

Daniel Pratt Elementary School

Comprehensive Overview

Daniel Pratt Elementary School is dedicated to developing and maintaining a well-rounded program that promotes academics and character development. The focus areas are as follows:

Strategic Teaching

The structure, system, methods, techniques, procedures, and processes that a teacher uses during instruction. DPES focus areas include, but are not limited to the following:

Standards-Based Teaching: Our academic program adheres to the Alabama College and Career Readiness Standards. These standards are based off Common Core Standards. Core classes include Reading, English Language Arts, Math, Science, and History. Elective classes include Music, Technology, and Library. Parents may find the standards on the Alabama Learning Exchange at <https://alex.state.al.us>.

ACBOE Elementary Programs Guide: This guide ensures that all teachers are able to teach every standard in an appropriate time frame and that all elements of each standard are appropriately covered.

DPES Teaching Expectations:

- Daniel Pratt Elementary School teachers undergo continuous professional development related to state standards, rigorous teaching strategies, best teaching practices, and classroom management. They are observed regularly and are held to the expectations set by the principal. Teachers are provided with in-school professional development in the form of Professional Learning Communities. They also receive scheduled times to meet and plan with their grade-levels. Other classes are offered by the administration as needed. Teachers are encouraged to go to outside trainings when possible. The administration strives to purchase up-to-date technology and relevant resources for the school.
- Administration classroom observations are conducted regularly in order to determine how well the teachers are applying the appropriate depth-of-knowledge strategies. All teachers receive oral and written feedback on their observations.
- Teachers Observing Teachers: Administration led walkthroughs and one-on-one observations of each other are conducted at least once per semester.
- Teacher Planning:
 - Planning is done according to the Rigor/Relevance Framework and the DPES created Instructional Frameworks for each grade-level. These are tools for all teachers to use as they plan and teach their lessons. The frameworks help the teachers provide the appropriate level of learning, ensuring that students are engaged in each lesson.
 - Planbook.com: The administration purchases Planbook.com for every teacher. This is a great lesson-planning tool for teachers to use.
 - Please visit our website, www.dpeseagles.com, to find information on lesson plans, homework assignments, and testing information. Specific information for each teacher can be found by clicking on his or her name under the school staff link. You may email your child's teacher with any questions you may have through the school's website.

Student Engagement

Any sustained connection a learner has towards any aspect of learning, schools, or education. DPES student engagement practices focuses on AdvancED ELEOT criteria. We incorporate whole group and small group sessions into our reading and math times.

Student Information Boards: This is an area in each classroom that displays the standard objectives that will be taught for the week, the daily agendas, and weekly assignments/assessments. The boards are designed to be student-friendly in order to help students be accountable for their own learning.

Blended Learning is defined as a style of education in which online programs and traditional classroom instruction are coupled to better enhance student learning.

- Accelerated Reader monitors reading comprehension of students via assessment. Parents may access their child's progress in AR at home. A Parent Renaissance Home Connect sheet will be sent home at the beginning of the school year with the student's username and password information. Visit Daniel Pratt Elementary School's website. Click "Library," "links," and "Renaissance Home Connect." Then enter your child's login information to access the child's progress.
- Lexia supports and reinforces foundational reading skills. Parents may view their child's status in Lexia by having their child log in to his or her account at home. Visit Daniel Pratt Elementary School's website. Click "Lexia Login" under Parent-Student Resources on the homepage. The student will then log in using the username and password issued at school. The student dashboard will show the student's usage and current level.
- Reflex teaches memorization of basic math facts and fact family relationships. Parents may access their child's progress in Reflex by setting up a free Reflex Parent Reporting Account. Visit Daniel Pratt Elementary School's website and click on "Reflex Login" under Parent-Student Resources on the homepage. Students should provide parents with their Reflex information, including their teacher's username and the student's password. Once an account is set up, parents are able to view their child's usage; fluency growth reports, facts and fact families mastered, and receive weekly progress updates via email. Parents may also view their child's progress and current placement if the child logs into his or her account at home.
- Prodigy focuses on standard based instruction at students' current learning level.

Fifth and Sixth Grade Levelized Math Classes: These math blocks are structured by students' needs derived from percentile levels in Performance Series assessment data. Students are placed in appropriate classes to build from and work towards meeting grade level expectations at different paces.

First and Second Grade RISE Academies: These are daily periods set aside to remediate or expand upon content standards.

Master Schedule: This school-wide instructional schedule provides protected blocks designed for whole group instruction free of interruptions.

Physical Education Department: Please refer to our student handbook on rules and expectations. You may also contact the Physical Education Department Head, Coach Ruffin, at Jessica.Camp@acboe.net for additional information.

