



News

2021

Greetings Downsville Families!

It has been a great start to the school year. The children are adjusting to being back in school and learning new routines, and loving being with their teachers and friends. Thank YOU for your part in this-sending them to school every day rested and ready to learn. We are grateful for our supportive parents!

Our morning drop off procedure has smoothed out and things are going well. Thanks for waiting until after bus drop off to drive and drop off. It helps for the buses not to have cars coming through.

Please review the attendance flyer and information in this newsletter. Being in school is so important. I know we will have some challenges with exclusions and potential illness, and we appreciate your adherence to any quarantine and illness exclusions.

Although masks are optional this year, there was an addition to the COVID plan added prior to the start of the year. Masks are required when children are singing, as they are on the bus. We have masks available, but it would be helpful if kids had them in their backpacks for music classes and bus transportation. Thanks for your assistance with this.

We had our first TIGER TEAM meeting today. We met outside and learned some Downsville cheers, sang happy birthday to August and September birthdays, and talked about the importance of handwashing and sanitizing regularly.

We've kicked off our school WALKING PROGRAM and each class is asked to walk 2 mornings a week. As they walk laps (miles) they will earn a bead keychain and little plastic feet to attach to it. It's amazing to see how the miles add up. Grades K/2/4 will walk on Tuesdays and Fridays and grades 1/3/5 will walk on Mondays and Thursdays. On the other days, students are free to choose walking or playing on the playground.

Hope you can join us for the first PTC meeting of the year! Have a great weekend!

Mrs. Drout

Important Dates:

September 15 - Bridging Brighter Smiles
Dental Clinic - All Day

September 20 - PTC meeting

Menu Change! Sept. 15th
Chicken Nuggets
instead of
Spaghetti and Meatballs



Attendance Guide

Morning Drop-off

Please drop off
your child between
8:20 - 8:30.

Late/Tardy/Unexcused/No Call

If your child is dropped off between 8:35-9:00 they will be considered "Late" → After 3 "Lates" they will turn into "Tardies" which are considered **Unexcused** absences.

If your child is dropped off after 9:00 without a legitimate reason (ex. Appt/Out of town) they will be considered "Tardy"

If you do not call in your child that is considered an "Unexcused/No contact"

After 5 unexcused absences (late, tardy or no contact) you will receive a letter stating that your child is on the verge of being truant.

After 10 unexcused absences you will be contacted for a pre-truancy meeting to discuss how to improve your child's attendance.

Excused

Letters are also sent when your child has **10 or more excused** absences. Parents are allowed up to 10 absences. After that absences will turn into **unexcused** unless accompanied by a Doctor's note, indicating they could not be in school.

For more information please see Wisconsin State Statute 118.15

School attendance is a key component of success at school. Please support your child getting to school daily. When they are sick, please call and notify the school. Working together to keep children at school is important.

Bus Passes:



Students will be dropped off at their homes unless we receive a note or phone call from parents telling us otherwise. Upon receipt of the note we will issue a bus pass.

Medications:

If your child needs to take medication at school, **we will not be able to dispense UNLESS you have**

provided the school with a “Physician Order for School Medication Administration” form signed by the medical provider (Dr.)

(OTC) Over the counter medications, i.e. cold medicine, tylenol, etc will need to have a “Non-Prescription Medication Administration Form” filled out and signed by parent/guardian to be administered to your child.



Volunteers:

Volunteers may be limited due to health restrictions this year. If you plan to help in any capacity with your child’s classroom/school you will need to fill out a **Background check form**. You will find them on the SDMA website under the **Parent and Community** tab, or they can be picked up in the school office.

