

FEBRUARY 23, 2021



www.detroitedisonpsa.org

DETROIT EDISON PSA

PIONEER NEWS



Did you know?

Did you know that in many Southern states during slavery, it was illegal to teach enslaved people to read or write? These “anti-literacy” laws existed because enslavers knew that reading meant access to knowledge, communication, and freedom. Even so, many enslaved people risked severe punishment to learn in secret—showing incredible courage and a powerful belief in education.

It is imperative that our students read daily—even 15-20 minutes a day builds vocabulary, strengthens comprehension, and grows confidence.

Thank you for partnering with us to make daily reading a non-negotiable at home.



NPFE Schools is excited to announce our Summer School and Enrichment Program. Students will participate in thematic novel studies and in math reading and problem-solving projects. In addition, we will offer enriching sports camps, STEM activities, art, gardening, chess, and field experiences with attendance incentives.

Transportation is available. Please submit one form for each child you are enrolling in our summer program.

Program Dates:

Start Date: June 22

End Date: July 30

Daily Schedule:

Before Care: 7:30 AM to 8:00 AM

Program Hours: 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Click [here](#) to register

March						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- 3.4 - parent/teacher conf. 4:30-7:30
- 3.27 - End of quarter 3
- 3.30-4.7 - Spring break

Re-enrollment tickets are due!
You may also complete by [clicking here.](#)

February						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

IMPORTANT!

Re-enrollment for the upcoming school year is now open. Student enrollment plays an important role in supporting school programs, staffing, and daily operations.

Your child brought home a green re-enrollment slip last week. Please complete and return this form as soon as possible. To secure your child's spot for the upcoming school year, the re-enrollment form must be completed and returned immediately.

New Paradigm For Education

SAVE the DATE



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR SPECIAL EVENT — MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND JOIN US FOR A DAY TO REMEMBER.

TIME: 9AM - 1 PM
LOCATION: DEPSA
1903 WILKINS STREET
DETROIT



JUNE 6, 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20				

Michigan Department of Education Parent/Student: What students can expect when taking the M-STEP Copy link



Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress



Online Accommodations

Watch on  YouTube



Message from Mrs. Garvin, PreK Director

Math in PreK: Learning About Patterns

This week, our PreK students are exploring math patterns. A pattern is a repeated or predictable arrangement of numbers, shapes, colors, or objects. Patterns help children recognize order, notice similarities, and begin making predictions, important skills for early math learning.

In the classroom, children are using hands-on materials such as pattern blocks, buttons, counters, and other objects to build and copy patterns. These activities help children see relationships, organize information, and strengthen problem-solving skills.

Learning patterns supports:

- Early math thinking
- Prediction and reasoning skills
- Attention and memory
- Readiness for counting and number concepts

Try Pattern Activities at Home

You can support your child's learning with simple activities:

- Create a pattern with socks, spoons, or toys and ask your child to copy it.
- Look for patterns on clothing, tiles, or buildings.
- Clap or stomp in a pattern and have your child repeat it.
- Sing songs or read books with repeating words.
- Use snacks to make patterns (crackers-grapes-crackers-grapes).

Patterns are everywhere in daily life! When children learn to recognize and create patterns, they are building a strong foundation for future math learning and problem solving.



Black History Month: Exploring Graffiti & Street Art

This week, our PreK students are learning about graffiti and street art as part of our Black History Month experiences. Graffiti grew from the creativity of urban youth and became a powerful form of storytelling, self-expression, and community pride.

Graffiti and street art

Many Black artists helped shape this art movement. Pioneers such as Blade, Doc TC5, and Ewok used color, design, and bold lettering to share messages, celebrate identity, and inspire others through art.

Celebrating Black History Month

In the classroom, children are exploring how art can communicate ideas and feelings. They are noticing colors, patterns, and symbols, and learning that art can be created in many places—not just on paper, but also on walls, sidewalks, and public spaces.

Why this matters for learning:

- Builds creativity and imagination
- Supports language development as children describe what they see
- Encourages cultural awareness and appreciation
- Helps children understand that art can tell stories and express emotions

We invite families to talk with your child about the art they notice in your neighborhood and how people use art to share ideas and celebrate their culture.



PreK students creating graffiti!

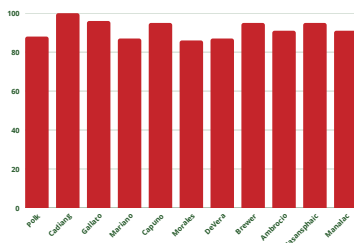


Message from Principal Withers

We made it to 100 days of school. We are a little over the halfway mark. This quarter we will be tackling chronically absent students. We have over 100 chronically absent students. It is very important that students are in school to build the foundation for future achievement, confidence, and strong relationships. We will also be celebrating Black History Month, Through classroom activities, read-aloud, projects, and discussions. On Feb 27, 2026 we will celebrate the achievements, contributions, and impact of Black leaders who have shaped our history and continue to inspire our future and you are all invited.

