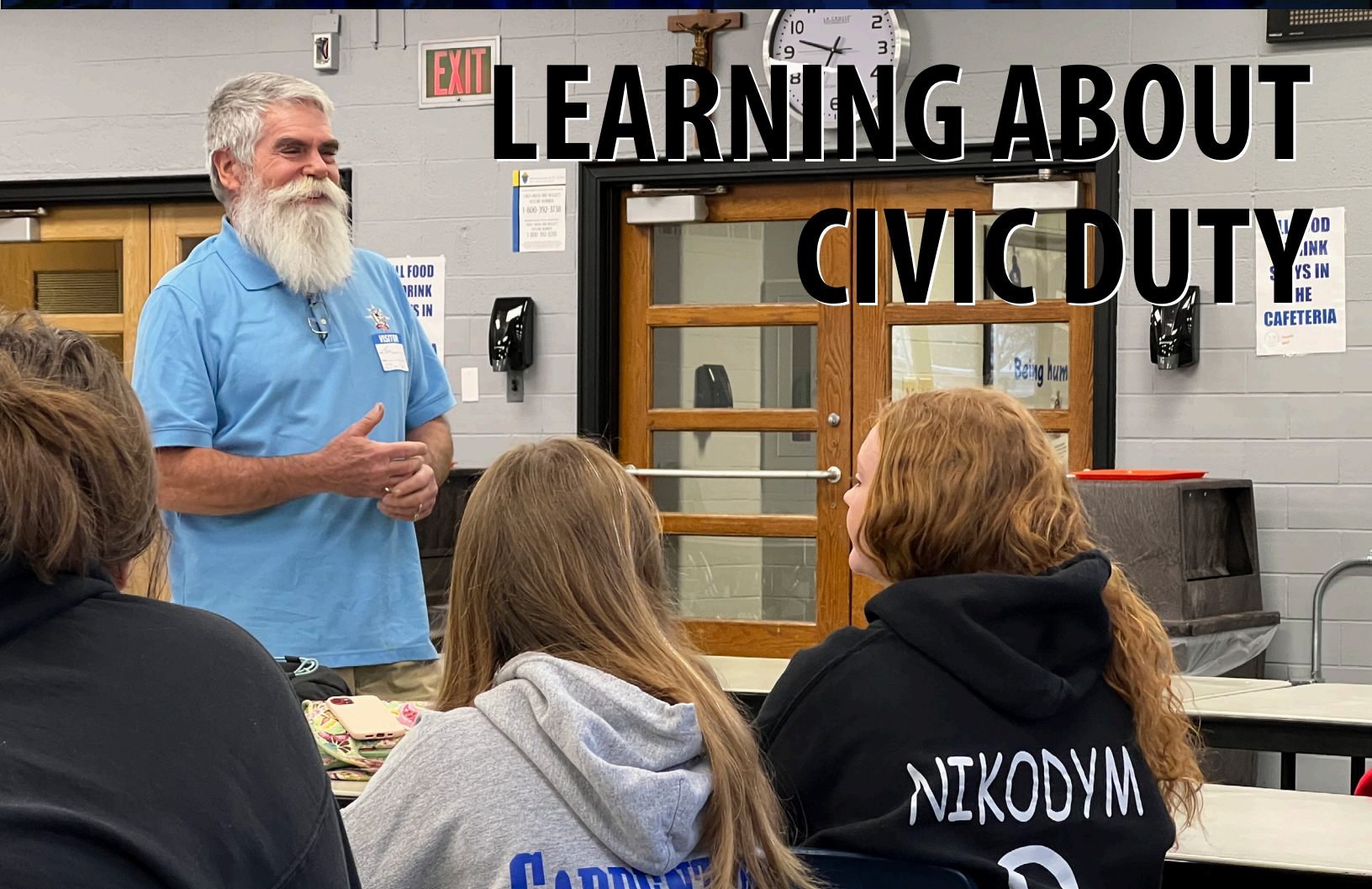


DUCHESNE HIGH SCHOOL PARENT NEWSLETTER

JANUARY · 2023



LEARNING ABOUT CIVIC DUTY

St. Charles mayoral candidate Tom Besselman stopped in to chat with Duchesne seniors about voting and the importance of community involvement. PAGE 5

UPCOMING SCHOOL DATES IN JANUARY

January 16

No School - MLK Jr. Day

January 17

Home Girls Basketball

January 19

Swim Team Senior Night
3:30 p.m. at the St. Charles YMCA

January 20

Basketball Double Header

Honoring of our state semi-finalist football team

Honoring of the 2003 State Championship Girls team.

