Principal’s Corner – Anne Park

Dear Shark Families,

Can you believe we are already into our second marking period? Some parents have asked how they can best support their child during their time here at Downes. The very best thing you can do for your child is have open ended conversations about what they are learning. Rather than ask, “How was your day?” try saying something such as, “Tell me one thing you learned in math class today.” Or “Tell me about the character in the story you read today”. Having a student share their learning with you helps them to solidify the content in their own minds.

I want to take time to thank everyone who supported the Shark Pride Stride.

Many people put a lot of time and effort into the event and your work is greatly appreciated. The generosity of the Downes community is inspiring!

Finally, as we start to head into the holiday season I hope you get to take time to enjoy your families and share lots of love and laughter!

Anne Park
Principal

The Mitten Tree is Returning!
The tree will be set up in the school lobby on Monday, November 4th

Please consider helping a Downes family by participating in our annual Mitten Tree. The Mitten Tree helps support families in our school who are in need of clothing and essentials. A great way to share within our community and teach our children about the joy of giving. The tree will be set up in the school lobby on Monday, November 4.

- Select a mitten. Sign it out on the spreadsheet next to the tree.
- Purchase a new item described on the mitten.
- Drop off the unwrapped item and mitten in the Nurse’s office by Wednesday, December 4.

If you were unable to shop for a Mitten Tree participant but would still like to help, you can donate Target or Walmart gift cards. These cards will be used to shop for items that were not selected from the tree.

Contact Lynda Fisher at Lyndafisher4@gmail.com with questions about the Mitten Tree.

Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Extension</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Downes Elementary School Main Number</td>
<td>454-2133</td>
<td>ext. 42802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Anne Park</td>
<td>ext. 12542</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Nurse</td>
<td>ext. 12543</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guidance Counselor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cafeteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>District Transportation Office</td>
<td>454-2281</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christina District Office</td>
<td>552-2600</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**PBS DONATIONS Needed**

Donations are being accepted for the PBS program. Items will be given to classroom teachers to use as PBS prizes/incentives in their classroom. Please make sure items donated are not broken or missing pieces.

**Open Committee Chairs**

- Reflections - Mom’s Breakfast  
- Helping Hands - Dad’s Breakfast  
- Advocacy - Grant Writers

You must be a member, or willing to become a member, of the PTA to apply. If you need more information, are interested in a position, or know someone who might be a good fit, please contact Lori Nesnow (lnesnow@gmail.com).

**Report Cards**

As a reminder, report cards are now accessible on Home Access Center (HAC). If you have misplaced your log-on information, please contact your child’s teacher and they can provide the information to you. The link is available on the Downes Elementary School website (www.downses.org) under the “Parents” tab at the top.

**Electronic Versions of Shark Bites are available with clickable links.**

Go to: http://www.downses.org ➔ About Us ➔ Shark Bites Newsletter

**4th Grade Field Trip to the Delaware Center in Wilmington**

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**PTA Officers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Bronwyn Millman</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bmmillman@gmail.com">bmmillman@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-Vice Presidents</td>
<td>Dani Whitaker</td>
<td><a href="mailto:daniwhitaker14@gmail.com">daniwhitaker14@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parker Slaton</td>
<td><a href="mailto:parker.slaton@gmail.com">parker.slaton@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Rebecca Kalmbach</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rebecca716@hotmail.com">rebecca716@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Ann Balback</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ann.j.ballback@gmail.com">ann.j.ballback@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
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</table>

