

DOWDS SCHOOL SEPTEMBER '08 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the 2008-09 Dowds School year! We are off to a great start for a wonderful year ahead. Dowds Elementary enters this year with high expectations for our school community following last year's performance on the 2007-08 State Report Card. Dowd's school received an "Excellent" Rating on the State Report Card. Congratulations to our students, staff, and families for all of their hard work. Our students met all of the indicators and we challenge this year's students to surpass those benchmarks.

We have some staff changes this year. We welcome Cheylin Yetzer in kindergarten (1/2 day a.m.). Not new to the building, but, a change in job roles include: Kate Hlad as a first grade teacher and Terri Hummel as a fourth grade teacher. Also, we welcome five student teachers to our building this fall: Kelly Greenwood (K Finn), Miranda Bores (1st Ream), Danielle Shock (2nd Durkin), Katie Shreve (3rd Biglin), and Katrina Johnson (3rd Clabaugh). Together, we are committed to making this year filled with positive learning experiences for our Dowds children!

Also, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the Shelby City Schools Community. In 1997, I graduated from Marietta College with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education. I began my teaching career with the Plymouth-Shiloh Schools and then received my Master's in Educational Administration from Ashland University and became a principal for three years in the district. In 2003, I became a principal in the Mansfield City Schools. In June of 2008, I accepted the Dowds principal position and am extremely excited to be a part of such a tradition rich school district. My wife Amy, is a teacher in the Mansfield City Schools, and we have three children, Chloe (5), Ella (2), and Joseph (9mo.).

Finally, I want to extend an invitation to our families to get involved with our school! Join us and be active as part of our Dowds School Family and find out for your self what a special learning place we have at Dowds School!

Sincerely,
Paul M. Walker
Principal

Stay up to date:
Check out the Shelby City Schools Website to find out what is happening every week at DOWDS!!!
<http://www.shelbyk12.org/dowds> (click on calendar)

We need your help!!!!

We are always on the lookout for adult friends to help here at school. There is never enough time to get everything done or to work as much as we would like to with every child. Sometimes there are specific projects like our school Book Nook. We need reading volunteers this year--hopefully to begin some time in October. This is a minimum commitment of one 30 minute per week period to read one-on-one with a student. The schedule is worked out with the volunteers and the teachers. This one-on-one time is so important for our children. During open house, there were sign-up sheets for volunteers for PTO projects throughout the year. If you didn't get to sign-up and are interested, just call the school office and we will forward your name. We also need classroom volunteers who are willing to help on a regular basis or even occasionally. Let us know what spare time you may have and we will gladly use your assistance. Spread the word for us. Not only moms and dads, but, grandmas, grandpas, aunts, uncles, and favorite special adult friends all make wonderful volunteers. So send a note or call the school at 419-342-4641.



NEWS FROM THE COOK!!!

Our kitchen crew, Linda Schroeder and Judy Hoover are terrific ladies! Here are some items that they felt might be helpful as our new year unfolds. Prepaying for a single student can be done during the breakfast line or lunch line (checks can be made payable to Dowds School or Shelby City Schools). If you have more than one child enrolled at Dowds School and wish to prepay, it is better to have one of the children bring the check or cash to the kitchen after the breakfast line at 8:45. Be sure your child knows to give all of the names of the children in your family being paid for and exactly how many breakfasts/lunches they are paying for.

The cafeteria does sell extras each day as time permits. The items vary from day to day.

Every Friday ice cream is sold. Grades 3 & 4 may purchase it the other 4 days as well.

Most extra items cost \$.75. (small cookies and frozen pineapple juice is \$.25) Extra items may be paid for from the prepaid accounts. Students may not charge extras.

Let the cafeteria know if you have a child with special dietary needs. We do need a doctor's slip if a student is allergic to a certain food/drink item. Students are permitted to request preferences, if they have them. For example, no gravy, no cheese sauce, etc.

Due to state mandates, students must take all the items served on a particular day. They are encouraged to try everything. They are never forced to eat an item they do not care for. However, if a student wants extras on a particular day, he/she will need to eat almost all of their food. He/she is allowed to leave one food or drink item on the tray and still buy extras.

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| Prices: Regular student lunch \$2.50 Reduced lunch \$.40 Regular student breakfast \$1.25 Reduced breakfast \$.30 Milk \$.50 |
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SAVE THE DATE:

**DOWDS FIRST PTO
MEETING**

**September 9th at 6:30 in the
music/art room**

Childcare provided