

Danbury Public Schools

2016-17 Back-to-School Guide, Calendar & School Bus Schedule

Superintendent's Welcome Back Message: We Are Reaching New Heights!

Dear Staff, Families and Supporters,
Welcome to the 2016-17 school year. I hope you enjoyed a safe and fun summer with family and friends.

Whether you are a returning staff member or a family member or are new to the district, we look forward to your involvement in our Danbury educational family. Your work in our schools and community is what helps our schools continue to improve. As a result of your dedication and commitment, we can eagerly get started on another year of accomplishments.

We had a very successful year last year and we look forward to another year filled with accomplishments to celebrate. However, I must share with you that a lackluster economy with many state-level budget cuts has challenged the district in many ways. As Danbury Public Schools become more known and respected for the many opportunities afforded to students in all levels, we are growing at a much more rapid rate than neighboring school districts. This year alone, we expect to welcome more than 800 new kindergarteners and more than 250 new students. The fact that the Danbury schools can list accomplishment after accomplishment despite continued financial strain is due to several factors. One primary reason is that the Danbury schools have devoted faculty and staff who continue to see the light in our students and go above and beyond what is expected to see those lights shine. Our students, who are led in a direction of success through hard work and resilience, have also pitched in. Last year, students at Broadview earned \$10,000 for their efforts in an anti-bullying campaign. Students at Westside Middle School raised \$1,200 they needed to launch weather balloons for a science

project. These are only a few examples. Without dedicated support from faculty, staff, parents and students, it would be much more difficult for our students to reach these goals. Please continue to support us not only at the local level, but also as we continue our campaign to restore funding to our budget at the state level.

There are several highlights to share with you as we begin the new school year. Our district newsletter, the Danbury Digest, will be posted on our website in October, February, May and August at www.danbury.k12.ct.us. It will have details and updates about our progress and coming events. You can also view Hatters TV, which highlights district events and activities.

This year we welcome four new school principals, three of whom are from within the district. Dan Donovan, principal of the Danbury High School Freshman Academy, is now the principal of Danbury High School, replacing Gary Bocaccio who retired this year. Dr. Edie Thomas of Pembroke School will head Broadview Middle School, replacing Edward Robbs who retired this summer after 50 years as an educator. Dawn Bartz, Global Studies theme coach at Westside Middle School Academy will serve as interim principal of Shelter Rock Elementary School. Bethel native Dr. Sharon Epple, a former principal in the Hartford Public Schools, will take the helm at Pembroke. We welcome them all. This past school year, the district officially opened its Centralized School Registration for all grades in the newly named Family and Community Engagement Center at 49 Osborne St. to ease the process of registration for families and to continue its purpose of providing a hub of resources for school registration, free



Superintendent Dr. Sal V. Pascarella

*MONDAY
AUGUST 29
FIRST DAY OF CLASSES
full day for students*

and reduced meal applications, the Extended Learning Programs registration for before- and after-school programs, and the Danbury Family Learning Center, Inc. Since opening in February, the staff has assisted more than 1,000 families with enrolling students in district schools and offering information on other available resources from medical to adult education.

We are in the midst of a 63,000-square-foot expansion of the high school. Before breaking ground in the upcoming year, work must be completed on the existing roof and then work will begin on expansion of the cafeteria. All of the fire alarms and sprinklers have been updated. The district is fortunate to have received funding for this project, as Danbury High School – the largest high school in the state with nearly 3,000 students – continues to grow and offer more opportunities so that our students are prepared to enter careers or continue their education after high school. One of these opportunities is the Danbury Early College Opportunity (DECO), which begins its second

(continued on next page)

Superintendent's Welcome Back Message (from page 1)

year in the fall. The initial cohort is now taking its first college course, Introduction to Computers; many in the first cohort will earn nine college credits in the upcoming year. This fall, we welcome 100 incoming freshmen as the second cohort. This summer, thanks to a \$2,500 grant from Savings Bank of Danbury, students in the new cohort will participate in a four-day summer experience to work on team building activities.

Danbury is partnered with Naugatuck Valley Community College and NewOak Capital LLC with Pitney Bowes providing program mentors.

We also received a \$5,000 grant generated from DSABC from Fairfield County Community Foundation to support mentoring components of the DECO Workplace Learning E-Mentoring. We are also undertaking many necessary physical improvements to our schools. An expansion in recent years at Shelter Rock Elementary School was much-needed, but that school continues to grow and the school is again in need of more space. To accommodate this growth, the district will place four portable classrooms at the school with city funding.

