

NEWSLETTER

DEER PARK SCHOOLS

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AUGUST 2004

Superintendent Mick Miller appreciates warm welcome and opportunity to serve

Welcome to the 2004-05 school year!

Although there are still a few weeks left of summer, the district staff is busily preparing for the upcoming school year. Maintenance and custodial personnel are doing a wonderful job cleaning and prepping buildings for students and staff soon to be descending on our schools. Also, the district office and building administrators are busy hiring new staff and planning for the upcoming school year. September 1 is just around the corner.

As one who is very new to the district, I would like to thank the staff in the Deer Park School District and the entire community for the welcome I have received during my first month in Deer Park. My family and I have been overwhelmed by the friendliness of the people here and by how we have been welcomed. We thank you so very much.

In the short time I have been in our district, so many things have impressed me. First, and foremost, I have been impressed with the people who work here. We have a school board that wants to help children grow and learn and who support the teaching and support staff. Next, I am learning that our staff, which is well regarded in the region, is very talented and dedicated. I am really looking forward to working with them in the fall. Finally, I have been very impressed with the facilities in the school district. The new elementary school is truly a gem. Our new maintenance and food service building, which just opened last winter, will serve the district for years and was very needed. The remodel work at Arcadia and the middle school were extremely well done. The district office staff and Home-Link have settled nicely into the old elemen-



Superintendent Mick Miller encourages community involvement.

tary school. With the completion of the Clayton building remodel project in February, we will have only the high school needing to be modernized. On behalf of the students and staff of the district, I thank the community for your wonderful support, which has allowed us to possess and use these terrific facilities.

Speaking of facilities, the board of directors approved the remodel of the Clayton School Building at a July board work session. Burton Construction of Spokane will do the construction work. Deer Park architect Ernie Robeson has been the lead architect on this project. The board, along with Asst. Superintendent Wayne Leonard and facilities manager Steve Howard, need to be thanked for their work on this project. The Clayton building is a beautiful old building and its preservation will be such an asset to our community. When the building project is complete in February 2005, our Home-Link program will occupy the building.

It is such an honor for me to have been chosen to serve as the superintendent of your school district. I believe that our children are our most precious possession and to have them entrusted to our care during the school day is an awesome responsibility. However, our staff and I accept that responsibility and see it as a great opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our children in our district.

I have met many people in the district but I know there are many, many more to meet. Please feel free to contact me at any time. My email address is millerm@dpsd.org and phone number is 464-5507. I look forward to hearing from you.

Please enjoy the remainder of the summer.
Mick Miller
Superintendent

First Day of School is Sept. 1
School offices open Aug. 18.

School district offers preschool assessments

Do you have concerns about your preschooler's hearing, language, learning skills, motor skills, social skills or speech? The Deer Park School District is providing free developmental screenings for children from three to five years old for the 2004-05 school year.

Please set up an appointment with Paula Stone in Special Services at 464-5521 after Aug. 17. Screening times fill quickly, so please call to arrange for an appointment.

Following the screenings, results will be shared with the parents and an assessment team. An intervention plan will be set up dependant upon the results of the screening. Parent approval is required before any programming is set.



ECEAP applications are being accepted

The Early Childhood Education Assistance Program (ECEAP) is designed to help children develop school readiness and social skills. Enrollment is based on date of application, previous ECEAP or Headstart enrollment, the child's age and specific needs, and low income status.

Children who are four by Aug. 31 are given priority, but ECEAP may also accommodate three-year-olds as space allows.

Applications are available at the school district office, 428 N. Main Street, the Deer Park Post Office, 19 S. Vernon, the Deer Park Clinic, 1015 E. "D" Street and at local doctors' offices. For more information, please call Paula Stone at 464-5521.

Meal Time computer system in place at all schools

The computerized meal system, Meal Time, is in place at all Deer Park schools. Meal Time works like a bank account. Parents deposit money for meals when they choose: yearly, monthly, weekly, etc. Money is withdrawn from the student's account each time they eat. When only two meals remain in the account, the computer lets the child know.

If more than one child attends the same school, family accounts can be established. The debit accounting system allows for a more efficient meal experience for all involved.

