

Dave & Buster's Entertainment, Inc.  
Form S-1/A  
October 01, 2012  
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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 1, 2012

**Registration No. 333-175616**

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

**Amendment No. 10 to**  
**FORM S-1**  
**REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER**  
**THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

**Dave & Buster s Entertainment, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**5812**  
(Primary Standard Industrial  
Classification Code Number)

**35-2382255**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)

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**2481 Mañana Drive**

**Dallas, Texas 75220**

**(214) 357-9588**

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

**Stephen M. King**

**Chief Executive Officer**

**Dave & Buster's Entertainment, Inc.**

**2481 Mañana Drive**

**Dallas, Texas 75220**

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**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:**

As soon as practicable after the effective date of this registration statement.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box. "

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. "

If this Form is a post effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. "

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If this Form is a post effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer "      Accelerated filer "      Non-accelerated filer x      Smaller reporting company "

### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered <sup>(1)</sup>	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	Amount of Registration Fee <sup>(3)</sup>
Common Stock, \$0.01 par value	8,846,154	\$14.00	<b>\$123,846,156</b>	<b>\$14,193</b>

(1) Includes shares of common stock that may be purchased by the underwriters under their option to purchase additional shares of common stock, if any.

(2) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee in accordance with Rule 457(a) promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

(3) The Registrant previously paid \$17,415.

**The registrant hereby amends this registration statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to Section 8(a), may determine.**

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The information in this preliminary prospectus is not complete and may be changed. These securities may not be sold until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This preliminary prospectus is not an offer to sell nor does it seek an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion. Dated October 1, 2012.

**Prospectus**

7,692,308 Shares

**Dave & Buster s Entertainment, Inc.**

Common Stock

This is an initial public offering of shares of common stock by Dave & Buster s Entertainment, Inc. Dave & Buster s Entertainment, Inc. is selling 7,692,308 shares of common stock.

Prior to this offering there has been no public market for our common stock. The initial public offering price is expected to be between \$12 and \$14 per share. We have applied to list our common stock on The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (NASDAQ) under the symbol PLAY.

Dave & Buster s Entertainment, Inc. is an emerging growth company as defined in the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act of 2012 (the JOBS Act ).

*Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. See **Risk Factors** beginning on page 17.*

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per Share	Total
Initial public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discounts and commissions	\$	\$
Proceeds to us, before expenses	\$	\$

The underwriters may also purchase up to an additional 1,153,846 shares from us at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount, within 30 days from the date of this prospectus.

The shares will be ready for delivery on or about \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

**Goldman, Sachs & Co.**

**Raymond James**

**Jefferies**

**Piper Jaffray**

**RBC Capital Markets**

Prospectus dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

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**You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus is only accurate as of the date on the front cover of this prospectus. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.**

No dealer, salesperson or other person is authorized to give any information or to represent anything not contained in this prospectus. You must not rely on any unauthorized information or representations. This prospectus is an offer to sell only the shares offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. The information contained in this prospectus is current only as of its date.

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**PRESENTATION OF STORE LEVEL AND GUEST INFORMATION**

Comparable store data presented in this prospectus relate to stores open at least 18 months as of the beginning of each of the relevant fiscal periods and excludes information for our one franchised store located in Canada. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

This prospectus also contains information regarding guest feedback, guest satisfaction, guest demographics and other similar items. This information is based upon data collected by us during the periods presented. This information is reported voluntarily by our guests and thus represents responses from only a portion of the total number of our guests. We have not independently verified any of the demographic information collected from our guests. Over the periods presented, we have changed the form of reward for completing a survey, which resulted in an increase in the percentage of completed surveys, but we do not believe this has materially impacted the results. In addition, over the periods presented, we have added and deleted questions from the questionnaires, but have not made any changes to questions eliciting responses relating to the results presented in the prospectus. We use the information collected as one measure of the performance of our stores and use it to assess the success of our initiatives to improve the quality of the product we offer.

**TRADEMARKS, SERVICE MARKS AND TRADE NAMES**

We own or have rights to use the trademarks, service marks and trade names that we use in connection with the operation of our businesses. Our registered trademarks include Dave & Buster's®, Power Card®, Eat Drink Play® and Eat & Play Combo®. Other trademarks, service marks and trade names used in this prospectus are the property of their respective owners.

Solely for convenience, the trademarks, service marks and trade names referred to in this prospectus are listed without the ® and symbols, but such references are not intended to indicate, in any way, that we will not assert, to the fullest extent under applicable law, our rights (or the rights of the applicable licensors) to these trademarks, service marks and trade names.

