



DILLARD DRIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE FROM DILLARD DRIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

NEWS FROM THE DEN

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

AUGUST 2018

Dear DDMS Parents, Students and Families:

Welcome Back! We hope you are enjoying a wonderful and relaxing summer vacation. In a few short weeks, we will be celebrating a new year. The 2018 – 2019 school year will bring new students, new staff, new friends, and new experiences for all students. Whether you are new to DDMS or a continuing student, we welcome you to what will be another exciting and successful year.

DDMS will provide a relevant and engaging education that allows students to be collaborative, creative, effective communicators, and critical thinkers. To accomplish this mission, we have been busy this summer planning programs and activities that will provide a dynamic and engaging educational experience for our students.

Please know that we highly value home/school communication at Dillard Drive Middle School. It is vital and plays an integral role in each student's success. We encourage you to contact us if/when the need arises, and to stay in the know about your child's studies, assignments, assessments, and school activities, as well as other events and happenings.

This newsletter is designed to help you prepare for the new school year. You will find information about athletics, communication, transportation and important dates. Please review the entire newsletter to make sure you are ready to start the new year.

Again, we welcome you to Dillard Drive Middle School and to our great learning community. Here's to an AWESOME new school year as we work together to make our school a wonderful place to work and learn each day! There will be many opportunities throughout the year to become involved in our school community. Please visit our website regularly to learn about these opportunities. Enjoy the rest of your summer! Monday, August 27th will be here before you know it!

Margaret S. Feldman, Principal

MISSION

As a member of the Wake County Public School System, Dillard Drive Middle School will provide a relevant and engaging education and will graduate students who are collaborative, creative, effective communicators, and critical thinkers.

VISION

All Wake County Public School System students will be prepared to reach their full potential and lead productive lives in a complex and changing world.

WE ARE SO HAPPY TO WELCOME OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Jennifer Ainsworth	7th Grade ELA—Grizzlies
Shehla Awan	50% ESL
Evan Dempster	8th Grade Sci—Eagles
Marian Devine	TA Special Programs
Jennifer Fitch	6th Grade ELA—Orcas
Annie Hanrahan	7th Grade ELA—Lizards
Lawrence Harber	TA Special Programs
Julia Hnatt	6th Grade ELA—Dolphins
Tyrone Jones	TA Special Programs
Shannon Keller	Art
Brittany Miles	ECS Teacher
Carrie Minnick	6th Grade Math—Dolphins
Jan Mitchell	7th Grade AP
Erica Morgan	Media Specialist
Erin Nasto	Psychologist
Joshua Page	Band
Andrea Peddicord	ECS Teacher
Karen Rahe	6th Grade Math—Orcas
Megan Reiter	7th Grade Sci—Jaguars
Stephanie Sposato	7th Grade ELA—Jaguars
Charles Stowe	7th Grade Math—Lizards
Alexis Teasdell	8th Grade ELA—Falcons
Dave Wilson	Orchestra
Megan Word	Spanish

New Roles at DDMS!

Warren Davis	ISS Coordinator
Cameron Freeman	7th Grade Sci - Lizards
Jennifer Hinnant	6th Grade Math—Sharks
Christopher McCormick	CTE Teacher



ATHLETICS

Interested students should visit <https://www.wakecountyathletics.com/dillarddrivems>.

The information is also on the school's website under Athletics.

Students must complete a physical form prior to the start of tryouts and must meet all WCPSS athletic eligibility standards.



School Supplies

A link can be found on our Dillard Drive's Webpage. www.wcpss.net/dillarddrivems

Please note: Core teachers may request more items specific to their class. This is a general list, not specific to individual teams. Elective Teachers will additional items for their classes

PLEASE label all supplies!

6th GRADE TRANSITION CAMP FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 2018

Parents & Students Welcome!

Last name A-M 8:00-11:30am |
Last name N-Z 12:30-4:00pm



We can't wait to meet you!

TRANSPORTATION

The Wake County Public School System provides bus transportation to all eligible students based on their school assignment. The system's transportation department is committed to providing students with safe, efficient and reliable transportation service that contributes to their overall academic success.

DDMS students will be assigned a bus and route number. Students will only be allowed to ride the assigned bus. We will have a representative from transportation at the 6th Transition Camp and Open House for 7th and 8th Grades.

Please visit the WCPSS website for more information (<http://www.wcpss.net/Page/174>) 2018—2019 Bus Routes will be posted on the WCPSS website soon.



