



**Dorchester School District Two**  
*Leading the Way: Every Student, Every Day*

[www.ddtwo.org](http://www.ddtwo.org)

| [f @TeamDD2](https://www.facebook.com/TeamDD2)

[t @TeamDDTwo](https://twitter.com/TeamDDTwo)

[y Dorchester School District Two](https://www.youtube.com/DorchesterSchoolDistrictTwo)

# Welcome Back #Team Dorchester!



**Joseph R. Pye**  
*Superintendent*

*In these challenging times for our community and our district, I want to reassure families and staff that plans to reopen our schools are focused on providing the best learning models for our students that provide a safe and productive environment.*

*Please know that Dorchester School District Two's Core Values place students first in all decisions we make. An in-person traditional learning situation is preferable for students and something the district will continue to strive for; however, we cannot sacrifice health and safety in our schools. Over the summer, teachers, principals, parents, students and district staff have worked diligently to develop reopening models that offer families options that are in the best interest of our students and staff. Guidance from the State Department of Education and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) has also been an integral part of this process. As guidelines change, we have developed options with enough flexibility to quickly adapt to the current level of disease activity in our community and still provide the absolute best educational opportunities for our students.*

*We appreciate the flexibility, understanding, and patience of our families and employees as we continue to refine plans to meet the needs of our students.*

[ddtwo.org/backtoschool](http://ddtwo.org/backtoschool) >

## [PowerSchool Parent Portal & Registration](#)

The registration process should be completed online, including the document submission. Parents/Guardians unable to register online will need to contact the school to arrange an appointment to register in person. Visit your school or district website for detailed information on the new registration process.

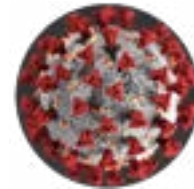
NEW STUDENTS registering in Dorchester School District Two for the first time should present the following:

- Child's Legal Birth Certificate
- SC Certificate of Immunization (prior to the beginning of school)
- Proof of Parent/Guardian's Residency - Current utility bill (electric, water, gas) that includes service address in parent/guardian's name
- Photo Identification of Parent/Guardian

RETURNING STUDENTS must provide current utility bill that shows a service address in parent/guardian's name.

ALL STUDENTS must remit a \$20 registration fee, which is used for instructional materials/programs as well as a \$20 technology fee.

QUESTIONS? Guardianship questions or new student registration questions should be directed to your child's school.



[ddtwo.org/backtoschool](http://ddtwo.org/backtoschool) > [HEALTH & SAFETY](#)

### **Important Links**

[Safety Procedures Video](#)

[Health & Safety Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Face Covering Guidance](#)

[Nursing and Health Services](#)

### **Immunization Requirements**

Pursuant to Regulation 61-8, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control has declared required vaccinations, screenings, and immunizations necessary for a child to be admitted to any public, private, or parochial schools, grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12), or child development program under the control of the State Department of Education. [Childcare Immunization](#), [5K-12 Immunization](#)

All required immunizations must be documented on a single South Carolina certificate of Immunization form. For more information, contact your child's school or for additional information call Dorchester County Health Department (843) 832-0041.

### **Medications**

For students requiring medication during the school day, a parent/legal guardian must deliver the medication to the school nurse or principal's designee in the current prescription bottle properly labeled by a registered pharmacist and accompanied by a completed DDTwo [Medication Permission Form](#) (physician & parent/guardian signatures required). See Parent/Student Handbook for full details or contact the school nurse.



[ddtwo.org/backtoschool](http://ddtwo.org/backtoschool) > **TECHNOLOGY**

#### **Important Links**

[Student Device Information](#)

[Core Learning Platforms](#)

[Internet Access Resources](#)

[School Based Instruction eLearning](#)

[DDTwo Virtual Academy](#)

Dorchester School District Two is now providing access to devices to all students in PreK-12th grades. Students will have the opportunity to extend their learning beyond the classroom by taking their device home in order to access instructional programs, files and schoolwork. A district-issued device will be distributed following each school's Student Device Deployment and Orientation.

