



Summer 2022-23 Newsletter

July 11, 2022

Welcome to DECA Middle for all of our new families and welcome back to those who are returning! We are so thrilled to be gearing up for a new school year with new leaders in the building. This year promises to bring new experiences and opportunities, and we are excited to embark upon them together. Let's all commit to staying connected with one another to help our students learn and achieve! Please take the time to read the following newsletter and enclosed documents as they include essential information prior to the school year. After thoroughly reviewing, **please sign and return ALL completed forms contained in this mailing by Friday, August 12, 2022.** Also, keep up-to-date thru our Facebook: Dayton Early College Academy and Instagram @decamiddle.

Eric Feltner, Principal
Elton Griffith, Assistant Principal
Ms. Weatherly, Assistant Principal

First day of school: Wednesday, August 10, 2022. School begins **at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 3:20 p.m.** with students entering the building no earlier than 8:00 am. A one-way traffic pattern directly in front of the building is reserved for car drop off between 8:00am--8:45am and for car pick up between 2:30pm--3:45pm. Parents dropping off or picking up students at the beginning and end of the day should observe the one-way traffic by entering off of First St. and exiting onto Second Street.

Breakfast/Lunch Meals Program: We will continue to use *Baked By Anita* this year to provide delicious breakfast and lunch! Menus can be found online under the Foodservice tab. Students will receive breakfast and lunch at no charge for this school year. In order to continue this practice, we are requiring **all** families to complete a lunch application with student ID# (label above), regardless of expected lunch status outcome, we will need **100%** participation. Lunch applications can be completed online through Payschools. Directions for creating an account and completing the application can be found online under the Foodservice tab. Lunch service will begin on the first day of school with breakfast starting the next day.

Transportation: DETAILS ARE COMING SOON! DECA Middle will have transportation provide to those families needing busing. Parents are required to notify DECA Middle with any change of address information and provide required documentation to ensure timely transportation service.

School Uniform/Policy: During the 2022-2023 school year, the Uniform Policy will be strictly enforced. Our goal is to work with families to ensure everyone is able to send their child to school in a proper uniform. To this end, we have extended the policy to include any DECA Middle or House apparel any day, whereas students could only wear such clothing on Town Hall days previously.

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Please contact DECA Middle's front office for translation needs

We will also make DECA Middle gear more widely available for purchase at very reasonable prices. Be on the lookout to purchase your shirts and jackets! Finally, we will be emphasizing jackets, hats, and hoods. Unless it is DECA Middle apparel, students **are not** permitted to wear anything over their uniform. Please help us by sending your child to school in uniform every day! Visit our website for an example of approved dress uniforms.



Chromebooks: Chromebook Policy forms will be available to completion at Open House on Monday, August 8th, from 6:00-8:00 PM. This school year, we will not be charging families for computers up front, but will be asking families to pay 100% of the cost for any repairs. In other words, your child’s chromebook will be free of charge as long as they show responsibility and care for it all year. Chromebooks will be distributed to all students with a completed form on the first day of school. All forms will be available on our website on the “Parent Information” tab under DECA Middle campus.

DECA Middle Cell Phone Policy: Please thoroughly read the enclosed Cell Phone Policy document in your summer packet. In an effort to increase focus and connection in our school, students may not be in possession of their cell phones during the school day. All students have the option to leave their cell phones at home or lock them in a classroom lockbox each morning. This year, we are also expanding the policy to include smartwatches and headphones. If either of these devices are being used without a teacher’s direct permission, they will be confiscated and held at the office until they are picked up by a parent. We continue to believe that technology can be a huge distraction for our students. We definitely need support and encouragement from parents and families on this new policy and procedure, so please read the policy document included with your summer packet!

Incoming 7th Grade Immunization Requirement: All students entering the 7th grade are required by law to have a Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) and MCV4 vaccines prior to the start of school. Your child may receive this vaccine from their doctor’s office or clinic. A copy of the updated immunization record must be provided to DECA Middle prior to your child’s first day. Failure to provide this important medical information may result in exclusion from school, so please be sure to schedule an appointment for your child right away. *Please see a letter from Nurse Cheyenne included with this summer newsletter packet.*

Early Dismissal / Release Policy for safety and security reasons, requests for student dismissal require a face to face request with an authorized adult **by 2:30pm** the day of release. Requests made by phone cannot be honored even in the event of an emergency. Please complete the enclosed form with corresponding signatures for anyone approved to sign out your child. **Note: Early dismissals are disruptive to the instructional cycle and are STRONGLY discouraged for any reason and are not permitted after 2:30pm.**

IMPORTANT NOTES AND PROCEDURES

Please be sure to read and familiarize yourself with some of our most important school procedures.

Pick Up Times After School: School dismisses at 3:20pm. All students not riding the school bus must be picked up by 4:00 pm daily, unless participating in an after school program. If you are unable to pick up your student by 4:00 pm, please make alternate arrangements for your child's transportation home.

Food Policy: We are obligated to maintain a clean, safe and professional environment throughout the school building. Students arriving late to school must consume food and drinks before entering the building; microwave services are not available. Parents/guardians/students are not permitted to place food orders for delivery to the school from store or through third party vendors (i.e. DoorDash, UberEATS, Grubhub, Postmates, pizza vendors, etc.).

Classroom Visitor Contract: We welcome families to visit their child's classroom during school hours. For safety reasons, any parent or guardian wishing to make a classroom visit must sign in at the front office, and they must fill out a Classroom Visitor Contract acknowledging the expectations and school rules with each visit. These contracts are available at the front desk.

DECA Middle Facility, Parking and Building Security: Visitors to the school can park in front of the building in the metered parking spaces, and they must sign in at the main office prior to entering the school building. Please note that local parking enforcement assesses fines for parking violations. If you wish to visit your child's classroom, you must first complete the Classroom Visit Contract, and then you are free to visit for as long as you like.

Local School Wellness Policy: The school welcomes stakeholders to participate in the development, review, update, and implementation of the Local School Wellness Policy. Please contact Steve Hinshaw for more information, shinshaw@daytonearlycollege.org.

Summer Newsletter Packet includes:

5th-8th Grade Supply lists (also available online)

2022-2023 DECA District Academic Calendar (also available online)

DECA Middle Electronic Devices Policy and sign-off form

DECA Middle Emergency Medical Authorization sign-off form

DECA Middle Authorization Transportation Pick Up/Family Contact sign-off form

DECA Middle Code of Conduct Sign off form

DECA Middle Parent/Guardian Sign-off form

Grade Specific Letters:

5th grade: "Always Changing and Growing Up" Program permission slip

6th-8th grades: "Get Real, Comprehensive Sex Education That Works" not permitted slip

7th grade: Incoming 7th Grade Immunization Requirement