



NEWSMAKERS

The Character word for August
is "RESPECT"

AUGUST 2023

Upcoming Events

Staff PD Begins
Wednesday, Aug. 16

Back-to-School Bash
Thursday, Aug. 24

Board of Ed. Meeting
Monday, Aug. 28

P-12 Students Return
Wednesday Aug. 30
7:55 am



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It's a Great Day to be a Panther!

Dear Fellow Dawson Springs Area Friends,

The upcoming 2023/2024 school year is closing in on us. On behalf of our faculty, staff, and administration in our Dawson Springs Schools, I encourage you to take a look at the reverse side of this page for some impressive information regarding our schools. We have a rich tradition of strong academic success. We feel much of our success revolves around relationship building, high expectations, and providing engaging, positive learning opportunities for students inside and outside of our classrooms. We also just don't engage students, we engage student families and our community as well. We believe this is a key element in our continued success.

If you, your friends, or any of your family have school aged children, please share this important information with them. Enrollment is currently open down to age 3 and up to high school seniors...REGARDLESS OF WHERE YOU LIVE! We also have expanded transportation available to some areas slightly outside our borders.

We are looking forward to a great 2023/2024 school year. Due to renovations on our campus, our first day for students is later this year and we start school August 30th. Pertinent and various contact information is located on the reverse side of this document. Have a safe remainder of the summer!

Warm Regards,

Leonard Whalen

Leonard Whalen
Superintendent, Dawson Springs Independent Schools



Come take a look and see what makes our small, "home town" setting so successful!

REGISTRATION DOCUMENTATION

The Kentucky Department of Education requires every K-12 student have on file a legal proof of age document, a current Commonwealth of Kentucky Immunization Certificate plus health, vision and dental exams to attend school. **Failure to submit these documents may result in your child not being able to attend school.** See page 6 for more information or contact Crystal Davenport, Registrar, at 270-797-3811, option 5.

2023-24 OUT OF DISTRICT ADMISSION APPLICATION

An Out of District Application for Admission is required each year for all students living outside the Dawson Springs District. **The district boundaries are the four bridges leading out of town.** A form is included on page 12. Submit immediately to the DS School Board Office for student admission.

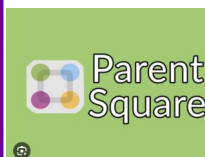
SCHOOL DAY TIME CHANGE

The school day for both Elementary & HS will be 7:55am - 2:50pm.

REGISTRATION & PARENT SQUARE

Imagine having ALL your children's school activities in one spot and even being able to sign permission forms from your phone! There are so many benefits and it's simple to use.

If you have a child in Dawson Springs Schools, call the elementary school office for a time to register your student(s) and to get set up on the Parent Square app! This location is for both elementary and high school registration and set up.





Dawson Springs

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

A powerhouse education for your child is closer than you think!

Open Enrollment at Dawson Springs Schools is now available for all grades, regardless of where you live!

- Thanks to Kentucky's newly enacted "open borders" legislation, students can attend any public school in the state that they choose if there are seats available, and they can meet entry requirements of the new district.
- Students across western Kentucky now have access to one of the top schools in the Commonwealth. In 2022, we were again rated in the top 10% of high schools in Kentucky by *U.S. News & World Report*. We are also second in western Kentucky (trailing only Murray Independent Schools) in the same ratings.
- We encourage you to share this information with friends and family outside Dawson Springs, so that they might consider becoming a part of our highly successful Dawson Springs Schools family.

Why Choose Dawson Springs Schools?

