



**Mr. Jeffrey Simons**  
*Superintendent*

## ***Donald P. Sutherland School***

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**Jack Alvey**  
*Principal*

December, 2017

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

I hope all of our families had an enjoyable Thanksgiving! I am happy to report that we once again provided Equinox with over one hundred fifty cans of green beans for their Thanksgiving Day meals in Albany. Thank you to all that participated. Our school community support for all of our service based initiatives is greatly appreciated. I want to thank everyone that attended our first marking period parent-teacher conferences and hope that you found your conversations with our teachers to be meaningful and productive towards your child's learning.

On November 9<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated Veteran's Day by hosting our monthly character education assembly and recognizing many veterans from our local community and relatives to students in our school. It was an incredible event that featured our second grade students introducing the trait of courage and our fourth grade students thanking the veterans for their service and our country's freedoms.

During the month of December, our school will place extra emphasis on the character trait of caring and compassion. DPS is participating in a toy and stocking stuffer drive that will benefit the Nassau Resource Center. All toys and stocking stuffers are due by December 11<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, we provided our students with a special guest performance by Brian Chevalier on December 1<sup>st</sup>. He is a local children's musician that sings inspiring and positive character songs. His performance was fantastic and fit in perfectly for our Blue and Gold: Stand Up to Bullying Day!

As we head into the winter months, I wanted to review a few weather related items. Please send your children dressed in appropriate outdoor attire based on the weather conditions. We try to go outside daily, unless it is raining or we fall into a temperature range that is significantly cold (Below 15 Degrees with or without wind chill). If your child does not have proper clothing, they may be held out of outdoor recess. Being dressed appropriately makes the experience much better for everyone! Please label all of your child's outerwear. It makes lost items much easier to return.

If your child is missing something, please have them check the Lost and Found located in the bus bay. We have started to develop a large inventory and want to get these items to their rightful owner. Eventually all unclaimed items are donated to a goodwill agency. Thank you for your continued support!

Here are several upcoming events in December:

8<sup>th</sup>: Character Education Assembly @ 2:15  
11<sup>th</sup>: Grades 3-5 Coding Club Letter/Permission Forms Go Home  
12<sup>th</sup>: Holiday Shop  
13<sup>th</sup>: Holiday Shop  
15<sup>th</sup>: Grades 3-5 Coding Club Permission Form Due  
25<sup>th</sup>-January 1<sup>st</sup> School Recess

Enjoy the holiday season with your family and friends.

Sincerely,

Mr. Alvey

