

SCHOOL DISTRICT #29 MAY 2026

Dufur School Website: www.dufur.k12.or.us

Dufur School Weight Room Glow Up

Dufur School's weight room received an exciting transformation, and it is all about creating a clean, safe, and motivating space for our students. The project began after the addition of two new machines that were paid for by an OSAA grant, and highlighted just how outdated the rest of the space had become. With that inspiration, our Dufur High School Associated Student Body took the lead on a full remodel.

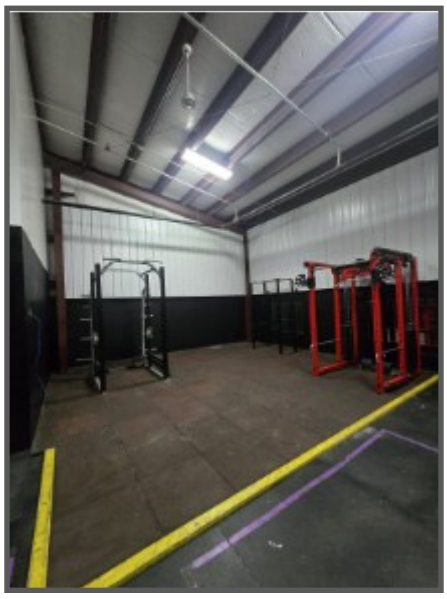
The process started with a complete clean-out of the room, followed by a deep cleaning of every weight, bench, and surface. From there, students and volunteers worked to repair and refresh the space with new paint in our school colors; black, white, and red; along with improved lighting, mirrors, and organization. Plans also include student-friendly workout guides with photos and structured routines to help everyone use the space effectively and confidently.

This project is more than a facelift; it is a hands-on learning opportunity. With support from BET Construction, Dan Wilson Painting, and our CTE classes, students who assisted in the remodel gained real-world skills while improving their school.

A special thank you goes to the Timinsky Family, BET Construction, Dan Wilson Painting, the Ranger Pride Education Foundation, Dufur Student Council, and our student volunteers. We are about the revitalized space that promotes health, pride, and responsible use for all!



Before the renovation



The new and improved weight room



New equipment

Board of Directors Meeting

The regular May meeting of the Dufur School District Board of Directors will be held on **Tuesday, May 5th at 5:30 pm**. This meeting is open to the public and can also be joined online via Zoom. The Zoom Meeting link, agenda, meeting minutes and video archive can be found on the Board of Directors page on our website.

Homegoing Week

The Dufur High ASB is planning a "Homegoing Week." For each day during the week of May 4th –7th there will be a theme for students to dress up and show their school spirit! Monday—Crazy Day, Tuesday—Twin Day, Wednesday –Vacation Day, and Thursday—Meme Day.



Teacher Appreciation Week

During the week of May 4th-8th we will be celebrating our teachers. Please take a moment to let them know how appreciated they are for all they do for our school and students.

ODOT Flaggers Course

Baker Institute of Technology will be here to providing an ODOT Flagger Certification course for students on May 4th. Students participating must be 18 years old. The course will be taught in the school lobby. Thank you to Ranger TECH coordinator Leona Egeland for helping to make this opportunity available for our students.

OMSI Field Trip

On Tuesday, May 5th, high school students will have the opportunity to go to the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry in Portland. OMSI is currently featuring TITANIC: The Artifact Exhibition. It allows visitors to assume the role of a passenger on the first and final voyage of the Titanic in April of 1912.

Artist in Residence

The 8th grades will be spending more time with Artists Molly & Lacey on May 5th, 6th & 7th. They are working together to create a sculpture that will be located on the Dufur School campus.

State Testing

May 11th—15th is our state testing week. Students in grades 3 through 8 and 11 will be participating. We are working to make sure it will be a good week, and will be providing incentives to students to help them have a successful experience. You can help to make your child feel confident and ready by ensuring they get plenty of rest, eat a nutritious breakfast and maintain a positive attitude towards the process. Remember, these are not timed, so encourage your child to take their time and simply do their best. By working together, we can be sure our students have the tools and environment they need to succeed.