**PTA Committees**

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
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<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co-Membership</td>
<td>Lori Nesnow</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lnesnow@gmail.com">lnesnow@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Andreya Mihaloew</td>
<td><a href="mailto:andreyamihaloew@gmail.com">andreyamihaloew@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Allison Gebiel</td>
<td><a href="mailto:starr.allison@gmail.com">starr.allison@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dani Whitaker</td>
<td><a href="mailto:daniwhitaker14@gmail.com">daniwhitaker14@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amber Money</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amb828@gmail.com">amb828@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPEN POSITION</td>
<td>Heidi Bloch</td>
<td><a href="mailto:heidi.bloch@christina.k12.de.us">heidi.bloch@christina.k12.de.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christy Fitzpatrick</td>
<td><a href="mailto:christyeduncan@gmail.com">christyeduncan@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lori Nesnow</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lnesnow@gmail.com">lnesnow@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:daniwhitaker14@gmail.com">daniwhitaker14@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marilyn Porras</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Marilyn.Porras@christina.k12.de.us">Marilyn.Porras@christina.k12.de.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPEN POSITION</td>
<td>Parker Slaton</td>
<td><a href="mailto:parker.slaton@gmail.com">parker.slaton@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lynda Fisher</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lyndafisher4@gmail.com">lyndafisher4@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kevin Bohrer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:downesboxtops@gmail.com">downesboxtops@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>OPEN POSITION</td>
<td>Jason Snyder</td>
<td><a href="mailto:itsnyder9@yahoo.com">itsnyder9@yahoo.com</a></td>
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</table>

**The December Shark Bites Submission Deadline is November 15th.**

Please send submissions to: Dani Whitaker at daniwhitaker14@gmail.com
Meet Your 2019-2020 PTA Members

Welcome back to another school year at Downes. While getting to know your new teachers and your student’s new friends, we’d like you to take a moment to get to know who you can reach out to for additional support and resources. We look forward to seeing you at the many events hosted and supported by the PTA this year, and hope you and your students have a happy and productive school year at Downes!

PTA President: Bronwyn Millman (bmillman@gmail.com)

Hello Downes Families! My name is Bronwyn Millman and I am the current President of the PTA here at Downes. I have 2 children, Lucas (3rd grade at Downes) and Wesley (8th grade at Shue). I was PTA President for 2 years when my oldest was a student at Downes and I’m serving again now that my youngest is here at the school. I love the community here at Downes and am so glad that my children have had such a great experience. I have loved meeting other families at the school and appreciate the friendships that my children and I have formed. I believe that PTA has a place for everyone to participate and share their interests and talents. Please contact me at bmillman@gmail.com with any questions or concerns that you might have about Downes or the PTA. I look forward to hearing from you.

PTA Vice President Co-Chair: Dani Whitaker (daniwhitaker14@gmail.com)

Hello fellow Sharks! I am pleased to be serving as the Co-Vice Present of the PTA and am excited to continue to be a part of what makes this school so great! My husband Rejean and I reside in Middletown, DE with our 2 daughters, Marley and Rory. Marley is a 2nd grader, at Downes, in the Chinese Immersion program and absolutely loves it. Our little Rory attends KinderCare Learning Center on Paxson Lane and has a little ways to go before entering kindergarten. I am the editor of Downes’ school newsletter (Shark Bites), as well as one of the administrators for the school website. Outside of these duties, I work as an administrative assistant at the University of Delaware and am very active in a number of committees. In my down time I love to read, researching my family genealogy, photography and spending time with family and friends. I look forward to another great school year and connecting with you all.

PTA Vice President Co-Chair: Parker Slaton (parker.slaton@gmail.com)

I have two daughters at Downes, Ibbie in kindergarten and Cole in second grade, as well as two preschool-aged sons at Newark Methodist Preschool. I’m excited to serve as Co-Vice President of the PTA this year and grateful for the opportunity to help with our school. I enjoy photography and take pictures at many school events. The images can be seen on the posters in the front hall and in Shark Bites. I’m looking forward to the school year and helping other parents and guardians get involved with our community!
PTA Treasurer: Ann Balback (ann.j.balback@gmail.com)

My daughter, Alana, is a second grader in the Chinese Immersion program. We love being a part of the Downes Family!

I have worked in the Financial Services industry for over 20 years and currently work as a Sr. Trust Officer - Team Lead at RBC Trust Company.

This is my third year acting as the PTA Treasurer. In this role, I have had a first-hand view of how the PTA (through your generous donations and volunteering your time) helps to improve the school through supporting various student programs, family events, and classroom/teacher support. We couldn’t do it without YOU!!

Fun facts about me, in my free time I love laughing with friends and family, traveling, running half marathons, and being outdoors – especially at the beach!

