

# DCMS Tiger Times

Dawson County Middle School, September 2021

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

What's Happening at DCMS?

## Upcoming Events

- 9/4 All Student Technology Usage Fees are Due
- 9/6 Labor Day, Holiday for Students and Staff
- 9/7 School Picture Day- Dress your Best!!
- 9/7 4 ½ Week Midpoint
- 9/14, 9/16 YouScience Assessment for 6th Grade
- 9/23-9/27 Fall Break for Students and Staff

Welcome Back, Tigers!

Students were so excited to be at DCMS on August 6th, the first day of school! It was great to see our sixth and seventh-grade students and our staff smiling as they made their way through the day! We know our students and staff will do great things this school year!





## Beck To School Social

Our first Back to School Social on August 13th. Our students had a blast dancing and spending time with their friends and teachers. We would like to thank our DCMS PTSO for hosting the event and working so hard to make our first social a success!





***Congratulations to the DCMS Student and Teacher of the Month for August!***

**6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

TATE BEARY  
MICHAEL SEAY  
KYLIE TURNER  
EMMA KATE  
CASTLEBERRY



**7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

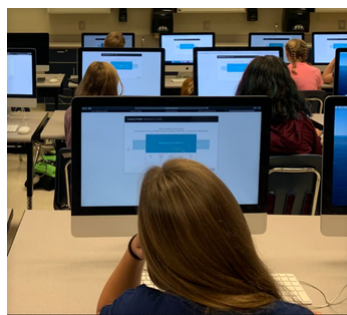
GUNNAR WEAVER  
SEAN MCCARRON  
KINSLEE NEGLEY  
NAARAH BAPTISTE  
GABBIE KINNEY

***Staff Member of the Month- Courtney Midgett***

Parent Information



DCMS Tigers are on the P R O W L				
<b>P</b> rowl Remember Cafeteria	<b>R</b> each out with kindness Hands on your own plate Hail	<b>O</b> wn your actions Clean up after yourself Restroom	<b>W</b> aiting to put others first Wait your turn to line up Technology	<b>L</b> ead with integrity Use good table manners Bus
Leave your area clean and reset and push in your chair	Be on time for class	Respect the privacy of others	Be quiet. Lower the restroom chair	Be neat
Wash and wash your hands	Always use your iPad for positive educational activities	Be honest when using your iPad and report problems/damage	Always set a good example when using your iPad and charge it daily	
Speak with a quiet voice and remain in your seat	Keep your hands, feet and body to yourself	No Profanity	Be respectful to other students and the bus driver	Model proper bus behavior



## FOR PARENTS

## PBIS at DCMS

### What is PBIS at DCMS?

Positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS) is a way for schools to encourage good behavior. With PBIS, schools teach kids about behavior, just as they would teach about other subjects like reading or math. The focus of PBIS is prevention, not punishment. We use the acronym "PROWL" to establish our expectations at DCMS. We use a digital ticketing system for awarding PBIS points. Students will earn points for excellent behavior and be able to purchase items and attend special events based on their earned points!

**Students at DCMS are on the PROWL!**

## YouScience

YouScience is an online career and personal planning discovery tool that enables teens and adults to identify their potential aptitudes and careers. To create a personalized YouScience profile, the tool engages students in a series of online exercises to help them identify their natural abilities, refine their specific areas of interest, and explore career opportunities that are aligned with their interests and aptitudes. Sixth Grade Students will be taking the assessment on September 14th and 16th. Ask your student what they learned about themselves and their future career interests! (YouScience, 2020)






## Check out the Parent Information Tab on the DCMS Website

Now parents have access to needed information all in one place. The "Information for Parents" tab on the DCMS website. includes tutorials for how to access Classlink, Schoology, and more. Check it out [here!](#)

