



DORCHESTER ACADEMY

A College Preparatory School

EST. 1966

**Dorchester Academy is a college preparatory school that offers a quality education to its students.
We educate the whole child by providing academic, spiritual, and social learning opportunities.**

Feb. 17, 2019

Dear Raider Parents,

We had a LOVE-FILLED and BUSY week at DA! I think we all have earned the holiday tomorrow. 😊
Our school will be completely closed on Presidents' Day. This includes the office as well as After Care.

Following are the issues I want to share, explain, and/or clarify this week:

1. CONGRATULATIONS to all our basketball teams! See details below in the athletic section.
2. The final tuition payment for 2018-2019 is due on March 1st. This includes monthly contracts and quarterly contracts. A letter was sent through snail mail to let all families who fall in these categories know EXACTLY what they owe to finish the financial obligations of the contract. Because of bookkeeping challenges, we will not be able to accept checks or payments that are not exact. We would need to get you to redo the payment for the exact amount. Please be on the lookout for this letter that gives you the information you need in order to make this final 2018-2019 payment.
3. Students being tardy to school has begun to be a true issue at DA. Our schedule is built around the notion that our students will be in school in a desk at 8:00 a.m. When this does not happen, we all lose. Most significantly, our students' education is compromised because our teachers cannot begin on time or are interrupted from beginning a lesson by children coming in late. Please encourage your students to come to school (and to make it to all classes) on time. I will be enforcing the tardy policy detailed in the student handbook. Please read back over this policy with your students.
4. Students also need to read back over the dress code in the student handbook. The days that I must address dress code violations are primarily (although not always) Chapel days. I much prefer our young ladies wear dress pants (not tight and legging-like) rather than short dresses and skirts that are not fingertip length ALL THE WAY AROUND.
5. Due to some "unwelcome guests," we are having to stop all eating in the classrooms at this point. Students may bring drinks to class that are in re-sealable bottles.
6. I encourage you to continue to sanitize your children's outerwear, lunchboxes, bookbags, etc. to help us prevent the spread of germs and illnesses. I also strongly encourage you not to send children back to school until they have not vomited in at least 24 hours and/or have been fever free (without Tylenol or Motrin) for at least 24 hours.
7. We are in search of two "bar-height" stools for our press box in the gym. If you have two you would like to donate, please let me know.

8. Dorchester Academy 2019 yearbooks are now on sale for \$70. Please reserve your copy today! Send a check made out to "Dorchester Academy" to school with your student. Please be sure it gets to Mrs. Julie McAlhany (Julie.mcalhany@dorchesteracademy.org).
9. Dorchester Academy will sponsor a special Open House this coming Sunday, February 24th. This event will be an opportunity for students and families who are considering joining our Raider family for the 2019-2020 school year to come in to see our facility and meet our people (students, teachers, administration, support groups, and board members). Please invite people that you know of who may be interested in our school. We are offering a \$25 voucher that can be applied to new-student fees to all families who attend Open House and then register their children at our school for 2019-2020.
10. On Mar. 9th, our Booster Club will host its annual BIG BUCKS Steak Dinner and Auction. This year's event will be held again at the Santee Convention Center and will begin at 5:30 p.m. Tickets, which include a delicious meal and beverages, are \$120 per couple. The meal will again be prepared by Tonya's Catering. There is currently a Facebook page open that enables you to invite all your friends to this special and fun event and to keep up with the many great items that will be auctioned off that evening. (Search "Dorchester Academy Booster Club Big Bucks Steak Dinner.") Please help us spread the word as this is a great opportunity to celebrate who we are as a school and to invite other people to come in to see how special we are. You can see any Booster Club member or varsity head coach for tickets. Proceeds raised will help to fund our athletic program. Thanks in advance for supporting our Raider athletes. TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED IN THE FRONT OFFICE OR FROM ANY HEAD COACH OR BOOSTER CLUB OFFICER. THEY MUST BE PURCHASED BY SUNDAY, MAR. 1st SO THAT OUR CATERER CAN HAVE NECESSARY COUNTS TO PREPARE THE DELICIOUS MEAL! This is truly a fun evening of bonding and celebrating what it means to be in the Raider family. You won't want to miss it.
11. Information for Summer Camp 2019 is going out. If you are interested, please be on the look out for information coming home. Dorchester Academy families will be given first option to participate, but this will end on April 30th. Beginning May 1st, we will offer any remaining spots to the public. Please contact Mrs. Bailey McAlhany (bailey.mcalhany@dorchesteracademy.org) if you have questions.