USDA CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM INCOME GUIDELINES SCHOOL HOT LUNCH & BREAKFAST

Income Guidelines for Free and Reduced Prices

July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005

Family Size	FREE			REDUCED PRICE		
	Year	Month	Week	Year	Month	Week
1	\$12,103	\$ 1,009	\$ 233	\$17,224	\$ 1,436	\$ 332
2	\$16,237	\$ 1,354	\$ 313	\$23,107	\$ 1,926	\$ 445
3	\$20,371	\$ 1,698	\$ 392	\$28,990	\$ 2,416	\$ 558
4	\$24,505	\$ 2,043	\$ 472	\$34,873	\$ 2,907	\$ 671
5	\$28,639	\$ 2,387	\$ 551	\$40,756	\$ 3,397	\$ 784
6	\$32,773	\$ 2,732	\$ 631	\$46,639	\$ 3,887	\$ 897
7	\$36,907	\$ 3,076	\$ 710	\$52,522	\$ 4,377	\$ 1,011
8	\$41,041	\$ 3,421	\$ 790	\$58,405	\$ 4,868	\$ 1,124
For each additional household member add:						
	+ 4,134	+ 345	+ 80	+ 5,883	+ 491	+ 114

Note to Parents: Please study the above free and reduced price qualifications. If your family income falls within the guidelines, you are encouraged to take advantage of this service. Application forms will be coming home with each child. *If you received a free meal certificate from the Department of Social & Health Services, take it to your child's school in lieu of an application.* Applications are **strictly confidential**. Only one application is needed per family. The application needs to be updated for each school year. For additional information, please call your child's school or Food Services director Peggy Rieper at 464-5536.

Meal Prices at Deer Park Schools

The district serves nutritious, well-balanced meals that meet Federal and State guidelines for a Type A meal.

School	Breakfast Prices			Lunch Prices		
	Day	Week	Month	Day	Week	Month
Elementary	\$0.75	\$3.75	\$15.00	\$1.50	\$ 7.50	\$30.00
Arcadia	\$0.75	\$3.75	\$15.00	\$1.50	\$ 7.50	\$30.00
Middle School	\$1.00	\$5.00	\$20.00	\$1.75	\$ 8.75	\$35.00
High School	\$1.00	\$5.00	\$20.00	\$2.00	\$10.00	\$40.00
All Schools:						
Reduced	\$0.30	\$1.50	\$ 6.00	\$0.40	\$ 2.00	\$ 8.00

DEER PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Top Ten Things to Remember at Deer Park Elementary School

- All children must ride a bus or be picked up by an adult
- Pick up and drop off children at the front entrance of the building.
- Check in at the office each time you are in the building or on the playground. A visitor's pass is required when in the building.
- If a child is going home a different way, please notify the office in writing.
- Make sure the office has current emergency phone numbers.
- All medications, including over-the-counter, must come through the office with the proper paperwork.
- Please call the district Absentee Call-In Line at 464-5571 if a child is ill.
- Send meal money in the envelope provided by the school or a plain envelope with your child's name and teacher. Weekly, monthly or yearly deposits work best.
- Review all information and important notes that come in the Take Home Folders.
- Communicate any changes or concerns with each child's teacher. Staff members wish to make this a wonderful experience for everyone.

Arrivals, departures, early check outs

Safety is of utmost importance for all who attend Deer Park schools. To ensure the safety of each child, please follow the guidelines listed below:

- Students should not arrive at school before 8:00 a.m. Supervision and breakfast begin at 8:05 a.m.
- Students leaving early must have parents or their representatives sign out student through the office.
- Students will not be allowed to walk or ride bikes to or from Deer Park Elementary School.
- If a student is to go home a different way, they will need a note from their parent or guardian. If DPES does not have a note, students will follow their normal routine going home from school.
- Please do not call DPES after 2:00 p.m. to change your child's routine. A message cannot be guaranteed to reach the child in time.



Kindergarten registration is ongoing

If a child will be five on or before Aug. 31 and is not registered for kindergarten, there is still time. Parent / guardians may come to the school beginning the week of Aug. 18 between 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Because students will undergo academic screenings, it is important that parents bring their kindergartner with them while registering.