Extra-Curricular Activities:

- Clubs: BETA, Student Council, ENN, Choir
- Music: 1st- 4th Grade Music Programs, 5th & 6th Grade Choir, Talent Show

Behavior Management

Vision & Mission Statement: The DPES vision and mission statements are heavily promoted each day. Our standard of excellence is taught through our vision of RISE. This stands for Respect, Integrity, Self-Control, and Effort. All of our students are expected to RISE!

Classroom Management is defined as the methods and strategies an educator uses to maintain a classroom environment that is conducive to student success and learning. Classroom management varies from room to room and from grade level to grade level.

- The DPES School-Wide Behavior Management Plan incorporates a progressive discipline plan that promotes positive behavior through clearly set rules, expectations, and positive/ negative consequences.
- All students are expected to attend school regularly so they can complete all of their required lesson assignments. Each student must adhere to all rules to ensure that they (and their peers) receive the highest quality education. Finally, all assignments designated by each teacher must be completed. Students who refuse to do their work receive consequences for this behavior through our Office Referral Procedures.

Learning Lunches: These are held by the administration in order to reinforce school-wide expectations without interrupting instruction. Students are required to be silent during these lunches, but they are not intended to be a punishment for inappropriate behavior

RISE Celebrations: These celebrations occur once every nine weeks. Children who are on the A or AB Honor Roll may attend. Students who

Fun Fridays: Award incentive for good behavior and completing classroom assignments; however, students may receive time-outs or loss of based on individual classroom management plans. Laura

Special Events: Having fun is an important element in the life of elementary school students. Daniel Pratt Elementary School promotes fun events throughout the school year. A Yearly Event Calendar is available on our school website. The Student Council and BETA Club take an active role in promoting student involvement as well. All students are encouraged to participate in dress-up days, special event days, school dances, and other special events.

Attendance Policy: Students must come to school regularly in order to be successful in school. Consequences are applied through the administration for excessive tardiness and absences. Mrs. Finch strictly adheres to the ACBOE Attendance Policy. Please refer to the DPES Student Handbook on our school website.

Parent Involvement/Information

The amount of participation a parent has when it comes to his/her child's schooling both at home and on the school campus. DPES welcomes parental involvement through the APT, volunteer opportunities, and special events.

APT: Please join the APT, and check out the APT Facebook page. Volunteer Guidelines are located on our school's website. You may also email Mrs. Escue at DPESAPT@acboe.net for any comments or questions you may have.

General Questions or Concerns: Please send your questions or concerns to dpeseagles@acboe.net. We will do our best to address everyone's needs.

Carpool: Please email Mrs. D. Stewart at dpescarpool@acboe.net if you need additional carpool tags made. She will be happy to help you.

DPES Facebook: Please regularly visit the DPES Facebook Page for updates and information.

INOW Parent Portal: The parent portal cost \$10.00. This portal allows parents to see their child's grades and attendance record.

Notify Me: Parents receive text message reminders about upcoming events, dismissal changes, etc.

Intervention Programs

Counseling and Guidance Program: Mrs. Brownell is the counselor for 1st -3rd grade students, and Mrs. Walker is the counselor for 4th – 6th grade students. You may email them at marylyn.brownell@acboe.net and Kaylyn.walker@acboe.net.

- Classroom Guidance Lessons: Counselors facilitate guidance curriculum lessons. The counselors schedule these lessons. They take place in classrooms, the counseling classrooms, or in other areas of the school.
- Small Group Lessons: Counselors conduct small-group counseling sessions outside the classroom to respond to students' identified interests or needs. Small-group counseling lessons are scheduled by the counselors and may be 1 to 6 lessons. Teacher input as to student needs is encouraged.
- School Wide Lessons: Counselors organize **Red Ribbon Week** (Drug Awareness) and **Career Week** (Career Awareness).
- Character Trait Recognition: Counselors organize and recognize students who exhibit outstanding character traits throughout the school year.
- Responsive Services include counseling or referral activities that meet the immediate needs and concerns of students.
- **Consultation/Conferences:** Counselors are available to consult with students, parents or guardians, educators, and community agencies regarding strategies to help students and families in need. Teachers and parents can request a conference by contacting the counselor.
- **Individual Counseling:** Counselors provide individual counseling for students experiencing personal difficulties and need a private setting. School staff and parents can refer students to the counselor when needed.
- **Crisis Counseling:** Counselors are available to provide students and families facing an emotional crisis. Counselors assist/consult with teachers concerning reports to DHR and or other outside agencies.
- **Referrals:** Counselors use referral sources to enhance the services provided through the school counseling program. Counselors provide outside resource information at the request of students, parents and teachers. Counselors make referrals to the Mental Health Agency and Social Services.