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**PROSPECTUS SUMMARY**

*This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus and may not contain all of the information that may be important to you. Before making an investment decision, you should read this entire prospectus, including our consolidated financial statements and the related notes included elsewhere herein. You should also carefully consider the information set forth under Risk Factors. In addition, certain statements include forward-looking information that is subject to risks and uncertainties. See Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements. In this prospectus, unless the context otherwise requires, we, us, our, the Company and Dave & Buster's refers to Dave & Buster's Entertainment, Inc., its subsidiaries, and any predecessor companies, collectively.*

*Certain financial measures presented in this prospectus, such as Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA Margin, Store-level EBITDA and Store-level EBITDA margin, are not recognized terms under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP). These measures exclude a number of significant items, including our interest expense and depreciation and amortization expense. For a discussion of the use of these measures and a reconciliation to the most directly comparable GAAP measures, see pages 12-16, Summary Historical Financial and Other Data. We define high-volume dining and entertainment venues as those open for at least one full year and with average store revenues in excess of \$5.0 million and define year one cash-on-cash return as year one Store-level EBITDA exclusive of national marketing costs divided by net development costs.*

*Our fiscal year ends on the Sunday after the Saturday closest to January 31. All references to year-to-date fiscal 2012 relate to the twenty-six week period ended July 29, 2012 of the Successor. All references to year-to-date fiscal 2011 relate to the twenty-six week period ended July 31, 2011 of the Successor. All references to fiscal 2011 relate to the fifty-two week period ended January 29, 2012 of the Successor. All references to fiscal 2010 relate to the combined 244 day period ended January 30, 2011 of the Successor and the 120 day period ended May 31, 2010 of the Predecessor. All references to fiscal 2009 relate to the fifty-two week period ended January 31, 2010 of the Predecessor. The financial results for the Successor periods include the impacts of applying purchase accounting. The presentation of combined Predecessor and Successor operating results (which is simply the arithmetic sum of the Predecessor and Successor amounts) is a Non-GAAP presentation, which is provided as a convenience solely for the purpose of facilitating comparisons of current results with combined results over the same period in the prior year.*

**Company Overview**

We are a leading owner and operator of high-volume venues that combine dining and entertainment in North America for both adults and families. Founded in 1982, the core of our concept is to offer our guests the opportunity to *Eat Drink Play* all in one location. We believe we are currently the largest national chain offering a full menu of casual dining food items and a full selection of non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverage items together with an extensive assortment of entertainment attractions, including skill and sports-oriented redemption games, video games, interactive simulators and other traditional games. Unlike the strategy of many restaurants of shortening visit times by focusing on turning tables faster, we aim to increase the length of stay in our locations to generate incremental revenues and improve the guest's experience. While our guests are primarily a balanced mix of men and women aged 21 to 39, we believe we are also an attractive venue for families with children and teenagers. As of September 4, 2012, we owned and operated 59 stores in 25 states and Canada. In addition, there is one franchised store operating in Canada. The formats of our stores are flexible, which we believe allows us to size each store appropriately for each market in which we compete. Our stores average approximately 47,000 square feet, range in size between 16,000 and 66,000 square feet and are open seven days a week. For the twelve months ended July 29, 2012, we

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generated total revenues, Adjusted EBITDA and net income of \$575.7 million, \$111.5 million and \$0.3 million, respectively. For the twenty-six weeks ended July 29, 2012 and the twenty-six weeks ended July 31, 2011, we generated total revenues of \$311.4 million and \$277.3 million, respectively, Adjusted EBITDA of \$66.4 million and \$53.3 million, respectively, and net income (loss) of \$7.3 million and \$(0.02) million, respectively. For fiscal 2011 and fiscal 2010 (combined), we generated total revenues of \$541.5 million and \$521.5 million, respectively, Adjusted EBITDA of \$98.4 million and \$86.3 million, respectively, and net income (loss) of \$(7.0) million and \$(7.3) million, respectively.

We believe we have an attractive store economic model that enables us to generate what we believe to be high average store revenues and Store-level EBITDA. For comparable stores in fiscal 2011, our average revenues per store were \$9.8 million, average Store-level EBITDA was \$2.3 million and average Store-level EBITDA margin was 24%. Furthermore, for that same period, all 52 of our Dave & Buster's comparable stores had positive Store-level EBITDA, with over 85% of our stores generating more than \$1.0 million of Store-level EBITDA each. After allocating corporate general and administrative expenses, our Adjusted EBITDA margin was 18.2% for fiscal 2011. Store-level and Adjusted EBITDA exclude a number of significant items, including our interest expense and depreciation and amortization expense. A key feature of our business model is that approximately 50% of our total revenues for fiscal 2011 were from our entertainment offerings, which have a relatively low variable cost component (consisting primarily of Winner's Circle redemption items) and contributed a gross margin of 85% for the period.

