

DESERT CANYON



Dear DCMS Parents and Guardians,

7/15/2022

I trust this letter finds you and your family safe and well. I would encourage you please to take the time to read this letter carefully, as it contains important information about the beginning of our 2022-23 school year.

Here's a few important dates to start the 22-23 school year. Please mark your calendars:

- **Mountain Lion's Camp** for 6th graders and new students is on Tuesday, July 26th from 7:45 to 12:00. [Registration](#) is required and closes on July 18th.
- **Supply Lists** are available on our website. [Click here for the supply lists.](#)
- **Student Schedules** are available on [StudentVue](#) and [ParentVue](#) starting July 25th. Please print yourself a copy. The school will not be printing copies. Please let us know if you don't have access to a printer and we will print a copy for you to pick up.
- **Back-to-School Student Packets** are available online by [clicking here](#). The forms include a district calendar, Campus Map, medical card, New Family Orientation flyer, Curriculum Night Flyer, Computer protection plan, Titan Payment system for lunches, yearbook form, bus routes, Drop-off / Pick-up map, PTO Membership form, and bell schedules. Please print, complete, and return the medical card, yearbook form, and PTO Membership form to your Homeroom teacher (2nd period).

[Click here for the Back-to-School Packet.](#)

- **Open House** will be August 1st from 8-11 AM. All our teachers will have their classrooms open for your students to visit and say hello. Come meet the administration, counselors and PTO in the cafeteria.
- **First Day of Class** is Wednesday, August 3rd. Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep!
- **Fall Athletic Season** (boys' baseball and girls' volleyball) starts on August 9th. Parent/Coach meeting is on August 4th, 2:30 - 3:00 pm in the cafeteria. You can also pay athletic fees online at <https://www.registtermathlete.com/>. Make sure you print your receipt as proof of payment. Contact Mr. Leinonen for more information at zleinonen@susd.org.
- **Student ID** pictures are scheduled for Monday, August 8th during ELA class. Dress for the occasion as these pictures will be in the yearbook. Order forms will be handed out on the first day of school.
- **New Family Orientation** is Tuesday, August 9th at 5:15 to 5:50 pm in the cafeteria. Sixth-grade parents and families who are new to DCMS are welcome to listen and ask questions about DCMS, the curriculum, procedures, and how to succeed in middle school. Then stay for curriculum night.
- **Curriculum night** for all families is Tuesday, August 9th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. (More information is in the student back-to-school student packet.) Parents will follow their child's schedule to meet their teachers and listen to the course expectations.

Summer Reading Assignment

Has your student started their Summer Reading Assignment? [Click here to view the assignment](#) for all our students.

Bus Routes

You can find your bus route by clicking [Bus Routes](#) and inputting your address or [click here](#) for routes by bus number and stops.

Student Schedules

We have been diligently working on your student's schedule. Students will be able to download their schedules from StudentVue on July 25th. If there is an error on the schedule, "Schedule Change" forms are available at the Open House event on August 1st in the cafeteria. A schedule change will only be made for the following reasons: 1. An Incomplete schedule or 2. Missing a lunch period. Schedule change forms require a parent signature before submission to the counseling office for consideration. Your student's counselor will review the form and call your student to the office to make changes where/if possible. Generally, it takes the first two weeks of school to complete all necessary changes; your patience is greatly appreciated.

Gate to Gate Safety Policy

DCMS follows the SUSD Gate-to-Gate Safety Policy. Campus supervision will be provided starting at 7:20 am. Do not drop-off your child before 7:20 am as they will not be able to enter the campus unless they are going to tutoring opportunities. Gates will open at 7:20 with staff supervision. **ALL gates close at 7:40 AM so that teachers on duty can report to their classrooms and start school promptly at 7:45 AM. AFTER 7:40 AM, please proceed directly to the front of the school so that your student can be checked in at the front office.** It is important that each student arrives to each class on time. Attendance is the number one indicator for student academic success. Every Minute Counts.

DCMS is a cell phone free campus. Students must turn-off or silence their phone when they enter the campus and put it away in their backpacks until the end of the school day. Students may be allowed to use their phones if it's for academic purposes and with teacher approval. We hope to take away this distraction so that students can focus on learning and communicate one-on-one in person.

Agenda Books

All students will be given an agenda book on the first day of school. This is a good place for students to write their homework and test schedules throughout the year. It also has a great deal of information about school procedures and expectations. I highly recommend you become familiar with the information contained in the book. [Handbook](#)

We have enhanced our website with more information to keep you informed. Please bookmark our site at www.susd.org/dcms.

If you have any questions about school events and/or policies, don't hesitate to call us at 480-484-4600.

I'm looking forward to meeting each of you as we start this new and exciting year together!

All the best,
Mr. Akhbari
DCMS Principal

GO MIGHTY MOUNTAIN LIONS!