



DMS Newsflash

O c t o b e r 2 0 1 9

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Climate Survey Highlights

Every spring we conduct a Parent School Climate Survey to gain feedback, insights, and perspective on how things are going at Deans Mill School. As always, we appreciate those who took the time to take the survey and provide feedback to us on their experiences at DMS. Overall, we are pleased to report that the entire 2018-19 survey was very positive.

Here are some highlights from the 2018-19 survey:

🍏 ***This school is a safe place for my child.***

100% of parents/guardians agreed to this statement in 2017, 2018, and 2019.

🍏 ***This school challenges by child to meet high behavioral expectations.***

100% parents/guardians agreed with this statement in 2018 and 2019.

🍏 ***If my child has a problem, there is someone at school who can help.***

99% of parents/guardians agreed in 2018 and 100% of parents/guardians agreed in 2019.

🍏 ***My child is provided with opportunities for support, extra assistance, or enrichment through YouBlock (Grades 1-4 only).***

In 2018 97% of parents/guardians agreed and 99% agreed in 2019.

🍏 ***Our 2018-19 parent goal was for 95% of parents/guardians to agree that Deans Mill School effectively and regularly communicates with families.***

94% of parents/guardians agreed with this statement.

While we worked hard to meet this goal, we will continue to work on effective and engaging communication with parents.

As we look to continue to improve communication, we have set our 2019-20 goal to be that 95% of parents/guardians will report that they know how their child is doing in school before they get their child's report card. Our teachers and staff will look for effective and meaningful ways to communicate student academic progress to you. In addition, we are using Instagram as another platform to highlight student learning at DMS. Please consider following us on Instagram "@deansmillschool".

Our positive 2018-2019 results are another indicator of the outstanding school community we have at Deans Mill School. We are very fortunate to have outstanding students, parents, and staff who all work together to create a warm environment where students can meet their full potential.

Thank you for your continued support!

Regards,



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Important Dates

October

- 2 Custodian's Day
 - 10 Board of Education Meeting
 - SHS Commons • 7 PM
 - 14 Columbus Day Observance
 - No School
 - 18-25 DMS Fall Book Fair
 - 19 DMS Fall Festival • at DMS
 - 11AM – 3 PM
 - 20 Fall Festival (RAIN DATE)
 - 23 DMS Book Fair Family Night
 - 4 PM to 7 PM
 - 23 & 24 Early Release • Parent/Teacher Conferences • 12:10 PM
 - 25 Spirit Day • Crazy Hair Day
- 
-
- 5 Professional Development Day
 - No School
 - 11 Veterans Day Observance
 - No School
 - 14 Board of Education Meeting
 - SHS Commons • 7 PM
 - 15 Movie Night • 6 PM
 - 18 PTO Meeting • 5:30 PM
 - 27 Spirit Day ~ Stonington Bears Day
 - Wear Brown & White
 - 27 Early Dismissal • 12:10 PM
 - 28-29 Thanksgiving Recess • No School
- 

Arctic Adventure Book Fair



Come join us October 18th - 25th for the fall Scholastic Arctic Adventures Book Fair! The Book Fair will be located in the Deans Mill School gymnasium. Classes are scheduled for preview and purchase times throughout the week. Family Night extended hours will be on Wednesday October 23rd from 4PM – 7PM. Volunteers will be needed to help run the fair. Watch for an e-mail from Sign-Up Genius coming out soon.

Get your children excited to read and please come join us to help create a blizzard of books for your home and school libraries!

Book Fair Co-Chairs:

Heidii Redfern heidijredfern75@gmail.com

Stephanie Gagnon sgagnon7@gmail.com





This month we feature staff new to DMS, most of whom have previously taught in other schools in our town of Stonington.

Getting to know

Mrs. Babcock

Special Education Teacher

Lisa Babcock previously taught at Mystic Middle School. This is her 13th year in education: 10 as a teacher, 3 as an administrator. Her hometown is King Ferry, NY, but she has been living in CT for over 11 years. Her hobbies include reading and running.

Interesting fact: She has an uncle named Chuck Norris and an aunt name Katie Parry, though neither one is famous!