A \$1.7 million improvement grant from the state will fund some of the projects at the schools but will also be used to repair carpeting, tile and temperature controls in many of the schools, as well as help

with bathroom renovations at Rogers Park Middle School. The front entrance sidewalks, which have become unusable at the Alternative Center for Excellence, will also be replaced. New artificial turf will be rolled out at the playground at the Academy for International Studies, and replacement air conditioners will be installed in the media centers at Broadview and Rogers Park middle schools.

A goal of the Board of Education has been to create parity in their program offerings between the magnet and neighborhood schools. Therefore, we will be piloting a World Language experience at two schools next year: Shelter Rock and South Street elementary schools. After-school programs will also be in place at various elementary schools. The Pitney Bowes grant covers eight schools and 225 students.

As you can see from the long list of improvements that we are working on for the coming school year, we are putting our students first by remaining committed to providing the best education possible to every student. Our success is a collaboration in which educators, students, parents, policymakers and the community are all engaged. We encourage you to see what's going on in our schools. Our students excel in science fairs, take part in international robotics competitions and create inventions that get them noticed as recognized inventors

at the state level, to name a few areas of our students' success. We invite you to learn more about how everyone can play a role in ensuring future growth and success in schools everywhere. Once you see for yourself, you just may become a public school partner – even a champion – ready to work with us on our goals and build on efforts that are already showing great results in student achievement.

In the Danbury School District, the Board of Education encourages community members to be a part of local education every day. Take a look inside our work and accomplishments; become a student mentor through our DSABC program to make a meaningful and long-lasting impact on a student's life; attend a performance, PTO activity or athletic event; or visit a School Governance Council meeting. We need your participation to help us continue our success.

I eagerly anticipate working with staff, families and community members on behalf of Danbury children, to have another successful and rewarding school year. I look forward to seeing you in our wonderful schools.

Dr. Sal V. Pascarella
Superintendent of Schools

Bus Schedule

For a complete listing of all
Danbury Public Schools Bus Routes, Times and Stops
please go to
<http://www.danbury.k12.ct.us/districtinfo/transportation.html>.
or click [here](#)



Board of Education - City of Danbury

Mission Statement

The Danbury Public Schools’ mission is to develop in all children the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that will enable them to live a productive and self-fulfilling life and engage in responsible citizenship in a global society. In meeting this mission, the educational program shall promote to the fullest the academic, social, emotional and physical development of every child.

Board Members

The Danbury Board of Education, the policy-making body of the district, is comprised of 11 elected representatives serving non-paid terms of either two or four years.

Board Members:

- Eileen Alberts
- Gladys Cooper
- Michael Ferguson
- Richard Hawley
- Richard Jannelli
- Patrick Johnson
- Frederick Karrat
- David Metrena
- Kathleen Molinaro
- Ralph Pietrafesa
- Holly Robinson

The Board meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Administrative Center. Families are welcome and encouraged to attend. See DPS website for agenda and upcoming meetings. Board of Education policies can be found at www.danbury.k12.ct.us/bbadmin/bdpolicy

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action

The Danbury Board of Education is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Federal and/or state anti-discrimination laws and the policy of the Danbury Board of Education prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, military or veteran status, or physical or mental disability or any other basis prohibited by law.

Board of Education

Administrative Center
63 Beaver Brook Road
Danbury, CT 06810
(203) 797-4700

Sal V. Pascarella, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
(203) 797-4701

William R. Glass, Ed.D.
Deputy Superintendent Teaching, Learning & Organizational Development
(203) 797-4724

Joseph D. Martino
Director of Finance
(203) 797-4703

Kimberly Mango Thompson, Esq.
Director of Human Resources/Legal Counsel to Board of Education
(203) 797-4713

Kelly Truchsess
Interim Director of Special Services
(203) 797-4725

Telephone numbers

Adult Education	(203) 797-4731	Extended Learning After-School	(203) 797-4733
Athletics	(203) 797-4853	Health Services	(203) 797-4827
Board of Education	(203) 797-4700	Human Resources	(203) 797-4706
Bus Company	(203) 778-0782/796-0821	Pupil Services	(203) 797-4726
Business Office	(203) 797-4719	School Lunch	(203) 797-4747
Central Registration	(203) 797-4753	School Transportation	(203) 797-4708
Danbury Family Learning Center	(203) 797-4734	Sites & Facilities Maintenance	(203) 797-4835
ESL/Bilingual Office	(203) 790-2849	Special Education	(203) 797-4757

School Hours/Supervision

School Closing, Delayed Opening, Early Dismissal Policy

The decision to delay the opening of school or to cancel school because of inclement weather is made by the Superintendent. The primary consideration is that of the safety of students and staff. The decision is governed by a number of factors. The Superintendent seeks input from the Police Department, Public Works Department, the School Maintenance Department, the school bus contractor, local meteorological services and residents in various sections of the district.

