

Superintendent's Advance

SUPERINTENDENT'S PRESS CONFERENCE 2011

July 20, 2011

THE DCSS FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Good morning.

These are exciting times in the Dougherty County School System. Veteran teachers are preparing their minds and hearts to return to class and new teachers are being indoctrinated into school and classroom instructional management. In short, we are looking forward to a great school year.

A part of making it great is the involvement of parents and community members in a successful start. I have mailed letters to area pastors asking their help and now I am asking the media to help us let every parent know that Monday, August First, is Day One -- the first day of school -- and Success Begins on Day One.

We will hold a system-wide Open House in each one of our 26 schools on the afternoon of Sunday, July, thirty-first. The Open House schedule will rotate to allow parents with children at the different levels time to visit each school in which they have children enrolled. The schedule is: Elementary - 3:00 pm until 4:30 pm; Middle Schools - 3:30 pm until 5:00 pm; and High Schools - for incoming freshmen parents only - from 4:00 to 5:30 pm.

Ten through twelfth grade high school parents will have a special Open House on September first.

The Bell schedule to begin and end the school day remains as it was last year: Elementary begins at 8:00 am and ends at 2:30 pm; Middle School begins at 8:15 am and ends at 3:15 pm; and High School begins at 8:45 and ends at 4:00 pm.

The system maintains its policy for elementary school uniforms for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Students may wear a white or blue collared shirt, plus one more of the schools chosen spirit color. Pants, shorts, skirts or jumpers are to be khaki or navy blue.

New enrollees to a school need proof of residency -- a utility bill -- at the time of registration.

School office staff are working now to prepare for Day ONE. You may visit your child's school to make sure their enrollment is in order.

High School students should visit their school during the next two weeks to pick up their class schedule. This will make the first day easier for all students.

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Bus riders MUST complete a transportation request at the child's school at time of school registration. Students who have not made application for transportation will not be allowed on buses. This measure helps our transportation department make the most efficient routes and schedules possible.

Drivers -- please pay attention to school crossing safety zones and keep your speed below 20 miles per hour. Be aware of students walking beside the road. The safety of our students and staff is a priority for us.

Our annual Back-To-School newspaper supplement will be inserted in the Albany Herald this Sunday. It contains a lot of useful information for students and parents.

Thank you for helping us move the Dougherty County School System to new levels of Educational Achievement Beyond All Expectations.

Our next Press Conference will be held Friday morning July 22, 2011 at 11:30 A.M. at the Isabella Complex at 300 Cason Street to discuss the Medical Arts Alliance with our health care partners at a luncheon held to announce our expanding curriculum options.