- Dawson Springs Independent Schools has a long, rich tradition of providing high quality academics and student opportunities.
- We pride ourselves on fostering a high achievement environment and a culture that embodies timeless, traditional family values.
- Ranked seven times as one of the Best High Schools in Kentucky as reported by U.S. News and World Report (2016-2022).
- Twice awarded the Great Schools College Success Award for preparing students for success in college (2021 & 2022).
- We offer several dual credit courses and collaborate extensively with both Madisonville Community College and Murray State University.
- Technology and skilled trade courses/certifications are available through Caldwell Area Technology Center and Madisonville Community College.
- For 3-4 year old students, we now offer an expansive fall day preschool program that follows the district school calendar.
- Small class sizes allow for rich learning experiences and we also offer 1 to 1 technology availability for all students.
- Our staff works to develop and nurture strong relationships with students and their families. We don't just teach students; we engage families.
- We provide athletic opportunities in Golf, Cross Country, Basketball, Archery, Bass Fishing, Baseball, Softball, and Track
- We also have quality extracurricular offerings in: Band, Beta Club, Academic Team, and several other clubs and civic organizations.
- We are currently expanding our school transportation network into the Ilesley, Charleston, Midway, and Pennyriple Park areas.

We at Dawson Springs have a vision for our students and our community. We develop life-long learners, not finishers. We lean into struggle and engage the world with strength and resilience. We challenge our students' passion for learning while maintaining a fun and thought-provoking environment. We are committed to helping and empowering each student to be successful in their own individual way.



What if my family wants to become a part of the Dawson Springs community?

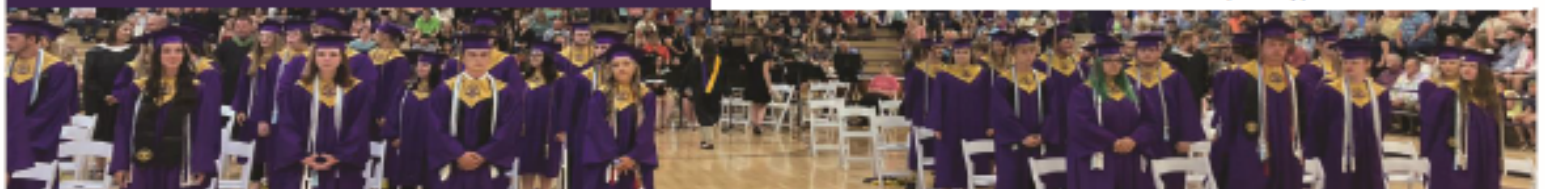
- Dawson Springs schools is currently expanding our network of bus routes to provide reliable transportation to families in the Ilesley, Charleston, Midway, and Pennyriple Park areas who may have been displaced due to the tornado or for those who may simply want to take advantage of our quality educational offerings.
- Dawson Springs provides an extremely safe community with a low cost of living.
- Abundant outdoor recreational opportunities in and around the area.
- High speed internet is available in/around the entire area.
- Significant job opportunities within a reasonable drive and immediate access to I-69.



PROUD WINNER OF THE
Great Schools 2021
College Success Award - Gold

For more information, please call 270-797-3811 extension 5, or come by the Dawson Springs Board of Education at 118 East Arcadia Avenue in Dawson Springs.

For online registration, please visit us online at: www.dawsonsprings.kyschools.us and scroll down and click on the clock icon that says "registration."





DSES & DSHS SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Dawson Springs Rotary & FRYSC are partnering again to provide school supplies for students this year. Middle & high school students will need backpacks, but we have plenty of solid color and ATMOS backpacks for elementary school students. Most teachers will have a wish list for items they need to use in the classroom such as Germ-X, tissue etc for parents to purchase.

Dawson Springs Schools BACK to SCHOOL BASH

Thursday
August 24th
5-7 pm

Dawson Jr/High
School MPR



AUGUST 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Jul 30	31 B/G Golf @ Hopkinsville Invitational	Aug 1	2 B/G Golf @ Muhlenberg Co. Invitational	3	4 	5
6	7	8 Girls' Golf @ Providence	9 	10 B/G Golf @ Pennyriple	11	12
13	14 	15 Girls' Golf @ Webster Co.	16 Staff Professional Development Begins 3:15 Jr/Sr HS SBDM Meeting	17 B/G Golf @ Pennyriple	18	19 Cross Country @ Hopkinsville B/G Golf Region 2 Class A @ Pennyriple
20	21	22 B/G Golf @ Crittenden Co.	23 6:00 PTO Meeting in HS Media Center	24 5:00-7:00 K-12 Back to School Bash	25 	26 Cross Country @ MNHHS
27 	28 6:00 Board of Education Meeting	29 Staff Opening Day & Vendor Fair Girls' Golf @ Pennyriple	30 Students First Day	31 B/G Golf @ Mineral Mounds	Sep 1	2 Cross Country @ Calloway Co.



