

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Below are some faculty and staff hiring updates for the 2025 - 2026 school year!

Mrs. Janice Edwards will be joining our middle school team as math teacher for the 2025 - 2026 school year. She brings 35 years of teaching experience. Her most recent teaching position was at Carlisle Middle School; prior to that, she taught at Fort Dodge High School for 21 years.

Ms. Mallory Pedersen will also be joining our middle school team as our 7th-8th grade english language arts teacher. She graduates from the University of Northern Iowa in May 2025 with a Bachelor of Arts in English Education and a minor in Creative Writing. She is a product of our Diocesan schools - attending St. Pius X Catholic School and Dowling Catholic High School.

Mrs. Kathy Power will be joining our office team as administrative assistant. Yes, this is the same Mrs. Power who was with us until May 2019. :) She spent the last six years working in Advancement at Dowling Catholic High School. We are thrilled to welcome her back.

Mrs. Julie Crawford has decided to stay with us as our art teacher for one more year (unless we can convince her to stay longer...).

We are still in search of a lunchroom director for the 2025 - 2026 school year. If you know of anyone interested, please have them reach out to me directly.

STAR Royals

Respectful, Responsible, Ready Set Safe; We Are The Royals Grounded In Faith!

The following students were recognized as our STAR Royals this week: Jack W. (PreK), John H. (K), Oliver P. (1st), Lincoln J. (2nd), Royce E. (3rd), Kendall M. (4th), Evie H. (5th), Charlie P. (6th), Mary H. (7th), Hannah T. (7th), and Natalie K. (7th) this week.

Be sure to check out their photos on our front bulletin board!

Weekly Email Highlight: Mrs. Brown

Religion - During Lent we are doing a daily meditation that includes a mini-lesson video, prayer, and something to think about for the day. The children have lenten crosses hanging on their desks that remind them of the promises they made for our journey through lent. Our topic in religion class is "The Bible".

Science - We are studying weather and climate.

Social Studies - This week we started the Junior Achievement curriculum with our volunteer Mr. McCarthy. He will be coming into our classroom for 5 weeks to teach the students about financial literacy. The students will learn how people manage their money, and the importance of economic exchange within a city.

Math - Currently we are learning about fractions. This week our focus has been comparing fractions using models, common denominators, and common numerators.

Language Arts - Our reading story for the week was called - "Amazing Wildlife of the Mojave". (expository text) The skills we worked on were: story vocabulary, using photographs to get information and make inferences, reading maps to get information, compare and contrast story details, using context clues to determine word meaning, and identifying the descriptive words of the author. During grammar time we have been working on irregular verbs of the past, and our spelling list this week had words with a soft c and g.

Thursday, April 3: Mass

Please join us for Mass at the Church on Thursday, April 3 at 8:45am. Our fourth grade students will lead next week.

Please click [here](#) to view the 2024 - 2025 Mass schedule.

Monday, April 7: STEM Conference for Kids

We are so excited to host our second annual STEM Conference for Kids on Monday, April 7. If you are interested in volunteering but did not complete the sign up form, please just email me directly, we would love your help!

Monday, April 7: Yearbook Order Deadline

To purchase a 2024/25 yearbook, please use the link below. Parents will need to login or register for an account to purchase a yearbook. Our school code is 233911M. Please order your yearbook by Monday, April 7th 2025. Please reach out to Mrs. Jensen if you have any questions.

[Yearbook Order Form](#)

Friday, April 11: Professional Development Day

There will be no school on Friday, April 11. Our faculty will have a professional development day.

Friday, April 11: Donuts with Dads RSVP Deadline

Please click [here](#) to RSVP for the Donuts with Dads event by Friday, April 11.

The event is Friday, April 25 from 7:15am - 8:15am.

Tuesday, April 15: CTO/DTA Application Deadline

Families will be able to apply for tuition assistance from CTO and from the Diocesan Tuition Assistance Fund (DTA) established with the Ignite Capital Campaign on the same application.

