



US Class Dean Update

November 19, 2025

The temperature is dropping and the year is coming to an end, but there are many things to do in the coming weeks. This Dean's Memo contains announcements and resources you will need as we bring 2025 to a close. It is a lot of information, but I hope you will find it useful. As always, feel free to reach out with any questions you may have.

Summer Travel

Though the school year has just begun, our [Summer Travel Opportunities](#) are set and filling up quickly. Click the link to learn more about traveling with D-E in 2026.

Service Learning Graduation Requirement - REMINDER

While many students have begun or completed their community service work for graduation, I wanted to send this reminder and these resources for your review. See this [link](#) for service guidelines, opportunities, and forms.

During the upper school years, all Dwight-Englewood students are required to complete and document a minimum of 40 community service hours with a non-profit agency.

- This requirement is meant to give students experience in the real world, outside the four walls of D-E, so only 10 hours of any internal community service may be used as part of the 40 hour requirement.
- Students must complete a log of hours, have their supervisor complete an evaluation form, and submit a personal reflection on their service experience.
- This requirement must be completed by the beginning of senior year.
- Students who have not completed their service requirement will not be eligible for certain senior privileges, including parking and Come Free/Leave Free. All documentation is due by the summer before senior year.

Parent-Teacher Conferences - December 11 & 12

This year's Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place after school on Thursday, December 11 and during the day on Friday, December 12.

- Families can log into the "Resources" page on MyD-E at noon on Friday, 11/21 to select a conference time
- There will be six conference windows: Thursday 4:15 and 5:45, Friday morning 9:15 and 10:30, and Friday afternoon 12:30 and 1:45

If your desired conference window is not available, please reach out and I will try to help with scheduling your time.

December testing

In response to student feedback about assessment "crunch times," Principal Lalli, the US Deans, and Department Chairs worked to create structure around assessments that fall before and after December break. The goal is to spread those end-of-term, higher stakes moments out and avoid assessment pile ups.

- **Week of December 15:** Testing and assessments for Science, History, Human Development, Art & Design ONLY
- **Week of January 12:** Testing and assessments for English, Math & Computer Science, World Language ONLY
- Minor Courses may do final S1 assessments during the weeks of January 5th and 12th
- **Honors Physics** Scrapbooks may be collected on/after January 8th. (There will be no Honors Physics assessment the week of 12/15.)
- Final projects for **Comparative Anatomy** will be prepared ahead of break but due after break. Ample class time before and after break will be provided to work on the projects. (These students will not have an assessment for the course during the week of 12/15.)

Authentic Connections

As in years past, we will be working with Authentic Connections to survey students anonymously on subjects such as personal values, empathy and kindness, depression and anxiety, substance use, and relationships with family and friends. Our goal is to better understand the concerns of children and adolescents growing up in our community and, accordingly, to learn how best to continue promoting positive development among our students. The Survey will be administered on 12/4. More information on the survey can be found [here](#).

Upcoming Events

December 5 - MS/US Orchestra Concert @ 7pm

December 10 - US Handbells & Chorus Concert @ 7pm

December 11 & 12 - US Parent-Teacher Conferences

January 8 - Junior Family College Orientation @ 7pm

January 16 - Final Day of Semester 1

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving Break!

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