

Excellence



Equity

CHALK TALK

Deerfield Community School District Newsletter

www.deerfield.k12.wi.us

Jan. 2010

Please take the
Communications Survey
Visit the district website and
click on the survey link.



Chalk Talks with Superintendent

Deerfield Public Library
10:00 – 11:00 AM
Jan. 12th, Feb. 9th, March 9th,
April 13th and May 12th 2010



Upcoming BOE Meeting Dates

January 18, 2010 6:30 PM
February 15, 2010 6:30 PM
March 15, 2010 6:30 PM



BOE Members

Tom Bush, President
Chris Page, Vice President
Doug Cwik, Clerk
Jim Haak, Treasurer
Sandy Fischer, Member
Jeff Winkler, Member
Shelley Mack, Member



DCSD Administration

Michelle Jensen, Superintendent
Barb Callahan, Dir. of Pupil Serv.
Doreen Treuden, Business Mgr.
Mark Luetschwager, MS/HS
Principal
Mark Becker, ES Principal



School Numbers

MS/HS Phone Number
(608) 764-5431

MS/HS Fax Number
(608) 764-5433

ES Phone Number
(608) 764-5442

ES Fax Number
(608) 764-8652



Early Release Dates

Jan. 13th 2010 – 1:30 PM
Jan. 22nd 2010 – 11:00 AM
Jan. 27th 2010 – 1:30 PM

Feb. 10th 2010 – 1:30 PM
Feb. 24th 2010 – 1:30 PM
Feb. 26th 2010 – No School

Winter Greetings! On behalf of the administration and school board, I am pleased to introduce the district newsletter *Chalk Talk* to be sent quarterly to all Deerfield school district residents. Our first edition is devoted to the recent *Forward...Together* event held this past summer with over 50 district employees, board members, students and community members coming together to share their ideas on maintaining and building a quality education for all our students. I hope that you'll find the summary notes shared in this edition informative and would love to hear your input on future newsletter topics. –*Superintendent Michelle Jensen*

Forward...Together-Deerfield Community School District Summarized by Tom Bush, President of Deerfield School Board

In 2008, the Board began asking how we could match our district objectives to key performance indicators. While our past Board goals continued to support increased student growth and achievement, we felt a vital piece was missing from our future planning-community input.

In the early 2009, the administrative team and Board began discussing the need for a future planning process that would include representation from all district stakeholders. It was imperative that we undertook a comprehensive visioning process to ensure the future planning of the district aligned with the values and beliefs of the stakeholders.

The *Forward...Together* Conference gave us invaluable feedback. Table-top conversations during the two day workshop brought together past, present and future beliefs about the best ways to educate and prepare our students for the 21st century. The results of the conference gave the board four focus topics for further discussion: character and citizenship education, the teacher evaluation process, district-wide curriculum mapping and building community support.

After several board planning meetings, we established four district objectives which are tied to the focus topics. We are now in a position to better assess our efforts and allocate resources to meet our objectives. Thanks to the efforts of the *Forward...Together* participants, we are pleased to continue our commitment to excellence and equity in educating all of our students.

Forward...Together - Overview by Michelle Jensen, Superintendent

In the summer of 2009, we held a *Forward...Together* Conference where over 50+ district stakeholders shared their thoughts/ideas on our past, present, and future. This was an exciting learning experience which brought together the ideas of many.

The information in this newsletter is based on work completed by teachers, school staff, parents, students, community members, business leaders, and members of the Deerfield Board of Education. We are pleased to provide you with a brief summary of work created by this group of dedicated stakeholders. As was evident at the conference, the district stakeholders continue to uphold a long-standing tradition of their dedication to providing a great education for our students.

Building upon the ideas shared at the conference, the Deerfield Board of Education has created four district objectives: Student Achievement, District and School Climate/Wellness, Community Relations and Budget and Finance. These objectives provide the foundation for our continued commitment to excellence and equity in educating all of our students.

