

February Happenings

2022

Upcoming events in the David Douglas School District

To have your upcoming District event or fundraiser published in Happenings, email your submission to: Holly Effenberg (holly_effenberg@ddsd40.org)



School Board to Vote on Bond Measure

The David Douglas School District is considering placing a capital construction bond measure on the May 2022 ballot. The Bond Development Committee presented its recommended bond package to the School Board in January. Next, during the Thursday, February 10th meeting, the School Board will vote on whether or not to place a bond measure on the ballot. To watch the meeting live visit the School Board webpage (<https://www.ddouglas.k12.or.us/school-board/agenda/>) and click the Watch Meetings Online link under the Additional Links menu. The meeting begins at 7 pm.

The bond package contains 3 primary components:

- Critical capital improvements to bring safety, security and educational improvements to all existing school buildings – \$54 million (prioritized from the identified \$189 million in overall need).
- Construction of a new elementary school on District-owned property at NE 102nd and Pacific – \$55 million.
- Construction of a new technology education center at David Douglas High School, replacing a portion of the South Main Building that would serve as the first phase of overall DDHS building replacements – \$42 million.

New Language Arts Curriculum

The District is preparing to adopt a new K-12 Language Arts curriculum for the 2022-2023 school year. The Curriculum Department met with teachers and students to learn more about what DDSD needs for its next reading and writing curriculum. The next step in the curriculum review process is to hear from the David Douglas community. Learn more about the curricula and give your input at one of the following zoom meetings. The virtual meeting access links will be emailed out to all families. If you don't receive the link by the week of the event, please contact your student's school.

Elementary:

6-7:30 pm on **Tuesday, Feb. 22**

Middle School:

6-7:30 pm on **Monday, Feb. 28**

High School:

6-7:30 pm on **Tuesday, Mar. 1**



DDHS Indigenous Students Club

David Douglas High School is excited to announce the recent inception of the DDHS Indigenous Students' Club. For the first time in many years, DDHS is hosting an after-school club for students who identify as Native American and/or Alaskan Native. The club has been formed to provide a place for Native DDHS students to come together to celebrate community and explore their cultures. Counseling secretary and wrestling coach Tara Williams, who identifies as Koyukon Athabascan and Inupiaq, is the club advisor.

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Ms. Williams is assisted by high school social worker Laura Alexander. For students and families interested in more information, please contact Ms. Williams at tara_williams@ddsd40.org.

Depression vs. "The Blues"

Does your child have depression, or "the blues"? What's the difference? Should you seek treatment of some kind? There are answers to your questions. In general, your child's primary care doctor can diagnose depression and prescribe medication if needed; however, depression can be a complicated disease and your primary care doctor may refer you to a psychiatrist, who specializes in medication management, therapy, and debilitating mental illness symptoms. Your student may also be referred to a psychologist who will work with your student on relationships, anxiety, and any number of other issues.

Mental health professionals are looking for how many symptoms of depression your child has, how long they have had them, and how much they are interfering with living a normal lifestyle. Some symptoms of depression include: little interest or pleasure in doing things; feeling down, depressed, or hopeless; trouble falling asleep, staying asleep, sleeping too much; feeling tired or having little energy; poor appetite or overeating; feeling bad about themselves or feeling like a failure and having let down the family or themselves; trouble concentrating; moving so slowly that people notice or acting more fidgety or restless; thoughts that they would be better off dead or hurting themselves in some way. Symptoms usually have to be present for two weeks or longer to be considered depression. Symptoms of depression also interfere with the operation of daily life, such as making it to school and participating nearly impossible, although some high-functioning children can still do this and be depressed.

If you have concerns about your child, it is always better to err on the side of safety and take your child to a doctor for consultation. Non-treatment may worsen depression and make it that much more difficult to treat. Your child will have "the blues" after a break-up, a failed test, fighting with a friend. A depressed child is that way because of a complicated mix of heredity, chemistry, environment, and circumstances.

Food Pantries

More than a half dozen weekly food pantries operate at school locations in David Douglas School District. The pantries are run by community partner agencies and are free. Site locations and hours of operation are posted on the Food Resources webpage on the District website. Visit <https://www.ddouglas.k12.or.us/> and enter "food pantries" in the search bar. Open the page titled "Food Resources." Changes to pantry hours and closures are also posted on this page.

School Meal Menus

Breakfast and lunch menus are available on the District website. Enter "school menus" in the search bar or follow the Nutrition Services link listed under "Departments" on the main menu. Due to product availability, menus are updated frequently and are subject to change.



**DAVID DOUGLAS
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
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Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to see what's happening around our district and community.

Emergency communications, such as school closures, are also shared on our social media accounts.



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