

Welcome to Dickinson Fine Arts Academy!

DFAA Parent Newsletter [**2023**]



Dickinson Fine Arts Academy - An Excellent Place to Learn!

*Welcome to the 2023 - 2024 school year! We are excited to have your student joining us at Dickinson Fine Arts Academy. **Our first day of school will be Wednesday, August 16 with classes***

beginning at 9:30 am. Please join us on Tuesday, August 15 at 6:00 pm for our “Back to School Night” Presentations begin at 6:10 pm followed by a tour of the campus and light refreshments.

On behalf of the Dickinson faculty and staff, welcome back to what we are hoping will be your students best year ever!

Administration: DFAA's Administrative Team

Meet our Campus Administrators!

Principal, Mr. Thomas E. Sims
Assistant Principal, Miss Marlena Brazier
Dean of Students, Mr. DeVon Fuller
Guidance Counselor, Mr. Austin Szalai
Magnet Coordinator, Mrs. Lindsey Ewell
Athletic Coordinator, Mr. Kenny Jones

Registration: Registering Your Student at DFAA

Student registration can be done online through the SBCSC website or parents are welcome to speak with our office personnel who will be happy to assist with the process. Parents are asked to confirm their students' registration if they have not received notice of their child's placement at Dickinson. Confirmation can be provided by contacting the main office at 574-393-3900.

Reminders: Student Uniforms:

Dickinson Fine Arts Academy will return to student uniforms for the 2022-2023 school year. Please refer to the student handbook for further details on uniforms and on campus dress code requirements.

Students Tops:

- Navy
- Light blue
- Yellow
- Orange
- White

Students Pants:

- Khaki
- Navy
- Black

***Student Supplies:* Student Supplies**

Student supply is now posted on our district website. Feel free to have your student wait until they meet with their individual teachers who will inform them on the specific items, if any, needed for their classrooms. This will prevent parents from over purchasing items that may not be required. As a rule of thumb for organizational purposes, binders, notebooks and pencils are always needed items for student work.

***Student Devices:* Student Chromebooks**

Dickinson is a 1 to 1 school. This means all students will have a device issued to them to complete their work at school. Beginning this year, students will not travel home with their computers. All devices will remain at school and will be issued to students during their class periods.

These devices are the property of SBCSC and will be assigned to students with the understanding that they are to follow all classroom policies when these devices are in their possession. It is extremely important that parents encourage students to take excellent care of their chromebook. Parents, please know that your students textbooks, classroom assignments and study materials are often associated with the students computer. Once again, students are not permitted to bring school computers home without administrative approval.

Athletics: Athletics at Dickinson Fine Arts Academy

We are proud to announce our new Athletic Coordinator, Mr. Kenny Jones. Mr. Jones will oversee the athletic program at Dickinson for the upcoming school year. Please contact him with your questions regarding eligibility, Eventlink Registration, Student Physicals and athletic programs. He can be reached at 574-393-3900

Class Schedules: Class Schedules and Lockers

Students will receive a copy of their class schedules and locker assignments on the first day of school. Dickinson is on a Block Schedule with an A/B day rotation.

Lunch: Student's Lunch and Food Delivery

Dickinson is a Title 1 school, all student lunches are provided at no charge. Students are free to bring their lunch from home should they prefer, however, Dickinson does not permit food delivery services such as GrubHub or UberEats to deliver food to students. Additionally, due to limited personnel, parents are asked not to drop off items such as fast foods, pizzas, cakes or celebration items (i.e balloons or cupcakes) to students during school hours.

Transportation: Bus Transportation

All transportation questions including pick-up and drop-off queries can be answered by contacting SBCSC Transportation Office at 574-393-7000. Should you need to change your students address please call our main office at 574-393-3900 and we will be happy to update that information for you.

Car Riders: Dropping off your Student (Car Riders)

Parents dropping off students at Dickinson please do so on the East side of the building at door #15 . In the pick up 14 and drop off at door #15

Technology: Cell Phones Policy

Students are asked not to have cellphones out while at school. Should your student need to bring his or her cell phone to the building, they will be required to leave the device in their lockers until the end of the day.

SBCSC Updates: Clear Backpacks.

Beginning SY 2023 the district will require that all student book bags, entering the building, must be clear allowing for all contents to be visible. To assist families with this new requirement there will be a backpack giveaway on August 12 at Brown Community Learning Center, 737 Beal Street, S between the hours of 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

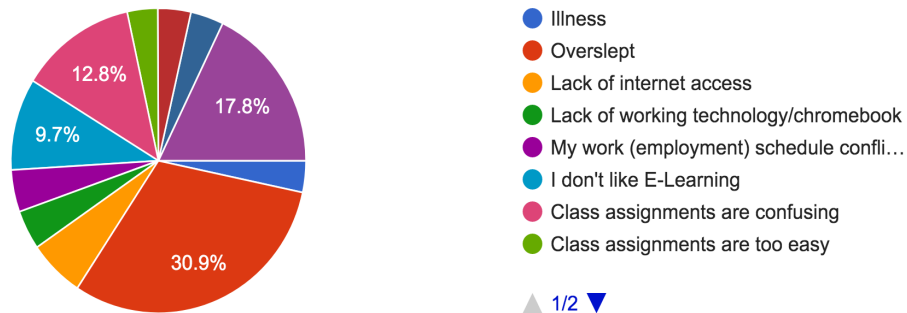
Attendance: Your help is needed with Student Attendance

As with many schools, we are experiencing a high number of student absences. We would like to encourage parents to make this a goal for students to attend classes and report absences as soon as possible. Student work will be rigorous and absenteeism oftentimes jeopardizes learning. We would ask that you update your phone numbers with the main office so that you are notified of each class absence that occurs with your student.

We surveyed students to determine why they are NOT attending either virtual or in-person classes. The results will be used to identify ways we might better meet the needs of our students and increase support both at home and school.

For what reasons are you unable to meet with your class. Please check your primary reason for your absence

359 responses



Calendar: Dates to Remember:

1. Tuesday August 15 ... Middle School Open House 6:00 am - 7:30 pm
2. Wednesday August 16, ... First Day of School
3. Wednesday August 30 ...Middle School Back to School Night
4. Wednesday August 17 ... Students first day of school
5. Monday September 4 ... Labor Day

Thanks for choosing Dickinson Fine Arts Academy-
an Excellent Place to Learn!