In sports news, Athletic Director Chris Myers reports that our varsity basketball teams continued their excellent seasons this past week while our JV teams wrapped up special seasons of their own. On Tuesday night, all four basketball teams defeated Patrick Henry for yet another sweep. The win for the varsity girls secured the region championship while the boys locked up the third-place spot in the region. Their season records ended at 19 – 2 (13-1) for girls and 13 -7 (9 – 5) for boys.

Our JV boys season came to an end Wednesday night as they fell in their region tournament to Andrew Jackson, who accounted for all three of the JV Raiders losses on the season. Our JV boys finished with a 16-3 record. Our JV girls wrapped their season up Thursday night by defeating Andrew Jackson to win the JV region tournament championship and finish the season with a record of 14 – 2. Congratulations to Abigail Weathers for being named MVP of the tournament and Abigail Holmes and Shala Guess for being named to the all-tournament team.

Friday night, our girls defeated Faith Christian in the first round of the state playoffs. The boys were also successful in their first-round game by upsetting Lauren's Academy on Saturday. We're the only school from our region to have both boys' and girls' teams win first round playoff games! GO RAIDERS!! For the next round of play, our girls will play Newberry Academy on Monday night at Wilson Hall at 7:30. The winner of that game will advance to the semi-final round to be played at 6:00 on Thursday at Wilson

Hall. Our boys will play Cathedral Academy on Tuesday night at Wilson Hall at 8:00. The winner of this game will advance to the semi-final round to be played at 7:30 on Thursday at Wilson Hall. The State Championship games will be held at the Sumter Civic Center on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. The boys' game will be held at 11:00 and the boys' game at 12:30. Hopefully, our Raiders will be in action on that day.

Our baseball and softball teams continue to prepare for their season openers February 28th at Clarendon Hall. We are still waiting on one school to confirm whether they will have a jv team or not. As soon as they let us know, updated schedules will be released.

Following are the details of athletic contests on our schedule for this week:

Monday, Feb. 18: Varsity girls play Newberry Academy in second round of state playoffs (7:30 at Wilson Hall)

Tuesday, Feb. 19: Varsity boys play Cathedral Academy in second round of state playoffs (8:00 at Wilson Hall)

Thursday, Feb 21: If girls advance to third round of playoffs, 6:00 at Wilson Hall.

If boys advance to third round of playoffs, 7:30 at Wilson Hall.

Saturday, Feb.23: If girls advance to final game, 11:00 at Sumter Civic Center.

If boys advance to final game, 12:30 at Sumter Civic Center.

Following are other important dates you may want to make note of:

- Feb. 18: Presidents' Day Holiday (DA CLOSED!)
- Feb. 24: Open House for Prospective Students (2:00 – 4:00 p.m.)
- Feb. 27: Chapel Day
- Mar. 1: Final tuition payment for the 2018-2019 school year is due. (The 2019-2020 contracted is being prepared and will be available by then.)
- Mar. 9: Booster Club BIG BUCKS Steak Dinner and Auction (begins at 5:30 p.m.)
- Mar. 13: Chapel Day
- Mar. 20: Third quarter report cards go home
- Mar. 27: Chapel Day
- Apr. 5: DA Prom (DA closed; After Care will be open based upon need)
- Apr. 10: Chapel Day
- Apr. 15 – 19: Spring Break (DA closed; After Care will be open based upon need)
- Ap. 24: Chapel Day
- May 3: Chapel Day
- May 10: Chapel Day
- May 17: K3 & K4 end-of-the year celebrations (8:15 a.m.)
- May 19: K5 graduation at 1:30 p.m. and Spring Athletic Awards Program at 3:00 p.m.
- May 22: Baccalaureate Service (7:00 p.m.)
- May 23: Graduation for the Class of 2019 (7:00 p.m.)
- May 27: Memorial Day Holiday

- May 28: Summer Camp begins

I am looking forward to another great week. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need to.

Sincerely,

Lynne' Reeves

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