We are excited about this journey and know you will continue to support our students with a relevant education that provides them with the tools they need for success in their lives.

School Facts

Student Enrollment Over Past Decade

00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10
759	768	767	730	715	726	748	739	796	824

Bridges Dates

Cascade Ski Trip

January 22nd, 2010
11:00 – 5:45 PM
Grades 4-12



Elementary School Dates

Jan. 22, 2010
11:00 AM Early Release
NO – EC
NO – PM 4K

March 11th and 16th
3:30 – 7:30 PM
Parent-Teacher Conf.



Middle School Dates

Jan. 22nd – End of Qtr 2

Feb. 26, 2010
7:30 – 10:30 AM
Parent Teacher Conf.

March 6th – Solo Ensemble

March 26th – End of Qtr 3

Mar. 29 – Apr. 2, 2010
Spring Break



High School Dates

Jan. 22nd – End of Qtr 2

Jan. 23rd
HS Band & Choir Dinner Show
Call 764-5431 for tickets!

Feb. 26, 2010
7:30 – 10:30 AM
Parent Teacher Conf.

March 6th – Solo Ensemble

March 26th – End of Qtr 3

Mar. 29 – Apr. 2, 2010
Spring Break



WDEE – Cable Channel 95 or
986 DVDs can be ordered for
most school events by calling
(608) 764-2514

Quality Education in Deerfield Schools

Participants in the *Forward...Together* workshop were asked to identify factors that would help define a “Quality Education in Deerfield Schools”. Six categories, listed below, were established with many ideas contributed under each category. Ideas of a similar focus were joined together. Through a voting process those ideas were narrowed to the top ten priorities and further narrowed to the top four priorities for recommendation to the school board.

Instruction

Study Skills, Curriculum Mapping (K-12), Multi-District Sharing, Writing Across the Curriculum, Class Size, Relationship Building, Structure of School Day/Year, Character Education, Increase HS Course Options, 21st Century Skills, Teacher Hiring Process, World Language/Culture Education, Maintain core Knowledge of Reading and Math (K-12)

Professional Growth

Communication Skills for Staff, Student Feedback on Instruction, Expand Professional Development Opportunities, Teacher Evaluation Process

Student Support Resources

Student Academic Assistance Opportunities, Delivery Models to Reach All

Community Support

Partnerships with DCC, Organizations, Businesses, Senior Citizen Involvement, Improve School to Community Communication, Using Community Experts, Adult Education for Community, Getting Community into the Schools, Parent Support

Technology

Ethics for Students & Staff, Evaluate Internet Filtering, Increase Student Access to Computers, Skyward Parent Portal, Enhancing Curriculum, Technology System Changes

Facilities

Up to Date, Front Entrance/Office Secure-Safe (MS/HS), Cleanliness, New Facilities (MS/HS)

Top Ten Priorities

- * Character/Citizenship Education
- * Community Support
- * Access to Technology
- * Front Entrance-Facilities
- * Curriculum Mapping
- * Facilities
- * Delivery Models
- * Teacher Evaluation Process
- * Class Size
- * Study Skills

Top Four Priorities

- * Character/Citizenship Education
- * Teacher Evaluation Process
- * Curriculum Mapping
- * Community Support

District Objectives

Based on the community feedback at the *Forward...Together* event, the following four objectives were established by the Board of Education for 2009-2010.

Student Achievement: The DCSD will provide high quality programs for all students that lead to the continued improvement on all measures of student achievement.

District and School Climate/Wellness: The DCSD will provide a safe, secure, and connected environment for students, staff, and community.

Community Relations: The DCSD will strive for meaningful collaboration with stakeholders and will ensure that communication between school, home, and community is continual and open.

Budget and Finance: The DCSD will devote resources to the district priorities in a fiscally responsible manner.

Deerfield Community Schools

300 Simonson Boulevard
Deerfield, WI 53531

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