

DMS NEWSLETTER

September 2020

Notes from the Principal, Marcus Lewton

Welcome to DMS!



Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! The beginning of school is always an exciting time for students, parents, and staff.

Please encourage your students to take advantage of the more than 20 after-School activities we have for students at DMS. Currently, we have Marimbas, Football, Cross-Country, Volleyball, and girls Golf.

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)



The DMS PAC (Parent Advisory Council) will meet quarterly. We will meet September 17th, November 12th, February 11th, and April 15th. Meetings will occur at 6:00 P.M. in

the DMS Cafeteria to allow more parents to attend. Topics for the first meeting will include school safety and parent collaboration. If you have any additional topics or items, please email Dr. Lewton at mlewton@dpsnd.org.



Dates to Remember

Sept. 7	NO SCHOOL (Labor Day)
Sept. 14	School Board Meeting @ 5:00
Sept 17	PAC Meeting @ 6:00
Sept 20 & 21	Picture Day(s)
Sept 25	Early Release @ 1:00 (B)

Student Success



DMS has many structures and processes in place to make sure your child has a successful year, both academically and socially. We have high behavior expectations for each student in our classroom. Teachers have adopted the Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) process for the classroom. The process concentrates on teaching appropriate behaviors, not just expecting them. The PBIS process also affirms students when right decisions are made. Our guidelines for success are Prepared, Engaged, Attitude, and Kindness. These behaviors are taught throughout all classes by all staff.

Dickinson Backpack Program



The Dickinson Backpack Program is a food program which provides school-age children with easy-to-prepare food on weekends and during school breaks. This program is meant to assist families, who may be struggling financially. If you believe your child(ren) could benefit from this program, please call the school office (701-456-0021) and request a form. If you have any questions, please call Kristin Seaks at 701-590-0134.

Peanut & Nuts



We do have multiple students in our building that have peanut/tree nut allergies. If you have a child that brings a sack lunch to school please remind them to be very careful when bringing anything with a peanut or nut product. There are designated peanut zones in the cafeteria and I expect the student body to be responsible and sanitary when eating peanut or nut products. Peanuts and or tree nuts are not to be brought or eaten as a snack in the locker area or classroom.

Dress Code Expectations



Please take a moment to visit with your child about dress code at school. The DMS dress code can be found on page eleven of the student handbook (student planner). A few items to discuss for boys might be tank tops (cover upper body) and pants need to be pulled up and at waist level. For girls shoulder straps on blouses or tanks must be greater than 2" and no midriff should show. Girls should not wear low cut tops that reveal cleavage. Skirts and shorts should extend below the fingertips when held straight down. Any clothing that is vulgar, is gang related, or belittles other races, genders, nationalities, or religion has no place at school.

We Are Here to Help



Middle school is a time of transitions for students as their young adolescent brain is just beginning to develop and increase cognitive (frontal cortex) skills. This combined with maturity of their bodies can sometimes make us feel like our child has somehow changed overnight. Please know you can contact any of our counselors Dawn Weber (6), Janelle Yoder (7), and Meghan Emard (8) at any time if you need advice or simply want to share information about your son or daughter.

DPS School Pantry and Closet

Dickinson Public Schools is happy to announce that we now have a School Pantry and Closet to help serve the needs of families whose children attend school within DPS. If you need access to the School Pantry or Closet, please contact Ms. Brown our school Social Worker.

Free Dental Care



Dickinson Middle School will be hosting the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile September 28th - October 2nd. The Care Mobile provides dental preventative and treatment services for eligible children. For more information, or to sign your child up, contact the DMS counselors or social worker.

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