



Dakota Elementary School Newsletter

January 2, 2023

Our vision is to prepare all students to make positive contributions in an ever changing world.

Principal's Message

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful winter break with their family and friends. I was very grateful to spend time hiking, playing games, cooking and watching football. Vacation time seems to go by very quickly!

I am excited to welcome students back to start the second half of the school year. Similar to a New Year's resolution, our students have academic goals that were established at the beginning of the school year. Dakota utilizes IReady as one tool for measuring student progress. As students complete the midpoint assessment this month, teachers will use the information to determine what students know and still need to learn. This process helps support our school goal of improving scores on the IAR, which is the assessment taken by all 3rd-8th grade students in the State of Illinois.

Lastly, I wanted to say what a privilege it has been to serve Dakota Elementary School for the past two school years. I have enjoyed getting to know families and learning about what makes Dakota a special place. I recently accepted a superintendent position and will be leaving the district at the end of the year. I will do my best to keep you updated when my replacement has been selected and plan to work closely to help ensure a smooth transition.



DES Fannie May Fundraiser Limo Lunch

Important Information

- Many students received new toys and electronics over the holiday season. Please be certain these

items remain at home. Our message to students has always been don't bring it to school if it's not on the supply list.

- Please be certain to follow the correct traffic pattern during drop-off time. Traffic in front of the high school is one way. This procedure helps with organization and student safety.
- Report cards will be posted to Skyward Family Access on the afternoon of January 6. As earlier this year, paper copies of report cards will not be sent home.
- Our PTO is doing an amazing job supporting students and staff. They recently hosted Santa Shop, which provided all students the opportunity to purchase a gift for their parents. The PTO is always looking for more members. Please consider attending the meeting on January 11.
- One of the best ways to support student achievement is to ensure students are reading each night at home. Research says students that read at least 20 minutes each night are more likely to increase knowledge, communication and analytical skills.



Mr. Price's Students Enjoying a Book

Mark Your Calendar

- 1/11 PTO Meeting at HS (7:00)
- 1/16 No School- MLK Day
- 1/25 Picture Retakes