Since being taken private in 2006 when our current management team joined the Company, we have implemented a series of operating and strategic initiatives that we believe have streamlined our operations and reduced costs. The operating initiatives undertaken by our management team include, among others, the implementation of new ordering technology and labor scheduling to drive productivity, the introduction of automated kiosks and related pricing strategies to reduce labor costs and increase revenues on each Power Card sold and centralization or restructuring of certain functions resulting in an overall reduction in staffing levels. We believe that the lower variable costs (such as the cost of products associated with our entertainment revenues) in our business model, effective management of our corporate cost structure and national marketing expenditures create operating leverage in our business, which we believe will allow us to increase revenues within our existing operations without a proportional increase in costs. As a result, we believe we have the potential to improve margins and deliver increased earnings from any growth in comparable store sales, although there can be no guarantee that we will do so and we have experienced net losses in the fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009 periods. While we have implemented initiatives focused on our cost structure, we have simultaneously increased our guest satisfaction in both food and entertainment, based on the results of our periodic Guest Satisfaction Survey.

Our management team has also refined our large store format and developed a new small store format, which we believe will allow us to increase the number of markets in which we can grow. Both of our new store formats are smaller and less expensive to build, which we believe will help us to achieve our targeted cash-on-cash returns. With respect to stores we expect to open in the near term, we are targeting a year one cash-on-cash return of 25% to 35% for both our large format and small format store openings, and, since the beginning of 2008, our nine store openings (that have been open for more than 12 months) have generated average year one cash-on-cash returns of 38.4%.

### ***Eat Drink Play* The Core of Our National Concept**

When our founders opened our first location in Dallas, Texas in 1982, they sought to create a dining concept with a fun, upbeat atmosphere providing interactive entertainment options for adults and families, while serving high-quality food and beverages. Since then we have followed the same

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principle for each new store, and in doing so we believe we have developed a distinctive brand based on our guest value proposition: *Eat Drink Play*. The interplay between entertainment, dining and full-service bar areas is the defining feature of the Dave & Buster's guest experience, and the layout of each store is designed to promote crossover between these activities. We believe this combination creates an experience that cannot be easily replicated at home or elsewhere without having to visit multiple destinations. Our locations are also designed to accommodate private parties, business functions and other corporate sponsored events.

We seek to distinguish our food menu from other casual dining concepts. Our recently reengineered menu includes items that we believe reinforce the fun of the Dave & Buster's brand. Recent additions to the menu have become top sellers within their categories. We believe we offer high-quality meals, including gourmet pastas, choice-grade steaks, premium sandwiches, decadent desserts and health-conscious entrée options that compare favorably to those of other higher end casual dining operators. Each of our locations also offers full bar service including a variety of beers, signature cocktails, premium spirits and nonalcoholic beverages. Food and beverage accounted for approximately 50% of our total revenues during fiscal 2011.

The Midway in each of our stores is an area where we offer a wide array of amusements and entertainment options, with typically over 150 redemption and simulation games. We believe the entertainment options in our Midway are a core differentiating feature of our brand, and our amusement and other revenues accounted for approximately 50% of our total revenues during fiscal 2011. Redemption games, which represented 79% of our amusement and other revenues in fiscal 2011, offer our guests the opportunity to win tickets that are redeemable at our Winner's Circle for prizes ranging from branded novelty items to high-end home electronics. We believe this opportunity to win creates a fun and highly energized social experience that is an important aspect of the Dave & Buster's in-store experience and cannot be replicated at home. Our video and simulation games, many of which can be played by multiple guests simultaneously and which include some of the latest high-tech games commercially available, represented 18% of our amusement and other revenues in fiscal 2011. Traditional amusements, which include billiards, bowling and shuffleboard tables, represented the remainder of our amusement and other revenues. Each of our stores also contains multiple large screen televisions and high quality audio systems providing guests with a venue for watching live sports and other televised events.

### **Our Company's Core Strengths**

We believe we benefit from the following strengths:

***Strong, distinctive brand with broad guest appeal.*** We believe that the multi-faceted guest experience of *Eat Drink Play* at Dave & Buster's, supported by our marketing campaigns as well as our 29 year history, have helped us create a widely recognized brand with no direct national competitor that combines all three elements in the same way. In areas in which we have existing stores, over 90% of our customers stated that they are aware of our brand as a dining and entertainment venue. Our brand's connection with its guests is evidenced by our guest loyalty program that, as of July 2012, had over 2.0 million members, which represents an increase of 42% since June 2011. Our guest research shows that our brand appeals to a balanced mix of male and female adults, primarily between the ages of 21 and 39, as well as families and teenagers. Based on guest survey results, we also believe that the average household income of our guests is over \$80,000, which we believe is representative of an attractive demographic.