#### **District-Issued Devices**

**K and 1:** iPad

**Grade 2:** HP Stream Windows Laptop with Webcam

**Grades 3-12:** Dell Latitude 3190 Windows Laptop with Webcam

**In order to receive a district-issued device and gain access to the district network:**

#### **Parents/Guardians**

- Parents will review the annual Parent Orientation video.
- Parents will complete and submit the 2020-2021 Online Registration form for their new or returning student.
- Parents will review and electronically sign the Technology Acceptable Use agreement available within the 2020-2021 Online Registration form.
- Parents will review and electronically sign they have reviewed and have access to a digital copy of the Student Device Handbook.
- Parents will submit the applicable Registration and Technology fees either online within the Online Registration form portal, by mail, or in person at the school site.

#### **Students**

- Students will complete an annual student orientation at their assigned device deployment prior to receiving a district-issued device. As a part of the Student Orientation, students will watch a series of instructional videos and digitally sign to indicate they agree to follow the student device rules and procedures.
- Staff will review the Student Device Handbook with students at Student Orientation which outlines expectations for student use while providing both students and parents/guardians with procedures for appropriate use, care of, and security.



**BACK to  
SCHOOL**  
*Safely learning together.*

[ddtwo.org/backtoschool](http://ddtwo.org/backtoschool)

**is your guide for the  
2020-2021 school year.**

**Important Links**

**District Updates**

**Health & Safety**

**PowerSchool Parent Portal**

**2020-2021 Registration**

**Curriculum & Instruction**

**Technology**

**Transportation**

**Family Resources**

**Food and Nutrition**

**District & Emergency**

**Communications**

**Get Involved**

**Calendar**

#### **Fact & Fees**

In an abundance of caution for health and safety, Fact and Fees will be conducted online. Families unable to complete this process online should contact their school.

*Dorchester School District Two is authorized by special legislation of the SC Legislature to charge a school fee to be used for instructional materials and programs in the classroom. This \$20 fee stays in your child's school and provides valuable resources that are used in every classroom and throughout the school.*

#### **DD2 Device Orientation & Distribution**

Schools will inform families in August regarding the distribution of district issued devices. Parents and students can access the Student Device Handbook and videos which outlines expectations for device use and procedures for appropriate use, care and security.

#### **Meet the Teacher**

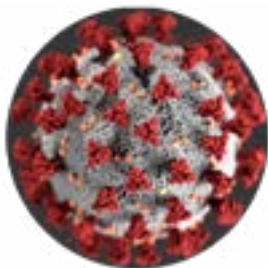
Schools will provide more information about this event after school begins.



## SAFETY PROCEDURES

The safety of students and staff is our number one priority. The school district collaborates with law enforcement agencies and elected officials to ensure that all schools maintain a safe learning environment. Below are procedures and strategies in place to ensure schools are safe:

- The school district and all schools have a safety management plan
- A district safety/security coordinator assists schools with security plans and systems
- Resource officers are at all schools or are in close proximity to a campus
- All schools have a secured entrance way and security cameras on the interior and exterior of the building
- Each school has a visitor check-in and check-out system in the lobby to help ensure that no unauthorized person enters the building
- The school district and all schools have phone messaging systems to keep parents informed. Visit [District & Emergency Communications](#) on the Back to School page.
- Safety drills for students and staff are conducted during the year for fire, earthquake, severe weather, and lockdowns. (During a lockdown all classrooms and entrances are locked, students and teachers remain in the classrooms, and no one is permitted to leave or enter the building until the situation is resolved. Staff and law enforcement are in hallways and common areas in the building.)
- The Board of Trustees formed a Safety Task Force working to improve security initiatives in schools.



## COVID-19 Safety Procedures

[ddtwo.org/backtoschool](http://ddtwo.org/backtoschool) >

[Health and Safety & Transportation](#)



[ddtwo.org/backtoschool](http://ddtwo.org/backtoschool) > [TRANSPORTATION](#)

### Important Links

[General Information & Resources](#)

[Bus Routes](#)

[GPS Bus Tracker](#)

[FAQs](#)

The safety and security of children is of utmost importance to the Transportation Department of Dorchester School District Two. Learn more about [COVID-19 Bus Safety Procedures](#).

