



WELCOME TO DAYTON'S BLUFF ACHIEVEMENT PLUS

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Welcome to the 2020-21 school year!

All of us at Dayton's Bluff Achievement Plus Elementary look forward to seeing our students **online** on **Tuesday, September 8th!** The first two days of Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten will follow a different schedule to allow for one-on-one welcome meetings for our youngest learners. Your child's teacher will be in touch the week of August 31st to schedule these!

Saint Paul Public Schools has been developing plans for most of the summer in anticipation of your return. Distance Learning this fall will look much different than it did in the spring! You can expect a mix of asynchronous learning like we had in the spring and Google Meet calls where the teacher will lead the whole class or a small group at the same time (synchronous). We will be rolling this out in several phases. For the first two weeks of school all students should log into their class at 8:00am everyday for a class morning meeting through Google Meet. This is also when attendance for the day will be taken. A complete schedule for your child will be coming home next week.

The first day of school can be overwhelming for students, and there is no doubt this year will bring some new and additional challenges. We will connect with families regularly through e-mail, phone calls and text messages to keep everyone up to date. The requirements for distance learning are continually changing at both a district and state level so communication may be pretty frequent at first. All Dayton's Bluff staff are prepared to partner with you this year to make this a strong academic year for your student(s) regardless of whether we are in person or online.

~ Amanda Musachio, principal

SCHOOL HOURS

School hours at Dayton's Bluff are traditionally from 7:30am-2:00pm. All students should plan to log in to Google Meet every day at 8:00am. They will have a class meeting to get to know each other and their teacher will preview their lessons for the day. This is the meeting where attendance will also be taken so it is important for your student to be online and ready to learn at this time each day.

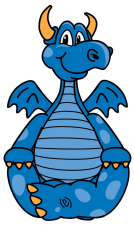
New this year, is the expectation from the state that students are provided with six hours of programming a day whether we are in school or in person. We hope this new model allows each student to excel academically even though we aren't in school. We will use a mix of synchronous and asynchronous teaching and students will have the opportunity to complete learning activities both on and off of the iPad. Teachers will begin 30 minute small groups in reading for every student in grades K-5 the third week of school.

STUDENT AND FAMILY DISTANCE LEARNING CHECKLIST

Please view and use this technology checklist as a guide to make sure you are ready for the first day of school. This checklist is available at spps.org/fallchecklist. **It is important that all students complete this checklist BEFORE the first day of school.**



SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION



Relationships and timely communication is more important than ever in a distance learning environment. If you have questions, or need to contact someone at school, please use the information below.

Main 651-293-8915 Email daytonsbluff@spps.org Attendance 651-744-6063

Please check our school website regularly, spps.org/daytonsbluff, for information and updates.

SPPS uses Blackboard Connect to alert families about important school news and information, events, weather cancellations, emergencies and more through email, phone and text. Update your phone number, email and other contact information with our clerk Angela Kutz (angela.kutz@spps.org) or 651-293-8915 or through iUpdate.) For more details, and to update your information, visit spps.org/onestop.

You may also download the MySPPS app from Google Play Store or the Apple App Store. Once you "Follow" Dayton's Bluff, you'll have instant access to school news and updates. Just search "MySPPS" in the app stores. Learn more at spps.org/MySPPS.

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTION

Through a generous grant, we are able to provide each student with an at home learning kit to start the year. This means that families will NOT need to purchase school supplies like they normally do. Families will need to come to the school to pick up their kit, find out who their teacher is and get their class schedule the week of August 31st.

The scheduled time frame for pickup at Dayton's Bluff is:

- o Tuesday, September 1 from 9-noon and 4-7pm
- o Wednesday, September 2 from 9-noon and 4-7pm
- o Thursday, September 3 from 9-noon and 4-7pm

I ask that families stay in their vehicles, follow signs in our lower parking lot on the corner of Bates and Conway and line up to receive your student's items. If you walk, look for signs and a check-in table. Please wear a mask and follow social distancing guidelines when waiting in line.



OPEN HOUSE

Dayton's Bluff Achievement Plus will host a virtual open house to welcome students and families to a new year on Thursday, September 3rd from 6:00-7:00pm and Friday, September 4th from 10:00-11:00am. Please log into Google Meet using the code - [jti-ymfo-fnw](https://meet.google.com/jti-ymfo-fnw) (meet.google.com/jti-ymfo-fnw). You can also join by phone by calling 1-605-937-7046 and entering the PIN: 254 426 471#. Google Meet is pre-downloaded on all student iPads. The username password for Google Meet can be found on your child's information sheet which you will get at our materials pick up event.

MEALS

Nutrition Services will continue to provide weekly meal boxes through home meal delivery and curbside pickup while SPPS is in distance learning. All students eligible for free or reduced-price meals will receive meals at no cost.

Every SPPS family should complete an application for Education Benefits/Free or Reduced Price Meals -- regardless of family income. Not only does this help us identify families in need of assistance, it also allows SPPS to receive federal dollars for classroom programming. Applications are available online on SchoolCafe, and paper applications were mailed to homes in August.