LISA BABCOCK

Getting to know

Ms. Breen

Elementary Program Facilitator

From Griswold, CT, Meghan taught first grade for four years at Woodstock Elementary School. She then taught third grade for five years at West Broad Street School. Last year was her first year as an administrator as the Dean of Students at Mystic Middle School. This year she is thrilled to be working at Deans Mill School and West Vine Street School in her new elementary curriculum and instruction role. Meghan enjoys reading, going to the gym, hiking/walking/spending time with her dog, cooking, hanging out by the pool or going to the beach, shopping, spending time with friends and family, especially her five nieces and nephews. She is excited to be getting married on February 29th, when her new name will be Mrs. Amando.

Interesting Fact: She was a member of 4-H as a child. Each summer from the ages of 8-13, she had a cow that she took care of. She also brought her cow and showed it at fairs like the Brooklyn Fair and the North Stonington Fair. She even qualified to bring her cow to the Big E one year!



MEGHAN BREEN

Getting to know

Mrs. Gill

3rd Grade Math Teacher

A Killingworth, CT native, Devri is in her 15th year teaching in Stonington. She previously taught at in Stonington at Mystic Middle School. She enjoys running and spending time with her family.

Interesting fact: She has two-year-old twins.



DEVRI GILL

Getting to know

Mrs. Graham

Reading Specialist

Megan's hometown is Pawcatuck, CT. She has been teaching for 17 years, and previously taught in Stonington at West Broad Street School. She enjoys family time, going to the beach, and baking.

Interesting fact: She lived on Nantucket and taught 4th grade.



MEGAN GRAHAM

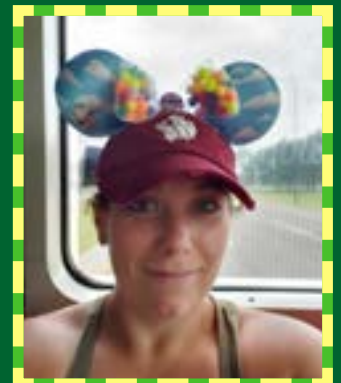
Getting to know

Mrs. LaPalme

Physical Education/Health Teacher

Hailing from Amston, CT, Cyndi has been teaching for eight years. She previously taught at Pawcatuck Middle and at Stonington High. She enjoys sports, CrossFit, and spending time with family.

Interesting fact: She always thought she was going to end up being a chef instead of a teacher.



CYNDI LAPALME



Getting to know

Mrs. Limberakis

STEM Teacher

Mrs. Rachele Limberakis is excited to be at DMS with the 3rd, 4th and 5th graders this fall during their library time teaching Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematic (STEM) skills. She was born and raised in Mount Prospect, Illinois, which is a Northwest suburb of Chicago. This is her 28th year in education, and she loves helping students learn and explore. In addition to her work at DMS, she will continue to teach in all schools in the district as the Technology Integration Specialist and Assistive Technology Coordinator. Outside of school you might find her at a sporting event, doing a home improvement project, at the theatre, hiking or reading a book.

Interesting fact: She is a Chicago Cubs fan and has a dog named Wrigley.



RACHELE LIMBERAKIS

Getting to know

Ms. Lettiero

Kindergarten Teacher

new to
Stonington Public
Schools!

Victoria Lettiero is the new Kindergarten teacher at DMS! Before starting at DMS, she taught both third and first grade in New Haven, CT. This will be her third year teaching. She received a Bachelor's degree in Sociology and a Master's degree in Elementary Education from Sacred Heart University. Besides teaching, Victoria's other passions include reading, traveling, and spending time with her family and friends. Previously from Hamden, Victoria just moved to the area this summer and has spent the summer learning about DMS and its surrounding community. Victoria is most excited about joining DMS to bring her knowledge and energy to a wonderful school. She looks forward to helping her students strive to be successful, and continuing to spread the love and kindness she has received so far as part of the community!



VICTORIA LETTIERO

Getting to know

Mrs. McGowan

5th Grade Teacher

Heidi is from North Stonington, CT, and has been teaching for 30 years. She taught 5th grade at Mystic Middle School prior to arriving at DMS. She enjoys spending time outside riding and driving horses, working with oxen, boating, fishing, four-wheeling, hiking, skiing, and snowmobiling.

Interesting fact: She and her husband live on a 170-acre farm. They share six adult children and seven growing grandchildren.