PTA Secretary: Rebecca Kalmbach (rebecca716@hotmail.com)

I am happy to be serving on the board this year PTA secretary. I have two children in the Christina School District. My daughter Maeve is a 2nd grader in the Chinese Immersion Program and Thurman is a 6th grader in the Chinese program at Shue Medill. I joined the PTA to learn more about what my children were doing at school, and to connect with other Downes families. I work full time as a middle school French teacher in the Appoquinimink School District. I love listening to podcasts on my commute and I have been known to take an extra loop around the neighborhood to hear the ending of a great story. I am so proud to be a part of the Downes community and I look forward to meeting more of you this year!

PTA Membership Co-Chair: Lori Nesnow (lnesnow@gmail.com)

I am happy to be continuing as co membership chair this year at Downes. My son, Owen, is in second grade and is in the Chinese immersion program and my younger son, Evan, will be in kindergarten next year. We are happy to have our child attend such a great school and be part of such an amazing community of people. I work at the University of Delaware full time and have started to take classes again to expand my knowledge on contemporary issues. I love to explore national parks and have rafted through the Grand Canyon. We enjoy going to the beach whenever we can. I am looking forward to another amazing year at Downes.
A Reading Note from Ms. Brewer
7 Tips on how to raise a reader

1. **Lead by example:** Be a reader and read around your kids all the time. Show your kids that you are interested and enjoy reading and this will help spark their curiosity.

2. **Read with your kids:** Read with your kids early, often, and lovingly, to help them establish a positive, comforting, and exciting relationship with reading from the very start.

3. **Talk literature:** Talk about favorite books, authors, stories, and genres with your kids and with others. Show your kids that you are interested in books and excited about their interest in books. Talking about literature will help create a rich literary culture within the family.

4. **Keep books everywhere:** Keep books in the car, in every room of the house, in beach bags, and more. If your kid gets bored and plops down next to a pile of books, then chances are they will pick one up and start reading it.

5. **Take regular outings to the library:** Outings are always fun, and the library is a great place where kids can explore new books and feel empowered by choosing and checking out their own books.

6. **Make reading and writing a part of everyday activities:** There are opportunities to read and talk about reading everywhere. Read pamphlets in waiting rooms or, for the younger kids, read street signs while out and about. This is yet another chance to talk about reading.

7. **Stay with it!** Start these habits when your kids are young and never stop. Who knows, maybe you’ll start to love these habits.

Donations for Keeping Wilmington Warm

It is that time of year when Room 102 and 106 are collecting for the charity: Keeping Wilmington Warm! This organization collects items and delivers to the men and women who are homeless, in the streets of Wilmington. Items that they are seeking are for adults. They are asking for new or gently used adult sweat suits sizes; medium all the way up to 2XL. These are used for layering on cold nights. They also collect new warm socks, and big blankets (new or gently used). We thank you for helping us keep these souls warm in our cold winter months! Please drop off deliveries to Room 102. Make sure you put your name on the bag of items, so we can give you a shout out on the Keeping Wilmington Warm Homepage! You make us the success we are!

Thank you, thank you, thank you, Downes Families!

For it is in giving that we receive.
— Francis of Assisi
Meet the New Staff

Hello and 你好! My name is Michael Porter, and I'm a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education. I lived and worked in Beijing, China for many years, and one of the things that fascinated me was the way that people from America and China used language differently in order to accomplish the same things. Some people would call these "cultural differences", and I love how learning a foreign language brings to light all the cultural assumptions we make. I also love learning about Chinese philosophy and how it can relate to our own lives, even now. This is my first year in the Chinese immersion program at Downes, and I'm so excited to get to know each and every student and parent in the Chinese immersion program.

My name is Rhonda Seagraves. I recently moved to DE and will be moving even closer to Downes in November. I have a son who is currently a sophomore in college. I've been an educator in both NJ and DE and have worked in grades K, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th. Elementary is definitely my favorite. My academic career consists of degrees in Elementary Education, Reading, and ESOL. I enjoy reading, shopping, and going to the beach.

Dictionary Delivery

The 3rd grade students at Downes received dictionaries courtesy of the Newark Rotary Club.

