**DCS Events and Volunteer Opportunities**

**We Need Your Help!**

Dutton Christian School depends on parent volunteers to help support and raise money to keep our tuition costs from rising. How can you help? School Circle is constantly searching for volunteers to help with events. Some events need chairpersons, some simply need helpers the day of the event. Expressing interest does not commit you to helping! However, our volunteer numbers have been declining over the years. In order to keep these events from being eliminated, and in order to keep tuition as low as possible, more volunteers are needed. Many hands make light work!

**Room Parent** - Room Parents play a vital role at DCS. Room Parents work closely with the teachers to help take care of the needs in the classroom, such as finding volunteers for classroom activities, field trips and special events. Room Parents are also responsible for organizing gifts for the teachers and support staff on their birthdays. School Circle will send home envelopes in the fall to collect money for these gifts :)

**Care Parent** - Care Parents are the heart of the school. The Care Parent Program is designed to build a sense of community for existing families and to welcome and ease the transition of new families into our school. One parent per class (Pre-K & Kindergarten) or per grade (1-8) will act as the Care Parent. A monthly letter from our School Circle Vice Secretary will be sent to you - all you have to do is copy and paste it to your class :) We try to make things as easy as possible!

**Harvest Sale** - This is our school’s biggest fundraiser! It brings in a significant amount of money. The Harvest Sale takes place in the beginning of October and takes a team of people to make it successful. Spreading the responsibilities across a whole team means the tasks become less time consuming and a lot more fun. The more people we have doing smaller jobs, the easier it is. This is a great place for men to volunteer as well. Tasks are as easy as making a few phone calls or emails!

**DCS Bus Trip** - This event takes place in the beginning of November. Details include collecting money from riders and setting up transportation.

**Christmas Shopper** - Christmas Shopper is scheduled for the beginning of December at the north campus. This event’s purpose is for kindergarten through 5th grade students to purchase Christmas gifts for the special people in their lives. All the kids absolutely love this special opportunity! It takes a team to execute this event! There are numerous things you can sign up for, as we need all kinds of help! Examples are shopping for gifts throughout the year, setting up and tearing down the event, wrapping presents the day of and helping kids shop.

**Grand Friends Day** - This event takes place at both campuses in April. The kids look forward to this day all year. It is a special day where grandparents, or grand friends of any kind, come and spend a portion of the day with the children. There is a lunch provided for the grand friends, and they spend time in the children's classrooms. Since we serve lunch, we need many volunteers the day before (preparing the food) and the day of the event (serving and cleaning up).

**Teacher Luncheon** - This event takes place on Friday of the first full week of May. With the help of Sign-Up Genius, this event takes very little time to plan and set up. Details include hiring a caterer, getting teacher coverage through Sign-Up Genius, and setting up the gym.

**Doughnuts with Dudes** - This event is in March for all students and a special guy (dad, uncle, grandpa, or special friend) in their lives. The kids get to show off their room and eat a doughnut! The main tasks include getting volunteers and supplies for the event.

**Lads & Ladies Event** - This event occurs in the odd years (opposite of the Sweetheart Dance), usually during the spring semester. It is an evening dedicated to the boys in Early 5’s through 8th grade and their favorite lady (mother, aunt, grandma, or special friend). Events in the past have included a Whitecaps baseball game or a Griffins hockey game. Volunteers are needed to help choose a venue and arrange the purchase and distribution of tickets.

**Sweetheart Dance** - This event is every other year in February. The dance is intended for girls to bring their father or another male role model (uncle, grandpa, or special friend). There are many volunteer opportunities to help make this a special night for our daughters such as planning committee, decorating, setting up, helping at the event and clean up.

**New Life Thrift Store** - The New Life Thrift store donates money to all South Christian feeder schools to keep our tuition costs down. The store asks that a parent from each family work four hours per child enrolled at DCS during our designated months. It’s fun to volunteer with a friend! DCS has the responsibility to serve in August, December and May.

**Walk n Jog** - This event takes place at the end of May, usually the Friday before Memorial Day, and the kids love it! It’s a fun day of exercise, community building and fundraising. It’s a great way to wrap up the year and raise a little money for something special. In the past, we were able to contribute to new playground equipment with the funds raised. It takes many hands the day of the event to make this a success. We need help with setup and tear down, facilitating events, and working the food and beverage station.

**Golf Outing** - This is another important fundraiser for the school. We are always looking for new sponsors, whether it’s a golf sponsorship or a non-golf sponsorship. If you talk to someone who is interested, please send him or her our way. We will be playing again at Thornapple Pointe on Saturday, June 1. We will need 10-14 volunteers to help on the day of with jobs such as working at the registration table, helping with raffle ticket sales, driving the beverage cart, etc.

**North Campus Playground Duty** - Are you able to donate 30 minutes a month to watch kids play during lunch recess? Your child would love to see you!

**South Campus Playground Duty** - Are you able to donate 30 minutes a month to watch kids play during lunch recess? Your child would love to see you!

**Lice Checks** - Looking for parents who have experienced lice in their home or are interested in being trained on how to identify lice. A couple times a year we do full school lice checks to try to prevent the spread of lice. We only have 4 volunteers who check the whole school.

**DCS Spirit Shop** - Once a year we open up the Spirit Shop to sell DCS apparel to families. Would you be interested in lending a hand? This event includes looking through catalogs, meeting a few times with Sporting U, and displaying clothes for families to see. The sale is done online.

**Baker** - During events at school like the Pre-K Open House, we provide baked goods for attendees to enjoy. Would you be interested in baking some delicious treats?