Re-enrollment for the upcoming school year is now open. Student enrollment plays an important role in supporting school programs, staffing, and daily operations.

Your child brought home a purple re-enrollment slip last week. Please complete and return this form as soon as possible. To secure your child's spot for the upcoming school year, the re-enrollment form must be completed and returned immediately.

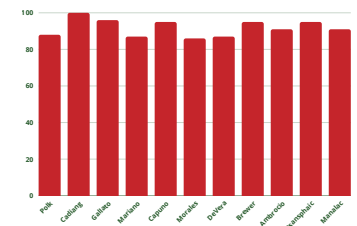


Reading Trends

Kindergarten: 91% → 95%
 1st Grade: 94% → 89%
 2nd Grade: 86% → 93%

Goal: 95% Weekly Student Attendance

Kindergarten: 90% – 91%
 1st Grade: 91%-88%
 2nd Grade: 93%-93%



Math Trends

Kindergarten: 91% → 95%
 1st Grade: 94% → 89%
 2nd Grade: 86% → 93%

COOPERATIVE CHALLENGE

Monday: This week our school-wide cooperative challenge is to use Stop and Stay Cool. Remember it is OK to have strong feelings but doing something such as yelling or hitting can hurt us or someone else. When your feelings thermometer is at a 10 you could try: going away from the person you're angry with for a while.

Tuesday: This week our school-wide cooperative challenge is to use Stop and Stay Cool. Remember it is OK to have strong feelings but doing something such as yelling or hitting can hurt us or someone else. When your feelings thermometer is at a 10 you could try: taking deep breaths and blow the air out hard to send the anger out.

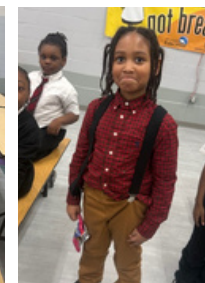
Wednesday: This week our school-wide cooperative challenge is to use Stop and Stay Cool. Remember it is OK to have strong feelings but doing something such as yelling or hitting can hurt us or someone else. When your feelings thermometer is at a 10 you could try: make the anger cooler by running, riding a bike, or doing something you really like to do.

Thursday: This week our school-wide cooperative challenge is to use Stop and Stay Cool. Remember it is OK to have strong feelings but doing something such as yelling or hitting can hurt us or someone else. When your feelings thermometer is at a 10 you could try: resting a while

Friday: This week our school-wide cooperative challenge is to use Stop and Stay Cool. Remember it is OK to have strong feelings but doing something such as yelling or hitting can hurt us or someone else. When your feelings thermometer is at a 10 you could try: taking some time for yourself or asking for help

FREE DRESS EXPECTATIONS

Please be reminded that during themed free dress celebrations, all students are expected to follow the established guidelines. Students who choose not to participate in the theme must wear their full school uniform. If a student is not in theme please send them to school in full uniform.





Message from Principal Dr. Peart

Hello DEPSA Families,

Attendance Matters

We are committed to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to succeed academically and socially. Consistent school attendance is one of the most important factors in student achievement, and we are closely monitoring attendance as we approach the end of the school year.

Please be reminded that students should not accumulate 18 or more absences by the end of the school year. Students who reach this threshold are considered chronically absent, and reenrollment for the upcoming school year may be in jeopardy. Our goal is to partner with you to support your child's success. If your family is experiencing barriers such as transportation challenges, health concerns, or other circumstances affecting attendance, please let us know. We are here to help and can connect you with available resources.

If you have questions or need support, please contact Mr. Brock at cbrock@npfcschools.org.

Your child's attendance matters every day. Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to your child's education.

Warm regards,
Dr. Peart

Academic Expectations

Students must complete and submit all Read & Respond (RR) and C³ assignments upon returning from an absence. We remain focused on quality work – complete responses, use of evidence, and clear explanations.

