

# Tiger Cub News

Delano Elementary School Newsletter



October 2022

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## Dates to remember

### October

- 3.....Walk, Roll, Stroll, 5 p.m.
- 12..Walk and Roll to School Day
- 12.....DQ Night, 5-8 p.m.
- 17.....Picture retake day
- 17.....Kindness in Chalk
- 17..Levy listening session, 7 p.m.
- 17..Conferences, 3:30-7:30 p.m.
- 18..Conferences, 3:30-7:30 p.m.
- 19.....Two-hour late start
- 20-21.....MEA, no school
- 26.....DQ Night, 5-8 p.m.



## Pepped up

It has been several years since DES students gathered together for a traditional pep fest, so the Homecoming rally on Friday, Sept. 23, was a new experience for most. For more photos from the event, see Page 4.

## A focused start to the year

By Rachel Schultz  
Principal

On behalf of the Delano Elementary staff, I would like to welcome you back to another school year! Our staff is excited to have the opportunity to work with your children and provide them with a school year filled with learning and fun.

We had near perfect attendance at our Orientation Days, which foster positive connections between teachers, students and families. Thank you for setting aside time to attend; it is appreciated.



Rachel Schultz

The past two years have provided challenges and limitations due to Covid protocols

and processes. Now we are moving forward. To start this year we are establishing school routines and focused literacy practices that lay the foundation for successful elementary school years.

### *School routines and expectations*

With a new teacher and classmates, it takes practice and time to develop the flow of being in a classroom again. When classrooms have routines and expectations established and

See Schultz  
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## Getting oriented

DES students eased into the school year with Orientation Days on Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 6-7. The gradual start has become a tradition that allows students and parents to meet with teachers one-on-one, for students to have their school photos taken, and to generally get acclimated before the first day of regular classes.



## Oct. 17 listening session on levy

Members of the Delano School Board host periodic "listening sessions" to discuss matters of interest with district residents.

The next listening session will occur on Monday, Oct. 17, in the Delano High School Tiger Den.

All are encouraged to attend to hear information and share feedback about the district's operating levy request (see Page 3 for more info).

Listening sessions are not formal meetings, and open discussion about the designated topics is encouraged. Members of the public are welcome to share comments, questions and suggestions.

# Behavior expectations and discipline

By Paul Ludwig  
Dean of Students

As we start our new school year we wanted to give our school community a few details about our behavior expectations and discipline policy at DES.

We believe that school should be a safe and respectful environment in which all students are free to learn. As members of this school community, students, parents and school staff all share in the responsibility of creating this positive learning environment.

Our school's discipline policy supports this environment by clearly articulating to all members of the school community expectations for safe, kind, responsible and respectful behavior. This is our "Tiger Way."

Below are short explanations



Paul Ludwig

of how we support our students through rewards and reminder slips.

### Tiger Paw Awards

Tiger Paw Awards can be given out by any adult in the school to students who are demonstrating behavior above and beyond what is expected.

If a student receives a Tiger Paw Award, their name will be called during morning announcements, they will receive a ping pong ball to be placed in our reward tower, and they will get their picture taken and displayed on the bulletin board in the hallway.

### Monthly Tiger Paw Awards

One student from each class will be chosen each month for showing the character trait of the month and the Tiger Way. If a student receives this Tiger Paw Award, they will get a certificate and get to have a special sign by their lunch spot in the cafeteria.

### Tiger Way Reminder

These slips can also be given to students by any adult in our school. The Tiger Way Reminder slips are given to

students who are being disrespectful to others, including name-calling and put-downs, interrupting, or not following the directions.

If a student receives three Tiger Way Reminder slips in one trimester, they will meet with Mrs. Schultz or Mr. Ludwig and a phone call will be placed to the parents. If a student receives six Tiger Way Reminder slips in a trimester, a parent meeting will be scheduled with Mrs. Schultz or Mr. Ludwig.

