



Destrehan High School
Home of the
Fighting Wildcats

Early Dismissal

September 18

FB vs. Hahnville

September 22

Mission Statement:

Our mission at Destrehan High School is to provide a community of teaching and learning in which all students will continuously improve to become responsible, contributing members of society.

Friends of DHS

VOLUME 23, NUMBER 1

FALL 2023

Greetings from Mr. Madere:

The tradition of Destrehan High School has always been one of academic excellence. To maintain this tradition our staff at Destrehan High strives to educate the 'whole child' - providing opportunities for participation in challenging academic clubs and extracurricular programs stressing teamwork, discipline, class, and character.

As a graduate of Destrehan High School, I feel honored to lead this school as principal. I believe DHS has always been the 'flagship' institution of St. Charles Parish, and I will strive to make DHS the best high school in the state. Our faculty and staff are committed to providing an environment where all students feel comfortable and safe; where teaching and learning is our core business, and academic excellence is the standard.

We're proud of what we are accomplishing at DHS, but we will always strive to become better. Our theme for the year is "Make Your Mark." and our DHS faculty will strive to model this motto as we encourage our students to make a difference, and prepare for a successful future. However, this can only be accomplished with all stakeholders taking responsibility for the task. Our Destrehan community will only operate at optimum levels with the support of parents and the surrounding community. With this in mind, please make it a habit to *communicate* with or *visit* our school. In addition, we are asking for your involvement in the process of meeting our goals for academic excellence this year. Here are some suggestions as we all work towards this goal:

Be sure to encourage your child to take some time to study at home.

Be sure that your child is familiar with our **TLC** (The

Learning Center) after school program – a program designed to offer additional help by our teachers in after school hours. Don't wait until it's too late. Have your child utilize this program *immediately* if they begin to struggle in a class. This year, TLC is offered in-person, but appointments must be made. Visit the Academics sections of our website for more information on TLC.

Support your child by encouraging him/her to be at school and, in turn, attend and participate in school events and activities that involve your child.

Check our Parent Portal daily for real-time access to your student's grades.

Visit our website *frequently* and review the important information that can be found on this site, including our **Wildcat "ROARS" COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS**, our online **'Bullying Form'** and other important information found under the **'Quick Links'** section of our school's website. Check the **"Full" calendar** on the website for upcoming events, and visit your child's **Teacher Webpages**. Be sure to consistently discuss the information found on these sites with your child.

Finally, ask your child about

school every day, and communicate any concerns you may have with us.

Let me conclude by thanking you for your continued support. It's important that you, a Wildcat parent, know you are a crucial part of the DHS school community; and it's imperative that we (administration, teachers, students, and parents) all communicate frequently and be on the 'same page' as we strive to make the 2023-24 school year one where 'Teaching and Learning' is the concentration, and excellence in education is the norm.

"Make Your Mark."



Jason Madere

COMMUNICATION CORNER:

Follow us on **Twitter**: [@DHSWildcats](#)

See our **website**: www.stcharles.k12.la.us/destrehan. Click "View All" to avoid missing anything.

Visit **PowerSchools** to keep up with your students' school work. You can also view the Daily Bulletin there.

Check out the school's **Google Classrooms**. Ask teachers to invite you as a guardian for class updates.

Check in with your children; they belong to **Grade-Level Classrooms** that provide useful information throughout the year.

Counselor News:



The DHS Counselors welcome parents to a new year! We look forward to you viewing our parent night presentation on August 26th at 6:00. You are encouraged to meet with your child's counselor during this year to review and sign his/her five year plan. You may make appointments by calling the counselor secretary, Mrs. Gigi at 985-764-9872. You may also email counselors at the following addresses.

A - D ---- Mrs. Amanda Bourgeois – abourgeois1@stcharles.k12.la.us

E – K ---- Mrs. Bonny Maise – bmaise@stcharles.k12.la.us

L – Robertson--- Ms. Amy Schexnaydre — aschexnaydre@stcharles.k12.la.us

Robi – Z----- Ms. Robin Valerius rvalerius@stcharles.k12.la.us

Special Assignment --- Ms. Jeanine Taylor jaylor@stcharles.k12.la.us

We are very happy to be working with the senior class again this year. Our job as senior counselors is to help guide students in making academic and behavioral choices in high school that will assist them in their post secondary endeavors and future career plans. College and career information will be available to students throughout the year.