***Multi-faceted guest experience and our value proposition.*** We believe that our combination of interactive entertainment, high-quality dining and full-service beverage offerings, delivered in a

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highly-energized atmosphere that caters to both adults and families, provides a multi-faceted guest experience that cannot be replicated at home or elsewhere without having to visit multiple destinations. We also believe that the cost of visiting a Dave & Buster's offers a value proposition for our guests comparable or superior to many of the separately available dining and entertainment options.

***Store economic model capable of delivering diversified cash flows and strong cash-on-cash returns.*** We believe our store economic model provides certain benefits in comparison to traditional restaurant concepts, which we believe helps increase our average store revenues and Store-level EBITDA. Our entertainment offerings have low variable costs and produced gross margins of 85% for fiscal 2011. With approximately half of our revenues from entertainment, we believe we have less exposure than traditional restaurant concepts to food costs, which represented only 9% of our revenues in fiscal 2011. We believe that the low variable cost of our business model, our national marketing expenditures and effective management of our current corporate cost structure, which we believe has benefited from the operating initiatives implemented by management in recent years, creates operating leverage in our business. As a result, we believe we have the potential to further improve margins and deliver greater earnings from any increases in comparable store sales. For example, with comparable store sales growth of 2.2% in fiscal 2011 over fiscal 2010, our operating income and operating income margin increased by 55.1% and 209 basis points, respectively. Similarly, our Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin increased by 14.0% and 163 basis points, respectively. We believe the combination of our improved store-level margins and our refined new store formats, which are less expensive to build, will help us achieve our targeted year one cash-on-cash returns of 25% to 35% for both our large format and small format store openings, although there is no guarantee such results will occur. Since the beginning of fiscal 2008, our nine store openings (that have been open for more than 12 months) have generated average year one cash-on-cash returns of 38.4%. We define strong cash-on-cash returns as those greater than 20%.

***History of product innovation and marketing initiatives.*** We have a history of implementing what we consider to be innovative marketing initiatives, including our Eat & Play Combo, higher Power Card denominations, Super Charge up-sell and Half-Price Game Play on Wednesdays, which we believe have helped increase guest visits while encouraging them to participate more fully across our range of food, beverage and entertainment offerings. We are continuously working with game manufacturers and food providers to create new games and food items to retain and generate guest traffic. We also take advantage of our proprietary technology linking games with Power Cards to change prices and offer promotions to increase the overall performance of our stores and to increase the efficiency of the Midway.

***Commitment to guest satisfaction.*** While we have been focused on margin enhancing initiatives, we have simultaneously improved our guest satisfaction levels. Through the implementation of guest feedback tools throughout the organization, including a periodic Guest Satisfaction Survey and Quarterly Brand Health Study, we collect information from our guests that helps us to improve and enhance the overall guest experience. We have identified several key drivers of guest satisfaction, and have initiated programs to improve focus on these drivers while improving our cost structure. The percentage of guest survey respondents rating us "Top Box" in our Guest Satisfaction Survey has improved significantly over the past several years. Between fiscal 2007 when the surveys began and July 29, 2012, the number of guests responding "Very Likely" on "Intent to Recommend to a Friend, Relative or Colleague" increased from 64.8% to 82.6%. The number of guests responding "Excellent" on "Food Quality" increased from 37.9% to 76.5%. Most importantly, the percentage of "Excellent" scores for "Overall Experience" increased from 44.0% to 78.5% over the same period. The Guest Satisfaction Survey information is reported voluntarily by our guests, and we encourage participation in our feedback tools through promotional offers. In early 2010, we changed the form of reward for

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completing the survey, which resulted in an increase in the percentage of completed surveys, but we do not believe this has materially impacted the results.

***Experienced management team.*** We believe we are led by a strong management team with extensive experience with national brands in all aspects of casual dining and entertainment operations. In 2006, we hired our Chief Executive Officer, Stephen King. From fiscal 2006 to fiscal 2011, under the leadership of Mr. King, Adjusted EBITDA has grown by over 39%, Adjusted EBITDA margins have increased by approximately 436 basis points and employee turnover and guest satisfaction metrics have improved significantly. Our management team has invested approximately \$4.2 million of cash in the equity of Dave & Buster's and currently owns 10.9% of the equity on a fully diluted basis. We believe that our management team's prior experience in the restaurant and entertainment industries combined with its experience at Dave & Buster's in recent years provides us with insights into our guest base and enables us to create the dynamic environment that is core to our brand.