HEIDI MCGOWAN

Getting to know

Miss Noonan

Social Worker

Miss Noonan grew up in North Stonington, CT. This is Kathryn's 4th year as an elementary school social worker in Stonington. She splits her time between West Vine Street School and DMS. Her hobbies include dancing, going to the beach, and watching movies.

Interesting fact: This is her 5th year coaching varsity cheerleading at Wheeler High School.

Another interesting fact is that both of her parents, Michael and Gretchen, taught in Stonington!



KATHRYN NOONAN

Getting to know

Ms. Pescatello

4th Grade Language Arts Teacher

A Stonington native and alumnus, Heather has taught in Stonington for 13 years, and in NYC for one year prior to that. She taught at Pawcatuck Middle School before coming to Deans Mill. She and her husband have three daughters: Mason, Ainslie, and Callan. They live in Pawcatuck. She enjoys going to the beach, reading, hanging out with her family, running, and skiing.

Interesting fact: She was a three-time All-American Crew in college when she was on the sailing team.



HEATHER PESCATELLO



We welcome our new staff members and look forward to the impact they are bound to have on our students at Deans Mill School.

Specials Update

Our goal for the year is to keep families informed about grade level curriculum in Art, Library, 5th Grade Band, Music, and Physical Education, and how they can support their children at home.

Art

Miss Biernacki



Happy fall! The leaves are changing and the vibrant colors are a thing of beauty. Embrace the autumn foliage by going outside and visiting the Florence Griswold Museum's annual Wee Faerie Village. This year's theme is superheroes (or super-faeries), and features nearly three-dozen faerie-scaled creations inspired by the hideouts and lairs of well-known superheroes. The exhibit runs through October 27th along with faerie house-making workshops. For students interested in extracurricular art classes, consider Julie Duba's Art Studio and check out this link: <https://www.juliedubasartstudio.com>. Young artists nine years old and older can sign up for group classes or private lessons that focus on drawing, watercolor, and more. The Mystic Museum of Art also offers specialized studio classes throughout the year for children of all ages.

Music

Mrs. McMinn



Fall is the perfect time of year to join extracurricular music groups or to start private instrumental lessons. What students learn in music class will transfer to their lessons/rehearsals and vice-versa. It will solidify their learning and increase their musical ability. There are various choruses/choirs to join in the area. One local group is the Chorus of Westerly. It is open to singers ages eight and up. (www.chorusofwesterly.org) You could also join your own church choir! Calvary Music School offers private lessons on a variety of instruments. (www.calvarymusicsschool.org) In addition, there are many private music instructors in the area. Feel free to contact me if you'd like further recommendations.

5th Grade Band

Thanks to everyone who attended our Band Rental Night. Most of our band students have received their instruments, and we have begun learning some basic instrumental music skills during band. Students have received band folders and weekly practice records. Students should write down their practice time and parents/guardians should sign off on students' weekly practice before Monday of each week. Mrs. M will check these during band. Eventually, as students build up stamina, they should aim to practice 100 minutes per week (15-20 minutes at a time). Get creative and have fun with practice time. Putting on mini concerts for family members counts! Have your child show you what he or she has learned during band. Your child can even try to teach you how to play, which will reinforce learning.

CONTINUED



Library

Mrs. Anderson-Halbert



Welcome to autumn! This is a great time to get involved and participate in activities in the area. The Stonington COMO has several options for STEAM classes starting soon. Course offerings include: **Girls Who Code** (GRADES 3-5), **Family Maker Mondays: Laser Cut Light Switch Plates**, **Introduction to 3D printing** (AGES 9-12), **Family Maker Mondays: Laser Cut Halloween Decorations**, **Family Maker Mondays: Laser Cut Festive Table Decor**. Our local libraries also have great events happening. Please visit their websites to learn more: Stonington Free Library, Mystic Noank Library, and the Westerly Library. Also, Bank Square Books and Savoy Bookshop have author visits scheduled on an ongoing basis.

Physical Education

Mrs. LaPalme



The weather is changing and it is a great time to get outside. Go for a foliage walk with everyone. On October 19th, Mystic Aquarium is offering a run/walk for the penguins. This is an awesome fundraiser event for the African Penguins through the registration. They offer either a 5K-run or a 2-mile walk. This is all family friendly and includes admission into the aquarium after the race.