School Messenger

A parent notification system, School Messenger, will be utilized for the 2016-17 school year. It is imperative that all pertinent information is up to date; therefore, parents should notify the school secretary about any changes in contact information. In addition, all announcements will be broadcast on the following stations and will also be posted on DPS website.

Radio: WLAD (Danbury 800 AM/98FM) * KC101/WXCI 101.3 FM/WELI 960AM
WTIC 1080/WRCH 100.5/WTIC FM 96.5/WZMX 93.7

Television: WVIT Channel 30/NBC 30 * WTHN Channel 8 * WFSB Channel 3 * CW
Channel 11 * WABC Channel 7

Guidelines for Supervision of Students at Start of School

All Danbury schools have an established time set for the official start of the regular student day and for delayed openings. To insure student safety, students will not be allowed in school buildings prior to 30 minutes before the student day begins because staff supervision isn't provided.

Students who participate in an approved ELP Before- and After-School Program may enter the building prior to this time.

TO ACCESS THE FOLLOWING WEBPAGES, PLEASE CLICK ON THE LINKS BELOW:

[CALENDAR](#)

[LIST OF SCHOOLS/PRINCIPALS](#)

[2016-17 CLASS HOURS](#)

[ATTENDANCE PHILOSOPHY](#)

Graduation/Extracurricular Requirements

Graduation Requirements:

To graduate from Danbury High School, a student must:

- a. earn a minimum of 21 credits
- b. meet the credit distribution requirement

Credit / Department-Courses

- 1.0 Art, Music or Theatre Arts
- 1.0 Business, ROTC, Technology or Family Consumer Science
- 3.5 World Studies, Modern World Studies, U.S. History, Civics
- 1.0 World Language
- 4.0 English 1, 2, 3, 4 (Advanced Placement English courses can be taken in lieu of English 3 and 4)
- 3.0 Math (must include Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II or Statistics and Data)
- 3.0 Science (must include Biology and Chemistry)
- .5 Health
- 1.0 Physical Education
- 3.0 Student Choice

Title IX

Title IX of The Educational Amendments Act of 1972 mandates that no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. Title IX protects students in connection with all academic, educational, extra curricular, athletic and other programs of the school regardless of where those programs take place.

The Danbury Board of Education prohibits violation of Title IX in any aspect of the school system. Students who feel their rights under this regulation have been violated should contact Kimberly Thompson, Director of Human Resources, at (203) 797-4705.

Eligibility Requirements for Extracurricular Activities

Recognizing the importance of academic success and the time constraints that extracurricular and interscholastic sports require, the Board of Education has adopted the following policy: Students who plan to participate in the approved extracurricular programs are expected to demonstrate a suitable level of academic preparation and success. Experiences in the educational program will be enhanced through opportunities to become actively involved in a diversified extracurricular program. The student must show evidence that there is successful progress and performance in the educational plan in order to derive the benefits from extracurricular participation.

The regulations governing this policy establish the following eligibility criteria for grades 6-12 for participation in activities:

- * A student must be enrolled in four courses representing four full units of credit for the academic year.
- * A student at the time of participation, throughout any school year, must present evidence from the preceding school year that four units of credit were completed toward the promotion or graduation/diploma requirements.
- * A student, during a marking period, must have achieved an overall C average for the courses completed in the marking period that preceded the interscholastic sport season or the extracurricular activity program.
- * A student classified as handicapped and enrolled in a special education program may be exempt from this regulation if the IEP contains a request for waiver of these requirements.

These regulations will meet or exceed the CIAC requirements for student participation in interscholastic sports. Procedures to verify eligibility will conform to CIAC guidelines.

Family and School Engagement

Family Engagement Opportunities

Every five years the Superintendent develops goals for the district that are developed with input from teachers, staff, parents and the Board of Education. Goal 2 impacts Parent and Community Engagement and states:

*Effective parent-school partnerships are important to meeting the needs of children and to ensure a continued support for school programs that are a benefit to students and the whole Danbury community.