Alumni to perform with our current Diamondline.

January 26

Home Girls Basketball

January 30

Registration Opens
Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will begin to sign-up for classes in the 2023-24 academic year.

February 3

Registration Closes

A letter from the President



**Susan Noonan
President**

Greetings, Pioneer Nation!!

First, I would like to thank everyone who participated in our iGiveCatholic campaign which culminated on Giving Tuesday. Through your generous donations, Dukesne raised over \$136,000. This money will go toward upgrading the sound systems in the Ted Yeater Athletic Center and the Performing Arts Center (PAC), as well as improving the PAC's lighting. All remaining money will go toward our essential Fund Our Future Fund-a-Need project: a new HVAC system. Dukesne's cornerstone provides the date of 1955. Some 68 years later, DHS still houses the original two boilers and a coal receptacle, and relies on one boiler to heat our school. The boiler heats the school by circulating water beneath our floors, which now have their asbestos tiles carpeted. It is an understatement to say we are

on borrowed time with the single remaining boiler and its pipes!

A generous anonymous donor gave Dukesne \$50,000 before we left for our Christmas Break. The Archdiocese has pledged support as well. However, we still need to secure at least \$100,000. Therefore, Dukesne's 2023 Fund-a-Need project is a replacement HVAC system for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. Our annual Fund Our Future Fund-a-Need effort is a component of the Pioneer Expedition Dinner Auction but members of our community give to our Fund-a-Need item before and after the auction as well as during.

We are in the process of getting proposals and estimates for the much-needed new HVAC system. Our hope is to have the boilers decommissioned this summer and have a reliable and more energy-efficient system up and running to begin our 100th school year in the fall!

I thank you in advance for your continued support for Dukesne!! Dukesne has a glorious and rich history which has been housed in our current building for the majority of its time. Dukesne has made great strides in classroom renovations and updating our physical spaces. However, heating and cooling are fundamental needs that are essential for a functioning school. Please prayerfully consider helping address this vital need through this year's Fund Our Future Fund-a-Need as we continue to strive to

shape leaders in mind, body, and spirit.

God Bless, and Happy New Year,
Susan Noonan, President

To support Dukesne's 2023 Fund-a-Need for a new HVAC system, please click here <https://giving.arch-stl.org/product/dukesne-high-school/capital-improvement-projects>

Student Spotlight: Conway Beckemeier



This month we recognize Conway Beckemeier for his hard work and support of the football team this season.

Conway served as team manager, and assisted with team hydration, equipment, and anything else that was required.

Thank you Conway!

Duchesne welcomes alumna Brittany Grass '08

Duchesne is happy to welcome 2008 graduate Brittany Grass back to its campus to serve as college and career counselor for the spring semester.

Grass will be working with Duchesne's juniors to gain the practical field experience necessary for her K-12 school counseling certification at Lindenwood University.

"A lot of students don't really know the college and career pro-

cess," she said. "[I'll be] getting them up to speed with that ... utilizing all the resources and all the knowledge that I know and providing it to them."

Grass has fond memories of the friends and relationships she built while a student at Duchesne, and is excited to be back in its halls.

Grass will be assisting students through May, with office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



Eagle scout project to adorn Duchesne wall

The hallways of Duchesne have some new house-inspired decor in the form of an official scoreboard.

