

# **Deshler Public News**

## **November 2015**

### **Dates of special interest:**

Tuesday Nov 11<sup>th</sup> – Veteran’s Day Program (10:00 a.m.)

Wednesday Nov 18<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 late start – Teacher in Service

Wednesday Nov 25<sup>th</sup> – 1:07 dismissal

Thursday Nov 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> – No School – Thanksgiving Break

## **From the Desk of Mr. Weber**

### **Partnering in Education**

My philosophy of education simply revolves around the question, “What is best for our kids?” I truly believe that positive relationships between the school and families is what is best for kids. Research from several different sources shows that our students will ultimately be most successful with proper parental involvement. Knowing the importance and validity of this research, I was extremely impressed and joyed by seeing a great turnout for parent teacher conferences on the night of October 28<sup>th</sup>. I walked around and saw parents, teachers, and students engaged in positive and encouraging discussions. I have also seen an increase in communication home to families. These interactions will only benefit our students and lead to an even more positive school community culture.

I talked to the parents of the incoming students at the beginning of this year about what can be done to be a partner in education. A few of my recommendations are as follows:

1. Check Power School on a weekly basis to see how your child is doing in each class. Ask them questions based upon what you see.
2. Speak of your child’s school and education in a positive manner. Your positive words can help them become more excited to come to school each and every day. Follow up on those conversations with your child and their teachers.
3. Encourage your child to speak directly with their teacher or myself if they have any issues. Self-advocacy is a strong college and career readiness skill.
4. Create a distraction-free study and homework location for your child. Also, it would be a great idea to limit screen time until they are done with work.
5. Talk to your child about the appropriate use of technology and social media. Social media can be a positive venture, but it can also be a haven for negativity and inappropriate behavior.
6. Ask your child about their school day and about their classes. What are they studying? What was the most challenging thing they did? What was most exciting?
7. Stay up to date on how education is changing in our schools. My goal is to keep the community informed if and when things in our school and even in our state.

For more resources, please visit <http://www.edutopia.org/parent-leadership-education-resources> . This site has several great resources and articles for parents and teachers alike. I would highly recommend looking at the article titled “Parents and Teachers: The Possibility of a Dream Team”. The final sentence in that article written by Dr. Richard Curwin states, “When teachers and parents are allies and teammates, their combined influence on children is very powerful indeed.” (2012).

We have great students, families, community members, and staff members here in Deshler. Let's continue to work together and to make this the best place possible for our children. We have a great culture, but even the best of things need to be nurtured regularly.

As always, please know that I am open to visits, phone calls, and/or emails. Have a great November and Thanksgiving. I am thankful for you all.

Josh Weber  
Secondary Principal

## From the Guidance Office      Joan Unruh

[joan.unruh@deshlerdragons.org](mailto:joan.unruh@deshlerdragons.org)

### **Financial Aid Meeting: Parents Welcome**

Financial aid is a very important part of getting ready for college and being able to attend the college of your choice. A representative from Education Quest will be at school on November 3rd at 9:00 a.m. to show the seniors information about what programs are available to them and how to apply for these programs. Education Quest is a non-profit organization that helps students in Nebraska transition to further schooling.

Federal aid is the foundation for funding a college education. The representative will present information about grants, loans and work study opportunities. Grants are funds that do not have to be paid back. Loans will have to be repaid; however, some student loans have low interest rates and other features that make them appealing to students. Work Study is a program that employs students and pays them as they earn throughout the school year.

Parents are welcome to attend this session which is held in the high school library. There will be another Financial Aid meeting in January to help parents and students look at the actual application process.

### **ACT Registration Deadline ...**

Students interested in taking the ACT test on December 12<sup>th</sup> should be aware that the regular registration deadline is November 6. Students must register online; fee waivers are available for students that show financial need. Need is usually shown through use of the free or reduced lunch program status. The basic fee for the test without the writing test is \$39.50.

The ACT is a "curriculum based" test. This means that having as many courses as possible completed before the test should help the student score as well as they can. English, math, science and reading are the four academic areas tested. Sample test questions are available in the Guidance Office or online at [ACTstudent.org](http://ACTstudent.org).

It is recommended that the current juniors consider taking the test this spring. Deshler is going to offer the ACT on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 as part of a special opportunity. The John Baylor test prep will be offered to them before the March test.

Juniors can also consider taking the test in June, September, October and December in 2016 before it is "too late" to use a score on scholarship forms and for entrance to selective colleges.

### **What is Compass testing?**

Those interested in programs that are less than 4 years may not need an ACT score. The *Compass Test* is given at community colleges and technical schools to help them place students into classes. Usually the Compass is given at no charge and is a shorter test and given on the

computer. Students can log onto the internet for sample test questions or ask Mrs. Unruh for a sample packet. See Mrs. Unruh if you are uncertain of your path and college testing.

## **Scholarship Search**

There are many sources of scholarship information. We have posted basic information about scholarships we receive on the school website under the guidance tab and on the calendar outside the guidance office.