*Explore strategies and specific objectives to maximize opportunities for the creation of partnerships between parents, community and the school district at all levels using both traditional and new emerging channels of communication.

*Identify strategies and specific objectives for enhancing public trust and confidence in the Danbury Public Schools at all levels: Board of Education, central administration, building administration and the classroom teachers.

*Identify strategies and targeted objectives for reaching out to the entire community.

Danbury Public Schools Core Beliefs for Family Engagement include:

1. All parents have dreams for their children and want the best for them.
2. All parents have the capacity to support their children's learning.
3. Parents and school staff should be equal partners in children's learning.
4. The responsibility for building partnerships between school and home rests equally with teachers, leadership staff and parents.
5. Parents should be engaged in decision-making at the school and district levels.

Therefore, each Danbury school encourages and invites parents to participate in their child's classroom activities. At the school level, contact the school principal for individual school opportunities. At the district level, there are many opportunities: Citywide PTO, DSABC Mentor Program, Community Conversations, or parent education such as Lee R Yeras, Supporting School Success, and by attending Board of Education and committee meetings.

Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Center

The Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Center at 49 Osborne St. offers a variety of programs and resources for families new to the district and for parents looking to increase their skills with their children. At the Learning Center, parents can participate in weekly playgroups, attend field trips and parent education training, and find out about family resources available in Danbury. Children under three years are screened for developmental delays. Contact the Center at (203) 797-4734 to make an appointment. The FACE Center is well equipped with an early childhood room and technology, and the Literacy Mobile can be seen throughout Danbury for playgroups or giving out books.

The Family Resource Centers at Morris Street School (203) 790-2683 and South Street School (203) 790-2683 enhance district resources and opportunities for families through playgroups and resource and referral services.

School level

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| *Volunteer in classrooms, offices,
media center | *PTO meetings at all schools |
| *Concerts/plays/musicals | *Teas and luncheons |
| *Building orientation | *Kindergarten orientation |
| *Math nights | *Community Thanksgiving dinner |
| *Book fairs | *Staff appreciation |
| *Reading programs | *Educational fairs |
| *Family computer training | *Family education |
| *Hispanic Language Family Groups | *Grandparent's Day |
| *Take a Family Member to School week | *Community food drives |
| *School Governance Council | *Chaperoning of field trips |

Registration/Attendance

School Registration

Kindergarten registration is held from January through August at the Central Registration Office at FACE Center, 49 Osborne St. Children must be five years old by Jan. 1, 2017 for the 2016-17 school year.

For what you need to register your child go to www.danbury.k12.ct.us and click on "Danbury School Registration" on the left side of the main website page.

English-as-a-Second Language and bilingual programs are offered at some schools as required by state mandate. Registration is ongoing for non-English speaking children and their families at Central Registration, 49 Osborne St. (203) 790-2849.

Proof of Residency

Whenever a student enrolls in Danbury Public Schools, the registration form will establish the legal residence of the parent or guardian. To verify the given address, the following documentation must be provided to the Centralized Registration office at the time of registration:

- *Renters - a current notarized lease or notarized letter from landlord.
- *Homeowners - a recorded deed showing ownership or a current tax bill.
- *In addition to the above, you must show one utility bill (gas, electric, phone)
- *A student living with a relative/non-relative would be eligible for schooling provided the following conditions are met:
 - *Resides in Danbury permanently
 - *Without pay, and
 - *Not for the sole purpose of obtaining school accommodations

A legally emancipated student (Connecticut General Statutes 96b-150, b & d), shall provide appropriate legal documentation as to his/her status.

A child placed by public agency in a Danbury residence shall be entitled to attend Danbury Public Schools.

In the event that the Administration has due

and sufficient cause to question the residency base of a child already in attendance, the Administration may proceed as per Connecticut General Statutes 10-253.

A student whose residency is challenged has a right to due process in accordance with Connecticut General Statute 10-186.

School Attendance/Absenteeism

Coming to school every day is essential for student learning. Connecticut law emphasizes the responsibility of parents/legal guardians to ensure that students attend school on a regular basis. The law requires the school to report student attendance individually for every student. If your child will be absent, you are required to call the school the morning of the absence (so that we know your student is safe and not missing). Please give your child's name and reason for the absence when you call. When your child returns to school, please send in a note/email identifying the date and reason for absence.

