

Greetings to our DMS Community!

E-LEARNING ABOUT E-CIGARETTES

Thank you to those parents that attended our Parent Ambassador meeting this week to learn more about a rising trend of our youth using E-Cigarettes. We will be providing information in our E-News periodically to create a greater awareness and knowledge around this trend. We hope that this will prove to be informative as well as provide an avenue for you to engage in conversations with your student.



We encourage you to look through the attachment [as well as watch this informative video](#). Here at Dodge Middle School we will continue to incorporate structured conversations in our health classes to help influence positive student choices. Thanks for your support!

NO SCHOOL MARCH 25TH THROUGH MARCH 29TH FOR SPRING BREAK

FARMINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK FOR STUDENT IN GRADE 7 & 8

The middle school track & field season starts for students in grades 7-8 on April 2nd and ends on May 14th. Practices are at BMS after school from 2:45 - 4:15. You must have a current physical on file to be able to register. All registration is done through Feepay. Contact the Athletic Department at 651-252-2514 for questions.

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT FOR DAKOTA COUNTY FAMILIES

Please join Dakota County Healthy Communities Collaborative in a viewing of ANGST. The goal of this film is to have a global conversation and raise awareness around anxiety. ANGST explores anxiety, its causes, effects and what we can do about it.

The film includes discussions with mental health experts as well as candid interviews with teens who discuss their anxiety and its impact on their lives and relationships, and how they have found solutions and hope.

Registration is encouraged but not required. Registration closes three days prior to event date.

To [learn more](#) and [register for the event](#) please view the attached flyers or click on the links.



7th GRADE REGIONAL HISTORY DAY

This past Tuesday, 30 Dodge students traveled to Minnesota State University, Mankato to compete in Regional History Day. Regional History Day is part of the National History Day competition where students undertake a 3-month long research project on a topic of their choice.

The students earned their way to Mankato by completing exceptional projects in their U.S. History class. (You may remember seeing them on display during spring conferences.) The day was marked by excitement and fun. At the conclusion of the day, we learned that six students were recognized for their exemplary work with an Honorable Mention award, and six students were selected to compete at the State History Day in May at the University of Minnesota.

The Regional History Day participants were:

Katelyn Budde, Dillon Carlson, Avery Comes, Madison Gaffaney, Lyndsey Gallivan, Alyssa Geiken, Kennedy Gibbs, Maddie Guerin, Cole Han-Lindmeyer, Edison Haukos, Hannah Hoppe, Brandon Hrcir, Brad Johnson, Dalton Kesti, Rachel Klotz, Mackenzie Lassen, Kate Lentsch, Jake Peterson, Elijah Ponds, Kelin Rasmussen, Isaac Ross, Abigail Rost, Marissa Schneider, Nolan Schultz, Marianah Scott, Ashley Steffes, Mason Sullivan, Vanessa Trejo Soto, Aniella Wegier, and Meredith Ziegler.

Students that received honors and state qualifying status were:

- Maddie Guerin - Honorable Mention for "Holocaust Survivors" (Individual Website)
- Edison Haukos and Jake Peterson - Honorable Mention for "The Fall of the Soviet Union" (Group Website)
- Vanessa Trejo Soto - Honorable Mention for "Assassination of a King" (Individual Exhibit)
- Dillon Carlson and Isaac Ross - Honorable Mention for "A Date Which Will Live In Infamy" (Group Exhibit)
- Mason Sullivan - State Qualifier for "From the Barbarity of War to the Collaboration of Nations" (Individual Website)
- Ashley Steffes - State Qualifier for "Stolen Children - Native American Boarding Schools" (Individual Website)
- Kelin Rasmussen - State Qualifier for "The Fall of Pete Rose" (Individual Exhibit)
- Elijah Ponds and Brad Johnson - State Qualifiers for "The Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki" (Group Website)
- Jaedyn Quimby - State Qualifier for "Jonestown Massacre" (Individual Paper)

Congratulations to all students for their outstanding work.

Eddie Stellick and Curt Gutoske (7th Grade U.S. History teachers)



MARCH PARENT WELLNESS MESSAGE

Fresh Fruits and Vegetables – How to Up the Appeal Factor!



To celebrate National Nutrition Month, let's encourage our children to eat more fruits and vegetables. An overall healthy diet includes a rich assortment of fruits and vegetables. The health benefits include a reduced risk for heart disease, certain cancers, obesity, high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes. Childhood nutrition sets the stage for lifelong eating habits – so how do we get our picky eaters to consume more fruits and vegetables? Follow these tips on how to make fruits and vegetables a fun and convenient snack choice in your home [Click here for more information!](#)

Sponsored by the Farmington Area Wellness Committee and the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership



<https://www.choosemyplate.gov/vegetables-nutrients-health>

2018-19 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.

