

STOUGHTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

JOSEPH R. DAWE, JR. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
131 PINE STREET
STOUGHTON, MA 02072

Robert C. Cancellieri
Administrative Principal

781-344-7007 Ext 7751
r_cancellieri@stoughtonschools.org

Welcome to the 2023 - 2024 School Year!

You are recognized as the *most important* person in your child's educational success. Cooperation of home and school will help create a climate in which every student is able to pursue intellectual excellence throughout his/her life. On behalf of the staff, I wish you a great year and look forward to seeing you and your child. Additionally, I wanted to let you know that during the opening of the school year, we will have additional district personnel in our building to help support our staff and students if they require assistance with emotional regulation related to grieving the loss of Mrs. Jacobs. After many conversations with our district-wide crisis team and several mental health experts, it was abundantly clear that our Dawe Dragons would be best supported by experiencing as much routine and consistency as possible. For that reason, our Dawe Staff will open the doors on September 6th with the mindset of returning to "normal" while also being extremely sensitive to the various needs that may arise. If your child(ren) is/are coming home with questions/needs that you think the school should be aware of, please do not hesitate to reach out for support. Furthermore, I will be sure to communicate various plans that the school will be carrying out to celebrate Mrs. Jacobs' legacy in conjunction with our Awesome Dawesome PTO. While this has certainly been a very difficult summer for our community, I wanted to share with you how proud I am to be the Building Principal at the Dawe due to the overwhelmingly supportive and loving response from all of you.

You will be receiving your classroom assignment/s electronically on Friday, August 18, 2023.

If you have been in communication with our school nurse, Mrs. Jennifer Slade, and/or our district registration office (Mrs. Louise Brauneis), and you still have outstanding medical/registration documentation to be submitted, this must be done so that your child(ren) can begin school on their first day.

The first week of school your child(ren) will receive documentation and information from the school both electronically and paper-based. Please take the time to look it over and return to school any of the papers that require your information and/or signature.

[Grade-Level School Supply Lists](#)

WELCOMES

Prior to the start of the school year, I wanted to be sure to identify some staffing changes that have occurred at Dawe for the 2023 - 2024 School Year. We wish those that are transitioning to a different school the best of luck and those joining our Dawe Dragon team a warm welcome!

- Mrs. Redman (former Dawe 5th Grade Teacher) will be our new, full-time Math Specialist come the fall
- Mrs. Song will be returning as our Building Interventionist and will be focusing on the area of mathematics for student support
- Mrs. Cassie Thibeault (current Academic Support Center Teacher) will be taking on the role of our Assistant Principal
- Mrs. Landon & Mrs. Hinchey (*retired Dawe Teachers*) will be returning as Building Interventionists and will be focusing on the area of Early Literacy for student support
- We will be welcoming several new staff members to our Dawe Dragon Teaching Team this fall:
 - Ms. Anne Marie Gilbert will be our new School Counselor
 - Ms. Emily Rutowicz will be our newest 2nd Grade Teacher
 - Ms. Kelcie Gidley (former Dawe Academic Support Center Paraprofessional) will be our newest 1st Grade Teacher
 - Mrs. Cheryl De Oliveira will be our new ELL Teacher
 - Mrs. Maria Kyriakantonaki will be our new Kindergarten Paraprofessional in Mrs. Hanson's Room 151
 - Mrs. Kelly Shaughnessy will be our new Kindergarten Paraprofessional in Mrs. Welch's Room 149
 - Mrs. Karen Waweru will be our newest TLC Paraprofessional
 - Dunia Jahed will be our newest member of our Kitchen Staff

SCHOOL HOURS

School hours for all students, Monday - Friday, are 8:25 am - 2:45 pm.

The first day of school is Wednesday, September 6, 2023 for students in grades 1 through 5. Kindergarten students begin school on Thursday, September 7, 2023. Students arriving at or after 8:35 am are considered tardy and will need to go to the office to check in. Dismissal begins at 2:45 pm. ***Your punctuality is greatly appreciated.***

STUDENT ARRIVAL / DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

The following arrival and dismissal procedures have been established in order to assure the safety of our students. *Please always be courteous to other drivers and vigilant in watching out for the safety of our students.*

ARRIVAL

Breakfast is served in the cafeteria from 8:00 - 8:25 am and outdoor recess (*indoor if there is inclement weather*) is offered from 8:00 - 8:25.

If a student arrives at school at or after 8:35 am, they must be accompanied by a parent/guardian so that they can be signed in and receive a tardy pass.

