



# DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

## Letter to Community - March 2022

Sat, Mar 19, 2022 at 11:29 AM

March 19, 2022

Dear DCS Families, Students, and Staff,

As the weather warms up and spring break approaches, I want to personally thank you for the continued support of all DCS students, staff, and each other. Over the last two years of navigating this pandemic, I just want to say "thank you!" Thank you for the support from our community and the commitment to our students! Thank you to our incredible staff! Thank you to our kids for being such a blessing to spend our days sharing in learning, laughing, developing, educating, and inspiring! Thank you to our parents for allowing us the opportunity to teach your children and partner in their education!

**DCS Community Survey:** Dexter Community Schools is committed to continuous improvement. As part of that process, we often send a variety of surveys from buildings and the district. In order to help us continue to improve our programs for students and the community, we ask that you take a few minutes to [complete a community survey](#). *(Note: Please read the rest of this letter before answering the survey)*

**Summer camps:** Last summer, DCS was provided federal stimulus funds to run the Dread Strong Summer Program free to all kids. It was an incredible success. Unfortunately, the funds were one-time funds and replicating the full scale of the program is not financially possible. **However, DCS is able to provide several of the opportunities we've historically provided plus other successful offerings we created last summer for students:**

- DCS will be offering Camp Dexter through Dexter Community Education for parents looking for child care and camp activities. Information is [available on the DCS website](#).
- Safety Town: DCS kids love Safety Town. In order to provide Safety Town this summer, we need an instructor. If you are interested, please contact [hr@dexterschools.org](mailto:hr@dexterschools.org).
- Academic support summer programming (literacy and mathematics) is currently being developed. Information will be provided to elementary families in mid-May regarding opportunities, dates, and times.
- **Return of Two Free Activity Camps:** Last summer, DCS was able to offer two free athletic, arts, or music camps to current or enrolled DCS students with the support of federal stimulus funds. Based on the success and the positive impact, the DCS Board of Education approved funds for this summer to again offer this opportunity to our students. Here are the details:
  - ✓ Each current DCS student or enrolled student can attend up to two camps at no-cost.
  - ✓ All camps are priced at \$100 per participant (except the annual DHS band camp) and the fee will be waived (other than DHS band camp) for current or enrolled DCS students.
  - ✓ Camps will be offered for K-12 students in a variety of athletic and arts activities supported by our teams, programs, and clubs.
  - ✓ Camps will be approximately 3 hours per day for 3-4 days in the same week.
  - ✓ For each participant, the \$100 per participant fee that is provided through the district funds will be waived during the registration process.
  - ✓ **Registration, a calendar of dates/times, and a list of opportunities will be made available in early May to all families.**
  - ✓ DHS Band: just like last year, the \$100 can be applied per participant to reduce the cost of the annual band camp. Information will be provided by Dr. Moore later this spring.

**Bond Project Update:** In 2017, the DCS community approved a bond proposal to fund the upkeep and improvement of our school facilities. To date, these funds were used to build Beacon Elementary, the Ceriani Building, the Twin Turf fields at DHS, renovations and updates to buildings, flexible furniture in all schools, the Creekside quad fields, HVAC/Mechanical upgrades throughout the district, technology updates, new buses, and other identified projects.

In coming months, DCS has a significant list of projects that you'll see occurring throughout the district to maintain the quality of the community's facilities and best support students. For example, we are scheduling parking lot and entrance repairs/replacements of asphalt throughout the district, replacement of the visiting bleachers at Al Ritt Stadium, updated appliances in our foods classrooms at both Mill Creek and DHS, Mill Creek technology course equipment updates, mechanical upgrades throughout buildings (i.e., cooling towers, chillers, boilers, hvac, etc), bleachers at the twin turfs, and a potential restroom building at the twin turfs. In addition, we were recently able to purchase new mowers, plows, and maintenance equipment to maintain our 360+ acres of property and 1,000,000+ square feet of school space. We are so blessed to have the support of the Dexter community through approval of the 2017 bond and are committed to maintaining high-quality facilities for our students and community while being good stewards of taxpayer funds.

Thank you for your continued support, have a great weekend, and Go Dreads!

Sincerely,

Christopher Timmis, EdD

Superintendent

P.S. Beat Chelsea!!!

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