



Superintendent Letter: December 2022

1 message

December 20, 2022

Dear DCS Parents and Students,

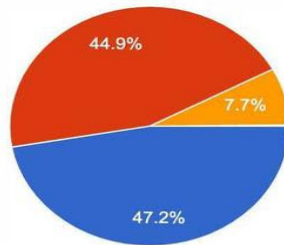
2022 has been a great year for DCS! It has been a year of tremendous student accomplishments and celebrations. Just last week, the Dexter Debate Team won all three divisions of the Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association's Debate State Championship! The [Dexter Debate Team won the high school, middle school, and novice divisions](#) for the first time in state history! Congratulations to Mrs. Marsh and all DCS Debaters!!!

Results of Parent Calendar Survey: Thank you to everyone who provided a response to the school calendar survey a few weeks ago. The results are in!!!

The year calendars for 2023 and 2024 are included below as a reference. Please indicate which 2023-2024 school calendar option you prefer:

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1,231 responses

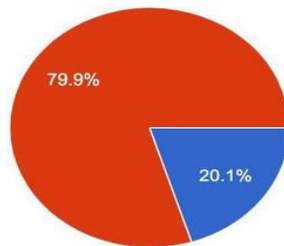


- Students start after Labor Day and start school on September 5, 2023 with the final student day somewhere around J...
- Students start on August 28, 2023, attend school for four days, take a fou...
- I have no preference.

Would you be in favor of students reporting earlier than August 28, 2023 (two weeks before Labor Day)? In this scenario, students would attend 2 or 3 short weeks of school (4 days each week until the week of Sept 11) and the school year would end the first few days in June.

Copy

1,231 responses



- Yes
- No

It's safe to say that our families are not overall supportive of starting two weeks before Labor Day. However, the information on starting a week before Labor Day provides one clear answer...whatever is negotiated with regard to the school calendar, 7.7% have no preference :)

All kidding aside, thank you for taking the time to provide us with this valuable information. It is helpful to know that our families are not overall in unilateral favor of starting before or after Labor Day.

New Mental Wellness Program for Students (Grades 7-12) and Any DCS Staff starting in 2023: DCS has been asked to provide additional supports to our students and staff. In response to this request, DCS will be offering a service for all students in grades 7-12 and any DCS staff members starting when we return from the holiday break. The service (DialCare) is paid for through Section 31(a)(a) grant funds in the school aid budget. DialCare Mental Wellness is a program designed to provide safe, secure, and private means of seeking mental health assistance from licensed counselors via virtual or telephonic counseling sessions. The program offers an app-based interface, connecting DCS students in grades 7-12 or staff members with counselors by either phone or video chat.

DialCare Mental Wellness counselors can assist our students or staff with conditions such as depression, anxiety, grief, relationship problems and more.

- MC/DHS students or any DCS staff can schedule an appointment with a counselor from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. EST, seven days a week.
- DialCare Mental Wellness counselors will reach out via phone or video chat upon request.
- Counselor appointments last for 30 minutes.
- Follow-up sessions may be scheduled for the student/staff member's convenience.
- Consultations are available in both English and Spanish.
- There is no consultation fee for the students or DCS staff.
- The district will not know who is using the service or any other details other than the number of users per semester for billing reasons.

Thank you to the DHS counseling department for finding this resource for our students and staff!!! **More information will be provided when students return to school in January of 2023.**

Thank you for your continued support throughout this year and Happy Holidays to all of our families, students, and staff.

Take care and Go Dreads!

Sincerely,

Christopher Timmis, EdD

Superintendent