



DCHS News August 2008

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Students,
Welcome to the 2008-09 school year! I am excited to begin my second year as High School Principal.

As the year begins our staff will be focusing on three goals that will directly impact and benefit our students:

- 1) To continue to build and strengthen relationships with students and families
- 2) To increase student achievement in our classrooms and on state mandated tests
- 3) To increase two-way communication with students and families

Goal setting is an important activity and we embrace the opportunity, but we realize the success of our efforts will depend upon the strength of our student-family-staff team. We are looking forward to working with you.

My personal goal is to be the best Principal I can be. I believe the key to reaching this goal is to surround myself with positive, successful people. When I think of the students, families and staff here at DCHS, it is without a doubt that I am surrounded by the best of the best!

Have a great rest of the summer and I look forward to seeing you at Open House! Please, do not hesitate to contact me if there is a way I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,
Dean A. Jennissen, Principal

Open House & Orientation

Wednesday, August 27th, the high school will hold its annual "Back to School" open house and orientation. Please see the enclosure for more specific information.

New Staff Members

We were successful in hiring some of the best and brightest educators in the state to fill open vacancies and staff the new positions created by Support Levy Funding:

Mr. Derek Levno – Industrial Technology
Mr. Larry Marquette – Science and Math
Ms. Erin Masimore – German
Mr. Chris Moen – FOCUS Facilitator
Ms. Sammy Nelson – FOCUS Teacher
Mr. Phil Niemala – Physical Education
Ms. Cassie Vogt – Guidance Counselor
Ms. Jennie Borg – Guidance Secretary

Address Changes

Please contact Bernie Sand, DCHS Secretary at 286-4100 ext.1815...

The "Back to School" Supplement will be coming to you later this month as well as the official school calendar. These are the two documents that will provide information that will be helpful to you during the school year. If by the beginning of the school year you have not received these two documents, please contact the high school office and we will see that you receive them.

DC Activities On-Line

You have instant access to all Dassel-Cokato Athletic and Activities Schedules on our website.

Upcoming Events

Following are some events for the beginning of the school year. If you are planning a family vacation during the school year, we encourage you to make an effort to schedule these when school is not in session.

September 2nd—School Begins

September 30th—Student Picture Day; Grades 9-11

October 3rd—Homecoming

October 9th & 14th—Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 16th & 17th—Education Convention—No School

October 30th—Picture Retakes

News from the Guidance Counselor, Ms. Vogt

The 2008-2009 school year is rapidly approaching. I could not be more excited to start the school year and meet all of you! My name is Cassie Vogt. I will be the new Guidance Counselor at Dassel-Cokato High School. I live in Mayer, Minnesota. I'm married and have a little girl. This is my first full year as a Guidance Counselor, and I'm extremely happy to be working with the students of Dassel-Cokato High School. I look forward to getting to know you, so please stop by the office to introduce yourself.

Enclosed is your schedule for first trimester. In a few instances, some classes may have been moved or changed to achieve class balance. In addition, your classes scheduled may be slightly different from the ones you initially requested due to class conflicts and demand. **For those students attending the open house on August 27, 2008, please bring this schedule with you as you will not be given a new schedule the night of open house.**

Seniors, please review your schedule to be sure your courses fulfill all of your graduation requirements. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Vogt. If you are planning to do an independent study, teacher aide, or work program, this will not be reflected on your schedule until you have completed the forms.

As stated repeatedly during scheduling last year, we will not make schedule changes unless unique circumstances warrant the changes. Any concerns about schedules will be handled on the following dates and times.

Juniors & Seniors - August 21st 7:45a.m.-11:45a.m. and August 22nd 12:30p.m.-3:30p.m.

Freshman & Sophomores - August 27th 7:45a.m.-11:45a.m. and 1:15p.m.-4:15p.m.

If these times do not work for you, please call and schedule an appointment with Ms. Vogt. **Unfortunately, we will not have time to make any schedule changes the night of Open House.**

Here are some upcoming dates that may be useful in post-secondary planning.

ACT test dates

Saturday, October 25, 2008–must register by September 19, 2008
Saturday, December 13, 2008–must register by November 7, 2008
Saturday February 7, 2009– must register by January 6, 2009
Saturday April 4, 2009–must register by February 27, 2009
Saturday June 13, 2009–must register by May 8, 2009

Seniors retaking the ACT should try to test in October or December, Juniors planning to attend a four-year college should plan on testing in either April or June.

News from the Dean of Students, Mr. Schauberger

Student Parking Lot

Students that drive to and park at DCHS will be required to purchase and display a parking permit tag in order to park their vehicle in the one (south) designated high school lot.

Procedures

1. Fill out a data entry form and purchase a parking tag from the high school office. You must provide your license plate number and the year/make/model of your vehicle.
2. The cost for the permit tag is \$75 per school year.

Students must purchase and display a parking tag on or before Monday, September 8, 2008. If you cannot make full payment by this date, contact the Dean of Students, Mr. Schauberger.

Daily Schedule @ DCHS

70 Minute Periods

5 Minute Passing Time

2-10 Minute Student Breaks (Including Passing Time)

35 Minute Lunch (including passing time)

Period I

8:10 – 9:20

Student Break

9:20 – 9:30

Period II

9:30 – 10:40

Period III

10:45 – 12:30

Lunch A

10:45 – 11:20 (L) 10:45 – 11:20 (C)

11:20 – 12:30 (C) 11:20 – 11:55 (L)

11:55 – 12:30 (C)

Lunch C

10:45 – 11:55 (C)

11:55– 12:30 (L)

Period IV

12:35 – 1:45

Student Break

1:45 – 1:55

Period V

1:55 – 3:05

Communication

Communication between the home and school is important and an area that can continually be improved. We are open to any suggestions that you may have that would increase our effectiveness in this area.

Several tools that are available for your use are the district and school website, e-mail, and phone. The district website is located at www.dc.k.12.mn.us. From this site you can access information not only for the district, but also for each of the school buildings in the district. In addition to the website, if you want to contact a specific teacher, each teacher has an e-mail address as well as a phone located in his or her classroom. This information can be accessed on the school website. If you do not have a computer and you want to speak to a specific teacher at the high school, please call the high school office at 320-286-4100, ext. 1800, and we will provide you with the appropriate extension number and also connect you to that teacher. If the teacher is not available, you can leave a message on his or her voice mail.

This past spring we introduced the **Parent Portal** as a means of communicating information regarding student grades, lunch account information, attendance, trimester grades, test scores and immunizations.

You can assist us in our communications with you by making sure your mailing address, phone number and e-mail address (if available) are correct.

Medication Policy Reminder

Please keep in mind that if your child needs medication while in school, certain guidelines must be followed.

- ❖ Medication must be stored in the health office. (Exceptions are made for inhalers; this must first be cleared with licensed school nurse.)
- ❖ The medication needs to be in the original bottle with the students name clearly marked on it (no medication sent in baggies will be accepted!)
- ❖ A permission slip must be completed and signed by the parent.
- ❖ A signed order from the physician is needed for all prescriptions medications.
- ❖ Health assistant will distribute medications only after being reviewed by the school nurse.

These guidelines are in place for the health and safety of all students. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Kelly O’Fallon, RN, LSN at 286-4100 ext. 1804, or contact your physician.

Dassel-Cokato High School

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“Preparing students for life-long success in a global society.”