Students must ride the bus to which they are assigned and get on and off the bus at their assigned bus stops. Parents/guardians requesting an exception must put their request in writing to their child's principal at least one day before requested change.

### Bus Safety Tips

- Arrive at the bus stop about 10 minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- Do not run or play in the street while waiting for the bus.
- Do not move toward the bus until the red lights flash and the stop sign extends
- Street crossing: wait for the driver to direct you to cross, looking both ways first to make sure all traffic has stopped.
- Cross in front of the stopped bus—never behind.
- Do not run or walk alongside the bus when it is moving.
- Go directly to your seat and remain seated, facing forward the entire ride.
- No use of mobile devices, laptops or tablets on the bus as a safety precaution.
- In case of sudden stop, these devices can become projectiles.
- Secure computers/electronic devices inside backpacks to prevent safety hazards.
- Talk quietly so the driver will not be distracted.
- If you need to talk to the bus driver, wait for the bus to stop, raise your hand and call the driver's name.
- Be kind and respectful to others.
- If there is an emergency, listen to the driver and follow instructions.
- Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before leaving your seat to exit
- Stay away from the bus wheels and watch for moving cars.
- If something is left on the bus, ask the driver if you may reboard. Don't chase the bus.
- **Never** try to pick up anything that falls under the bus

**Late or Broken-Down Bus Procedures:** If a bus breaks down, Transportation notifies the school. There are radios on all buses to enable drivers to quickly notify the Transportation Department should problems occur.

**Bus Routes:** Parents should contact their school or Transportation Department (843-873-6196) if bus is late or with concerns/questions.

**Bus GPS:** Download the free smartphone app that allows parents to track and receive notifications about their students' bus schedules, delays and more.

### Important Links

[Board Policy Manual](#)

[Live & Recorded Meetings](#)

[2020-2021 Meeting Agenda & Minutes](#)

## DISTRICT POLICIES

The most requested district policies are located in the Parent/Student Handbook located at [ddtwo.org/backtoschool](http://ddtwo.org/backtoschool) > Important Links.

### Student Dress Code

Certain attire is not appropriate in the school setting. For complete dress code policy, refer to the Parent/Student Handbook ([ddtwo.org/handbook](http://ddtwo.org/handbook)). Here are a few tips:

- Sunglasses (unless they are RX sunglasses)
- Hats, head stockings, sweatbands, and bandannas
- Tank, halter, tube, bathing suit, spaghetti string, midriff or see-through tops
- Sagging pants (pants must be worn at the natural waistline and undergarments must be completely covered), tennis or mini-skirts
- Apparel promoting obscene, vulgar, racial, ethnic, sexual, or religious prejudices, gang-related groups, alcohol, cigarettes, or drugs of any kind.
- The standard for wearing shorts or dresses/skirts is that when standing with arms hanging to the side, the area on the leg where finger tips touch should be the hemline of the shorts or dress/skirt.

### Attendance

Students are expected to be in attendance 180 days each year. It is the student's responsibility to see that his/her parent or guardian notifies the school attendance office regarding absences.

Regular attendance in school is mandatory for the student to gain the maximum benefit from his/her education; therefore, his/her absences will be thoroughly verified by school officials.

Three consecutive or five or more unlawful absences could result in a Pre-Court Intervention Conference (PCIC), and your child identified as TRUANT per SC State Board of Education Regulation.

If a child must miss school due to an illness, appointment, etc., he/she must submit a written excuse within 3 days of returning to school. If a written excuse is not received, the absence will be considered unlawful. The student's excuse should include the following:

- Date excuse written and the dates of the absence(s)
- Reason for the absence(s)
- Telephone number and signature of parent/guardian

## [ddtwo.org/backtoschool](http://ddtwo.org/backtoschool) > [FOOD AND NUTRITION](#)

Breakfast and lunch are available to all students. Menus, meal prices, and online meal payment information are available on the district website at [ddtwo.org/food](http://ddtwo.org/food). Applications for free and reduced price meals for qualified students will be in registration packets, at each school, or [apply online](#). For more information, call Food Services at (843) 695-4920.