<https://www.mysticaquarium.org/event/run-walk-for-the-penguins/>



Hearing and Vision Screenings

In October, hearing and vision screenings will be conducted on students in our schools as required by Connecticut General Statutes for grades K-5. If a vision or hearing problem is suspected, the student will be rechecked at a second screening. If further consultation is recommended, families will be notified in writing of the findings and will be asked to seek further medical evaluation. If you have any questions concerning the screenings, please contact the school nurse.



DRESS APPROPRIATELY for playing on our wonderful new playground! This includes clothing made for climbing, including proper footwear. As always, we encourage you to avoid open-toed shoes and flip flops while in school, not only for the playground, but also for climbing stairs. Also, as the weather is changing please be sure that your child has a sweatshirt or jacket for recess time. **Sneakers** are to be worn on gym days.

CHANGE OF CLOTHES

Students in **all grades** should have a change of clothing (shirt, pants, undergarments, socks, shoes) to be kept in their lockers. Milk spills! Puddles get jumped in! Thank you.

COLD, FLU AND ALLERGY SEASON

Please keep your child home if he or she is ill, and follow the "24 Hour Rule" for illnesses. Inform the nurse if your child has been diagnosed with the flu.

FLU PREVENTION

- Get your flu shot
- Cover nose and mouth with a tissue if you cough or sneeze
- Wash your hands with soap and water often
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth

Here is a link for CDC recommendations on flu prevention:

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/index.html>

Please reach out to the nurse at any time that you have a medical question or concern. We are here to help keep your child safe, healthy, and in school!



Nurse Lori

DMSnurse@stoningtonschools.org



CELEBRATE FALL!

FALL FESTIVAL

• SATURDAY, OCT. 19th •

rain date: Oct. 20th

DEANS MILL SCHOOL

11 AM - 3 PM

ACTIVITIES & GAMES ♦ FACE PAINTING ♦ BOUNCY HOUSES
PHOTO STATION ♦ ROCK PAINTING ♦ BIG KID'S GAMES
LITTLE KID'S GAMES ♦ CRAFTS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

TICKETS FOR FOOD AND ACTIVITIES ARE CASH ONLY

PIZZA, CHILI, MAC & CHEESE, PULLED PORK SANDWICHES,
MEATBALL SLIDERS, SLUSHY CIDER, FROZEN LEMONADE,
POPCORN, COTTON CANDY, AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

FREE ADMISSION

DMS Fall Festival

Saturday, October 19, 2019

Deans Mill School

11-3pm

Free Admission

Rain date Sunday, October 20th

a fantastic community event featuring

Fun for the whole family! Kid activities including: games for all ages, crafts, bouncy houses, fantastic food, and yummy treats for sale. Have fun with our family photo station!

Willing to volunteer? We'd love to have your help!

Contact quinlanpto@gmail.com.

**Please return your advance ticket order to school by
FRIDAY, October 11th!**

Tickets can be used for games, crafts, activities and food. # of Tickets will vary depending on food/activity.

40 pack Tickets

\$ 35 each x _____ = \$ _____

60 pack Tickets

\$ 45 each x _____ = \$ _____

Tickets will be for sale on the black top. Day of ticket price is \$1 each. Prepaid tickets will be available at the ticket sales table. All games, activities, and food will be tickets only.

I'd like to be a sponsor of this great fundraiser AND get a 25 pack of tickets!

☐ Bronze=\$75

☐ Silver=\$100

☐ Gold =\$250

☐ Platinum =\$500

All sponsors will receive a complimentary 25 pack of tickets!

We are pleased to recognize our sponsors at the event. What is your family or business name, so that we may properly credit you?

TOTAL FOR TICKETS AND DONATIONS \$ _____

Name of adult ticket holder _____ Phone # _____

Email address of adult ticket holder _____

Need a helping hand with the tickets? Helping Hands is here to help! This organization will provide confidential financial assistance for those who have a hardship. Please contact your principal directly to receive a helping hand for this event.