### **Our Growth Strategies**

The operating strategy that underlies the growth of our concept is built on the following key components:

***Pursue disciplined new store growth.*** We will continue to pursue what we believe to be a disciplined new store growth strategy in both new and existing markets where we believe we are capable of achieving consistent high store revenues and strong store-level cash-on-cash returns. We have created a new store expansion strategy and rebuilt our pipeline of potential new stores by instituting a site selection process that allows us to evaluate and select our new store location, size and design based on consumer research and analysis of operating data from sales in our existing stores. Where permitted, we also collect home zip code information from our guests on a voluntary basis through the Power Card kiosks in our existing stores, which allows us to determine how far they have traveled to reach that particular store. Our site selection process and flexible store design enable us to customize each store with the objective of maximizing return on capital given the characteristics of the market and location. We expect our new large format stores to be approximately 35,000 - 40,000 square feet and our small format stores to be approximately 22,000 - 25,000 square feet, which provides us the flexibility to enter new smaller markets and further penetrate existing markets. These formats also provide us the flexibility to choose between building new stores or converting existing space. With respect to stores we expect to open in the near term, we are targeting a year one cash-on-cash return of 25% to 35% for both our large format and small format store openings, levels that are consistent with the average of Dave & Buster's store openings in recent years. To achieve this return we target a ratio of first year store revenues to net development costs of approximately one-to-one and Store-level EBITDA margins, excluding national marketing costs, of 27% to 30%. We also target average net development costs of approximately \$10.3 million for large format stores and approximately \$6.3 million for small format stores.

We believe the Dave & Buster's brand is significantly under-penetrated, with internal studies and third-party research suggesting a total store universe in the United States and Canada in excess of 150 stores (including our 59 existing company-owned stores), approximately two and a half times our current store base. We currently plan to open four stores in fiscal 2012 (including our store in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma that opened on January 30, 2012) and four to six stores in fiscal 2013, which we expect will be financed with available cash and operating cash flows. Thereafter, we believe we can continue opening new stores at an annual rate of approximately 10% of our then existing store base. Our ability to open new stores in the future is subject to the availability of sufficient cash flows and financing, as well as other factors, and therefore there is no guarantee we will open new stores at this rate.

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**Grow our comparable store sales.** We intend to grow our comparable store sales by seeking to differentiate the Dave & Buster's brand from other food and entertainment alternatives, through the following strategies:

*Enhance our food and beverage offerings:* We frequently test new menu items and seek to improve our food offering to better align with the Dave & Buster's brand. To further reinforce the fun of our brand, our new menu includes familiar food items served in presentations that we view as distinctive and appealing to our guests. In 2011, we developed and tested new presentations for every item on the menu, featuring new plateware and glassware. We saw a significant increase in quality perceptions among our guests during the test with the percentage of guests responding "Excellent" in our Guest Satisfaction Survey on "Overall Food" and "Food Quality" increasing by 7.8% and 12.2%, respectively, and introduced these new presentations to all our stores in May 2012.

*Maintain the latest exciting entertainment options:* We believe that our entertainment options are the core differentiating feature of the Dave & Buster's brand, and staying current with the latest offerings creates excitement and helps drive repeat visits and increase length of guest stay. In fiscal 2012, we expect to spend an average of one hundred eighty-five thousand dollars per store on game refreshment, which we believe will drive brand relevance and comparable store sales growth. Further, we intend to upgrade viewing areas by introducing televisions in excess of 100 inches in stores within key markets in order to capture a higher share of the sports-viewing guest base. We also plan to elevate the redemption experience in our "Winner's Circle" with prizes that we believe guests will find more attractive, which we expect will favorably impact guest visitation and game play.

*Enhance brand awareness and generate additional visits to our stores through marketing and promotions:* To further national awareness of our brand, we plan to continue to invest a significant portion of our marketing expenditures in television advertising. We have recently launched customized local store marketing programs to increase new visits and repeat visits to individual locations. Our guest loyalty program currently has over 2.0 million members, and we are aggressively improving our search engine and social marketing efforts. Our loyalty program and digital efforts allow us to communicate promotional offers directly to our most passionate brand fans. We also leverage our investments in technology across our marketing platform, including in-store marketing initiatives to drive incremental sales throughout the store.

*Grow our special events usage:* We plan to utilize existing and add new resources to our special events sales force as the corporate special events market improves. The special events portion of our business represented 13% of our total revenues in fiscal 2011. We believe our special events business is an important sampling and promotional opportunity for our guests because many guests are experiencing Dave & Buster's for the first time.

