

# Danforth Jr. High Newsletter



**Date: February 24, 2025**

## **Principal's message:**

Greetings, Texan Family,

**Dear Danforth Families,**

I hope this message finds you well as we move into the final stretch of February and look ahead to an exciting March. With so many upcoming events, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for our students, staff, and families who make Danforth such an incredible place of learning and growth. I continue to be inspired by the dedication, service, and innovation that define our school community.

This week is packed with opportunities for our students and families. Tonight, we invite our 8th-grade parents to WHS for an informational evening about the transition to high school. Additionally, our WHS counselors will be available for Q&A sessions in the Danforth Library on February 25th and 26th—an excellent opportunity to get personalized guidance on course selection and high school preparation.

For our student-athletes, we are cheering on our track team as they compete at Barton on February 27th. For those aspiring to be part of our Junior High Cheer Team, please remember that cheer tryout applications are due by February 28th.

March is filled with enriching experiences, from academic opportunities to extracurricular celebrations. Our 6th graders will be embarking on their much-anticipated trip to John Knox Ranch on March 5th and 6th, where they will engage in character-building activities focused on being Neighborly—one of the core tenets of our TEXAN Roots values. For our UIL participants, March 7th will be a well-deserved day of fun, recognizing their hard work and accomplishments. That same evening, we look forward to the *Tropical Nights* Spring Dance—our PTO is excited to make this event a memorable one!

Additionally, our 8th-grade families should note that course selection meetings for high school are happening March 10-13. This is a crucial time to ensure students are set on the right path for their future academic journey.

Beyond academics and extracurriculars, we remain committed to the well-being of our students and families. We encourage parents and WISD employees to take advantage of the upcoming Narcan/Naloxone Training on March 12th, which provides valuable knowledge about emergency overdose treatment.

For those planning ahead, please remember to order your yearbooks before they sell out! We also have options available for families in need, ensuring every student has the opportunity to preserve their cherished junior high memories.

As always, we appreciate your partnership in making Danforth a place where students thrive. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to seeing you at many of these upcoming events!

With gratitude,

Joseph T. Holzmann

Principal, Danforth Junior High

**In the next few days:**

- February 24th: 8th Grade Parent Night at WHS 6:00 PM
- February 25th & 26th: High School Q&A in Danforth Library 3:30 PM
- February 27th: Track meet @ Barton, Shelton Stadium
- February 28th: JH Cheer Tryout Applications are DUE

**Looking ahead:**

- March 5th: Track meet at Texan Stadium
- March 5th & 6th: 6th Grade Trip to John Knox Ranch
- March 7th: UIL Fun Day for students who participated in the UIL meet
- March 7th: Spring Dance-Tropical Nights Spring Dance
- March 10-13th: Incoming 9th Grade Course Selection

**More detailed information about Danforth Activities:**

**Monthly Menu:**

 [February 2025 Menu.pdf](#)

**Announcement from Danforth PTO:**

We are so excited for our spring dance. Dance tickets will be going on sale Thursday March 6th and 7th during lunches and online. The dance will be held on March 7th in the Danforth cafeteria. Please contact Danforth PTO with any questions.

### 2025-26 Cheer Tryout Information from Coach Pollard:

Interested in trying out for Junior High Cheer? Cheer application packets will be available for pick up starting **TODAY**. Packets can be picked up from Coach Pollard (RM#306) or Coach Wilhelm (RM#112) before/after school and during Texan time. The packet will contain all the information needed for the tryout process, dates and other important details.

The attached applications will need to be turned in by **Friday, February 28th @3:30pm**. If you do not turn in an application by that time, you **CANNOT** try out. **ZERO EXCEPTIONS**. There will be a **MANDATORY** interest meeting on March 4th @ 6pm in the JH Cafe to discuss important tryout details. Both the cheer candidate and at least one parent/guardian will need to be in attendance in order to try out. If you have any questions regarding tryouts please email Coach Pollard

**WISD Parent/Guardians and WISD Employees:** FESTA will host a NARCAN/Naloxone Training on March 12, 2025, from 5:30-7 pm in the WISD Boardroom for WISD Parents/guardians and WISD employees. Please complete this form only if you can attend. All who attend the full training will receive a Naloxone/Narcan Kit upon completion. Naloxone/Narcan is a medication used to treat an overdose in an emergency. *Limited seating: 60 participants*. [Adult Narcan Training Google Form Sign-up](#)

### From the Counselor:

#### **Course Selection for 2025-26:**

**8th Graders:** This evening, **Monday, February 24th**, WHS Counselor Adriana Phillips and Kris Vannoy are hosting the **8th Grade Parent Night from 6:00 to 7:00 in the WHS Cafeteria**. 8th Graders will receive a turquoise folder in their US History class today. **Forms are due back by Wednesday, March 5th**, so that students will have them for individual meetings with WHS Counselors the week of March 10th.

**WHS Counselors will hold Q&A sessions in the Danforth Library on Tuesday (2/25) and Wednesday (2/26) from 3:30 to 4:15.** This is a great opportunity to meet your child's counselor and ask specific questions about their high school courses. Please enter through the doors closet to the library.