DOWNSVILLE TEAM:



Mrs. Drout -	Principal
Mrs. Livingston -	Kindergarten
Mrs. Gullickson -	1st Grade
Mr. Voss -	2nd Grade
Ms. Repinski -	3rd Grade
Mrs. Anderson -	4th Grade
Mr. Rozmiarek -	5th Grade
Mrs. Holcomb -	Intervention Specialist
Mrs. Pelke -	Learning Disabilities
Mrs. Pederson -	SEL/Guidance
Mrs. Wik -	Speech
Mrs. Amb -	Educational Support Specialist
Ms. Seidler -	Art
Mr. Auden -	Music
Mr. Stanchik -	Physical Education
Mrs. Bade -	ELL
Ms. Kocik -	School Psychologist
Mrs. Henning -	School Social Worker
Mrs. Kellogg -	Library/Media Secretary
Mrs. Wolfe -	School Office Secretary
Mrs. Ludwig -	Food Service
Mr. Krista -	Custodian
Ms. Torgeson -	Evening Custodian



Downsville Elementary 2021

Summer Reading Scavenger Hunt

NAME: _____

Work your way through the alphabet with this scavenger hunt.

A Read about your favorite animal. Initials: _____	B Read on top of a blanket. Initials: _____	C Read a chapter book. Initials: _____
D Read a digital book. Initials: _____	E Read a book with exciting facts. Initials: _____	F Read a fiction book. Initials: _____
G Read a book that was a gift. Initials: _____	H Read about a holiday. Initials: _____	I Read a book from an author with your last initial. Initials: _____
J Read a joke book. Initials: _____	K Read a book to another kid. Initials: _____	L Take a trip to the library. Initials: _____
M Read a magazine. Initials: _____	N Read a nonfiction book. Initials: _____	O Read outside. Initials: _____
P Read a poem. Initials: _____	Q Read under a quilt. Initials: _____	R Read on a rainy day. Initials: _____
S Read a book in a series. Initials: _____	T Read under a table. Initials: _____	U Read a book under the stars. Initials: _____
V Read on vacation. Initials: _____	W Read a book wearing sunglasses. Initials: _____	X Read a book with an expression. Initials: _____
Y Read a book to your family. Initials: _____	Z Read about a zoo animal. Initials: _____	

Please initial when a letter is completed. Return to Mrs. Holcomb at the beginning of the 21/22 school year for a reading prize. Happy Reading!

Proud!

We are proud of the following students who worked their way through the alphabet reading this summer.

Charlie Sol

Aly Kluge

Nathan Sol

Dane Kruetzer

Lexi Quinn

Jayden Gunderzik

Each student received a reading prize for completion.

DOWNSVILLE ELEMENTARY STUDENT COUNCIL



Our student council will involve 5th grade student's this school year. I will be talking to the 5th grade about what student council entails and they will be bringing home a **letter of intention** if they are interested in being part of it.

Our first meeting will be Friday, October 1st.

With Leadership Skills In Mind,

Mrs. Holcomb (Student Council Advisor)

Hello Families:

I am so excited to see the amazing art that is created by your children this year! There have been so many fantastic art projects created which led me to create a very cool award that can be won by your student. The title of the award is, "Artists of the Week". Each week, three students will be chosen as "Artists of the Week" to have their artwork framed and displayed in the school's showcase for an entire week! Students will not only have their name said on the morning announcements for their accomplishment, but they will also receive a signed certificate from me. This award is given to students who:

- Try their best in art
- Follow directions and participate in art
- Are proud of their artwork
- Show creativity
- Believe they are an artist

I also want to keep you up to date with the art projects the students are creating by sharing photos of your child's artwork and the projects we create. I have created an art teacher instagram account



which will allow me to share what your student is working on in art class! I will be sharing photos of the projects each grade level will create, as well as photos of student artwork.

Please follow @artwithmissseidler on instagram for updates of your child's creations! If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at any time!



-Ms. Seidler



Hello! My name is Heidi Pelke. I am the new Special Education teacher at Downsville/Knapp! I am so excited to work with the staff and students at Downsville! For the past few years I have been teaching Special Education at Wakanda Elementary. I live in Menomonie with my husband and we have three grown sons. I look forward to an amazing year.



My name is Deanna Livingston and I am the new Kindergarten teacher at Downsville. I live in Menomonie with my husband and my two sons. My son Karter is in 5th grade at River Heights and my son Brayden is in 1st grade at Downsville. I am so happy to be a part of the Downsville community and school.



