



September | 08 | 2020

First Day of Virtual Learning is in the Books - #DvilleDayOne



Welcome back, Duncanville ISD family. This first day of school is certainly like no other we have ever experienced. As teachers logged in to their virtual classrooms and students tuned in to live classes, we officially got the 2020-2021 school year underway.

Keeping with tradition, Duncanville ISD Superintendent Dr. Marc Smith visited campuses and departments to encourage teachers and staff. And our Communications Department captured important moments from this first day of school.

Watch the video above and click [here](#) to see a photo gallery.

District Opens Technology Hotline for First Week of Virtual School

**PARENT TECHNOLOGY
HOTLINE**

ENGLISH
972-708-2375

SPANISH
972-708-2385

Duncanville ISD created a call center staffed by district employees to help students and parents navigate the technology and software necessary for virtual learning.

Volunteer staff will answer calls from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the first three days of school - Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday - to talk students and parents through solutions for technological issues that may arise.

Last week, Duncanville ISD distributed nearly 4,000 loaner devices to students and plans to provide more devices as Chromebooks, laptops and iPads are delivered to the district.

The district has purchased more than 6,000 new devices during the summer using \$2.8 million approved by the Board of Trustees.

Counseling Department Launches Wellness Newsletter for District Families



Leonard Dunmore, Jr. & Duncanville High School Counselor, Takoya Mandigo

Each month, the Duncanville ISD Counseling Department will be creating and sending out a newsletter designed especially for district families.

This month's newsletter includes the following testimonial about the importance of relationships from Duncanville High School graduate, Leonard Dunmore, Junior:

It is important to have encouragement as you walk through life. This is why relationships are important. I'm often able to encourage myself, but in this particular season of my life I'm glad to have met my counselor, Ms. Mandigo. I met Ms. Mandigo my senior year of high school. Emotional support counselors were a new thing, but I guess you can say they came right on time. My mother passed October 20, 2019. It put a major dent in my senior year. However, thankfully, when I was able to return, I had an emotional support counselor waiting to assist me.

Ms. Mandigo helped me to channel my emotions, push through my hopelessness and stay motivated to accomplish my goal of walking across the stage. She has now become family in my life. It's important that we have people we can count on because sometimes we can't count on ourselves. We need people to help motivate us and hold us accountable. I think the emotional support staff was a great addition to the Duncanville community.

Leonard Dunmore, Jr.
Duncanville High School Class of 2020

To read more from this month's Counseling Department newsletter, click [here](#).

Upcoming Events:

- First Day of School**, Tuesday, Sept. 8
- Intermediate Virtual Meet the Teacher**, Thursday, Sept. 10 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Middle School Virtual Meet the Teacher**, Thursday, Sept. 17 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Board of Trustees Meeting**, Monday, Sept. 21 at 6:30 p.m.
- High School Virtual Meet the Teacher**, Thursday, Sept. 24 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.



The Informer is distributed by the Communications Department at Duncanville ISD. The weekly newsletter, published each Monday, is intended to keep the community informed about important news and events happening within the district. Story ideas or questions can be directed to: [Lari Barager](#) - Director of External Communications

news@duncanvilleisd.org

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