

We commit to maximize our students' success through personalized experiences, so they make a difference in any community.

Important Dates for 2024-2025

November 4 - Professional Development Day (Release Day)
November 27- 29 - Thanksgiving Break
December 20 - January 3 - Winter Break
January 20 - MLK Jr. Day
February 17 - President's Day
February 26 - Professional Development Day (Release Day)
March 24-28 - Spring Break
April 10 - Professional Development Day (TBD - eLearning or Release Day)
May 22 - Last Day of School
May 23 - Graduation

To view upcoming events, visit
<https://www.danville.k12.in.us/calendar>
or scan the QR code.



Board Members

President

Beth Cherry

Vice President

Austin Brown

Secretary

Christina Ward

Members

Cory Himsel
Jim Bryant

To view upcoming meeting dates and information, visit
<https://www.danville.k12.in.us/school-board/meetings>
or scan the QR code.



Join the DCSC Team

Danville Community School Corporation is NOW HIRING BUS DRIVERS!

- Full driver contract
- Full benefits - health, vision, dental, life and long-term disability
- Follows school schedule
- Pension, PERF and 403(b)/401(a)
- \$107.36-\$130 per day for a full route
- Training paid for by district

Current licensed, qualified drivers can apply today and receive a sign-on bonus!

Scan the QR code or visit
<https://www.applitrack.com/DanvilleK12/onlineapp/default.aspx?Category=Transportation>
to get started.



The Danville Difference

-FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT-



Homecoming activities brought many Warrior alum back onto campus over the past couple of weeks. We are always glad to see our alumni members. Once you are a Warrior, you are always a Warrior, and Warriors are always welcome back.

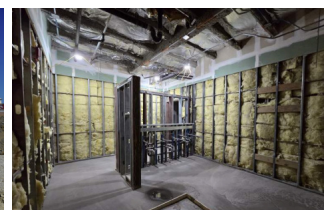
One of the common expressions I hear often from graduates who are visiting our schools is, "It looks just like it did when I was in school." If you have had the opportunity to be back on campus recently, you know that our "look" is beginning to change. The 14 new classrooms on the northeast side of the high school are well underway, and work has also begun on the new main entrance, guidance offices, and fine arts classrooms. On the west side of the building, the walls have been constructed for the new pool, weight room and entrance for these facilities. Additionally, new parking lot lights were installed over fall break, adding much improved visibility and safety to our parking areas.

The 14 new classrooms at South Elementary are in use by students and a beautiful new art room was opened for students just this week. Additional renovations are presently occurring in the kitchen/cafeteria and existing classroom areas on the northwest portion of the building.

If you have not been back on campus for a while, I invite you to stop by and see what is happening on campus. Our students are incredible, and we hope you can catch them in action. Stop by for a fine arts presentation or an athletic event. Warriors are always welcome and we look forward to seeing you sometime later this year.

-CONSTRUCTION UPDATES-

Curious about what is going on over at South Elementary? Or maybe you want to know more about what's to come at DCHS? Visit <https://www.danville.k12.in.us/our-future> or scan the QR code below to see videos, photos and newsletters about our Master Campus Plan!



Homecoming 2024

Happy Homecoming! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us in celebrating this cherished tradition. Your support means the world to us. As we embrace exciting changes on the horizon, we will always take pride in honoring the roots that brought us here!



Top 10 in the State

Our amazing Warriors received the 6th highest scores in the state for IREAD3! We achieved a 98.1% total passing rate, which we know is a reflection of the hard work and dedication of our students, teachers, support staff, volunteers, and parents. Your support means the world to us, and we are so proud to celebrate this with our entire community. Our students consistently leave us in awe, and we could not be prouder.



National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Students

We are thrilled to announce that two outstanding students, Owen Clodfelter and Olivia Stierwalt, have been recognized as Commended Students in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program! This is an exceptional honor that reflects their dedication to academic excellence. Congratulations to these two amazing scholars!!



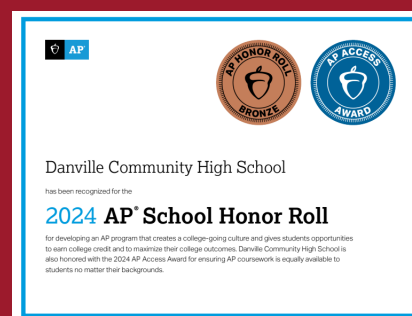
Back-to-School Fun

Our teachers and staff are committed to fostering a positive, safe, and engaging learning environment for every student. Since our return, we've witnessed so many exciting classroom activities and collaborative events that continue to elevate our educational standards and inspire excellence.



