



PARENT ORIENTATION 2022

Welcome To The Family

A FEW BEGINNING THOUGHTS

- Purpose of today
- Information Overload
 - Powerpoint and video link on website by Monday, July 25th
 - Restroom/phone/housekeeping
- On a Personal Note

CONSTRUCTION/RENOVATION TIMELINE

- May 2018 – Started the project with the demolition of the annex, our library, and several hallways.
- 2019-2020 School Year – Construction of the new main building
- May 2020 – Moved out of and demolished the old main classroom building and all attached hallways
- August 2020 – Moved into new main classroom spaces and began construction on new cafeteria and fine arts areas
- May 2021 – Began demolition on fine arts building and old cafeteria
- July 2021 – Opened fine arts/cafeteria to public for the first time
- June 2022 - Renovations to Leopard/Panther one-story and mechanical upgrades to two-story

Thank you for your patience and flexibility with building access!

LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Sarah Armstrong, Principal



- Jonathan Finch, Assistant Principal



- Adam Keel, Counselor



- Joanne Smith, Counselor



DMS HEROS

- Ron Askelson, Full Time School Resource Officer (SRO)



- Josie Wetherbee, Secretary



- Elizabeth Talley, Bookkeeper



- Beth Jones, Nurse



DMS MISSION STATEMENT (rev Oct. 2018)

The mission of J.F. Drake Middle School, **the unifying bridge**, is to guarantee each student develops the confidence, character, and proficiency to become accomplished and responsible citizens through a system distinguished by:

- **Developmentally appropriate, safe, and nurturing environments**
- Innovative and engaging learning experience
- Invested and involved stakeholders
- A diverse family culture of integrity, respect, and global awareness
- **Personal maturity, courage, and perseverance**
- Inspired lifelong learners pursuing academic excellence

DMS TEAMS

- Cosmic Cats
- Leopards
- Panthers
- Pumas
- Tigers
- Lions



WHY TEAMING? WHAT IS TEAMING?

- **Worked with renowned middle school professor Dr. Paul George (Univ of Florida) in the summer of 2002**
- **Home within DMS**
 - Common locations
 - A place of belonging
 - Colors
 - Names
 - T-Shirts
 - Slogans
- **5-Teacher Teams**
 - Math
 - Language Arts
 - Social Studies
 - Science
 - Exploratory
- **Collaboration**
 - Team meetings
 - Communication with parents/conferences
 - Websites
 - Social Media

DAILY SCHEDULE

- Core Classes
 - Math, Science, Social Studies, Language Arts
- Physical Education (daily 54 min)
- Exploratory (6 week rotation – random order)
 - Digital Connections- Dyer
 - Foreign Language (Spanish) - Halverson
 - Art – Speir
 - STEM - Everage
 - Current Events - Garlington-Hughes
 - Music – McCollough

LOCKERS, BACKPACKS, SUPPLIES

- Lockers
- Backpacks
 - Students carry from class to class
- Supply Kits
 - Take them home today and unpack supplies
 - Put a few supplies in backpack and bring with you
 - Hold back at least $\frac{1}{2}$ of the supplies to replenish as the year progresses (index cards, notebook paper, glue sticks)

ROTATING DAILY SCHEDULE - 54 minute classes

2022-2023 Master Schedule:

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:10-8:30	20 min.	Bridge	Bridge	Bridge	Bridge	Bridge
8:33-9:27	54 min.	A ₁	B ₂	C ₃	D ₅	E ₆
9:30-10:24	54 min.	B ₂	C ₃	D ₅	E ₆	A ₁
10:27 - 11:21	54 min.	C ₃	D ₅	E ₆	A ₁	B ₂
11:24 - 11:54	30 min.	W.I.N Time	W.I.N Time	Advisory	W.I.N Time	W.I.N Time
11:57 - 1:30	93 min.	SL ₄ / Lunch	SL ₄ / Lunch	SL ₄ / Lunch	SL ₄ / Lunch	SL ₄ / Lunch
1:33-2:27	54 min.	D ₅	E ₆	A ₁	B ₂	C ₃
2:30-3:24	54 min.	E ₆	A ₁	B ₂	C ₃	D ₅
3:27-3:30	3 min.	HMRM PM	HMRM PM	HMRM PM	HMRM PM	HMRM PM

