

Wildcat Newsletter

September 2023

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Wildcat Academy Information

Hello DAHS Parents and Students,

Can you believe it?! We've completed seven days of school already. After beginning our first day of school in homeroom, reviewing school rules, and becoming acquainted with homeroom procedures and classmates, we have been in full swing. Walking through the halls, we see students working on projects, engaging in lectures, preparing presentations, completing labs, and more. The buzz of learning is wonderful!

If you or your child has been driving around campus, you may have noticed the heavy presence of the York Country Regional Police Department. They will be around campus through the next week, reminding all of us to drive safely, not only on the roads near campus but around the community.

August brought a few changes to our administrative staff. Both Mrs. McCauley and Dr. Raab were appointed to building administrator roles in the district. Dr. Wayne Senft is currently supporting our team as an assistant principal. We will welcome Dr. Lauren Ward to our team in October and another new assistant principal in November. Once our team is complete, we will communicate alphabet and duty assignments so that you can work with us best to support you and your family.

I wish you a wonderful September. I've seen lots of memes for the 'Ber months. For me, I'm hoping for a long, mild fall so we can thoroughly enjoy the time and season of back to school. May you enjoy this first 'Ber month in your favorite fashion.

Dr. Misty Wilson

Who is here to help your child?

Determined by your child's last name



Dr. Senft
Interim Assistant Principal



Dr. Bumsted
Assistant Principal

FERCELY COMMITTED
WILDCAT NATION



Alphabetical breakdown of your child's last name	Assistant Principal	Counselor
A-Ce	Dr. Senft	Dr. Wabnik
Ch -Gh	Dr. Senft	Mrs. Nobile
Gi - Ka	Dr. Senft	Ms. Glowaski
Ke - end of K's	Dr. Senft	Mr. Boop
L-Me	Dr. Bumsted	Mr. Boop
Mi - Rh	Dr. Bumsted	Mrs. Dixon
Ri - Sto	Dr. Bumsted	Mrs. Cooper
Str - Z	Dr. Bumsted	Mrs. Bouchillon

Counseling Corner

Welcome Back Counseling Presentations

During the week of August 28th, all counselors gave a welcome-back presentation to each class of students. During the presentations, we shared important information that pertains to students at each grade level. These presentations are available on our Counseling Website under the "[Resources & Important Information](#)" tab for you to view. We encourage all parents to start a conversation with your students about their takeaways from the presentations.



988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

If you experience suicidal crisis or mental health-related distress after school hours, dial or text 988. 988 is the three-digit, nationwide phone number to connect directly to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. This lifeline provides 24/7, confidential support to people in suicidal crisis or mental health-related distress. There is hope, and we want our students to receive the help they need even when they are not in the school building.

Do you need help with studying?

Here are 10 study tips to help you start off the school year right!

- Ask for help. Ask a teacher to add you to their class during Wildcat Period or attend Wildcat Academy after school to get help from a teacher.
- Find useful study tools. Talk with your teacher or counselors for specific study tools that can help you study.
- Block off time to study outside of class. Create a consistent schedule that allows for efficient studying.
- Maintain your health while studying. School can be stressful! Contact your counselor if you are struggling with high levels of stress.
- Seek out your classmates. Form a study group or request a peer tutor to help you during Wildcat Period. Peer tutors are available by contacting your school counselor.
- Avoid multitasking. Students who perform other tasks while studying are less likely to recall information, so turn off the TV, silence notifications on your phone, and focus on the task at hand!
- Get enough sleep. Inadequate sleep can negatively affect academic performance. Students should try to get 7 to 8 hours of sleep per night, limit naps after school, avoid caffeine in the afternoon and evening, and take time to wind down before going to bed.
- Find your comfort zone. Find the studying environment that works best for you, ideally one that is distraction-free.
- Don't procrastinate. Plan ahead and use an agenda or the calendar on your phone to help you organize your work.
- Work on your soft skills. A strong grasp of soft skills will help you get through high school. Challenge yourself and find ways to work with others to build fundamentals such as leadership, teamwork, and communication skills.

