



## **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AT DMS**

After spring break in Tiger Connections we will engage our students in a common presentation and conversation about our approach to emergency preparedness. Students will watch a short video and then have opportunities to ask questions, seek clarification, and become even more familiar with their surroundings around our school campus. In advance of our students engaging in the presentation next week, you are welcome to view it [HERE](#).

In addition to the video presentation we will also familiarize our students to what the lockdown tone sounds like and demonstrate our new blue strobes installed this past summer indicating a Run/Hide/Fight situation.

## **HOUSE OF REPS SPIRIT WEEK**

Below is the schedule for the House of Reps Spirit Week for next week March 19-23:

Monday , March 19 – **Hats and Jerseys Day**

Tuesday, March 20 – **Twinning Day** (hot dog option during lunch)

Wednesday, March 21 – **Rainbow Day** (each house will wear a specific color/House Meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup>)

Cheetah – **red**

Leopard – **orange**

Panther – **yellow**

Puma – **green**

Bobcat – **purple**

Jaguar – **blue**

Thursday, March 22 – **Tourist Day**

Friday, March 23 – **Tiger Spirit Day**

## **PARENT ENGAGEMENT NIGHT PRESENTATION**

Thank you to all those parents that were able to attend out Parent Engagement Night presentation last evening. For those that were not able to attend we are providing access to the presentation we used for your convenience. You can click [HERE](#) to access that presentation. Please call 651-460-1500 with any questions you may have!

## **2017-18 ASSESSMENT INFORMATION**

At Farmington Area Public Schools, we are committed to providing our students with personalized learning experiences. To best achieve this, we regularly assess students' growth. Various classroom and standardized assessments aid teachers in providing for individual instructional needs and identifying class trends. We strive to consider the whole picture when serving our students. Having multiple types of assessments helps provide a fuller picture of each student's needs.

Farmington Area Public Schools administer two sets of large scale standardized assessments: the Minnesota State Accountability tests and the NWEA MAP tests. We highly encourage you to read more about what each assessment provides for your student(s), and [have provided a chart](#) for this purpose.



Parents and guardians do have the right to request their student(s) not participate in a scheduled assessment. If you wish your child not to take one or more of the planned assessments, please make sure you understand the role of the assessment and complete the appropriate form.

## **2018 MCA TESTING SCHEDULE**

We will begin our MCA testing the week of March 19<sup>th</sup> with 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science. You can view the “Detailed Testing Calendar [HERE](#) for the full district schedule. The specific detail for Dodge Middle School will be posted in Schoology for students to access. Science testing will take place in our computer labs while the Reading and Math test will take place on students’ iPads. In order for students to be able to test on the iPad they need to have their iOS system updated to the most recent version and free up at least 1 GB of space. They may need to delete photos, videos and/or apps to free up enough space. Thank you for your assistance in preparing your student’s iPad for testing!

**NEW this year is that students will need to use headphones in order to view and hear the MCA directions prior to testing.** Please ensure that your student has a set of headphones that plug into their iPad and work correctly. If you are not able to secure headphones, please contact our main office at 651-460-1500.

Enjoy the upcoming warm weekend!

Chris Bussmann, Principal

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

### **Attendance Line: 651-460-1505**

If a student will be absent, a parent/guardian must call Dodge Middle School’s attendance line at 651-460-1505 between 7:00 AM and 8:15 AM each day of the absence. We ask that parents/guardians provide the reason for the absence at the time they call. The school determines if the absence falls within the excused or unexcused parameters. If the school does not receive a call from the parent/guardian the day of the absence, the student’s absence is automatically unexcused.

To request a pre-excused absence, a parent/guardian needs to complete the online “[Request to Waive Unexcused Status of Absence](#)” form (a link to the form is provided here).

You can access this link by visiting the Dodge Middle School webpage and clicking on the green icon located on the bottom right of the page titled “Pre-Arranged Absence”. Below is the image of the icon on the DMS website:



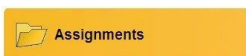
Please note that the form should be submitted at least 5 school days in advance of the absence.



## **Assignments & Homework Shortcuts**

We've created a shortcut for you to view your child's weekly assignments and homework that are maintained in a Google Doc organized by grade level houses.

You can access these shortcuts by visiting the Dodge Middle School webpage and clicking on the yellow icon located on the bottom right of the page titled "Assignments". Below is an image of the icon on the DMS website:



You can also click [HERE](#).

The most recent information is located at the top of the document while past week's information can be viewed by scrolling down the document. This information is also present through Schoology.

Should you have a need to access specific assignments, please use your Parent Schoology Access Code or have your student visit the specific course in Schoology. Questions related to specific assignments should be directed to your student's teacher.

## **Upcoming Events**

March 19 <sup>th</sup> :	District Band Jubilee – FHS – 7:00 pm (Grade 8 and GWA)
March 22 <sup>nd</sup> :	Choirpalooza – FHS – (HS and grade 6) at 7:30 pm
Mar. 26 <sup>th</sup> – Apr. 2 <sup>nd</sup> :	NO SCHOOL – Spring Break
April 4 <sup>th</sup> :	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Ends
April 17 <sup>th</sup> :	District Jazz Night Band Concert – FHS – 6:30 pm (Grades 6, 7 & 8) 4 <sup>th</sup> Quinter Classes End for Grades 6 & 7

## **COMMUNITY RESOURCES HIGHLIGHTS**

We're always updating the [Community Resources page](#) on our website with new events and actives that support our Farmington community. Click to learn more!

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- **THE EDGE**  
"This Edge" is a summer youth program for students entering grades 6-9- (up to age 16). The program is run through Burnsville Community Ed and in partnership with Farmington, Lakeville, Shakopee and New Prague Community Education departments. The Edge provides daily field trips and experiences that help kids develop their independence, gain responsibility, and accountability, and improve interpersonal communication. Please open the attached PDF for more information!



- **YOUTH THEATRE OPTIONS**

Please open the attached PDF document to learn more about the various theatre options we have available for Theatre-Acting-Singing.

- **FARMINGTON TIGERS BOYS SOCCER CLINIC**

Sessions will take place on: April 7, April 28, May 5, May 19, and May 26. Please visit the [Community Resources page](#) for more information.