# DCMS TIGER TIMES

DAWSON COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL, MARCH 2022

The DCMS Tiger Tales is a monthly publication that keeps the Dawson County Middle School community updated on DMS events and information.

## **Upcoming Events**

3/2 Read Across America Day
3/8 Poetry Slam
3/10 Early Release Day for Students
3/11 Prof. Dev. (Student Holiday)
3/16 Beginning of Quarter 4
3/21 Report Cards Go Home
3/26-3/27 LTTC Spring Musical
3/29 Sixth Grade Parent Night
4/4-4/8 Spring Break -No School for Staff

## IN THE EVENT WE HAVE AN INCLEMENT WEATHER DAY, CLICK BELOW FOR PROCEDURES.

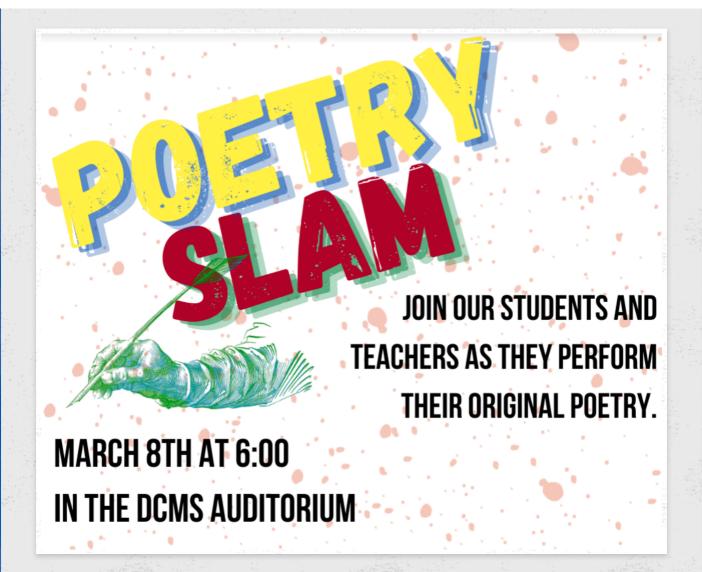
DCMS ONLINE LEARNING/INCLEMENT WEATHER DAY INFO

#### SPOTLIGHT ON ACADEMICS

### DCMS STUDENTS ARE PREPARING FOR ANNUAL POETRY SLAM

Our 7th grade ELA students practiced reciting their poems this week in preparation for our DCMS Poetry Slam on March 8th at 6:00. This writing and speaking activity is a great way to teach the basics of poetry (rhyme, meter, verse, syntax, voice, structure) while giving students a fantastic opportunity to be creative and collaborative. We can't wait to see our students perform on March 8th!





## DCMS SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS COMPLETED STEAM ACTIVITIES

This year the tutorial groups have rotated through various STEAM activities. The latest has been popsicle stick catapults. Each group researched, designed, and built catapults to compete against other teams for distance and accuracy. The teams were given a small marshmallow to catapult across a room for distance, and then they determined how closely they could land on a bullseye.

What's a STEAM Activity? A STEAM activity is a lesson that covers one of the core STEAM subjects: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. It's a common acronym in the education world to reference these important subjects and skills — in and out of school.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DCMS YOUNG GEORGIA AUTHORS WINNERS

Our DCMS students recently submitted entries for the Young Georgia Authors (YGA) writing competition. The purpose of this competition is to encourage students to develop an enthusiasm for and expertise in their writing, to provide a context to celebrate their writing successes, and to recognize student achievement in arts and academics. Congratulations to our two winners from the Young Georgia Authors (YGA) writing competition. Our winners include sixth-grade student, Catherine Dill who wrote "Dining with Swans" and 7th grade, Gunnar Weaver who entered with "The Jungle Book". The district sent the winning entries on to be judged at the regional level. We are so proud of our winners and everyone who submitted a piece. The Dawson County Schools Associate Superintendent stated that "the quality of work submitted by you all was outstanding, which shows me this was a tough competition". Catherine and Gunnar will be recognized in April at a Board of Education meeting.

