Mankato Area Public Schools

Committed to working together equitably, so that each learner has the knowledge and skills to be a successful and contributing citizen in a diverse global society

Dear DMMS students, parents & caregivers,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! We hope you have had a wonderful summer break and are ready to start learning. Below you will find important information, dates and events for the upcoming school year.

Upcoming Important Events

Students and families are invited to come to school to kick off the 2024-2025 school year. This is an opportunity for students to meet their teachers and get their schedule. Families are welcome to come anytime from 4 PM to 7:30 PM on Wednesday, August 28th.

In our gym, there will be multiple opportunities to hear messages from Principal Hyer and Assistant Principal Buttell. They will be in the gym at 5:00pm and 6:30pm. More information will be included in later communications.

School Pictures

- School pictures will take place here at DMMS **on Wednesday, August 28th, 2024 during Open House**. Again this year, SportPix of Mankato will be taking photos for us. Please watch your email for more details. **Retakes will be Thursday, October, 24th**

Trail Assignments

- We are expecting students to remain in the trails they have been assigned to for the purpose of keeping balanced trails.
- We understand there are situations that are unique to a student that may result in switching a student to a different trail. These situations are rare and will require discussion with administrators. A change in a trail assignment is not guaranteed.
- We understand there will likely be mistakes in the process of assigning students to trails, if you see an error in your trail assignment, please contact our school with your concerns or questions.

Entrance Conferences

Entrance conferences are scheduled for you to meet with your student's advisor on **Tuesday, September 3rd from 12 pm - 8:00 pm or Wednesday, September 4th from 8 am - 1:00 pm**. Entrance conferences are held **in person** at Dakota Meadows Middle School. We look forward to meeting our students and their families. Please use the link below for conference registration. Select your student's **Advisory Teacher** name and click submit at the bottom to choose which date and time works best for your schedule. **Click here for the conference schedule and link.**

Start Dates

- The first day of school for all 6th through 8th grade students is **Thursday, September 5th, 2024.**

Start and End Times

- Our school day begins at **8:35 am and ends at 3:25 pm**
- **Here is our daily bell schedule**
- We ask that students not arrive at school prior to 8**:**10 am and leave campus by 3:35 pm
- Doors to the school will open at 8:10 am

Two Hours Early Release

Two hour early releases will take place on the following dates:

> September 18th, 2024. October 9th, 2024. November 13th, 2024. December 11th, 2024. January 8th, 2025. February 12th, 2025. March 12th, 2025. April 9th, 2025. May 14th, 2025.

Your student will start their day at the normal time of 8:35 am and be released at 1:25 pm. They will receive lunch prior to the 1:25 pm dismissal when buses leave the building. Students participating in varsity co-curriculars will need to go home, then return to practice at the designated practice time. ***There will be no middle school co-curricular practices on early release Wednesdays.*** All students need to ensure they have transportation home by **1:25 pm**.

Immunizations

All 7th grade students must have their required immunizations completed **before** the first day of school, Thursday, September 5th, 2024. This is according to the Minnesota School Immunization law. Please contact our Licensed School Nurse (LSN) Laurel Dorn at 507-382-1136 if you have questions regarding the required immunizations.

School Supply List Please click **HERE** for the 24-25 DMMS school supply list. This can also be found on our website.

Middle School After School Program

Middle School After School is an after school club program provided by Mankato Area Public Schools' Community Education and Recreation Department, serving youth in grades 6-8. The program offers a variety of interest based clubs and a student union for academic support and recreational opportunities that promote personal growth and academic success. Students meet each day in the cafeteria at 3:30 pm, and proceed to club activities from there. Fees are assigned to each club or student union opportunity. If you are in need of financial assistance, you may contact our office (507) 387-5501 for further information. Please note: you will need to provide transportation for your student, as this is **NOT PROVIDED** by the district. You **must register** for each day / activity you plan to attend MSAS. Clubs, fees, and schedule will change each quarter or as learning formats change during the 2023-2024 school year. For more information, please go online and visit www.mankatocer.com.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office at (507) 387-5077.
We Are Here for YOU!

Aaron Hyer, Principal
Jessi Buttell, Assistant Principal