2024 AP School Honor Roll

Congratulations to DCHS for being named to the 2024 AP School Honor Roll! The AP School Honor Roll acknowledges schools that have excelled in expanding access to AP courses and supporting students in their journey toward college success. DCHS is a bronze member of the Honor Roll, and we could not be more proud of the students who made this possible!



DANVILLE

COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

200 Warrior Way
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www.danville.k12.in.us



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2,700+ Students



420+ Employees



4 Schools

Danville Community Schools...WE ARE WARRIORS!



**1,500+ Miles Driven
Each Day**



**2,600+ Meals Served
Each Day**



**31+ Languages
Spoken**

THE DANVILLE DIFFERENCE

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February 2025						
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May 2025						
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Registration for the 2025-2026 School Year is Opening Soon!

Registration is opening soon for Danville Community Schools! We are growing every day, and we look forward to all the new students we will welcome in the future. We have so many exciting plans in the works, and that is why we are asking you to enroll your child early to help us better prepare for a successful school year.

Registration will open on March 1, 2025, and all returning students must re-register by April 1, 2025. We require all students and families to register each year, so please be sure to plan accordingly. More information can be found on our website or by scanning the QR code!



Join Our Team to Make the Danville Difference!

Danville Community Schools is always seeking individuals to join our team and help us reach our goal to maximize student success. We have so many different departments of incredible people waiting to welcome you to the team. Whether you see yourself in the classroom, in the cafeteria, or on a bus, we have a position for you! If you're ready to make The Danville Difference, we'd love to hear from you! Scan the QR code below to view our current available positions and learn more about each.



From the Superintendent: Portrait of a Learner



House Bill 1002 as approved by the Indiana General Assembly in 2023 established several future requirements for the Indiana State Board of Education (SBOE) Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), the Commission for Higher Education (CHE), and Indiana schools as they relate to workforce development and education. Some of these requirements for schools include: 1. Requirements for students to meet with an approved post-secondary institutions, intermediary, or employer, 2. Requirements to hold at least one career fair during regular school hours, and 3. Beginning with the graduating class of 2029, new high school diploma requirements that include graduation pathways leading to enrollment in college, direct workforce employment upon graduation, or enlistment into the armed services. Each of these pathways also includes options, or requirements, for work based learning experiences for students while in high school.

As Danville schools strive to maximize students' success, we are actively working to provide these experiences for students ahead of schedule. This year will mark the second year for Danville Community High School to host a career fair during the school day. Likewise, efforts to provide students with opportunities to meet with post secondary institutions, intermediaries, and employers is also ongoing. Planning and scheduling are already underway to support students in making course selections to successfully satisfy the new diploma requirements at both Danville Community Middle School and Danville Community High School. The administration and counseling teams are already in action holding parent and student meetings to help explain and support families in navigating the new diploma requirements as students select courses for the 2025-26 school year.

In order to support student learning in the area of work-based learning experiences, several exciting things are happening this year. The district is actively working to develop a Portrait of a Learner (POL). In this process we will define the attributes and skill set of a successful student learner and then develop goals to support programming efforts for students and attainment of POL skills. The POL process involves district personnel working collaboratively with students, parents, and representatives from business and industry to identify the skill set of a successful learner and graduate. Focus group work planning is already underway to bring together 80-100 school and business community leaders to accomplish this work later in February. In April, another large focus group session will be held to define the goals needed to accomplish the necessary programming to best support students in attaining the POL skill set over their school careers. Once these goals are defined, they will be incorporated into the district strategic plan to form the basis for student academic programming leading to successful preparation for enrollment, employment, or enlistment for all students. We are excited about these future developments for students and the opportunity to collaborate with our business leaders and parents in this process!

From the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction: Career Coaching



Our staff works each day to prepare students for whatever path lies ahead of them after they leave our schools, including furthering their education, entering the military, or going directly into the workforce. Recent efforts at the state level resulted in the creation of Indiana's Career Coaching Framework, which centers on career exploration, engagement, and experience. As part of these efforts, we are excited to share that our district was the recipient of a Career Coaching Grant, which will give us additional tools and networking opportunities to provide relevant information about career pathways to our students. The Danville Career Coaching Leadership Team, comprised of teachers, counselors, administrators, community members, and students, is working together to provide career awareness opportunities to students at all grade levels, K-12. Students at the youngest levels are learning about careers in the books they read and while on field trips. As

