



## Elementary News and Notes

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Conferences are around the corner and probably our most pressing need at this time. The February Conferences have typically been optional with either the parent or the teacher being able to ask for a conference as needed. Please be open to attending if asked to do so by the classroom teacher. Also please feel comfortable signing up for a conference if you would like one. Some teachers have given a rundown to their students' parents about conferences already, but here is the official sign-up. Again, these are optional, so check with the teacher if you're not sure of the need.

### **February 2025 SignUp Genius Conference Links**

**Kindergarten:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094BAAA62CA6FC1-54306745-2025>

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094BAAA62CA6FC1-54307401-2025>

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094BAAA62CA6FC1-54307690-2025>

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094BAAA62CA6FC1-54307813-2025>

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094BAAA62CA6FC1-54307808-2025>

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094BAAA62CA6FC1-54308139-2025>

**EC Clark:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094BAAA62CA6FC1-54308539-2025>



EC McNallan: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094BAAA62CA6FC1-54308836-2025>

EC Schlueter: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094BAAA62CA6FC1-54308862-2025>

**Elementary Student Council Fundraiser: (This is our last week)** We are raising money, so that we can put on the 4th and 5th grade Spring Party at the end of March. The Student Council will be selling Chocolate Bars (World's Finest) for the month of January on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7:40am-8:10am. Each bar will cost \$1. Choices of candy bars include Caramel, Crisp, Milk Chocolate, Dark Chocolate, Wafer, and Almond. All bars are gluten free except the Wafer Bar. All proceeds will go toward hosting the 4th/5th Grade Spring Party. Eventually we hope this can keep the party going for all future grade levels that will go through, but in order to do this, we have to fundraise.

**Reading Proficiency: (This letter comes home this week if not at Grade Level for Reading)** There are a fair number this first go around as expected, so know your student is not alone, and we need to improve in this area. New state statutes require all students in grades K-3 not on grade level with Reading Benchmarks, have notification sent home to parents. We will be following the law in the near future and sending home scores for those scoring in the 40% or less Nationally on the Reading Benchmarks. We will go above the letter of the law and include 4th and 5th grade as well. I want to be transparent about this as it is new, yet a number of our grade levels have shared this with parents at conferences the past few years.



We will be sending out results to those under the 40% prior to our Spring Conferences in February.

If you have questions about the Benchmark tests and the results, please reach out first to the classroom teacher and then to me if you still have questions. It is our goal to partner with you to get all kids reading at grade level. This is a good law that has been enacted in our state and will hopefully help in our efforts to promote good literacy gains!

If you receive a letter we will also send home a list of things that you can do to support your child in addition to the help we will continue to provide and improve here at Dover-Eyota Schools. It may feel like a negative that your student is not on grade level, but please know the purpose is not to shame, but to make aware and make a good plan to improve both Reading Instruction, as well as our individual student Reading results.

I feel really good that we have all of our licensed K-6 teachers being trained for 50+ hours in Reading instruction this year. While we may not see the gains at this point, I am excited for future years because of the training and efforts of our staff. Your students are in good hands.



**Crosswalk Supervision:** This is an area we have struggled to staff the past few years due to a decline in staffing numbers. This is not an issue we see going away which means it is difficult to staff places off campus for the school, which are not legally on schools to watch/supervise, but we would like to be good community partners if we can be. There is a need for supervision of crossing the street up on Knowledge Road and Jefferson, especially crossing into Bush Court. If anyone is available or knows of someone who is able to volunteer to watch this spot, please contact me for details. [benmidge@deschools.org](mailto:benmidge@deschools.org)

**Open Enrollment:** We are opening with the state for enrollment for next school year. If you have neighbors, friends, or family looking for a school, please don't hesitate to send them our way. We can be reached in the office at 507-545-2632 or email me directly with any questions at [benmidge@deschools.org](mailto:benmidge@deschools.org). Anyone interested can go to our school website to get started. Here is the link for the Open Enrollment form.

<https://assets-rst7.rschoolday.com/rst7files/uploads/sites/737/2023/11/14161754/23.09-25-General-Statewide-Enrollment-Options-Application-for-K-12-and-Early-Childhood-Special-Education-ext-1.pdf>

**Yearbook Orders:** Don't forget to order your yearbook!

Yearbooks must be purchased online.

<https://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A09822369>





Ordering closes on Friday, March 21st

**Upcoming Events:**

**February 14- Valentine's Day Parties**

**February 18- Conferences 3:30-7:30**

**February 20- Conferences 3:30-7:30**

**February 21- No School**

**Elementary Calendar:** For the elementary calendar please use this link.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sqv-dCUg\\_sY5FtyKY7GbDSAcBO3MQ96n/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sqv-dCUg_sY5FtyKY7GbDSAcBO3MQ96n/view)

Let's make it a great week! Go Eagles!

Sincerely,

Ben Midge- Elementary Principal