Please bring verification of each child's date of birth and immunizations which are required to start school. Children need to have immunizations after their fourth birthday. Please see the article on page 7 for more information.

Kindergarten orientation night Aug. 26

Orientation for kindergartners will be held Thursday, Aug. 26 at 7:00 p.m. At this time, parents will pick up their child's kindergarten information and visit their classroom.

The sessions run from 8:20 a.m.-2:55 p.m. every day. Busing will be provided. Please call the school with questions at 464-5600 or call Transportation at 276-2872.

Absences, tardiness handled at office

Parents are asked to inform DPES when their child is absent or late. Please call the Absentee Call-In Line, 464-5571, at any time.

Parents are encouraged to see that children arrive to school on time. Any student arriving after school starts should check in at the office.

Joint calendars for Deer Park / Arcadia

Deer Park and Arcadia elementary schools will once again offer a joint school calendar to families who have students attending either of the two schools. The calendar will contain important information about the two schools and events in both buildings.

We encourage parents to support the businesses who have donated to the school calendars again this year. Support from these businesses is greatly appreciated.

**Back to School Night & Picnic
Sept. 23, 6:30 p.m.**

ARCADIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Message from Principal Bonnie Bantis

Students to climb aboard the Arcadia shuttle and reach for the stars

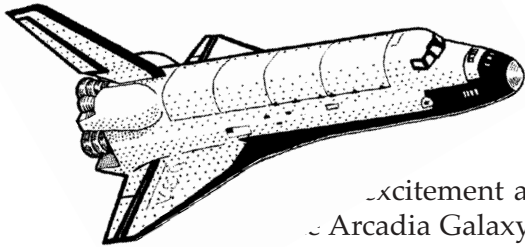
Welcome to a new and vibrant year at 'Awesome' Arcadia! Our school is bright and shining just like the Aurora Borealis. We expect to travel as fast as the speed of sound, and the shuttle is equipped with the necessary manpower to navigate the universe, and Arcadia is ready to **reach for the stars!**

This 2004-2005 school year, we have set higher standards, high expectations for all students, and we are guarded by a team of

one of higher teacher expectations with parents,

community, are on our way to help children go

further, learn more, and become stronger academically. The main goal is to have each child gain as much knowledge from this Arcadia Shuttle as possible, in preparation for their long journey through life. During each child's journey, assistance is necessary from 'mission control' (home) in order to make their learning confident and complete.



The 'Awesome' Arcadia staff has jumped on board the shuttle with excitement and energy to create a positive atmosphere for each new inhabitant to the Arcadia Galaxy. We all want to welcome our new families and our new third graders

who have landed on a new frontier. Our microscope is in focus to create high standards for all children and we expect the best from all. Here we go 'Awesome' Arcadians to a whole new world that is full of promise for every child who enters our Galactic Learning World as we **reach for the stars!**



Pride and honesty is the 'PH balance' Arcadia students will display all year

By Principal Bonnie Bantis

A catchy television advertisement features a beautiful voice singing about keeping PH balance! During the upcoming school year at 'Awesome' Arcadia, the 'PH balance' will be held in check by practicing 'Pride and Honesty' in all that is done. Our watchwords to students, parents, and staff are examples of how to be better citizens in our community, schools, and homes by practicing these two excellent traits. We all will use these two very special words throughout the year.

During the upcoming school year, students will be practicing 'Pride and Honesty' in all that is done.

When you hear an 'Awesome' Arcadia student being proud of their family, home or school compliment them on being a proud person. And if honesty comes into the picture, please congratulate that person for being honest. We all want to have that great 'PH balance!'

School opening information mailed home in postcards

By Principal Bonnie Bantis

The 'Awesome' Arcadia school office opens Wednesday, Aug. 18. Post cards have been mailed to every parent and child notifying them of classroom assignments. Class lists are not published for the children's protection.

Also, parents are reminded that a packet of important information for their child is being sent home the first day of school. The packet includes Arcadia's discipline guidelines and other information about the school. Free and reduced lunch schedules are offered in all the Deer Park school offices as well as at the food services / maintenance and operations building.