students enter middle school, they start thinking about their interests and what general types of jobs they may be interested in learning more about. A new state-required course, Preparing for College and Careers (PCC), gives students ample opportunities to dive into these paths. PCC introduces students to jobs they may have never heard of and helps students understand the educational path they should take to be most prepared for whatever they choose for their future careers. While at the high school, students in grades 11-12 are required to participate in a 30-minute career discovery meeting with an approved educational institution, intermediary, employer, or labor organization to discuss future career opportunities and their necessary education levels. These small-group meetings with five or fewer students must occur during the school day and on school property. Additionally, all students must attend a career fair as a junior and senior. These requirements, plus new graduation requirements for our incoming freshman next year, will present many opportunities for area businesses to partner with students and school staff along their journey. **If you, or someone you know, is interested in showcasing your business and career at our upcoming fair on March 19th, please contact our DCHS Internship Coordinator, Alex Dashiell, at adashiell@danville.k12.in.us.** With our community's support, we look forward to expanding career exploration opportunities for the students in our district.

Candy Canes to All, And to All a Good Break!

In recent years, it has become a tradition for Superintendent Dr. Shafer, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Morgan Walker, CFO Corey Herbert, Director of Facilities Richard Land, and Communications Coordinator Abby England to dress up and hand out candy canes to every student. The excitement and joy from the kids make this tradition so special! A heartfelt thank-you to Walmart and Hawkeye Storage for their generous donations, which made this tradition possible.



In the Classroom

Our students consistently engage in activities that amplify their success. From student presentations and complex experiments to teamwork-driven projects and unique approaches to learning, these efforts shine in every school and every classroom. We are incredibly proud of the dedication and enthusiasm for learning shown by both our students and teachers. Together, they embody and redefine The Danville Difference.



Thanksgiving Parade

Our kindergarten students put on their very own Thanksgiving Parade! Each class designed creative “floats” with balloons and took turns parading up and down the hallway, cheering each other on. They even had a special dancing turkey visitor at the end!



Special Presentation

Thank you to Choices Matter and Sting Ray Robb for visiting DCMS and DCHS to share the importance of making good choices both on and off the road! The students enjoyed the presentation and had a blast with the activities at the end, including photos, simulators, challenges, and more.



Celebrating Culture

Two of our classrooms recently welcomed special guests for unique cultural lessons:

Mr. Vrabel's class hosted a student's family after their recent trip to India. They answered questions about their travels, shared traditional Indian dishes, and even showed photos from their journey!

Mrs. Suhaka's class spent a week exploring holidays around the world. Their “trip” to Greece with Mr. Kafantaros was a highlight—he introduced them to unique traditions and brought special items to share.

We love seeing the creative ways our students are learning about the world!





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Danville Community Schools 2024-2025 Year in Review



It has been a great year in the Danville Community School Corporation! Here is a brief look at all of the amazing things our Warriors were up to this year. At Danville Community Schools, we are ONE TEAM with ONE MISSION. For our full Year in Review, visit <https://www.danville.k12.in.us/community/the-danville-difference> and scroll to the bottom of the page or scan the QR code below!



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Elementary Teacher of the Year: Karen Swartz



NOMINATION: “Mrs. Swartz exemplifies absolute dedication to enriching the educational journeys of her students. Her unwavering commitment to fostering a positive and effective learning environment is commendable, and we are particularly thankful for the ongoing, open lines of communication that we, as parents, maintain with her. This consistent dialogue not only keeps us informed but also ensures that we are able to actively participate in our child’s education. What stands out most is Mrs. Swartz’s exceptional willingness to go above and beyond in her teaching. Her remarkable enthusiasm and innovative approach to education are truly impressive. We find ourselves continually grateful for the way she challenges our child’s intellectual capabilities and provides resources that not only align with his current level of understanding but also encourage him to reach higher and explore further. Her expertise shines through in everything she does, as she navigates effectively the diverse needs of students from various backgrounds and abilities, nurturing growth in each of them. Moreover, Mrs. Swartz cultivates strong, collaborative relationships not just with her students but also with their families. This dedication helps create a warm, inclusive school culture that emphasizes equity and promotes a shared sense of success. Such an environment is essential for students’ development and fosters a strong community spirit. Given her extraordinary contributions to our child’s education and her influential role within the school, we wholeheartedly recommend Mrs. Swartz for the 2024-2025 Danville Teacher of the Year. Her passion and commitment truly deserve this recognition, and we have no doubt that she will continue to inspire and impact many more students in the future.”

