



A Memo from the MS Class Dean

7th Grade Parents,

What a first week! It's amazing how much has happened in 4 days. We welcomed 10 new students to the grade, and after an action packed orientation day, we settled into regular class schedules on Wednesday. I am so energized by this group - they are very sweet and generally put a smile on my face. It's been a joy getting to know them all better both in and out of the classroom. I am excited for the year ahead serving as their Dean! That all said, transitions can be hard so please feel free to reach out to me, your child's advisor, or our Middle School Counselor, Ms. Levitan (levita@d-e.org) if you have any concerns or want to share about your child's experience. A couple of reminders looking ahead:

1. **Drop-Off and Pick-Up:** So far so good - keep in mind there will always be delays at the start of the year. Buses are figuring out systems, and there already have been some delays. Look forward to things being better next week, and pretty smooth - with athletics starting next week, pickups will be more spread out which will lighten traffic.

2. **Sports:** Sports will begin on Monday, September 8th. Sign up forms have been shared a few times, and teams have had initial informational meetings. Practice schedules can be found here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1aVSOAFrFD86MV0x7u1RCFn4jXLxBxCvYy5buP9Irc_hk/edit?gid=0#gid=0

3. **Links:**

MS Messages - <https://msmessages.d-e.org/>

Key Dates & Closures -

https://bbk12e1-cdn.myschoolcdn.com/ftpimages/434/misc/misc_229781.pdf

4. **Metro Cards:** if you ordered your child a NYC Metro card, and have not received it, we have them. Students should go to see Ms. Cebulski at the front desk of the MS building to pick up their cards.

5. **The Homework Planner:** Students received their D-E paper planner this week! They will be encouraged to use it in every class that assigns homework as well as for planning ahead to finish projects and long-term assignments.

6. **Email:** Students should check email nightly -- I will often send them emails about grade specific things and teachers also communicate important, timely details via email.

7. **Attendance:** We use the School Pass app for recording early pickups, late arrivals and absences. Please go to the following link to set up:

https://issuu.com/dwight-englewood/docs/3008-lettersize-school_pass_doc-d1?fr=sOTNjYjc2MzUzMjc

Of course you can always reach out directly as well. Mrs. Jones is our attendance coordinator for middle school. You can reach her at MSattendance@d-e.org or 201-227-3301. Please let her know if your child will be dropped off late, picked up early or unexpectedly absent. If you are planning an absence in advance, please let me know and I can help your child fill out a planned absence form and organize their school work.

8. Picture Day: Picture day is October 3rd. All students are photographed for the yearbook and ID cards. There will be a form available for ordering copies.

9. Forms: - Students and parents should sign the Honor Code of Conduct form. You received an email from Mr. Davis containing this form and students should have a paper copy as well. Yesterday's assembly was all about how these policies and community agreements are an important foundation of how we all interact and take care of our community. Please take advantage of the opportunity to discuss the shared home/school values we all work to put into action in our lives. Students are expected to indicate their understanding of and commitment to these expectations by signing the pages with you and returning them to their advisors by Tuesday.

- Please look for our technology Acceptable Use Form and overnight trip waiver forms (More information to follow) next week.

10: Yondr Phone Pouches: Yondr pouches are up and running. Phones and smart watches should be powered down and secured in the pouch during school hours. Please see earlier emails from Mr. Davis about our policy regarding cell phones and smart watches.

Key September/October Dates

September 8th: Fall Sports begin

September 10th @ 6:30pm: New Parent Orientation (you should have an invitation - this is for NEW families only)

September 18th @ 6pm: Back To School Night (invitation soon)

September 23rd - 24th: Rosh Hashanah (No School)

October 2nd: Yom Kippur (No School)

October 3rd: Picture Day

October 9th-10th: 7th Grade overnight trip

October 13th: Indigenous Peoples Day (No School)

October 20th: Diwali (No School)

That's it for now. Have a terrific weekend. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.