LITTLE PANTHER ACADEMY

PRE-K REGISTRATION

in the DS Elementary School

@ 317 Eli Street

**Any child 3 years old on or before
August 1, 2023, is eligible to
attend Pre-K.**



****By appointment only****

**To schedule an appointment
contact Melissa Dulin or
Kristin Merrill**

**@ 270-797-3811 ext1005
-or- ext 1004**



Please bring:

- 1. An OFFICIAL Birth Certificate**
- 2. A Social Security Card**
- 3. A current Immunization Certificate**
- 4. A physical exam**
- 5. An eye exam**



IMPORTANT K-12 STUDENT REGISTRATION INFORMATION

IMMUNIZATION & SCHOOL EXAM REQUIREMENTS

Immunization updates are required for the following:

- All 16-year-olds
- All incoming 6th graders
- All incoming Kindergarten students

School entrance physicals are required for the following:

- All incoming 6th graders
- All incoming Kindergarten students



Please make an appointment before the start of the 2023-24 school year with your medical service provider to complete the required immunization updates and school entrance physical.

The Hopkins County Health Department offers limited immunizations and school entrance exams to students who have a medical card, no insurance or insurance that doesn't cover these services.



Proof of compliance will be required.

If you have any questions regarding your child's immunization status, contact your child's medical primary care provider or the Hopkins County Health Department at 270-821-5242.

ADDITIONAL KINDERGARTEN REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the current immunization records and school entrance physical, Kentucky law also requires that parents of children entering Kindergarten to submit copies of an official birth certificate, a Social Security card, a dental exam, and an eye exam. Contact the Elementary School office at 270-797-3811 option #1 or the BOE option #5 for additional information.

Please submit these documents before the start of the 2023-24 school year if you have not already done so.

****Failure to submit any of the documents listed above may result in your child not being able to attend school. ****

Bus Safety Tips for Parents

To help keep your children safe, below are important tips to teach them.

- Arrive at the bus stop five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- Have all items in their book bag before they leave home so they do not drop anything.
- Wait at the bus stop in a safe place, 10-12 feet away from the road.
- Keep electronic equipment packed away as they prepare to board. Never use an electronic device or wear ear buds when walking to the bus stop or when getting on or off the bus.
- Return home to get help or phone for assistance if they miss the bus.
- NEVER chase after the bus.
- NEVER walk to another bus stop.
- NEVER drive your child to another bus stop without permission. The bus driver is not expecting them and your child may not be seen and can be injured.



Illegal Passing

KRS 189.370

Passing stopped school bus or church bus prohibited.

If any school bus or church bus used in the transportation of children is stopped upon a highway for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers, with the stop arm and signal lights activated, the operator of a vehicle approaching from any direction shall bring his vehicle to a stop and shall not proceed until the bus has completed receiving or discharging passengers and has been put into motion. The stop requirement provided for in this section shall not apply to vehicles approaching a stopped bus from the opposite direction upon a highway of four (4) or more lanes.

If any vehicle is witnessed to be in violation of subsection (1) of this section and the identity of the operator is not otherwise apparent, it shall be a rebuttable presumption that the person in whose name the vehicle is registered or leased was the operator of the vehicle at the time of the alleged violation and is subject to the penalties as provided for in KRS 189.990(5).

Help keep our students safe!

If you see a vehicle passing a school bus while they are loading or unloading students, contact your local law enforcement office to report the vehicle description and license plate number.