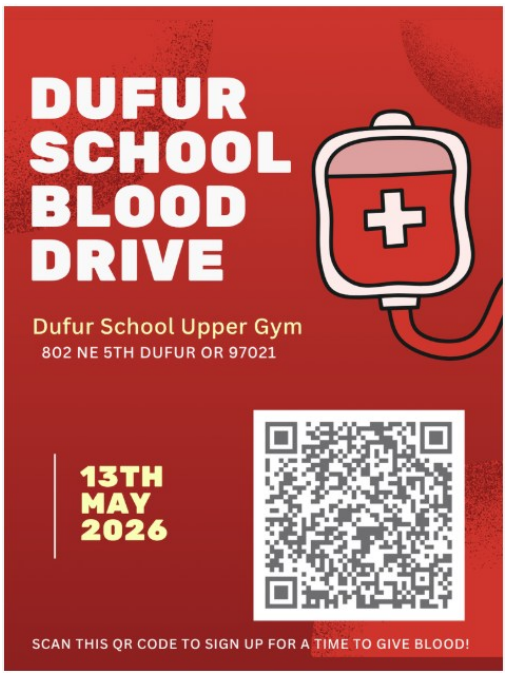
Beyond May...

June 1	8th Grade Promotion
June 2	Dufur School Board of Directors Meeting & Hearing on the 2026-27 Approved Budget
June 3	8th Grade Year-End Trip to Oaks Park
June 4	Final Day of the School Year
June 4	Early Release for Students at 1 pm
June 5	Staff In-Service
June 8	5th-8th Ranger Football Camp Begins
June 9	Summer School Begins (T/W/TH)
June 22	Dufur Valley Football Camp
June 22	Dufur School Board of Directors Meeting
July 7	Dufur School Board of Directors Meeting
Aug 4	Dufur School Board of Directors Meeting

Budget Committee Public Meeting

The proposed budget for the upcoming 2026-27 school year will be presented to the Budget Committee on Tuesday, May 12th. This is a public meeting and will begin at 5:30 pm. This meeting will also be available online through Zoom.

ASB/Red Cross Blood Drive



The ASB has worked hard to organize this philanthropic event. If you can help please use this link to sign up to donate blood on May 13th. Sign up here!

You can enter DufurHS or 97021 and it will take you to our sign up sheet.

Title 1 Night

Families are invited to join our Title 1 Reading Teacher, Mrs. Beeson for the Title 1 Night on May 13th.



Mrs. Beeson has planned an evening of fun activities, and yes even dinner for students and their families. RSVP to Mrs. Beeson to join the fun!

No School Days

May 8th will be a Staff Development Day, and school will NOT be in session for students.

Friday, May 22nd is a no school day for staff and students. It is followed by Memorial Day Holiday on Monday, May 25th. This equals a four day weekend for staff and students!

High School Prom



Mid-Level Plant Sale

Students have been working in the Greenhouse all spring, and you are welcome to share in the fruits of their labor. They will be holding their annual Plant Sale on May 14th, from 2:30 to 5:30 pm. at Dufur School. Along with the plants there will be other yard items built by the Dufur School Construction students. Everything will be on a donation basis with no pricing.

Consider stopping by to support these worthy programs: Mid-Level Elective Greenhouse classes and Ranger TECH CTE Construction classes. All of these students have worked hard this year and would love to share their accomplishments with you!

America's Favorite Teacher

Mrs. Wilson is still in the running for the America's Favorite Teacher contest. She is currently in the top 5 of her group. The next step is to make it to the quarter finals in early may. This contest is hosted by The American Planetary Society with voting ending on May 21st. If parents and community members continue with their free daily votes, we have a chance to get Bill Nye to Dufur School for an exciting assembly. In addition Mrs. Wilson would be published in Reader's Digest, win a cash prize and a family trip to Hawaii. Mrs. Wilson is forever grateful to those who have been participating. Let's all work together to get Bill Nye to a rural school!! Vote for her https://americasfavteacher.org/2026/nancy-wilson

Ranger Athletics

May is the month when spring sports begin to wrap up. High School District Golf will take place on May 11th & 12th at the Buffalo Peak Golf Course in Union, and the Golf State Championship will be on May 18 & 19th at the Tokatee Golf Course in McKenzie.

