

West Deptford Middle School

675 Grove Road, West Deptford, NJ 08066

www.wdeptford.k12.nj.us : 856-848-1200

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2019-2020 School Year! We will continue to send you "Parent Bulletins" electronically to update you on events, highlight 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.

We are very happy to introduce our new Assistant Principal of Attendance and Discipline, Mrs. Kate Donocoff. Mrs. Donocoff served as one of West Deptford School District's School Psychologists for the past five years, three of which she was officed in our middle school building. Mrs. Donocoff brings a specialized knowledge of positive behavior supports, behavioral interventions, and supports for students, as well as the firsthand experience of working within our school community and the middle school population.

Thank you and we look forward to a wonderful and exciting school year!

Christine R. Trampé
WDMS Principal



Upcoming Events

September 4

First Day of School-(Full day)

September 10

PTO Mtg 6:30 WDMS Library

September 12

Back to School Night-6:30pm

September 13

Eagle Launch

September 14

Music Dept Car Wash (8am-12pm)

September 16

Fall Pictures

September 17

Afterschool clubs begin

September 22

Operation Blessing 5KRun

October 7-9

6th grade trip to Camp Mason

6th 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.

The district doctor and our school nurse must clear all student athletes prior to participating with any WDMS athletic team.

WDMS Introduces Students to Financial Literacy

At a very early age, children are inundated with advertisements that encourages spending. By creating a comprehensive educational curriculum that lays the foundation for building positive personal financial habits, our students generate the ability to make financially informed decisions as they mature in life.

On January 3, 2019, legislation required school districts to incorporate financial literacy instruction in each of the grades six through eight beginning in the 2019-2020 school year. The goal is to include content on budgeting, savings, credit, debt, insurance, investment and other topics associated with personal finances. New Jersey Student Learning Standard 9.1 outlines clear and specific benchmarks for student achievement in Personal Financial Literacy.

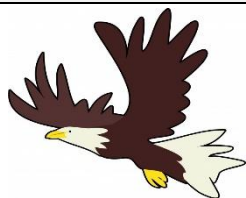
At WDMS, these standards will be taught in grades six and seven during each of the student's STEM electives and infused in grade eight math content. Through various real-world instructional activities, students will learn about money management and life skills to be better prepared for their future.

LATE BUSES

Late buses are every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday beginning Tuesday, September 17th. Late buses depart at 3:45pm. Late bus runs are typically longer as there are only five 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

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. 17 - Jan. 9. Sign-up for Session II Clubs will be at a later date. Clubs run Tuesday – Thursday from 2:45 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 6th Annual Eagle Launch on Friday, September 13th. All students and staff will be participating in the WDMS Eagle Launch to promote our Positive Behavior Support in School (PBSIS) Program! The students 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 WDMS 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 16th.

DROP OFF/PICK-UP

The school day for students officially begins at 7:55am. Students must be in homeroom by 7:55 am 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 7:45am. 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

No child will be permitted to ride on other buses for any reason. Each student can only ride the bus they are assigned to ride. If you have a one-day childcare issue, the person watching your child should pick them up at the school. No students will be permitted to switch between buses.

Students will NOT be given permission by WDMS administration to walk to any other location except home. (i.e. ice cream stand, pizza place or a friends house).

For additional transportation information, please visit our district website at:

http://www.wdeptford.k12.nj.us/district_info/transportation

CELL PHONE & CHROMEBOOK USAGE DURING SCHOOL

Cell Phones:

Though students are permitted to bring cell phones and other electronic equipment to school, their use during school hours is **prohibited**. All electronics, with the exception of school-issued Chromebooks, must be kept in student lockers and turned off during school hours. **A student in possession of a cellular phone or other electronic device will be disciplined.** Such equipment may be confiscated from a student. In emergency situations students may use the office phones to contact parents or guardians. This rule may be revised with prior classroom teacher's approval.

Chromebooks:

Students should keep in mind that Chromebooks are provided by the school and loaned to him/her for the length of time that he/she attends West Deptford Middle School. Each year at the conclusion of the year the Chromebook will be turned in and then re-distributed during the first few days of school the following September. **While an insurance fee may cover the cost of a lost or stolen Chromebook, gross negligence and/or multiple damages incurred will result in a fine commensurate to the replacement item (examples: cracked screen/charger).** Students are required to use their school-issued Chromebook case, be mindful of their Chromebook in their book bags and come to school each day with the device fully charged. More information can be found in our Chromebook policy handbook viewable online.

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 will each receive a snack coupon for the café snack bar. Our Student Council will be collecting soda tabs in an effort to help Ronald McDonald house. Thank you for your continued support.



STAYING CONNECTED AT WDMS

Please register for a PowerParent account in the main office, if you do not have a PowerParent login. 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. The majority of WDMS correspondence will be done through the School Messenger Notification System. Please make every effort to alert our main office immediately with any email or phone number changes as incorrect information will delay you receiving important information from the WDMS staff OR if you are not receiving our School Messenger text and email notifications.

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 (grades 6-8 only).

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.



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.

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.

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.

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. Families interested in becoming members can find the membership form on our website under the PTO tab.

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.

WDMS Rocks!

WDMS CROSS COUNTRY

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Versus</u>	<u>Location</u>
9/17	4:45pm	Gateway/Overbrook/Collingswood	WD Park
9/18	4:15pm	Delsea Regional	Delsea
9/23	4:00pm	Glen Landing	Glen Landing
9/24	4:45pm	Sterling/Haddon Hts/Paulsboro	WD Park
10/1	4:45pm	Haddon Twp/Lindenwold	WD Park
10/2	4:00pm	Clearview	WD Park
10/8	4:45pm	Haddonfield/Audubon	Pennypacker Park
10/9	4:00pm	Hammonton	WD Park
10/15	4:30PM	Haddonfield	Pennypacker Park
10/17	4:00pm	Williamstown	Williamstown
10/23	4:15pm	Colonial Conference Championships	Pennypacker Park

*athletic schedules subject to change

WDMS FIELD HOCKEY

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Versus</u>	<u>Location</u>
9/11	4:00pm	Haddonfield	Home
9/13	4:00pm	Collingswood	Home
9/17	4:00pm	Haddon Heights	Away
9/18	4:00pm	Haddon Twp	Home
9/20	4:00pm	Clearview	Home
9/24	3:45pm	Gateway	Away
9/25	4:15pm	Sterling	Away
9/27	4:15pm	Delsea	Home
9/30	4:00pm	Audubon	Away
10/2	4:00pm	Haddon Twp	Away
10/3	4:00pm	Haddon Heights	Home
10/8	4:00pm	Audubon	Home
10/10	4:00pm	Williamstown	Away
10/15	4:00pm	Haddonfield	Away
10/17	4:00pm	Collingswood	Away