



INFORMER

DUNCANVILLE Independent School District

July | 20 | 20156

Back to School

We hope everyone has had an enjoyable and relaxing summer break. The first day of the 2015 - 2016 school year is

Monday, August 24, 2015. Click [here](#) to view a printable copy of the 2015-16 academic calendar.

There is also a

special webpage created for back to school information.

Online Registration

Duncanville ISD has gone paperless when it comes to filling out back-to-school forms; it's all done online for both new-to-district and returning students. Online registration opens tomorrow **Wednesday, July 22.**

Detailed information and instructions are available on the home page of the district [website](#).

Returning Families

Returning families will use their Home Access Center (HAC) parent accounts to submit the required online registration information; they will not fill out forms by hand. Parents of returning students should have received an important letter with HAC login information the first week of July.

Parents are encouraged to keep the letter in a safe location so they may refer to it when online registration begins. A student is considered a returning student if he/she was enrolled in a Duncanville ISD school on the last day of the prior school year. Online applications for returning students that do not indicate a change in address or guardian will be accepted by the campus registrar *without* being required to submit a



A Message from Interim Superintendent, Dr. Deborah Cron

I want to welcome each of you back for what will be an exciting school year! Our focus will be on students, ensuring we provide strong instruction to help each child move forward in his or her educational journey. We are implementing changes in curriculum and providing instruction for teachers to

new proof of residence. Parents of returning students who moved over the summer will not have to submit new proof of residence at the campus if the parent has a utility bill in his/her name, and the parent successfully uploads the utility bill and a photo ID when registering online.

New-to-District Families

New-to-district families will use the new-to-district student registration process, which will open on July 22 and will be accessible through the district website. A student is considered a new-to-district student if he/she was NOT enrolled in a Duncanville ISD school on the last day of the prior school year. Document Review Registration will be held from **August 6-12** depending on the school your child will attend. Families will be asked to bring critical enrollment documents like immunization records and residency verification information to their child's school. View Document Review dates in either [English](#) or [Spanish](#).

meet the specific needs of our students. Every Duncanville ISD teacher and campus administrator spent time this summer learning CHAMPS: a classroom behavioral management system to provide consistency in discipline throughout the district. Central office administrators are working to improve communication with our staff members, including listening to concerns and requesting input. Our maintenance department has been busy cleaning the campuses and preparing for the start of school. All employees - aides, cafeteria workers, teachers, secretaries, clerks, bus drivers, and administrators - will get a fresh start beginning on August 24 as we greet our students for the new school year. By working together, we can create a district of excellence for all children and young people. I look forward to seeing the "light shine" on Duncanville ISD as we move toward improved student learning!



New Principals



Website Reboot

The district is planning to launch its new website in early August. The revised website has a fresh new look and offers a more user-friendly experience. You'll find familiar resources there including the latest district news, links to the district calendar and important contact information.



Pamela Wilson becomes principal of **Bilhartz Elementary**. Wilson most recently served as an assistant principal at Irving High School. She received her bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Stephen F. Austin University and earned her masters degree in Educational Administration from Texas A&M Commerce.



New Hastings is Under Construction

Construction crews have begun their work on the new Hastings Elementary School. Earth movers and other heavy equipment began excavating Saturday, June 27. They're clearing out an area where the new building's foundation will be poured. That work and installing underground utilities will take most of the month of July to complete. Workers are expected to drill piers in August and the first signs of vertical construction should come in September.

When school lets out next year, the old Hastings will be demolished and the area where the school once stood will be repurposed into the new building's parking lot.

The new Hastings Elementary is slated to open in time for the 2016 – 2017 school year.



Vicky Echols takes over as principal at **Smith Elementary**. Echols is a self-described passionate, curious and creative educator and communicator. She most recently served as Leadership Development Specialist at the Region VII Education Service Center. Echols received her Bachelors of Science, Curriculum and Instruction from Texas A&M University and earned her M.Ed. at James Cook University, Queensland, Australia.

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