Counseling Corner

Continued

YCAL Career Exploration Programs Application Open on September 11th

York County Alliance for Learning (YCAL) offers many cost-free opportunities for career exploration to students in order to enhance their comprehension of training, education, and professional expectations. These programs are highly sought-after, therefore, applications must be submitted by the deadline. The full list of programs can be found [HERE](#). The application, which opens on September 11, can be found [HERE](#). If you have questions or want to discuss the opportunities in more detail, please reach out to [Mrs. Kellin McCullough](#), College, Career and Transition Coordinator.



Parents: We need your help!

Many of our students are looking for job shadowing and internship experiences. If you are interested in hosting a Dallastown student for one of these career exploration opportunities, please complete this short [survey](#).

NCAA Free Webinar for College-Bound Student-Athletes and Families

Are you a student-athlete dreaming of playing your sport at the NCAA level? Invest in your future and spend an hour on Sunday, September 17, from 5-6 p.m. Eastern time, understanding the requirements and how to prepare for NCAA certification. Join NCAA Eligibility Center staff, who will walk you through what you need to do to compete at the NCAA Division I, II, or III level. Staff will be answering questions live during the presentation, so come prepared to learn how to take your game to the next level! Click [here](#) to register.

Career Planning Portfolio

One important piece to your high school journey is your Career Planning Portfolio. This is a graduation requirement, and tasks must be completed to earn your high school diploma. These tasks are simple but play a very important part as you continue with your career exploration process. Your portfolio is housed in Naviance. You will notice tasks that have been assigned to you when you log into the system. The counseling team, along with your homeroom teacher, will help promote the completion of your grade-level Career Portfolio tasks.

Upcoming Instant Decision Days (IDD)

Instant Decision Days (IDD) are opportunities for students to apply to colleges and universities for free. Students will be interviewed and told acceptance that same day.

- September 28 - Commonwealth University (Lockhaven, Bloomsburg, Mansfield)
- October 12 - Kutztown University
- October 16 - Shippensburg
- October 18 - York College



Counseling Corner

Financial Aid Night

Continued

Please join us for Financial Aid Night on September 27 at 6 p.m. in the Dallastown High School Auditorium. Diona Brown from PA Higher Assistance Agency will share information regarding the financial aid process.



Upcoming Programs, Testing, and Important Dates

September 2023

- September 7 - Penn State York College Visit
- September 7 - Registration Deadline for 10/7 SAT Test
- September 11 - Registration opens for YCAL Career Exploration Programs
- September 17 - NCAA Free Webinar for College-Bound Student-Athletes and Families (must register for this event!)
- September 19 - Indiana University of Pennsylvania College Visit
- September 20 - Military Lunch Visitation
- September 22 - Registration Deadline for 10/28 ACT Test
- September 25 - Kean University College Visit
- September 27 - Harrisburg University of Science and Technology College Visit
- September 27 - Financial Aid Night at Dallastown @ 6 PM
- September 28 - IDD Kutztown University

October 2023

- October 4 - George Mason College Visit
- October 5 - Registration Deadline for 11/4 SAT Test
- October 10 - Saint Vincent College Visit
- October 10 - Juniata College College Visit
- October 12 - IDD Kutztown University
- October 16 - IDD Shippensburg University
- October 17 - Delaware Valley University College Visit
- October 18 - Military Lunch Visitation
- October 18 - IDD York College
- October 19 - Towson University College Visit
- October 20 - Lebanon Valley College Visit

Save
The
Date

Need more information? Check out our School Counseling [website](#).

Student Makeup Work

In an effort to improve our teacher-student-parent communication regarding makeup work and grades, we have implemented the below steps when a student is absent.

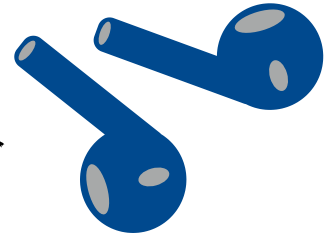
- Teachers should utilize a 0 or MI designation in Skyward for all missing assignments. This provides a clear understanding of a student's academic standing.
- After an absence, students will have one week to make up work (upon return to the building). Students should make arrangements to work with their teacher during Wildcat Period or Wildcat Academy.
- If a student reaches a chronic absenteeism level that a SAIP is generated, the SAIP team will communicate with teachers if the absenteeism would warrant accepting late work or if the student is purposefully choosing to be absent.