AUGUST 2023

Dawson Springs

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

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W E L C O M E

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B A C K

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Chicken Fried Steak or Chicken Drumstick, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Roll, Fruit or Juice & Milk

Chicken Quesadilla or Crispito w/Queso, Fiesta Veggies, Refried Beans, Salsa & Chips, Fruit or Juice & Milk

Daily Breakfast Items: Cereal, Poptarts, Fruit, Juice & Milk

- Monday: Sausage Biscuit or Mini Pancakes
- Tuesday: Breakfast Pizza or Cinnamon Roll
- Wednesday: Egg & Cheese Biscuit or Mini Donuts
- Thursday: Chicken Biscuit or Banana Bread
- Friday: Sausage Pancake on a Stick

Daily Lunch Menu Items Include:

All of these options come with Vegetable, Fruit & Milk

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider
Menu is subject to change without notice

- Yogurt or Beef Sticks, String Cheese Stick, Muffin & Cheez-its
- Ham & Cheese Sandwich
- Ham or Turkey & Cheese Wrap
- Pizza Lunchable
- Chef Salad w/Roll

You're in a CEP school!



The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) provides nutritious meals at no charge to all students enrolled in this school. The CEP program is directed toward schools in economically disadvantaged areas. The United States Department of Agriculture administers this program under the National School Lunch Program.

Your school will ask you to complete a household and income form to determine your eligibility to receive additional benefits and determine school funding levels through both state and federal programs. Completing the form will only take a few minutes and will benefit you and your school. Return this form, along with your other registration materials, to your school district contact.

Questions on completion of the form should be directed to your school's FRAM Coordinator. Your district's Food Service Director can answer any questions regarding the CEP program.

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992.

Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Media Release

Dawson Springs students will receive a Breakfast and Lunch

At NO COST under the CEP Program

Dawson Springs Independent Schools will be participating in the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program. As part of this program we will offer healthy meals every school day at NO COST to the students due to the implementation of the Community Eligibility Provision for school year 2022 - 2023

For the program to succeed, we encourage all students to choose a breakfast and lunch each day.

We do offer a number of extra menu items and snacks that can be purchased to go along with your free breakfast or lunch, but these items must be paid for at the register: NO CHARGING you must have cash or money in your account.

For more information, please contact Jeannie Blanchard at 270-797-3811 Ext 2133 or email angelia.blanchard@dawsonsprings.kyschools.us

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

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August Birthdays



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>August Birthday Cake Winners Lexie Howton & Noah Keyes Present your certificate at our DS Dairy Queen for a FREE Ice Cream Cake.</p>		<p>1 Naomi Hensley</p>	<p>2 Benjamin Campbell</p>	<p>3 Benjamin Davis William Kelley</p>	<p>4 Greyson Pleasant Ryleigh Winters</p>	<p>5 Max Franklin Audrey Skimehorn</p>
<p>6 Jessyle Spalding</p>	<p>7 Christopher Morgan</p>	<p>8 Alexis Hunter</p>	<p>9 Mazie Cotton Lexie Howton</p>	<p>10 Madeline Barnes Emilie Turner</p>	<p>11 Ethan Slaton Jacob Hines Victoria Renfro Jacob McIntosh Kye Swatzell</p>	<p>12 James Harting Kim Menser</p>
<p>13 Jasmine Lynch</p>	<p>14 Mattilin Galloway</p>	<p>15 Breanna Barnes Jonathan Steeley</p>	<p>16 Alya Parrish Matthew Ford</p>	<p>17 Olivia Hamby Sherida Stanley Lauren Hibbs</p>	<p>18 </p>	<p>19 Journey Gamblin</p>
<p>20 Rhyan Parker</p>	<p>21 Ashton Gamblin Kiara Sellers Tripton Hankins Tracy Bruce</p>	<p>22 Corey Fairchild Caden Dyer</p>	<p>23 </p>	<p>24 Lexie Fairchild</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 Taylor Paris Eryn Sizemore</p>
<p>27 Nolan Hawkins Noah Keyes Lora Davis</p>	<p>28 </p>	<p>29 Chloe Britt Becky Oliver</p>	<p>30 Mayson Howard Larry Cavanah</p>	<p>31 Sean Stallins Justin Donoho Benjamin Collins</p>	<p>Anyone whose name appears on this calendar is eligible for a 10% discount on an ice cream cake when you present this page at our DS Dairy Queen at the time of purchase.</p>	



2023 – 2024 Student Application for Admission (Out-of-District Student)

District reserves the right to accept or deny admission based on previous attendance, behavior and grades.