BENEFITS:

Students and teachers see one another at varied times throughout the week

Miss different classes for appointments

Parent conferences scheduled at varied times throughout the week

6TH GRADE ARRIVAL

Please be patient with us the first couple of weeks of school as everyone gets familiar with arrival/dismissal procedures. After two weeks, campus is cleared by 3:50 daily.

Arrival

- Arrive between 7:50am - 8:05am.
- Doors open at 7:50am
- We will unload eight cars at a time to expedite the process – students open their own door!
- Walkers and bike riders enter from N. Donahue entrance up the sidewalk.
- Students report directly to Bridge/Homeroom.
- Breakfast in cafeteria.
- Please do not drop off anywhere other than designated areas.

6TH GRADE DISMISSAL

Please be patient with us the first couple of weeks of school as everyone gets familiar with arrival/dismissal procedures. After two weeks, campus is cleared by 3:50 daily.

Dismissal

- Begins at 3:30pm staggered by team
 - Bus riders – front loop
 - Car riders – cafeteria loop-must display car rider tag provided to all students on first day of school
- Please make all transportation decisions prior to school or call the school by 3:00pm.
- Please do not pick up anywhere other than designated area.

6TH GRADE ARRIVAL DISMISSAL



RIDE THE BUS!!!!



BUS INFORMATION

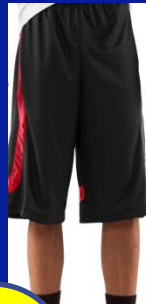
- Routes are AVAILABLE NOW!
 - Posted on the front windows of the school later this week.
 - Please pay attention to the DMS website for updates.
(www.auburnschools.org/dms under "For Parents" tab – click Bus Routes)
- Wait at the nearest bus stop to your house on the first day of school. We don't check bus lists or keep track of student transportation due to frequent changes.
- PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD KNOWS THEIR BUS NUMBER!
- Changing transportation:
 - Call our office only if the message needs to get to your student regarding a change (call before 3:00pm).
 - If they will ride a different bus, give the driver a completed change of transportation form. ([Bus Form](#))

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

- Follow ACS policy (www.auburnschools.org/domain/1614) - consistency is our goal and is a PRIMARY focus for us as we start 2022-2023 school year. **Just because it was allowed last year – this year will be different!**
- **Typical issues at DMS:**
 - Shorts that are above 4 inches above the knee
 - Pants with holes - **MUST HAVE FABRIC UNDERNEATH** (ACS Dress Code revision May 2019)
 - Leggings with t-shirts or too short of an over-garment - over-garments “must cover private areas in front and back” (ACS Dress Code revision May 2019)
 - Pants must be worn at the waist
- **When in doubt, don't wear it!**
- Teach your child about the difference in school clothes and weekend clothes.
- **Extra clothes are an excellent idea for many reasons!**
- Parents/ guardians WILL be called to bring clothes if your child is out of dress code. Students will be sent to ISS to sit until clothes arrive. Repeat offenders will earn disciplinary consequences. **fppt.com**

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

- Skirts/shorts/dresses must be no more than 4 inches above the knee
 - Nike shorts/Soffe shorts do not typically meet the length requirement
 - Basketball-type shorts are ok as long as they meet the length requirement