**Continue to enhance margins.** We believe we are well-positioned to continue to increase margins and have additional opportunities to reduce costs. Based on the operating leverage generated by our business model as described above, which we believe has benefited from the operating initiatives implemented by management in recent years and our national marketing expenditures, we believe we have the potential to further improve margins and deliver greater earnings from expected future increases in comparable store sales. Under our current cost structure, we estimate that more than 50% of any comparable store sales growth would flow through to our Adjusted EBITDA. We also believe that improved labor scheduling technology will allow us to further increase labor productivity in the future. Our continued focus on operating margins at individual locations and the deployment of best practices across our store base is expected to yield incremental margin improvements, although there is no guarantee that we will be able to achieve greater margins or greater earnings in the future.



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### **Use of Proceeds**

We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering to reduce our aggregate indebtedness by approximately \$80.0 million, as well as to pay related premiums, interest and expenses. After applying the proceeds from this offering, our aggregate indebtedness will be approximately \$384.8 million on an as adjusted basis as of July 29, 2012. See *Use of Proceeds* and *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Liquidity and Capital Resources*.

### **Corporate History**

We opened our first store in Dallas, Texas in 1982 and since then we have expanded our portfolio nationally to 59 company-owned stores across 25 states and Canada.

From 1997 to early 2006, we operated as a public company under the leadership of our founders, David Dave Corriveau and James Buster Corley. In March 2006, Dave & Buster's, Inc. was acquired by Dave & Buster's Holdings, Inc. ( D&B Holdings ), a holding company controlled by affiliates of Wellspring Capital Partners III, L.P. ( Wellspring ) and HBK Main Street Investors L.P. ( HBK ). In connection with the acquisition of Dave & Buster's by Wellspring and HBK, Dave & Buster's common stock was delisted from the New York Stock Exchange. In addition, in 2006, we hired our current management team led by our Chief Executive Officer, Stephen King.

On June 1, 2010, Dave & Buster's Entertainment, Inc. (formerly known as Dave & Buster's Parent, Inc. and originally named Games Acquisition Corp.), a newly-formed Delaware corporation owned by Oak Hill Capital Partners III, L.P. and Oak Hill Capital Management Partners III, L.P. (collectively, the Oak Hill Funds and together with their manager, Oak Hill Capital Management, LLC, and its related funds, Oak Hill Capital Partners ) acquired all of the outstanding common stock (the Acquisition ) of D&B Holdings from Wellspring and HBK. In connection therewith, Games Merger Corp., a newly-formed Missouri corporation and an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Dave & Buster's Entertainment, Inc., merged (the Merger ) with and into D&B Holdings wholly-owned, direct subsidiary, Dave & Buster's, Inc. (with Dave & Buster's, Inc. being the surviving corporation in the Merger). In applying purchase price accounting from the Acquisition, based on internal and external fair value assessments, an aggregate \$267.5 million increase in the carrying value of our long-lived assets was recognized, including a \$222.5 million increase in indefinite-lived assets not subject to amortization, a \$29.1 million increase in assets that have annual depreciation expense recognized and a \$15.9 million increase in other amortizing long-lived assets. As a result of the Acquisition and certain post-acquisition activity, the Oak Hill Funds directly control approximately 95.4% of our outstanding common stock and have the right to appoint certain members of our Board of Directors, and certain members of our Board of Directors and management control approximately 4.6% of our outstanding common stock. Upon completion of this offering, the Oak Hill Funds will beneficially own approximately 68.3% of our outstanding common stock, or 65.5% if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares in full, and certain members of our Board of Directors and our management will beneficially own approximately 3.3% of our common stock or 3.2% if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares in full. The Oak Hill Funds will continue to own a majority of the voting power of our outstanding common stock. As a result, we will be a controlled company within the meaning of the corporate governance standards of NASDAQ. See *Principal Stockholders*.

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**Ownership Structure**

*The following chart gives effect to our ownership structure after giving effect to this offering(1):*

- (1) Assumes an offering at a price per share of \$13.00, the midpoint of the price range set forth on the cover of this prospectus, and excludes the exercise of the option to purchase additional shares. See also Use of Proceeds.

**Oak Hill Capital Partners**

Oak Hill Capital Partners is a private equity firm with committed capital from leading entrepreneurs, endowments, foundations, corporations, pension funds and global financial institutions. The funds managed by Oak Hill Capital Partners were formed with over \$8 billion of initial capital commitments. Over 25 years, the professionals at Oak Hill Capital Partners and its predecessors have invested in more than 70 significant private equity transactions across broad segments of the U.S. and global economies. Oak Hill Capital Partners applies a theme-based approach to investing across six key industry sectors (Basic Industries, Business and Financial Services, Consumer, Retail and Distribution, Healthcare, Media and Telecommunications, and Technology). Dave & Buster's represents a core investment theme of the firm's Consumer, Retail and Distribution team, which has experience investing in the restaurant and specialty retail sectors. Oak Hill Capital Partners is one of several independently managed firms (which may work together from time to time) operating with the Oak Hill name and investing in various asset classes, including equity and debt securities.