**Click Here for the DCMS Parent Guide to Technology at DCMS!**



## A Parent's Guide to Technology @ DCMS

 <p>Check out our Learning Management System to find out <u>what your child is doing at school and what they should be doing for homework</u>. Create a parent account at <a href="https://www.schoolology.com">www.schoolology.com</a>. You can scan the QR code below after your child's courses are activated for instructions on how to set up your Schoolology Parent account. Email Kwestbrook@dawson.k12.ga.us if you would like to have the parent code for your child's class. receiving your parent access code after school starts.</p> 	 <p>Visit PowerSchool to stay informed about your child's grades. Create a parent account at <a href="https://dawsoncounty.powerschool.com/">https://dawsoncounty.powerschool.com/</a>, scan the QR code below, or download the App. Please see Erin Grigsby or email Erin at <a href="mailto:egrigsby@dawson.k12.ga.us">egrigsby@dawson.k12.ga.us</a> for your Powerschool access ID. Parents can use this resource as a tool to encourage accountability and praise hard work. District Code for APP: HLWQ</p> 	 <h3>1:1 Technology Expectations</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students will be allowed to take their Ipad home after completing a digital citizenship course in the first 9 weeks and paying the 20.00 Technology Usage fee.</li> <li>Ipads are used for educational purposes only. The ipad default settings should not be altered in any way. Technology infractions can result in disciplinary action including an office referral and loss of ipad privileges.</li> <li>Students are required to pay a 20.00 technology fee. This fee covers the cost of two repairs; subsequent repairs will result in a \$75 fee per repair.</li> <li>Intentional damage to the case is not a covered repair. Fees will be assessed in the amount of 95.00 for case damages. Stickers and or markings are not allowed on the cases.</li> </ul>
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## \*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.)

Dawson County Schools Menus



Don't Forget to pay your Student Technology Usage Fees by September 4th!

[Click HERE to pay your \\$20 Technology Usage Fee!](#)

### **DCMS Technology Usage Fees are due September 4th!**



This fee covers the cost of two repairs; subsequent repairs will result in a \$75 fee per repair.

- If the Technology Usage Fee is not submitted, a \$75 repair fee will be assessed for each repair on the device.
- The Technology Usage Fee does **NOT** cover intentional damage, neglect, abuse, improper care, loss, or theft of the DEVICE.
- If the device is found to be intentionally damaged beyond repair, the student will be assessed the full cost of the iPad
- The Technology Usage Fee does not cover intentional damage, neglect, abuse, improper care, loss, or theft of the CASE. Case damages including markings or stickers will be assessed a damage fee of \$100.00. This is NOT covered by your tech fee.
- All Technology Usage Fees are due no later than September 4, 2021.

Pay your Tech Fee on [MYSCHOOLBUCKS.COM](https://myschoolbucks.com)! Click here!

Fever? Sniffles? Check out this chart for information on when to stay home!





## I Need to Stay Home if...



I have a <b>Fever</b>	I am <b>Vomiting</b>	I have <b>Diarrhea</b>	I have a <b>Rash</b>	I have <b>Head Lice</b>	I have an <b>Eye Infection</b>	I have been in the <b>Hospital</b>
Temperature of 100°F or higher	Within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours	Body rash with itching or fever	Itchy head, active head lice	Redness, itching, and/or "crusty" discharge from eyes	Hospital stay and/or ER visit

## I am Ready to Go Back to School When I am...

Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication.	Free from vomiting for at least 2 solid meals without the use of medications.	Free from diarrhea for at least 24 hours without the use of medications.	Free from rash itching or fever and evaluated by doctor if needed.	Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home and proof is provided to nurse.	Eye has returned to normal or have a note from doctor to return to school.	Released by my medical provider to return to school.
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2021-2022 Student & Staff Covid Data



## **Dawson County Middle School**

### **Guidelines for Completing School Work while in Quarantine or Absent for an extended period of time 2021-2022**

- Each day, the student should check their teachers' Schoology calendar for information about that day's assignments. Directions for how to access the daily assignments will be included in the calendar entry.
  - Academic teachers (Math, ELA, Science, and Social Studies) will post work in daily folders
  - Connections teachers will post work in a folder labeled "Quarantine Folder"
- Students should email the teacher through Schoology if they have any questions about their assignment or how to submit their work.
- Teacher's work hours are 7:00 - 3:00 Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.
- Teachers are available to answer and respond to emails and phone calls during their planning. Please allow 1 business day for teachers to respond.

## **Congratulations to our PBIS Weekly Winners in August**

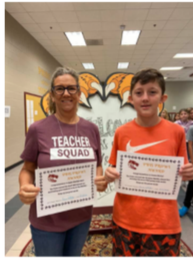
Congratulations to our PBIS Students and Staff Members who earned certificates each week for the month of August. Each week we award a certificate to the student who has earned the most points in each grade level for the entire week. Staff members award points daily to our students for meeting our Prowl expectations. The top earners also select a teacher to honor. Students are asked to choose the teacher that has most inspired them to be on the PROWL.

PERSEVERE, REACH out with kindness, OWN your actions, be WILLING to put others first, and LEAD with integrity. Be on the PROWL, DCMS! [#dcmsonthePROWL](https://twitter.com/dcmsonthePROWL)

If you are interested in sponsoring a PBIS teacher or student incentive, please email [kwestbrook@dawson.k12.ga.us](mailto:kwestbrook@dawson.k12.ga.us) for more information!