Please access the following link to learn more about our pick-up and drop-off procedures - [Arrival and Dismissal Information \(2023 - 2024\)](#)

DISMISSAL

Dismissal will begin at 2:45 pm. Students go home many different ways. Please always let the school know if there is a change in the dismissal routine for your child. If someone other than a parent/guardian will be picking-up your child, please send a note to the school indicating such. ***Any change in dismissal or early dismissal requires a note with parent/guardian signature. Additionally, notice of a change in dismissal should be sent to the classroom teacher, office, and any appropriate after-school program a child is enrolled in.*** **Please be aware that early dismissals prior to the end of the school day (i.e. 2:30) are still tracked in our attendance system and result in an unexcused dismissal.**

Please access the following link to learn more about our pick-up and drop-off procedures - [Arrival and Dismissal Information \(2023 - 2024\)](#)

TRANSPORTATION

Please access the following link to learn more about our bus program and SPS Transportation Department - [Stoughton Public Schools Transportation Department](#)

SCHOOL LUNCH/BREAKFAST

This year, all breakfasts and lunches will be free of charge. For those students wanting breakfast, breakfast will be available upon arrival. Students will be eating in either the cafeteria. For lunch, there will be a daily hot-lunch option, as well as alternative lunch selections. Lunch will be provided daily, and students will each lunch in the cafeteria.

[SPS Food Services Website \(School Lunch Menus are Posted here Monthly\)](#)

ABSENCES/TARDINESS

Please call the school office before 8:00 AM if your child is going to be absent or tardy. Give your name, child's name, classroom number or teacher's name, and the reason for absence or tardiness. Parents are automatically notified of any absence each morning. Students who are tardy **MUST** be escorted into the foyer by a parent/guardian upon arrival. **PLEASE SEE ARRIVAL PROCEDURES ABOVE.** *Students arriving at 8:35 or after are considered tardy.*

PARENT CONFERENCES

Back to School Night will be on Thursday, September 21, 2023 (6:00 - 7:30 pm) and Parent/Guardian Conferences will be on Thursday, October 19, 2023 and Thursday, March 7, 2024. Information about signing up for conference times will be sent closer to the conference dates. Parents are encouraged to contact teachers at any time during the school year to share concerns or ask questions regarding their child's progress.

INFORMATION FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

Please continue to keep your child home when ill, following the guidelines on our [health services website](#). If you are ever unsure about whether you should send your child to school due to illness, please reach out to your school nurse for guidance. Information will be sent home the first week of school from the school nurse regarding school health information and screenings.

COMMUNICATION

Updates will be sent via email and texts every Friday afternoon as a "Happy Friday Update". These will include important information regarding upcoming school and district events and initiatives. Friday Updates will contain active links as well. Please also check the website [[Dawe Elementary School website](#)] often for the monthly calendar, Principal Newsletters, lunch menus and valuable information about the school. The "backpack" on our school's website contains copies of notices and community events - this application is now handled district-wide and will contain helpful information for all SPS elementary students. Additionally, please be sure to follow Stoughton Public Schools on Facebook (stoughtonpublicschools), Twitter (StoughtonPS), and Instagram (stoughtonpublicschools). You can also find school specific information on our Dawe PTO's facebook page, and our Dawe Twitter Handle (@DaweDragons).

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

EVENT	DATE	TIME
Kindergarten Meet and Greet <i>(On Kindergarten Playground)</i>	Wednesday August 23, 2023	9:30 am - 10:30 am
Kindergarten Classroom Visits/Open House	Wednesday, September 6, 2023	10:00 am - 10:30 am <i>Incoming Kindergarteners have the opportunity to see their classroom and meet their classmates</i>
First Day of School Grades 1-5	Wednesday September 6, 2023	Schools open - 8:00 am School starts - 8:30 am School ends - 2:45 pm
First Day of School Kindergarten	Thursday September 7, 2023	Schools open - 8:00 am School starts - 8:30 am School ends - 2:45 pm
LifeTouch Fall Pictures	Friday, September 15, 2023	During School
LifeTouch Fall Picture Retakes	Friday, November 3, 2023	During School
Back to School Night	Thursday September 21, 2023	6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Parent-Teacher Conferences	Thursday, October 19, 2023 Thursday, March 7, 2023	Appointments will be available between 12:30 - 4:50 pm

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call 781-344-7007.

Sincerely,
Mr. Cancellieri