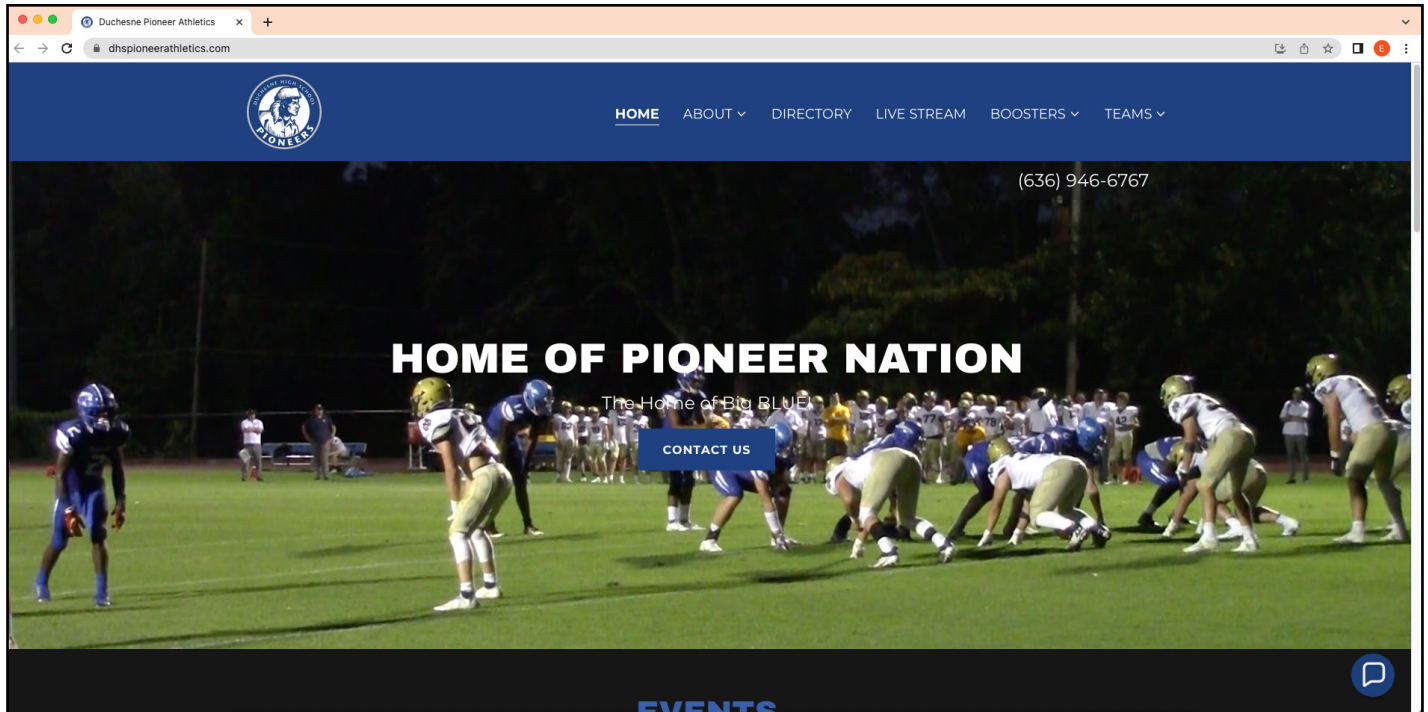
Senior Charles Owen built the scoreboard a part of his Eagle Scout project.

"My brother had made his eagle scout project the Rose cup Trophy case," said Owen. "When he had completed his project I was talking to him and realized we needed a scoreboard."

Owen constructed the scoreboard from leftover wood from the trophy case. It took nearly a year to complete the project from the planning phase to completion.

Owen has been involved in Boy Scouts for 11 years.

New Duchesne athletics web page launched



Duchesne's sports communications department has revealed the new upgraded athletics web page.

The new site will serve as the main information hub for all things sports at Duchesne, making information on the athletics program more readily available.

"Communication from the athletic director should be much smoother," said Mercé Roach, Duchesne's sports information director.

"The website is always fluid. Things will change and updates will always be made."

Features include quick access to sports schedules, the most up-to-date events calendar and access to the athletic department's Twitter feed. Other parts of the site are still under construction, and will come on line over the next few weeks.

Users will also find quick links to features such as the DHS Pioneer

Network, which will stream select games throughout the various seasons.

"We also plan on increasing the social media content of every program which will allow us to add more content to the web page," said Roach.

To visit the site, click dhspioneerathletics.com or the "athletics" link under the "student life" tab on Duchesne's home page.



Trading Post News

Pioneer Alumni-WE NEED YOU!

The Trading Post is looking for more vintage DHS apparel! Please send Mrs. G. a picture of your favorite hoody or T-shirt from your days at Duchesne.

Please include the sport (if not in the design) and the year you proudly wore it! We are looking to bring a few designs back to life!
OPEN FEB. 20 BEFORE AND DURING BASKETBALL GAMES!

mgiessman@duchesne-hs.org

Mayoral candidate visits Duchesne

St. Charles mayoral candidate Tom Besselman visited with a few of Duchesne's seniors this month to talk about civic duty and community involvement.

The students had a chance to ask questions about local issues important to them, and to learn how they can affect change in their community. Besselman said talks like this help to "plant the seed" and get students thinking about how they can be of service to their community and participate in local government.