## Congratulations to PBIS Student and Teachers of the Week for August

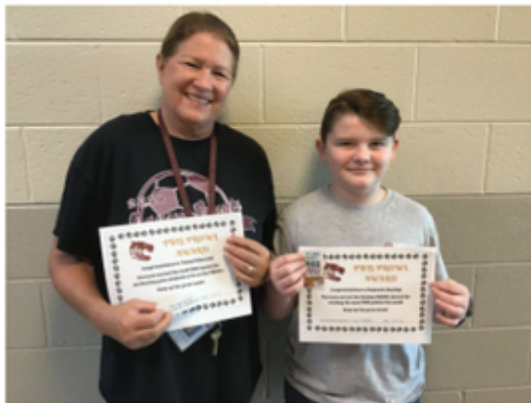


### Week of August 9th

6th grade-Tate Beary and teacher, Susie Charles-Carr  
7th Grade -Thomas Conowal and teacher, Kim Fleming, para, Sherry Newton

### Week of August 16th

6th Grade Student Vincent Blake and Math teacher, Shannon Tosi  
7th Grade Student Zoe Bordeaux and teacher Melissa Knuth



### Week of August 23rd

6th-grade, Adison Adams and Cheyenne Chester  
7th grade- Benjamin Bentley and teacher, Tammi Edwards



DCMS would like to recognize the following businesses and community members for sponsoring our weekly PBIS teacher and student raffles for the month of August and September. Thank you for supporting our PBIS Program!



**Uncle Shuck's**  
Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch



BE on the PROWL, DCMS!



DCMS Tigers are on the



	<b>P</b> ersevere Leave your area clean and neat and push in your chair	<b>R</b> each out with kindness Hands on your own plate	<b>O</b> wn your actions Clean up after yourself	<b>W</b> illing to put Others First Wait your turn in line	<b>L</b> ead with Integrity Use good table manners
<b>Cafeteria</b>					
<b>Hall</b>	Be on time for class	Be polite to others	Keep hands and feet to yourself	Keep it moving	Be neat
<b>Restroom</b>	Flush and wash your hands	Respect the privacy of others	One person in a stall No bookbags in the restroom	Be quick. Leave the restroom clean	Use the restroom appropriately
<b>Technology</b>	Music will be provided by the classroom teacher only.	Always use your iPad for positive educational activities.	Be honest when using your iPad and report problems/damage.	Be courteous to others while waiting for your turn at the iPad cart.	Always set a good example when using your iPad and charge it daily.
<b>Bus</b>	Speak with a quiet voice and remain in your seat	Keep your hands, feet and body to yourself	No Profanity	Be respectful to other students and the bus driver	Model proper bus behavior

## New Fine Arts Wing at DCMS

DCMS opened for the 2021-2022 school year with new renovations that expanded our new Fine Arts programs. The renovations will provide more space for art, music, and other elective classes. Our students are already reaping the benefits of the fixtures and state-of-the-art equipment.





Picture Day is coming to DCMS on Tuesday, September 7, 2021





Lifetouch.

# PICTURE DAY IS COMING



Order your school pictures  
today on [mylifetouch.com](https://mylifetouch.com)



Tuesday, September 07, 2021  
Dawson Co Middle School



- ① Visit [mylifetouch.com](https://mylifetouch.com)
- ② Enter your Picture Day ID  
**EVTTX2SCT**
- ③ Order your perfect package—  
and don't worry about returning  
anything on Picture Day!

Lifetouch  
**REWARDS™**

Earn exclusive offers for your  
online picture purchases.

After School at DCMS



# AFTER SCHOOL AT DCMS

Softball



[2020 DCMS Softball  
Schedule](#)

Volleyball



[2020 DCMS Volleyball  
Schedule](#)

Football



[2020 DCMS Football  
Schedule](#)

Cross Country



[2020 Cross Country  
Schedule](#)



## Support your Tigers Athletes!

## DCMS Softball Team Finishes Strong in Morgan County

The DCMS softball team took 3rd place (out of 8 teams) at the Morgan Co. Middle School tournament on August 14th. The Lady Tigers went 2-1 for the day. Congratulations Ladies!





Congratulations to the DCMS Volley Ball team on their win against Pickens!



Basketball Cheerleading Tryouts will be September 7th-9th

Basketball Cheerleading Tryouts will begin soon! You must have a current physical on file in order to try out! Email [egrigsby@dawson.k12.ga.us](mailto:egrigsby@dawson.k12.ga.us) if you have questions!