Tutoring (Mon/Tues/Thurs | 4:00-5:30 PM)

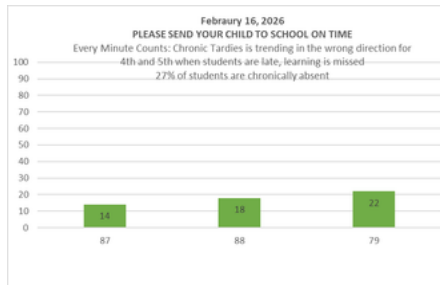
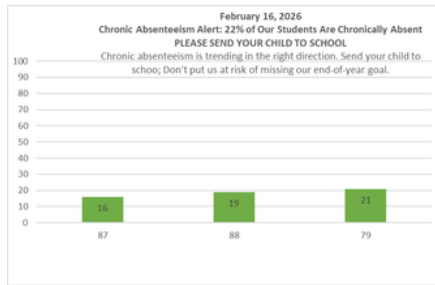
On-time pick-up is required for safety. After two late pick-ups, students may no longer participate.

Support at Home

- Maintain consistent bedtime and morning routines
- Ask your child to explain their learning using evidence
- Ensure RR and C³ are completed thoughtfully
- Review assignments for accuracy and effort

4th Grade Families Only

Our annual 4th Grade Camping Trip is April 27-28, 2026. The trip is free of charge. A parent meeting will be held in March 5, 2025 at 4:30PM. A virtual link will be shared via Deanslist with more details. Interested in volunteering? Email Dr. Peart at kpeart@npfcschools.org.



Congratulations LaFonte Thomas 4th grade math relay champion



Cool Kids



HOMEWORK

Monday 2/22

Read & Response, C3 Homework

Tuesday 2/23

Read & Response, C3 Homework

Wednesday 2/24

Read & Response, C3 Homework

Thursday 2/25

Read & Response, C3 Homework

Friday 2/26

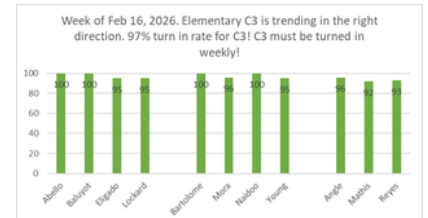
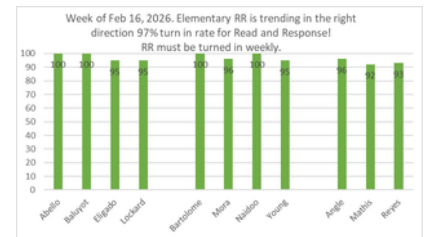
C3 & RR Due

•Students are expected to complete homework by their classroom teacher along with their Reading (Read and Response and C3). Homework is due daily.

The goal is for each class to attain a 95% return rate on homework at the end of the week.

Homework will be checked EVERY DAY- thank you for helping your child build their work ethic by completing their homework every night.

Shout out to Abello, Dr. Balyout, Dr. Eligado, Lockard, Bartolome, Angle, Mora, Naidoo, Young, Reyes classes for a 95% submission rate or higher! Way to go!





Message from Principal Collins

Families,

One of our biggest priorities is protecting instruction –making sure every minute of class time is used for teaching and learning. Our teachers work hard to minimize distractions, keep lessons moving, and support students who need help so that learning isn't interrupted for others.

For students, staying on task is key. When students are focused, they learn more, complete stronger work, and feel more confident. When they are off-task, it slows learning for them and can disrupt the learning of classmates.

You can support us at home by reminding your child to:

- Come to class prepared (materials, charged device if needed, completed assignments)
- Follow directions the first time
- Stay engaged during independent work and discussions
- Use class time wisely so learning continues without interruptions

Thank you for partnering with us to ensure every student has the calm, focused environment they need to succeed.

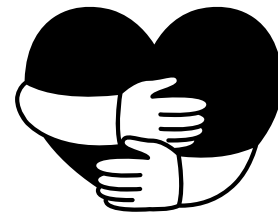
DEPSA is an International Baccalaureate School



IB trait: Caring

Caring learners show empathy, compassion, and respect for others.

They take action to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around them—standing up for what's right and supporting those in need, every day.



Read & Respond

Q3 - novel due on February 9th

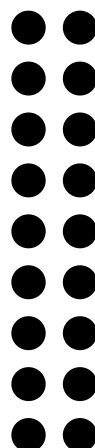
6th

7th

8th



PSAT



8th

Grade Activities [Click here](#)

DEPSA JUNIOR ACADEMY

Unsung Heroes

BLACK HISTORY Month

People who makes a meaningful, positive impact through their actions but do not receive public recognition, praise, or credit for what they do. They are lesser known in history.

FEBRUARY

27

DURING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23RD, STUDENTS WILL ENGAGE IN RESEARCH AND IN-CLASS DISCUSSIONS AS THEY PREPARE FOR OUR CULMINATING ACTIVITY.

OUR GALLERY WALK WILL TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH.

