

# DOWDS SCHOOL



## BACK TO SCHOOL 2011-12 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the 2011-12 Dowds School year! This past school year Dowds was again rated "excellent" on the state report card and it is our goal to maintain this status. I commend our students, staff, and families for all of their dedication and commitment to our school. Also, for the third year in a row, Dowds Elementary has been named a School of Promise by the Ohio Department of Education. This honor is received for schools who met a high rating of academic excellence despite economic challenges. I know everyone will continue to strive and work for excellence.

Dowds Elementary will begin the school year with a few new faces. We would like to welcome Clara Pearch as our new music teacher, and Gwen Arnold will be teaching first grade. Also, welcome back Jen Steele Rehberg to fourth grade and Katie Getz as an intervention specialist. We have been very fortunate to find some excellent teachers to fill these positions. Together, we are committed to making this year filled with positive learning experiences for our Dowds students!

Our PTO kicks off their annual Fall Fundraiser drive on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. This fundraiser provides many of the extras like field trips, family events, field day etc. We need everyone to help support this. Once again, every student that sells at least 10 items will have a chance to ride the Hummer limo and have lunch with the principal!!! Last year 150 students sold ten or more items and went on a limo/lunch ride!!! The goal for this year is to have 200 students to sell ten or more items!!!

Finally, I want to extend an invitation to our families to join us at our annual open house on Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. Starting at 5:30 p.m. we will have a cookout and then from 6:00-7:00 p.m. you will have a chance to visit your child's classroom. Kindergarten Orientation will be on Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Let's Get it Started,  
Mr. Walker

### Open House Schedule:

August 17 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 Cookout	6:00-7:00 Open House
August 24 <sup>th</sup>	6:00-7:00	Kindergarten Orientation

**PTO Fundraiser Kickoff**  
**September 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 2:00**

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**DOWDS PTO MEETING**

**September 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the**  
**music/art room**

Childcare provided

### *School Fees*

Grades K-4      \$30.00

Fees can be paid on  
August 17<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-7:00

Student fees are waived for any student that receives free meal benefits.

## **News from the cafeteria!**

Breakfast: \$1.25  
(reduced \$.30)

Lunch: \$2.50  
(reduced \$.40)

Milk: \$.50

Prepay is highly encouraged!

Student fees are waived for any student that receives free meal benefits.

## **Attendance**

Parents must call the school office at (419) 342-4641 to report an absence. If a phone call is not received the student should return to school with a written note concerning the absence.

Breakfast 8:30-8:45

Tardy Bell: 8:45

Dismissal 3:15 (please do not pick your child up early unless they have an appointment or family emergency)

## **We need your help!!!!**

The old saying it takes a village to raise a child seems to be more prevalent than ever. With both parents having to work and ever changing schedules it seems we have to rely on a relative, grandparent, neighbor, or friend to help with our children. Shelby has a proud tradition of lending a hand to one another. Once again this school year we are asking for any volunteers who could spare a half hour a week to help our students and school. If you can volunteer please contact the school office at 419-342-4641 during the month of September.

## **ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL SAFETY REMINDER**

Our children's safety is certainly one of our highest priorities. One area at school where sometimes there are safety concerns is our parking lot--especially during arrival and dismissal times. To help keep our children as safe as possible, we ask that the following procedure be followed. In the morning, students who are car riders may be dropped off by the sidewalk that leads to our flagpole in the front of the building where students will line up with their class. Students enter the building at 8:30, unless inclement weather occurs and then we come in and line up in the gym until 8:30. After 8:30 students may be dropped off by the sidewalk that leads into the hall by our office. At our 3:15 dismissal time, we ask our families to park their cars after entering the lot. Be sure to enter the parking lot on the west side to park and leave using the east side of the lot. Students need to be met by older siblings (high school) or an adult family member at the sidewalk area by the office exit. And, as I am sure you are doing already--use extreme caution at all times during our arrival and dismissal.

## **Recycling**

Dowds School is involved in two recycling projects. We ask our families to send in their empty computer ink cartridges from home or work to recycle. Also, on the last Tuesday of each month the "SCRAPMOBILE" recycling trailer is at Dowds School from 2:30 - 4:30 to pick up any #1 or #2 plastic bottles, aluminum cans, metal cans, and newspapers.

## **SAVE THE DATE:**

**Picture Day  
September 6<sup>th</sup>**