GET INVOLVED Join DDMS PTA

We are extremely lucky to have a GREAT PTA at DDMS. Why should you join? First, PTA functions are opportunities to meet other parents and teachers, to build rapport and discuss issues that are on your mind. You can share ideas, concerns, and experiences to make the school year better for everyone. Also, dozens of research studies show that when parents get involved, children do better in school, and believe it or not being part of the PTA will make your kids proud of you. They may not admit it (they may even grumble), but they will feel proud that their parents are involved in improving their school's well-being. A DDMS PTA representative will be at both 6th Transition Camp and Open House for 7th and 8th Grades. The first PTA meeting is **August 28 at 1:30pm** and **September 25 at 6:00pm** after Curriculum Night.

CARPOOL

To ensure the safety of DDMS students, carpool drivers should follow the guidelines below:

The procedure is the same for morning drop-off as for afternoon pick-up. All regulations are first and foremost for safeguarding students.

As you enter the parking lot, please **STAY IN LINE** in the right-hand lane. This ensures that your child will be dropped off **ONLY** when along the curb in front of the school, and using the curbside door from your vehicle. (No one should be dropping off their child out on Dillard Drive, from inside the parking lot, from the inside lane, using the handicapped spaces, or up **IN FRONT** of the orange cone where cars are parked. We do not want your child to cross in front of oncoming traffic.)

As you come along the front curb, move as far forward as possible, always advancing toward the orange cone. This expedites the process.

Encourage your child to be ready; exit quickly in the morning and watch for your car in the afternoon.

Never leave your vehicle or park your car at the curb while you come into the building.

- THANK YOU

GET YOUR PARENT PORTAL ACCOUNT!

Home Base gives parents and students access to real-time information including attendance, grades and assignments. With Home Base, powered by Pearson's PowerSchool application, everyone stays connected:

Students stay on top of assignments, parents are able to participate in their child's progress, and teachers can instantly share information from their grade book with parents and students. Families with multiple students can set up their accounts to view all of their students at one time, with one login. The information that you will access will be current and available to you at any time. For more information visit <http://www.wcpss.net/domain/69>.

Access information will be available at open house. Parents may complete forms at open house or download the forms from the www.wcpss.net site and bring completed forms to open house.

COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

DDMS is committed to providing information that will help every student soar to success. We will use a variety of systems to distribute information to our DDMS students and families.

These systems include the phone messenger system, school website, newsletters, and group electronic messages.

Please review your address, email address, and phone numbers to make sure we can keep you informed.

Families should notify the DDMS office if they are not receiving these messages, and we will verify that we have a current phone number on file with the school.

DDMS also maintains an active Facebook and Twitter account. Be sure to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @DDMSDragons.

Welcome Back!

PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOKS

We believe that parents, students, and staff must work together to provide a quality educational experience. Each student will receive a copy of the 2018—2019 the WCPSS Parent / Student Handbook. You are encouraged to review and discuss the expectations.

The DDMS Parent and Student Handbook will be located on our school's website by August 20. The DDMS Staff will review the school expectations with students at the beginning of the year. These documents are designed to provide support and assistance throughout the school year. By becoming acquainted with school policies, you will understand the high academic and behavioral expectations we hold for all of our students.

The 2018—2019 DDMS Parent/Student Handbook will be posted on our website prior to the start of school.

To preview the 2018—2019 WCPSS Parent/Student Handbook, visit <http://www.wcpss.net>.

DILLARD DRIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL PHONE NUMBERS

MAIN OFFICE	(919) 233-4228
MAIN FAX	(919) 670-4389
RECEPTIONIST	EXT. 24019
ATTENDANCE	EXT. 24021
DATA MANAGER	EXT. 24021
STUDENT SERVICES	(919) 233-4229 EXT 24034
MEDIA CENTER	EXT. 24029
SOCIAL WORKER	EXT. 24046
NURSE	EXT. 24037
BOOKKEEPER	EXT. 24022

Visit us on the web at <https://www.wcpss.net/dillarddrivems>
Follow us on Twitter @DDMSDragons
Like us on FACEBOOK
Email us at dillarddrivems@wcpss.net
5200 Dillard Drive Middle School
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Principal

Margaret Sibert Feldman
mfeldman@wcpss.net

Assistant Principals

Colin Lowry, 6th Grade Assistant Principal
clowry@wcpss.net

Jan Mitchell, 7th Grade Assistant Principal
jmitchell7@wcpss.net

Johnathan McConico, 8th Grade Assistant Principal
jmconico@wcpss.net

Lead Secretary

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Adrienne Williamson / awilliamson@wcpss.net

Receptionist

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