The discussion was facilitated by the St. Charles Rotary and Kiwanis clubs in an effort to encourage young voters to get to the polls.

"I want to see this in high schools across the country," said Andy McKean, chair of the Rotary Club's World Peace Committee who organized the event. "I never had this in high school. I never had a chance for a someone like Tom to come in and motivate me to vote and be involved and get my voice heard."

Besselman has been a councilman of Ward Two in St. Charles for nearly 12



Besselman speaks about how having an awareness of and participating in local government can help maintain the community for future generations.

years. His opponents in the upcoming February 7 primary are businesswoman Venetia Powell and incumbent St. Charles Mayor Dan Borgmeyer; both

of whom have been invited to speak to Duchesne's students as well.

Time for the 2023 Dream Home Raffle!

Please mark your calendar for Duchesne's 28th annual Dream Home Raffle Kickoff on Monday, January 30, at 7:00 pm in the cafeteria. We are grateful to Fischer & Frichtel Homes for once again being our Dream Home Raffle Sponsor.

The Dream Home Raffle features a grand prize of a \$150,000 credit toward a new F&F home or \$120,000 in cash – and 19 other cash prizes – all of which will be drawn on Friday, April 28. Plus, there are cash incentives for sellers, an early bird drawing, and a

special drawing for free and half off tuition. Tickets are \$100 each, but you do not need to be a buyer in order to be a seller!

All past and future sellers are welcome to join us at the Kickoff!! We will review the raffle rules and regulations, explain the free tuition opportunities and seller incentives, and pass out tickets so you can get started. There are some changes this year, with our Pioneer Expedition auction not being the drawing date, so come out and learn the details. The first

ticket of the raffle will be given away as an attendance prize! (Who knows, that could be the grand prize ticket!!)

Come join us for a fun, informative evening! Please RSVP so we can plan for snacks and refreshments. We are excited to have new sellers join the effort for our largest fundraiser of the year! This is a great one – because by selling tickets to help Duchesne, you are buying chances for your family to win cash and maybe even free tuition. Talk about a win-win! We will see you then!

Advancement Office



Becky Williamson
Director of Advancement

Greetings Pioneer Family!

First, I would like to thank you for your warm welcome. I immediately knew Duchesne was home when I walked through the doors. Your children have been a blessing to me. I love the chatter in the hall, the excitement on game day, and being a part of their everyday activities. I am very thankful God put me right where I am supposed to be.

We have been very busy in the Advancement Office as we amp up for the second semester. Lots of exciting things are happening as the

momentum for our HVAC Fund-a-Need and the Pioneer Fund are in full swing. Our annual Dream Home Raffle, one of our biggest fundraisers, kicks off on January 30. This program engages members both inside and outside of our Duchesne community as people purchase chances to win \$150,000 credit toward a new Fischer & Frichtel Home or \$120,000 in cash, along with 19 other cash prizes. Parents benefit from selling tickets -- your name goes in a drawing for half-off tuition with each single ticket sold and for free full tuition each time you sell three tickets!

All of these efforts have an even better Duchesne experience as their core purpose. I encourage you to stop by and take a look at some of the work we are doing to make our DHS home a better place for our students, faculty, and staff. I am very proud of our team and our vision for what Pioneer Nation should be.

Our Admissions Office has also been hard at work as we have been busy visiting and planning events for surrounding grade schools. Shadow visits and incoming freshman enrollment have been at the forefront of our minds. We are excited to see our numbers grow

and look forward to the future.

Lastly, I want to start the new year with a challenge. I challenge you to get involved. Our students LOVE to see their parents supporting them. We have a top-notch Athletic Boosters program and our brand new (and amazingly AWESOME) Pioneer Parents Association (PPA). There are also volunteer opportunities available in the Advancement Office if you are interested. This is a great way to get involved in your child's life and meet their friends and school family.

Below is a list of upcoming events and activities. Please attend and participate as much as you can. You will make a difference for our school and for your student(s).

I look forward to meeting all of you! I am available anytime you need me and I look forward to the future of Pioneer Nation.

GO BIG BLUE!