Advisement Days: Teachers will meet with each of their students one-on-one at the end of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Nine weeks. These conferences are held in order to engage each child with their own learning progress. Character Education Reviews are promoted during this time to the whole group of students as they wait for their conference.

RtI Program: The Response to Instruction program is an ALSDE program designed to meet the needs of all students. Students who are identified as needing Tier 2 or Tier 3 services through the universal screening process have access to the RtI coordinator on a regular basis. The coordinator and teachers monitor each students' classroom progress carefully. Instructional strategies are put in place and the teachers document the students' progress. The RtI Team reviews all of the information each month. Finally, recommendations are made based on all the collected data.

English as a Second Language Program: The English as a Second Language (ESL) Program is offered to students who speak another language at home other than English and who have qualified for services based on an English screener test. English Learners (ELs) that qualify will receive 30 minutes of pull out services weekly, a bilingual dictionary if the student reads in his/native language, and an iPad based on their proficiency score. Depending on funding, these students will also be offered free after-school tutoring and a week of ESL

Program Summer Camp. Please contact Christina Thurman at Christina.Thurman@acboe.net for additional information

Lunchroom

- All students have a lunch account (the same pin number 1st – 12th grade)
- The student's lunch account is automatically created when they are enrolled
- Prepay into the account by sending cash or check to the teacher or set up to pay and/or monitor at www.paypams.com. Teachers take up lunch money every day and turn it in to the lunchroom by 8:30. We accept cash or checks. Please make sure a phone number and the student's name are written on every check sent in. Paypams charges a fee to pay online; however, there is no fee to use paypams to send you e-mail reminders when the lunch account gets low or to look at what your students' spending habits are.
- We do not send home negative balance slips. You can monitor the lunch accounts through your paypams account. (this site takes one to two days to update and negative balance phone calls will not reflect recent purchases) Please keep this in mind when you receive the automatic phone call. It will not reflect charges or payments turned in for the day before. You must estimate these charges and add them to the amount stated in the phone call. Please do not just send the amount owed. It is important not to allow the lunch accounts to go negative. Please make sure to always keep a minimum of one to two weeks funds in the lunch account.
- Free or reduced lunch forms must be renewed each year. All students will receive a form. If you qualified for free or reduced last year, it will continue for a little while – but you must re-apply! The short time it continues for this year is just to give you, time to get your new application turned in. It will roll into full paid if you do not re-apply. You can also find an online application at www.paypams.com. Free lunch includes free breakfast and reduced lunch includes reduced breakfast.
- We offer extra items that can be purchased on the lunch accounts that have money. (Tues Dippin' Dots and for 1st and 2nd grade Fri ice cream are popular items) I recommend that all parents, including those who qualify for free or reduced, keep some extra money on the lunch account. You never know if a student may drop his lunch from home and need to purchase a school lunch or an extra milk. 1st and 2nd grade are only allowed to by ice cream on Fridays for 1.00 (the other grades are not limited to Friday) And Dippin' Dots Frozen yogurt for 2.00 are only offered on Tuesdays for everyone. Your child is welcome to come through with their lunch from home and purchase milk, water, extra fries or anything else we offer. If you see that your student needs to have certain limits put on their account, please call me and we can put custom limits based on what you would like. Please keep in mind we cannot turn away a student for a basic breakfast or lunch. Some students find our many choices for breakfast very appealing and eat both at home and at school. You will be able to see this when you monitor your paypams account. Students will not be allowed to get anything extra if they have a negative balance or no money on their account. This includes free and reduced students.
- Lunch-a-ble packs, soy butter and jelly and deli sandwiches are offered most days in addition to the featured menu item. Please do not panic if your student who is allergic to peanuts comes home and says they ate a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for lunch. I only offer soy butter uncrustable sandwiches. We do not serve any peanut products in this lunchroom. I also like to offer a variety of entrée's including a cheese, meat and cracker lunch-a-ble pack (just as you buy in the grocery store) Each entrée' includes milk and all of the fruits, vegetables and salads and any desserts that may be on the menu for that day. If the student takes everything that is offered for that meal, it will be a very full plate. If they come home and say there was nothing to eat, I invite you to please come any day and look at what we serve.
- All fruits, vegetables, salads and milk are included with each meal.
- We believe more choices reaches more students.

- Starting this year, lunch menus will only be available on the school website. Please feel free to contact the lunchroom manager at Teri.Pearson@acboe.net or use the direct line to the lunchroom: 334-365-5547