****Make checks payable to "DMS PTO"**

Stonington believes in education



CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED

D.M.S. PTO is looking for candy donations for the
Candy Station at Fall Festival

*Individually wrapped candy
preferred

*Peanut Free

*Good Options Are: Skittles, Sour
Patch Kids, Ring Pops, Dum Dums,
Swedish Fish, Gummy Bears,
Twizzlers & Star Bursts

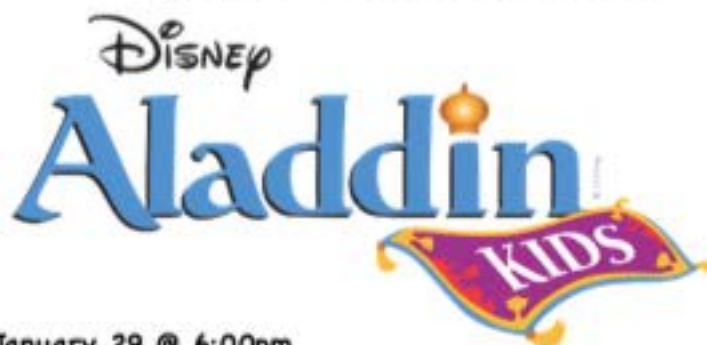
Any Donations are greatly
Appreciated

*Please drop off to DMS
Main Office by October 11 th

*Contact Jen Flynn with any
questions

(jennifercarangelo@gmail.com)

Theatre Scrapbook Presents



SHOWS: Wednesday, January 29 @ 6:00pm

Thursday, January 30 @ 6:00pm

- Rehearsals, Dress Rehearsals & Performance are held at
Deans Mills School in the GYM

- This event is sponsored by the DMS PTO
- Aladdin is for students grades 2 through 5 at DMS
- **PARENT MEETING:** Tuesday, October 22 @ 4:30pm in the Cafeteria
- **AUDITIONS:** Tuesday, November 12 (3:30pm-5:00pm)

No experience is necessary to participate and everyone who auditions will be in the show. (Audition materials provided)

The participants audition on the first day and receive their roles the following rehearsal.

- **REHEARSALS:** Right after school Tuesdays & Thursdays November 12 - January 23 from 3:30pm-5:00pm

If there is no school or a school is canceled, there will be no rehearsal.

- **DRESS REHEARSALS:** Mon. January 27 & Tue. January 28, 3:30pm-5:00pm

Attendance for the full time of rehearsal is mandatory this week. They must come with their costume.

- **NO REGISTRATION FEE**

(Please print clearly, fill out one per student and return bottom half. We prefer you email the information to Antonella, or the form can be brought to the main office.)



Student Name: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Grade: _____ Gender: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Parent/Guardian Email Address(es): _____

Are there any conflicts with rehearsals? Please list the date(s) and time(s) _____

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Antonella DeAngelis
Owner & Director
antonella@theatrescrapbook.com

www.theatrescrapbook.com

Deans Mill PTO Presents:
Movie Night at Deans Mill School



Disney's Aladdin (PG rated)

When: November 15th

Time: Doors open @ 6 p.m. & Showtime is 6:30 p.m.

Where: DMS Cafeteria

Bring your own low chairs or blankets

Snacks and beverages will be available for purchase

Tickets are \$3 per person, or \$12 max per family

Cash or Check Only

Children under 4 are Free

All children must be accompanied by an adult

Any questions can be sent to Jen Flynn via email at:

jennifercarangelo@gmail.com



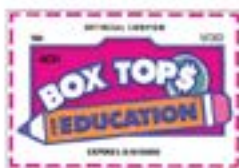
Keep collecting your Box Tops and please see below about scanning receipts!! Our first Box Tops collections deadline will be October 17, 2019.

If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Lindenmayer at (540)760-2467 or jslindenmayer@gmail.com



To help our school, purchase participating items with Box Tops, clip them and send them to school OR scan the receipt. For more information on the program, including a list of participating products, visit www.BTFE.com. Be sure to become a member to receive exclusive coupons and enter sweepstakes. Please reach out during this transition period with any questions or concerns. I am sure this will evolve throughout the year as they update the app.

IF YOU SEE THIS ON AN ITEM



Just clip, collect and send them to school with your child. When clipping your box tops, please be sure to clip outside the dotted line. Box Tops missing dates and/or codes, or expired Box Tops cannot be submitted. Last year over 370 Box Tops fell into one of these categories, equating to over \$37 in lost earnings!