### Behavior Slips

Behavior Slips are given to a student when unsafe behavior is displayed by the student. Students who receive a behavior slip will meet with Mrs. Schultz or Mr. Ludwig, a phone call will be made home, and the behavior slip must be signed by a parent and returned to school.

# Referendum 2022

The Delano School Board has called for an operating levy vote on Nov. 8

## 2021 result

~~\$970~~

Last fall voters turned down a school district request to increase its per pupil funding by \$600 to a total of \$970, the amount needed to prevent budget cuts for the foreseeable future. As a result, the district trimmed its budget by more than \$550,000 for 2022-23 through staff cuts, fee increases and more.

## 2022 changes

This year the school board has lowered its overall request and broken it into two questions.

### Question 1

**\$604.46**  
per pupil

The first ballot question asks voters to approve a new levy amount of \$604.46 per pupil to replace the expiring levy of \$404.46, an increase of \$200 per pupil.

#### Tax increase

**\$100**  
per year

on an average home  
valued at \$350,000

### Question 2

**\$250**  
per pupil

The second question asks voters to approve an additional per pupil funding amount of \$250.

#### Tax increase

**\$122**  
per year

#### Total increase

**\$222**  
per year



Question 2 is contingent on Question 1, meaning it cannot pass unless Question 1 is approved.

## Potential outcomes

**Q1** | **Q2**



If both questions pass, no budget cuts will be needed next school year. Some cuts may still be needed within the 10-year life of the levy, depending on state funding and enrollment changes.



Cuts of approximately \$360,000, or the equivalent of five full-time staff members, would be needed for the 2023-24 school year. In the last four fiscal years overall reductions have totaled \$1.7 million.



Question 2 can only pass if Question 1 is approved. This outcome would mirror the result for two "no" votes below.



The district would lose \$1 million in annual funding when the existing levy expires after the current school year. Resulting budget cuts would be the equivalent of 23 full-time staff members.

See more information at [www.delano.k12.mn.us](http://www.delano.k12.mn.us)



## Tigers in training

Young Delano students learned the school song and accompanying motions, enjoyed getting fired up by the pep band and other visiting high school students, and watched their teachers participate in some goofy sports-themed challenges during the school's Homecoming pep fest on Friday, Sept. 23.



# Veterans clothing drive begins Oct. 24

Delano Public Schools will conduct its eighth annual new clothing drive for veterans in need again this year.

The drive will begin on Monday, Oct. 24, and end on Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 11. All donated items must be newly purchased.

The clothing drive will continue to support veterans who are hospitalized at local VA hospitals in Minneapolis and St. Cloud, as well as veterans who are undergoing treatments for post-traumatic stress disorder at the Eagles Healing Nest.

The VA hospitals provide assistance to veterans in need. These veterans, many who are homeless at admission, are typically hospitalized for 60 to 90 days. When they are well enough for discharge, the hospital staff works to ensure that their basic needs are met.

The Eagles Healing Nest has recently expanded its program to include female as well as male veterans. The Nest provides holistic treatment and therapy, education and job training.



**Students display some of the items gathered in last year's drive to support veterans.**

With the fall of Afghanistan, the Nest seen a significant increase in veterans needing and accessing services.

Please consider donating the following items.

**For men:** sweatpants and sweatshirts (L and XL), zip-up

hooded sweatshirts (L and XL), slippers or shower shoes, socks, boxer shorts (M-XL), colored T-shirts (all sizes), white T-shirts (L, XL); winter hats, gloves and coats; pajama pants (L, XL), jeans (32-38), work out clothes; deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste; and body wash.

**For women:** sweatpants, sweatshirts and zip-up hooded sweatshirts (M-XL); slippers or shower shoes; socks and underwear (M-XL); colored T-shirts (all sizes); winter hats, gloves and coats (L-XL), pajamas (M-XL), work-out clothes and sports bras, jeans (all sizes), deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and body wash.

• If you would like to make a monetary donation, collected funds will be used to purchase the items of greatest need based on the request of each facility.

