



Greetings to our DMS Community!

I wanted to send out a quick E-News to our incoming 6th grade families to welcome you to Dodge Middle School! Once the school year gets closer you can expect a weekly E-News to be sent out each Friday. This will be a main source of information as to the happenings at Dodge Middle School.

Usually July has me feeling as if school is right around the corner but in fact we have quite a bit of time left before the school buses begin their daily routes! If you have been by Dodge Middle School this summer, you have seen a host of construction projects taking place. These include new concrete near our main entrance, new carpeting throughout the building, floor refinishing in Gyms 1, 2, 3; a refinished deck and new bleachers in our pool area, and remodeling of spaces on our 1st and 2nd floor to allow for greater student collaboration around learning. Those projects will be finished by mid-August. We are thankful for the opportunity to maintain our beautiful community buildings for years to come. Listed below are some helpful reminders about Dodge Middle School for this summer and entering the school year.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

7:00am - 2:30pm Monday - Thursday
The office will be closed Fridays.

The office will be closed:

July 9th - 18th
July 24th - 26th

SCHEDULE/PICTURE DAY IS AUGUST 16, 2018

This annual event takes place from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Thursday, August 16 here at Dodge Middle School. On this day students will be able to have their school picture taken, pick up their schedule and bus route information, update contact information, make food service deposits, order physical education clothing for P.E. (optional) and tour the building. In addition, our WEB leaders will be present to help with lockers and answering questions. You may come at any time during the window but we do ask you plan for about 30-45 minutes. Additional information and forms can be found on the DMS website.

Ipads will be checked out to students after the school year has started and we will communicate information pertaining to the iPad Loan Agreement and associated user fees later via Email.

If you are unable to join us on Schedule/Picture Day, you can stop in our main office after that date to obtain the necessary paperwork.

*Physical Education requires that students wear black shorts, a gray shirt and tennis shoes. Families can provide these on their own or we will have options of items to order. You can view the clothing options [HERE](#).

[2018 Schedule/Picture Day Resources](#)



MEDICATION PERMISSION FORMS

Medication Permission forms are required annually for your child to receive medication through the health office. This includes prescription and over the counter medications. Please see www.farmington.k12.mn.us, locate Services, Health Services and find Medication and Required Forms to download the appropriate form for your doctor to complete.

SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS FOR 2018-2019

You can access the school supply lists by clicking [HERE](#). If you need assistance with supplies on this list please contact our main office and we will be happy to support your student(s).

6TH GRADE ORIENTATION “WEB DAY” IS THURSDAY, AUGUST 23RD

We are very excited that your student will be attending middle school in Farmington this year and we look forward to meeting him or her on **Orientation Day – Thursday, August 23rd, 2018**. As you may know, our school participates in the nationwide W.E.B. Program, an organization whose primary purpose is to help sixth graders feel more comfortable and to help them achieve success in their first year of middle school.

The WEB sixth grade orientation and transition program is designed to both welcome and support sixth graders by assigning them an 8th grade WEB Leader as a mentor during this first year. This WEB Leader is a responsible older student who was hand selected from a large pool of applicants and has met the qualifications of being a good role model and a positive leader on our campus. Below is some important information about orientation:

1. In early August we will be mailing each 6th grade student a transportation slip. This will include your student's personalized transportation information for August 23. It will list the time and location of the bus pickup and drop off for this event. If this information appears inaccurate, please call the main office at 651-460-1500.
2. Should you wish to transport your student, this event is scheduled to take place from 8:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.
3. Your student is encouraged not to bring backpacks, purses or other like items as the day is quite active.
4. Because the day is active, please make sure that your student wears comfortable clothing that does not restrict movement.
5. Students will be served a traditional school lunch. They will need to bring their PIN number and their meal accounts will be charged. Students can bring bag lunches if they prefer.

This is a student-only function, so we encourage you to let your child attend on her or his own.

Thank you for marking this very important date on your calendars. We look forward to meeting your student on orientation day!

Jessica Bateman & Jen Rauk, WEB Coordinators, Dodge Middle School

jbateman@farmington.k12.mn.us

jrauk@farmington.k12.mn.us



BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT (OPEN HOUSE) AUGUST 28, 2018

We hope you can join us on Tuesday, August 28, 2018 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. for our Back-to-School Night!

Each grade level will have a short presentation during the evening. This schedule will be shared later this summer.

This time will be used to discuss a variety of topics including connecting via Schoology and Family Web Access (Infinite Campus) and the value that we place on team building during Tiger Connections. We will also be discussing ways for parents to collaborate with us in your child's education. We hope the connections we make with you during this evening will facilitate on-going communication throughout the year!

Additionally, students and parents may feel free to visit their student's teachers and classrooms in no particular order according to a schedule that works well for you. Staff will be available until 7:30 p.m. and are excited to see students they will have this upcoming year.

10 Truths Middle Schoolers Should Know



By Kari Kubiszyn Kampakis



As a parent of two daughters (one in high school and one in middle school), I can tell you middle school is not as unpredictable as one might think. As students start to gain a stronger sense of the world around them and their place in it, they can be excited and afraid at the same time.

Additionally our roles as parents change as our children grow: what they need from us when they are young adolescents might be different from what they needed while in elementary school. Naturally, we are protective of our children and want the best for them in every way possible, yet can be puzzled from time to time on how best to support their evolving needs.



[Take a few minutes to read this article with your student](#) and let them know that they are 1 of over 1700 middle school students in Farmington that are going through this journey together. If we start with “Be Nice” and “Act as if grandma is watching” we’ll be off to a good start.

It is hard to believe but I am starting my 10th year as principal here at Dodge! We have an incredible group of adults here that are poised and ready to help you and your student in every way possible. Please know that you can call on me personally or any of the staff at Dodge Middle School for support and guidance as part of the middle school experience. You can reach me via email at cbussmann@farmington.k12.mn.us or my direct line is 651-460-1502.

It is very common for middle school students to plead with you to “not call the school” but know that working together as a team is so much stronger than working in isolation!

There will be additional E-News later this summer so stay tuned.

The weekend looks gorgeous...I hope you can enjoy some of it outdoors!

Chris Bussmann, Principal