Please click [here](#) for the flyer.

Online applications will open at www.fairapp.com beginning on February 1 and the deadline for submissions is April 15. When applying, enter the *school code* 450 and the *password* 450ddm.

There is more than \$2 million to award for the coming school year, yet we highly recommend that you encourage families to apply early and submit all their required documents (federal tax returns and other documents) as soon as possible, but for sure before the April 15 deadline.

Friday, April 18: Good Friday (2:30pm Dismissal)

Our 8th grade students will lead the Stations of the Cross at 1:45pm in the gymnasium.

School will dismiss at 2:30pm on Friday, April 18. There will be no PM extended care. Families are encouraged to attend the Good Friday Service at the Church at 3:00pm.

Monday, April 21: Easter Monday

There will be no school on Monday, April 21.

Friday, April 25: Donuts with Dads

We are excited to welcome all Dads on Friday, April 25 from 7:15am - 8:15am for donuts.

Saturday, April 26: St. A Sock Hop

You can still get tickets to the Father Daughter Dance! Join your friends for a night of dancing and father daughter fun at the St. A Sock Hop in the school gym Saturday 4/26/25 6-7:30pm. Poodle skirts and leather jackets highly encouraged!

Dads do not need tickets, \$20 ticket per daughter, max per family \$40 (two tickets). Drop off your check or cash to the office marked Attention: Stephanie Haas with your daughter's name or pay at the door.

If you are available to volunteer to help at the dance please contact Meg Norberg at megblatt@gmail.com or 574-386-1819.

Wednesday, April 30 - Wednesday, May 7: ISASP Administration

Our 3rd - 8th grade students will complete the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress Wednesday, April 30 - Wednesday, May 7. Please avoid appointments if at all possible during these dates.

Thursday, May 1: Transportation Reimbursement Form Due

Transportation Reimbursement deadline for the second semester is May 1, 2025. Please click here to go to the "School Forms" page of our website. Then, click "Transportation Reimbursement".

Families living in the districts listed below will no longer file a paper request for transportation reimbursement. You are now required to submit your reimbursement request online by going to the websites linked below.

Des Moines - [Click Here](#)

West Des Moines - [Click Here](#)

Ankeny - [Click Here](#)

SE Polk - [Click Here](#)

Friday, May 2: Knights of Columbus Golf Tournament

The Knights of Columbus Golf Tournament is Friday, May 2. Please click [here](#) to register your team.

Monday, May 5: Grandparent's Day

Last names beginning in A - L will come from 9:30am - 11am.

Last names beginning in M - Z will come from 1pm - 2:30pm.

Monday, May 12: Kindergarten Round Up

Our current kindergarten class will not have school on Monday, May 12 to host our 2025 - 2026 kindergarten students.

Tuesday, May 20: Clap Out

The 8th grade clap-out is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20, at 3:00pm. If you plan to attend, please do not leave your car parked in the car line. Parents are welcome to stand between the front doors and the second set of double doors or outside the front doors.

Facility Request Form

Please complete the form linked [here](#) to request our school facility use. This form helps us to determine what paperwork is necessary.

Yearbook Photo Submissions

Submit your photos for the yearbook using this link: <https://photos.iostens.com/Q9EQVG>

DCHS Camp/Club Information

DCHS Winter Weight Training (7th & 8th Grade): [Info Linked Here](#)

DCHS Cheer & Dance: [Flyer Linked Here](#)

DCHS Baseball: [DCHS Spring Baseball Clinic](#)

DCHS Maroon Softball Club: [Flyer Linked Here](#)

IGHSAU Basketball Clinic: [Flyer Linked Here](#)

DCHS Summer Camps: [Flyer Linked Here](#)

DCHS Riptide Swim Lessons: [Flyer Linked Here](#) (registration open March 3)

DCHS New Swimmer Evaluations: [Flyer Linked Here](#) (March 8)

DCHS Track and Field Club: [Maroons Track & Field Club](#)

Thank you!

Mrs. Spike