If no phone call is received on the morning of the absence, the school will notify you that your child is not in attendance that day. You must call the school back to let them know the reason for the absence so we know that your child is safe. Failure to contact the school regarding absenteeism will result in the absence being recorded as unexcused. A student is considered to be "in attendance" if present at his/her assigned school, or an activity sponsored by the school (e.g., field trip) for at least half of the regular school day. If your student accumulates four or more unexcused absences in one month or ten or more in one year, the student will be considered truant, which has serious consequences.

If you have called and sent written documentation for your student's absence, it may be excused by the Principal for up to a total of nine absences for the year. Absences must fall into the following categories in order to be excused: illness, family emergencies, established religious observance, or at the request of physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, dentists and similar professional persons for the performance of necessary work that must be scheduled during the school day. After 10 excused or unexcused absences, additional documentation is required. If an absence is needed, please be sure to call that morning and follow up with a written note. The phone call is critical so that we know your child is safe.

Student-related Information

Promotion/Retention

It is the philosophy of the Board of Education that all students should be placed in instructional programs in which they can achieve academically as well as develop emotionally, socially and physically. The District recognizes retention may be necessary, but should only be done when it is deemed essential and in the best interest of the child.

The following statements apply to all school district programs whether they are elementary, secondary or approved alternative programs:

*Students shall meet academic competency requirements as adopted by the Board of Education.

*Students who are eligible for special education services shall meet the expectations outlined in the IEP.

*Within policy and regulations, recommendations regarding a student's placement are the responsibility of the school staff; however, the placement decision is the responsibility of the principal.

*Consideration for retention should only occur after careful study and a need to provide an appropriate instructional program to address deficit areas.

*Parents shall be given early notification of student performance that may involve either acceleration or retention. Parents will be involved in discussion of retention or acceleration of a student.

*In accordance with state law, students who have not achieved the statewide standard for reading in grades K-3 will be required to attend summer school unless such students receive an exemption.

*The time required to complete senior high school will depend upon the time necessary to earn the required credits and demonstration of the established competencies for the diploma or certificate.

*Students who are retained are eligible to remove academic deficiencies in an approved summer school program.

*Students enrolled in alternative or transition programs approved by the Board of Education shall meet all requirements, which exist for regular elementary and secondary programs.

*Under Connecticut state law, the principal has the final authority regarding the retention of students.

Access to Student Records

A student's record is the property of the school and shall be held as confidential. Parents and guardians and students of legal age shall have knowledge of and access to all educational, medical or similar records maintained in the student record folder in conformance with Board policies, which are available at each school and administrative office. Parents, guardians and legal age students may utilize an appeal process, which starts with the building principal, to correct records that they believe to be inaccurate or misleading.

Administration of Medicine by School Personnel

The school nurse, or in his/her absence, other qualified designated personnel as defined by state regulations, may, if necessary, administer medications, including Tylenol, to students. This requires a written order from an authorized prescriber, (physician, dentist, optometrist, advanced practice registered nurse or physician assistant and, for interscholastic and intramural athletic events only, a podiatrist) and parent/guardian written authorization. Medications, including over the counter, must be in the original properly labeled container. ALL medications must be delivered to school by an adult. A parent/guardian of a student may submit in writing to the school nurse and school medical advisor that epinephrine shall not be administered by qualified school personnel in the absence or unavailability of a school nurse for emergency first aid for a student with no prior authorization of epinephrine.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Federal and state law and the policy of the Board of Education prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, national origin, ancestry, present or past history of mental disability, intellectual disability, learning disability or physical disability, including but not limited to blindness. No person in the Danbury Public Schools shall be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of any education program or activity. Inquiries concerning discrimination, compliance or grievance procedures may be directed to the Director of Human Resources, DPS Administrative Center, 63 Beaver Brook Road, Danbury, CT 06810 (203) 797-4705.

Student-related Information (cont'd)

Rehabilitation Act - Section 504

In compliance with state and federal law, the Danbury school district will provide to each protected handicapped student without discrimination or cost to the student or family, those related aids, services or accommodations that are needed to provide equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and extracurricular activities to the maximum extent appropriate to the student's abilities. In order to qualify as a protected handicapped student, the child must have a physical or mental disability, as defined by law, which substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to an aspect of the school program. These services and protections are for "protected handicapped students" as distinct from those

applicable to all eligible or exceptional students enrolled (or seeking enrollment) in special education programs. For further information on the evaluation procedures and provisions of the services to protect handicapped students, and for information on the procedural rights of parents and students contact Director of Human Resources at (203) 797-4705 at the Administrative Center at 63 Beaver Brook Road between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Student Insurance

Parents are offered the opportunity to participate in group accident insurance at the beginning of each school year. One policy covers pupil injuries that may occur during school hours, and the other provides 24-hour coverage. Each school will distribute information concerning the plans.

