

Ryan A. Gregory Assistant Principal

Tamara S. Tuck Assistant Principal Sharon L. Gibbs Student Support Specialist

Robbie M. Garnes

Principal

Kimberly S. Bailey Assistant Principal

Archie G. Tortorice Director of Student Activities

August 5, 2024

DHS Students and Families:

Each year provides us the opportunity to achieve new heights of excellence. Our continued theme is **Excellence**, **No Excuses**. During this new school year, I encourage you to take full advantage of your education. **Strive for Excellence** by doing the right thing, being respectful every day in every situation, working hard, maintaining a positive attitude, and choosing to be committed to your growth and success.

It will always be the desire of the Dinwiddie High School Team to create an environment where every student feels safe, valued, and supported. We also remain committed to building positive relationships, creating new and innovative opportunities, and developing outstanding individuals.

Our focus this year is attendance, providing quality instruction, and building positive relationships that promote learning and overall academic growth and success. We also encourage students, school staff, and parents to take an active role this year by participating in school sponsored events and activities.

Let us all continue to have a purposeful and positive mindset to make Dinwiddie High School one of the best high schools in the state and the nation. Parents, your support is vital to the success of our students and our school. We need you!

On behalf of the entire Dinwiddie High School Administrative Team, consider this your official welcome to the 2024-25 school year...one where we strive for **Excellence** every day! Stay focused, make every moment count!

The Parent + The Child + The School = Success Yours in dedicated service, **Robbie M. Garnes** Mr. Robbie M. Garnes

Date	Event	Time
Wednesday August 14	DHS Open House (Meet the Teacher)	4:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Monday August 19	First Day of School (9th Grade)	7:35 AM
Tuesday August 20	First Day of School (10th ,11th, & 12th Grades)	7:35 AM

Dinwiddie High School Important Dates



Cell Phones, earbuds, and headphones

Cell phones will only be permitted during lunch in the cafeteria. Cell phones are NOT permitted in the classroom or hallways at any time. <u>The same rules apply to earbuds and headphones.</u>

First Offense: Warning: Students will be asked to put the cell phone away if visible in the classroom/hallway without permission. The student must put the phone away (out of physical sight).

Second Offense: If the student refuses the teacher's request, the cell phone will be confiscated for parent pick up (the phone must be taken to the main office).

Third Offense: If the student breaks the cell phone rule, there will be a referral submitted along with a parent conference.

Consequences may include:

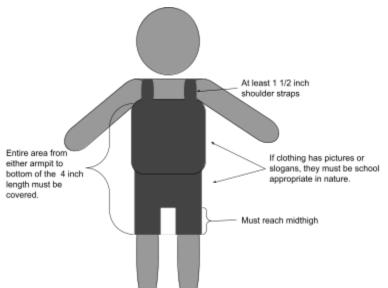
- Loss of privilege to have a cell phone for the remainder of the school year (the student cannot bring a cell phone into the building).
- Loss of privilege to attend school sponsored events: (Examples, homecoming dance, games, etc.).

Dress Code

The school administration has the authority to notify students and parents of modifications to the dress code for spirit days and other school celebrations, as particular items pose a disruption, or as other circumstances arise. The new dress code aims to be inclusive of all genders, body types, cultures, and ethnicities. Specific questions should be directed to administrators of each building.

Students are expected to dress appropriately for a K-12 educational environment. Any clothing that interferes with or disrupts the educational environment is unacceptable. Clothing with language or images that are vulgar, discriminatory, or obscene, or clothing that promotes illegal or violent conduct, such as the unlawful use of weapons, drugs, alcohol, tobacco/vapor devices, or drug paraphernalia, or clothing that contains threats such as gang symbols (i.e. bandanas) are prohibited.

- The front and back of the body, from the armpit down to mid-thigh, all skin must be covered. Shirt straps¹ must be 1¹/₂ inches or wider.
- 2. Messages on clothing, chains, jewelry, and personal belongings that pertain to drugs, alcohol, tobacco/vapor devices, sex, gangs, vulgarity, or that could cause a substantial disruption to the learning environment are not allowed.
- 3. All clothing must cover undergarments at all times on school property.
- 4. Sheer and see-through clothing must have solid material underneath that follows the box, as seen above.



- 5. All shoes must contain a sole; slippers and shoes with wheels "Heelys" are not allowed. For safety reasons, elementary students are encouraged to wear athletic shoes or closed-toe shoes with rubber soles and should wear such shoes for Physical Education and recess.
- 6. Only prescription glasses may be worn in the building.
- 7. No hats or hoods are allowed unless required for cultural, religious, or medical

reasons (see the Hats and Hoods section0.

8. During school hours, grooming products must remain in a bookbag, including but not limited to combs and brushes.

<u>Breakfast</u>

Breakfast will be grab-n-go. Students will pick up breakfast upon arrival at school and report directly to their 1st Period Class.

<u>NOTE:</u> We encourage all parents and students to read and review the Dinwiddie County Public School's Code of Conduct that will be available on the district's website.

Other Important Information

ABC Incentives

Daily school attendance is vital for students to succeed, and we recognize the importance of celebrating students for their achievements. Throughout the 24-25 school year, we will recognize students for meeting/exceeding the following accomplishments:

- <u>A</u>ttendance: 2 or fewer all-day unexcused absences per nine weeks; 2 or fewer unexcused tardies to school/class
- <u>B</u>ehavior: No after-school detention, in-school or out of school suspensions per nine weeks
- <u>Course Performance: Passing all courses per nine weeks</u>

Incentive celebrations will be scheduled each nine weeks for students that meet these requirements.

School Start Time

First-period class will begin at 7:35 AM. We want our students to be successful, so it is vital to arrive at school on time each day. It is the expectation that students are seated in first-period class by 7:35 AM before the tardy bell sounds.

Parking Pass Fee

The Parking pass fee has increased to \$40.00. Students will be assigned numbered spots with a map on a first-come, first-serve basis. After the parking pass has been paid and the parking pass application has been received by Mrs. Bishop, you may choose your assigned parking spot. The \$40.00 fee will cover unlimited vehicles. When purchasing the parking pass, the student will receive a hang tag that can be used on any car they have registered to park. This will make it easier for students who may have to drive a different vehicle on various days.

There will also be an opportunity to pay fees during **Meet the Teacher** on August 14, 2024. **Fees include:**

Chromebook Fee - \$30.00 (Technology Insurance fee) DHS Student Fee - \$11.00 (Applies to all students, <u>cash or card only</u>) DHS Parking Permit - \$40.00 <u>(cash or card only)</u>

NOTE: There may be additional clubs available to collect fees during this time.

<u>All transactions are cash or card only (NO CHECKS).</u>

STUDENT FEE NOTE: To avoid the possibility of extensive wait time during Meet the Teacher night on August 14, 2024, our (SCO) School Cash Online is now open to pay your student fees. Visit the link below to pay student fees: <u>https://schoolcashonline.com/</u>