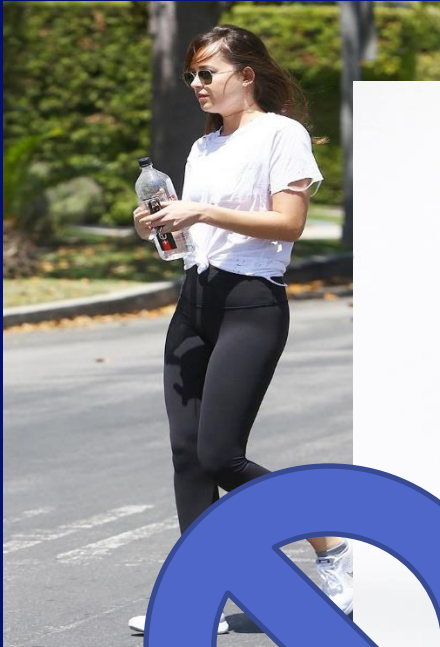


The type doesn't matter – length does



DRESS FOR SUCCESS

- Anything worn over leggings (shorts/skirt/dress/shirt) must cover the private areas of the individual.



KNOW THE EXPECTATIONS

- High expectations but encourage recovery from mistakes – this is the time to let your child make mistakes!
- ACS Policies in the Parent/Student Handbook (www.auburnschools.org/domain/1614)
 - Attendance – 5 unexcused absences = truancy Early Warning court
 - Electronic Device Policy
 - Dress code
 - Check out time limit (3:00 p.m.)
- DMS Student Handbook - School Rules outlined in the front of the student planner
 - Students and parent sign agreement each year
 - Electronic devices
 - Tardies to class (three = detention)
 - Medication
 - Discipline
 - Lanyard procedures

*Not knowing is not
an excuse!*

HARD CONVERSATIONS and REALITY – PREPARE NOW

- Hard conversations – NOW is the time!
 - Publicly appropriate speech and actions.
 - Your children are always listening and observing – your words, your social media, your conversations.
 - Your attitude determines their attitude.
 - Your parenting role changes to that of a "coach" at this point in their adolescent journey!
- Bully free is our goal!
 - Teach children to not be a victim and report for themselves and others (www.auburnschools.org/domain/657)
 - We cannot investigate if we do not know!
- Medication
 - **You must have medical forms on file with the nurse for ANY medication** Ibuprofen, Tylenol, etc. should not be kept in purses, backpacks, etc.
 - Talk about not taking medication from other children.

PHYSICAL SAFETY: REAL TALK, REAL LIFE

- Physical Safety

- ID badges provide building access – students are trained not to open doors for anyone without an official DMS badge
- Team colored ID badges/lanyards increase security awareness
- Enclosed walkways allow for movement without going outdoors
- Focused professional development and regular safety scenario discussions for teachers
- Raptor ID scan system in front office – all parents must supply ID
- Student training and scenario based conversations
- Say Something Reporting App
 - <https://www.saysomething.net>
- Scheduled Drills
 - Lockdown
 - Secure your area
 - Fire
 - Severe Weather



ONLINE and EMOTIONAL SAFETY: REAL TALK, REAL LIFE CELL PHONES and SOCIAL MEDIA

Cell Phones and Rules

- Turned OFF - not to be seen, heard, or used between 7:50-3:30
- If seen or heard, student will be warned and parent contacted.
- If they are in **use** (text/call/video/etc.) they will be taken according to policy.
 - 1st time – we keep it 24 hours and a parent picks it up
 - 2nd time – we keep it 10 days and a parent picks it up
 - 3rd time – we keep it till the end of the semester and a parent picks it up

Emotional/Mental Safety

Social Media and Phones

- Snapchat, Instagram, TikTok, Kik, What's App, Discord, House Party, Omegle, Whisper
- **I BEG you, don't let your child have social media in sixth grade!!**
- **Don't buy the story that all sixth graders have a phone!**
- File a police report and take away social media!

Fight to protect your child -
you know them best!

I trust my daughter – I do NOT trust other people!

THE DANGER OF UNMET EXPECTATIONS

Our goal is to partner with you and walk alongside you as you navigate this transition. In reality, parents nor teachers can prevent negative interactions, exposure to unfamiliar topics, etc. But we can work together to support as we navigate the journey.

It **is** possible for your child to go through middle school without being exposed to all the things you may be worried about! But, in the event they are, what background have you provided on your family's worldview?