However, we receive only a small fraction of the possible scholarship information. For a wide variety of opportunities, students should go online and complete one or more of the “Scholarship Search” sites. I highly recommend using the search located at [www.educationquest.org](http://www.educationquest.org). (Nebraska based information). Others include: [www.Fastaid.com](http://www.Fastaid.com); [www.Fastweb.com](http://www.Fastweb.com); or [www.schoolsoup.com](http://www.schoolsoup.com)

Once students have found a scholarship of which they are interested in applying, they should have other people proof read their work (counselor, English teacher, parent,)...a tiny error can make a big difference in a person’s eligibility.

### **Seniors: Have you lined up your references yet?**

It is best to ask several people for a good recommendation and ask them now. Include a variety of people, often a scholarship form asks for a “person from the community” or they specifically ask for an employer, teacher, or minister. Give the person a personal resume that will help them highlight your strengths.

Parents are always welcome to review the current available scholarships by visiting the guidance office. The applications are available from a vertical file with open access.

## **Career and College Planning**

Students of any age should be thinking about possible future careers. There are several online tools available to you at no charge at [www.educationquest.org](http://www.educationquest.org). and [NebraskaCareerConnections.org](http://NebraskaCareerConnections.org) (this needs an activation code which you can get from Mrs. Unruh.). Both of these are excellent Nebraska-based services.

Students can also use a day to visit a workplace of interest or go to a college. Seniors are allowed 2 days; sophomores and juniors are given one day.

The freshman and sophomores will attend a career planning day on November 20 at the Activity Center. The program, Connect the Dots, is sponsored by the Extension Office.



# November Breakfast Menus

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Cinnamon Round Cereal Pears Juice Milk	3 Breakfast Wrap Strawberries Juice Milk	4 Coffeecake Cereal Pineapple Juice Milk	5 Strawberry & Yogurt Chex Cheese Stick Tropical Fruit Juice & Milk	6 Biscuit Sandwich Grape Juice Milk	7
8	9 Yogurt Granola Applesauce Juice Milk	10 Tac- Go Cereal Cantaloupe Juice Milk	11 Cinnamon Stick Cereal Oranges Juice Milk	12 Bagel Cereal Raisins Juice Milk	13 French Toast Sausage Apricot Juice Milk	14
15	16 <b>Deshler Dragons Breakfast Days</b> Breakfast Pizza Cereal Bananas Juice Milk	Pancake on a Cereal Stick Pears Juice Milk	18 Cinnamon Roll Cereal Dried Cranberries Juice Milk	19 Banana Muffin Cereal Peaches Juice Milk	20 Sausage Scrambled Egg Mandarin Oranges Juice Milk	21
22	23 Breakfast Bar Cheese Sticks Pineapple Juice Milk	24 English Muffin Cereal Star Apples Juice Milk	25 Yogurt Cereal Choice of Fruit Juice Milk	26	27	28
29	30 Breakfast Bagel Cereal Fruit Cocktail Juice Milk					

No School, Have a Happy Thanksgiving

Menus are subjected to change. Oatmeal served on Friday as choice. And Justice for all.



# November Lunch Menus

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Calzonette Corn Garlic Bread Strawberries Milk	3 Chicken Fajita Iceberg Lettuce Salsa Coffee cake Milk	4 Hamburger Baked Beans Tomatoes Pickles Tropical Fruit Snickers doodle & Milk	5 Tatar Tot Casserole Fresh Carrots Cheesy Biscuits Grapes Milk	6 Chicken Fried Steak Mash Potatoes Cooked Broccoli Dinner Roll Bananas Milk	7
8	9 Spaghetti Green Beans Garlic Bread Cantaloupe Milk	10 Chicken Quesadilla Refried Beans Romaine Lettuce Cinnamon Breadsticks Oranges Milk	11 Hot Ham & Cheese Sandwich Cheesy Potatoes Veggies Raisins Milk	12 Chinese Chicken Chinese Vegetables Celery Rice Apple crisp Milk	13 Turkey Sub Tomatoes Doritos Iceberg Lettuce Bananas Milk	14
15	16 Chicken Sandwich Ranch Broccoli Salad Corn Seasoned Pasta Pears Milk	17 Meat Loaf Potato Wedges Cooked Carrots Dinner Roll Baked Apples Milk	18 Bronco Busters Coleslaw Animal Crackers Peaches Milk	19 Cheese Bread or Cheese Sticks Marinara Lettuce Salad Pineapple & oranges Milk	20 Thanksgiving Dinner Turkey Green Beans Dinner Roll Mash Potatoes Cranberry Sauce Stuffing Pumpkin Pie Milk	21
22	23 BBQ Pork on bun Oven Fries Romaine Lettuce Star Apple Milk	24 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade's Meal Pizza Green Beans Cucumbers Applesauce Chocolate Cookies Milk	25 Pigs in A Blanket Baked Beans Fresh Carrots Savory Rice Smoothies Milk	26	27	28
				<i>No School. Have a Happy Thanksgiving</i>		
29	30 Chili Crackers Cheese Stick Cinnamon Roll Dried Cranberries Milk					

Menus are subjected to change. Yogurt and optional entrées are alternate choices available for Grades 4-12. Chef Salads are alternate choices for 7-12. And Justice For All.