## BASKETBALL CHEERLEADING TRYOUTS

AT DAWSON COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL

DCMS BASKETBALL CHEERLEADING TRYOUTS WILL BE HELD AT DCMS ON  
SEPTEMBER 7TH, 8TH, AND 9TH UNTIL 4:30.  
YOU MUST HAVE A CURRENT PHYSICAL ON FILE AT DCMS TO TRYOUT. IF YOU  
HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL [EGRIGSBY@DAWSON.K12.GA.US](mailto:EGRIGSBY@DAWSON.K12.GA.US)

Need Help? We've got you covered!





# Math Lab

# Get help with your math homework!

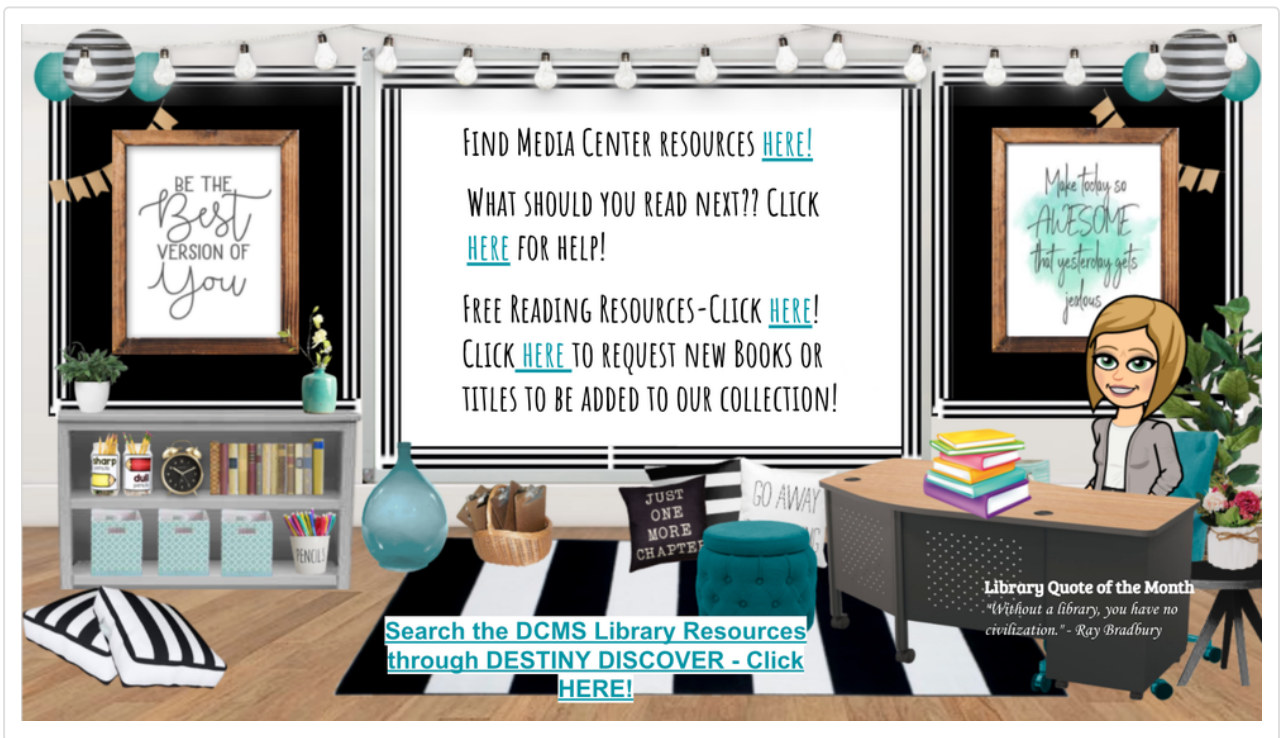


**Where: Mrs. Noe's Room,  
E-05**

**When: 7:05 a.m. or whenever you arrive to school!**

Literacy Connection -Click here for access to Free Reading Resources!





Save the Date! Th DCMS Book Fair will be November 1st-November 5th!



Counselor's Corner





Welcome back to DCMS for the 2021 to 2022 academic year! My name is Jordan LeFevre and I am very excited to be joining the Dawson County Middle School team this year as the School Counselor. This is my 9th year in school counseling, and my 5th year in Dawson County. I have a Bachelors in Family and Consumer Science from the University of Georgia, a Masters in School Counseling from Mercer University and an EdS in School Counseling from Valdosta State University. I am eager to get to know you and your students as we embark on this journey together. My goal as a school counselor is to provide support for your student's academic, social, emotional, and career development. I will be providing student support through classroom guidance lessons, individual counseling, and small groups. As a school counselor, I will work diligently to serve and support students and their families. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have throughout this school year.

