

## Chauncey H. Duker School

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Assistant Principal: Mr. Rich Vannoy ([rvannoy@d15.org](mailto:rvannoy@d15.org))

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**District 15 Mission Statement:** McHenry Elementary School District 15 is a child-centered community that values connections between people and learning in an environment fostered by mutual respect.

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### IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, January 23

St. Jude's Math-A-Thon begins

Tuesday, January 24

Board of Education meeting at Central Office, 7:30PM

Friday, January 27

Duker Dragon Day---wear PJ's to school or school colors (Duker spiritwear)  
SOAR assembly, 2:25PM  
Family Game Night, 7:00-9:00PM, cafeteria  
4<sup>th</sup> grade brings snacks to share  
5<sup>th</sup> grade brings drinks to share  
NO COST---Whole family is invited!

Tuesday, January 31

Field Trip, Mesnard's class, Gigi's Playhouse

Friday, February 3

St. Jude's Math-A-Thon ends---all money is due  
Next newsletter goes home  
Midquarter Reports go home  
Parent-Teacher Conference information goes home (Conferences on 2/21, No School)

### COMING UP

Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>---PTO, 6:30PM

Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>---St. Baldrick's T-Shirts for sale at lunch, \$10

Early Release Day, Dismissal begins at 1:23PM

Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>---Market Day Pick-up at EB

5th GOLD Field Trip to Hemmen's

Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>---Valentine's Day parties in the classrooms--PM

Board of Educ. meeting, Riverwood School, 7:30PM

State Testing---March 6<sup>th</sup> through March 16<sup>th</sup>

**FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE---**The McHenry County Department of Health tracks illnesses and symptoms and thus requires all schools to report these to their office. In addition, the school district is better able to contain contagious symptoms through the use of specific environmental cleansers and techniques if an increase is documented. Please keep this information in mind when calling your child in sick, as it is in the best interest of your child and the other students at school. If you have any questions, please call the Health Office.

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**ST. BALDRICK'S DAY---**This year, we are partnering with McHenry High School, McHenry Area Character Counts, local firefighters, police officers, and other local businesses for St. Baldrick's Day. This organization raises money to help fight childhood cancer. If you, your child, or anyone else you know is interested in shaving your head, please visit [StBaldricks.org](http://StBaldricks.org) and look for the Duker Dragons team. You can register or donate from that site. All proceeds from that go directly to the national foundation. The **community shave event** is Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00-8:00PM, at McHenry High School West Campus gym.

We will also be selling **McHenry St. Baldrick's t-shirts** here at Duker on Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, during lunch hours. Shirts are \$10.00 each. An order form with a picture of the shirt will come home with the next newsletter and can also be viewed on our web site. Duker's Leadership Team will also be organizing **Penny Wars** to benefit St. Baldrick's Day. All change collected from Penny Wars, as well as all proceeds from t-shirt sales, will go to LOCAL families with children fighting cancer. The Penny Wars will run from February 21<sup>st</sup> through March 9<sup>th</sup>. The winning class who collects the most will be treated to a class pizza party.

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**PTO NEWS---**Many thanks to all who save BoxTops for Education labels for Duker. We received a check recently for \$338.70 for submitted BoxTops. Our December Lunch with the Principals winner was **Emily Hagen**.

**Susan Lea**, parent of Ben Lea in Mrs. Kittl's class, was the Helping Hands winner for the first half of the school year for her volunteer services. Mrs. Kittl's class will receive a pizza party, compliments of PTO. Another winner will be chosen for the second semester too...so volunteer, if you can!

The Holiday Shop netted a profit of \$445.85. Many thanks to all who helped and to all who shopped too.

**Family Game Night** is Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00-9:00PM in the cafeteria. Please join us for a night of family fun playing Bingo for prizes. All Duker School students and families are invited to a free night of fun. We ask that the fourth graders bring snacks and the fifth graders bring drinks to share. We need a few parent helpers for the evening too. If you are able to help set up or distribute Bingo cards or manage the snack tables or help with minimal clean up, we could use your help. Please call Mrs. Holliday or the school office (815-344-7125) if you would be willing to help for a few minutes that evening. We will also be having a 50/50 raffle that night too. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. The drawing is at the end of Family Game Night.

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**McHENRY ELEMENTARY EDUCATION FOUNDATION FAMILY BOWLING EVENT---**All District #15 families and friends are invited to a Family Cosmic Bowling Day at Raymond's Bowl in Johnsburg this Sunday, January 22. There will be two bowling slots beginning at 12:30-1:30 and again from 2:30-3:30PM. The cost is \$8.00 per person, per hour. A free soft drink ticket and pretzels are included, as well as shoe rental.

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**DUKER LEADERSHIP TEAM WILL BE HOLDING A FOOD DRIVE FOR FISH OF McHENRY**

**FOOD**---Our student Leadership Team will be holding a food drive to benefit FISH of McHenry Food Pantry. There are so many families struggling to put food on their tables at this time. Many people help during the holiday season, but their need continues much beyond that. Many of those families are Duker families. The collection will run between January 30<sup>th</sup> and February 10<sup>th</sup>. A list of needed items is included with this newsletter. Please check expiration dates before donating food. The class who donates the most items will receive a prize.

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**ST. JUDE'S MATH-A-THON BEGINS ON MONDAY**---Duker School will participate in a Math-A-Thon to benefit St. Jude's Research Hospital. This begins on Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Teachers have already distributed flyers with the information and permission slip this week. Once students return the permission slip, they may obtain pledges and complete a Math Fun Book on their own. It is NOT too late to sign up for this. The fun book is also available on-line. The Math Fun Book contains problems and puzzles. Students can also receive prizes based on the amount of pledges they have collected. By supporting your children in this effort, you will help raise funds for the nationally recognized hospital and also give your child some extra math practice. These funds will help St. Jude Hospital in its ongoing fight against childhood diseases. All books should be completed and money returned by February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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**NEW FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM**---McHenry School District #15 is excited to announce a new food service program. A flyer is coming home today. Please look for it in your child's backpack.

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**LANDMARK SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHT**---Landmark School, District #15's year-round, multiage school, is hosting its parent information night on Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, at 6:30PM in the gym at 3614 W. Waukegan Rd. All parents of students in grades K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend to learn more about the program, meet current Landmark staff and families, and take a tour of the classrooms. Landmark will begin its eleventh year as an open enrollment school of choice for families who reside within the boundaries of McHenry School District #15. All are welcome to attend. For more information about this evening and/or the program, please call the Landmark office at 815-385-8120.

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**SCHOOL CLOSINGS**---Winter is here. An easy way to get information about school closings due to weather is to sign up for Nixle, which can provide both an e-mail and text message. Go to [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com) to sign up for this free service. Our district website, as well as local TV/radio stations also carry the school closing information. Do NOT call the district Transportation Office.

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**BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS**---Many thanks to all who donated blood last Friday in memory of Terry Smart. The percentage from Duker School was 25.7%...the highest percentage in the district. If you donated blood, thank you very much!

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**YEARBOOK ORDERS**---If you would like to order a Duker yearbook, please return the order envelope with \$15.00 by Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Checks should be made payable to **INTER-STATE STUDIOS, INC** not Duker School. Yearbooks are distributed in May.