There is a tremendous amount of information that will be shared with seniors and parents. Therefore, every other Tuesday morning, a bulletin will be shared for seniors in goolge classroom with important infor-

mation. Seniors should read it and share it with their parents. The bulletin has general information, college/career information, scholarship information, and important upcoming dates. **It is your child's responsibility to read the bulletin** and keep up-to-date with senior information. The senior bulletin is also posted on the school's website.

We hope all seniors have a great senior year. We are here to assist them in any way we can and we encourage each of them to make an appointment to see us to discuss their future plans. To make an appointment, see Mrs. Gigi, the counseling secretary, before or after school or at lunch. We look forward to meeting all seniors and helping them to make this a special year.

Herff Jones will be present at the Senior Breakfast on September 13 to discuss the purchase of graduation supplies.

Visit our teacher web pages!!

Senior Parent Night presentation will be placed on the schools website for viewing. Information concerning post-secondary opportunities, TOPS, ACT, graduation requirements and other important topics was discussed. We will also conduct "Planning My Future" classroom presentations for seniors in September. We will be discussing how to choose a career, how to choose a post-secondary school (2 or 4 year college, technical college, trade school, etc), how to apply to school, scholarships (including TOPS) and many other important topics.

Feel free to call the counselors with any questions at 985-764-9872. We look forward to a great year with you and your senior!

Attention Parents:

The DHS newsletter is available on the DHS website. If you would still like to receive a newsletter at your residence, please fill out the information below, cut it out, and mail to:

*William Plasse
#1 Wildcat Lane
Destrehan, LA 70047*

*Yes! I want to continue receiving the DHS newsletter in my home.
(Please print):*

Parent Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Make Your Mark.

Louisiana Public University Admissions Facts

University	GPA Requirement	ACT Composite	Other Info
Louisiana State University	3.0	22	See note about remedial classes below
Southeastern Louisiana University	2.35	21 or core GPA 2.0	No more than <u>one</u> remedial class needed
Nicholls State University	2.0	21 or 2.35 GPA	No remedial classes needed
University of Louisiana at Lafayette	2.0	23 or 2.5 GPA	No remedial classes needed
University of New Orleans	2.5	23 or 2.5 GPA	See note about remedial classes below
Louisiana Tech	2.5 core GPA with a minimum overall ACT of 15	23 or 2.0 GPA	No remedial classes needed
Southern University	2.0	20 or 2.0 core GPA	No more than <u>one</u> remedial class needed
University of Louisiana - Monroe	2.35	20 or 2.0 core GPA	No more than <u>one</u> remedial class needed
Grambling State University	2.0	**	No more than <u>one</u> remedial class needed

****All English ACT subscores must be 18 or higher to avoid remedial classes.****

****All Math ACT subscores must be 19 or higher to avoid remedial classes.****

****Dual enrollment English-- 18 or higher****

****Dual enrollment Math -- 19 or higher****

ACT Prep Opportunities:

Free ACT tutoring in TLC

ACT Academy is an online FREE prep resource

You can do anything on AOP, even if a teacher hasn't assigned it

always check university websites/admissions offices for the most up to date admissions requirements, as they are subject to change

Due to COVID-19 some requirements for DE are relaxed and counselor recommendation will suffice. Email your counselor to find out if you are eligible

EXTRACURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

At DHS, our traditions extend beyond the classroom and the practice field. We have many extracurricular clubs to appeal to a variety of interests. Here is a sampling of what we offer:

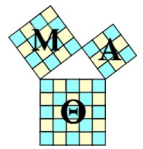
The **ANIME CLUB's** mission is to create an environment open to all anime fans. Together, they explore anime, manga, cosplaying, and video games. The club also teaches students about the beauty of Japanese culture through language, crafts, writing, and food. Members are encouraged to tap into their creative sides with fun activities and team-building exercise.