Make your check payable to Delano Public Schools, and note "veterans clothing drive" in the memo. Thank you in advance for your continued support of this project.

## Every Meal helps to cover food gaps

Every Meal, a weekend food program formerly known as The Sheridan Story, is once again available to DES families this year. The non-profit's mission is to fight child hunger through community and school partnerships.

The organization strives to make a difference by focusing on food gaps – the times when children aren't at school to access meal programs. Every Meal offers food over the weekends, summers and extended school breaks.

The program is free for all families, and no qualifications are required for

enrollment. No information is collected for enrollment, and privacy is protected for participating families. Those interested can sign up at any time during the school year, and school staff will discreetly place food bags in students' backpacks on Fridays during the school year.

Families can choose from a variety of food bags that contain nutritious, non-perishable food, including fruits, vegetables, proteins, grains and soups or entrees.

For more information, contact DES Social Worker Janelle Olson at [janelle.olson@delanoschools.org](mailto:janelle.olson@delanoschools.org) or 763.972.6200 ext. 1315.



## New staff at DES

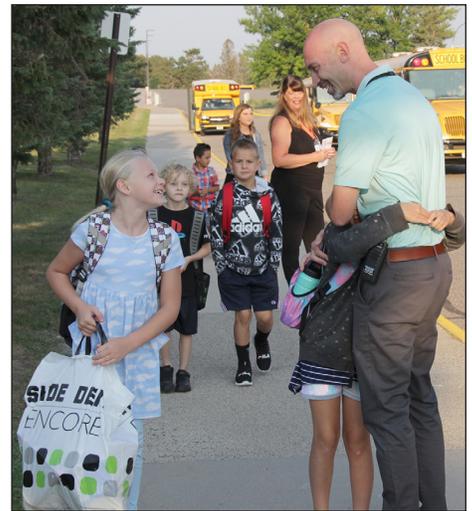
New elementary school staff members this fall include, above from left, Emily Morisset (elementary speech language pathologist) and Kay Becker (basic skills). At right is social worker Janelle Olson, who is filling in for Lisa Armstrong this year.





# Warm welcome

Excitement was in the air as DES students and staff members reunited for the first day of regular classes on Thursday, Sept. 8, after Orientation Days. Big hugs, high fives and smiles were the order of the day as students arrived on their buses.



# Opportunities to get involved

## *District Wellness Committee*

Delano Public Schools is seeking community members, parents, students and school staff to serve on the District Wellness Committee.

The committee's main objective is to monitor compliance with the district's student Wellness Policy (No. 533) and the Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 in the areas of student nutrition and education, physical activity, and wellness support (i.e. mental health).

This committee will meet three times during the year. The first meeting will be in early November, the second around the end of February, and the third in June. The committee will review data from all three areas above, and from the student wellness goals submitted by each of the three school student wellness committees.

Areas of focus include school lunch and food service, mental health programs, and opportunities for students to participate in community and school physical health activities.

The committee submits a district compliance report to the school board every three years. The latest report was given in the summer of 2022, and an updated building report is made each year in between.

If you wish to help ensure student wellness by participating on

this committee, contact DHS Assistant Principal Steve Schauberg-er at 763-972-3365, ext. 1703, or [steve.schauberg@delanoschools.org](mailto:steve.schauberg@delanoschools.org).

## *District Advisory Council*

Delano Public Schools is seeking parent and community members to serve on the District Advisory Council (DAC) for the 2022-23 school year.

The District Advisory Council serves to ensure active community participation in all phases of planning and improving instruction and curriculum in terms of state and local standards. Through that work, the DAC provides recommendations to the school board regarding rigorous academic standards, student achievement goals, and measures consistent with the MN Statute B.11.

The DAC membership reflects the diversity of the district and its school sites and includes teachers, parents, support staff, students and other community residents. DAC members must be able to commit to three or four meetings per year.

Interested parents and community members can request an application by contacting Monica Kunkel, Curriculum Coordinator, at 763-973-7601, ext. 1731, or [monica.kunkel@delanoschools.org](mailto:monica.kunkel@delanoschools.org).