**DRESS EXPECTATIONS FOR FEBRUARY 27TH:
STUDENTS MAY WEAR ALL BLACK ON THIS DAY.**

NO LEGGINGS

NO MIDRIFTS SHOWING

ALL ATTIRE MUST FOLLOW SCHOOL DRESS CODE EXPECTATIONS





DEPSA HIGH SCHOOL MISSION BRIEFING

PARENT AND FAMILY NEWSLETTER

A WORD FROM MR. BLACKBURN

HELLO **DEPSA** FAMILIES,

WE HAVE OFFICIALLY ENTERED THE 30-DAY COUNTDOWN TO STATE TESTING. THIS IS OUR "SEASON OF EXCELLENCE," A CRITICAL WINDOW WHERE EVERY INSTRUCTIONAL MINUTE DIRECTLY IMPACTS OUR SCHOLARS' FUTURE SUCCESS AND SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 10TH-GRADE SCHOLARS FOR ACHIEVING 100% ATTENDANCE ON COUNT DAY. THIS IS THE LEVEL OF DEDICATION REQUIRED TO WIN, AND WE CHALLENGE EVERY GRADE LEVEL TO MEET THIS STANDARD DAILY.

FOR THE NEXT 30 INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS, WE ARE OPERATING WITH A "MISSION-FIRST" FOCUS ON THREE PILLARS:

- **100% ATTENDANCE:** STUDENTS MUST BE IN THE BUILDING EVERY DAY. MISSING EVEN ONE DAY CREATES ACADEMIC GAPS THAT ARE DIFFICULT TO CLOSE.
- **STRICT BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS:** WE ARE ENFORCING A DISTRACTION-FREE ENVIRONMENT. DISRUPTIONS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO DERAIL THE LEARNING OF OTHERS.
- **ACADEMIC FOCUS:** SCHOLARS MUST ARRIVE ON TIME AND PREPARED TO ENGAGE WITH RIGOROUS, HIGH-LEVEL COURSEWORK.

FOLLOWING THE RECENT STATE-WIDE BAN ON CELL PHONES IN SCHOOLS, DEPSA REMAINS AHEAD OF THE CURVE. TO MAINTAIN A SHARP ACADEMIC FOCUS, ALL SCHOLARS IN GRADES 9-11 ARE REQUIRED TO KEEP THEIR PHONES IN THEIR ASSIGNED POUCHES. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT A REPLACEMENT FEE WILL BE CHARGED FOR ANY POUCHES THAT ARE TAMPERED WITH OR DESTROYED.

READ MORE ABOUT THE NEW LAW BY [CLICKING HERE](#).

I AM CONFIDENT THAT WHEN OUR FAMILIES AND STAFF RALLY TOGETHER, OUR SCHOLARS WILL ACHIEVE TREMENDOUS GROWTH. LET'S MAKE THESE 30 DAYS COUNT.

ONE TEAM. ONE MISSION

UPDATES

- **PARENT CONF. MARCH 4, 4:30 - 7**
- **SPRING BREAK: MAR 30 - APR 7**

EVENTS/ GAMES

2/23-Monday

- HS-7 pm-BBall MHSAA State District Playoff (home) (UPREP A &D/UPREP M & S)

2/24-Tuesday

- HS-7 pm GBB Black vs. Renaissance (home)

2/25-Wednesday

- HS-5:30 pm-BBall MHSAA State Semi-Final District Playoff (home) (UPREP vs Winner of A & D and M & S)
- HS-7 pm-BBall MHSAA State Semi-Final District Playoff (home) (Edison vs. Central)

2/26-Thursday

- HS-7 pm GBB vs Marian (home) Senior Night

2/27-Friday

- HS-7 pm BBall varsity MHSAA Boys District Playoff Championship (home)

2/28-Saturday

- HS-12 pm GBB vs. @West Bloomfield

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

- **SCHOLARSHIP EXCELLENCE:** OUR SENIORS HAVE EARNED OVER \$10 MILLION IN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS, A TESTAMENT TO THEIR PERSEVERANCE AND COMMITMENT TO SUCCESS.
- **FAFSA MILESTONE:** THE CLASS OF 2026 HAS REACHED A 94% FAFSA COMPLETION RATE, SECURING A CLEAR PATH TOWARD COLLEGE ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY.
- **SENIOR TRIP PLANNING:** FAMILIES SHOULD BEGIN SAVING FOR THE SENIOR TRIP TO ORLANDO.
 - **COST:** \$505 PER STUDENT
 - **DEADLINE:** FINAL PAYMENT DUE APRIL 1, 2026
 - **ACT FAST:** ONLY THE FIRST 50 STUDENTS TO SIGN UP AND PAY WILL SECURE A SPOT!

[CLICK HERE FOR THE FULL NEWSLETTER](#)