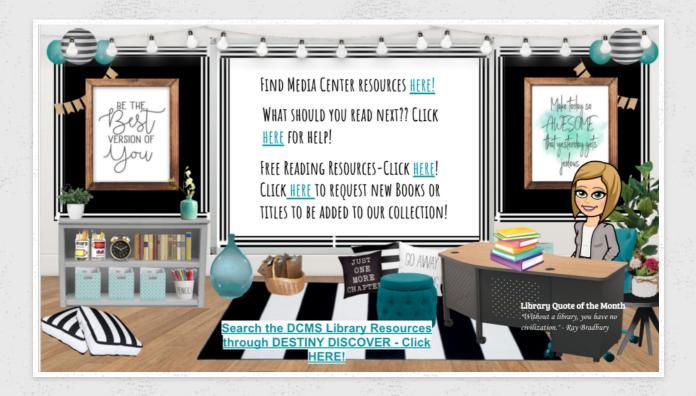
## DCMS CELEBRATES EARTH DAY-POSTER CONTEST

The North Georgia Conservation Coalition is holding its annual poster contest for Dawson County students in conjunction with their Earth Day event again this year. DCMS Students in Art classes will be creating an Earth Day poster but all students can submit entries to Mrs. Hall. The Earth Day Event will be held on Saturday, April 23 from 10:00 - 2:00. The winners of the poster contest will be announced at the event. See Mrs. Hall if you would like to submit an entry!



#### LITERACY CONNECTION

CLICK THE IMAGE BELOW TO FIND FREE READING RESOURCES AND ACCESS OUR DCMS LIBRARY RESOURCES



## DCMS CELEBRATED READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY ON MARCH 2ND

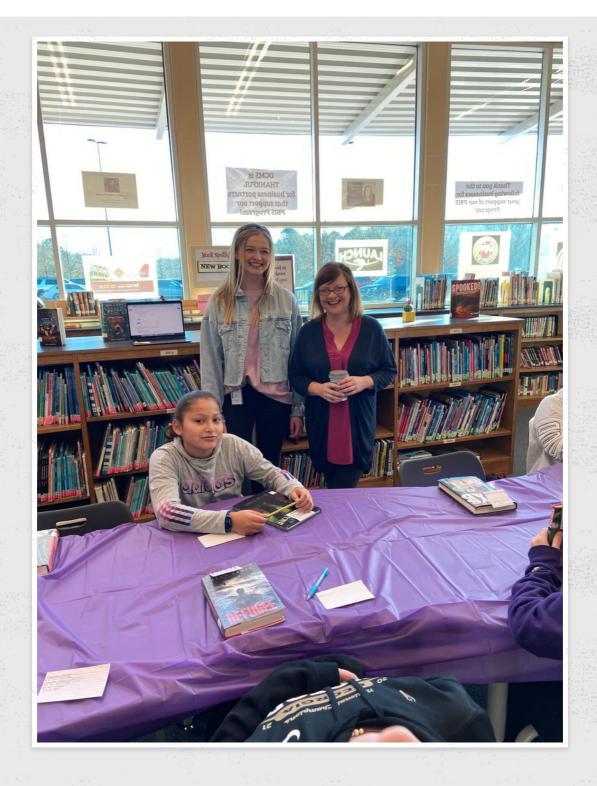
We enjoyed Read Across America Day at DCMS on March 2nd. We loved having our virtual readers from the Early Childhood Education classes at DCHS. Our very own principal, Kim White also read virtually with every class. At DCMS, we know that readers are leaders. Parents, we encourage you to share your favorite book from middle school with your child this week. Loving to read takes enthusiasm! Read with your child often and create a sense of enjoyment and wonder. YOU can help create a passion for reading! #ReadAcrossAmerica2022 #dcmsontheprowl

Special thanks to DCHS teacher Lori Henson Grant for helping us organize the event!!



## DCMS STUDENTS ARE EXPANDING THEIR READING PALATES!

When it comes to reading, just like eating, some kids have pickier palates than others! ELA teacher, Deidre Tinsley, and UNG student-teacher, Emily Garrison decided to pique their student's appetites for a good read with a book tasting during the month of February. This activity gave the students the opportunity to sample some popular reads in the media center and come away with a wish list of titles. The students were introduced to different authors, genres, and even series. Mrs. Garrison and Mrs. Tinsely, thank you for expanding our student's reading appetites!