My name is Alex Auden and I am the new music teacher at Downsville. I am originally from Appleton, WI, and before coming to the Menomonie area, I taught K-12 choral and instrumental music for 3 years. I am excited to be in Menomonie and I am looking forward to a new year and a new beginning at Downsville. We have many exciting things planned for this year as we look forward to a return to singing, instruments, and concerts.. I thank you for your continued support of the students' musical development, and I look forward to seeing you this year at our Veteran's Day Concert, Christmas Concert, and other musical events.

PARENT TEACHER COMMITTEE



SEPTEMBER MEETING

When: Mon., Sept. 20, - 5:30 P.M.

Downsville Gym

SEPTEMBER PTC AGENDA

- I. Call Meeting to Order
 - II. Report of May Meeting Minutes
 - III. Treasurer's Report
 - IV. Introduction of teachers
 - V. Old Business
 - Downsville Days
 - VI. New Business
 - Fall book fair
 - Parent/Teacher Conference/Food
 - Proposed budget
 - Homecoming Parade/ Fall Festival
 - Teacher funds & scholastic dollars for new teachers
 - VII. Principal's Report
 - VIII. Next PTC Meeting – October 18th at 5:30 pm
- *Meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Monday of the month.**

PTC secretary's report May 17th 2021

Attendees: Tawny Nelson, Jen Sol, Amanda Repinski (teacher representative) , Keila Drout (principal), Lexi Marsh, Tammy Christianson

Call to order: 5:33 PM

Old business: Retirement gifts for Julie Feige have been taken care of.

5th grade graduation is on Wednesday the 2nd at 2:30pm. It will be an outdoor event. In the case of rain it will be moved to the 3rd, at the same time. Students can invite 2 guests. Students are being asked to bring in T-shirts to tie dye that day. The virtual students are also invited to this event.

PTC generally uses funds for an end of the year field trip. That is not an option this year. PTC is willing to donate to any covid safe activities this year. Keila is still working on finding activities that would be appropriate. PTC usually budgets \$500. Tammy made a motion to spend the funds however we can for something for the students for the end of the year, Lexi seconded that motion.

Vice president and Treasurer positions for PTC are available. Tammy is unable to continue her position as she will no longer have any students at Downsville. Jen is not wanting to continue her position. Keila would like to see PTC continue, however we do not have interest from other parents. Tammy feels the best option is to dissolve the PTC and cut a check to Downsville Elementary. If there is interest in the fall the PTC could begin fresh. Keila would like to talk to someone about the proper way to do this. Lexi made a motion to dissolve the PTC pending a check being cut to either Downsville Elementary or a new PTC. Tammy seconded the motion. Keila would like to find out where the funds need to go before we make any further decisions. Amanda brought up that spring is not a good time to ask parents to join school groups as they are not planning for school events yet.

Yearbooks are in. We sold the 5 extra we had. The money from those will be coming back to the school next year. Kids will be able to get them signed by fellow students and teachers in their classrooms.

New business:

Principal's report: Book fair has been calling Keila. We are penciled in for February next year. PTC provided volunteers for this event. We will need volunteers in order for this to continue.

Keila was also looking for funding for the walking program. With the future of the PTC uncertain, we will table that until next year. Kids all seem to love the program. Next year it may look different as we may not need to be as socially distant.

Meeting adjourned at 6:17. Motion made by Jen, seconded by Lexi.

***Meetings are generally scheduled for the 3rd Monday of the month.**

***No meetings are scheduled during the summer months.**

*Respectfully submitted,
Tawny Nelson, PTC secretary*







Anne Olson: River Heights

 @sdmalibraryk5

Hi! My name is Anne Olson and I'm excited to join the library team at River Heights! I am a proud mom of two boys in the district. My oldest son is in seventh grade and my youngest son is in fifth grade at River Heights. I graduated from UW-Stout (many years ago) with a Bachelor of Fine Arts and a concentration in Interior Design. In addition to designing commercial interiors, I've also had the wonderful opportunity to teach numerous design classes at UW-Stout. I enjoy working with students and look forward to this new opportunity of working with young learners at River Heights!

In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family. We love swimming, running, downhill skiing, walking our dog Penny, and of course reading! My favorite book is The Hunger Games.