# When to keep an ill student at home

By Tina Prior  
District Nurse

When a student is sick, parents often wonder whether or not to keep a child at home from school.

If a child stays home and has the care they need when first sick, they will often get better faster. Staying home and resting will help the body fight the sickness. Staying at home is also one of the best ways to keep others from becoming ill.

## Reasons to stay home include:

Reasons to stay home include:

1. Severe colds, coughs, or sore throats.
2. Eye infections, especially



Tina Prior

if discharge is present.

3. New skin rashes, especially if draining – unless medical opinion states rash is not contagious.

4. Temperature of 100 or more with or without symp-

toms of an illness.

5. Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal pain.

6. Any other sign of acute illness.

7. The student is waiting until results of laboratory tests (i.e., throat culture, nasal swab, saliva test) are known.

8. The student is unable to participate in routine activities or needs more care than can be provided by staff.

9. The student needs to be given an over-the-counter medication to come to school.

## Students may return to school when:

1. They are well enough to participate in normal school activities.

2. They are free of all symp-

toms for 24 hours (especially vomiting, diarrhea and fever).

3. Their temperature remains normal for a 24-hour period without the use of fever reducing medications.

4. They have been on an antibiotic for at least 24 hours.

It is often difficult to decide whether it is really necessary to keep your child home. There are very few rules to follow when dealing with these variables. Hopefully these guidelines will be helpful to you in making this decision. Gone are the days when you should tell your child “to push through” or “go to school and if you are not better go to the nurse.” Our goal is to provide a healthy environment for all children.

Thank you for your cooperation!

| LUNCH  |   | OCTOBER 2022<br>Delano Elementary School   |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |   | Delano Elementary School<br>\$3.50   |  |  |  |  |
| Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday   |  |  |
| Hamburger<br>Sun Chips<br>Corn<br>Lettuce / Tomatoes / Pickles<br>Fruit Cocktail                 | Chicken Chompers<br>A)Fish Sticks<br>Romaine – toppings<br>Sh carrots / tomatoes / cukes<br>Cheddar Goldfish<br>Peaches | Spaghetti – Meat Sauce<br>Green Beans<br>Lettuce Salad<br>Garlic Toast<br>Pears                          | Corn Dog<br>Potato Smiles<br>Baby Carrots<br>Baked Beans<br>Rosy Applesauce                            | French Toast Sticks<br>Sausage links<br>Hashbrown<br>Steamed Broccoli<br>Cinnamon Applesauce |  |  |
| Chicken Patty Sandwich<br>Chicken Noodle Soup<br>Veggies<br>Lettuce Salad<br>Peaches             | Walking Tacos<br>Lettuce / Cheese / Salsa<br>Refried Beans<br>Fresh Fruit   | Chicken Gravy<br>A)Polish Sausage<br>Mashed Potatoes<br>Peas / Roll<br>Lettuce Salad<br>Orange Wedges    | Popcorn Chicken<br>Seasoned Brown Rice<br>Steamed Carrots<br>Lettuce Salad<br>Pineapple / Mand Oranges | Italian Dunker<br>Marinara Sauce<br>Corn<br>Lettuce Salad<br>Fresh Fruit                     |  |  |
| Domino's Pizza<br>Green Beans<br>Lettuce Salad<br>Pears  | Chicken Patty<br>Mashed Potatoes / Gravy<br>Peas / Roll<br>Lettuce Salad<br>Orange Wedges                               | Hamburger<br>A)Sloppy Joes<br>Sun Chips<br>Lettuce / Tomatoes / Pickles<br>Baked Beans<br>Fruit Cocktail | No School<br>MEA   | No School<br>MEA   |  |  |
| Chicken Nuggets<br>Sun Chips<br>Green Beans<br>Baby Carrots<br>Lettuce Salad<br>Fruit Cocktail   | Cheese Quesadilla<br>Corn<br>Lettuce Salad<br>Salsa<br>Fresh Fruit  | Orange Chicken<br>Brown Rice<br>Stir Fry Vegetables<br>Lettuce Salad<br>Pineapple                        | Taco Joe<br>Tortilla Chips<br>Baked Beans<br>Salsa<br>Lettuce Salad<br>Orange Wedges                   | Polish Sausage<br>Mashed Potatoes<br>Peas<br>Lettuce Salad<br>Roll<br>Pears                  |  |  |
| Hot Dog<br>A)BBQ Rib Sandwich<br>Potato Smiles<br>Baked Beans<br>Baby Carrots<br>Rosy Applesauce |   |  |  |  |  |  |

