



The Denzel Washington School of the Arts

Nellie A. Thornton Campus • 121 South Sixth Avenue • Mount Vernon, New York 10550
t 914-358-2740 f 914-358-2792

Andrea M. Thomas
Principal

email athomas@mtvernoncsd.org
www.mtvernoncsd.org

K. Veronica Smith, Ed.D.
Acting Superintendent of Schools

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To: All Staff, Students, Parents & Guardians

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year!

My team and I welcome you to a new school year. We hope you had a relaxing and memorable summer with family and friends.

Denzel Washington School of the Arts is a special place to learn and grow. We are proud of our community and have elevated expectations for every student. Together each of us pledges that we will strive to connect with students to help them feel valued, accepted, supported, and safe. Everyone is an integral part of this community, and we look forward to working together every step of the way.

I am honored and excited to introduce myself as the new principal of DWSA. I am honored to have been chosen to lead such a great community of scholars, parents, and teachers. I wholeheartedly believe that all students can learn. This is my 18th year in the Mount Vernon City School District, and I look forward to collaborating with my team to create a vibrant, creative, and rigorous atmosphere for learning.

This year, we are introducing our creed:

I am a Denzel Washington School of the Arts Scholar.

**I am intelligent,
gifted and talented,
high achieving,
focused and driven,
serving my community with integrity.
I am my brother's keeper.
I am a Rising Star!**

Every member of our community (including parents) is expected to memorize this creed and is expected to know it when randomly asked by any member of the team. **School begins on September 7th with the following Orientation Schedule:**

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM: 6th Grade Orientation
10:45 – 12:00 AM: 7th & 8th Grades Orientation
12:15 PM – 1:30 PM: 9th & 10th Grades Orientation
1:45 PM – 3:00 PM: 11th & 12th Grades Orientation



BACK TO SCHOOL KICK-OFF 2023!

Please join us on **September 8th, at 9:00 am**, in the school's parking lot as we KICK OFF the new school year! Come join in the celebration as we come together as a school community! We are the Denzel Washington School of the Arts RISING STARS!


Our first full day of school is September 11, 2023. Every scholar is expected to come to school prepared, ready, and willing to immerse themselves in our atmosphere of learning.

If you need the supply list, visit our website at <https://dwsa.mtvernoncsd.org/scholars>.

Clear communication is of the utmost importance. We will communicate with you throughout the year via phone calls and emails. Additionally, I invite you to stay connected with our school by creating an Infinite Campus account and a working email account.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with you and your children. I am here to support you and your child in any way possible. I look forward to meeting everyone. We have an exciting year ahead of us as our STARS shine.

Educationally Yours.



Andrea M. Thomas

