubuque Heritage Center
Monday, February 16, 2026	7:00 p.m.	2nd Trimester Band Concert	All Band Students	ERMS Auditorium
Monday, February 23, 2026	6:30 p.m.	DCSD Jazz Festival	Jazz Band Students	Senior HS Auditorium
Monday, March 16, 2026	6:30 p.m.	Senior Zone Band Festival	Band Students Zoned to Attend Senior HS	Senior HS Gym
Monday, March 23, 2026	6:30 p.m.	Hempstead Zone Band Festival	Band Students Zoned to Attend Hempstead HS	Hempstead HS Gym
Tuesday, May 5, 2026	7:00 p.m.	3rd Trimester Band Concert	All Band Students	ERMS Auditorium

ERMS PTO

Hello Roosevelt Families,

To start, I want to introduce myself, my name is Christy Heller and I am the new PTO President. I'm excited to take on the leadership role this year and to help make it a great year for all our students. At our first PTO meeting, we identified the goal of increasing partnerships with student clubs and groups this year. We want to have a more impactful relationship with students and help support their passions and interests.

Each month check out this section in the newsletter to learn about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities. There are opportunities, large and small to give back to our school—your help makes a BIG difference and is greatly appreciated! If you would like additional information or have any questions contact me at ERMSPTO@yahoo.com.

SCHOOL DANCE | Friday, October 24th is our first School Dance! The PTO will be partnering with the Student Council to host the Halloween-themed dance. Students are allowed to dress in costume for this event, however please follow all guidelines and rules set by the Roosevelt administration. Concessions will be available, at cost, to students—cash only. A pre-purchased ticket (\$5 each)

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PTO BOARD

Jeff Johl, School Principal
Bobbie Jones, Asst. Principal
Mark Lawler, Asst. Principal
Tiffany Amico, Staff Representative

2025-26 OFFICERS

President:

Christy Heller
ermspto@yahoo.com

Vice-President:

Jessica Schreyer

Treasurer:

Tiffany Amico

Assistant Treasurer:

OPEN POSITION

Secretary:

OPEN POSITION

2025-26 COMMITTEES

Sports/Activity Booster:

Mark Lawler

Apparel Chair:

Lynn Valley

Events Chair:

Amanda Backstrom

Hospitality Chair:

Angela Ambrose

Communications Chair:

Kimberly Davis

Fundraising Chair:

Emily Sunquist

Membership Chair:

OPEN POSITION

Yearbook:

Stacey Bryson
Alex Schiavoni

NEXT PTO MEETING

Our next meeting is October 2nd at 6:00 p.m. Please follow us on Facebook (see link below) to stay up-to-date with new info and events.

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Click **HERE** for our **PTO** page!

is required for admission. **Students can purchase tickets during their lunch period from Wednesday, October 22nd through Friday, October 24th.**

NOTE: There will be NO ticket sales the night of the dance.

VOLUNTEERING | There will be multiple volunteer opportunities available for upcoming events. We will send out a SignUpGenius link with dates and time slots for volunteers to sign up for each specific event. Watch our Facebook and Instagram for the link. Opportunities include:

School Dance:

- Ticket Sales (during school lunches)
- Dance Chaperones (night of event)
- Concession Sales (night of event)

Conferences:

- Snack donations
- Drink donations

SPIRIT NIGHTS | A great way to support our school is to attend our Spirit Nights. Each month we partner with a restaurant and they donate a portion of sales back to our PTO to benefit our school. **Our next Spirit Night is on Wednesday, September 30th at the Jersey Mike's at 4855 Asbury Road, Suite 1.** Save the date and please share with your friends and family.



ROOSEVELT PTO SPIRIT NIGHT
JERSEY MIKE'S
FUNDRAISER
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 4-9 PM
ONLY AT 4855 ASBURY RD., SUITE 1

Good goes beyond the sub! Visit our store and **MENTION ROOSEVELT SPIRIT NIGHT** or order on our app using **promo code JMGIVES** on September 30th and we'll happily **donate 50% of your sale** in support of Eleanor Roosevelt PTO. Enjoy some great subs and help Jersey Mike's support this worthy cause!