#### Dawson County Middle School Counseling Mission Statement

As a school counselor at Dawson County Middle School, I will support the school's mission of providing quality instruction for all students by delivering guidance that supports academic, career, and social/emotional outcomes for all students. Through the positive environment that I create via a positive school counseling classroom students will learn in a nurturing school environment that will result in success for all students.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns regarding your child.

Sincerely, Jordan LeFevre

Email: [jlefevre@dawson.k12.ga.us](mailto:jlefevre@dawson.k12.ga.us)



## A Message from Our Principal, Kim White





# Dawson County Middle School

## School Wide Goals

*Setting goals is the first step in turning the invisible into visible*

~Tony Robbins

At Dawson County Middle School we believe that goal setting is an important piece of the growth process. Not only do we ask students to set goals, but we do too. This year, our School Improvement Plan revolves around three goals:

### LANGUAGE ARTS

Increase the performance of students in ELA at levels 3 and 4 (Proficient and Distinguished) on the Georgia Milestones.

6th ELA GMAS	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
	21%	32%	39%	8%
7th ELA GMAS	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
	19%	35%	37%	9%

### MATH

Increase the performance of students in Math at levels 3 and 4 (Proficient and Distinguished) on the Georgia Milestones.

6th Math GMAS	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
	15%	48%	30%	7%
7th Math GMAS	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
	10%	36%	40%	14%

### ACADEMIC RIGOR

Increase rigorous instruction in all content areas.

Math GMAS	DCMS @ Levels 3 & 4	State of GA @ 3 & 4	Difference
6th	37%	30%	7%
7th	54%	36%	18%
ELA GMAS			Difference
6th	47%	42%	5%
7th	46%	39%	7%



#### Facebook

Please make sure you are following us on Facebook @DCMSTigers



#### Schoolology

Check your child's Schoolology calendar to see what they did in class and what homework they may have each night.



#### PowerSchool

Stay up to date on your child's academic progress and attendance



## GOALS CONTINUED

On the Georgia Milestones, Level 3 is the proficient level at which all students should be achieving. As you can see by the data on the previous page, Dawson County Middle School students are performing above the state average, but there is still more work to be done to get more students to meeting the standard level of achievement. As a school we are dedicated to improving basic instruction and creating critical thinkers, as well as remediating skill deficits that we see within our students and our content areas in order to get our students to that proficient level. Teachers will be trained throughout the year on effective instructional strategies and differentiation techniques, in addition to increasing collaboration amongst grade levels and content areas.

The school has also increased the time students will spend in language arts and math classes. The additional 30 minutes a day will allow students more time to learn and process content, dig deeper into skills, and allow for more enrichment and/or remediation as needed. The goal of the increased class time is to better meet the needs of the students while we have them in our building, face to face.

In addition to increasing our scores in math and ELA, we want to embed more rigorous instruction into all



classrooms. This year we have the benefit of an instructional coach who will get into classrooms and meet one on one with teachers to meet their individual needs. Through coaching sessions, and peer observations, teachers will be able to embed more academically challenging lessons into their classrooms. Students also play an important role in helping us achieve our goal, by utilizing goal setting. In order for students to grow, they have to understand where they are and where they are going. We will be asking students to set high goals and share those goals with you within each of their classes.

## THIS YEAR WE WANT TO IGNITE CREATIVITY, THINKING, AND PASSION . . .

Three days a week, during your child's tutorial class, we will be giving students time to "Ignite" their creativity, thinking, and passion for learning. There will be three areas of focus during "Ignite Time" and students will continuously rotate through all three, every three weeks, all year long. The three areas are:

1. **STEAM-** STEAM education is the intentional integration of science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics. Teachers will create a student-centered learning environment in which students investigate and engineer solutions to problems, and construct evidence-based explanations of real-world phenomena with a focus on a student's social, emotional, physical, and academic needs. Students will be developing and creating projects that encompass agricultural skills (growing a garden), building rockets, egg drop, toothpick bridge, constructing a building and simulating an earthquake, and much more.
2. **Genius Hour-** Passions come alive during Genius Hour. This is a time for students to dive deep into a topic that they are interested in and develop a question for themselves to answer. This provides students with a choice and a time to learn. The teacher provides guidance, but ultimately this time encourages students to challenge themselves to work independently on their passion project. Passion projects will be presented to parents at the end of the school year.
3. **Novel Study-** A novel study is an opportunity to build a love of reading. When done as a whole group, it can create a shared experience that builds communities and creates connections. Novel studies can also serve to give students exposure to different perspectives or experiences.







## 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


### Help Center



## Dawson County Middle School

 Facebook  @DCMSTigers

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 706-216-4849

 kwestbrook@dawson.k12.ga.us

 dcms.dawsoncountyschools.o...