Here is the [LINK](#) to this section in the student handbook





New Rules for Cell Phones and Earbuds



New Cell Phone and Earbud Rules

While this past year provided us with so much positivity, we also noticed growing problems with cell phone and earbud use during instructional class time. Many of you may have experienced teachers trying to navigate the struggles this has caused for learning and instruction. As a result of these struggles, we've recognized that we must take a step back from technology in an effort to move forward.

To provide consistency across the building, we have developed the below guidelines. While this will be easy to follow for some students, it will be very difficult for other students. We ask that you preview this with your child(ren) prior to the beginning of the 23-24 school year.

Classroom Rules

- Cell phones and earbuds will not be permitted during any direct instruction time.
- Cell phones and earbuds may be permitted during self-directed work. However, if students are found to be abusing the use of cell phones and earbuds during this time, it will be considered a violation, and disciplinary steps will be followed.
- Cell phones and earbuds may be used in the hallways, during study halls, and at lunch, provided school rules are followed.

Consequences:

- 1) Violation 1: Teacher Warning
- 2) Violation 2: Teacher Warning and Contact Home
- 3) Violation 3: Teacher assigns detention
- 4) Violation 4 and up: Office Referral



Student Picture Day

Picture day is on **Thursday, Sept 7th** for all students. It is recommended that every student gets a picture taken as these are put in the yearbook and this is how they get a student ID. Purchase is NOT required.



Additional 2023 Senior Receives PA Seal of Biliteracy

The PA Seal of Biliteracy (PASB) recognizes students who are bilingual in English and a second language upon high school graduation; however, seniors who take AP exams don't receive their results until after graduation. Therefore, thirteen 2023 graduates were recognized in mid-July for qualifying for the PA Seal of Biliteracy by obtaining a "4" or "5" on the AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam. This number increased by one at the end of July since Agam Gill received his AP scores later than his classmates. Thus, the total number of recipients for the PA Seal of Biliteracy has increased to twenty-seven 2022-2023 Dallastown graduates.



School Safety

Please take time to review school safety information [here](#).

Fiercely Welcoming the Class of 2027



We opened our first day of school for the Class of 2027 with a pep assembly. Upperclassmen leaders, teachers, and freshmen participated in friendly activities, each having a fiercely committed message.

- We are fiercely committed to student involvement.
- We are fiercely committed to building positive relationships.
- We are fiercely committed to working hard and playing hard.
- We are fiercely committed to celebrating school spirit.



Leaving School Early

When your child needs to leave school early, it is best to put the early dismissal into Skyward using your parent login. If you cannot log in to your Skyward account, you can call the high school and speak to the attendance secretary.

Having this information entered into Skyward or ahead of time by a phone call, your child will receive a "green slip," which they show to their teacher when they are to leave. At this point, they would exit the school out the front door and meet you in the front circle. If the dismissal is 2 PM or later, the student would have to exit the school by the gym out back, and you would have to pick them up back there.

Skyward App

It has been brought to our attention that when parents are trying to access assignments via the Skyward App it is stating it is unable to download. Skyward is aware of this and if you do it on a desktop it should work. They are working on a fix for the App but are not sure when it will be corrected.