Sincerely,

Becky Williamson

Director of Advancement
bwilliamson@duchesne-hs.org
314.630.6696

Upcoming Events:

1/14: Trivia Night in the PAC - Learn more and sign up here: <https://www.duchesne-hs.org/tropicaltrivia.html>

1/19: Sweet Poppins National Popcorn Day - Stop by Sweet Poppins at 825 S Main Street in St. Charles to pick up a tasty treat and some OHS swag

1/20: Hoops, High Fives, and High Kicks varsity basketball special edition - Join us for the 5:45 and 7:00 girls and boys games vs. Du Bourg, where our 2022 state semi-final football team will be feted,

the 20-year anniversary of the 2003 Girls State Basketball Championship will be celebrated, and alumni pommers and Diamondline members will be included in the boys halftime performance

1/23: Parents Night Out at Narwhals and Loaded Nachos - 1450 Beale Street in St. Charles

1/30: Kick-off Party for the Duchesne Dream Home Raffle sponsored by Fischer & Frichtel Homes - Join us for a short meeting in the DHS cafeteria at 7pm to get your seller's packet and learn how

you can be entered in a drawing for half-off or free tuition

2/01: Pioneer Night at Burger Underground - 142 N Main Street in St. Charles -- Our House System designed a special burger for this event. Check it out!

2/04: Pioneer Expedition Dinner Auction at Old Hickory Golf Club - Learn more and sign up here: <https://www.duchesne-hs.org/pioneer-expedition-auction2023.html>

2/15: Class of 2027 Registration Night - at Duchesne's Ted Yeater Athletic Center

Guidance Office

DHS TESTING DAY!

On March 28, all juniors will take the ACT which may be used for college admission and scholarship purposes. Sophomores and freshmen will take a version of the ACT that will be valuable as a practice instrument and may also be used for class placement. Seniors will be excused from attendance and will be expected to use that day for college-related purposes. Details will follow.

A + SCHOLARSHIP

All parents, especially senior parents, should encourage students to

complete and submit the DHS "A+ Intent to Comply Agreement" form that is available in the guidance office and online (DHS website - students - forms). The A+ Scholarship provides free community college tuition and reduced tuition at some 4-year colleges for those students that qualify. Completed forms should be submitted to Mr. Tinsley.

JUNIOR PARENTS COLLEGE INFORMATION!

Junior parents should be aware that juniors will be presented with information regarding the college

search process this spring at DHS. This information will include admission requirements, campus visit suggestions, and self-awareness reminders. Don't hesitate to contact Mr. Tinsley if you have any college-related questions.

SENIORS PARENTS!

Please remind your students to be aware of deadlines related to the college application process. February 1 is an application and scholarship deadline used by many colleges. Encourage your seniors to see Mr. Tinsley if they have college-related questions.

Come out and celebrate these special alumni!



We're celebrating the 20th Anniversary of our 2003 Girls Basketball State Championship Team between the varsity girls & boys games on January 20.

CHECK OUT THIS LINEUP!

5:45 p.m.

Girls V. Basketball vs. DuBourg

6:30 p.m.

2022 Pioneer Football State Semifinal team congratulations and 2003 Girls Basketball State Championship 20th Anniversary commemoration

7:00 p.m.

Boys Varsity Basketball vs DuBourg

Halftime

Performance by Alumni Pommers and Diamondline dancers

Postgame

Alumni gathering at the KC Hall

2003 TEAM MEMBERS:
Please RSVP to Paul Boschert at
pboschert@duchesne-hs.org.

Order Your Yearbook!

It's easy to get caught in the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. During this time of giving and gratitude, let your son/ daughter know how proud you are of them by giving them a yearbook.

Order through

www.yearbookordercenter.com

code 8320

Reserve a copy today!



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to senior Mary Kathleen (MK) Beckemeier on her selection to the St. Louis 3rd Team All-Metro Girls Tennis Team to close out her outstanding Duchesne career.

Congratulations to several members of the Pioneer Football Team receiving post season honors.

1st Team All-State – Rob Jones (2023) Defensive Back / Jamond Mathis (2023) Linebacker

2nd Team All-State – Lee Jackson (2023) Offensive Lineman

1st Team All-District – Josh Baker-Mays (2023) Quarterback / Am-orion Oliphant (2023) Athlete / Phil Peltes (2023) Defensive Lineman

2nd Team All-District – Paul Freygang (2024) Offensive Lineman / Dane Gaither (2023) Offensive Lineman Ethan Kissell (2023) Linebacker / Cam Lee (2023) Wide Receiver / Trey Mays (2024) Defensive Lineman

THANK YOU

Duchesne High School would like to thank Brad Bryan from Lifetime for his generous donation of weights and Jeff Glosier for transporting them to their new home in the Pioneer Fitness Center.

