



Parent Update 12-10-2020

1 message

Christopher Timmis <noreply@dexterschools.org>

Thu, Dec 10, 2020 at 1:15 PM

Reply-To: Christopher Timmis <noreply@dexterschools.org>

To: Dexter Community School District Recipients <recipients@dexterschools.parentlink.net>



DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

December 10, 2020

Dear DCS Parents, Students, and Staff,

Thank you for your continued support as we all navigate the 2020-2021 school year together. Below are several updates and other important information items:

In-Person School Update: Here's the short form of the plan moving forward (as of around 11 a.m. today):

- Preschool and GSRP will remain in session.
- Special Education HNRR students and ECSE will begin to phase back in the week of January 4th.
- Young 5's - 6th grade will not be in-person the week of January 4 - January 8th. We will provide an update early during the week of January 4th if we are able to return to the buildings on January 11th.
- Mill Creek and DHS students will remain remote through mid-January or possibly through the end of 1st semester. We will provide an update the week of January 4th.
- Athletics will remain on pause until further notice.

Reporting Illness during Remote Learning: Please let us know if your family/students are diagnosed with COVID-19 or are instructed to isolate or quarantine. This information will be confidential. It is important for our decisions regarding return to in-person instruction that we have an accurate overview of the status of COVID-19 spread in our community. The health department is currently being stretched and we want to do our very best to keep the community informed and keep families and staff safe. Please contact santob@dexterschools.org to report any isolations or quarantines. The Washtenaw County Health Department recently updated the Covid-19 guidance for families and has the information posted on their [website](#).

Schools of Choice Openings: Typically DCS only offers SOC enrollment for the full year, starting in the fall. This year, we have had many requests for enrollment due to families' living situations changing temporarily due to COVID-19. On December 7, the Board of Education voted to approve a second application window. There will essentially be at least one opening in every grade Y-5 through 10. The application window will be January 4-15. Full details are [on our website](#). **If you have moved since September, or may be moving before February, applying for SOC status can allow students to continue in DCS, uninterrupted.** *If you are experiencing housing or food insecurity, please contact your building principal, social worker, or counselor to discuss available family supports.*

Meal Distribution Over the Break: Meals will be distributed at Mill Creek on Tuesday, December 22nd from 9:30 - 11 a.m. **We ask that families to pre-order their pickup using [this link](#).** If you need additional meals over the break, please visit [Meet Up and Eat Up](#). Wednesday distributions will resume on Wednesday, January 6th from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at Mill Creek.

Looking for Your Ideas: We're always looking for new ideas on programming to offer to kids and adults through community education. The pandemic has created both limitations on what can be offered but also opens up opportunities that we may not have thought of in the past. Please let us know of any [unique ideas for programming](#) we can offer this winter as we all continue to navigate the pandemic. We've created a thought exchange to gather your ideas. You can participate by [clicking on this link](#) or via text by sending the 9-digit code 282-281-807 to the phone number 728-55 to get a link to participate in this exchange.

Calendar: The District will be closed for winter break from December 21 through January 1st. This includes buildings and administrative offices. If we have any urgent COVID updates, they will be sent via email and posted on the district homepage.

Board of Education Bulletin: We are pleased to announce that we are now publishing Board of Education bulletins to provide the community with more in-depth summaries of Board meetings and activities. These will be posted on the [Board of Education website](#) within a couple of days of each meeting. The first bulletin is attached.

Dread Strong Signs: We've undertaken some projects while students are not in the buildings. One of the projects uncovered several Dread Strong signs that were not distributed over the past 7 or 8 years. Every year we create a new design and there are several different designs available. The remaining signs will begin showing up on the Bates front lawn later today for anyone who wants one to display at their home.

Share Some Wins: We know this year has been a challenge for students, teachers, families, and staff. However, everyone has risen to the challenge. While we work through this 2020-2021 school year, we know there have been some big "wins" and we want to celebrate the tremendous creativity and work that all you have done this year. For example, we have seen incredible creativity from teachers and students. As a district, we've worked to revamp and streamline our communication. We know we have students who are thriving in this new learning environment. Please take a moment to share a "win" for this 2020-2021 school year and see what others share. We've created a [Thought Exchange](#) to share the wins for this year. You can participate by [visiting this link](#) or by texting the 9-digit code 792-034-269 to the phone number 728-55 to get a link to participate in this exchange.

Thank you for your continued support this school year and for your patience as we all navigate the pandemic together. 2020 is almost over and we have many great years ahead of us.

Take care and Go Dreads!

Sincerely,

Christopher Timmis, EdD

Superintendent

Attachments:

 messages/attachments/2f3629a7353934c82a594cced5a11d48/BOE_Bulletin_12-10-2020.pdf (192.1 KB)

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