High School Track and Field will have their district meet on May 21st & 22nd in Maupin at South Wasco County High School. The following week qualifying athletes will travel to the state championships in Eugene on May 28th & 29th.

On Friday, May 8th the Dufur Jr. Rangers Flag Football Camp will come to a close with their Friday Night Lights! The participants will get to experience the excitement of game night. The time to be announced.

Library Week!

Library Week Success: A huge thank you to Sarah Tierney for all of her hard work and imagination to make this year's Library Week such a "heroic" success! A Grand Total of 26,580 minutes was read this week or 443 hours or 18.5 days!!

- Tied for 6th place are Mrs. Hammitt's Fourth grade and Mr. Talley's 5th grade class with an average of 132 minutes per student
- 5th place Ms. Dawkins 3rd grade class averaging 145 minutes per students
- 4th place Mrs. Miller's 2nd grade class with an average of 155 minutes per student
- 3rd place is a tie with Mrs. Davis's 1st grade and Mrs. Odell's 2nd grade they averaged 166 minutes per student.
- 2nd Place Mrs.Gratio's 4th graders. They read an average of 192 minutes per student.
- And the grade that read the most per student, with an average of 199 minutes per students was Mrs. Gibson's Kindergarten



Senior Year End Wrap-Up

The seniors are wrapping up their high school careers. They will be going on their senior trip on May 20th, and their final day of school will be on Wednesday, May 27th.

Senior Recognition and Academic Awards Night

We will be celebrating the accomplishments and recognizing Dufur High School students on May 27th during our Annual Senior Recognition and Academic Awards night. The evening will begin at 5:30 pm with cake and punch provided by the Dufur Chapter of the National Honor Society. At 6:00 pm the program will begin with Senior Recognition, followed by scholarship presentations and academic awards. We have a lot to celebrate at Dufur School!

Student of the Quarter

We will recognize the students of the 4th quarter at an assembly on May 29th. It will be held from 2:45 to 3:15 pm. Families are welcome to attend this assembly.

High School Graduation

The Class of 2026 will have their graduation ceremony on Saturday, May 30th at 11:00 am. It will be held on the Henderson Athletic Field, and everyone is welcome to come and celebrate this great accomplishment.

Class of 2039



MaryHill Field Trip

Maryhill Museum Field Trip: Mr. Talley's fifth grade class recently went on a field trip to Maryhill Museum, thanks to support by the Ranger Pride Foundation and chaperones Sue Miller, Emma Christian, Katie Kelley, Alyx Allen, and Terry Cobb.





RPEF at Work!

The Ranger Pride Education Foundation has been supporting multiple projects at Dufur School this year. Staff members can apply to receive help when the regular school budget doesn't allow for expenditures. Here are a few of the things that RPEF has funded this year:

- 8 yards of soil for elementary garden beds
- 5th grade Maryhill field trip
- Attendance rewards each month and a year-end ice cream party
- 2nd grade field trip to Camp Morrow
- Matching half the funds for the 8th grade year-end trip
- Meals for high school Spanish students on Pueblito Lindo field trip
- State testing incentives for students
- Landscaping improvements to front of the school and upper building game area
- Build-a-Bear style stuffed cow for the kindergarten farm unit

RANGER PRIDE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

We want to thank RPEF for their support and helping us to enrich the experiences of students at Dufur School!

McKinney-Vento Eligibility

McKinney-Vento is a Federal Program designed to identify and provide assistance to children who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

If your family lives in any of the following situations:*

- In a shelter
- In a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative adequate accommodation
- In a car, park, abandoned building, or bus or train station
- Doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship
- Lack of a fixed, regular, nighttime, adequate place of residence

Your school-age children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act.