Valid 09/30/2025 at 4855 Asbury Rd Suite 1, Dubuque, IA • (563) 207-8749.
Valid on our app with promo code JMGIVES or MENTION this fundraiser when ordering in store.

 **PTO**

PTO MEETINGS | Our meetings are typically held on the first Thursday of each month from 6–7 p.m. in the school library. Join our next meeting on **Thursday, October, 2nd**. Save the following dates as well:

October 2, 2025
November 6, 2025*
December 4, 2025

January 8, 2026**
February 5, 2026
March 5, 2026

April 9, 2026**
May 7, 2026

*PLEASE NOTE: *Begins at 5:30 p.m. ** Second Thursday of the month*

Together, we can make this a great year!

Christy Heller, *PTO President*



PTO

WE NEED YOU! Are you passionate about making a difference in our school community? Our ERMS PTO is here to enhance our students' educational experience. Join us to help shape a brighter future for our students. Your involvement makes all the difference!

WHAT IS THE PTO

PTO stands for Parent-Teacher Organization. Our PTO is a group of dedicated parents/guardians, teachers and staff working together to support and enrich our students' lives. Our members are united by a common goal: **to provide a nurturing and dynamic learning environment.**

WHAT WE DO

FUNDRAISING | Our creative fundraising initiatives help provide essential resources and technology that benefit our school community.

ORGANIZING & HOSTING EVENTS | From school dances to Spirit Nights, we create memorable experiences for students and families.

ENHANCING/SUPPORTING SCHOOL PROGRAMS | We are able to fully or partially fund activities that enrich the learning experience inside the classroom and in after-school activities like LEAP. We help fill the gaps that are not funded through standard means.

COMMUNITY BUILDING | We foster a strong connection among parents, teachers, and students through volunteer opportunities and social events.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

JOIN US | Attend our monthly meetings and become an active participant in our initiatives.

VOLUNTEER | Help out at events, assist with fundraising activities, chair a committee—we could go on and on! Needless to say, we have many volunteer opportunities, large and small, for you. Every little bit helps!

DONATE | Contribute financially or with food and drink donations to support our school events and projects.

STAY CONNECTED



@ermstodbq



@PTOERMS

Make sure to follow us on social media for updates, event details, and more. If you have questions or want to sign up for our emails, contact us at ERMSPTO@yahoo.com



ELEANOR ROOSEVELT MIDDLE SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Picture Retake Day	2 7BVB vs Wash White 8BVB @ Wash White 8BFB vs Wash 8PFB @ Jefferson PTO Meeting 6pm	3 7PVB @ Wash Blue 7SVB vs Jefferson 8PVB vs Wash Blue 8SVB @ Jefferson	4
5	6 7PVB vs WD Black 8PVB @ WD Black XC @ Bellevue Fundraiser Turn in	7 7BVB vs Mazz Gold 7SVB @ WD Red 8BVB @ Mazz Gold 8SVB vs WD Red 7PFB @ Washington 7BFB @ Mazz XC @ Manchester	8 7PVB @ Jefferson 8PVB vs Jefferson	9 8BFB vs 8PFB	10 NO SCHOOL	11
12	13 8BFB @ Washington 8PFB vs Jefferson *Activities Grade Check* Fundraiser late turn in	14 7PFB vs 7BFB XC @ DSC	15	16 8BFB @ Jefferson 8PFB @ Mazz	17	18
19	20 8 th Grade Field Trip	21 8 th Grade Field Trip	22	23 Parent/Teacher Conferences	24 Fall Dance 6:00-8:00	25 Kalahari Trip
26	27 7 th and 8 th Grade Girls Basketball begins 7 th and 8 th Grade Wrestling begins	28	29 Parent/Teacher Conferences	30 NO SCHOOL Parent/Teacher Conferences	31 NO SCHOOL	*All events start at 4pm unless otherwise noted

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>