**7th Graders:** Course selection meetings will be held during Texan Time on **Tuesday, February 25th**. Course selection forms are due to Texan History teachers by **Monday, March 10th**. For students who would like to apply to be an Office Aide, applications can be picked up from Mrs. Facio in the Front Office and are due back to the Front Office by Monday, March 10th.

**6th Graders:** Course selection meetings will be held during Texan Time on **Wednesday, February 26th**. Course selection forms are due to World Cultures teachers by **Monday, March 10th**.

We will be sharing our presentations once we meet with students so families can make informed decisions for next year!

**John Knox:** The 6th grade field trip to **John Knox Ranch** is on **Wednesday, March 5th (A-K)** and **Thursday, March 6th (L-Z)**. The activities for the 6th grade trip are grounded in our TEXAN Roots character education, with a specific focus on **N - Neighborly**.

Extra copies of the permission form are available in the front office. Students without permission forms will not be allowed to attend the field trip and will remain on campus both days. The hard copy OR the Google Form (emailed to parents and guardians on February 20th) is due by **Thursday, February 27th**.

Students do not need to bring their school backpack on the day of their trip but will need to bring a lunch or to select the sack lunch option from the Cafeteria on the permission form. Please dress appropriately according to the weather. Please include tennis shoes and a water bottle that's easy to carry. Sunscreen needs to be applied before school. We will be back on campus before the end of the school day. Contact Denise Trial, [denise.trial@wimberleyisd.net](mailto:denise.trial@wimberleyisd.net), if you have questions about the John Knox trip or course selection!

### **Current 8th graders ONLY:**

Dear 8th grade families,

I hope you're doing well! I wanted to remind you about our class trip to DC/VA. We already have 30 students signed up! This journey is about so much more than sightseeing—it's a chance for your student to build confidence, gain independence, and grow in ways that can only occur through real-world experiences. Time (and space) is running out!! We only have a couple of spots left. Lock in yours before the February 8th deadline! Click [this link](#) for more information. Please contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Ms. Elizabeth Edelen

[elizabeth.edelen@wimberleyisd.net](mailto:elizabeth.edelen@wimberleyisd.net)

### **Information on Safe Storage of Firearms**

Texas law requires school districts to distribute information to parents and guardians about the safe storage of firearms. The attached information will help you learn about options for, as well as how to talk to your child and others about, the safe storage of firearms.

 [Gun Safety Parent Letter](#)

 [Spanish Gun Safety Parent Letter](#)

For more information about safe firearm storage and talking to your child about firearm safety, please visit our WISD website at:

<https://www.wimberleyisd.net/departments1/safety/safe-firearm-storage>

### **Yearbook News:**

- **There are only 52 yearbooks left!** **Order now**, so your child has one at the end of the year to be autographed by teachers and peers. Please click on the link to place your order online. Be

sure to use your child's legal name as it is Skyward.

<http://www.balfour.com/texas/wimberley/danforth-junior-high-school>

- Some students go by a shortened version of their name or by their middle name. If you would rather us use that name in place of their legal name, please fill out this form. Click on this link to find the form. <https://forms.gle/441KtJ5TsX8rsb8A9>
- We don't want a student to not get a yearbook because they can't afford it. We understand that money can be tight and a junior high yearbook might be an extra expense that you can't budget for at this time.

If you would like to be considered for a FREE yearbook because of financial hardships, please fill out this form. Only the Danforth yearbook teacher, Erin Sivils, will see the applications. All info is confidential. Click on this link to find the scholarship application

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/16ltVBHC2hSsN69OvoYtiLmxsITekp-bDcZ3vGAHnF\\_E/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/16ltVBHC2hSsN69OvoYtiLmxsITekp-bDcZ3vGAHnF_E/edit)

### **Attendance**

WISD works proactively to help students be at school on time every day and stay all day. We contact parents any time a student misses 3 days or parts of days in a 4 week period. We have an automated system that contacts parents/guardians on the day of the absence. A reminder email or call also goes out the day after an absence occurs if a note has not been received. The focus of our intervention is to understand student absences and encourage and support student presence and academic success. Please email all attendance notes and doctors notes to

[katy.huebner@wimberleyisd.net](mailto:katy.huebner@wimberleyisd.net) or [abby.nusbaum@wimberleyisd.net](mailto:abby.nusbaum@wimberleyisd.net)

We understand that children often suffer from illnesses that cause them to be absent. We encourage you to keep track of the number of absences and to send your child to school, as he/she is able to attend. If there are any **medical, legal or funeral notes** that have not been turned in, please do so as it can **reduce** the number of absences that affect credit hours. Texas Education Code 25.092 states that a student may not be given credit for a class unless the student is in attendance for at least 90% of the days the class is offered. The Fall Semester of the 2024-2025 school year has 81 instructional days; therefore, if a student accumulates a total of **9 absences, excused and unexcused**, then he/she is required to complete attendance make-up hours to receive credit. The Wimberley High School Attendance Committee will make this decision. Additionally, a school district must investigate and report violations of truancy to Judge Andy Cable.



