

The Discovery Connections

A newsletter for parents of Discovery Elementary students

Fall 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – Dr. Mathew Nelson

Welcome back to Discovery Elementary! I hope everyone had a great summer and now find yourself excited to be starting the school year. There is such an awesome excitement in the air here, brought in by the students and staff as we begin another school year together at Discovery! This summer was a busy one at Discovery, as the roof of our building was replaced and one of our classrooms received updated flooring. A special thanks goes to Candice Rozeske, Jim Hulet and our custodial staff for all their work in helping us get the entire school ready for another school year. We all work so hard to make Discovery a positive place for kids, and it's nice that we are continuing to take steps from a physical standpoint to have our spaces look as warm and inviting as the staff and students that reside in them.

As I have said many times in the past and every year in this introduction newsletter, there is just something special about Discovery Elementary. When we are in the middle of the school year and working so hard for the students we serve, we do not often take time to reflect on and appreciate all the great things about our school family and culture, but we have a GREAT thing going here! I appreciate our amazing team and our strong commitment to doing what is best for our students. It is hard to pinpoint exactly what it is that makes us so different and special, however I do believe the quote below really gets at the core of what we are all about and what we strive to do for kids every day.

They may forget what you said, but they will never forget how you made them feel. ~Carl W. Buechner

"Together we're better!" continues to resonate in my mind whenever I think about the great school community we have at Discovery Elementary. It is clear that we all work together to establish a positive school culture with a focus on the Community C's as character education and education of the whole child are at the core of mission at Discovery Elementary School. Our Community "C's" are: Care, Cooperate, Contribute, Celebrate, Collaborate, Cheerful, Considerate, Courageous, and Creative. We believe it is important to emphasize these skills and help students understand what it looks like to demonstrate these important character skills.

We look forward to a great 2023-2024 school year together!



Family FUN Night is Thursday, October 5th!!!



Discovery Elementary Family Fun Night is Thursday, October 5th, from 5:00-7:00 at the Discovery Elementary School. This event, which is **open to all**, includes a Discovery field trip support raffle, inflatables, bingo, and tons of fun games such as bouncy houses, temporary tattoos, boat races, duck pull, ring toss, basketball shoot, crazy hair, and other carnival style games. The goal of Family Fun Night is for everyone to have FUN, and the staff will be adding to the fun by running the individual games!

Changes to End of Day Transportation

Please call the school office at 763-682-8400 before 1:00 PM with any changes to end of day transportation plans for your child. You may get in the habit of letting the teacher know, but our teachers are not regularly able to check their email while teaching, so it is best to call the office if there are ever changes to where your child should go after school and we will get a note to your child's classroom so they get to the correct location.



Annual Required Lockdown Drill - Thursday, September 14th

In previous years, schools have been required to conduct 5 lockdown drills annually with students. Schools are still required to practice 5 lockdown drills, but new legislation recommends that not all are conducted with students present. BHM schools will conduct 1 lockdown drill with students each fall, so the lockdown drill on Thursday, September 14th at 1:45 will serve as our annual student training. Lockdown drills consist of all building and classroom doors being locked, lights off, and students sitting quietly away from doors and windows until the all clear is given. Lockdown drills generally take approximately 5 minutes. Students and staff will be given notice prior to the drill starting as well as reminders about the purpose of the drill. Students will also have the opportunity to ask questions and debrief after the drill concludes. We will be conducting a lockdown drill with students on Thursday, September 14th at 1:45. If you choose to opt your student out of this drill, please contact your school's attendance line before the date of the drill, so we know the reason for the absence.