

# Downers Grove South Blueprint



## Swipe station policies relax detentions for tardies



New tardy policies being implemented this year might effect the usage of swipe stations by students. These changes increase the number of swipes recieved by student before detention. Photos by **Ashley Boak**

By **Vincent Llanes**,  
*Business Manager*

As of the new school year, there have been changes made to the swipe policy at DGS. Both the consequences and the criteria for unexcused tar-

dies have been updated. Ten to fourteen tardies will now result in a one hour detention for each occurrence, fifteen to nineteen tardies lead to a two-hour detention for each occurrence and twenty or more tardies result in

a four-hour detention for each occurrence. In a recent email with her, Associate Principal Karen Taylor, said that the intention of the overhauls is to add consistency to the tardiness policy and to also prevent students from

taking advantage of the tardiness policies. "Since implementing the SwipeK12 stations, we have observed a trend in which students were taking advantage of the system. In short, we do not want to encourage stu-

dents to skip class entirely just because they are going to be late," Taylor said. Social studies teacher Brian Caldwell spoke on the reasoning behind the changes, and gave his perspective on the policies. *(continued on page 3)*

## Tech department cracks down on loaner Chromebook policy

By **Paul Szmanda**,  
*Online Co-Editor-in-Chief*

DGS has narrowed its list of acceptable reasons for loaning a Chromebook from IT in the 2019-2020 school year. With this update, fewer students will be able to borrow a Chromebook from the department.

The move comes in response to a decrease in Chromebook availability. In previous years the IT department had hundreds of these so-called "loaners" available as rentals. IT Network Supervisor Frank Ding explained that the reason for this was the annual influx of new Chromebooks from the graduating senior class.

"As seniors graduate, we have a stockpile of about 700 to 800 Chromebooks returning. Most of them are really in no condition to be reused, but our technicians are [able to put] the



Several of the student Chromebooks need repairs after the break. Photo by **Paul Szmanda**

devices together and put the pieces together," Ding said.

The classes of 2020 and after have a different model of the Chromebook than the classes of 2019 and prior. Those hundreds of Chromebooks are now no longer receiving security updates from Google, making them susceptible to viruses and unusable

as "loaners" by the school. The result is a supply of only 70 Chromebooks to be loaned out to the school.

This has been put under stress by the number of students who start the year with Chromebook problems. Ding reported a high number in the first days of school.

*(continued on page 3)*

## AM PE class offered

By **Madeline O'Neil**  
and **Tatum Mitchell**,  
*Copy Editor, Print Co-Editor-in-Chief*

An early-bird class from the PE Department, Advanced Team Fitness 2, has been introduced this year. Mainly consisting of football players, the curriculum has a focus on benefiting the varsity team.

Coach Mark Molinari spoke on what the course offers.

"[It's] an early-bird fitness class to give the kids options to lift together and kind of get our lifting that we want to do during the season out of the way early in the morning. [We] then free up some of their schedules in the afternoon," Molinari said.

The class is available to all varsity athletes, but only varsity football players are currently enrolled. The teacher of the class and football coach Tony Nevrlly spoke about why the class only had varsity football team members.

"We had other students in there, but they opted out because they saw the clientele. But anyone is allowed to be in [the class]," Nevrlly said.

Nevrlly spoke about the classroom time involved in the curriculum.

"We use a 'rack performance' during the week, which is an online workout program geared towards athletes, and we train Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Wednesdays we are in the classroom," Nevrlly said.

The course is considered a fitness two class and counts as a half-credit for PE. Sophomore Eli Reed expressed some of the mental benefits of the new course.

"It helps us because we do not want to do film study and all of that during practice, [It cuts] down the field time...[The mindfulness aspect of the class] helps us get down the mental aspect before we get on the field," Reed said.

*(continued on page 3)*