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# Substitutes needed

Delano Public Schools is among many area districts seeking additional assistance from substitute teachers.

Interested, but not sure how to get started? Contact Teachers on Call at 800.713.4439 or see [www.teachersoncall.com](http://www.teachersoncall.com) for information on training and more.

The application process is almost completely online and can be completed in less than one week.

Substitutes do not need to have a teaching license, although substitute roles are available for both licensed and un-licensed roles.

Substitute positions allow

you the freedom to choose where, when, and how much you work. You also enjoy work-free nights, weekends, holidays, summers, and other breaks throughout the school year. There are also opportunities for summer employment.

Substitutes can choose which jobs they take, and are free to explore a variety of districts or only take work from schools on their preference list. They can also choose the grade levels they work.

More information about training, requirements, pay, benefits, frequently asked questions, and more can be found at [www.teachersoncall.com](http://www.teachersoncall.com).

## Announcements

### End-of-day changes

If you need to change your child's end of day routine and have forgotten to send a note to school, you will need to contact the school office before 11 a.m.

This deadline allows the office to give teachers this information during lunch times so instruction is not interrupted. We understand that emergencies may occur after this time and we will do our best in getting that information to your child. For more information on end-of-day changes and other school procedures, see the Student-Parent Handbook under the Elementary tab on the district website: [www.delano.k12.mn.us](http://www.delano.k12.mn.us).

### Volunteer at our schools

Delano Public Schools welcomes volunteers and appreciates their efforts on behalf of our students. The district uses the volunteer management system from Raptor Technologies to screen and track volunteers in our buildings. This is the same system currently used for visitor management and ensures safety and security for students, staff and visitors.

The district's risk management policy mandates that all volunteers MUST be registered every year with the district prior to participating in any school-related activity, including field trips.

Registration can be completed at [www.delano.k12.mn.us/district/school-services/volun](http://www.delano.k12.mn.us/district/school-services/volun) and consists of two parts.

1. Volunteers MUST have a secure background check on file with District 879. The background check is valid for three calendar years and can be accessed via a link on the volunteer page of the district website. The cost of the secure background check is \$12, payable by the volunteer.

2. Volunteers MUST complete -- every school year -- a volunteer application form, which can be accessed and completed at [www.delano.k12.mn.us/district/school-services/volun](http://www.delano.k12.mn.us/district/school-services/volun).

If you have any questions, please contact Wendie Scanlon at 763.972.6200 ext. 1312, or [wendie.scanlon@delanoschools.org](mailto:wendie.scanlon@delanoschools.org).

DELANO ELEMENTARY  
*walk, roll, stroll*

MONDAY, OCTOBER 03, 2022

Please join us for a family fun night of walking, rolling, and strolling around the Delano campus!

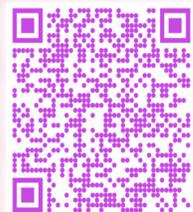


MONDAY OCTOBER 3RD, 2022

ELEMENTARY FRONT ENTRANCE

FLEX START! This means you can begin anytime after you check in. We will not start everyone at the same time. Please check in and start anytime between 5:00 and 5:15 PM.

Scan the code to register. Fill it out in advance or at the event. No fee required. 1.5 mile route, see map below through code. Students must be with a parent or guardian at all times. Bikes, strollers, scooters, roller blades, etc. are welcome! We are dog friendly but they must be on a leash!



# Schultz

from Page 1

reinforced, optimal learning occurs with fewer behavior disruptions. Teachers work diligently to establish their classroom routines early in the year so more time can be spent on learning as the year continues.

While each classroom community is unique, most of our routines and expectations are centered around The Tiger Way. We focus our efforts on four components: RESPONSIBLE, RESPECTFUL, SAFE and KIND.

When we see these positive behaviors occurring without reminders, we celebrate! A new school-wide goal this year is to fill the tower with ping pong balls. A ping pong ball is earned when a student gets a Tiger Paw Award and their name is announced on morning announcements. We are off to a great start!

## Strengthened literacy practices

Many of our staff have been learning about the Science of Reading and Structured Literacy through LETRS training and professional development opportunities. Because of what we have been learning, as a school we are focusing on explicitly teaching phonics and phonemic awareness through a progression, especially in our K-1 classrooms.

We are incorporating the



Students who earn a Tiger Paw Award for positive behavior get a ping pong ball to help fill the tower, a school-wide goal for the school year.

new strategies learned into our current curriculum to develop strong independent readers. We are also dedicating time to reviewing student reading data, so we know how to respond if interventions or enrichment are needed. Reading is a foundational skill that impacts all subject areas. Our efforts are focused and headed in the right direction.

## Be active with PIE

Our elementary parent/teacher organization has a variety of events and jobs which need a strong core of parent volunteers.

Our first event was our

Outdoor Movie Night (which was actually indoors due to weather!). It was a great success with over 200 students and families in attendance. Thank you to our staff and volunteers for helping it all run smoothly.

If you are interested in more information about PIE (Partners in Education), please contact your child's teacher or our elementary office. We will also communicate upcoming events in our newsletters, Skylert messages, and Parent Updates.

## School garden

The past two summers we have had great volunteers

help with our school garden. The summer of 2021 the Petit family cleaned up and beautified the garden space. They removed weeds, added fresh soil, and came regularly to water and tend to the garden. As the garden grew, they were able to donate all of the produce to the Delano Helping Hands Food Shelf. It was a huge success and a fantastic way to give back to our community with the help of our community.

[The garden] was a huge success and a fantastic way to give back to our community with the help of our community.

This past year, the gardens were taken care of by the Risdall family. To extend this into the school, Laura Risdall reached out to our TKC groups and Summer School students and provided a small lesson once a week in the garden. They had a journal to take notes and helped take care of the garden during the summer.

We are grateful for the volunteers that set aside time to continue the project for the good of others. We have beautiful produce, herbs, and flowers because of their hard work and dedication!

# Movie moves in

The annual DES PIE Outdoor Movie Night moved into the DES gym due to rainy weather on Friday, Sept. 9. Despite the conditions outdoors, the event was still a draw for families, as about 200 people came out to see 'Sonic The Hedgehog 2.'





# Story time

DHS Homecoming candidates, cheerleaders and athletes visited DES classrooms to read stories and answer questions about high school after the Homecoming pep fest on Friday, Sept. 23.



# Walk and Roll to School Day is Oct. 12

Delano Public Schools is participating in the national Walk and Roll to School Day on Wednesday, Oct. 12.

Local children and adults are welcome to participate in this celebration of the benefits of walking and biking. There are four steps to keep in mind if you or your students plan to walk or bike to school.

- Step 1: Look on the school's website for the DPS Safe Routes to School Walk and Bike Map.
- Step 2: Use the map to plan a safe route to "Walk and Roll" to school.
- Step 3: Practice your route ahead of time to see how long it takes. Tell your family what route you're taking.
- Step 4: Walk to school on Oct. 12. Leave earlier and dress for the weather!

Learn more at [walkbiketotoschool.org](http://walkbiketotoschool.org). Walk and Roll to School Day is coordinated in the United States by the National Center for Safe Routes to School.



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