



Dixon High School

September 2025

BACK IN THE CASTLE

After a quick summer break, the DHS Castle is once again full of students and teachers, kicking off the start of another school year. With the retirements and new career paths of some of our beloved teaching and support staff, we are excited to welcome Miss Risner in choir, Miss Klein in agriculture, Mr. Yeater in PE/Driver's Ed, with Mrs. Valdez and Mrs. Wilcox starting as paraprofessionals.

In the classroom, teachers have been hard at work creating engaging lessons that allow students to learn and collaborate together in our shared spaces, like the Tech Zone. Our student-athletes are once again amazing us with their dedication and determination to their sport.

We look forward to another amazing year at DHS!!!

FRESHMEN LUNCH

After reviewing attendance data, DHS administration has decided to implement closed-campus lunch for freshman students. This policy requires students to check in when entering the cafeteria and remain there throughout the lunch period. As a result, there has been a decrease in student referrals for truancy after lunch, as well as an improvement in helping students transition to the greater freedoms afforded to high school students.



A DVISORY UPDATES



With the new 30-minute extension to the school day, DHS teachers and administration decided to adjust our daily schedule by placing Advisory (formerly known as ELT) at the end of the school day. Advisory gives our freshmen and sophomore students time to work on intervention activities to strengthen their ELA and math skills; juniors time to focus on our new ACT preparation program; and seniors the opportunity to explore career options for their journey after graduation.

To help seniors learn more about potential careers, Mr. Shaner has organized several guest speakers from various fields who have volunteered to present about their careers. This unique opportunity connects students with industry professionals and allows them to ask questions directly related to their career interests.



Path to Law Enforcement

- ▶ Graduated from DHS in 2015. Need a high school diploma to become a police officer.
- ▶ Attended Sauk Valley Community College for a little under two years. During this time, I tested with Dixon and Rock Falls. I was 4th out of 7 candidates on Rock Falls' list and was last on Dixon's list. Testing - PPT will be continued on the next slide.
- ▶ I did a handful of ride-alongs with Dixon PD.
- ▶ Rock Falls hired me before I could attain my Associate's Degree.
- ▶ I went to the Cook County Sheriff's Police Training Academy in 2018. At that time, the academy was 14 weeks but it is now 16 weeks.
- ▶ Once the academy was completed, I did three months of Field Training with an FTO and then was released to solo patrol.



BROADCASTING CLUB

Think you're going to miss a DHS home event? Be sure to check out @DHSBroadcastingClub on YouTube and other social media channels. This club, which started a few years ago, has greatly expanded with new equipment and software to provide high-quality livestreams and audio features.

Be sure to check out the streams, subscribe, and support our Dukes & Duchesses as they pursue their extracurricular endeavors!