Secondary Teacher of the Year: Mason Meling

NOMINATION: “Mr. Meling is truly the best science teacher I’ve ever had for so many reasons. First and foremost, his passion for science is contagious. Every time he steps into the classroom, you can tell that he genuinely loves the subject, and that energy makes learning so much more engaging. He doesn’t just teach us facts and formulas; he makes science come alive through interesting demonstrations, real-world connections, and even the occasional fun experiment. What makes Mr. Meling stand out is his teaching style. He is incredibly patient and always willing to explain things multiple times, making sure that every student, regardless of their learning pace, fully grasps the material. His ability to break down complex topics into manageable, understandable pieces is truly remarkable. He never makes students feel dumb for asking questions, and he always encourages curiosity and critical thinking. Another reason why Mr. Meling is the best is that he genuinely cares about his students. He takes the time to get to know us, our strengths, and our areas of improvement. He goes above and beyond to support us, whether it’s through extra help after school or offering encouragement when we’re feeling down. His kindness and understanding make the classroom feel like a safe space where everyone can thrive. Lastly, Mr. Meling’s sense of humor creates a positive and fun learning environment. He knows how to keep us engaged and laughing while still making sure we’re learning. His ability to blend fun with education is rare and makes his classes something to look forward to. In conclusion, Mr. Meling is the best teacher not just because of his knowledge of science, but because of his ability to inspire, support, and connect with his students. His passion, dedication, and kindness make every day in his class memorable and impactful.”



Support Staff Member of the Year: Penny Wright



NOMINATION #1: “I would like to nominate Penny Wright for Danville Support Staff Member of the Year because she always goes above and beyond her role as Special Services Secretary. In my first year as an EL teacher, Penny has been a lifesaver! She is always ready to answer questions, help me track down important information, and help me navigate through multiple roadblocks. She’s been incredibly patient and kind, and she always helps with a smile on her face. Even when she’s juggling her own responsibilities or dealing with challenges in her personal life, she shows up for everyone around her. Penny has never hesitated to take on extra tasks to support the EL department, even though it’s not part of her job. She’s helped with tracking EL student information, interpreter requests, scheduling, and more. Her calm and caring presence makes a real difference to staff and students. She is the kind of person who lifts everyone around her and sets a true example of what it means to be a part of a school community. Penny truly is a team player and is more than deserving of this honor.”

NOMINATION #2: “Penny has done a tremendous job keeping up with the growth both in the special education department and the ENL department. She is so organized, kind, and forward thinking. Penny helps keep our department compliant. She responds to all parents and staff in a kind and professional way... Not only does she keep the sped department going, but she always spends countless hours arranging subs for the entire district. Penny is beyond deserving of this award and it would be a true honor to recognize the hard work she exhibits each and everyday. When new students register, Penny reaches out to the previous school to make sure we have all information needed to make sure the student has a successful start; she makes sure all new teachers and current have access to all IEPs and the current system; she {helps} coordinates state reports; she coordinates WIDA testing with ENL teachers. There is nothing that Penny can’t do. We are so lucky to have her.”

We Love Our Staff!

Throughout the year, we honor a variety of nationally recognized appreciation days—but in May, we go all out to celebrate all of our incredible staff. This month, we showed our gratitude with a delicious meal from the MatchBox Meats Food Truck. We're also fortunate to have generous support from our PTO and other partner organizations, who have contributed not only this week but throughout the year. We are deeply thankful for our dedicated team and supportive community, and we love every opportunity to celebrate just how amazing our staff truly are!



8th Grade Trip to D.C.

Some of our 8th graders recently had a unique experience, and Mr. Jeffries was so excited to share it with our community: "I am proud to offer this experience to my students each year, and I encourage future students to take advantage of this incredible opportunity. It's a trip that not only brings history to life but also creates lasting memories and a deeper connection to our nation's past."



DCHS Students Visit North

DCHS student council members visited North Elementary for a spring-themed craft session and some outdoor fun! It was heartwarming to see bonds form as high schoolers laughed, played, and shared joyful moments with their younger peers—reminding us of the lasting power of connection.



Senior Walk 2025

Congratulations to the Class of 2025! One of our most cherished traditions at DCSC is the Senior Walk, where our graduates return to North Elementary, South Elementary, and Danville Community Middle School to visit former teachers and reflect on the memories made throughout their journey. It's a meaningful moment for both students and staff—and a reminder of just how far our Warriors have come.



South Awards

Each year, South Elementary celebrates students in their building (grades 2–4) with a special end-of-year tradition!

From awards for attendance and specials to a heartwarming video filled with shared memories, it's a joyful way to reflect on a year of hard work, friendship, and teamwork. What a fun and meaningful way to wrap up the school year together!





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