Each clipped Box Top is worth 10¢!

(examples of unusable Box Tops)



Over the next couple of years the program will move to a digital-only program. Clipped tops will be honored until their expiration date, but there will be fewer clippable tops on shelf. Maximise your Box Tops by clipping AND scanning while clips last!

IF YOU SEE THIS ON AN ITEM



Participating brands are starting to change their packaging showing a traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Tops label promoting a new way of earning Box Top cash!

If you see any Box Top label, use the Box Tops app to scan your receipt within 14 days of purchase. Each Box Tops item is still worth 10¢ for your school, but several bonus opportunities are found on the app. The app finds the purchased participating products and instantly add cash to your school's earnings online.

An account is required, but if privacy is a concern you can cross through your name and credit card information or fold your receipt to hide it. Only the store name, date/time and items are required for credit (see image).

If you bought Box Tops items and only received a digital receipt, email that receipt to receipts@boxtops4education.com using the same email associated with your Box Top account.

Once a month I will ask for a screen shot of your earnings so I am able to credit your child's classroom for the competition (see image). The app continues to evolve and I hope this is a temporary solution. Stay tuned!





A+ REWARDS PROGRAM 9/6/19 – 3/14/20

OUR SCHOOL: Deans Mill School

OUR ID#: 07852

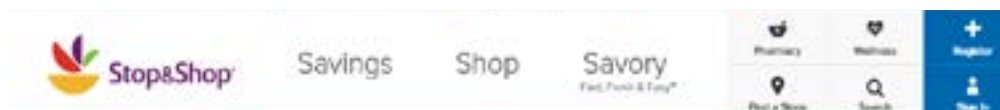
Rewarding your school is STILL as easy as 1-2-3!

Get started at STOPANDSHOP.com

FOR ASSISTANCE CALL 1-877-366-2668 OPTION #1



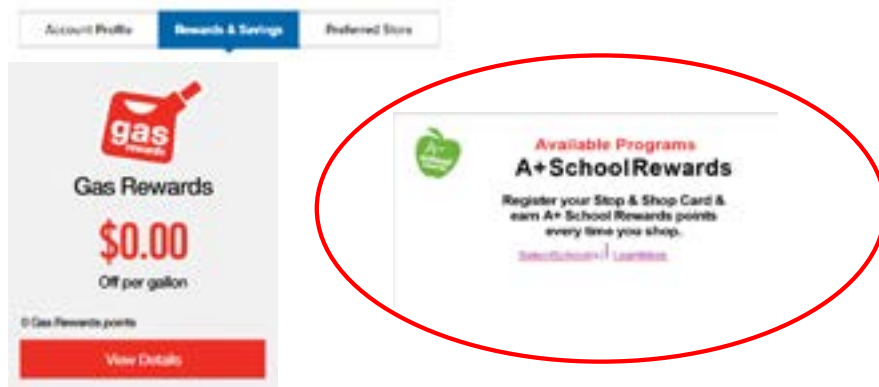
1) Register for an online account or sign in to an existing one



2) Access your account settings



3) Select your preferred school(s) to reward



Deans Mill School PTO Events & School Calendar | 2019-2020

- 26 Kindergarten Orientation
28 Ice Cream Social 3:30-5

AUGUST '19						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY '20						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

- 5 Early Release- Professional Learning Day
9 Bruins Hockey Game 3:05p
17 No School- Presidents' Day
18 Snow Make Up
21 Movie Night 6-8
26 Math & Science Fair

- 2 Labor Day
3 Opening Day
3-5 Early Release - Kindergarten only
12 Picture Day
13 Picture Day
16 PTO Meeting 5:30-6:30
18 Back to School Night
25 Early Release- Professional Learning Day
Mum's & Apparel on Sale

SEPTEMBER '19						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

MARCH '20						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- 2-6 Book Fair
2-6 Read Across America
13 No School- Professional Learning Day
16 PTO Meeting 5:30-6:30
19 Art & Music Night K-2
27 Basket Raffle & Pasta Dinner

- 2 Custodian's Day
14 No School-Columbus Day
18-25 Book Fair
19 Fall Festival 11-3
20 Fall Festival Rain Date
23-24 Early Release - Conferences

