Dutton/Brady PSD

Mastery today... success tomorrow.

FROM THE DEN: THE DIAMONDBACK AUGUST MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

"A well-rounded education for students to confidently navigate their world"

MONTHLY CALENDAR & COMMUNITY KEY DATES

Academic Deadlines	Athletics & Extracurriculars*	Parent & Community Engagement	Trustee Actions
August 17-18, 2026 - Staff Pupil-instruction related (PIR) day **August 19, 2026** - First Day of School (8:00 am) **August 21, 2026** - Friday, school is in session **August 28, 2026 -** Friday, school is in session	**August 5, 2026** - Logan Health Physicals available and concussion testing for student athletes (9:00-3:00 pm) **August 11-12, 2026** - Power student athletes concussion testing in Power **August 14, 2026 -** HS FB @ Power from 7:00-10:00 am HS VB @ Power from 7:00-9:00 am and 4:00-6:00 pm HS/JH Cross Country - 4:00-6:00 pm **August 15, 2026 -** HS FB @ Power from 7:00-10:00 am HS VB @ Power from 7:00-9:00 am and 4:00-6:00 pm HS/JH Cross Country @ Power from 4:00-6:00 pm **August 17, 2026 -** HS FB @ Power from 4:00 - 6:00 pm HS VB @ Power from 4:00 - 6:00 pm HS/JH XC @ Power from 4:00 - 6:00 pm JH FB @ Power from 4:00 - 6:00 pm JH VB @ Dutton/Brady from 4:15 - 6:15 pm	**August 5, 2026** - Student Registration Day! (9:00-3:00 pm) **August 6, 2026 -** Parent meeting with coaches, time TDB **August 22, 2026** - Sports Photos for all HS and JH teams and individual, in Power	**August 12, 2026** - Titan Board Meeting in DBPS auditorium (8:00 am) **August 15, 2026** - Budget Board Meeting in DBPS auditorium (7:00 am) **August 17, 2026 -** Trustees welcome back staff (9:00 am)

	August 18, 2026 - HS FB @ Power from 4:00 - 6:00 pm HS VB @ Power from 4:00 - 6:00 pm HS/JH XC @ Power from 4:00 - 6:00 pm JH FB @ Power from 4:00 - 6:00 pm JH VB @ Dutton/Brady from 4:15 - 6:15 pm **August 28, 2026** - PDB Titans vs. West Yellowstone (in Power- Junior at 4:30 pm and Varsity at 7:00 pm)		

***Please be aware that DBPS will update any changes at the earliest possible time, and share those through our website and social media. Please check the Teamreach application for updates on practice schedule changes.**



A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Welcome Diamond Back Families!

This month, our collective attention is centered around the start of the school year. With our first day on August 19, 2026, fast approaching, we're excited to share our redesigned school newsletter. This newsletter features key events and information about happenings around our incredible school, highlighting the excellent work our staff is doing every day to provide a well-rounded education for students to navigate their world!

I am excited to share with you the staffing changes as we get ready for the 2026-27 school year. Mary Brown will teach K-12 music, and Pamela Tackitt will be the 2-3 elementary teacher. We're excited to welcome both teachers to our team! Emily Johnson will now be teaching K-1. In addition, Dr. Janell Mischel will take on the new role as the school's Principal. Jessica Toner will continue to be our 4-5 teacher and take on the additional role as the school counselor. For administrative staff, Melissa Gemar is now our front office administrative assistant. We're incredibly excited for this new chapter at Dutton/Brady Public School District!

MONTHLY ASSESSMENT WINDOWS

Please note specific test cycles active this month. Timely morning attendance, solid rest, and reliable nutrition make a monumental impact on outcome values.

Assessment	Target Groups	Active Window
MAP Growth Evaluations (Math and Reading)	Grades 9-12	September 7-21, 2026
State Benchmark Progress (Math and English Language Arts)	Grades 3-8	October 19-December 11, 2026
District Benchmark Progress (Math and Reading)	Grades PK-2	September 7-21, 2026

STRATEGIC LEARNING SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Available Academic Interventions & Pathways:

- **Academic Interventions:** Additional assistance is available for students who need extra instruction to support their academic development. Please contact jmischel@dbps.us for additional details.
- **Character Strong:** Our new counseling curriculum provides a unique experience that helps students develop key character traits to boost positive social development. Please contact jtoner@dbps.us for any questions.

LITERACY AND INSTRUCTION: A PRINCIPAL'S TASK

Welcome Diamond Back Families!

Dr. Janell Mischel is our new school Principal for the 2026-27 school year. Part of the work Dr. Mischel will do is around the improvement of curriculum and instruction, as outlined in board policy 6210. As part of the Principal's duties, the organization and scheduling of intervention assistance and parent academic support will provide DBPS students with a successful path for their skill development. Please contact jmischel@dbps.us for more information or to schedule a meeting to address any questions you may have about our academic programming.