Prepare now for the hard conversations! DMS Website --> For Parents --> Parent Resources. <https://www.auburnschools.org/domain/2246>

Your reaction to the shocking parts of the adolescent challenges shapes the relationship with your child in the next few years. Try diligently to react calmly and ask questions!

CAPTURING KIDS' HEARTS AND POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT PROGRAM

- Capturing Kids' Hearts – philosophy not a program
 - “Good Things”, Social Contracts, Behavior Cues
- **Positive Behavior Support Program (PBS)**
 - PBIS Rewards App
 - Weekly rewards for desired behavior – no discipline issues, wearing T-shirts
 - PBS Great Break (once at end of each nine weeks)
 - PBS Outside Lunch
 - Discipline point behavior celebrations
 - PBS Dance (usually in January)
- We will teach your child our expectations and plans!



DISCIPLINE AND DISCIPLINE POINTS

- Our goal is fair, consistent, progressive, and developmentally appropriate discipline.
- Discipline opportunities are teaching opportunities – **we don't need to call every single time!**
- Reflected as Homeroom Grade (not an academic grade)
 - Loss of points determines conduct grade of S, N, U
 - 100-80 = S, 79-60 = N, 59 and below = U
 - All students begin with 100 points at the beginning of each semester.
- **You must have points to participate in events**
 - Points are deducted for:
 - Three Silent Lunches (5 points)
 - Team detention (10 points) and school wide detention (15 points)
 - Bus suspension (25 points)
 - ISS (60 points) or 20 points per day placement as per admin discretion
 - Suspension (20 points per day)

GRADING

- Increased expectations this year with deadlines and rigor
- Major grades and minor grades
- The "0" and the "1" (explained further at curriculum night)
 - A zero "0" in the gradebook means that your child either earned a zero, or didn't submit an assignment by the deadline. These assignments cannot be made up.
 - A one "1" in the gradebook means that your child can still complete the assignment or make up that work until the deadline established by the teacher.

TECHNOLOGY TUTORIAL

- Schoology - our learning management platform
 - This is what you will use if you enter a remote learning mode at any point during the year.
 - Know your child's password to Schoology!
- SAVVAS Envision – this is our online math textbook
- Office 365 – your child has a school-based email address and access to cloud storage, composition of assignments, and sharing capabilities with teachers
- PowerSchool– this is our statewide information system and grading platform
 - Allow time for entering of grades
 - Teach children to self-advocate and discuss grades with teachers

IPAD USE AND EXPECTATIONS

- iPad Usage

- Each student will receive an iPad for use at school.
- DMS students **will not** take iPads home. Students will leave iPads with homeroom teacher every afternoon and pick them up each morning.
- iPads are for instructional use only.
- Students who do not use their iPad appropriately will receive consequences.
 - Clearly defined expectations outlined in writing at beginning of year.
 - No bluetooth headphones – only wired
 - Clarified prohibited behaviors and consequences.
 - Only used for educational purposes and when teacher directed for learning.

LANYARDS and ID BADGES

Students will be issued a J. F. Drake Middle School Identification Badge and lanyard as a feature of our safety plan. Students will be required to properly wear this form of identification around their neck throughout the entire school day.

Team specific lanyards are for sale on My School Bucks. All students will be provided a team-colored lanyard without the specific team wording.

Damaged, lost, or badges that have been altered in any way will result in students having to purchase a new badge for \$5.00.

Disciplinary consequences for students not having their Identification Badge are as follows:

- 1st Offense – warning and temporary badge issued
- 2nd Offense – student serves one (1) day of silent lunch
- 3rd Offense – student serves two (2) days of silent lunch and administrative conference
- 4th Offense – student serves one (1) day in after-school detention
- 5th Offense and subsequent offenses – student serves two (2) days of after-school detention up to an ISS Placement.

GET INVOLVED

Clubs and Activities

- After-school Choir Drake Dynamics
- FCA
- Science Olympiad
- Robotics Club
- DMS Ambassadors
- Cat's Meow Book Club
- Card Club
- Project Outreach Mentor Program
- Breakfast Club (before school ~7:15)
- Yearbook Staff

How to find out about clubs and activities?

