

A large, stylized yellow eagle with white wings and a white head, facing left. The eagle is the central graphic of the newsletter header.

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**Dentzler**

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# Eagle Edition

2020-2021 Aug./Sept. Welcome Newsletter

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**A MESSAGE FROM MRS. DZURNAK & MRS. JAMES**

*"Learning is our Superpower!"*

## **Welcome Back, Eagles!**

Welcome back, Eagles, to the 2020-2021 school year! We are absolutely thrilled to be able to see your children again, no matter if it is in-person or virtually. This school year promises to be challenging, but there is no challenge our Eagles cannot conquer.

We are very excited to welcome you back and we ask that you communicate with us whenever you have a concern as we navigate through the upcoming days and weeks. We are here to help you in any way you need.

## **Your Principal & Dean**

We welcome you to another exciting school year at Dentzler Elementary. We are looking forward to once again expanding the learning opportunities for our students through new programs and technology use. The building looks beautiful as it has been thoroughly cleaned; floors waxed and other necessary maintenance completed. We will be ready for in-person instruction as soon as it is safe to do so. We continue to foster a warm welcoming environment. Our theme is **"Learning is our Superpower!"** Our students, teachers, and parents are superheroes and possess many superpowers that contribute to our success at Dentzler Elementary. We practice respect, responsibility, consideration, acceptance, and kindness each and every day. We look forward to seeing you at our many school and PTA events. Be a Superhero and join our Dentzler PTA!

Welcome to the New School Year!

Please welcome our newest Superhero to our Dentzler Staff:

- Mrs. Sue Amato – Title I
- Mrs. Wendy Raffin – Gifted Intervention Specialist

## **Reminder from Our Teachers**

If you would like to talk in depth with your child's teacher, please email or contact them to make an appointment so that you will be able to work together as soon as possible to help your child. They will send a weekly newsletter or communication on Mondays with information about their class.

## **Reading and Writing**

Reading is very important to the success of our children. Once again we will be focusing on the importance of reading with our children. Parents are the first teachers and a great model for their children. Please encourage your children to read nightly. Be sure your child completes required reading throughout the year. Regular reading will improve a child's love of reading.

## **Attendance**

ATTENDANCE in school is also extremely important. In fact Dentzler Elementary is rated by the State of Ohio on test scores and ATTENDANCE rate during distance learning. Daily attendance will be taken at 9:15am during their class's Morning Meeting. It is critical that your child log on at 9:15am daily for instruction. This promises to be another exciting

school year for our students. As always, if you have questions please do not hesitate to call or e-mail.

### **School Fundraiser**

We are excited to implement a new fundraiser idea this year in November. Starting Monday, October 5th through Friday, October 30th, we will be selling tickets to our November Calendar Raffle. Each day in November will be filled with the opportunity to win a gift card or tickets to a local business! That is 30 chances to win, just by purchasing one ticket! More information to come!

### **A Great PTA**

Please follow our Dentzler PTA Facebook page! Don't forget to support our Membership Drive (\$6.00 per member) which is currently in progress. Please contact our PTA President, Ms. Dalenna Zingalis at 216-799-4396 or e-mail her at [bbndz1087@gmail.com](mailto:bbndz1087@gmail.com) if you would like to be a volunteer for our Dentzler PTA or have questions.

### **Fees**

School fees will not be collected while we are distance learning. School fee amounts and due dates will be sent later on in the year once determined. Fees cover the cost of workbooks, writing paper, copy paper, art and craft supplies, and other consumable materials provided by the school.

### **Immunizations and Exclusion Date**

By law, students who are not immunized will be excluded from school. If you have questions regarding immunizations, please call the office. Students will be excluded September 29, 2020 without proper immunizations.

### **Blue Emergency Contact Card**

The Blue Emergency Contact Card is now online. Please complete your **Annual Refresh** and make sure that everything is updated, especially your email address as that is how we communicate with you weekly updates. It is imperative that we have updated names and numbers of people that we can contact in case we need to reach you due to your child being ill, teacher needs to contact you, or our office.

### **Breakfast Program**

During in-person instruction, breakfast is served daily from 8:30-9:10 a.m. Please do not drop your child(ren) off prior to 8:30 a.m. There is no supervision prior to 8:30 a.m. and your children will have to wait outside until that time. It is an important safety concern. The cost of breakfast is \$1.25 and \$.30 if your child(ren) qualify for reduced.

### **Lunch Program**

The cost of a student lunch is \$2.50. If your child(ren) qualify for reduced lunch the cost is \$.40. Please refer to the Dentzler Procedure Guide. The Free/Reduced Lunch application can be found on the PCSD website. If your child received free and reduced lunch last year, they will be covered through the end of September. If a new application is not received by September 30<sup>th</sup> they will no longer receive the free/reduced lunch.

Dentzler Procedure Guide

Please take time to read the Dentzler Procedure Guide enclosed in the Opening Day folder. Please share appropriate information with your child(ren). This guide is a working document; that means it will be revised each year. All families are invited to send to the school office suggestions in writing of additional topics that would be beneficial to be included next year. Please sign and return the form stating that you have read the procedure guide and have reviewed it with your child(ren).

### **Parma City School District Handbook**

This year the district has their Parent/Student Handbook on-line. It can be viewed at [parmacityschools.org](http://parmacityschools.org). If you want a printed copy of the handbook, please fill out the form that is in the Opening Day folder and we will supply you with a copy. All requests must be made by October 1, 2020.

### **Inhalers and Medication**

It is extremely important that if your child needs an inhaler, that the proper forms are completed and that an inhaler is in school. Likewise, if your child needs medication dispensed during the school day, please be sure we have the paperwork and medication in as soon as possible.

## **Rumor Control**

As with any organization, rumors can damage valuable work and reputation of a fine institution. If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to confirm something you heard, please call the school office or email Mrs. Dzurmak at [dzurnakr@parmacityschools.org](mailto:dzurnakr@parmacityschools.org). School staff is dedicated to providing the best education possible to all of our students. It is important to us to maintain a healthy environment and open communication with our families.

## **SEVEN HABITS OF HIGHLY RESPONSIBLE STUDENTS**

1. They set goals to focus on what is important.
2. They plan their time. It helps to have them begin using a planner successfully.
3. They study everyday even if there is no formal homework assigned.
4. They listen, take notes in class and ask questions.
5. They have the tools/supplies they need.
6. They follow through and keep their commitments no matter how busy they are.
7. They get themselves and their things ready ahead of time.

## **Parent Power**

There are many ways you can support your child's learning and school. Here are a few ideas:

- § Spend a few minutes every evening looking over handouts your child brings home. Fill out forms to return the next day.
- § Tell your child's teachers if you can help them out at school or home.
- § Make sure teachers know you appreciate their efforts. From time to time, send a thank-you note or an email.
- § Contact your child's teacher immediately if you see a problem. Working together will help your child succeed.
- § Attend conferences, parent meetings, and school events regularly.

## **Student Online Learning Tips During COVID-19**

**Adapted from <https://www.unh.edu/student-life/study-tips-covid-19>**

Things have been evolving rapidly with the Coronavirus outbreak, and we realize the disruptions — including the switch to remote learning — may at first seem overwhelming. These practical tips and resources can help you get started as you navigate distance learning after break.

### **Get Dressed**

Avoid the temptation to stay in your PJs. Start your day by getting dressed in your normal school clothes and you'll get in the mindset of heading to class. Otherwise you might find yourself in the mood for lounging on the couch.

### **Create a Workspace**

Do you have a favorite spot to study when you're at home? Whether it's your room, the kitchen or dining room table, creating a similar space at home can help you stay focused.

### **Establish a Routine**

Have a morning routine for in-person school? Whether it's grabbing a cup of OJ, having breakfast or listening to music as you get ready, try to find ways to replicate your normal morning rituals. This will help you mentally prepare to study.

### **Set Boundaries**

It can be hard to say "no" to family or friends when you aren't in the school building for classes, but you can let them know you're busy when you're in your workspace.

### **Turn Off Distractions**

Turn off your phone, your TV, your video game systems — whatever it takes to help you stay focused while working. This isn't always easy in our connected world, but stop distractions are crucial to online learning.

