



Elementary Principal Report September 2026

DCS Elementary has successfully transitioned into the second month of the academic year. Staff will continue to focus on school wide ROAR expectations while analyzing our Fall reading data and implementing targeted intervention blocks.

Current enrollment:

Student Attendance is standing the same as last month at 153 students PK3-6th grade.

Safety Drills:

- August 14
 - Bus evacuation drill at 8:30am
 - Fire Drill at 9:45am
- August 20
 - Fire Drill at 1:30pm
 - Severe Weather Drill at 1:45pm

Teacher PD:

- August 17
 - DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) training with Angie Dickey from ESU 15
 - Benchmark team trained to complete benchmark testing for mClass
 - Benchmark team consists of Mrs. Courtney Gritzuk, Mrs. Tracy Lambley, Mrs. Emily Gleisberg, Mrs. Angie Englot (ESU 15)
- August 19
 - 95 Adolescent Word Study Solution
 - Mrs. Lesley Marshall attended online and is utilizing morphology lessons in her classroom.
 - Adolescent Word Study Solution empowers students in grades 6-12 to decode and decipher multisyllable words—opening the door to academic language and cross-curricular success.
 - Morphology (phonics for upper elementary students)
 - Morphemes are building blocks like base words, prefixes, suffixes, and Latin or Greek roots. For example, the word "unbreakable" breaks down into *un-* (not), *break* (base word), and *-able* (capable of).



DUNDY COUNTY STRATTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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- September 2
 - MTSS / COP#1 in Trenton at the ESU
 - Mrs. Courtney Gritzuk, Mrs. Lesley Marshall, and Mrs. Nancy Sorensen attended for the elementary
- September 14 - Teacher In-Service
 - LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling) training at Trenton with Mrs. Angie Dickey from ESU 15, 8:00-2:00 MT
 - Mrs. Paige Strand, Mrs. Diane Bohochik, Ms. Tanisha Fahrenholz, Mrs. Allie Behlke, Mrs. Shelby Zoltenko, Mrs. JoLen Stamm, Mrs. Lesley Marshall, Mrs. Tracy Lambley, Mrs. Emily Gleisberg, Mrs. Courtney Gritzuk, Mrs. Jesse Krug, Mrs. Emily Cameron, Ms. Aly Lunsford and Mrs. Nancy Sorensen attended.

September Events and Key Dates:

- August 13
 - First day of school all school assembly at 8:00, with a 1:00 early release
- August 14
 - Skunk incident of 2026, Deputy Lucci assisted with the incident
- August 21
 - BWTelcom watermelon feed
 - State Farm from McCook spoke with the 4th grade about reading maps and land throughout Nebraska
- September 1
 - IPG (Instructional Practice Guide) team walk throughs with Mrs. Angie Dickey and Mrs. Kali Curl from ESU 15
- September 2
 - H2O photos - went very smoothly
- September 3
 - Mrs. Shelby Zoltenko had a guest speaker set up to discuss Nebraska farming and agriculture
 - Mrs. Shelby Zoltenko has received multiple videos from farmers around Nebraska to help her students learn more about agriculture and rural communities, ranging from irrigation to honey bee farming
 - DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) benchmark testing for grades 1-3 with Mrs. Angie Dickey and Mrs. Kali Curl from ESU 15
 - September 16, DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) benchmark testing for Kindergarten

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- DIBELS testing is being administered to comply with Nebraska's legislature enacting the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act. While our current practice meets many of the requirements, we will also:
 - Communicate with parents
 - Inform parents of reading supports
 - Increase systems of supports for students
 - Develop an Individualized Reading Improvement Plan (IRIP) for students needing support
- September 7
 - No School - Labor Day
- September 8
 - Mrs. Lesley Marshall led the MTSS planning for lower elementary (grades K-2)
- September 11
 - Flag Retirement Ceremony at the High School
 - Sixth grade class attended
- Mrs. Tanisha Fahrenholz and the second graders read most Tuesdays at the Hester Home

Upcoming:

- September 15
 - Upper elementary MTSS planning (grades 3-6)
- September 18
 - Polish your Pearls Program
- September 28
 - Parent Teacher Conferences (2:30-7:00) with a 1:00 dismissal

Thank you for your support!
Nancy Sorensen

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