After completion of this offering, the Oak Hill Funds will continue to own a majority of the voting power of our outstanding common stock. We will also enter into a new stockholders' agreement with the Oak Hill Funds in connection with this offering. See Principal Stockholders. As a result, the Oak Hill Funds will hold the power to elect a majority of the seats on our Board of Directors and will have certain designation and nomination rights upon the completion of this offering. The Oak Hill Funds will

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be entitled to designate directors to serve on the Board of Directors proportionate to the Oak Hill Funds (or one or more of their affiliates, to the extent assigned thereto) aggregate ownership of the outstanding shares of our common stock, at any meeting of stockholders at which directors are to be elected to the extent that the Oak Hill Funds do not have such proportionate number of director designees then serving on the Board of Directors; provided that for so long as the Oak Hill Funds (or one or more of their affiliates, to the extent assigned thereto), individually or in the aggregate, own 5% or more of the voting power of the outstanding shares of our common stock, the Oak Hill Funds will be entitled to designate one director designee to serve on the Board of Directors at any meeting of stockholders at which directors are to be elected to the extent that the Oak Hill Funds do not have a director designee then serving on the Board of Directors. Such proportionate number of director designees will be determined by taking the product of the Oak Hill Funds (or one or more of their affiliates, to the extent assigned thereto) aggregate ownership of the outstanding shares of our common stock multiplied by the then current number of directors on our Board of Directors (rounded up to the next whole number to the extent the product does not equal a whole number). The Oak Hill Funds' director designees will initially be Tyler J. Wolfram and Kevin M. Mailender, and, therefore, the Oak Hill Funds will be entitled to designate additional directors in order for Oak Hill to have its proportionate number of director designees. We will expand the size of our Board of Directors if necessary to provide for such proportionate representation. Subject to applicable law and applicable NASDAQ rules, the stockholders' agreement will also provide that the Oak Hill Funds will be entitled to nominate the members of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. In addition, subject to applicable law and applicable NASDAQ rules, each other committee of our Board of Directors, other than the Audit Committee, will consist of at least one member designated by the Oak Hill Funds. When conflicts arise between the interests of the Oak Hill Funds or their affiliates and the interests of our stockholders, these directors may not be disinterested. The representatives of the Oak Hill Funds on our Board of Directors, by the terms of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and stockholders' agreement, are not required to offer us any transaction opportunity of which they become aware and could take any such opportunity for themselves or offer it to other companies in which they have an investment, unless such opportunity is expressly offered to them solely in their capacity as our directors (and therefore may be free to compete with us in the same business or similar business). Pursuant to the new stockholders' agreement, the Oak Hill Funds and their affiliates will also continue to be reimbursed for all reasonable direct and indirect costs and out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with monitoring and maintaining its investment in us. We will also reimburse the Oak Hill Funds or their affiliates (or, at the discretion of the Oak Hill Funds, in lieu thereof pay to the Oak Hill Funds or their affiliates a fixed annual retainer in an amount not to exceed \$250,000) for the cost (including allocable overhead) of providing insurance, human resources, accounting, legal and information technology support and other similar resources to us pursuant to the stockholders' agreement. See Certain Relationships and Related Transactions New stockholders' agreement and Risk Factors Conflicts of interest may arise because some of our directors are principals of our principal stockholder.

## **Corporate Information**

Our corporate headquarters is located at 2481 Mañana Drive, Dallas, Texas, and our telephone number is (214) 357-9588. Our website is [www.daveandbusters.com](http://www.daveandbusters.com). Information contained on our website does not constitute a part of this prospectus.

