



DIVEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER DOLPHIN DISPATCH

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SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

9/17 @ 3pm | PTO Meeting

Please join us for our first PTO (Diven School Org.) meeting of the year! Free childcare is provided, all are welcome to attend!

9/18 @ 6pm | Open House

You are invited to Diven's annual Open House. Tour the school, meet the staff, sign up for Girl or Boy Scouts, Soccer Shots, and more. Free gifts for the first 150 families donated by *PTO Today*. Please help us begin our 2019 school-community art project with rocks donated by *Premier Landscaping*. Raffles, too! A fun night for kids and families!

10/4 Popcorn Fridays Begin!

Help the DSO bring smiles to our scholars and staff! Send in a quarter for your little one to get a bag of fresh-popped popcorn made by parent volunteers every Friday morning.

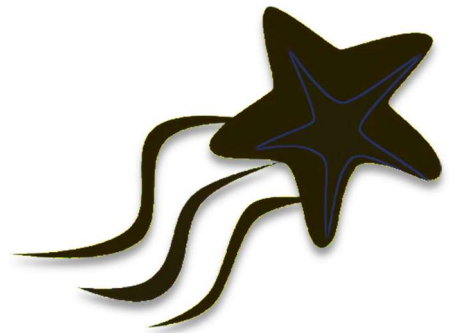
10/24 @5pm

Night of the Wild Things

Dress in your favorite costume and join us for a night of crafts and fun. *Tanglewood Nature Center* will be bringing in some creepy and cute critters. too!

SEPTEMBER SUPER POWER: STAR

Every month, our scholars learn a new super power word! They'll work on these character-building skills all month long, because learning is about so much more than math and reading. *Social learning is a big part of our curriculum here at Diven.*

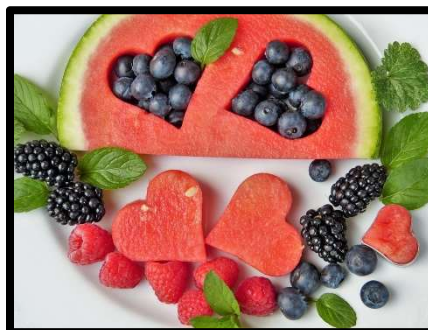


Our Super Power Word for September is STAR. It's the four ways your child can respectfully listen to and add to conversations in school:

- **S**it up and listen.
- **T**rack the speaker.
- **A**sk and answer questions.
- **R**espect those around you.

More than just guidelines for how to interact in the classroom, STAR is a great way to have respectful, meaningful conversations at home and in the community, too. Remind your child(ren) about their new Super Power Word each day, and work on this skillset at home often!

FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM



as we can, so that everybody can find something to love!

FFVP returns! Yesterday, our students received apples (of course!). This month, they'll be offered pineapple, mango, cantaloupe, grapes, snow peas, and tomatoes during select snack days. Our goal is to introduce our children to as many fresh fruits and veggies

MEET YOUR FAMILY & COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR



I posted a picture of a handy-dandy kitten here. If you enjoyed looking at it, I hope you'll reward me by reading this whole newsletter. :D

Hi there! I'm Liz Zilinski, your Family & Community Outreach Coordinator for Diven Elementary School. This position used to be called "Parent Partner." I began working at Diven in December last year, and I love it here!

My children are in Mrs. West's pre-kindergarten class and Mrs. Cornacchio's first-grade class. Last year, we had Mrs. Church. I attend all the DSO meetings, and you'll find me at my desk in the copy room every weekday from 8am - 12pm, but if you need to meet me at a different time, just let me know. **I'm here to work for you!** What I do:

- Connect you to free and low-cost community resources (e.g. food pantries, counseling, etc.)
- Connect you to someone who can assist you, if I can't;
- Direct you to after-school programs;
- Use social media, this newsletter, and other means to tell you more about Diven and ECSD;
- Find ways for you to volunteer at Diven—a great way to connect to your child's education;
- Help you understand what your child's standardized test data means;
- And so much more!

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out! My goal is to make your experience at Diven the very best it can be, so that our families and children will feel connected to the school and empowered in their educational journeys. Here's to another great year!

Liz Zilinski | Family & Community Outreach Coordinator | Diven Elementary School

E-mail: ezilinski@gstcontractors.com

Website: <http://www.tinyurl.com/DivenDD>

Social Media: <http://www.facebook.com/DivenSchoolOrganization/>

Volunteer: <http://www.tinyurl.com/DivenVolunteer>

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

This year, Diven families are asked to help positively impact their student's learning by sending their child to school if your child does not have a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea, in the classroom. Every. Single. Day. We love your kids and want them to succeed! Generally, preschool students miss more school than any other grade, but kindergarten students are not far behind. Why does it matter?



- Missing just two days of school each month can make a child fall behind.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance and a student falling behind.
- Absences and tardiness affect the whole classroom in a negative way.
- Elementary school students who are chronically absent (miss more than 18 days a year) are more likely to drop out of high school.

Make attending school a habit! Last year, we asked for parent feedback about attendance:

"If my preschooler is throwing a temper tantrum, I feel like I'm doing the teacher a favor keeping him home." Not true! No matter what's going on in the morning, we want your little one in school. Building the habit early helps then learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important.

"It's so hard for us to get out on time! We're always missing a shoe/have to pack lunch/running late." Set a regular bedtime and morning routine, lay out your clothes, shoes, and backpack before bed. If you don't have time to pack a lunch, no worries, lunch is FREE at Diven for all students.

"I don't have reliable transportation, and we have no way to get there every day." Contact us for help! You are not alone, and we have solutions.

"My doctor/dentist/family schedules appointments/trips during school." If you must schedule an appointment during a weekday, ask if there are appointments available on days when school is not in session. If you must schedule an appointment on a school day, try to do one late in the afternoon to minimize the time your child misses school.

Visit attendanceworks.org and reachoutandread.org for more tips and info about how much attendance matters.



DIVEN SCHOOL ORGANIZATION / NEXT MEETING: 9/17 @ 3PM

The Diven School Organization is our PTO. Families and staff are invited and encouraged to participate in our events and to give us feedback about how we can help make your Diven experience amazing! We meet once a month to discuss business, and starting in November, we will be holding alternate 3pm/6pm meetings so that our working families can participate.

Some things the DSO has funded and run: Pre-K swim lessons! Book and classroom donations! Winter clothes! Angel Fish Holiday Drive! Food drives! Fun family nights! Splash Bash! And more! Our goal is to raise \$10,000 this year through our fundraisers and donations. If every one of our families donated just \$23, our goal would be reached. Please consider writing a check for any amount to Diven School Organization. Thank you!