

DCMS Tiger Times

Dawson County Middle School, October 2021

The DCMS Tiger Tales 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

- 10/ 7 Combined 6th-12th grade Fall Chorus Concert
- 10/20 Picture Retakes
- 10/20 Unity Day- Wear Orange
- 10/21 PBIS Quarterly Reward
- 10/25-10/29 Red Ribbon Week
- 10/26 Help a Child Smile Day at DCMS
- 10/29-11/5 DCMS Book Fair
- 10/29 Halloween Dance
- 11/1- Fun Run
- 11/11- DCMS Veterans Day Program (Parents invited at the present time)
- 11/22/-11/26 -Thanksgiving Holiday

Get Ready for the Dawson County Middle School 4th Annual Fun Run

On November 1, 2021, ALL students will participate in a 2.5-mile Fun Run here at DCMS! This is our ONLY school-wide fundraiser for the year, and we need your help! All proceeds will go back to our students and will be used toward things like student luncheons and recognitions, PBIS rewards and events, our end-of-year "carnival," classroom supplies for labs and activities, and so much more!

Your challenge is to get FIVE people to sponsor you for \$5 each (\$2 per mile!)

Here's what you need to know:

- All students raising \$25 will get a “Fun Run” t-shirt
- The Fun Run t-shirt will also be your ticket to the dance the Friday before on October 29!
- The homeroom with the highest percentage of students raising \$25 in each grade level will be treated to chicken biscuits
- The homeroom with the highest overall amount raised in each grade level will also be treated to chicken biscuits
- A grand prize of Wireless Beats will be given to the boy and girl at each grade level who raise the most money.
- The student who raises the second-highest amount of money at each grade level will receive a hydro flask
- Medals will be given to first, second, and third-place boys and girls in each grade level that have raised money!

[Click here for more info!](#)



Student Council Volunteers for #COINS4CURE

On Friday, September 10th, many of our DCMS Student Council members partnered with Dawson County High School FCCLA members to help collect #coins4cure during the homecoming football game. At the end of the night, they collected \$534.03 to be donated for childhood cancer research! Great job, Student Council! Our DCMS Student Government also hosted their own coin drive for Coins

for a Cure. The event was organized by Erin Grigsby and Student Government member Livi Graham. Homerooms competed to see which classroom could raise the most money. Mrs. Karen Spencer's homeroom won and received Chick-fil-A biscuits for the entire class. DCMS staff and students raised over 800.00 for this very important cause. Way to go, Tigers!

DCMS GIVES BACK #COINSFORACURE



DCMS STUDENT COUNCIL

3rd Annual

SOCK-TOBER SOCK DRIVE



OCTOBER 1ST - OCTOBER 29TH

ALL SOCKS WILL BE DONATED TO
A LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED.

.....
THE HOMEROOM THAT COLLECTS THE MOST PAIRS OF SOCKS IN
EACH GRADE LEVEL WILL WIN CHICK-FIL-A BISCUITS

Don't Forget to Wear Orange on October 20th!



UNITY DAY

About | Important things to know

kindness
acceptance
inclusion

Unity Day is on October 20th! This event was created by PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center, to come together in one giant ORANGE message of hope and support. Students and staff WEAR AND SHARE ORANGE to color our nation, and even the world, to visibly show that our society believes no child should ever experience bullying. We hope our efforts show our commitment to prevent childhood bullying and unite for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.

Spotlight on Academics

ELA "Who Am I?"

Students in 7th grade ELA have been busy learning about sentence structure this month. The students enjoyed moving around and interviewing each other as they asked prompting questions to determine what sentence type they had on their forehead.



Scale Drawing Project - 7th Grade Accelerated Math

The 7th grade accelerated math classes have been working on their Geometry Cycle, during this cycle they learned about scale drawing, area of circles, and volume. Mrs. Smith's classes converted the geometry concepts to a real-world problem by creating birdhouses. The first step included researching birds in our area. Next, the students created a scale drawing of what they wanted their birdhouse to look like according to the bird they selected. Once they had their scale with a key the students transformed their birdhouses onto the wood. Mrs. Smith cut all of their pieces according to their drawings. The final step included constructing and decorating the birdhouses. Congratulations to Mrs. Smith and the 7th-grade students who completed this project! Mrs. Smith believes that the students learned many skills that they would not have learned by just solving problems on paper.