Downes Welcomes Author Bethany Barton

On October 7th, 2019, Downes was excited to welcome author Bethany Barton. Ms. Barton is the author/illustrator of numerous children's books including This Monster Needs a Haircut, This Monster Cannot Wait, I'm Trying to Love Spiders and Give Bees A Chance. Students who purchased a book, were able to have a small meet & greet with Ms. Barton and have their book signed.
Bank at School Assembly
Kicks off another school year for K-5 students at Downes Elementary School

Downes continues its partnerships with the University of Delaware's Center for Economic Education and Entrepreneurship, the Delaware Financial Literacy Institute, and the State Bank Commissioner, and the New Castle County School Employees Federal Credit Union.

Weekly visits to the school from NCCSEFCU bankers accept student deposits, teach financial literacy and the importance of saving money.
**Spirit Week at Downes — October 14th thru October 18th**

Mismatched Monday: Everyone is different and we should embrace our differences.
**Twin Tuesday:** Dress up like a friend or your twin.

**Wednesday – Superhero Day:** Everyone is powerful, show kindness all day.

**Thursday – Kind Heart Day:** Write a kind note on a heart to a friend and post it on the wall.
Friday — We Stand United: Wear school colors or shark gear (blue and white).

Newark's Main Street Mile — Downes takes 1st Place

Thanks to the Downes community for supporting the school by participating in the city of Newark’s Main Street Mile. We had a record number 109 registrants which brought home first place! The weather was beautiful, the run was fun, and the refreshments were plentiful! To top off such a wonderful morning, we brought back to the school $500. The strength of our school spirit and unity was highlighted in the large number of alumni, staff, students, and families that participated in this event. Thanks for all you do!
Downes Student, Parents and Community Leaders Participate on International Walk to School Day

On October 2nd, the Downes community participated in International Walk to School Day! We had a fantastic turnout, beautiful weather, and a lot of smiling faces. Thanks to DelDOT for inviting Mr. Cone and providing the awesome slap bracelets to the participating students. We even had a special visit from Mayor Clifton and Senator David Sokola. The City of Newark Police department ensured our safety by leading the way! Thanks to all the families who participated in this successful event. We look forward to another great event next year!
Shop on Amazon? Support Downes while Shopping

Go to www.smile.amazon.com when you shop and select JR Downes Elem PTA as your Charity. Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible Amazon Smile purchases.

FAQs from Amazon Smile

What is Amazon Smile?
Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com.

Can I change my charity?
Yes, you can change your charity any time.

How do I shop at Amazon Smile?
To shop at Amazon Smile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return.

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on Amazon Smile?
Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and Amazon Smile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

Coca-Cola Give for Downes

Downes Elementary School is also registered for Coke Rewards. Sign up by going to:
https://us.coca-cola.com/give/schools/
Parents can help in one of three ways. Either enter your points yourself online using the link above, clip and send your codes along with your boxtops, or use your smartphone to take a picture of the code and text it to Kevin Bohrer @ 302-528-0666 and I will enter them. The code from a 20oz soda gets us 5 cents, the code from a 12-pack gets us 15 cents and the code from the 35 packs (Costco, BJ’s, etc) get us 38 cents. It really does add up!

Box Tops for Education

Downes Elementary School is registered with the Box Tops for Education (BTFE) program. Our 2019-20 School Year goal is $1000. We fell short of our goal last year so we need your support to hit our goal. I know we can do it, but we need everyone’s help!

They frequently run sweepstakes and schools can win 5000 or even 10,000 boxtops (that’s $500 or $1000). Be sure to check out the Box Tops for Education website ([www.btfes.com](http://www.btfes.com)) and follow them on Facebook and you will see when a new sweepstakes starts. You can always enter the sweepstakes’ DAILY so enter often to increase our chances of winning. We haven’t won one yet, but the more we enter the better our chances!

**ATTENTION 2019 Homeroom Parents:** If you are in your child’s classroom and see the extra school supplies (Ziploc, Kleenex, etc.) please check them for boxtops and take a few moments to cut them off and put them in the submission box. Everyone gets us 10 cents closer to our goal!

