

# West Deptford Middle School

675 Grove Road, West Deptford, NJ 08066

[www.wdeptford.k12.nj.us](http://www.wdeptford.k12.nj.us) : 856-848-1200

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 School Year! We will continue to send you "Parent Bulletins" electronically to update you on events, showcase our students and staff, and keep you informed of pertinent information regarding WDMS. Please be sure your current email address is in PowerParent or PowerSchool. If in doubt, you may contact our main office at 848-1200 to confirm your information. Thank you and we look forward to a wonderful and exciting school year!

-Christine R. Trampé  
WDMS Principal

## NEW STAFF

We are very happy to introduce new staff members that are joining WDMS this year. Please welcome: Mrs. Tiffany Bennett (Special Education), Ms. Karen Brinich (Special Education), Mr. Cameron Crawford (Special Education) and Mrs. Melissa Rappo (Special Education) and Christine Minot (Admin. Asst). We are also happy to welcome Special Education teacher, Ms. Simone Kosa, who is joining us from West Deptford High School.

## 6<sup>th</sup> grade Immunizations and Sport Physicals

The New Jersey Department of Health and Human Services (NJSA 18A:40-8) along with the West Deptford Board of Education (policy # 5320) require these immunizations for all students in the public school district.

1. Booster dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) Vaccine
2. One dose of Meningococcal Vaccine

Failure to comply with the state and district's immunization requirements will necessitate excluding your child from attending school.

All Fall Sports information packets and sport physicals were due August 18, 2017. The district doctor and our school nurse must clear all student athletes prior to participating with any WDMS athletic team.



## Upcoming Events

### September 7

First Day of School

### September 14

Back to School Night-6:30pm

### September 18

Fall Pictures

### September 19

Afterschool Clubs Begin

### September 22

Eagle Launch

\*See attached calendar for a complete list of WDMS events

## ATHLETICS

Individual sport schedules and coach contact information are available on the WDMS website under the Athletic tab. Athletic late buses depart WDMS at approximately 4:30pm. Students may not stay after school without teacher supervision. If attending a sporting event as a spectator, students must leave and return at the beginning of the event. In the event an athletic event is postponed or canceled at the last minute, a "Remind" message will be sent from our Athletic Coordinator and a message will be posted in red at the top of the WDMS website. If interested in receiving Remind texts regarding the WDMS Athletics, please text @wdmsath to 81010 to sign up for Remind Text from our Athletic Coordinator, Mr. Jakubowski.

## LATE BUSES

Late buses are every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday beginning Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. Late buses depart at 3:45pm. Late bus runs are typically longer as there are only four late buses covering a larger area. Students may not stay after school unless they are supervised by a teacher. If attending a sporting event as a spectator, students must leave and return at the beginning of the event.

## AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

An email was sent on August 23, 2017 regarding After-School Club electronic registration. Clubs run one of two sessions. Parents may select ONE club, per day, per session. All students must be registered for a club prior to attending. Session I clubs run Sept. 19 - Jan. 11. Sign-up for Session II Clubs will be at a later date. Clubs run Tuesday – Thursday from 2:55 pm – 3:35pm. Every club (except Homework Club) is offered one day a week. Homework Club is offered every Tuesday - Thursday. Bus transportation is provided for bus-riding students involved in any of our after-school programs (buses depart at 3:45pm). Students must report directly to their club immediately after retrieving their belongings from their lockers at school dismissal. After school clubs are a privilege. Students must be engaged in the club and respectful to those around them. Students that are distracting or disrespectful will receive no more than two warnings from the club advisor, after which time they will no longer be able to attend that club. Multiple removals from clubs will result in the student being excluded from clubs for the remainder of the club session. Club sign-ups can be found on the WDMS website under the “Clubs/Activities” tab.

## EAGLE LAUNCH

WDMS will hold our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Eagle Launch on Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. All students and staff will be participating in the WDMS Eagle Launch to promote our Positive Behavior Support in School (PBSIS) Program! The grades are encouraged to wear field day clothes and the colors of their wing to show camaraderie: 5th grade-YELLOW; 6TH grade-BLUE; 7th grade-RED; 8th grade-GREEN. The West Deptford Police Department and all teachers and staff will lead indoor and outdoor activities including relay races, team-building activities, character education lessons, morale work, and more! In the event of inclement weather, the rain date will be Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.

## DROP OFF/PICK-UP

The school day for students officially begins at 7:55am. Students must be in homeroom by 8:05am or they will be marked late. For your convenience, the doors will be open at 7:30am for students that wish to arrive early. These students will report directly to the cafeteria until 7:55am. Any student arriving before 7:30am will be left unsupervised and outside (in possible inclement weather) until 7:30am.

Although we realize emergencies do occur, if you know in advanced that you will need to pick your child up early, we ask that a note be sent in with your child the morning of the day he/she will be leaving early. Your child will then be given a pass to show his/her teacher at the indicated dismissal time. Without the parent note informing us of an early pick-up, no students will be called out of class until the parent arrives in the main office and proof of identification has been given. A parent phone call requesting for the student to meet them in the main office for pick-up is not an option.

## Transportation Information

Any student needing to ride home with another student on a different bus (in an emergency daycare situation only) must:

1. Have his/her parent email transportation at [sthomashasko@wdeptford.k12.nj.us](mailto:sthomashasko@wdeptford.k12.nj.us)
2. A note is required from both the sending and receiving parent which must be brought into the main office.