### **Take Breaks**

Without a set lunch or recess each day to decompress with friends, take advantage of the

downtime you do have and allow yourself to step outside, exercise, or find other ways to relax and regain your focus.

### Ask Questions

Stumped by something? Don't be afraid to ask for help. This situation is new for all of us, and there will be plenty of questions that arise. In addition to guidance or resources your teacher might be able to provide, you'll also find more resources and contact information on the Parma City Schools Website.

### Know it's OK to Feel Anxious

Take things day by day and try to use some of the approaches outlined here to stay organized and focused. Reach out to your teachers and classmates as needed, and use the additional support resources listed here. Remember, you're not alone — we're all in this together!

### **Be There!**

Regular attendance in elementary school sets up a good pattern for your child's entire school career. Show your child that school comes first by trying to keep days off for illnesses and family emergencies. Also, schedule routine doctor and dentist appointments for after school or over school breaks.

### **Recycling**

Don't forget, our Paper Retrieval Bin is here! Please save your papers, catalogues, etc. and bring them to Dentzler to recycle them. Our school will earn money for each ton that we recycle. Every piece counts! New this school year, we are also recycling plastic bottles and markers. In the front lobby, there are now plastic bottle and marker recycling bins. Any old and used marker from any brand, including highlighters, can be placed in the bin for recycling. Thank you for helping us in this mission!

## **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**



### **Important Upcoming Dates**

Mon., Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> – Labor Day - No School

Tues., Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> – First Day of School - Distance Learning

Fri., Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> – No School - NEOEA Day

Thurs., Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> – Parent/Teacher Conferences  
4:00pm - 7:30pm

# PBIS Update

Dear Dentzler Families,

Our goal at Dentzler is to give your child the best education academically as well as socially and emotionally. We strive to teach them our three main objectives, to be *respectful*, *responsible*, and *ready*. These three objectives fall under an initiative called PBIS. **PBIS** is a U.S. Department of Education initiative that stands for **P**ositive **B**ehavior **I**nterventions & **S**upports. Your child will be hard at work learning our expectations and standards during distance learning, and we at Dentzler are thrilled to share them with you! Dentzler's PBIS Program is used as a proactive approach to working with and correcting problem behaviors throughout the school day in various settings. Through the positive reinforcements we've put in place, students can earn rewards and incentives just by being a model student with behavior and responsibility. The PBIS program is meant to transform our school's climate into a more positive one where consequences are given as a last resort to correcting behavior. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's classroom teacher for more information.

## **Second Step - SEL**

As part of our PBIS Initiative at Dentzler, our teachers are infusing a Social Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum into their daily routines. With a lesson focused on each week, this curriculum teaches our students important skills such as how to have empathy, emotion management, problem solving skills, friendship skills, and responsibility.

The weekly focus for each lesson varies, and there will be at least one lesson being taught during distance learning per week. Each grade level is focusing on their Unit 1 Lessons for the first 4-5 weeks. Please talk with your child about these lessons, it will help to reinforce them



at home! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's homeroom teacher.

**Kindergarten:** Learning to Listen, Focusing Attention, Following Directions, Self-talk for Staying on Task, and Being Assertive

**1st Grade:** Learning to Listen, Focusing Attention, Following Directions, Self-talk for Learning, and Being Assertive

**2nd Grade:** Being Respectful, Focusing Attention and Listening, Using Self-talk, and Being Assertive

**3rd Grade:** Being Respectful Learners, Using Self-Talk, Being Assertive, and Planning to Learn

**4th Grade:** Empathy and Respect, Listening with Attention, Being Assertive, Respecting Similarities and Differences, and Understanding Complex Feelings.

## **Super Soaring Eagles**

As part of our PBIS Initiatives at Dentzler, we will still be awarding "Super Soaring Eagles" awards to students who go far above our expectations academically and behaviorally through their distance learning. Each month, one student will be selected per grade level to receive the award and recognition. Students will receive a certificate, Dentzler Elementary bracelet and a "Soaring Eagle" yard sign. Our entire staff is always so proud of our students and their accomplishments.