 River Heights Elementary Schoo...  anne_olson@msd.k12.wi.us
 715-232-3987  tinyurl.com/sdmalibraryk5




Amanda Kellogg: Downsville and Knapp

 @sdmalibraryk5

My name is Amanda Kellogg and this my second year as the library media specialist for Downsville and Knapp elementary schools. I live in Eau Claire with my husband and son. I look forward to learning and reading with students in the library this year!

Downsville: (715) 664-8546
Knapp: (715) 665-2131

 amanda_kellogg@msd.k12.wi.us  tinyurl.com/sdmalibraryk5

THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to everyone who paid outstanding library fines at the end of last year or the start of this year! This allows the library to repurchase lost copies for students to enjoy! If you haven't yet paid your fine, you can do so at any time. Simply stop and see the librarian or seal it in an envelope and send it to school with your child.

We appreciate it!

GET ACCESS TO THE DISTRICT'S DIGITAL/AUDIO LIBRARY FOR FREE USING SORA

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Jessica Graham

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Library Media Technology Integrator

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1. Go to www.soraapp.com
2. Click "Find My School"
3. Click "My School Isn't Listed" at the bottom of the page.
4. Type "Menomonie" in the search bar that comes up
5. The square "School District of the Menomonie Area" will appear.
6. Click, "This is my school."
7. Click "Sign in using the School District of the Menomonie Area"
8. The username and password are the same number. This is your child's student ID number. They use it to log in to their chromebooks. **Please contact your school librarian if you need this number.**

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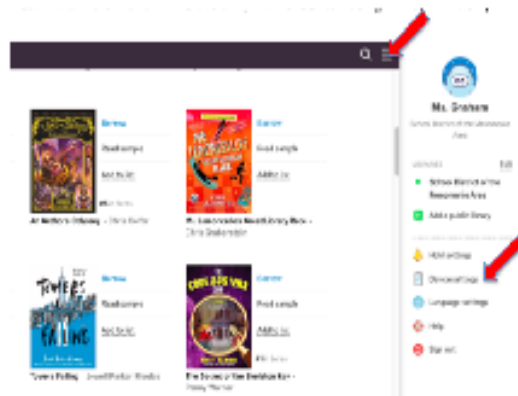


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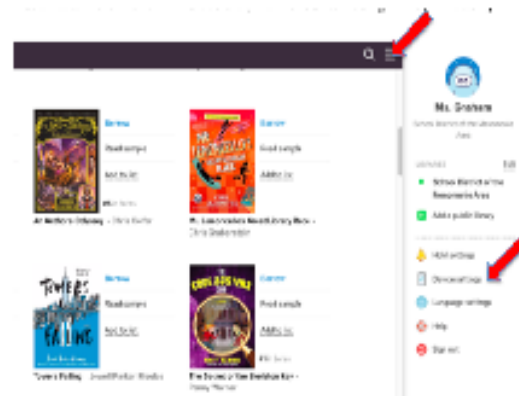
9. Click the three lines in the upper right hand corner. This is where you will tell Sora whether you want to read in browser or have books downloaded to your Kindle App. If you choose the Kindle option, any book that has the Kindle format available will automatically bring you to Amazon to download. If there is not a Kindle version, it will default to reading online (in browser).



10. Enjoy!

If you have any questions, please email jessica_graham@msd.k12.wi.us or contact your child's school librarian.

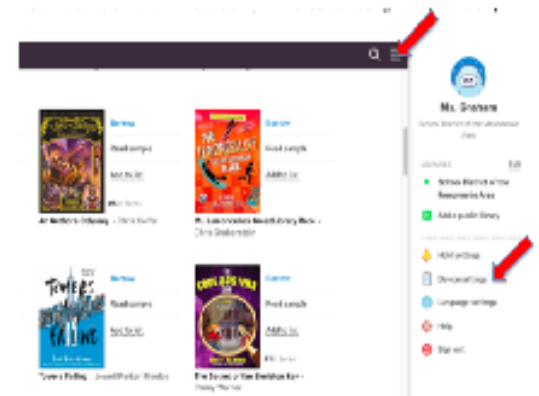
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