NEW CLASS SHOUT-OUTS OF THE MONTH

Grade / Class	New Classes Offered!
Juniors (11th grade)	**Introduction to Hospitality Management and Tourism (HTR 107):** Introduces students to the dynamic and interconnected world of hospitality, tourism, and recreation, with a strong emphasis on Montana's economy, communities, and career opportunities. **Financial Literacy:** Introduces students to key parts of accounting and personal financial management.
Freshman (9th grade)	**Geography:** Introduces students to key themes of the people and places that make up the world.

STUDENT & PARENT SUPPORT HUB

Bookmark these recurring core functional pipelines for reference throughout the academic cycle:

Support Pathway	Actionable Contact Method
Infinite Campus Portal	Request grades, logins, or demographic updates via the Registrar at Infinite Campus Portal.
Finances and Budget Information	Monthly budget information can be found on our website. The 2026-27 preliminary budget is available for review at the District's website.
Nutrition & Meal Plans	Access menus, track balance thresholds, and complete free/reduced applications at the District website, or phone application, under dining.
Wellness Check-ins	Connect directly with our mental health and student welfare liaison for any concerns at jtoner@dbps.us.

Junior High (6-8th grade)	**Industrial Arts and Aerospace Exploration:** Introduces students to various STEM areas of science, technology, engineering, and math in an applicable way towards the development of an industrial arts skill set.

LITTLE DIAMONDBACKS DAYCARE

We are so excited to welcome back our kiddos in August. The daycare was alive and bustling throughout the summer. The kids and staff took walking field trips around town, played in the water almost every day, and had the time of their lives. Thank you to Gloria and Seth for keeping the kiddos fed and nourished throughout the summer.

As you prepare for the 2026-2027 daycare year, please note the following important changes:

- Daily tuition has increased by $10 per child.
- The available childcare rates are as follows:
    - Infant (0 - 2yrs old):$45 - full day / $35 - half day
    - Toddler (3yrs-5yrs old): $40 - full day /$30 - half day
    - School Age (6yrs+):$35 - full day / $25 - half day
    - After-school fee for school-aged children (3:45 PM – 5:00 PM): $20/child/day
- During the school year, daycare will only be available on Fridays when teachers have PIR day. Daycare will be closed on all other Fridays.

LIBRARIAN'S SQUARE

The library is stocked with at least 100 new books for students to enjoy in the upcoming school year!

A big thanks goes to Rhemi Gemar, who helped me over the summer get these books ready for students to enjoy.

Thank you to the Montana Reads Literacy grant and the Town Pump Keep Kids Reading grant; I was able to purchase new books for the library. I have books for all ages, so everyone will be able to find something of interest. I am always on the hunt for new titles, topics, and themes to add to our growing collection. I am excited for another exciting school year. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to **lhofer@dbps.us**.

As always, thank you for your continued support of our Dutton/Brady staff and students.

COUNSELOR CORNER

Thank you for trusting me and giving me grace as I step into this new role as your school counselor. I'm excited to be here, and I'm currently pursuing my graduate degree to become as qualified as possible in supporting your child.

As Alexander den Heijer said, "When a flower doesn't bloom, you fix the environment in which it grows, not the flower." That's exactly how I see my role: creating a safe space where students can grow internally, so their academic growth can follow.

Please don't hesitate to reach out, leave a note in the drop box at my office door if it's closed, call the school and ask to be transferred, or email me directly at jtoner@dbps.us.

I'm truly grateful to be starting this journey with you and your family.

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LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS AND INFORMATION

THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

The American Legion Auxiliary meets the first Tuesday at 4:00 pm at the Dutton Legion Hall. We serve out veterans, children, and the youth. We collect gifts for the Christmas gift shop at Fort Harrison. We sponsor the Red Cross blood drawing during the year. Our members are involved in all the community projects. We also provide items for baby showers at Fort Harrison for our lady veterans. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Betty Burtness.

DUTTON CIVICS CLUB

Begin the 2026-27 school year by checking out the Dutton Civic Club! The first fall meeting will be Monday, September 14 at 6:45 PM at the Dutton Senior Center. We support Dutton/Brady School by offering a scholarship to a promising senior graduate each spring. We support the town pool and your children by cooking and serving breakfast (donating all proceeds) on Fun Day. We support the county via an annual donation to the Teton County Food Pantry. And so much more! Thank you to everyone who has supported the Civic Club by becoming a member, attending our fundraising events, or by bringing ideas to us. We appreciate your help! New members and new ideas are always welcome!



Please contact Jeremy Locke, at jlocke@dbps.us, for any information or events you want added to the school's monthly newsletter.

Have a great school year!