Sixth Grade Learns about the Impact of 9-11

In Mrs. Greene's Class, small groups traveled throughout the room engaging in different activities regarding 9/11. Students gained a better understanding of the impact of 9/11 as they analyzed a minute-by-minute timeline, read an article from an eyewitness, and watched a video from kids just like them, who were not alive during 9/11.



Text Structures Escape Room -6th Grade ELA

ELA students learned about text structure in a fun escape room activity. Students rushed to determine the correct text structures for several articles in an effort to find the right puzzles and escape Mrs. Greene's room!



Stay in the KNOW! Check out our DCMS News Team's first newscast this year!

DCMS Enters Scarecrow Fest 2021

Check out Dawson County Middle School's entry in the 2021 Scarecrow Fest in support of Good Shepherd Clinic in Dawsonville! Please be sure to like and follow The Good Shepherd Clinic in order to cast your vote for our DCMS MONSTER CROW! The pics of all entries will be posted on the clinic's Facebook page soon. The entry with the most likes will win! THANK YOU to our awesome team of volunteers, Brett Hall, Cory Crannell Hall, Rylie Hall, Preslie Hall, Easton Hall, Erika Woody, Kyle Woody, and Blake Holbrook. We would also like to thank Harris and Nathan Turner for donating the hay and Brian Westbrook Cabinets for donating the pumpkins!



Congratulations to our October Student and Staff Member of the Month!

Congratulations to the DCMS Student and Teacher of the Month for September!

6TH GRADE

- JACOB PARDUE
- DARRIANN EVANS
- LAILA WOODY
- GUADALUPE PATINO-RAMIREZ



7TH GRADE

- ELIZABETH HICKS
- PEARL HUGHES
- HUEY BLISS
- HUDSON LAIL
- ELIJAH PIERCE

Staff Member of the Month- Cory Hall



A message
from our nurse,
Mrs. Amanda
Kubat

If your child is out sick and has been diagnosed with the Covid-19, flu, pneumonia, or a stomach virus, please contact our school nurse, Amanda Kubat at akubat@dawson.k12.ga.us.



I Need to Stay Home if...



I have a Fever	I am Vomiting	I have Diarrhea	I have a Rash	I have Head Lice	I have an Eye Infection	I have been in the Hospital
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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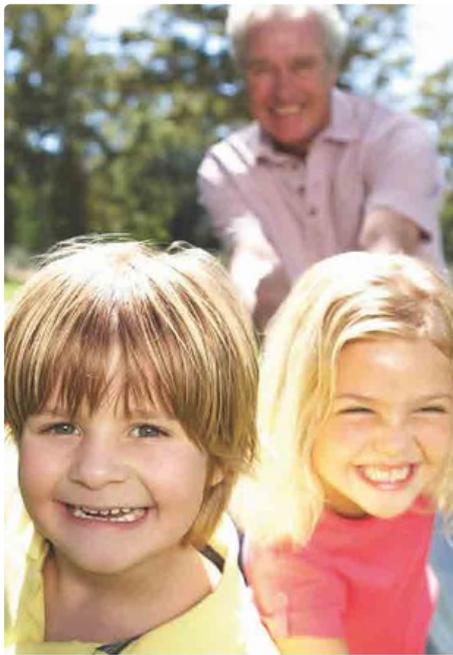


**The Dawson County Health Department is coming to a school near you!
Help Fight the Flu and get your child vaccinated!**

Every year, the *Dawson County Health Department* comes to visit each school in Dawson County and they administer **FREE** flu vaccinations. If you would like your child to receive a **FREE** flu vaccine, please fill out the "Flu Vaccination Consent Form" that is being sent home. Return the completed form to your student's school nurse as soon as possible.

The scheduled dates for your school's flu clinic are:
Robinson Elementary School: October 15th, 2021
Black's Mill Elementary School: October 5th, 2021
Kilough Elementary School: October 13nd, 2021
Riverview Elementary School: October 7th, 2021
Dawson County Middle School: October 18th, 2021
Dawson County Junior High School: October 12th, 2021
Dawson County High School: October 6th, 2021
BOE/IT/BUS/Fac & Main: October 25th, 2021
****All Flu Clinics will begin at 9:00 am****

If you have any questions please contact your child's school nurse.



Kinship Care Meeting

OCTOBER 20, 2021

12:00 PM

PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT CENTER
(Next to Board of Education Bldg)

Are you caring for your niece, nephew, or grandchild?
This meeting is for **YOU!**
Kinship care meetings support extended family members raising children because their biological parents are unable to do so.