#### **PBIS NEWS**

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PBIS STUDENT AND STAFF MEMBERS OF THE WEEK FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY!

### Congratulations to our PBIS Student and Teachers of the Week for the month of February!





Week of February 7th
Sixth grade winner is Jordan Bradshaw.
For 7th grade, the winner is Savannah
Brooks. Staff Members: Jeremiah Hyatt and
Marc Bottoms





Week of February 14th
Sixth grade winner is Corrine Cochran. For
7th grade, the winner is Nolan Bellinger.
For seventh grade, the winner is Taven
Brown. Staff members: Lauren Stanfield
and Allison Speece

### Congratulations to our PBIS Student and Teachers of the Week for the month of February!



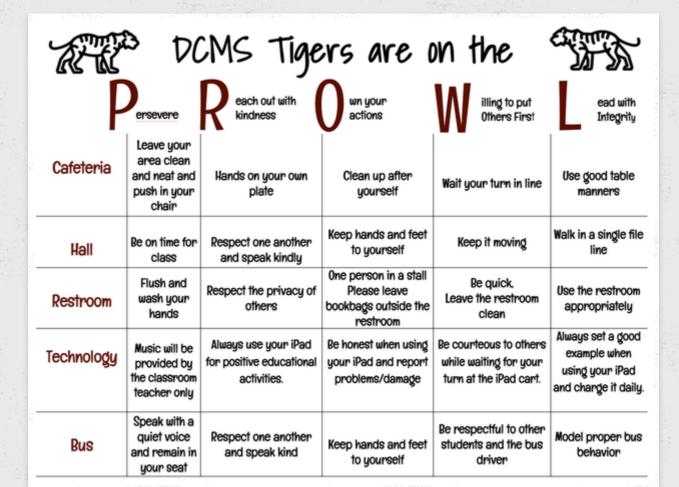


Week of February 7th
Sixth grade winner is Ester Arroyo Pano. For
7th grade, the winner was Beckham Ayers.
Staff Members: Jeff Compton and Shannon
Tosi





Week of February 14th
Sixth grade winner is is Daniel Cardin. For seventh, the winner is Annabella Berry.
Staff members: Sami Frankel and Christy Downs



## TEEN VIRTUAL CLUBHOUSE ON DISCORD



A COOL PLACE TO HANGOUT AFTER SCHOOL

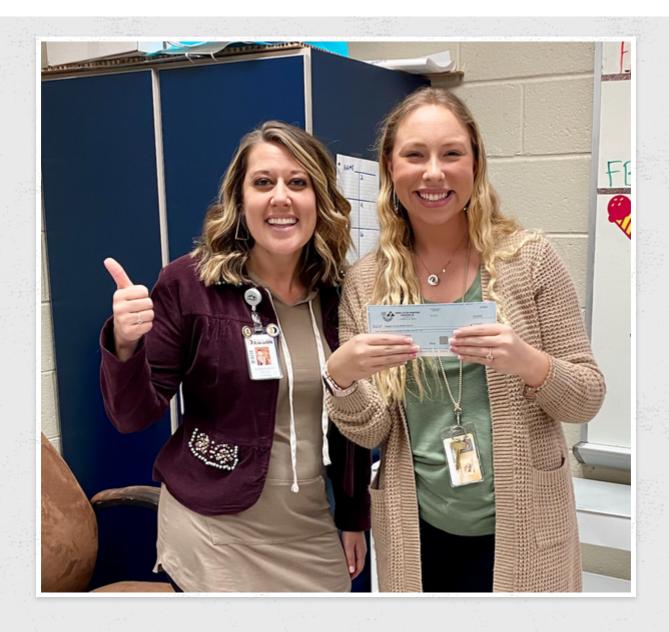
nxtgenerationga.org



## DCMS RECEIVES BRIGHT IDEA GRANT FROM SAWNEE EMC

DCMS teacher, Cheyenne Chester was chosen as a Dawson County recipient and received a grant for the after-school program *Little Tiger Theatre Co*. The grant will help to fund the program and allow the directors to purchase much-needed costumes and props for the various productions. Thank you to Suwanee EMC for their continued support of our school! Through this program, teachers in the Sawnee service area can apply for up to \$1500 to use in their classrooms and areas. The grant is for projects that will be creative and innovative for the students. We are so thankful to Sawnee EMC for helping our teachers with their initiatives.