702 KAR 7:125 (14) requires that applications be on file for all participating students of eligible districts for participation in fund to support education excellence in Kentucky. The attending district is required to provide the names of participating students to the district of residence and the Kentucky Department of Education.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE IDENTIFYING INFORMATION AND RECORDS

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Prospective Student Full Name: Social Security Number:
First Middle Last

Date of Birth: Telephone: Grade completed or presently enrolled in: (Circle one)

Mother or Female Legal Guardian Name: (Circle one)

Father or Male Legal Guardian Name: (Circle one)

Address: Street City State Zip Code

Student Address: (If different) Street City State Zip Code

Name of Care Giver if child resides with if not Parent/Guardian:

School District where the child resides:

Please be aware that if your son/daughter violates attendance and or discipline policies, he/she may be asked to attend school in the district of your residence. In addition, student must maintain academic standing in accordance with policy adopted by the Site Based Council and the Dawson Springs Board of Education in May, 2000. Furthermore, your signature allows the Dawson Springs School system to request your records from the previous school district which includes the attendance and discipline file.

Signed: Signature of Parent Date signed/filed:

Signed: Signature of Student Date Signed/filed:

RECORD OF PREVIOUS ATTENDANCE (please complete if you child is a new student in the Dawson Springs School System.)

Grade completed or presently enrolled in: (Circle one) Name of School:

Name of School District: Days of school missed last year Days of school missed this year

Has the child had discipline problems in the former school? If so please explain

Other Pertinent Information:

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

RECOMMENDATION:

1 Application granted: YES NO Date received:

Signature of District Official

Date Signed

2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR

District: DAWSON SPRINGS

Board Approved 1/30/2023

Part I Traditional Calendar Variable

Schools: ELEM/JR SR HIGH

July 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August 2023

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		2

September 2023 (74)

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2023

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29	30	31				20

November 2023

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December 2023 (74)

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						13

January 2024

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			21

February 2024

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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March 2024

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						20

April 2024

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28	29	30				17

May 2024

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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2024 (96)

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

PD DAYS (9): 8/16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 & 28

OPEN & CLOSE (2): 8/29/23 & 5/28/24

HOLIDAYS (4): 9/4/23, 11/23/23, 12/25/23 & 1/1/24 (7/4, 1/15, 5/27)

FLEX/ BREAK DAYS (2): 2/16/24 & 3/15/24

STUDENTS FIRST DAY: 8/30/23

STUDENTS LAST DAY/GRADUATION: 5/24/24

FALL BREAK (2): 10/12 & 10/13/23

SPRING BREAK (5): 4/8-4/12/24

MAKE-UP DAYS (8): 5/29-6/7/24

STUDENT ATTENDANCE DAYS: 170

TEACHER REQUIREMENT DAYS: 185

SCHOOL STARTS 7:55 AM ENDS: 2:50 PM

IMPORTANT DATES



AUGUST
8/30 -
Students 1st
Day

SEPTEMBER
9/4
NO SCHOOL
Labor Day

OCTOBER
10/12 & 10/13
Fall Break

NOVEMBER
11/22 - 11/24 -
Thanksgiving Break

Happy
Thanksgiving

DECEMBER
12/20 - 12/29 -
Christmas Break

JANUARY
*Happy
New Year*

1/1 - No School
1/15 - No School
Martin Luther King Jr
Day

FEBRUARY
2/16 - Flex Day

MARCH
3/15 - Flex Day

APRIL
4/8 - 4/12 -
Spring Break

MAY
5/24
Students Last Day
Graduation

JUNE

JULY