Student Recognition



On August 19th, Kris Raffensberger participated in the York Arts Fest Chalk Walk competition in York City. There were three categories, adult, high school, and middle school. Each participant received a space of approximately 8'x8'. Kris participated in the high school division with his massive octopus coming out of the water. Kris walked away with first place. **Congratulations, Kris, on a job well done.**



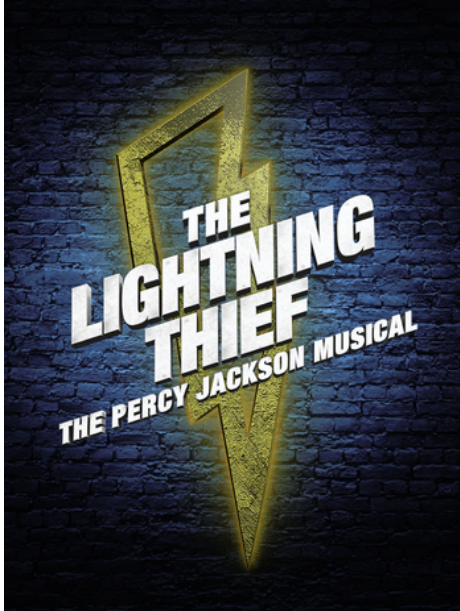
Kris Raffensberger received a first and second-place award for pieces entered at the Youth Art Exhibit by Creative York this summer. Awards were judged by age group and displayed at the Central Market in York City. He competed in the 14-18 years old age group.



Musical
April 4 - 7, 2024



Enchanted Forest.
Homecoming 2023



Homecoming will be held on October 14th from 7 p.m.-10 p.m. at the high school. Tickets will go on sale beginning September 18th and will conclude at 3 p.m. on September 29th. Tickets are \$25 and can only be purchased via MySchoolBucks. Specific information, including necessary links, to purchase tickets will be sent to all high school students on the morning of September 18th and will require students to use their student Google accounts. After ticket sales conclude, students will be scheduled to pick up their tickets during a Wildcat Period on October 10th. If a student wishes to bring another student who is not enrolled at Dallastown High School, they will be required to pick up a guest form beginning September 11th. Guest forms can be located before or after school ONLY in room 121 or outside the main lobby. Please note that completed guest forms require a copy of the guest students ID as well as a signature from their building principal.

Welcome New DAHS Faculty



Ashley Kazar

Special Education



Hunter Jones

Student Teacher



Brian Ford

Math

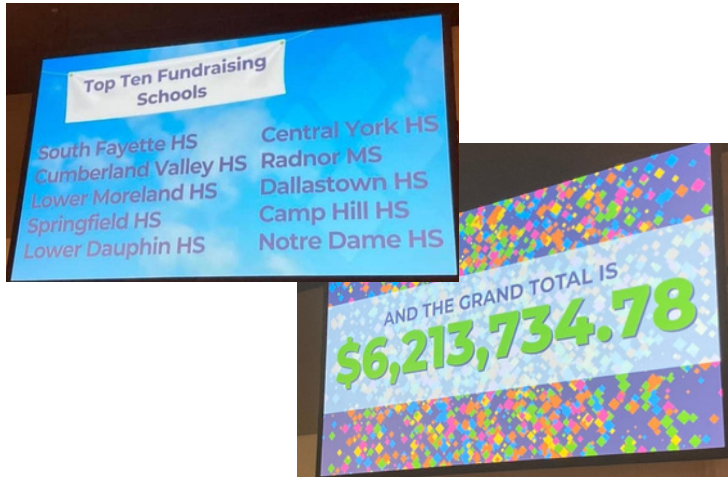


Emma Hively

Student Teacher

mini-

THON



DAHS was one of the TOP 10 Fundraising Schools for 2023! In all, schools that hold Mini-THONs raised over \$6.2 million last year for the fight against Childhood Cancer!

BEAT CANCER shirts are available for purchase in room 310 with Miss Gable. We have sizes adult small through adult 3XL in gold, navy, or white options for \$10 each. (These can also be worn as gym shirts)

Upcoming BEAT CANCER Events

Wednesday, September 6 – tennis match

Thursday, October 12 – boys soccer game



Homecoming Dress Sales HS lobby from 12-3 p.m. September 10 & September 17.

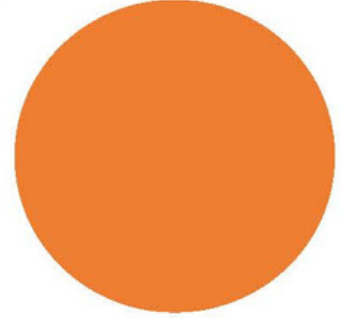
All dresses are \$25, clearance dresses for \$10, and accessories for \$5 and under.