For more information call
706-265-1981



- Please RSVP at:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A4BA5A82CA1F49-kinship16>

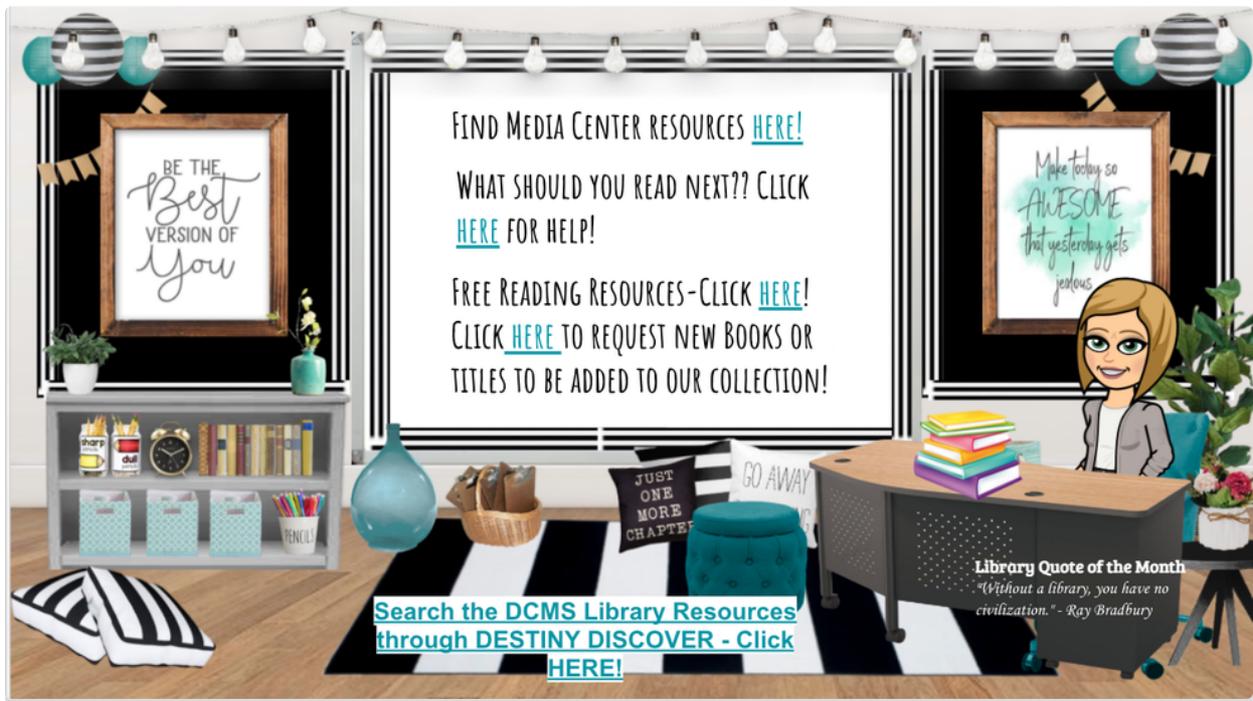
- LUNCH PROVIDED!
- CHILDCARE NOT PROVIDED!



ONE FAMILY WILL WIN A
\$15 GIFT CARD JUST FOR
ATTENDING!

Literacy Connection

Find Free Reading Resources by Clicking Below.



Parents,

Although your child will read a lot at school, reading at home is just as important. There are plenty of easy ways to integrate reading into your child's everyday life. For more information on how to encourage independent reading [click here!](#)

Students!

For access to our DCMS Media Center resources and more FREE reading resources [click here!](#)

Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A" reads 20 minutes each day 3600 minutes in a school year	Student "B" reads 5 minutes each day 900 minutes in a school year	Student "C" reads 1 minute each day 180 minutes in a school year
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1,800,000 words



90th percentile

282,000 words



50th percentile

8,000 words



10th percentile

By the end of 6th grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

**Visit the DCMS Online Book Fair OCTOBER 29TH-
NOVEMBER 5TH and help our school earn money to support
literacy. Click the image below to order!**

DAWSON COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL Book Fair

DCMS Media Center

5126 HWY 9 NORTH , DAWSONVILLE , GA 30534

Oct. 28 - Nov. 5

Thank you for visiting our homepage! Every purchase from the Book Fair earns rewards for our school, so please stop by and support us.



