



## Dayton's Bluff Achievement Plus Elementary School

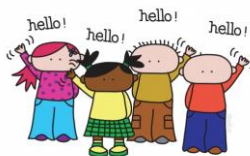
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### Welcome Back, We Missed You!

Welcome to the new school year!  
We hope that you are all doing well and staying safe.  
Here are some things you should know about our school:



**Mission:** The Dayton's Bluff Achievement Plus community works as a team to provide a caring, consistent and rigorous learning environment for all.

**Mascot:** Dragon named "Blue Shadow"

**Chant:** "We are Dragons, This is Our Castle, Wings Up!"

**Theme:** Shine Bright!

Welcome to our new staff:

- Katie Balcerzak - Learning Lead
- Todd Walsh - IT
- Keven Skiles - TA in Ms. Deana's PK class
- Ann Venne - ECSE teacher
- Charlie Andre - TA in Ms. Slater's K class
- Andy Leaf - TA in Ms. Walter and Ms. Tia's 1st grade class
- Amy Dailey - TA in Mr. Smith's 4th grade class

As always if you have any questions you can call the school office at 651-293-8915 or email [daytonsbluff@spps.org](mailto:daytonsbluff@spps.org).

### DB Connects

What is DB Connects?

- Make connections with other parents
- Connect with some DB staff
- Have fun with other school families!



**Join some DB staff and other parents for fun and Bocce Ball!**

**When:** Thursday, 10/14

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Where:** DB Rec Center field at 800 Conway St.

**ALSO...**

**Gathering on the field not for you? Feel free to join us for Coffee and Donuts!**

**When:** Friday, 10/1

**Time:** 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

**Where:** DB Rec Center Multi-purpose room at 800 Conway St.

We are making plans to get together each month - Save the Dates!

First Friday morning of each month for coffee and treats and/or Second Thursday night of every month for games and activities. (Dates may be subject to change)

*Watch for more information in your student's Orange Thursday Folder!*

### Upcoming Events

**October 1 – 8:00-9:00 a.m.**  
DB Connects – Coffee and Donuts, Rec Center Multi-purpose room

**October 5 – 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.**  
Family Picnic

**October 14 – 4:30-6:00 p.m.**  
DB Connects – Games, Rec Center field

**October 21-22 – No School**  
State Teacher Conference

**October 27 – School picture day**

**October 28 – 8:00-8:30 a.m.**  
School-wide assembly,  
Google meet: DBAssembly

**October 29 – No School**  
Digital Learning day

### BAS and FAST Testing

This fall, Dayton's Bluff students are being assessed using the FAST and BAS Literacy assessments. We complete these in the fall, winter, and spring to track our students' growth over time and inform our instruction. The FAST test assesses student reading ability and predicts achievement over time. The BAS test assesses student reading levels and gives teachers a guide for instruction. If you have any questions about the FAST or BAS literacy assessments, please contact your student's teacher. Results will be shared with you at conferences.

## Parents Right to Know

School districts must notify parents of children attending Title I schools that they can request information regarding their children's teachers, including, at a minimum, information on (1) completion of state requirements for licensure and certification; (2) emergency or other provisional status; (3) educational background; and (4) whether paraprofessionals are serving the child and, if so, the paraprofessionals' qualifications.

### **PARENT'S RIGHT TO KNOW TEACHER AND PARAPROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

Under the *Every Student Succeeds Act*, parents have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of their student's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals. Parents who would like to receive this information should write to the Human Resource Department, Attn: ESSA Teacher Qualifications, Saint Paul Public Schools, 360 Colborne Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102-3299. You have the right to ask for the following information about each of your child's classroom teacher(s).

- Information about whether the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
- Information about whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;
- Information about whether the teacher is teaching (subjects or content) in which proper certification is held by the teacher.
- Information about whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

# Parent Information

### **Need Resources?**

We have created a section under the "Families" tab on the Dayton's Bluff website ([daytonsbuff.spps.org](http://daytonsbuff.spps.org)) called "School and Community Services". Click the link below to find many available resources to assist you and your family with any needs that may arise, <https://www.spps.org/domain/16212>.

### **Nutrition Services:**

Please fill out the [Application for Educational Benefits](#) if you haven't done so already. While this doesn't affect the cost of their meals this fall, this information is vital in securing classroom funding.

### **Title I Information:**

Find the **Dayton's Bluff Report Card** on the MN Dept of Education website by clicking on this link [https://rc.education.mn.gov/#mySchool/orgId--10625433000\\_\\_p--3](https://rc.education.mn.gov/#mySchool/orgId--10625433000__p--3).

Access our 2021-22 **Family Engagement Plan** by clicking on this link <https://www.spps.org/Page/17471>.

Read our **SCIP (School Continuous Improvement Plan)** goals for 2021-2022 school year by clicking on this link <https://www.spps.org/Page/17507>.

Contact Cindy at [cindy.torguson@spps.org](mailto:cindy.torguson@spps.org) with any questions.

## CogAT7 Testing

Dates and deadlines for the test that determines student eligibility for accelerated services in Saint Paul Public Schools, the CogAT7, have been set.

The CogAT7 test will be provided to all SPPS students in kindergarten and in second grade, from October 11 – November 11.

Students in grades 1, 3, 4 and 5, also may be nominated for this assessment by an SPPS staff member, family member, or community member. Please inform your child's school. The deadline for submitting nominations is October 4, 2021. If parent or guardians would prefer that their student not participate in the CogAT7 testing, they should provide their child's principal with a written note indicating that choice. For more information on accelerated services in SPPS, please go to [tdas.spps.org](http://tdas.spps.org).

## Kids Corner

- 1) Why didn't the skeleton cross the road?
- 2) What kind of tree fits in your hand?
- 3) Did you hear about the kidnapping in the park?
- 4) What do you call a guy lying on your doorstep?
- 5) Why is it so windy inside an arena?
- 6) What do birds give out on Halloween?
- 7) Why is a bad joke like a bad pencil?
- 8) What room can nobody enter?

Answers: 1) He didn't have the guts. 2) A palm tree. 3) They woke him up. 4) Matt. 5) All those fans. 6) Tweets. 7) It has no point. 8) A mushroom!