Anyone from any school is welcome to shop so please spread the word.

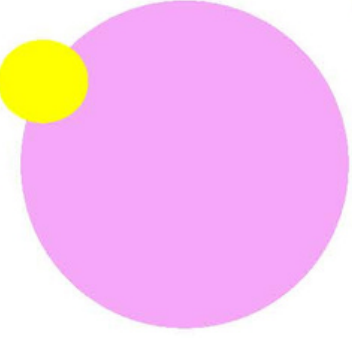
We also accept donations!



chartwells
serving up happy & healthy



A Breakfast Meal is Free for ALL Students



Lunch Prices:

Elementary School- \$3.10

Intermediate, Middle & High School- \$3.30

To put money on your student's account you can use the My School Bucks App. Ice cream and other snacks will be sold and they must have money in their account to purchases these.

MY
SCHOOL
BUCKS

The Simple
Way to Pay
FOR SCHOOL MEALS

myschoolbucks.com

- View account balances and meal purchases
- Schedule automatic payments
- Make payments anytime, anywhere from our mobile app



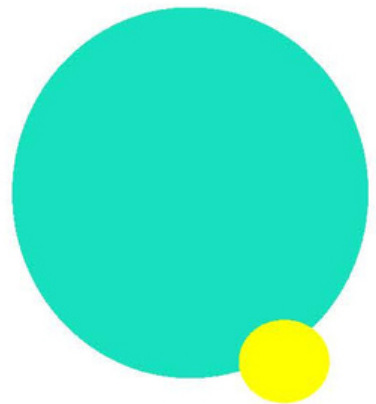
SIGN UP FOR YOUR
FREE ACCOUNT IN
3 Easy Steps!

- GO to myschoolbucks.com
- Create your account
- Pay with your credit/debit card or electronic check



Download
our FREE
app today!

My
School
Bucks
App



Cat Pack Information

The Annual Dallastown Cat Packs Down & Dirty event is moving!!



We will now be a fall event to help kick off the fun of the 23-24 school year!

This year's event will be held
Saturday, September 23, 2023.

If you'd like to register a team (students AND/OR staff), please [REGISTER HERE](#).

If you are a student and would like to volunteer, please [SIGN UP HERE](#).

If you are a staff member and would like to volunteer, please [SIGN UP HERE](#).

Remember, you can volunteer AND participate. Just let us know on your volunteer sign-up that you would like to do both.

If you are in need of our weekend backpack program or would like to renew your enrollment, please fill out this form [HERE](#).

Mission

Since our foundation in 2021, Dallastown Cat Packs has been working day and night to achieve our main mission: to help alleviate the food hardships faced by the people who need it the most in our schools. We get closer to this goal through our integrated efforts at Cat Packs.

Get Involved

There's more than one way that you can help. Whether you want to volunteer or donate to Cat Packs, there are plenty of ways to join us in making a real difference. Send us an email, and we will let you know how you can help us to make a difference. We appreciate your interest.

Want to find out how to get involved? Check out the website [here](#).

If you are in need of our weekend backpack program or would like to renew your enrollment, please fill out this form [HERE](#).



WILDCAT ACADEMY

*inspiring and creating
pathways for student success*

ABOUT US

Wildcat Academy is an intervention program afforded to all Grade 7 through Grade 12 students to assist in providing a structured environment where they can individually attend to their scholastic assignments and tasks while receiving teacher/tutor assistance and guidance with executive skills (organization, study skills) and content knowledge support. While this is an **OPTIONAL** program for all students, students identified by their teachers and respective Child Study Teams are encouraged to participate as a more formalized intervention.

**FREE
TUTORING:
LEARN MORE**



QUESTIONS?

-  717-244-4021 X 3005
-  [HTTPS://BIT.LY/DASDWILDCATACADEMY](https://bit.ly/dasdwildcatacademy)
-  DAHS INNOVATION CENTER (LIBRARY)
700 NEW SCHOOL LANE, DALLASTOWN



**STUDENT
REFERRAL**