Check out the [interactive book flyer](#).



PBIS News

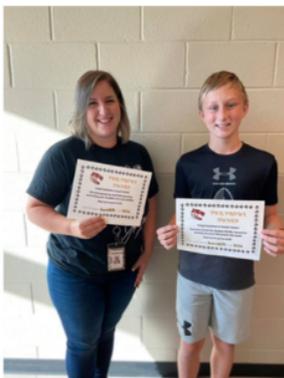
PBIS Quarterly Rewards -1st 9 weeks

Every student that met PBIS Prowl expectations this quarter had an opportunity to wear pajamas or a hat on September 23rd. Students were thrilled with the opportunity to use their hard-earned points to kick off fall break in pajamas and/or a hat!



Congratulations to our PBIS Student and Staff Member of the Week for the Month of September!

Congratulations to PBIS Student and Teachers of the Week for September!
 Special thanks to [Moe's Southwest Grill](#) for sponsoring the PBIS WEEKLY achievement.



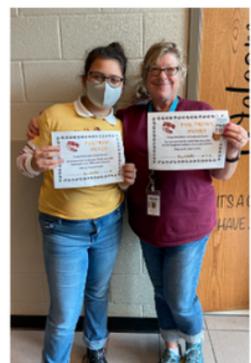
Week of August 29th

Susie Arroyo Alvarez is the top earner sixth grade. Joseph Carter is the winner for seventh. Staff members: Congratulations to Cory Hall and Sami Frankel



Week of September 27th

Abigail Barton is the top earner for this week in sixth grade (for the second time this month!!) Destiny Chandler is the winner for seventh. Staff members: Stephanie Davis and Allison Speece



Congratulations to PBIS Student and Teachers of the Week for September!
Special thanks to [Moe's Southwest Grill](#) for sponsoring the PBIS WEEKLY achievement.



Week of September 13th

Sofia Aragon Rodriguez was the top earner in seventh grade.
Jordan Bradshaw is the winner for sixth. Staff Members:
Congratulations to Renee Rogers and Cheyenne Chester!



Week of September 6th

Abigail Barton was the top earner in sixth grade. John
"Huey" Bliss is the winner for seventh. Staff members:
Deidre Tinsley and Kristen Smith!



QUARTER 1 REWARDS DAY WILL BE ON OCTOBER 21ST

Every student that meets PBIS PROWL expectations this quarter will have the opportunity to participate in Filed Day on October 21st! Be on the PROWL, DCMS!



QUARTER 1 REWARD

FALL FIELD DAY

OCTOBER 21, 2021



DCMS Tigers are on the



Persevere

Reach out with kindness

Own your actions

Willing to put Others First

Lead with Integrity

Cafeteria	Leave your area clean and neat and push in your chair	Hands on your own plate	Clean up after yourself	Wait your turn in line	Use good table manners
Hall	Be on time for class	Respect one another and speak kindly	Keep hands and feet to yourself	Keep it moving	Walk in a single file line
Restroom	Flush and wash your hands	Respect the privacy of others	One person in a stall Please leave bookbags outside the restroom	Be quick. Leave the restroom clean	Use the restroom appropriately
Technology	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.
Bus	Speak with a quiet voice and remain in your seat	Respect one another and speak kind	Keep hands and feet to yourself	Be respectful to other students and the bus driver	Model proper bus behavior

Thank you to the following businesses for sponsoring our raffles in September!

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



Uncle Shuck's
Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch



Law Office of Shelly T.
Martin, LLC
@www.stmlawoffice.net



DCMS Students and Staff to Celebrate Red Ribbon Week October 25th-29th

Students and staff will celebrate red ribbon week with dress-up days from October 25th-October 29th. The 2021 National Red Ribbon Week Theme, is DrugFree Looks Like Me™. [Created by Marin Wurst, a 7th grader at Solon Middle School in Solon, Ohio.](#) This theme is a reminder that everyday Americans across the country make significant daily contributions to their communities by being the best they can be because they live Drug-Free! Dress up days will be:

Monday, 10/25/21

Camo Day - Hideout from drugs

Tuesday, 10/26/21

Decade Day -Life is a journey, travel drug-free

Wednesday, 10/27/21

Sports Day - Team up against drugs

Thursday, 10/28/21

America Day - Stand United in the decision to say "No"

Friday, 10/29/21

Halloween Costume Day - Say BOO to Drugs.