Student Transportation

School Bus Transportation

Regard for safety of students is a basic element of the Board's policy on transportation. Consistent with this, the Board's policy indicates that all students shall walk to school with the following exceptions:

1. Kindergarten pupils living more than 1/2 mile from school.
2. Students in grade levels one through five (1-5) living more than 3/4 mile from school.
3. Students in grade levels six through eight (6-8) living more than 1 1/2 miles from school.
4. Students in grade levels nine through twelve (9-12) living more than two (2) miles from school.

Bus stops will be located per Board policy relative to walking distance, safety conditions and efforts to reduce student congestion at bus stops.

Specially equipped buses are provided for handicapped students who are unable to use standard school buses.

Students who may be temporarily confined to wheelchairs or require walking aids such as crutches are eligible for these specialized buses.

If there are any questions, please call the School Transportation Office at (203) 797-4708.

Student Behavior on School Buses

In view of the fact that the bus is an extension of the classroom, the Board of Education requires students to conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with established rules of behavior. Failure of students to conduct themselves in such a manner may result in loss of transportation privileges, suspension from school, or other disciplinary actions permissible under Board policies. The following guidelines are taken from Board policy:

*Disruptive behavior that creates safety concerns for the driver or safety problems for the passengers will not be permitted.

*There shall be no smoking, vaping, using illegal drugs or consuming alcoholic beverages at any time on school buses.

*Students must remain seated and wear a seatbelt until the bus has reached its destination and has stopped.

*The bus driver is in complete charge, and all reasonable requests of the bus driver must be obeyed.

*All articles, such as athletic equipment, books, musical instruments, etc., must be kept out of the aisle.

*The rear exit door may be used only in an emergency.

Student Transportation

*Damage to bus equipment or tampering with safety equipment will mean loss of transportation privileges and reimbursement for repair.

*Disciplinary action is the responsibility of the school principal.

*Students must refrain from consuming beverages and snacks while riding on the bus.

School Crossing Guards

The City of Danbury is seeking individuals for School Crossing Guards. This part-time position (10 hours/week) is under the supervision of the Danbury Police Department. Applications are available from the Personnel/Civil Service Department, City Hall, 155 Deer Hill Ave., Third Floor, Danbury, CT 06810 or at www.danbury-ct.gov.

School Lunch Program

Danbury Public Schools is proud to offer nutritious breakfast and lunch meals at all schools. Our program is dedicated to providing meals that enhance and encourage the well-being of our students by using fresh, wholesome ingredients to create balanced meals at an affordable price. The Meal Value Program (MVP) is designed to assist low-income families with information about Free and Reduced Priced Meals. Applications for the MVP are at all schools, the School Lunch Office at 49 Osborne St. and the Administrative Center at 63 Beaver Brook Road. For further information, please call (203) 797-4746 or visit the School Lunch Website: <https://sites.google.com/a/danbury.k12.ct.us/danbury-school-lunch-program>.

Breakfast Prices

Paid Elementary:	\$1.05
Paid Secondary:	\$1.30
Reduced:	\$0.30

Milk - all schools - \$.50

Lunch Prices

Paid Elementary:	\$2.65
Paid Secondary:	\$2.85
Reduced:	\$0.40

District Practices/Translation Services

Integrated Pest Management Program

Annual notice of the Danbury Public Schools “Integrated Pest Management Program” and Board of Education Policy 3-613* is as follows: 1. No pesticides as described in Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-231, A-D, will be applied in school buildings or on school grounds without sufficient health and safety reasons as determined by the Pest Management Coordinator; 2. Pesticides may only be applied by a “pesticide applicator” as defined in the CGS; 3. No application of pesticides may be made in any building or school grounds during regular school hours or during planned activities at the school except an emergency application; and 4. Parents or guardians of children and school staff may register for prior notice of any pesticide applications at their school. Notification and registry forms shall be sent out to all parents or guardians along with school packets at the beginning of each school year. Principals shall maintain registry information and notify registrants of any scheduled applications in advance.

Translation Services

To facilitate the availability of the information in this publication to community members whose native language isn’t English, the Danbury School System has interpreters/translators for many languages at the ESL/Bilingual Reception Center, 49 Osborne St. Grades K-12: (203) 790-2849.