## GET INVOLVED!

### PTA/PTSA (Parent/Teacher Assoc.)

All schools in Dorchester School District Two have active PTA/PTSAs that provide support and resources to enhance the school learning environment. Parents and the community are encouraged to be active members as they advocate for all children. To join, contact your school's PTA president or Ciara Male, District PTA President, [presidentcm@district23pta.org](mailto:presidentcm@district23pta.org).

### School Improvement Council (SIC)

SIC is a broad-based community advisory group comprised of parents, teachers, and community members established in every school. This advisory group works with the principal to cultivate a positive school environment supporting student success. The Council welcomes your involvement to share ideas for projects and initiative to improve your child's school. For more information, contact your school or visit [sic.sc.gov](http://sic.sc.gov).

### Volunteering

Parents and community members are valued and welcomed partners in our schools. Volunteer opportunities are abundant. Please contact your school for volunteer opportunities. The [District Volunteer Agreement](#) is a fillable pdf form that may be completed and emailed to your school's PTA President.

### Partners In Education

All 25 schools in the district as well as several school programs and school PTAs have one or more business or community partners. These partnerships include more than 600 relationships with almost 400 businesses and individuals. Since partnerships are planned and developed according to the needs and priorities of the individual school and partner organizations, each partnership varies. Learn more from the Partners in Education School Liaison at your local school.

### Support the Dorchester Two Educational Foundation

The Dorchester Two Educational Foundation was created to bridge the gap between funding provided for basic education and the resources required to give students a world class education - one that prepares them for success. Visit [dd2foundation.org](http://dd2foundation.org) to learn more about their work to provide resources for our classrooms. For additional information, contact Jennie Crosby (843-873-2901, [jcrosby@dorchester2.k12.sc.us](mailto:jcrosby@dorchester2.k12.sc.us)).

[ddtwo.org/backtoschool](http://ddtwo.org/backtoschool) >  
**DISTRICT & EMERGENCY**  
**COMMUNICATIONS**

**How do I receive district & emergency communications?** Notifications are delivered to all phone and email addresses in our student PowerSchool database that updates nightly.

**Update Your Contact Information:** In the event you need to edit your personal contact information, you may login to your PowerSchool Parent Portal account ([ddtwo.org/ps](http://ddtwo.org/ps)) and select the Update Contact Information tab from the left side menu at any time or visit your child's school with proper identification.

**School Closures:** The decision to cancel school due to hazardous weather conditions is made by the Superintendent and district officials. This decision is made as quickly as possible based on close coordination with the National Weather Service, Dorchester County Emergency Preparedness Department, SC Highway Patrol, local law enforcement, and key district personnel. The safety of all children is a primary factor in the decision to cancel school.

**Parents will receive information via:**

**Phone Calls:** Should you no longer want to receive phone calls, please contact the school location from which you are receiving the calls and ask to be removed or call (855) 502-7867.

**Emails:** Should you no longer want to receive emails, select the UNSUBSCRIBE option within the footer of the email or contact your school.

**Texts:** Should you no longer want to receive, reply STOP. To opt back in, send a text to 23177 with the words SUBSCRIBE 02.

**Website:** [ddtwo.org](http://ddtwo.org)

**Social Media**

Facebook: [facebook.com/TeamDD2](https://facebook.com/TeamDD2)

Twitter: [twitter.com/TeamDDTwo](https://twitter.com/TeamDDTwo)

**Local Media**

Parents are urged to monitor local media (television, radio, newspaper) for the most up-to-date weather conditions and information on school closings or early dismissals.

**WHO'S WHO**  
**Dorchester School District Two**

Visit [ddtwo.org/contact](http://ddtwo.org/contact) for schools, district and Board of Trustees information.