Along with the packet of materials is a calendar for each family. The calendar informs families of dates for pictures, Back to School Night, and other significant dates. Watch for this important information!

DEER PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Message from Principal Brent Seedall Welcome back ... students and staff!

Welcome to the 2004-05 school year! We're in the final days of shining the floors, unpacking books and supplies, and getting teachers' rooms ready for the first day of school on Sept. 1. The custodial and maintenance staff have been working extra hard all summer to prepare Deer Park Middle School for the new year.

Whether you find yourself in the role of parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle or neighbor of a child at our school, please take an active interest in their school life. Ask them what they are learning, what books they are reading, what instrument they play in the band, or how the last ball game came out. Reinforce with them how important education can be in their future and, most importantly, let them know through your actions that you support them. Working together, this can be their best year ever, and your support and encouragement can make a positive difference. Let's have a fun, exciting and positive school year!

Registration Information

During DPMS registration, students and/or parents may pick up their class schedule, locker assignment and combination, student planner/handbook, sports eligibility packet, pay fees, and receive other materials necessary to begin the school year.

2004-05 Registration Dates

Registration: 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Sixth Grade	Wednesday, Aug. 25
Seventh Grade	Thursday, Aug. 26
Eighth Grade	Friday, Aug. 27

Evening Open Registration

Thursday, Aug. 26 (4:00-7:30 p.m.)

Required Registration Fees

ASB Card (<i>Seventh, Eighth graders</i>)	\$12.00
ASB Card (<i>Sixth graders</i>)	\$ 8.00

ASB fees are funneled back to the students and used for assemblies, athletics, band, choir, dances, drama, High Five, intramurals, student recognition activities, etc.

The ASB card is required for students participating in athletics or any other extracurricular activities.

Seventh and eighth grade fall sports

Fall sports for seventh and eighth grade students are cross country, football and softball. Students participating in athletics must turn in a completed sports eligibility packet to their coach or the athletic director, Dean Largent, complete a sports physical, pay for their ASB card and have proof of insurance.

Free sports physicals available at DPMS

Free sports physicals are available for all seventh and eighth grade students who anticipate turning out for athletics/sports during this school year. These free physicals will be given at Deer Park Middle School on the following dates:

Boys: Aug. 16 and 30, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Girls: Aug. 17 and 31, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

School pictures scheduled for Sept. 3

School pictures will be taken on Friday, Sept. 3 beginning first period. Picture information packets will be available during registration. All students are required to have their picture taken for the annual. Purchasing the picture packet is optional and not required by the school.

Open House / BBQ is planned for Sept. 16

The DPMS Open House and BBQ will be held on Thursday, Sept. 16 from 5:30-8:00 p.m. The BBQ will be held from 5:30-7:00 p.m. The Open House takes place from 7:00-8:00 p.m. A short introduction will be held in the gym and then parents will attend their child's classes for a brief overview of curriculum and classroom information. We hope to see you there!

Sept. 17 is annual Jogathon fundraiser

The Deer Park Middle School Jogathon is the only major school-wide fundraiser the school holds to support ASB activities such as assemblies, athletics, band, choir, clubs, dances, drama, High Five, intramurals and special recognition activities. Students will be asking friends and family members for pledges to walk, jog or run a course for 30-45 minutes.

The entire student body is involved with this fundraiser, which builds school spirit and team pride while providing lots of fun and excitement for a worthwhile cause. What a great opportunity to support all of the activities offered at Deer Park Middle School! We would appreciate your support!

D E E R P A R K H I G H

Welcome students! Registration is Aug. 25-26

This year, registration is Wednesday, Aug. 25 and Thursday, Aug. 26. All students can register on either day from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

During registration, students will accomplish the following tasks:

- Have ASB and I.D. picture taken
- Purchase ASB card, \$25; reduced fee available to those who qualify
- Receive locker assignment

Please be aware that schedule changes may not be made during registration. Preferential changes will be done on a space-available basis the first ten days of school. A picture make-up day will be scheduled after school starts.

We are looking forward to another great school year! Go Stags!