Español

Si usted necesita ayuda para inscribir a sus niños en la escuela, para comunicarse con los maestros de sus niños, o para leer esta publicación, por favor llame a uno de los Centros de Recepcion. Si su niño esta en el grade K-12, llame at (203) 790-2849.

Português

Qualquer pessoa, ou familia, que precisa de ajuda em Inglês nas escolas de Danbury, por favor contacte o Departamento de Inglês (ESL Reception Center) no número (203) 790-2849 para classes entre o Jardim Infantil até á duodécimo classes. Há interpretes a sua disposição se precisa de ajuda.

District Practices/Translation Services

Directory Information

The Danbury Board of Education declares the following to be “directory information” and the information relating to students may be made public if said information is in any of the following categories: the parent’s name, address and/or email address, the student’s name, address, telephone number, email address, photographic, computer and/or video images, date and place of birth, major field(s) of study, grade level, enrollment status (full-time; part-time) participation in school-sponsored activities or athletics, weight and height (if the student is a member of an athletic team), dates of attendance, degrees, honors and awards received, the most recent previous school(s) attended and student identification numbers for the limited purposes of displaying a student identification card. This public notice is required by law before such information can be placed in yearbooks, student directories or other student publications. Since FERPA does not require disclosure of directory information, the Danbury Public Schools declines to release directory information when it is requested by third parties, while reserving the district’s right to release directory information when district officials believe it is appropriate.

Within 30 days of this publication, a parent/guardian may object in writing to the disclosure of directory information. A form for such objection may be obtained from your child’s principal or from the district’s website. Such written objection shall be valid for only one school year.

Parental Permission for Photos for Media Use

As state above, unless otherwise notified by parent/guardian, the Danbury Board of Education will allow students to have photographs taken and used in the newspaper, videotapes, electronically including our website and other publications. A form for such objection may be obtained from your child’s principal or from the district’s website. Such written objection shall be valid for only one school year.

Use of School Facilities

School facilities are in use extensively throughout the school year by non-school groups for worthwhile purposes when such use doesn’t interfere with scheduled school programs. Rules, regulations, services and fees are approved by the Board of Education. Applications may be secured at Educational Services Center, 49 Osborne St. (203) 797-4799.

Annual Asbestos Notification

This is to inform you that state and federal asbestos regulations require that building occupants be notified about asbestos management activities and the existence of the Asbestos Management Plan (AMP) at least once each year. A dated copy of the notice must become a permanent part of the AMP organizations representing the occupants, such as unions or PTOs, may be notified in lieu of each individual. The following notice fulfills this annual requirement.

Notice

Danbury Public School buildings have been inspected several times since 1986 to determine if asbestos is present. Most of the asbestos-containing materials were removed during renovation projects in 1985 and 1992. However, asbestos is still present in some products such as floor tile. Therefore, an Asbestos Management Program has been developed to guarantee that these materials are maintained in a condition that does not pose a health hazard. As part of this program, asbestos-containing materials are inspected several times each year and the Asbestos Management Program is reevaluated every three years.

Anyone wishing to know more about the Asbestos Management Program may ask to read the Asbestos Management Plan which is on file at FACE, 49 Osborne St.

If you have any questions about the AMP, please contact Dr. Mark Granville, Vice President, Brooks Laboratories, 9 Isaac St., Norwalk, CT 06850. Dr. Granville is our AMP consultant and program manager.

Danbury Public School's Educational Programs

Full-Day Kindergarten – All of the Danbury Public Elementary Schools have a comprehensive and developmentally appropriate full day kindergarten program for students. Children must be five (5) by Jan. 1, 2017 for the 2016-2017 school year.

Danbury Early College Opportunity (DECO) – Program designed to cultivate innovative learners that are interested in the field of Information Technology (IT). Through partnerships with Naugatuck Valley Community College, NewOak and Pitney Bowes, students are immersed in high school pathways that allow them to earn an associate degree at no cost. Eighth-grade students may apply for the 2017-18 school year starting Feb. 1, 2017, by completing an online application. The application is only open to incoming freshmen for the fall of 2017.

Advanced Placement - In cooperation with some universities, students may earn college credits through high school courses in addition to the traditional AP courses.

Alternative Center for Excellence (ACE) - Students in grades 9-12 can pursue an alternative secondary education program.

Art - Art specialists at each school provide students with art as a required part of the instructional program for grades K-8, and as elective courses for grades 9-12.

