



October | 19 | 2020

Back to School: The Sequel has Arrived



Duncanville ISD teachers were all smiles as they took temperatures, provided hand sanitizer and regularly cleaned their classrooms today, because they had students back on campus. The school district welcomed students who chose In-Person Learning during the enrollment process. This is the first part of a phase-in approach to return students to traditional school settings with enhanced safety procedures.

The district will make it possible for families to change their learning preference between In-Person Learning and Virtual Learning at the end of each 9-week grading period. The window to change a student's learning preference for the second 9-week grading period is currently open until Monday, Oct. 26, and can be changed using the Learning Preference Change Form [here](#). The second 9-week grading period starts Monday, Nov. 9.

See photos of Back to School: The Sequel [here](#).

Education Foundation Donates \$100,00 for Student Technology, Launches Giving Campaign



The Duncanville ISD Education Foundation presented a \$100,000 check to the district last Friday to be used in support of student technology needs.

Though some Duncanville ISD students are now returning to traditional classrooms, the need for iPads, Chromebooks, laptops and hot spots continues to be a high priority. The Education Foundation saw that need and stepped up with funding.

"Our presence here is an affirmation of our support for the school district, Dr. Smith, administrators, teachers and staff but mainly for the students," said Education Foundation Board President, Dr. Mike Miner. "We support them all."

Since its inception in 1996, the Duncanville ISD Education has provided more than \$1 million to fund innovative teaching projects.

"There is nothing better than doing something that can have a positive impact in the life of another person," said Duncanville ISD Superintendent Dr. Marc Smith. "What you all have done, the commitment you have made, we appreciate that and don't take it for granted."

In order to continue supporting our students and teachers, the Education Foundation is launching a larger giving campaign involving community members, local businesses and corporate partners. The first fundraising component of this campaign includes a raffle to give away a convertible 2007 Chrysler Crossfire.

The foundation will sell 500 raffle tickets for \$100 each. You can call the Education Foundation office at 972-533-3848 to purchase. More information about the Duncanville ISD Education Foundation [here](#).

Making the Grade Provides Students with a Special Payday



Daniela Pedraja (pictured at right)

A group of 63 Duncanville High School students were greeted with cheers, awards and money last week. The students each received checks ranging from \$100 to \$200 for their performance on the Advanced Placement (AP) exams. Duncanville ISD celebrated the occasion with a drive-through event where a total of \$6,000 was distributed to students.

This event concluded the first year of a three-year grant for \$750,000 from the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) and Texas Instruments. The grant provides monetary incentives to students who scored a 3 or higher on AP exams in English, language arts and reading, math, science and computer science.

Daniela Pedraja, a senior at the Duncanville High School Collegiate Academy, said the opportunity to earn money helped motivate her to study and prepare for her AP biology exam.

"I did NMSI Saturday study sessions," Daniela said. "It was a hard course, but I knew I would overcome any challenges because taking college classes has prepared me for something like this."

Daniela plans to save the NMSI money for high school expenses, such as a cap and gown, or college.

Read more [here](#).

National Principals Month is Opportunity to Recognize District Leaders



October is National Principals Month, and throughout the month we have been sharing videos celebrating Duncanville ISD's principals on district social media and here in our weekly newsletter. This week, we recognize Derrick Ross, Tamra Thompson, Kendria Davis-Martin and Rahien Williams

We appreciate everything our amazing principals do to provide safe, encouraging learning environments for our students.

Join us in recognizing our principals and saying, "Thank you."

Upcoming Events:

In-Person Learning Begins, on Monday, Oct. 19 for students who chose In-Person Learning at the beginning of the school year

Duncanville ISD Board of Trustees, meeting on Monday, Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m. for closed executive session. The public portion of the meeting begins at approximately 7:00 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

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