

October, 2017

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Our opening month of school was excellent! Our students did a really nice job getting into our daily routines. I hope all of the new members to our school community have had a positive start to their Donald P. Sutherland School experience.

We have already begun our school year with events that have set a nice tone for another quality school year. Our PTO sponsored Welcome Back Picnic was a great opportunity for everyone to relax and enjoy a meal together. The weather started out a little wet and then it turned out to be a beautiful evening! I want to thank our PTO for organizing the event as well as all of the volunteers that assisted with set-up, clean-up, cooking, and bringing side dishes.

I want to thank everyone that attended our annual open house. The DPS staff recognizes the importance and value of providing our student's families with an academic overview as well as the expectations and routines for the grade level your children are in. Additionally, please take the opportunity to familiarize yourself with the EGCSd Attendance Policy as well as our Code of Conduct and visitation procedures. All students need to sign off on the Code of Conduct along with their parents/guardians.

Our opening character education assembly went very well. During the assembly, our fifth grade students presented our character trait of the month "Respect". At the end of the assembly, we unveiled our school flag for the 2017-2018 school year that was designed by now sixth grader, Shea Fajen. The flag is displayed in the gymnasium and cafeteria.

The month of October will conclude on Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, with our annual Halloween parade. We are requesting that you continue to support our efforts to celebrate Halloween with non-violent costumes. Students will not be allowed to carry swords, axes, guns, or other toy weapons. Masks that block a student's view or display blood or other frightening images are strongly discouraged. Use your imagination!

Here are some of our October events that you may want to place on your calendar:

October 3 <sup>rd</sup> :	PTO Meeting @ 6:30 (Library)
October 9 <sup>th</sup> :	No School (Columbus Day)
October 12 <sup>th</sup> :	Nassau Fire Department Visits DPS
October 13 <sup>th</sup> :	Character Education Assembly @ 2:15
October 20 <sup>th</sup> :	No school for Student s (PD Day for Staff)
October 26 <sup>th</sup> :	Picture Day
October 31 <sup>st</sup> :	Halloween Parade @ 2:00

Please visit our school website @ [www.egcsd.org/donald-p-sutherland-elementary-school](http://www.egcsd.org/donald-p-sutherland-elementary-school). We will continue to update the website throughout the school year and place important information for your viewing. Additionally, I would encourage you to sign up for our school district's School Messenger notification system for any emergency notifications and school based announcements. Any general school based announcement will come via school messenger email.

Enjoy the month and start of fall!

Sincerely,  
Mr. Alvey