**Board of Trustees**

Mrs. Tanya Robinson, Chair  
Mrs. Lisa Tupper, Vice Chair  
Mr. Justin Farnsworth, Secretary  
Mrs. Barbara Crosby  
Mr. Evan Guthrie  
Mrs. Gail Hughes  
Mr. Brian Mitchum

**Superintendent**

Mr. Joseph Pye

**Assistant Superintendents**

Dr. Glenn Huggins & Julie Kornahrens

**District Office**  
(843) 873-2901

**Adult/Community Education**  
Mona Caudle, Director  
(843) 873-7372

**Early Childhood Services**  
Donna Alexander, Program Interventionist  
(843) 696-2989

**Elementary School**  
Lori Estep, Executive Director  
(843) 695-5399

**Extended Day Program**  
Kathy Bishop, Administrator  
(843) 821-3999

**Federal & State Programs/  
Community Planning**  
Mike Windham, Director  
(843) 695-5310  
*Attendance Lines, Title/Programs (ESOL),  
School Intervention Program (SciP),  
Federal Cards, Academic Assistance*

**Fine Arts**  
Jason Walsh, Director  
(843) 832-5532

**Food Service**  
(843) 695-4920

**Gifted Education**  
Gem Massey, Coordinator  
(843) 821-3960

**Home Schooling**  
Jenene Gourdine, Administrator  
(843) 695-5312

**Middle & High School (Secondary)**  
Karent Radcliffe, Executive Director  
(843) 695-5399

**Parent Services**  
Teresa Kelly, Coordinator  
(843) 695-5338  
*Parent Outreach, Parent Engagement Centers,  
Title I Facilitators, First Steps*

**Public Information**  
Pat Raynor, Officer  
(843) 695-5336  
*Business & Community Partnerships,  
Parent Involvement Contact, Media Contact,  
School Improvement, Volunteers*

**PTA District President**  
Ciara Male, [presidentcm@district23pta.org](mailto:presidentcm@district23pta.org)

**Safety & Security**  
Preston Giet, Director  
(843) 695-5320

**Special Services**  
Dr. Anotonia Cappelletti, Director  
(843) 875-4161  
*Students with Disabilities; Homebound  
Instruction (Medical), Child Find*

**Student Services**  
Valerie Blunt, Coordinator  
(843) 873-2901  
*Discipline Hearings, In-District Transfers,  
Residency*

**Transportation**  
Steve Shope, Director  
(843) 873-6196  
*Bus Route, Schedule*

**DDTwo Virtual Academy**  
Dr. Greg Harrison, Director  
[DDTwoVA@dorchester2.k12.sc.us](mailto:DDTwoVA@dorchester2.k12.sc.us)



# TEAM DORCHESTER CORE VALUES

The foundation of success for our students and our school system is grounded in Core Values that define who we are individually and collectively as Team Dorchester.

|   |   |
|---|---|
|    | <b>STUDENTS</b><br>CHILDREN COME FIRST              |
|    | <b>PASSION</b><br>LOVE WHAT YOU DO                  |
|    | <b>ACCOUNTABILITY</b><br>IT BEGINS WITH ME          |
|   | <b>INTEGRITY</b><br>DO WHAT'S RIGHT                 |
|  | <b>COMMUNITY</b><br>STAND UNITED                    |
|  | <b>EXCELLENCE</b><br>BE YOUR BEST                   |
|  | <b>RELATIONSHIPS</b><br>BUILD A FOUNDATION OF TRUST |
|  | <b>DIVERSITY</b><br>INCLUSIVE OF ALL                |
|  | <b>LEADERSHIP</b><br>INSPIRE & EMPOWER              |
|  | <b>RECOGNITION</b><br>APPRECIATE & CELEBRATE        |

Dorchester School District Two's ten Core Values affirm what we stand for, how we treat one another, what is non-negotiable, and what guiding principles we live by. They focus on what matters most in our school system and provide the framework for a unified sense of purpose for us all.