Mrs. Chester also recently received a PAGE (Professional Association of Georgia Educators) Educator Grant. The grant is a \$500 reimbursement award used to supply educators with additional funds to apply toward students, peers, and professional development during a time of unprecedented challenges. Mrs. Chester used the grant to buy Versatiles for her math classes. Versatiles are a skills-based practice system that provides a hands-on way for students to practice math skills in a game-like manner. Congratulations, Mrs. Chester!



#### Congratulations to the DCMS Student and Teacher of the Month for

February!

6TH GRADE:
KIMBER GRAY
EMILY WOLSKI
CHAUCER WHITE



Staff Member of the Month Blair Helvey 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE
LILLY HAMILTON
PRESLEY PAYNE
DYLAN MORGAN
TITUS TURNER
ROWAN KOHL
\*KAYLA COHEN

(\*RECOGNIZED FROM LAST MONTH)

Congratulations to our February Student of the Month recipients and our Staff Member of the Month! The recipients were honored with a luncheon from Zaxbys and dessert from Dairy Queen. Students are nominated for exemplifying our PBIS PROWL Expectations. PERSEVERE,

REACH out with kindness, OWN your Actions, be WILLING to put others first, and LEAD with Integrity.

6th Grade:

**Kimber Gray** 

**Emily Wolski** 

**Chaucer White** 

7th Grade:

**Lilly Hamilton** 

**Presley Payne** 

**Dylan Morgan** 

**Titus Turner** 

\*Kayla Cohen (recognized from last month)

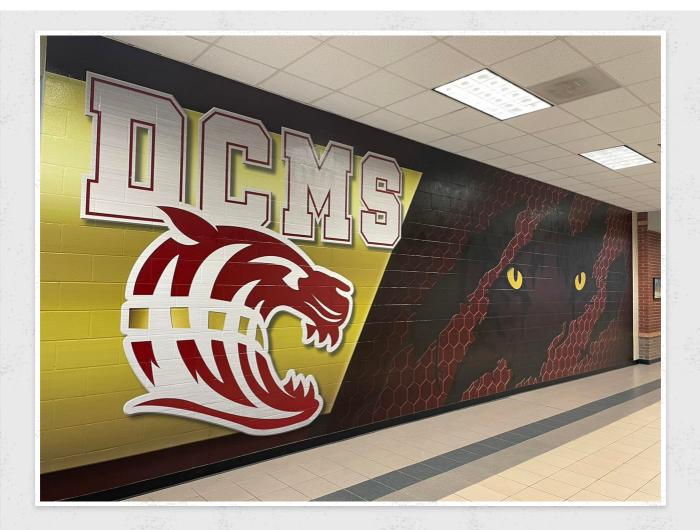
**Rowan Kohl** 

Staff Member of the Month: Blair Helvey

Congratulations to all of our winners and a big thank you to Zaxby's, Wendy's, Great American Cookie Company, and Dairy Queen for helping us honor our winners! #dcmsontheprowl

## OUR DCMS FUN RUN CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ENHANCING OUR CAMPUS!

Thank you again to all the parents and students who helped raise money in our Fun Run back in October. The funds have been used to enhance our campus hallway with a wall wrap that looks amazing!





## HELP A CHILD SMILE OFFERS DENTAL CARE RIGHT HERE AT DCMS!

Great news! Our school has partnered with Help A Child Smile to offer dental care right here at DCMS. The Help A Child Smile mobile dental bus will be at DCMS on April 27, 2022 at 8 am. Dental care includes a complete dental exam, x-rays, cleaning, fluoride, and sealants when necessary, as well as restorative care such as fillings.

Please sign up for your student here-<u>https://www.myschooldentist.com/</u>. Even if you have signed up before, please be sure to update your insurance benefits for 2022.