- Listen/watch the WCAT News in homeroom and check out the website for club information
- Mrs. Armstrong will email a listing of clubs, meeting dates, sponsor emails, etc. Around the first week of September.

COMMUNICATION

- **DMS WEBSITE** – general information
<http://www.auburnschools.org/drake>
- **Schoology** – team and class specific information
 - Students will receive training and login information
 - Can be accessed from DMS website at the "For Students" tab
- **PTO Facebook** - Drake Middle School PTO 2022-2023
- **Twitter**
 - @JFDRAKEMIDDLESCHOOL
 - @PrincipalDMS to follow Mrs. Armstrong

PTO One Stop Shop



COMMUNICATION

School Instagram: @jfdrakemiddleschool

Team Specific Instagram Accounts

- @weteachtigers – Tigers
- @dmscosmicats – Cosmic Cats
- @dms_panthers_ – Panthers
- @dmspuma – Pumas
- @leopardsdms – Leopards
- @lionsdms - Lions
- Facebook: LeopardsDMS – Leopards

– **Auburn City Schools App on iTunes store**

Go to notifications and settings to select your preferred schools. Visit apps.apple.com/us/app/auburn-city-schools/id1131656470 to download.



TEAM MERCHANDISE



Lanyards
Drawstring Bags
Water Bottles
Planner

DMS T-Shirt: Students will need it for field trips, celebrations, and to earn PBIS Rewards bucks weekly.

Order using the Victory Designs link through the first week of school!



DMS YEARBOOK INFORMATION

- Yearbook ordering information (QR code) is located in your parent packet and will be sent home throughout the year.
- Scan the QR code for a direct link to the ordering site through the Jostens website.

FIRST DAY AND FIRST WEEK

- Watch for signs at arrival and dismissal pickup line – first week is slowest!
- Students enter the gym and sit at designated tables.
- Teachers will come to gym to get students to take them to the team area
- If your child can get out of the car and tell us their name, we will help them know where to go!
- Schedule details recorded in planners on first day
- School tours
- Team building activities to build relationships
- Reconnecting to promote student wellness

We embrace our role and we will take care of everything!

Work Hard = Play Hard!

We love to have FUN!



- PBS Events
- Field Trips
- Pep Rallies
- Spirit Weeks – October/December
- Faculty/Student basketball game
- Bash and Splash

CAMP ASCCA

Click the QR in the packet to pay for this field trip!



SPIRIT WEEKS





Learning is exciting and fun!



Book It For Books 5K



PEP RALLY



DATES TO REMEMBER

- Open House – Friday, Aug. 5th
 - Meet and greet with teachers
 - Opportunity to purchase items /see the rest of the buildings and campus
 - NO parent program
 - 45 minute sessions – parking will be a challenge
 - 8:45-9:30 – Cosmic Cats and Pumas
 - 9:30-10:15 – Lions and Tigers
 - 10:15-11:00 – Leopards and Panthers
- Camp AASCA (\$60)– we welcome parents who wish to attend!
 - Sept. 6th – Panthers
 - Sept. 7th – Tigers
 - Sept. 8^h – Leopards
 - Sept. 13th – Pumas
 - Sept. 14th – Lions
 - Sept 15th – Cosmic Cats
- Curriculum Nights – Week of August 22nd

PARENT PANEL

- Questions?

FEEDBACK SURVEY



- Please visit this link and fill out a brief survey of your Camp Drake experience.
- <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Mh7UKHBp0uWjDLAC0Fp7ghULMGWRINJkC-07cP9CrRURFBVRk1JQUJKSkpRVzZHU1FBVVIFNEhESC4u>
 - The link will be on the DMS website Monday, July 25th through Monday, August 1st.
- During the first week of school, we will randomly select 10 students whose parents answered the survey and give them **\$100 PBIS Rewards credits to start their school year!**



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENDANCE!