DASH Parent Association Meeting
October 14, 2026

Class Updates:

- **Leilani Thomas (Junior Class) –** The Juniors are looking forward to their retreat on October 26th. They recently got sized for their class rings and are excited to get them in the spring. Many are taking the PSAT on October 22nd, even though it is optional. They have excelled at sports, including a state championship in golf, and are involved with the fall play and the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council.
- **Lydia Peters (Freshman Class) –** Freshmen are working on a class project to help support Goal 3 (a social awareness which impels to action). The Freshman volleyball team won its tournament. Lydia shares how much she appreciates the teachers and staff, the opportunities to keep growing, and how much she loves Duchesne.

Secretary's Report – Kristin Armendariz:

- The new "Madeleine's Mentors" program is underway. We have 24 mentors for a total of 63 new families. All have been matched. New families that have questions should contact me. Thank you to everyone who donated baked goods for back-to-school night. Next up for hospitality are parent-teacher conferences, then the Open House event.

School Report – Dr. Hickman:

- End-of-quarter progress reports have been released. These usually count for a percentage of overall semester grade (e.g., 40%), but only the semester grade will be on the student's transcript.
- Mother/Daughter: Annie Boatright is leading the volunteers for this event. Will be held on campus in the new Commons. Burt Street News has all the sign-up information. Laura has contacted families who receive substantial financial aid to offer reduced-cost tickets. So far, 15 families (31 individuals) have purchased these tickets.
- Teacher Birthdays: Steph Guy and Sarah Owen are leading this effort, and teachers have expressed gratitude. They receive birthday notes and handmade caramels during their birthday month. The caramel business owner has a daughter who graduated from Duchesne. It is a woman-owned, Catholic business.
- Venmo updates: Dave Westra has been trying to work with the new bank, but he is having a lot of problems. Checked with Creighton Prep; they tried the same thing but eventually gave up. We may need a different bank to make this work. Committee chairs should handle money on their own until we get a solution.

Teacher Appreciation:

- **Parent-Teacher Conference Lunches for Staff:** Carrie Brink will lead this effort.
    - Conferences are 11:00-6:30 on October 22 and 7:30-11:00 on October 23.
    - Breakfast is catered on the 23rd.
    - Typically, the committee chair sends out a SignUpGenius for lunch on the first day (soups, taco bar, etc.). We also need volunteers for setup and cleanup.
    - We should plan to feed 70 faculty and staff members.
    - Spring semester conferences are on one day: February 15th.

- **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon:**
    - Annual event held in March or April, after Spring Break.
    - We provide lunch and some small gift cards for the teachers.
    - We still need a chair for this year's luncheon. Last year, Stacey Lickteig and Jenny Batko worked together to set it up.

Post Prom Discussion – Meg Hollibaugh:

- Prom is for Juniors and Seniors from Duchesne (and a guest) and is held in February. It ends at 11:00, so Post Prom would start around 11:30 and run until 1:00.
- We prefer the event to be close to Duchesne, but not at the school. Many locations are in Elkhorn, West Omaha, etc. Two possibilities that are closer:
    - West Lanes Bowling Center
    - Grover Ice Rink
- Dr. Hickman will send a survey to the girls, asking:
    - Would you go to a Post Prom?
    - Would you go if the activity was bowling?
    - Would you go if the activity was ice skating?
    - How much would you be willing to pay? (Give ranges to choose from).
- Discussion about where to get food, prizes, and other supplies. Where will the initial money come from? Would businesses donate prizes? Some raised concerns that prom is the month after Conge, and some businesses might feel stretched.
- We would also need volunteers to set up and chaperone, and we would need to hire security and alcohol/drug screening (possibly off-duty police officers). 17 parents signed up on the data verification form and 3 more expressed interest last month.
- We would like to keep the price around $20/25 per ticket, including food and prize

“Madeleine’s Mentors” Program– Carrie Parkhurst:

- This used to be the Cardinal Parent Partnership. It was started in 2023 to link new families to existing Duchesne families.
- Next year, we would like to have the pairs arranged by the end of summer. We could possibly have an ice cream social at the start of the school year to bring mentors and new families together. This was done in 2023 and 2024.
- If we establish pairs early enough, we could tie in a meeting with one of the A31 summer events, like a pool party.
- We can start working on a list of mentors at the end of this school year (March/April). We will already know incoming families based on February registration night.
- It is important to link families by parish/grade school if possible.

Next Meeting will be Wednesday, November 11 at Noon in the Fitz

Duchesne Parent Association Board Treasurer Report

Date: October 14, 2026

Recent Expenditures/Income:

None reported for now, but Mother Daughter expenses and income will be generated in the next 4-6 weeks.

Costs for the teacher gifts are also likely to be incoming.

CURRENT YEAR 2026/2027 Summary:

Anticipated Income = approximately $20,000

Anticipated Expenses = approximately $20,000

Let me know if anyone has questions about budget, etc. for an event.

We generally run about cost neutral throughout the year.

We do have a Venmo account but we are working to make it active (it does not connect to our bank account currently).

Items for Discussion:

- Any questions

Reminders:

Submit for reimbursement using the form. Email to myself (stephguy33@gmail.com) and Erin B. (ebartolomei@duchesneacademy.org).

Duchesne is Tax Exempt make sure you don't get charged tax. Duchesne will not reimburse for tax. Request the number from Erin if needed and/or purchasing things through Erin is acceptable and there is an Amazon account, just let me know so I account for it in the budget.

Steph Guy Stephguy33@gmail.com or 402-957-5896