Even better, dental care is usually at no cost to you. All insurance is accepted including Medicaid and PeachCare. A low-cost self-pay option is available for those without insurance. Safe and comfortable. Our school-based dental program saves you time and provides a safe and comfortable place for your child to receive gentle dental care from licensed local professionals. Extra precautions are being taken to make sure your child stays healthy. Dental care for a healthy life. Children who see a dentist regularly may have fewer health issues like:

Carly to ath loss due to destal desay.

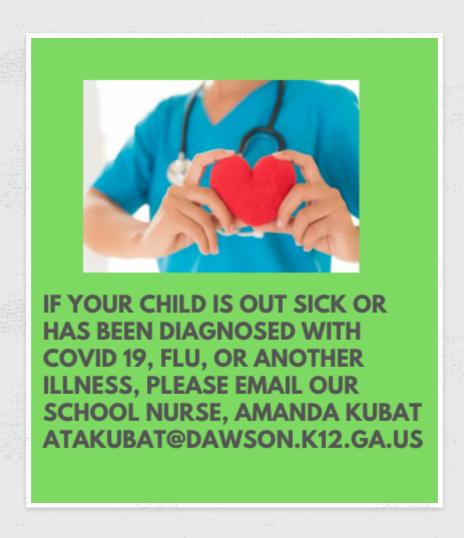
- · Gum disease
- · Heart disease
- Impaired speech development

Help keep your child healthy, in school, and learning, feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

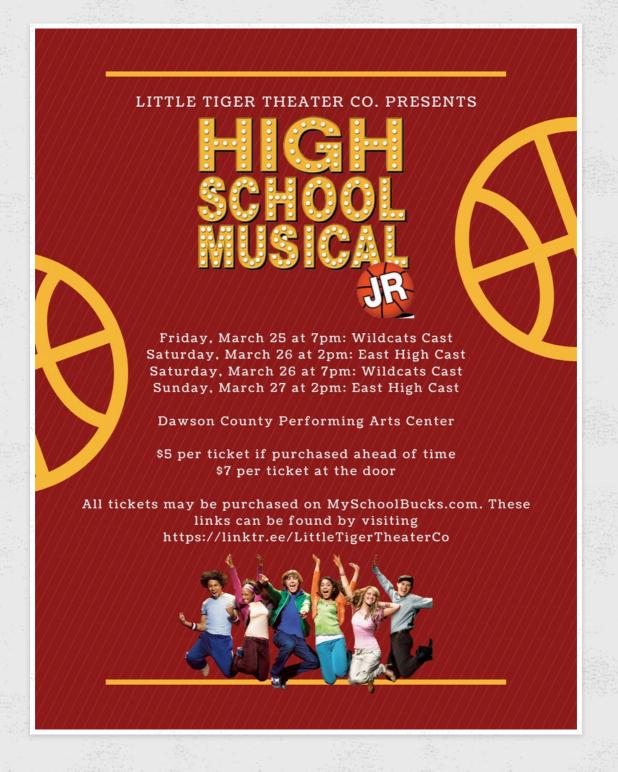
Jordan LeFevre, jlefevre@dawson.k12.ga.us

#### **COVID REMINDERS**

- Any student that is being tested for COVID should remain at home in isolation until the test results are back.
- If your student has contact with a positive case AT SCHOOL, you may choose one of the
  two quarantine options provided by the school district.
  <a href="https://p7cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server\_494561/File/06-COVID-19%20Help%20Sheet%20for%20Families%20(Effective%201\_4\_2022).pdf">https://p7cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server\_494561/File/06-COVID-19%20Help%20Sheet%20for%20Families%20(Effective%201\_4\_2022).pdf</a>
- If your student has contact with a positive case AT HOME, the DPH recommends that all
  in-home contacts enter quarantine immediately and quarantine per the DPH guidelines.
  <a href="https://dph.georgia.gov/document/document/dph-contact-guidance/download">https://dph.georgia.gov/document/document/dph-contact-guidance/download</a>
- If anyone in your home test positive, please contact your school administration or school nurse.



