

Greetings to our DMS Community!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10TH: 2 HOUR EARLY RELEASE @ 12:25 pm – FOR CONFERENCES

School will be released at 12:25 pm on Thursday, October 10th for Student-Led Conferences.

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR FALL 2019 STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

Student-led conferences are scheduled to take place on October 10th and 15th. Please view the additional link in the email for additional information about conferences and to sign up online.

PICTURE RETAKE DAY IS RESCHEDULED TO THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10TH.

Lifetouch has experienced an unexpected delay printing school pictures so we rescheduled the DMS Picture Retake Day to **Thursday, October 10th**.

We have been having some problems with our school pictures from Lifetouch on a variety of fronts. If you have any questions about your school pictures or are unhappy about the quality of the photos, please contact Lifetouch directly at 1-877-689-4056, or visit their website: <https://my.lifetouch.com/mylifetouch/#/>

“STEP IT UP” FUNDRAISER KICKED OFF MONDAY!

Once again this year we are using a program called “STEP IT UP”. We are no longer selling magazines or cookie dough, rather “STEP IT UP” is a direct donation effort that helps provide the school with funding for student experiences. Through this program students have the opportunity to earn a variety of incentives if they choose to participate in “STEP IT UP”. Your student will receive information on Monday’s kickoff event at Dodge and we will send an additional E-News that day! The funds offset costs for experiences and items such as:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ft. Snelling & State Capitol • Youth Frontiers Courage Retreat • Counselor “Birthday Bucks” Program • River Rendezvous • Reptile Experience • Guest Speakers • Year-End Student Celebrations • Student T-Shirts • Math Study Night 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physics Force • Inquiry Expo • History Day Competition • Musical Theater • Trinity Care Center Choir Visit • Fur Trade Exhibit • Tiger Connections • Show Your Stripes Certificates • Transportation and More!
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Last year’s fundraiser raised over \$18,000 and we are ever so grateful to our community for helping support the student experience at Dodge Middle School!



STEM CLUB

Where can you develop an innovative enrichment for the Hawaiian Monk Seals or reimagine the Tropics Nocturnal Hallway with a new Creatures of the Canopy Theme?



STEM Club!

Fall session begins October 22nd. See the [attached link](#) or Ms. Hardyman in Leopard House for a permission slip!

SUPER SATURDAY – OCTOBER 5, 2019 – FREE PARENT EDUCATION CONFERENCE

NAMI-MN and ISD 196 has partnered to offer a Free Super Saturday Parent Education Conference: Saturday October 5, 2019 Eagan High School. This event is designed to meet the needs of biological, foster and adoptive parents, family members, paraprofessionals, and other who work with or care for children with and without a mental health diagnosis.

Breakout sessions include: Managing Challenging Behavior, Special Education, Trauma, Family Community Strategies, Suicide Prevention, Cyber Addiction, Chemical Use, What Autistic People Wish You Knew, Crisis Planning, Depression and Anxiety, Wellness, Self-care and more.

Registration includes refreshments and a light lunch. Participants will also have dedicated time to learn about local resources

Childcare is available for children ages 3-12 at no cost for families who pre-register. Register using the link below and click [HERE](#) to view the information flyer.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/super-saturday-eagan-1052019-registration-66605074571>

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM OUR DISTRICT HEALTH COORDINATOR

Dear Parents,

As we begin the school year I would like to remind you all of a few important policies. These policies are also located on the Farmington Schools website in the health section.

1. Students must have a medical provider signed consent **before** any medications can be administered. The same form must also be signed by a parent. This includes all over the counter medication.



All medication **must be brought in by the parent** and must be in the **original bottle with a clear prescription label**. Over the counter medications must be in a sealed new container. We do not accept expired medications or medications sent in any other type of container.

Students in the high school may self-carry over the counter pain medication **with a specific doctor note** stating they are allowed to self-carry. Elementary and middle school students may only self-carry an inhaler, **again with a doctor note**. The health staff reserve the right to revoke self-carry at any time due to misuse.

2. Students **may not return** to school until 24 hours **AFTER** they have vomited, had diarrhea or had a fever without medication to lower fever. For the well being of all students and staff please do not send your child to school if they do not meet these criteria.
3. It is crucial that all students have an emergency contact who is available to pick them up if they are ill or injured in a timely fashion. Please make sure you have a plan for your student should they become ill or injured.

Thank you so much for your attention to these policies. It is our goal to keep our students healthy and ready to learn and we appreciate your help with these matters.

Sayra Maberry, RN, BSN, LSN
ISD 192 District Health Coordinator - 651-460-1965

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:



Assignments

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

- Oct. 10th: Picture Retake Day
2 Hour Early Release @ 12:25
Student Led Conferences – 12:30 pm to 7:15 pm
- Oct. 11th: Flexible Learning Day
- Oct. 15th: Student-Led Conferences – 2:30 pm to 7:15 pm
Fall Fundraiser – Turn in Date
- Oct. 17-18: NO SCHOOL – Education MN Conference
- Oct. 23rd: 1st Quinter Classes End for 6th and 7th Grade

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!

Farmington Community Education provides a variety of activities and services for you and your family. Programs include before and after school childcare, preschool, adult basic education, early childhood family education, and enrichment for youth and adults to support life-long learning. More information is available at www.farmingtonCE.com or by calling (651) 460- 3200.

SPEAKING OF KIDS – UNDERSTANDING SLEEP TO PROMOTE YOUTH WELLBEING

Please see the [enclosed invitation](#) for the upcoming Speaking of Kids event, featuring Dr. Clay Cook and Dr. Andy Barnes. They will be discussing the all-important topic of sleep and the effect it has on overall wellbeing and performance.

MEA – MANY EXCITING ADVENTURES

There is no school on October 17th and 18th giving youth in Farmington an opportunity to try something new! Try out a MEA Camp or Class and explore new interests while meeting new friends! All camps listed are designed for beginners and experts alike! Below is a link to that can connect you to MANY EXCITING ADVENTURES! Just type in MEA in the Search bar: <http://bit.ly/MEACampsClasses192CE> . You can also click [HERE](#) to view a PDF of all the classes.



DAKOTA CITY – WHERE THE PAST IS PRESENT

The “Autumn Harvest” will take place October 18th and 19th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm and “An Old-Fashioned Holiday in the Village” will take place December 7th & 8th and December 14th & 15th from 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Please open the attached PDF file to view more information or click [HERE](#).

IGNITE

Looking for something to do after school? Cooking, Robotics, Art, Basketball, Chess, and more are starting after school this fall! Register for a club or try a demo you are interested in! IGNITE After School Clubs:

<http://bit.ly/192CEIGNITEafterschool>