NEW!! Starting in 2019, the boxtops program is transitioning from physical boxtops that you clip and submit, to digital boxtops. Digital boxtops work by way of scanning your grocery store receipts. You will see a boxtop logo on your product, but instead of clipping it, you will open the BTFE app on your phone and scan the store receipt. That money then gets directly deposited into Downes’ account. For clippable boxtops, please continue to send them in groups of 25 in an envelope or baggie marked with your child’s full name and homeroom number. If possible, put this information on a piece of paper inside the baggie because we reuse the baggies for submission. Clipping them neatly and checking expiration dates on Box Tops is also greatly appreciated. Collection boxes are located in each classroom and the main office.

Questions? Contact Kevin Bohrer at downesboxtops@gmail.com.

### Shark of the Month – September Superstars:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindergarten</th>
<th>1st Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mack Amos</td>
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<td>Lucas Li</td>
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<td>Sage Sabocoor</td>
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<td>Ethan Revis</td>
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<td>Amaya Moffat</td>
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<td>Autumn Knox</td>
<td>Lucas Millman</td>
<td>Payton Pierce</td>
<td>Diego Aguado-Serino</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brave Heiger</td>
<td>Brianna Snover</td>
<td>Gianni Damiani</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Arielle Echevarria</td>
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PE Corner

We have reached the end of the first marking period! The students were hard at work improving and applying various locomotor skills, such as jogging, skipping, galloping etc. and learning the correct form to throw, both underhand and overhand, and catch. The students are learning the importance of being physically active and developing an insight that movement and participation in various games can be fun! Some of our favorite activities over the past two months have been flag tag, foxtail tag, musical hoops, Hoola Hut Knockdown, Volcano Land tag, “Don’t Sink My Ship,” and Battleship! The students worked up a sweat with various warm up activities and increased their flexibility and reduced their risk of soreness by engaging in daily stretching activities as well. We even learned the difference between muscular strength and muscular endurance with various station exercises and scooter use! Just as important as skill development, the students are working on the importance of fair play, strategy, and working cooperatively within partner and team activities. Time flies when you are having fun! I look forward to the next couple of months and hope your students do too. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out and contact me over email or class dojo at connie.spedden@christina.k12.de.us.
PTA NEEDS YOU!

We need your help. We have several committee level positions open for the 2019-2020 school year. If we are unable to fill these positions our students, families and teachers may miss out on valuable opportunities!

Open Committee Chairs:

- Reflections
- Helping Hands
- Advocacy
- Mom’s Breakfast
- Dad’s Breakfast
- Grant Writers

You must be a member, or willing to become a member, of the PTA to apply. If you need more information, are interested in a position, or know someone who might be a good fit, please contact Lori Nesnow at lnesnow@gmail.com.
The PTA at Downes isn't just bake sales! When you join the PTA, you signal that you are involved with the school. You have opportunities to network with the principal, teachers, district administrators, and other parents. The PTA offers educational lectures and workshops. When you are a part of the PTA, you are part of a powerful voice of advocacy for our school. Please join us!

Questions about PTA Membership, contact Lori Nesnow at lnesnow@gmail.com or Andreya Mihaloew at andreymihaloew@gmail.com. To join or renew your membership, please send the completed membership form and payment in an envelope or baggie to school or drop off in the office. Or sign-up via online registration at downespta.memberhub.store and select Single Membership for $8, Double Membership for $15, or Triple Membership $21.

Meetings are held at 6pm the first Tuesday of every month (unless otherwise noted) in the library and childcare is usually provided in the cafeteria. Check our website to confirm meeting dates: https://www.downeses.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=218287&type=d. Like the John R. Downes PTA on Facebook to get up to the minute announcements and to network with other Downes Elementary parents.

K-Kids Club

The K-Kids Club has been collecting aluminum can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. The Ronald McDonald House is for families whose children are in the A.I. Hospital for Children and those families can stay at the house. Money is earned to run the house by taking just the aluminum tabs to a Recycling Facility. In one recent year they earned $55,000. That’s a lot of tabs collected!!!!! This fundraiser is on-going throughout the school year so start now collecting the aluminum tabs. Just drop off the tabs in the school office. This is a win, win, win situation!!! The earth wins by recycling, the Ronald McDonald House wins by earning money, and you win by drinking and eating food from the cans you have purchased.