Other Important Dates

- Football sports practice begins Wednesday, Aug. 18
- Cross country, girls' soccer and volleyball practices start Monday, Aug. 23
- ASB Welcome Back BBQ, Aug. 31, 5:00 p.m.
- Freshman Orientation, Aug. 31, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Fall traffic safety class sign-up is Aug. 27-Sept. 5

Students may sign up for the fall class of Traffic Safety Aug. 27-Sept. 3 in the main office of the high school. Classes will begin Sept. 13 and continue through Nov. 12. Traffic Safety class requires a strong commitment. Students may miss only four hours of class time and one drive time.

To qualify, a student must meet the following requirements:

- Be at least 15 years old
- Obtain a Washington State Driver's Learning permit
- Pay a \$300 fee. There is not a reduced fee available.

Students are reminded of DPHS dress guidelines

Let's show our community and peers that we are proud to be Stages and dress for success! Remember that outward appearance reflects inward identity. Students are to observe modesty, appropriateness and neatness in clothing and personal appearance.

- Clothing must be clean.
- Shoes must be worn at all times — no slippers.
- No bare midriffs or bare backs at any time.
- No undergarments should be visible.
- No transparent or see-through, strapless, or spaghetti-strap tops. No low-cut clothing with slits or outfits that provide minimum

coverage. This includes, but is not limited to, tank tops and muscle shirts.

- No pajamas or pajama-like clothing.
- Shorts, skirts and dresses must meet or exceed length of fingertips when arms are placed at the side.
- Clothing that advertises drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, gang affiliation or items that are obscene or suggestive in nature are unacceptable.
- Dress of any manner that may cause disruption to the educational process or become a safety issue is unacceptable (chains, spiked accessories, etc.)
- No sunglasses while in school.

S C H O O L

New Washington state graduation requirements

Beginning with the Class of 2008, all Deer Park High School students must meet new graduation requirements. The goal is to help insure that all students have skills needed for success after high school.

- Pass 21 credits in high school classes: 4 English, 2 Mathematics, 2 Science (including one lab), 3 Social Studies, 2 Health/Fitness, 1 Visual or Performing Arts, 1 Occupational Education, and 6 Electives.
- Earn a Certificate of Mastery
- Complete a Culminating Project
- Craft a High School and Beyond Plan

Fall sports start Aug. 18

Extracurricular activities included in the fall sports schedule are cross country, football, girls' soccer and volleyball.

Sports practices begin Aug. 18 with football turnout and the remainder of the sports practices beginning Aug. 23. Coaches will set practice times for the individual sports after the first day.

Participating students must have a current sports physical and proof of insurance.

Free sports physicals offered

Students who anticipate turning out for an extracurricular sport this year can participate in free sports physicals. DPHS students should plan to have their physical exam on Aug. 16 or 17 before practices begin. Middle school athletes may wait until Aug. 30 or 31.

All sports physicals will take place at Deer Park Middle School between 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Boys: Aug. 16 and 30

Girls: Aug. 17 and 31

From Nurse Tammy Glidewell Welcome back to the 2004-05 school year

I hope all of you had a fun and exciting summer. I am looking forward to working with the students, their families and school staff.

Please note the following changes in the Washington State Immunization requirements. These are the **minimum** vaccines required to attend school in Washington state.

Kindergarten	4 DTP/DTaP, 3 Polio, 2 MMR, 3 Hepatitis B
First-Fourth Grade	3 DTP/DTaP, 3 Polio, 2 MMR, 3 Hepatitis B
Fifth Grade	3 DTP/DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hepatitis B
Sixth-Seventh Grade	3 DTP/DTaP, 3 Polio, 2 MMR, 3 Hepatitis B
Eighth-12th Grade	3 DTP/DTaP, 3 Polio, 2 MMR

The last dose of DTP/DTaP and Polio must be after the fourth birthday.

The first dose of MMR must be after the first birthday.

Remember, Washington is a No Shots-No School state.

Parent / guardians who have questions or concerns can contact me at 464-5521.

Deer Park School District Policy for Medications

Prescriptions: If your child must take a prescription medication during the designated school hours, a *Physician Request for Medication at School* form must be completed by the doctor and parent / guardian before school staff can dispense the medication. These forms are available at most doctors' offices and at all district schools. Please note this includes antibiotics.

As a safety precaution, medications must be transported to and from school by a parent / guardian in the original container.