The Anime Club is open to all who wish to join and meets in the Library from 2:30 to 4:30 on Thursdays. The first meeting will be announced soon. In the meantime, you can find permission slips and the Classroom's QR Code on the Anime Club bulletin boards in the main building, and in upstairs B. The sponsor is **Ms. Guilbeau**

INTERACT's mission and motto are "Service above Self," and the club does monthly service events to benefit the community. These include the Alligator Festival, Global Service Day, and volunteering at local nursing homes. These projects are done in conjunction with the Rotary Club. Meetings are held once or twice a month, depending upon upcoming events. All are welcome to join. The sponsor is **Ms. Kelley**.



MU ALPHA THETA is the club for students who love math! The club's Mathletes take part in online and in-person competitions around the state, and attend the annual state convention every spring in Baton Rouge. Members who are active for three years can earn a cord to wear at graduation. To join, see **Ms. Terrebonne** in D-3.



The **NATIONAL ENGLISH HONOR SOCIETY** is for students who pursue excellence in language and writing. NEHS offers regular writing contests and opportunities to earn scholarships. The club is open to all juniors and seniors who have passed English I & II, and have a GPA of 3.0 overall and in English. To join, pick up an application from the Library or from **Mr. Plasse** in L-208.



The **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY** is comprised of exemplary students whose talents extend beyond the classroom. Its members are role models who uphold the values of character, scholarship, leadership and service. Membership is by invitation; candidates must maintain an average of 93 or higher, and be enrolled in all honors/AP/DE core classes. In addition, they are expected to complete at least 12 service hours per semester and uphold exceptional academic and disciplinary standing. For more information on NHS, see **Ms. Baltazar** in A-31.



The **WILDCAT MENTORS** is an elite program designed to help incoming freshmen feel at home at DHS. Members plan and implement Freshman Orientation, assist at Freshman Football Night, advise freshmen, and provide academic support. Prospective mentors must be current sophomores or juniors with at least a 2.5 GPA with no disciplinary issues, and must demonstrate academic responsibility, leadership, and character. Mentors meet twice a month with sponsor **Ms. Ryan**.

WISE (Wildcats Interested in Saving the Environment) **ECOLOGY CLUB** advocates for more sustainable lifestyles and for improving the natural environment by implementing sustainable environmental mechanisms within our school and community. Activities include starting and maintaining a greenhouse, gifting plants, and spreading environmental awareness. To join, students simply have to love the Earth and want to improve it. Email **Ms. Hargis** at chargis@stcharles.k12.la.us to be added to the Google Classroom; meetings are in her on Tuesdays, 2:30 to 3:30.

If Your Child Is Sick

What can I do if my child gets sick?

Talk to your doctor early if you are worried about your child's illness.

Make sure your child gets plenty of rest and drinks enough fluids.

If your child is 5 years or older and does not have long-term health problems and gets flu symptoms, including a fever and/or cough, consult your doctor as needed.

Children younger than 5 years – especially those younger than 2 years – and children with certain long-term health problems (including asthma, diabetes and disorders of the brain or nervous system), are at high risk of serious flu complications. Call your doctor or take your child to the doctor right away if they develop flu symptoms.

What if my child seems very sick?

Even healthy children can get very sick from flu. If your child is experiencing the following emergency warning signs, you should go to the emergency room:

- Fast breathing or trouble breathing
- Bluish lips or face
- Ribs pulling in with each breath
- Chest pain
- Severe muscle pain (child refuses to walk)
- Dehydration (no urine for 8 hours, dry mouth, no tears when crying)
- Not alert or interacting when awake
- Seizures
- Fever above 104°F
- In children less than 12 weeks, any fever
- Fever or cough that improve but then return or worsen

- Worsening of chronic medical conditions

This list is not all inclusive. Please consult your medical provider for any other symptom that is severe or concerning.

How long can a sick person spread flu to others?

People with flu may be able to infect others from 1 day before getting sick to up to 5 to 7 days after. Severely ill people or young children may be able to spread the flu longer, especially if they still have symptoms.