Thanks ahead of time from the K-Kids’ Club!!!!!
Downes Elementary School

Car Rider, Parent Pickup and Walker Dismissal Framework

Please Reference the Dismissal Map

**Goal:** Student safety and expedite the dismissal process efficiently and promptly for Walkers, Car Riders, Parents, Crossing Guard, and School Staff

**Note:** Parents meeting students in designated pickup area should not double park in the school's parking lot or along drive going behind the school (cones will mark *No Parking Area*).

### Car Rider and Walker Student Dismissal Times

- **Kindergarten:** 3:17 pm
- **Grades 1-5:** 3:20 pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Car Rider Circle</th>
<th>Meet Student at Dismissal Outside Gym</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pickup</strong></td>
<td><strong>Meet Student</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Drivers remain in cars and in a single lane</td>
<td>• Drivers park along adjoining neighborhood streets to school parking lot/car rider circle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Drivers picking up Kindergarten students may arrive by 3:07 pm as they are the first dismissed</td>
<td>• Note: Drivers should not double park in the school parking lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Maintain safe distances from other cars</td>
<td>• Walk to meet student outside of the gym doors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Slow speed when navigating through the pickup circle</td>
<td>• Accompany student back to parked car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Student safely in vehicle slowly exit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Exit Procedures

**Goal:** Reduce the number of vehicles the crossing guard is directing entering and exiting the school's parking lot at dismissal

**Vehicle's Exiting School's Parking Lot**

*No Left Turn onto Rahway Rd between 8:10-8:40 am and 3:20-3:40 pm (at the crossing guard)*

**Goal:** To increase safety for student walkers and improve the flow of car turning onto Rahway Rd. from Casho Mill Road to pick up their students

**All Vehicles - Exiting Routes**

1. Proceed straight on Webb Rd. and left onto Pickett Ln. to Casho Mill Rd.
2. Turn right onto Rahway Rd. and left onto Barksdale Rd. to Casho Mill Rd.
WE SALUTE YOUR ENERGY.

We're proud to support the John R. Downes Elementary School and our shared commitment to the communities we serve.
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Friends of Downes Elementary: Cacciatori Pizza & Pasta, Newark Parks & Rec, Timothy’s of Newark
Parent Back to School Newsletter
School Breakfast and Lunch Program
School Year 2019-2020

Meal Benefit Forms

A NEW meal benefit form is due each year. There are 3 ways to access these forms.
- You may complete an online application at www.schoolcafe.com
- Print form from www.christinak12.org/CNS and return to the cafeteria
- Pick up a paper copy at your school and return to the cafeteria

If your child(ren) received Free or Reduced priced meals last year, they will automatically receive these meals up to 30 days or until a new form has been processed. If a new form has not been processed by October 17, 2019 he/she will have to pay full price for meals.

Prepayments for Meals
Online payments are accepted at www.schoolcafe.com. This gives families the option to view balances and account activity. A convenience fee of $1.75 for every transaction is required.

Unpaid Meal Charges
- Accounts with unpaid meal charges should be paid promptly
- No snacks or seconds can be charged
- Elementary students who forget money will be able to charge a meal to be paid later
- Grades 6-12 with a negative balance equaling one week of meals, will be given a courtesy meal for lunch

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)
Certain schools in Christina are operating under the "Community Eligibility Provision".
- All enrolled students are eligible to receive a breakfast and lunch at school at no charge.
- No need to submit a meal benefit form for child(ren) enrolled at a CEP school.

If you have additional children attending other schools in the district not participating in CEP, you will be required to fill out a meal benefit form to be eligible for free/reduced meal pricing at those locations.

Food Allergies
If your child is allergic to food, please provide a signed physician note stating the allergy. If a special menu is needed, the Registered Dietitian will create a menu for your child with proper documentation.

Cafeteria Prices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breakfast:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grades PK-5</td>
<td>$0.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 6-12</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Price</td>
<td>$0.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lunch:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grades PK-5</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 6-12</td>
<td>$1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Price</td>
<td>$0.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$3.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk</td>
<td>$0.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PIN Numbers =
Student ID Number (6 Digits)
Student’s cafeteria pin number is their Student ID number which allows students and parents/guardians to purchase meals or make payments in any cafeteria in the district.