Nonprescription Medicines: Through an addendum to its current medication policy, the school district will consider symptomatic benefits of *parent-prescribed*, over-the-counter medications to facilitate a student's recovery.

Parents must provide a note to the school specifying the medication, the amount to be taken, the time it is to be taken and the reason. The note should also include a statement relieving the school of any responsibility for the benefits or consequences of the medication and acknowledging that the school will not be able to assure that the medication is taken.

A form is available in the school office for your convenience. The medication must be in the original container. Students may only have a one-day supply with them at one time. This includes cough syrups.

The school reserves the right to limit the duration of *parent-prescribed* medications and / or require a physician's statement for continued use.

Students who are self-medicating must be responsible with their medication and comply with policies.

This policy is in accordance with the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on School Health Recommendations.

Law requires special plan for life-threatening conditions

If a child has a life-threatening medical condition (severe allergies, severe asthma, diabetes, seizures, cardiac and breathing disorders), a nursing care plan **must** be put in place before the first day of school for the child. Please call Nurse Tammy Glidewell at 464-5521.

Students in good hands on Deer Park school buses

By Shirley Hobbs,
Transportation Director

Living in a rural school district does have its advantages! Deer Park students are riding in some of the safest buses with drivers who take responsibility for the safety of students very seriously.

To service the district's 173 square miles, 23 morning and afternoon routes are operated. All of the district's drivers are from the Deer Park area. Many have lived here for most of their lives, and two-thirds of drivers have been driving bus for Deer Park for over five years. All must have a commercial driver's license, both state and federal background checks, clear driving records, maintain a listing on an active drug and alcohol testing list, retain a valid first aid card, and be medically qualified.

Drivers diligently enforce policies developed to protect students riding their buses. Both a weapons and an accident procedure are in place, which involve law enforcement, emergency responders, district administration, and individual schools. Students may exit a bus only at their designated bus stop unless they have a bus pass from the office or if the driver can positively identify the child's parent. Kindergarten and preschool students must have a parent or guardian visible at their stop before they will be allowed off the bus.

Each of our buses is equipped with a cell phone and a live video system. Our summer State Patrol bus inspection was just completed with a 100% compliance rating. This continues Deer Park's exemplary record of bus maintenance.

Routes and times will be the same as last year. Please call Transportation at 276-2873 with questions.

Visitors asked to check in at office

Safety and security of the students and staff are of utmost concern to the Deer Park School District. We ask the community to join us in being vigilant in the goals of promoting safety while ensuring a pleasant and positive atmosphere for education.

As a safety precaution, parents and all school visitors are asked to check in at the office when entering any of the Deer Park schools. This is for the safety and protection of students and staff.

Home-school parents must file intent form

In compliance with state law, parents providing home-based instruction to their children must file a statement with their local school district to that effect.

The statement must be filed by Sept. 10 or within two weeks of the beginning of the school quarter, trimester or semester. It should include the name and grade of the child being schooled at home and whether or not the home-based instruction will be supervised by someone with a teaching certificate.

Parents living in this school district can file the statement with the district office at 428 N. Main Street, Deer Park, WA 99006, 509-464-5500.

Student transfers into / out of district

Students transferring into or out of the school district must apply before the beginning of school. Because transfers are good for only one year, a new application must be completed each year.

"By law, Washington schools cannot accept students who are not residents, nor transfer students who are not residents, without the necessary paperwork being completed," according to Deer Park Superintendent Mick Miller. "We suggest parents file these papers as soon as possible."

Call 464-5500 for information on transfers.

Public Notice

Deer Park School District #414 complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or disability. This is true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and / or extracurricular school activities.

Inquiries regarding compliance and grievance procedures may be directed to the district's Title IX / RCW 28A.640 Officer / Section 504 / ADA Coordinator, 428 N. Main Street, Deer Park, WA 99006, 509-464-5500.



The Deer Park School District #414 publishes this newsletter during the school year to inform citizens about school programs and activities.

Superintendent

Mick Miller

School Board

Larry Barden

Sueann Davis

Heidi Dougherty

David Franklin

Joanne Greer

DEER PARK SCHOOLS

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