Thank you to the Duchesne Athletic Boosters for hosting their annual Christmas Party at the Rec Hall on January 4th and to all of our Pioneer Coaches for attending the social and talking about our athletic programs.

WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES

Winter sport schedules are available on our website via the google calendar or you can follow on Arbitrator (a scheduling software used by many high schools). The Google Calendar will update in real time when there are changes made to games/meets/matches. Please follow us on Twitter (@Athletics_DHS) for daily schedules and updates on practice and games that will be altered by the weather.

SPRING SPORTS TRYOUTS

Spring sports tryouts begin February 27. All athletes must have a current MSHSAA sports physical on file in order to try out. Please contact Mrs. Bryan in the main office or at dbryan@duchesne-hs.org if you have any questions.

Athletes are expected to attend ALL practices/tryouts for their sport, including practices/games that will take place over spring break. Please consider this commit-

ment prior to planning trips or vacations during spring break.

TRYOUT INFORMATION

BASEBALL

Coach Mike Hollander

Contact Info:

mhollander@duchesne-hs.org

Tryout Info: February 27 through March 3 from 3:15 – 5:30 p.m.

Monday – All Levels meet on the gym mezzanine

Tuesday-Friday – Varsity at Blanchette 3:15 – 5:30 p.m. / JV at school from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday/Thursday – Pitchers/Catchers meet on the gym mezzanine from 5:45 – 7:15 a.m.

Wednesday – Pitchers/Catchers meet on the gym mezzanine from 7:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Saturday – Varsity at Blanchette from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location and times are subject to change due to weather. Be prepared to practice inside or outside so please bring cleats and tennis shoes. For the most up to date information please follow @duchesnebaseball on twitter.

GOLF BOYS

Coach Denny Walters

(continued on page 9)

(continued from page 8)

Contact Info:

dwalters@duchesne-hs.org

Tryout Info: February 27 - March 3
at 4:00 p.m.

Monday/Wednesday/Friday at
Bogey Hills and Tuesday/Thursday
at Cave Springs

SOCCER GIRLS

Coach Pat Turner

Contact Info:

pturner@duchesne-hs.org

Tryout Info: February 27 through
March 3 from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. at
DHS stadium. Location and times
could be adjusted due to weather.
Be prepared to practice inside or
outside so please bring soccer shoes
and tennis shoes.

TENNIS BOYS

Coach Doug Becker

Contact Info:

dbecker@duchesne-hs.org

Tryout Info: February 27 through
March 3 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at
DHS Tennis Courts.

TRACK AND FIELD

Coach Vince Morris

Contact Info:

vmorris@duchesne-hs.org

Tryout Info: February 27 through
March 3 from 3:15 – 4:45 p.m.
at DHS Stadium Track. We will
also begin morning workouts on
Monday, February 27th
at 6:30 a.m.

VOLLEYBALL BOYS

Coach Maddie Krause

Contact Info:

mkrause@duchesne-hs.org

Tryout Info: February 27 through
March 1 from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. in
DHS Gym.

HEALTHY ROSTER

If you have not accepted the invitation to join Healthy Roster, please do so. Our new athletic trainer, Katy Mueller, uses this application to communicate with parents and coaches when an injury occurs during the season. It is easy to use and very helpful to track the progress of injured student athletes. Katy also uses this program for tracking physicals and other medical documents.

Katy would like to eliminate paper copies of physicals or pre-participation documents as parents have access to their child's Healthy Roster account with the ability to upload documents themselves. Once uploaded to healthy roster, Katy receives a notification email and the ability to review the document and accept it.

Please contact Katy for questions regarding this program.

Katy Mueller

Duchesne Athletic Trainer

athletictrainer@duchesne-hs.org

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS PHYSICALS

SSM Athletes are welcome to get sports physicals with their personal physician or with Health Sports Medicine offering FREE sports physicals for our athletes. You must be a current student at Duchesne to be eligible for this free physical. You MUST sign up at the SSM Health

Sports Medicine: 2022 High School Sports Physicals website.

ATHLETIC BOOSTER NEWS

The Duchesne Athletic Boosters are the lifeline to our athletic programs at Duchesne, so your involvement is important to us. Becoming a member of the Duchesne Athletic Boosters is a great way to meet and socialize with other parents in our community and pursuing a common goal in supporting our athletic program benefiting our children at Duchesne.