Once the main office receives approval from transportation, a bus pass will be issued for that day only.

## ATTENDANCE

If your will be absent from school, please call the school and select option “2”. If your child will be leaving early, please provide the main office with a note on that day.

New Jersey Law and West Deptford Board of Education policy require that every student attend school regularly. Please note: All students must be in school a minimum of 4 hours for them to be considered present. This applies to both half days and full days of school. *Vacations are considered unexcused absences.*

On full days, students must arrive by 10:47 AM to receive credit for the day. Students leaving before 12:05 PM will be recorded as absent. Students who are absent are allowed one day for each day’s absence to make up assignments missed. Upon return to class, students must determine from their teachers any work to be made up. When a student fails to complete the work missed during any absence, he/she receives a zero for those assignments. A complete version of the WDMS attendance policy can be found on the middle school website under the “For Students” tab.

## SCHOOL STORE

The WDMS Student Council School Store visits each grade level one day per week during homeroom. Various school supplies are sold including pencils, pens, earbuds, stylus pens, erasers, notepads, and more! In an effort to promote hydration and the use of our water bottle filling stations, the school store also sells WDMS water bottles.

## Staying Connected at WDMS

Please register for a PowerParent account in the main office (if you do not already have a PowerParent login). Fifth grade parents will receive their PowerParent account info at Back-to-School Night. Also, our school website is a great resource to help you stay up-to-date. Almost every piece of vital information, from either the staff or main office, is posted on the WDMS website. It is important to stay on top of your student’s grades, attendance, and school events. In addition, you can stay connected with WDMS via our Official Facebook and Twitter pages.

## LOST AND FOUND

The Lost and Found is located in the cafeteria to allow for students to check for their missing items daily. Any found eyeglasses, purses/wallets, cell phones, or other electronics are kept in the main office until they are claimed. Once a month we notify students and parents that the lost and found is full and all unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity.

## BACK PACKS AND DRESS CODE

Students must keep all book bags and string bags in their lockers. The only exception is to carry a small book bag or string bag of gym clothes and sneakers to and from Physical Education class.

WDMS is air-conditioned to allow for students to dress comfortably during the day. Students are expected to abide by the Dress Code that can be found in their agenda or on our website.

## BIKES, SCOOTERS, SKATEBOARDS

Students who ride bicycles, scooters, or skateboards to and from school must wear a protective helmet when riding as per New Jersey state law. Any student that does not have a helmet will not be permitted to ride their bike, scooter or skateboard home. Students who ride bicycles or scooters are required to lock them in the racks located in front of the school. The school district will not be held responsible for damage or theft of bicycles or scooters while parked on the school grounds. Students may not ride around the building or on the property while waiting to enter the building.

## BOX TOPS AND SODA TABS

WDMS is collecting box tops and soda tabs. Box tops are used by the PTO as another source of revenue. To encourage students to participate, we have monthly contests to see which homeroom collects the most Box Tops. The students in the winning homeroom each receive a free pretzel. Our Recycling Club will be collecting soda tabs in an effort to help Ronald McDonald house. Thank you for your support!

## WDMS CROSS COUNTRY

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Versus</u>	<u>Location</u>
9/12	4:45PM	Haddonfield/Audubon	Pennypacker
9/13	4:00pm	Williamstown Middle	Williamstown
9/19	4:45pm	Collingswood/Overbrook	WD Park
9/21	4:00pm	Clearview	WD Park
9/26	4:45pm	Gateway/Haddon Hts/Paulsboro/Sterling	WD Park
10/3	4:45pm	HaddoneTwp/Lindenwold	WD Park
10/5	4:00pm	Williamstown Middle	WD Park
10/10	4:15pm	Delsea	WD Park
10/16	4:00pm	Frosh/Soph Meet	RCGC
10/18	4:20pm	Colonial Conf.Champ.	Pennypacker

## PTO NEWS

The Parent Teacher Organization would like to welcome you to WDMS. Our organization is comprised of parents/guardians, teachers & administrators who all have one goal in mind - enhancing the educational experience of our students. WDMS PTO members are as diverse as our community. We have working parents, stay-at-home parents, and teachers. Everyone is welcome and how involved you become is entirely up to you! More information about the PTO can be found on the WDMS website.

## ITEM DROP OFF

Please understand that the WDMS Main Office is a busy location as it is the hub of our school. In the event your child left an item at home and a parent brings it to school, you will be asked to sign the item in during the drop-off. We will do our best to notify your student that the item has been dropped off.

## WDMS FIELD HOCKEY

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Versus</u>	<u>Location</u>
9/13	4:00pm	Pine Hill	Away
9/14	4:15pm	Delsea	Away
9/15	4:15pm	Sterling	Home
9/19	4:00pm	Haddonfield	Away
9/21	4:00pm	Haddon Twp	Home
9/22	4:00pm	Haddon Htgs	Home
9/25	4:00pm	Gateway	Home
9/26	4:00pm	Collingswood	Home
9/27	4:00pm	Audubon	Away
10/10	4:00pm	Collingswood	Away
10/11	4:00pm	Haddon Htgs	Away
10/13	4:00pm	Delsea	Home
10/16	4:00pm	Clearview	Home
10/19	4:00pm	Haddonfield	Home