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**The Offering**

<b>Shares of Common Stock Offered by us</b>	7,692,308 shares (8,846,154 shares if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares is exercised in full).
<b>Shares of Common Stock to be Outstanding After This Offering</b>	27,065,626 shares (28,219,472 shares if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares is exercised in full).
<b>Option to Purchase Additional Shares</b>	The underwriters have an option to purchase from us up to a maximum of 1,153,846 additional shares of our common stock. The underwriters can exercise this option at any time within 30 days from the date of this prospectus.
<b>Use of Proceeds</b>	We estimate that the net proceeds to us from the offering of 7,692,308 shares, after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses, will be approximately \$90.4 million, assuming the shares are offered at \$13.00 (the midpoint of the price range set forth on the cover of this prospectus). We intend to use these net proceeds to redeem \$80.0 million principal amount of the existing senior notes at a redemption price of 111% of the principal amount redeemed, and for general corporate purposes. Our ability to redeem up to \$30.0 million principal amount of the existing senior notes is subject to a prior right of lenders under our senior secured credit facility to receive an offer to have term loans in the same principal amount repaid without any prepayment premium, which, if exercised, would reduce the principal amount of existing senior notes called for redemption on a dollar-for-dollar basis. Should the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares from us, we intend to use the net proceeds to redeem the maximum principal amount of existing discount notes that may be redeemed at a redemption price of 112.25% of the then accreted amount of existing discount notes redeemed. See <i>Use of Proceeds</i> .
<b>Dividend Policy</b>	We do not anticipate paying any dividends on our common stock, however, we may change this policy in the future. See <i>Dividend Policy</i> .
<b>Proposed NASDAQ Symbol</b>	PLAY
<b>Risk Factors</b>	You should carefully read and consider the information set forth under <i>Risk Factors</i> beginning on page 17 of this prospectus and all other information set forth in this prospectus before investing in our common stock.

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Unless otherwise indicated, the number of shares of common stock to be outstanding after this offering:

excludes 7,851,165 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of outstanding stock options and reserved for issuances under our 2012 Omnibus Plan (the 2012 Stock Incentive Plan ).

Unless otherwise noted, the information in this prospectus:

gives effect to a 131.3398 for 1 stock split of our common stock prior to the consummation of this offering (rounded to the nearest whole share);

gives effect to our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, which will be in effect prior to the consummation of this offering;

assumes no exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase from us up to 1,153,846 additional shares; and

assumes an initial public offering price of \$13.00 per share, the midpoint of the price range set forth on the cover of this prospectus.

**Risks Associated With Our Business**

Our business is subject to numerous risks, which are highlighted in the section entitled *Risk Factors*. These risks represent challenges to the successful implementation of our strategy and the growth of our business. Some of these risks are:

our ability to open new stores and operate them profitably;

changes in discretionary spending by consumers and general economic conditions;

our ability to compete favorably in the out-of-home and home-based entertainment and restaurant markets;

unauthorized use of our intellectual property;

potential claims for infringing the intellectual property right of others and the costs related to such claims;

damage to our brand or reputation;

failure or destruction of our information systems and other technology that support our business;

seasonality of our business and the timing of new openings and other events; and

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availability and cost of food and other supplies.

For a discussion of these and other risks you should consider before making an investment in our common stock, see the section entitled *Risk Factors*.

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**Summary Historical Financial and Other Data**

Set forth below are our summary consolidated historical and as adjusted financial and other data. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States require operating results for D&B Holdings prior to the Acquisition completed June 1, 2010 to be presented as the results of the Predecessor in the historical financial statements. Operating results of Dave & Buster's Entertainment, Inc. subsequent to the Acquisition are presented as the results of the Successor and include all periods including and subsequent to June 1, 2010.

Dave & Buster's Entertainment, Inc. has no material assets or operations other than 100% ownership of the outstanding common stock of D&B Holdings. D&B Holdings has no other material assets or operations other than 100% ownership of the outstanding common stock of Dave & Buster's, Inc.

The statement of operations and cash flows data for each of the fiscal year ended January 29, 2012 (Successor) and the 244 day period from June 1, 2010 to January 30, 2011 (Successor) and the balance sheet data as of January 29, 2012 (Successor) and January 30, 2011 (Successor) were derived from our audited consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus. The statement of operations and cash flows data for each of the 120 day period from February 1, 2010 to May 31, 2010 (Predecessor) and the fiscal year ended January 31, 2010 (Predecessor) were derived from the Predecessor's audited consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus. The statement of operations and cash flows data for each of the twenty-six week periods ended July 29, 2012 (Successor) and July 31, 2011 (Successor) and the balance sheet data as of July 29, 2012 (Successor) were derived from our unaudited consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus. In the opinion of management, the unaudited consolidated financial statements include all normal recurring adjustments necessary to present fairly the data for such periods and as of such dates.

The summary of historical financial and other data should be read in conjunction with *Selected Consolidated Financial Data*, *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations*, our historical consolidated financial statements and the historical consolidated financial statements of the Predecessor and the notes related thereto, included elsewhere in this prospectus. All dollar amounts are presented in thousands except per share amounts.

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Twenty-six weeks Ended			For the 244 Day Period from	For the 120 Day Period from	Fiscal Year Ended	
July 29, 2012 (Successor)	July 31, 2011	Fiscal Year Ended January 29, 2012	June 1, 2010 to January 30, 2011	February 1, 2010 to May 31, 2010	January 30, 2011(1)	January 31, 2010