Breakfast In the Classroom
More than half of the schools in Christina School District are allowing students to eat breakfast in their classroom. This initiative helps increase access for all students and helps ensure students start their day off with a nutritious breakfast.

Healthy Meals/ Snack & Wellness
All Christina schools meet the tough federal nutrition standards for school meals, ensuring that meals are healthy and well-balanced & provide students all the nutrition they need to succeed at school.

Healthy snacks/beverages that meet smart snack guidelines are available in most schools for an additional cost, ranging from $0.25-$1.25. For specific products call your school cafeteria.

Candy & soda are not permitted and baked goods are discouraged. It is recommended that non-food items such as a book are used for classroom celebrations instead of food items.
Turkey Troubles

Some people have a “Bad Turkey” story. Maybe they cooked the bird upside down without realizing it; maybe they brought it out Thanksgiving morning still frozen. Make sure this year’s turkey is terrific with the help of these tips.

Before you buy...
* Consider the size. The number of guests will determine the amount of turkey you will need. The rule of thumb is 1 lb per person.
* Think about timing. Frozen turkeys can take days to thaw safely, depending on the size. If it is the day before Thanksgiving, buying a frozen turkey is not your best bet.
* Fresh or frozen? Fresh turkey lasts three days in the refrigerator. If you buy in advance, frozen might be the way to go.

Safe cooking...
* Cook time depends on the weight of the turkey. Most turkeys have a cooking schedule on the package.
* The turkey is done when it reaches an internal temperature of 165 degrees F. This can be measured with a food thermometer in the thickest part of the breast.
* If there is stuffing inside the turkey, it must also reach 165 degrees F.

Taking it out of the oven...
* Letting the turkey sit for 10 minutes before carving will allow the juices to spread throughout.
* Smaller cuts will help with portion control. A serving of turkey is only 3 oz., about the size of a deck of cards.
* Pair with yummy fall vegetables like asparagus, beans, and carrots.

Pumpkin Dessert Recipe

Ingredients:
3/4 cup (6 ounces) 1/3-less-fat cream cheese
1/2 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 cup canned pumpkin
2 teaspoons maple syrup
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
24 apple slices

Instructions:
Place first 3 ingredients in a medium bowl, and beat with a mixer at medium speed until well blended. Add syrup and cinnamon, and beat until smooth. Cover and chill 30 minutes. Serve with apple.
BREFAST@SCHOOL
For first-class learning!
CHRISTINA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Prices (Non-CEP)*
Elementary Student Breakfast: $0.80
Secondary Student Breakfast: $1.00
Reduced Student Breakfast: $0.25
Adult Breakfast: $2.50
*If your school participates in CEP (community eligibility provision), a breakfast meal is provided at no cost to all students daily.

Choose at least ONE serving of FRUIT and at least THREE items TOTAL on your meal counts as a Complete Breakfast!

Enjoy your Breakfast!

Friday, November 1
No School Today

Monday, November 4
Raspberry Turnover

Tuesday, November 5
Breakfast Egg Taco (made with turkey sausage) OR Chewy Oatmeal Bar

Wednesday, November 6
Mini French Toast OR Oatmeal

Thursday, November 7
Mini Bagels

Friday, November 8
Assorted Breakfast Muffins

Friday, November 15
No School Today

Monday, November 14
No School Today
Veterans' Day

Tuesday, November 12
Breakfast Egg Wrap OR Cereal Bar w/ Graham Cracker

Wednesday, November 13
Pigglestick (pancake wrapped turkey sausage) OR Oatmeal

Thursday, November 14
No School Today

Friday, November 15
No School Today

Monday, November 18
Raspberry Turnover

Tuesday, November 19
Breakfast Egg Taco (made with turkey sausage) OR Chewy Oatmeal Bar

Wednesday, November 20
Mini French Toast OR Oatmeal

Thursday, November 21
Mini Bagels

Friday, November 22
Assorted Breakfast Muffins

Monday, November 25
Mini Waffles OR Mini Pancakes

Tuesday, November 26
Breakfast Egg Wrap OR Cereal Bar w/ Graham Cracker

Wednesday, November 27
Thanksgiving
Enjoy your Holiday! See you Monday!
Finding the two dozen Thanksgiving words!