



August | 31 | 2020

## District Ready to Welcome Back Students Virtually



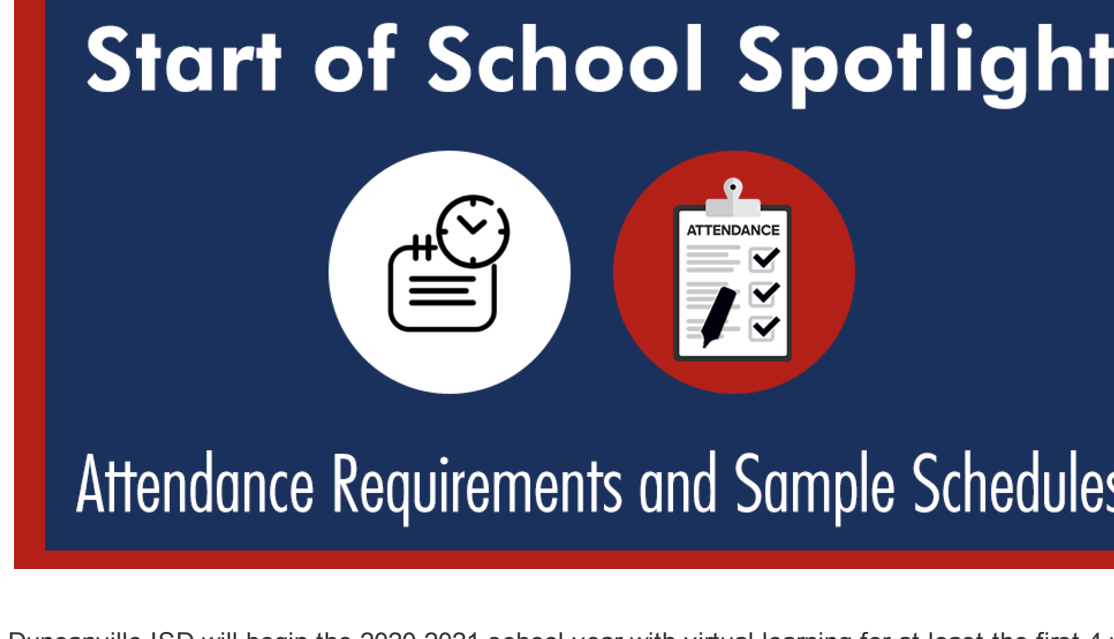
We're just one week from the start of school, and we are looking forward to seeing you - even if classes are virtual for the first four weeks.

We are planning to keep our tradition of featuring first day of school pictures on our district social media, so please submit your first day photos to [news@duncanvilleisd.org](mailto:news@duncanvilleisd.org) or use the hashtags: #DvilleDayOne, #ONEDville or #WeAreDville.

We will select the top 10 photos to receive a prize - including backpacks or Duncanville ISD branded face masks. Be sure to indicate your student's name and campus when you post or email the picture.

If you would like an idea of what a day in the life of virtual school will look like, play the video above. The Spanish version is available [here](#).

## Start of School Spotlight: Attendance Requirements and Sample Schedules



Duncanville ISD will begin the 2020-2021 school year with virtual learning for at least the first 4 weeks of school. Although students will be learning at home, expectations for attendance and curriculum for the start of this year will more closely follow traditional school requirements than the classes students experienced at the end of last school year.

**Attendance**  
Beginning Sept. 8, teachers will take daily attendance based on the student's participation in online learning and the completion of independent work.

All students must either submit an assignment or activity, interact with their classroom teacher or work in their virtual classroom for each class or subject each day by 11:59 p.m. to be counted present.

**Live and Recorded Instruction**  
Students have the option of participating in *live* sessions, viewing *recorded* lessons or a combination of both. Teachers will post all lessons, assignments and *recorded* instructional sessions online via Google Classroom.

To get the most out of virtual learning, students are encouraged to engage with teachers and classmates through *live* sessions. All students will have the option to participate in *live* lessons, *live* question-and-answer sessions and *live* small group instruction scheduled at specific times by their teachers. Teachers will use a combination of *live* learning sessions followed by time for students to complete independent work. The schedule will also include lunch and other breaks throughout the day.

