

Dougherty Valley Schools



Dear Dougherty Valley Parents/Guardians,

One of our district's strategic directions is Social-Emotional Well-Being. We are committed to creating and nurturing inclusive environments where all students, staff, and families feel deeply connected to our school community. We all know that this is of utmost importance for students and adults alike. Across our district, we have implemented care programs and monitored our students' social-emotional health with our Social-Emotional Well-Being Survey. Our survey data shows that some students feel academic pressure from peers, families, and themselves.

Our lives are filled with time constraints, homework, and busy schedules, which lead to high stress levels. With prioritizing our social well-being in mind, we will make a gesture that can temporarily ease stress and, hopefully, lead to a discussion of what a healthy level of homework is and what a healthy level of overall scheduled activities for our children is. We will have a "Family First" week for all students in the Dougherty Valley from March 16-20th.

As in previous years, our teachers will assign little or no homework this week. We propose not to fill this free time with more activities or screen time. The focus will be on providing families with time and suggestions for activities they can do together safely. We encourage you to go out for walks in our neighborhoods; there are plenty of trails to explore. Enjoying free time with family is healthy for children (and adults, too!) and should be something we all strive to do more of.

We hope you will take full advantage of this gift of time, doing fun things with family and friends.

Warmly,

The Principals of the Dougherty Valley

Ryan Maloney, BVES
Bill Alpert, CKES
Melodie Huynh, HHES
Peter Fong, LOES
Bassant Abdelrahman, QRES
Jenny Torres, GRMS
Sharon Baltazar, WRMS
Lauren Falkner, DVHS