Can my child go to school, day care, or camp if he or she is sick?

No. Your child should stay home to rest and to avoid spreading flu to other children or caregivers.

When can my child go back to school after having flu?

Keep your child home from school, day care, or camp for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone. (The fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.) A fever is defined as 100°F (37.8°C)* or higher.

*Many authorities use either 100 (37.8 degrees Celsius) or 100.4 F (38.0 degrees Celsius) as a cut-off for fever, but this number can vary depending on factors such as the method of measurement and the age of the person.

For more information, visit
www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/children.htm
or call 800-CDC-INFO



Flu Information



The Flu

A Guide for Parents

Influenza (also known as flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat and lungs. Flu is different from a cold, and usually comes on suddenly. Each year flu viruses cause millions of illnesses, hundreds of thousands of hospital stays and thousands or tens of thousands of deaths in the United States.

Flu can be very dangerous for children. CDC estimates that between 6,000 and 26,000 children younger than 5 years have been hospitalized each year in the United States because of influenza. The flu vaccine is safe and helps protect children from



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

Stop the Spread of Germs

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.



cdc.gov/coronavirus

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ROARS Expectations

At DHS, we are proud to say that although our students come and go, tradition never graduates. One of our enduring traditions is our ROARS Expectations. These are the values we want all members of the Destrehan High School family to emulate.

Respect Everyone. Everyone at DHS is committed to our students' success. We ask students to respect faculty, administration, and staff for the work they do to create a successful learning environment, to respect each other as they share this time together at school, and to respect themselves - trust themselves to be able to succeed, and to reach out for help if it is needed.

Optimize Learning - Actively Participate in Classes. Athletes want to compete, not watch from the sidelines. Performers want to be onstage, not waiting in the wings. Students should take part in their classes and take control of their learning.

Attendance and Timeliness are Essential. We cannot learn if we are not in class. Whether on campus or at home, we need to be present and on time to maximize our education.

Responsibility - Be Prepared Every Day. We wouldn't expect a surgeon to show up for an operation without scrubs, or a carpenter to arrive at a worksite without tools. We need to make sure we have what we need to succeed.

Success - Dress for it. Being properly dressed for school eliminates distractions and gets you ready to learn.

Meet these expectations, and soon you will be a proud graduate of Destrehan High.



Destrehan High School

Newsletter Editor—Bill Plasse
wplasse@stcharles.k12.la.us



Need to contact us?

By Phone: 985-764-9946
Website: www.stcharles.k12.la.us/destrehan

Jason Madere, Principal
Laura Abbey, Asst. Principal
Jessica Glass, Asst. Principal
Frank Harding, Asst. Principal
Tracy Logan, Asst. Principal
Kurt Menyweather, Admin. Monitor

Important Dates - August/September

Early Dismissal: September 10

Advisory: 8/16, 8/30, 9/13, 9/27

School Pictures: 9/6-7

Early Dismissal/Q1 Ends: 9/8

August 18-22: Spirit Week

**These dates and many more can be found on the School Calendar at
www.stcharles.k12.la.us**

Destrehan High School
#1 Wildcat Lane
Destrehan, LA 70047

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Equal Opportunity Statement

In compliance with Title VI, Title IX and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, this Educational Agency holds the following policy:

This is an equal opportunity school and is dedicated to a policy of non-discrimination in employment or training. Qualified students, applicants or employees will not be excluded from any course or activity because of age, race, creed, color, sex, religion, national origin or qualified handicap. All students have equal rights to counseling and training.



ASBESTOS NOTICE

Notice: In 1986 all asbestos materials were identified in all school buildings. A management plan was developed for each school as per the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). The management plan is located in a binder in the main office of each school. The binders are available for review upon request.

Since the plan was developed, most of the asbestos has been removed. In a few buildings, some floor tile still remains that contains asbestos. All of the schools meet the health requirements that pertain to the regulation. If you have any questions concerning this topic, please contact Kevin Barney, Director of Physical Plant Maintenance at 985-331-3600 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.