

Please review the information below that was emailed to all DASD families on Thursday, August 6.

Dear Downingtown Area School District Families,

Whether you're joining the Downingtown Area School District for the first time or returning for another school year, welcome! We hope you've had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to another year of learning, growth, and new opportunities.

As we prepare for the first day of school, here are a few important reminders to help your family get ready.



Your Back-to-School Checklist



Save These Important Dates

- August 12 (Midday) - Grades 6–12 teacher assignments and schedules available in the [Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#)
- August 13 (Midday) - Grades K–5 teacher assignments available in the [Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#)
- August 17 - Bus assignments emailed to families
- August 25 - First day of school for students!



K-6 School Supply Lists - Supply lists for students in grades K–6 are available on your school's website under Resources > Backpack.



Look-Out for Communications from Your School and Stay Connected with ParentSquare

ParentSquare helps families stay connected with important updates from their child's school, classroom, and the district, including weather alerts and emergency notifications, all in one convenient platform.

Before school starts, make sure you:

- Verify your contact information
- Download the ParentSquare app

Visit our [ParentSquare webpage](#) for helpful resources, including setup instructions and tips for staying connected.



New This Year



Updated Cell Phone Expectations

To support focused, engaging learning environments, DASD has updated its expectations for student personal electronic device use.

- **Grades K–8:** The District will require a "Bell-to-Bell, Off and Away" procedure for all students in grades K-8.
- **Grades 9–12:** Cell phone access will be prohibited during all classes.

These updates reflect feedback from our educators and are designed to help students stay engaged in learning while providing a consistent districtwide approach. Please review the full guidance in [Board Policy 237's Administrative Guideline](#). Additional information will be shared by your child's principal.



Families Helping Families

Parents and guardians of older students: What do you wish you knew before your child got a cell phone or device? Share your tips, experiences, and lessons learned, and we'll compile your insights

to help other DASD families navigate this important decision: [Parent to Parent: Cell Phone and Device Advice Survey](#)

We are excited to partner with you throughout the 2026-27 school year and can't wait to welcome our students back to our classrooms. Thank you for your continued support and for being an important part of the DASD community. Enjoy the rest of your summer and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Shealy

Director of Communications

Downingtown Area School District