[JOIN THE BOOSTERS](#)

UPCOMING DAB EVENTS

April 22, 2023

Duchesne Athletic Boosters
Spring BBQ Fundraiser

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

January 20

5:45 p.m. – Varsity Girls Basketball vs Bishop DuBourg

6:30 p.m. – Presentation of the 2022 Pioneer Football State Semifinal team and recognition of the 2003 Pioneer Basketball Girls State Championship team on their 20th anniversary reunion

7:00 p.m. – Varsity Boys Basketball vs Bishop DuBourg

Halftime – Performance by Alumni Pommers and Diamondline Dancers
Postgame Social – Alumni gathering at the St. Charles Knights of Columbus

February 10

7:00 p.m. – Coronation Court and Basketball game vs St. Dominic

February 14

Senior Night for Girls-Boys Basketball / Cheer / Dance / Pep Band / Girls Swim / Wrestling

Celebrating the 2023 Pioneer Expedition Dinner Auction!

Please join us for this enjoyable evening to benefit Duchesne, featuring live and silent auctions, raffles, and fund-a-need.

Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023 at Old Hickory Golf Club
1 Dye Club Drive, St. Peters, MO 63304
5:30 p.m. - Doors Open and Silent Auction Begins
6:00 p.m. - Cocktail Hour
7:00 p.m. - Dinner and Program Begins

Individual Tickets: \$125

[Click here to purchase tickets and register today!](#)

For 42 years the Pioneer Expedition Dinner Auction has been one of the most important fundraising events of the school year. The proceeds raised ensure that our Duchesne students continue to receive a college-preparatory education of the highest excellence in mind, body, and spirit. We invite all members of the Duchesne family to join us in making this evening a great success. Whether you attend, volunteer, donate auction items, secure advertising for your company, or become a sponsor for the auction, your support is welcomed and appreciated!

Supporting the Pioneer Expedition - To learn about supporting the Pioneer Expedition, please see our [Pioneer Expedition Support Page](#) or contact Rachel Dunaway at rdunaway@duchesne-hs.org.



Duchesne High School's forty-third annual
**Pioneer Expedition
Dinner Auction**
Winter Wonderland
Saturday, February 4, 2023
Old Hickory Golf Club
1 Dye Club Drive | St. Peters, MO 63304

[Pioneer Expedition Support Page](#) or contact Rachel Dunaway at rdunaway@duchesne-hs.org.

Volunteer Opportunities - Pioneer Expedition is a success because of its volunteers, so we need you! Volunteering for Pioneer Expedition is a wonderful way to get involved and meet other parents. To learn about volunteer opportunities, please see our [Pioneer Expedition Volunteer Page](#).

For more information or assistance with registration, please contact Rachel Dunaway at 636-757-6926 or by email at rdunaway@duchesne-hs.org.



*Schedule a Shadow
Visit Today*





Mark your calendars!

DUCHESNE HIGH SCHOOL
PRESENTS A

Parents Night Out
January 23, 2023

12PM-9PM | FREE DUCHESNE SWAG WILL BE
AVAILABLE THAT EVENING FROM 6PM-9PM

 **LOADED**
ELEVATED TACHOS

1450 BEALE ST. #125 | ST. CHARLES, MO



**IMPROV
SHOW**

JANUARY 26 AT 6PM
IN THE PAC

ADMISSION IS FREE!

Save the Date **DREAM HOME
RAFFLE**

Kickoff Party

JANUARY 30, 2023 AT 7 P.M.



DUCHESNE HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

**PIONEER NIGHT AT
BURGER UNDERGROUND**

142 N. MAIN STREET IN ST. CHARLES



**FEBRUARY 1ST
3PM - 10PM**



COME TASTE THE PIONEER BURGER DESIGNED BY
OUR DHS STUDENTS!



Parents
join us

For a FREE program designed to:

- 1.** Teach parents about Missouri's Graduated Driver License (GDL) law
- 2.** Provide them with the tools they need to monitor, coach and support their new teen driver.

**FIRST
IMPACT**

preparing new drivers for the road ahead

Date: January 18, 2023
 Time: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
 Location: University Extension Office St. Charles County
 GDL Coaches: Deana Dothage, University Extension
 Dean Meyer, Retired LEO
 RSVP: 314-496-0110
 Register: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EA5A92CA3FDC16-keeping2>

For more information contact us:
 (573) 884-3463
firstimpact@health.missouri.edu
firstimpact.missouri.edu