



January 25, 2012

Upcoming Dates

February 8 PTA Meeting, School Budget discussed 6:30 pm
February 15 Delayed Opening 10:55am
February 27- March 2 February Vacation

Please look on the back for schedule of city wide meetings pertaining to the school budget

Dear Families,

Earlier this week I met with the bus company to discuss bus safety. In the recent weeks, it appears as though many of our students have forgotten the bus safety rules. I have attached the expectations that all riders and parents of riders signed at the beginning of the year. Please review with your child. Remember, riding the bus is a privilege and will be taken away if needed. I also encourage you to be vigilant to your child's safety at the bus stop. It has been reported that many students are waiting for pick-up without adult supervision. Be mindful that children of all ages are waiting together and the content of conversations is not always developmentally appropriate.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation-
Kate Callahan

News from the Principal's Office

Woo-hoo! We received a \$5000 grant from Lowe's to create a "learning" garden. A huge thank you to Jen Bell for writing the grant for Dondero School. Dondero has started a GREEN TEAM to assist us in creating a school community that will demonstrate environmentally responsible behavior for our children every day. If you are interested in participating please contact Jess Fagan at jfagan@portsmouth.k12.nh.us

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27th wear DONDERO attire to school! If you do not have a clothing item with DONDERO on it, wear red and white!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sustainability Fair: In the spring, we would like to have a sustainability fair. Beth Krupp has offered to be the committee chair. Please contact her if you wanting to assist doyleemd@comcast.net

WINTER WEATHER DRIVE

Do you have snow pants, jackets, boots and/or sneakers that are in decent condition but no longer fit your child? We NEED them! Please bring donated items to Cindy Hart.



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The Portsmouth School Department is deep in the budget process for FY 2013, and now is the time to get informed and give your input. Visit www.donderopta.org and view the [Outline of the FY 2013 Budget](#) and consider attending these upcoming meetings:

WAVE (We All Value Education) Meeting - Levinson Room, Portsmouth Public Library, Mon. Jan. 30, 6:30-8:30pm- WAVE is "a group of concerned Portsmouth residents striving to put public education at the top of our city's priorities." This meeting will focus on the upcoming budget process and how to "engage the broader community in the quest for excellence in public education."

PTA Meeting Wed. Feb. 8 - School Budget Q&A, 6:30-8pm- Join Superintendent Ed McDonough and members of the School Board for a Q&A regarding the upcoming **School Budget and how it affects Dondero**. Also to be discussed -- the Elementary Education Facilities Sub-committee and consideration of Neighborhood Schools vs. Grade Level Schools. Free childcare for all Dondero students.

School Board Final Public Hearing on Budget - City Hall, Thurs. Feb. 9 - 7pm- Last chance to make your voice heard before the School Board adopts its budget Feb. 16. Also televised on Channel 22.

17th Annual Father Daughter Valentine's Day Dance

The Portsmouth Recreation Department cordially invites all girls in grades K-5 and their dads (uncles, older brothers, grandfathers, etc.) to attend the 17th annual Father Daughter Valentine's Day dance

Saturday February 12 6pm-8pm

Connie Bean Community Center

\$10 per couple (No additional charge for extra daughters)

No Preregistration is necessary

All payments will be collected at the door

Special corsages will be given to the young ladies

All couples are asked to donate a goodie, finger sandwiches or dessert item. Please bring with you to the dance and do not drop off early

Any questions call the Rec Department at 766-1483