OCTOBER '19						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

APRIL '20						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

- 7 Art & Music Night 3-5th
10 No School - Good Friday
13-17 No School - Spring Break
22 Secretaries Day

- 5 No School - Professional Learning Day
7 Picture Retakes
11 No School - Veterans Day
15 Movie Night 6-8
25 PTO Meeting 5:30-6:30
27 Early Release
28&29 No School - Thanksgiving Recess
Annual Appeal

NOVEMBER '19						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY '20						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- 1 Principal's Day
4-8 Teacher Appreciation Week
6 Nurse's Day
18 PTO Meeting 5:30-6:30
20 Early Release- Professional Learning Day
25 No School - Memorial Day
30 Color Run

- 20 Early Release
23-31 Holiday Recess

DECEMBER '19						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JUNE '20						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

- Field Day- TBD
5th Grade Party- TBD
16 Closing day - Early Release
17 Snow Make Up Day
18 Snow Make Up Day
19 Snow Make Up Day

All dates are subjected to change

- 1 No School- Holiday Recess
20 No School - M.L. King Day
27 PTO Meeting 5:30-6:30
28 Scrapbook Theater Show
29 Scrapbook Theater Show
31 Trivia Night

JANUARY '20						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JULY '20						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Officers

President - Katie Quinlan
quinlanpto@gmail.com
Vice President - Jennifer Adkins
jenniadkins16@gmail.com
Treasurer - Tracy Brunelle
tracybrunelle@gmail.com
Secretary - Jennifer Flynn
jennifercarangelo@gmail.com

Draft: Deans Mill School PTO Meeting Minutes

Date: September 16, 2019

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by PTO President, Katie Quinlan at 5:37 p.m.

2. **In Attendance:** Principal- Jenn McCurdy, Vice President- Tom Bosquet, PTO President- Katie Quinlan, PTO Vice President- Jenni Adkins, PTO Treasurer- Tracy Brunelle, PTO Secretary- Jennifer Flynn, Jasmine Myers, Sandy Alexander, Gregg Landry, Stephanie Gagnon, Jessica Lindenmayer, Meghan Winslow, Tracey Strelczuk, Megan Graham, Hillary Biernacki, Danielle McGuire, Ryan Durham, Merin Troutman, Elyse Hicks, Morgan Adair, Tim Lebling, Caity Serra, Katie Gauthier, Danielle Chesebrough, Tina Freitas, Heidi Redfern, Tracy Brunelle, Ashley Tewell, Marie Cleary, Matt Buck, and Roxanne Buck. Introductions were made.

3. **Secretary's Report:** Approval of Minutes- Reviewed May 21, 2019 PTO Meeting Minutes. (A June 2019 PTO Meeting was not held.) Motion to approve by Tina Freitas, second by Jenn McCurdy. All in favor unanimous.

4. **Treasurer's Report:** As of September 16, 2019 the statement ending balance is \$50,282.51 with \$542.41 in uncleared transactions, making a register balance of \$49,740.10. Above information can be found in the reconciliation report by Tracy Brunelle. Motion to approve by Jenni Adkins, second by Jessica Lindenmayer. All in favor unanimous.

PTO 2019-2020 Budget vs. Actual was reviewed with a total budget of \$35,350.00. Motion to approve by Ashley Tewell, second by Jenni Adkins. All in favor unanimous.

5. **New Business:**

Principal's Report - Principal Jenn McCurdy & Vice Principal Tom Bousquet

- DMS is fully staffed with one paraprofessional vacancy available. 20 hr/week position. Contact Jenn McCurdy if interested.

- DMS has approximately 480 students. And increase from last years number of approximately 340 students. Increase due to the addition of Pre-k and Fifth grade.

- There are 6 new staff members to Stonington Public Schools. There were ten staff transfers made within the school system.

- Continued emphasis will be placed on a Growth Mindset, starting with the character trait of Determination for the month of September & October.

- Back To School Night is scheduled for September 18, 2019.

- DMS now has a fully functioning playground, including a soccer field. Town approval is pending to get soccer goals and field striping complete.

- New gaga pit to be installed. Approval is pending with the Building Committee at the current time. Installation expected to be completed within the next couple of months.

- Kiss and Drop Loop is working well for morning drop-off.