The Early Childhood Special Education Program - Offers specialized school-based programs for children three years of age to kindergarten. Services provided may include: developmental screenings; educational evaluations; school-based special education programming; speech/language therapy; consultative and support services; and parent education.

Business & Marketing Education - Helps develop students' skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary to meet the requirements of emerging technology.

English/Language Arts - Program is focused on expressive language skills and methods for improving the quality of students' writing through a wide variety of courses.

Family and Consumer Sciences - Prepares students in grades 9-12 to function effectively as consumers, family members and wage earners.

Gifted and Talented Program - After-school program with expanded educational opportunities for students in grades 6, 7 and 8, and a Saturday program for grades 4 and 5. Brochures will be emailed to students in September. For more info, (203) 830-6508.

Health and Physical Education - Courses are offered including nutrition, mental health, environment, safety, substance abuse, growth and development, physical fitness and diseases.

Library/Media Programs/Technology - Every school has a comprehensive library/media program with a staff of professional specialists to support the services. A wide variety of technology resources such as computers, software, printers, digital cameras and video projectors are available for student use.

Mathematics - A variety of courses in mathematics for students in grades K-12.

Music - Music is required for all students in grades K-8. Program continues with high school electives in both applied music and musicology.

Pupil Services & Special Education - School counselors, school psychologists, social workers and nurses are available to children and their families. In addition, speech, occupational and physical therapists are available to support special education students.

School Health Services - Program goes beyond daily first aid treatment to promote health and wellness of students.

Sciences - Students are offered a variety of science education experiences in grades K-12.

Social Studies - Students in grades K-12 pursue a social studies program.

Technology Education - A hands-on program that uses an investigative, design and construct, and a problem-solving approach to teaching a wide range of technological issues.

Unified Arts - All students in grades 7 and 8 are scheduled for a program that introduces them to family and consumer science and technology education. Electives are offered in the high school.

World languages - Language study begins in grade 7 for early enrollment, or in grades 8 or 9. *Spanish begins in Kindergarten @ Academy of International Studies elementary magnet school.

School Readiness - Three classrooms for children ages 3-5. State-funded school readiness program that follows the CT Early Learning Development Standard. Open 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. for working parents; year-around program. Sliding fee scale (203) 797-4995.

Danbury Public School's Educational Programs (cont'd)

Extended Learning Programs Before- and After-school Educational Programming - The ELP provides after-school programs in all of the elementary and middle schools and before-school programs in all of the elementary schools. The programs provide enrichment activities, homework assistance, fitness and sports, field trips, literacy activities, theatre and STEAM Activities. There is a fee for service and scholarships are available for those who qualify through Care4Kids. Care is provided five days a week, early dismissal days, delayed openings and some vacation days. For more information or to register call (203) 797-4733 or email elp@danbury.k12.ct.us. The program begins the second day of school.

21st Century Community Learning Centers - at Ellsworth and Park Avenue schools provide opportunities for academic enrichment including homework, technology education and recreation programs that are designed to reinforce and complement the regular academic school day. In addition, we offer families of students served by the community learning centers opportunities for parents to increase school-home literacy (203) 731-8225.

SunSational Summer: six-week summer learning program held at Shelter Rock School for students finishing grades 1 through 6. Academic tutoring, weekly field trips, computer club, Theatre Arts and Kids Chorus, Girl Scouts, Gardening, Build-A-Bike, and more. Includes breakfast and lunch. Open 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Registration begins in June.

Adult and Continuing Education - WERACE is a free program available for adults age 17 and up who are residents of Bethel, Brookfield, Danbury, New Fairfield, Newtown, Redding and Ridgefield. Programs offered include Adult High School Credit Diploma, GED, Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language. Credit diploma and GED® classes are held at 10 Crosby St. during the day, and Danbury High School at night. ESL classes are held at First Congregational Church during the day and DHS at night. Registration takes place in August and January. Academic counseling and confidential services are provided. A photo ID with valid current address is required for registration. Call our office at (203) 797-4731, or visit our website for more information: www.danbury.k12.ct.us.

Air Force Jr. ROTC - Students in Grades 9-12 can join this dynamic group to learn leadership, citizenship and aerospace science at Danbury High School.

Saturday Academy: Educational Programs for children grades K through 8 on various topics, 9 a.m. - noon on Saturdays from October through May. Program brochure available on www.danbury.k12.ct.us home page and will be emailed through Power School.