[MCA Non-Participation Form](#)

[NWEA MAP Non-Participation Form](#)



A NOTE FROM HEALTH SERVICES

We want all our students to be healthy and happy every day, but sometimes sickness happens. Here is a friendly reminder of the school guidelines to follow when sickness strikes:

- Children need to be picked up as soon as possible when they become ill during the school day. This is important for preventing the spread of illness. We know it is often difficult to pick up your child unexpectedly but it is critical to have a backup plan in case of illness or emergency.
- Children need to stay home for **24 hours after** the **last** episode of vomiting or diarrhea and **24 hours after** they are fever free (without the aid of medication).

[Additional information on this topic is available on our website at https://www.farmington.k12.mn.us/services/health_services.](https://www.farmington.k12.mn.us/services/health_services)

Thank you so much for your cooperation!

DID YOU KNOW?

FAMILY WEB ACCESS & SCHOOLGY

FWA (Family Web Access) allows parents to access information for grades, attendance and information to student progress.

Schoology helps parents communicate with their student's team of teachers, access assignments, projects and much more. We encourage every family at Dodge Middle School to have both accounts to fully support your student in their learning.

[Please click HERE to learn more or contact our office at 651-460-1500 with questions](#)

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.

HOMEWORK HELP AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM – MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

Monday October 1st we began our DMS "Homework Help" after school program. This program will run on **Mondays and Wednesdays** from 2:30 - 4:00pm when school is in session. It is opportunity for your child to stay after and work on their schoolwork. Students will need their own transportation home.

We are planning to have Farmington High School students serve as tutors, but due to their own course load requirements, sports and other commitments we cannot always guarantee to have a specific number of High School student tutors in attendance to assist our Dodge Middle School students. The tutors will arrive here at approximately 3:00pm and will work with students from 3:00 - 4:00pm. (At the beginning of each HS Trimester, tutors will arrive at 3:15pm)

Please note that we do not offer one on one tutoring in this program.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

Theresa Agerter

Geography Teacher

tagerter@farmington.k12.mn.us

651-460-1570

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar. 25th -29th: NO SCHOOL – Spring Break

April 2nd: 3rd Quarter Ends

April 8th: Bus Evacuation Drills

April 12th: 4th Quarter Classes End (6th & 7th grade)

April 19th -22nd: NO SCHOOL

April 25th: DMS Jazz Band Concert at FHS Recital Hall (Grades 6, 7, & 8) – 8:00 pm



COMMUNITY RESOURCES HIGHLIGHTS

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

CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW TO RECEIVE COMMUNITY EDUCATION INFORMATION
[SIGN UP FOR OUR EMAIL NEWSLETTER UPDATES!](#)

FARMINGTON AMBASSADORS 2019

Sisterhood. Scholarship. Memories. Become a candidate for the Farmington Ambassador Program! Applications due March 31st, 2019! Learn more at <http://farmingtonambassadors.com>

COMMUNITY EVENT: FREE VIEWINGS OF ANGST

Angst is a film that explores anxiety, its causes, effects and what we can do about it. The filmmaker's goal is to have a global conversation and raise awareness around anxiety. Angst features candid interviews with kids and young adults who have had experienced anxiety and what they've learned about it. The film includes discussions with mental health experts about the causes of anxiety and its sociological effects, as well as help, resources and tools. A question and answer session will follow the film. Parents can ask their questions to local mental health professionals. Local mental health agencies will share resources. [Read more on the Community Resources page.](#)

2019 LEGACY ON ICE SHOW

Heritage Figure Skating Club and the Apple Valley, Farmington, Lakeville, and Rosemount Learn to Skate Programs Present: 2019 Legacy on Ice Show on Friday, April 12 at 7 p.m., Saturday, April 13 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Admission: \$10 Adults, \$5 Students and Seniors; Hasse Arena, Lakeville. Learn more at <http://www.heritagefsc.org>

NEW SUMMER OPTION IN FARMINGTON FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS!

IGNITE Summer Camps are...

- designed for youth entering 6th-9th grade
- offered Monday-Thursday, from 9-12 pm and 12:30-3:30 pm; a supervised lunch time is offered from 12-12:30 pm
- at Dodge Middle School, and some offsite locations – including an Interstate State Park Camping trip and a 20 mile bike ride around Minneapolis
- full of athletic, art, STEM, and outdoor experiences
- Parents can pick and choose how many camp experiences they sign their child up for.

Here is a link to view IGNITE Camp options online (grades 6-9): <http://bit.ly/ISD192IGNITE>

Click [HERE](#) to view the brochure and a description of all the camps offered.

SPRING AND SUMMER FOOTBALL CAMPS FOR GRADES 5 – 9

Spring and summer football camps available through Community Education. Click [HERE](#) for more information and registration.