

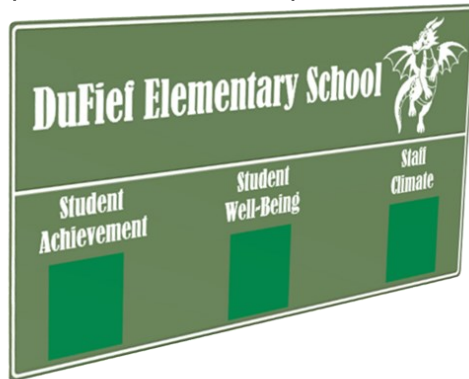


DRAGON TALES

DUFIEF ELEMENTARY'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MEASURING OUR SUCCESS AND PROGRESS

The School Improvement Plan process is an important annual component of a school's success. DuFief Elementary's School Improvement Plan work began this summer as we reviewed a variety of data points with our school's Instructional Leadership Team and parent representatives. At DuFief, we are measuring our success by looking at three distinct areas: Student Achievement, Student Well-Being and Staff Climate.



With **Student Achievement** as our primary focus, at DuFief we continue to define Student Achievement through a PROFICIENCY and GROWTH lens. Through PROFICIENCY, we are assessing how well our students are meeting measures outlined in the [MCPS Evidence of Learning Framework](#) and new [MCPS Pathway to College, Career and Community Readiness](#).

Our **Student Well-Being** is key to student learning and we are regularly monitoring student ATTENDANCE, ENGAGEMENT and their SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING.

Maintaining a healthy **Staff Climate** ensures that we have the positive conditions and supports for our staff to engage in this critical work to meet our School Improvement Plan goals.

2023-2024 SUCCESSES

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

- ◆ 73% of all students are on grade level in Math as based upon MCPS Evidence of Learning (MCPS Average-58%)
- ◆ 92% of students not in the Learning Center are on grade level in English/Language Arts as based upon MCPS Evidence of Learning (MCPS Average-67%)
- ◆ 60% of all students met or exceeded adequate yearly growth measures in English/Language Arts

STUDENT WELL-BEING

- ◆ 6% **GAIN** in **SCHOOL BELONGING**
Students who believe that they are cared about and understood by the people in their school and feel a sense of belonging
- ◆ 9% **GAIN** in **STUDENT EMPOWERMENT**
Students believe they are provided with school-wide and classroom opportunities that include them in decision-making and grow their leadership competence.

STAFF CLIMATE

- ◆ 100% of DuFief staff believe the relationships between staff and students are respectful (MCPS Elementary School Average-77.6%)
- ◆ 93.1% of DuFief staff feel connected to other adults at school (MCPS Elementary School Average-65.6%)
- ◆ 86.2% of DuFief staff feel the overall working environment at our school is positive (MCPS Elementary School Average-57.1%)

OCTOBER 2023

OCTOBER 3	PTA Meeting/Media Center/7-8pm
OCTOBER 4	Walk and Roll to School Day
OCTOBER 5	Ice Cream Social/Game Night/4:30-7:30pm
OCTOBER 9	Professional Day/No School for Students
OCTOBER 12	
OCTOBER 14	Wootton Cluster Fall Festival/Wootton HS/
OCTOBER 16-20	PTA Coin Wars
OCTOBER 17	
OCTOBER 23-27	Red Ribbon Week
OCTOBER 24	Hearing-Vision Screening/Kindergarten, Grade 1
OCTOBER 31	Full Fun Classroom Parties/Halloween Parade

MEDIA MINUTE

One of our favorite school events is back, our Book Character Pumpkin Decorating Contest. [Click on this link or flyer for information on how to get involved in the fun!](#)



MANNA FOOD DRIVE

DuFief will be again participating in the *Kids Helping Kids* Manna Food Drive. Collection boxes are in the front office. Please click on the linked flyer to see the most requested items.



FALL FUN PARTIES/HALLOWEEN PARADE

Our Fall-Fun Parties and annual Halloween Parade is scheduled for Tuesday, October 31st. Students will be celebrating all the fun that fall brings in their classrooms in the afternoon, and then students will parade in their costumes outside of our building (weather permitting) starting at 2:50pm. Thank you to our DuFief PTA and Room Parents for their support of our classroom parties!

If you do not want your student to participate in the Halloween parade, please contact your child's teacher.

WOOTTON CLUSTER CONNECTIONS

The Wootton PTSA is pleased to invite parents and students from all of the cluster schools to their fall festival event on Saturday, October 14th from 12-4PM at Wootton High School. Please find more information linked below and in the flier to the right. We hope to see many of our DuFief Dragon families proudly representing our school!

<https://www.woottonptsa.org/clusterfallfestival>



MCPS CONNECTIONS

Out-of-School Time Activities Available For All Students Starting Oct. 9

MCPS is offering out-of-school programming for elementary and middle school students throughout the 2023-2024 school year. Families are invited to take advantage of a host of activities for students on four days: Oct. 9, Nov. 1, Jan. 29 and April 10 when schools are closed for students. Students can participate in person or virtually. The cost is \$15 a day. For a list of activities, sign up with the following links for [Kids Day Out](#) and [Teens Day Out](#). For additional opportunities, visit the MCPS out-of-school time [webpage](#).

Join Us Oct. 21 at This Year's STEAM Festival

The STEAM Festival highlights the educational, cultural and financial impact of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts And Mathematics (STEAM) in the county. Families can participate in hands-on activities, talks, lab tours, nature experiences, exhibits and performances. The event will be held 10 a.m.-- 1 p.m. at the Wheaton and Edison high school campuses, 12401 and 12501 Dalewood Drive in Silver Spring.