#### AFTER SCHOOL AT DCMS



#### CONGRATULATIONS TO DCMS WRESTLING TEAM

Our Dawson County Middle School wrestling team won the North Georgia Mountain League Dual Championship for the second year in a row. The team went undefeated throughout the league competition. The team finished the season with 12 individuals finishing in the top four in their weight classes. The team is coached by Andrew Grigsby. Congratulations! We are so proud of your successful season!

First Place: Landon Glander and Brady Combs

Second Place: Jackson Dorris, Parker Voss, and Hunter Stroup

Third Place: Jacob Cofield, Dylan Morgan, Aden Ogelsby, and Brody Schuette

Fourth Place: Kovi Edgil, Joseph Pruett, and Josh Baggett



## CLICK THE IMAGE BELOW TO FIND INFORMATION AND SCHEDULES FOR ALL DCMS ATHLETIC TEAMS

## AFTER SCHOOL AT DCMS



#### **Dawson County Middle School**

5126 Hwy 9 South, Dawsonville, GA 30534 \$706-216-4849| \$\overline{1}\overline{

**ATHLETICS** 

DCMS BASEBALL SEASON BEGINS

#### 2022 Middle School Baseball schedule

Day	Date	Opponent	Home/Away	Time	
Tuesday	2/15/2022	Pickens Co	Home	4:30	<b>Rock Creek Rec dept</b>
Thursday	2/17/2022	Union Co	Home	4:30	<b>Rock Creek Rec dept</b>
Tuesday	2/22/2022	White Co	Away	4:15/4:30	
Thursday	2/24/2022	Clear Creek	Away	4:15/4:30	
Monday	2/28/2022	Lumpkin Co	Home	4:30	<b>Rock Creek Rec Dept</b>
Tuesday	3/1/2022	Fannin Co	Away	4:15/4:30	
Monday	3/7/2022	Pickens Co	Away	4:15/4:30	
Tuesday	3/8/2022	Clear Creek	Home	4:30	Rock Creek Rec Dept
Thursday	3/10/2022	White Co	Home	4:30	<b>Rock Creek Rec Dept</b>
Monday	3/14/2022	Union Co	Away	4:15/4:30	
Tuesday	3/15/2022	Lumpkin Co	Away	4:15/4:30	
Thursday	3/17/2022	Fannin Co	Home	4:30	Rock Creek Rec Dept
Monday	3/21/2022	Playoffs	TBD		
Thursday	3/24/2022	Championship	TBD		

## DCMS SOCCER SCHEDULE AND INFORMATION

Game 1 - Thursday, Feb. 3

Dawson v Pickens

Clear Creek v Fannin

Lumpkin v White

Union - BYE

Game 2 - Thursday, Feb. 10

Pickens v Clear Creek

Fannin v Dawson

Union v Lumpkin

White - BYE

Game 3- Thursday, Feb. 17

Dawson v Lumpkin

White v Clear Creek

Fannin v Union

Pickens - BYE

Game 4- Thursday, Feb. 24

Union v Dawson

Fannin v Lumpkin

White v Pickens (Rescheduled for Feb. 14)

Clear Creek - BYE

Game 5- Thursday, March 3

Clear Creek v Union

Lumpkin v Pickens

White v Fannin

Dawson - BYE

Game 6- Thursday, March 10

Clear Creek v Dawson

Pickens v Fannin

Union v White

Lumpkin - BYE

Game 7- Thursday, March 17

Dawson v White

Pickens v Union

Lumpkin v Clear Creek

Fannin - BYE

Playoffs start @ 4:15pm

Semifinals: (1v4, 2v3) Tuesday, March 22

Finals: Thursday, March 24

#### **NEED HELP? WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!**

## Math Lab Get help with your math homework!



Where: Mrs. Noe's Room, E-05 When: 7:05 a.m. or whenever you arrive to school!







### \*SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT\*

Student meal prices have been waived for the entire 2021-2022 school year! All students are able to eat breakfast and lunch at NO COST!



(A la carte items will still be available for purchase.)

HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR YEARBOOK?

Don't miss out on purchasing a yearbook for the 2021-2022 school year. The deadline for purchasing is April 1st. Visit <a href="https://ybpay.lifetouch.com/Order/SelectJob">https://ybpay.lifetouch.com/Order/SelectJob</a> to purchase and enter code 12956622.