- Receive a free, appropriate public education
- Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment
- Enroll in school and attend classes while in the school gathers needed documents.
- Enroll in the local school; or continue attending their school of origin (the school they attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled) if that is your preference and it is feasible.
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if you request this
- Receive education services comparable to those provided to other students, according to your children's needs.
- If the school district believes that the school you selected is not in the best interest of your children, the district must provide you with a written explanation of its position and inform you of your right to appeal its decision.

**Source: National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE)*

If you need assistance, or have questions please contact Bonnie Lepinski at Dufur School

Elementary Garden News

Elementary Garden Spring Kick-off Event: The Elementary Garden Committee is hosting a spring garden kickoff party at Dufur School on May 16th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the front foyer of the school. We will have games and giveaways to celebrate the 2026 growing season. Please come and bring the whole family!

We are looking for volunteers to help with the event. If you are interested, follow the link to the Google survey or use the QR code.

https://forms.gle/VhfyrUdA8kczQFD79

Members for Our Summer "Green Thumb Gang" Wanted:
The Elementary Garden committee is looking for summer volunteers to sign up for one week. During that week, we ask for just two hours of your time to pull a few weeds and harvest anything that is ready and take it home. It's that easy!

Follow the link to volunteer:
https://forms.gle/VhfyrUdA8kczQFD79

Or visit us via our QR code:

Junior Ranger Football Camps

5th—8th football players: Don't miss the Ranger Football Camp June 8th –12th! If you have any questions, contact Dufur School Athletic Director, Nickie Hage.



Community Food Pantry

The Food Pantry located at Dufur School is open each Thursday from 4 to 6 pm. All members of the community are welcome when there is a need for food assistance. If you need emergency food assistance, please call the school office at 541-298-5141.

Student Travel

Big news, parents of current 7th-10th graders! Your student has the extracurricular opportunity to travel to **Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands** on an educational tour with their peers in **Summer 2028!** Ecuador is home to four major ecosystems: the rough and jagged landscapes surrounding the towering Andes, the misty and mysterious cloud forests, the tropical rainforests of the Amazon, and the sunny, white-sand Galápagos Islands. Soak up local culture and customs as you dive deep into the region's awe-inspiring scenery, and glimpse magnificent sunsets just outside your door. Travel is so much more than just planes and trains! Your child will gain new perspectives, develop a sense of independence, and build skills for the future through this experience.

You can check out all the details and enroll here: www.eftours.com/2966977FS

News from the Superintendent



DUFUR SCHOOL DISTRICT #29

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Phone: 541-298-5141 | Fax: 541-705-3129
Superintendent Kristin Whitley Principal Tess Welk

Dear Dufur School District Families and Community, April 20th, 2026

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to everyone who participated in our 2026 Strategic Planning Survey. We received 55 responses from students, parents, and staff, and the feedback provides valuable insight into both the strengths of our district and the opportunities ahead. It is clear from the results that Dufur School District is deeply valued for its strong relationships, dedicated staff, and the sense of community that makes our school unique.

At the same time, the survey highlighted several areas where we can continue to grow and improve. Common themes included class size considerations, a strong desire to expand student opportunities through robust core academic offerings alongside the arts and career-connected learning, the need to strengthen campus safety systems, and the importance of clear, consistent communication across our district. These themes reflect a shared commitment to ensuring that every student has access to a high-quality, well-rounded educational experience.

While survey results are an important starting point, they are not the final step. Strategic planning is most effective when it is shaped through meaningful dialogue and collaboration. Our next phase of work will focus on bringing stakeholders together to review these findings, discuss priorities, and begin building a three-year strategic plan that reflects the collective voice of our community.

I invite all parents, students, staff, and community members to join us for a Strategic Planning Advisory Meeting on April 29th at 5:30 p.m. in the Dufur School Cafeteria. This will be a working session where your input will directly inform the direction of our district.

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to Dufur School District.

Sincerely,

Kristin Whitley

Kristin Whitley
Superintendent
Dufur School District