



Attendance-ACHIEVEMENT-ATTITUDE

September 11, 2019

Dear Parents & Guardians,

It's going to be a great year! It was wonderful seeing so many of you at our Back-to-School Night and I also appreciate having nearly 97% turn-out for Check-in/registrations. The help you gave your kids with their schedules and lockers made a world of difference in their confidence on the first day!

M-Step

Enclosed is your child's M-Step results from last Spring's testing if they tested with Davison Community Schools. This M-Step report provides an overview of your student's performance. You can find additional helpful information at www.michigan.gov/mstep under the Parent/Student information section.

What are your hopes and dreams for the future?

On the first day of school, students brainstormed career aspirations or things they want to accomplish in the future. Later on that week, students took it a step further and wrote out what their hopes or short term goals were for this year to help take the first step toward their future aspirations. Students wrote: "My hope for myself this year is _____ . I will work on it by _____ ." When you visit, check out all of our students hopes posted outside each Homeroom.

ParentVue: Grades + Agendas/Assignments- "The Keys to the Kingdom"

Stay "in the know" by regularly logging onto ParentVue to check grades as well as daily agendas/homework. All students went on their StudentVue accounts in their social studies class to learn about where to find agendas and how to view their grades.

Here are the directions for ParentVue:

1. Log onto ParentVue via the district website (www.davisonschools.org)
2. Click "Class Website." Find the class you need in the drop down menu. Then click on homework and the daily agenda will appear.

All non-activated ParentVUE Activation Keys are enclosed in this mailing. If you forget your password after activation, simply follow the prompts to re-set your password. It's easy!

Talk Like A Scholar/Write Like a Scholar

To prepare DMS students for college and the world of work, we want to make sure that they respond to questions in complete sentences when speaking and when writing. We also want them to use correct grammar. All students in all classes are being taught to "Talk and write like a scholar." For example, if a social studies teacher asks "What is the largest river in the world?", scholars respond by saying, "The largest river in the U.S. is the Missouri River." These strategies will help to counter balance the texting shortcuts that have become such a norm in students.

Josie Paquette, Principal ★ *Andrea Ferguson*, Assistant Principal ★ *Chris Wilson*, Dean of Students
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Helping Students Feel Connected at DMS

DMS is a big school so I know we need to work extra hard to make sure all kids feel connected to their classmates as well as to the staff here. Here are some things we do to help students develop the kind of relationships that contribute to their learning and attendance:

- * Homeroom Check in circles will be held every Tuesday. During these quick circle times, students have the opportunity to get to know their classmates better and share ideas. A second circle occurs in a designated class each week.
- * Areas of the building have been broken up into hallway teams to encourage neighbors to take care of neighbors. The names of these teams are related to virtues necessary for success in school and in future careers (Perseverance Team, Courage Team, etc.) All Hallway teams had “mixers” for their students on August 29th. The “Mixer” included activities like kickball, board games, team-building, etc. Students had fun!
- * Homeroom Game Day Mondays: students are taught how to play easy games like Farkle and then are broken into teams.

Military Connected Students

Davison Community Schools is required to report if a parent/legal guardian is a member of the armed forces on ACTIVE DUTY. Armed Forces is defined by the State as Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. This has been expanded to include National Guard duty. If this applies to your student, please contact Patty Galea, Guidance Office Secretary at 810.591.5101 or pgalea@davisonschools.org so that we can update our records.

Early Release Days this year for all K-8 schools, including DMS (Students need to attend!)

Students in grades K-8 will have early dismissal (two hours earlier) four times this year so that teachers can participate in professional development. **DMS students will be dismissed at 12:19PM** (after lunch).

All dates on Wednesdays: Sept. 25, 2019 Dec. 11, 2019 March 4, 2020 May 6, 2020

Parent Drop off—Thank you for making the parent drop off safe and efficient!

Please continue to drop off in the designated spots: the back parking lot of DMS/Hahn building and at Central Elementary. Avoid the Staff parking lots. When using the back Parent Drop off loop, please.....

1. Pull all the way ahead past the first crosswalk going as far as you can to the crosswalk by Hahn.
2. Have your students exit quickly anywhere between the two crosswalks. Please note there is a second DMS entrance close to the Hahn entrance. DMS kids can use both!

If you park your car in the lot, please have your student use the crosswalk by Hahn, where Officer Paul is located.

8th grade Washington D.C. Trip 2020 Flyer Enclosed (for 8th graders only)

We have been proud to offer this annual educational opportunity for the past several years. Please find a flyer regarding this year's trip planned for May 22-25, 2020.

Other Enclosures

DMS Annual Calendar is enclosed. This is our latest revised version.
District Nut Allergy Letter (on the reverse side of the calendar)

Upcoming Dates!

Friday, September 20: School Picture Re-take Day (7:35AM)

Wednesday, September 25: Early Release Day (Students released at 12:19PM)

In closing, thank you for a wonderful first couple of weeks with your student. We're off to a great start! Call us with any questions/concerns. We are here to help, always!



Mrs. Josie Paquette
Proud Principal