If students are not able to view a class live, they can utilize the *recorded* instruction. Teachers will record their daily lessons and make them available to students through Google Classroom. Students will not be penalized for missing live sessions with the instructor. Students can view *recorded* lessons and complete pre-assigned work on their own as long as they turn it in daily by 11:59 p.m.

Sample schedules can be viewed [here](#).

## Technology Department to Begin Device Distribution



Starting September 1, the Technology Department will begin distributing about 3,800 loaner devices with a focus on initially providing one device per household. Students and their families will be notified by email and phone that they will receive a loaner device. To ensure you can be reached, all families should confirm that the email and phone number listed in Skyward Family Access is current.

The district has purchased more than 6,000 new devices using the \$2.8 million approved this summer by the Board of Trustees. Due to the purchase demand from schools across the nation, not all devices will be here before the start of school. As new devices arrive, they will be distributed to students and staff as soon as possible.

You can find more information on Duncanville ISD device distribution policies and procedures [here](#) and [here](#).

If you have further questions, contact the Technology Department at [techsupport@duncanvilleisd.org](mailto:techsupport@duncanvilleisd.org) or 972-708-2300.

## Pre-Orders Required for Curbside Meal Service During Virtual Learning

The start of school means the return of serving meals to students. All virtual learners will have the opportunity to receive a weekly meal bundle through contactless curbside pickup at the student's home campus. If a family has students at different locations, meals can be obtained at one campus of choice.



Each student will receive a meal bundle of five breakfast and five lunch meals consisting of whole grains, fruits, vegetables, protein, and milk. Breakfast is free to all students. Those who qualify will receive free lunch, others will be required to pay either \$2.00/week (reduced) or \$15/week (paid).

One notable change to the usual way meals are provided is that **meals must be pre-ordered each Wednesday by 1:30 p.m. for the following week.** Parents/guardians can call or email your child's campus cafeteria manager to reserve your meals. A contact list for campus cafeteria staff and more information about meal distribution can be found [here](#). Click [here](#) to apply for the free and reduced lunch program.

It is important to note that **the first week of school meal orders must be placed by September 2, 2020**

## Police Department's Dispatch Center Now In-District

**Duncanville ISD Police Communications Department  
Dispatch Services**

**NEED THE POLICE ?**  
\*NEW School Police Dispatch Number\*  
**972-708-2270**

**SECURITY - NON-CRIMINAL**  
**972 708-2273**

**SECURITY CAMERAS /ACCESS CONTROL**  
**972 708-2273**



The Duncanville ISD Police Department is now operating its own police dispatch services. Prior to developing the Duncanville ISD Police Department, the school district had an agreement with Mansfield ISD Police to provide dispatch services to send our school district officers to calls.

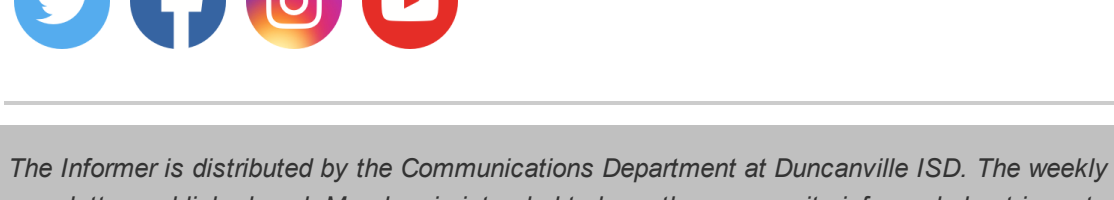
The new phone number for emergency or police assistance on campus is 972-208-2270. Police dispatcher Valorie Campos is the voice you will hear on the other end of the phone when you call for police assistance.

When speaking to the dispatcher remember to stay calm, speak clearly and answer all questions asked of you as accurately as possible so the responding officer has the information he or she needs to help.

Please note, if you do not know whether you need Police or Security, please call the dispatcher at 972-708-2270 and the dispatcher will ensure the appropriate security resource is notified to respond.

## Upcoming Events:

- Elementary Virtual Meet the Teacher**, Thursday, Sept. 3
- Labor Day Holiday**, Monday, Sept. 7, no classes
- First Day of School**, Tuesday, Sept. 8
- Intermediate Virtual Meet the Teacher**, Thursday, Sept. 10



The Informer is published by the Communications Department at Duncanville ISD. The weekly newsletter, distributed 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