- The process of students taking buses other than their own is being re-evaluated. Student safety has become a concern, as students are often being returned to school after there's been a change in scheduled plans that effects their after school destination. No changes in policy have been made yet.
- First Assembly for students to be held as a welcome back on September 20, 2019.
- Power School has been updated and email blasts will be the main source of communication between school and parents. Social Media continues to be used as a source of communication on Facebook & Instagram. Contact Jenn McCurdy if you are not receiving communication via email and would like to.

Upcoming Chair Committees:

Mum Sale: Chair- Tracey Strelczuk. 1,099 mums sold for a total of \$7, 143. Profit made of approximately \$2,200. Pick up begins on September 18, 2019 at Pequot Plant Farm. Please complete pick ups within one week.

Calendar Update: Art and Music Night was previously scheduled for the first night of Passover and as a result has been changed to April 7th for grades 3rd-5th. Also, two performance nights for Scrapbook Theater have been added. Dates are January 28th & 29th.

Apparel: Chair- Jenni Adkins. Company now supplying DMS apparel is Shoreline Screen Printing. They will match previous school year pricing and will have a two week turnaround time, once order has been placed for new items. Apparel order forms will be sent home with students within the next week.

Box Tops: Chair- Jessica Lindenmayer. Box tops went digital over the summer and an app. now can be downloaded for tracking purposes. Continue to clip and save box tops as well. They will be collected several times throughout the school year. Box top profit for previous school year was \$1,300.00. Flier to be sent home next week with students.

Fall Festival: Fall Festival will be held at DMS this year on October 19, 2019 with a rain date of October 20th. Committee meetings are being held every other week for planning purposes. Sponsor forms and advance ticket sale information has been sent home with students. More information to be sent home within the next 2 weeks and a Sign Up Genius will be emailed for volunteers to help with the event.

Liaisons: Parent liaisons are needed for each classroom. Sign up will be available during Back To School Night. A Head Liaison is also needed to communicate with all 24 liaisons. Please contact Katie Quinlan if interested.

Custodian's Day: Will take place on October 2, 2019 & is being organized by Jenni Adkins.

Book Fair: Co-Chairs: Heidii Redfern & Stephanie Gagnon. Dates are set for October 18, 2019- October 25, 2019. Theme is "Arctic". Book Fair will take place in half of the DMS gym. A Sign Up Genius will be sent out at the end of September for volunteers to help with the event and information will also be sent home with students, including information for Family Night.

Scrapbook Theater: Production is set for Aladin and open to students in grades 2-5. No cap has been set for amount of participants. A parent meeting will be held on October 22, 2019 but is not mandatory. Practice begins on November 12, 2019 and will

be held on Tuesdays & Thursdays after school, from 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. There is no registration fee.

Movie Night: Movie Night is scheduled for November 15, 2019. The new Aladdin movie will be featured. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Drinks and beverages will be available for purchase. Informational flier to be sent home with students.

Fifth Grade Party: Co-Chairs: Suzy DeLabry, Morgan Adair & Liza McBain. Committee to be formed and an informational email will be sent out. Letters will be sent home with students to seek parent volunteers.

6. Old Business:

Picture Day: Thank you to Shana Garritt & team for helping students be "photo ready." Re-take date is scheduled for November 7, 2019.

7. Help Wanted:

Yearbook Photographer: If interested in helping please contact Katie Quinlan.

Yearbook Editor: If interested please contact Katie Quinlan.

PTO Treasurer: DMS PTO is seeking a new treasurer for the next school year. Training would begin this year. Please contact Tracy Brunelle or Katie Quinlan if interested.

8. Important Dates:

9/18 - Back to School Night

9/25- Early Release

10/2- Custodian's Day

10/14- No School

10/18-10/25- Book Fair

10/19-Fall Festival at DMS

10/22- Scrapbook Theater Meet & Greet

10/23 & 10/24- Early Release for Conferences

11/5- No School

11/7- Picture Retakes

11/11- No School (Veteran's Day)

11/12- Scrapbook Theater First Day

11/15- Movie Night

11/25- PTO Meeting @ 5:30 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned by PTO President, Katie Quinlan, at 6:32 p.m.

Minutes were transcribed by PTO Secretary, Jennifer Flynn.