#### **CLICK HERE FOR THE YEARBOOK ORDER FORM**

#### COUNSELOR'S CORNER



February has been an exciting month in school counseling as students begin to look forward to their classes for next year. As a reminder for all middle school students, academic teachers will submit their recommendations for next year's academic courses. These courses include Math, ELA, Science, and Social Studies. Rising 6th-grade students and rising 7th-grade students have the opportunity to select Band or Chorus or both as year-long connection class options. With the exception of those classes, connection courses are randomly assigned to all students on a quarterly rotation. For rising 8th grade students, they have the opportunity to select their elective courses using the 8th-grade recommendations worksheet which was sent home in early February. If you have any questions about classes for next please feel free to reach out to your student's academic teachers regarding their class recommendations. If you have questions about your rising 8th grade please reach out to Mrs. Becca Wilson 8th grade counselor, <a href="mailto:bwilson@dawson.k12.ga.us">bwilson@dawson.k12.ga.us</a> As always, if you have questions about your current

middle school students please feel free to reach out to me at <u>jlefevre@dawson.k12.ga.us</u> Thanks! Jordan LeFevre Professional School Counselor

### A message from our 504/RTI Coordinator and Virtual Academy Advisor



Research shows attendance is an important factor in student achievement. Students who regularly attend class are more likely to keep up with daily lessons, assignments, and take quizzes and tests on time. Consistency is key. Students with regular attendance have been shown to achieve at higher levels than students who do not have regular attendance.

Poor attendance can lead to lower achievement in math and reading and basic knowledge needed to be successful in the classroom. Studies show that students who have higher absenteeism rates are more likely to drop out of school. Attendance was shown to be a key factor in high school graduation rates.

At Dawson County Middle School, we want your child to be successful in every class. In an effort to support your child, you can take the following steps to help them have a successful school career:

- 1. Follow the school's guidelines and attendance policy (see below)
- Take an active role- Ask your child about their school day. Listen for successes and challenges
- 3. Check your child's grades on Powerschool
- 4. Check for homework and upcoming quizzes and tests on Schoology
- 5. Try to limit the amount of time your child misses school
- 6. Plan medical appointments and family events with the school calendar in mind
- 7. Promote good health and reinforce important behavior patterns
- 8. Promote the importance of education
- 9. Help your child get to school on time every day
- 10. Communicate with your child's teachers

Dawson County Daily Attendance Procedures

When returning from an absence, a student must bring a written note (within 3 days) from the parent. Excused absences are defined as any absence of a student resulting from illness or from family illness, death within the immediate family, doctor and dentist appointments, special and religious holidays observed by the student's faith, conditions rendering school

attendance impossible or hazardous to the child's health and safety, and mandated appearances like a court summons. Students are to bring in a note for their absence upon their return to school. Any note brought in after three (3) days will be considered unexcused. Excessive unexcused absences ("U's") will count toward absences in the Compulsory State Attendance Law. Dawson County Schools will accept no more than 10 parent-generated excuses.

PowerSchool Student Information System records absences according to this legend:

- "E" Excused absence from parent note
- "U" Unexcused absence
- "M" Excused absence/an office note brought in from a doctor/dentist visit
- "C" Excused absence/documentation for a court appearance
- "B" Excused absence/note from the parent stating death in the family

#### Resources

Every School Day Counts The Forum Guide to collecting and using attendance data. Why attendance is important in helping every student succeed.

#### **Cindy Bennett**

MTSS Coordinator & Virtual Academy Advisor Dawson County Middle School 706-216-4849 ext.1306 <a href="mailto:cindybennett@dawson.k12.ga.us">cindybennett@dawson.k12.ga.us</a>



## Concerns, Comments, Praise? Click Here!

We are always looking for ways to meet the needs of our students, parents, and community. Please let us know what we are doing great, if you have concerns, or even if you simply need a question answered.



A PowerSchool Unified Classroom™ Product



#### DAWSON COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL

§ 5126 Georgia HWY 9, Dawson...

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**706-216-4849** 

dcms.dawsoncountyschools....

