

DSISD PARENT CONNECTIONS

“Dripping Springs ISD is committed to conveying information in a thoughtful, clear, and concise way through multiple channels.”

FROM THE DSISD STRATEGIC PLAN

The following overview shares information about the many ways that Dripping Springs ISD and all five campuses reach out to parents. Parents periodically will notice redundancy in the tools that are used.

SKYWARD FAMILY ACCESS

- Annual Registration Documents
- Grades
- Assignments
- Attendance
- Health Records

Teachers and administrators use Message Center to send targeted e-mails or post information. A Family Access app is available; just search the app store for “Skyward.”

WEBSITES

- Teacher Websites (www.dsisd.txed.net/firstnamelastname) Individual websites include information about course requirements, class schedule, links to resources and more.
- Campus Websites (www.dsisd.txed.net/campusabbreviation); campus websites include events, information and news specific to that campus.
- District Website (www.dsisd.txed.net)



① **News Flash:** This section is updated frequently with the latest happenings, and often has links to supporting information.

② **Upcoming Events:** The Calendar provides basic information on district events and links (“View All”) to individual campus calendars.

③ **Notifications Sign-Up:** This link allows users to sign up for notifications, updates and alerts from the district, campuses or departments. Subscribers may opt for e-mail and/or text message notifications (see below, “Notifications”).

④ **About DSISD:** Many pieces of information are included in this category including Board of Trustees information and meeting agendas, district boundary map, staff directory, district publications, archived news releases and more.

⑤ **Family Access:** This link leads to the sign-in page for Family Access.

⑥ **Superintendent’s Podcasts:** The Superintendent highlights an innovative program or student achievement in 3-4 minute podcasts that are posted frequently on the district website.

⑦ **Menus:** This link leads to the menus for elementary, middle school and high school cafeterias that serve both breakfast and lunch.

⑧ **Bus Routes:** This link allows users to type in home address and child’s grade to receive bus stop time and location.

⑨ **Meal Payments:** This link leads to the PayPams page where parents can set up an account to put money in a student’s account for cafeteria purchases.

⑩ **Online Payments:** Other payments that can be made on-line include extended care programs, summer camps and the district extracurricular fee.

E-MAIL/PHONE

E-mail blasts can be sent from the district, campus or classroom levels. E-mail addresses that are on record in Skyward Family Access are used for these blasts, so parents should be sure to make updates as needed. Teachers will periodically communicate with classroom parents via e-mail. Elementary teachers aim to make weekly contact, while secondary teachers plan e-mail communications in conjunction with key projects, deadlines, exams, etc. Classroom teachers have phone extensions where messages can be left, but e-mail is the preferred method of communication since teachers do not answer phones during instructional time.

NOTIFICATIONS

- For emergency or time-critical announcements (like school closings), DSISD uses an automatic telephone alert system that delivers a recorded message to contact numbers in Skyward Family Access. Messages also are left reporting student absences.
- E-mail alerts also are used for time-critical notifications.
- The “Notify Me” module on the district website allows departments to send news alerts and time-sensitive announcements to those who have requested to receive them (SEE ③). Also available are “News Flash,” which lets subscribers know when items have been posted to the website for the department or campus indicated, and “Calendar Items,” which alerts subscribers when events are added to the specified calendar.

NEWSLETTERS

The district publishes a community newsletter called “Inside DSISD” that is posted on-line early each month. This includes information about news, honors, programs, events and Board actions. Schools and elementary grade level teams also post newsletters to update parents on campus happenings.

SOCIAL MEDIA

DSISD has a Twitter account and a Facebook page. These communication tools are used to share information about news, events, programs and honors.