Red Ribbon Week 2021

October 25 - 29, 2021

Theme "**Drug Free Looks Like Me**".

Monday, 10/25/21

Camo Day - Hideout from drugs

Tuesday, 10/26/21

Decade Day - Life is a journey, travel drug-free

Wednesday, 10/27/21

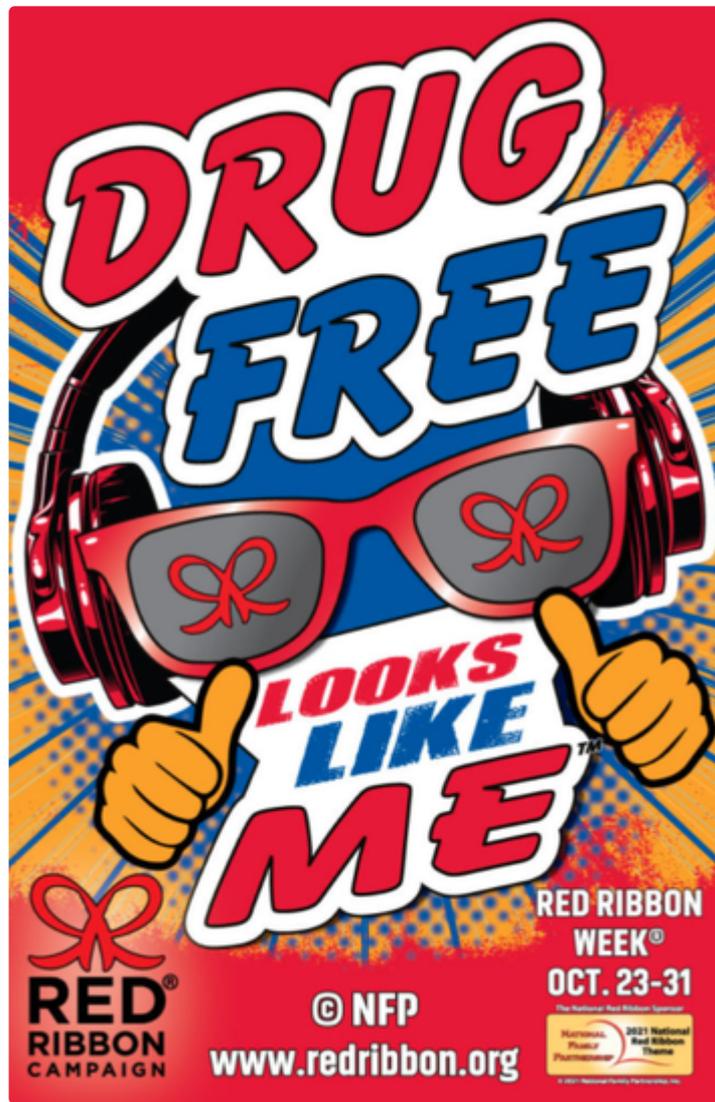
Sports Day - Team up against drugs

Thursday, 10/28/21

America Day - Stand United in the decision to say "No"

Friday, 10/29/21

Halloween Costume Day - Say BOO to Drugs.



After School at DCMS -Athletic Activities

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 | 📠706-265-1426

ATHLETICS

Cross Country Team Finishes Strong

Congratulations to the Girls Cross Country team for their win in Union County yesterday and becoming the North Georgia Mountain League Champions! All the runners ran a great race and have worked hard all season. Coach Edwards is proud of you and wants to thank you for all the hard work you have put in this season.

Scoring for the Lady Tigers:

Hayden Hand - 1st overall (Individual Region Champ)

Addison Smith - 9th overall

Harper Dussouy - 10th overall

McKinley Adamson - 14th overall

Maria Gloeckner - 21st overall

The boys also ran a great race. Several of the boys were able to set a PR on this course.

Scoring for the Tigers:

Luke Gloeckner - 2nd overall (Individual Region Runner-up)

Luke Collins - 20th overall

Eli Penland - 36th overall

Jack Ledbetter - 38th overall

Howie Caldwell - 39th overall

We are proud of all the runners and all the hard work they have put in this season!



Basketball Tryouts for DCMS Coming Up!

Any boy interested in trying out for the boys' basketball team should see Coach Grigsby in the gym to sign up. The first day of tryouts is Monday, Oct. 18th from 2:45-4:30.

Girls tryouts will be held on October 11th-13th from 3-5 pm in the DCMS gym.

A current physical is required by the first day of tryouts.



Dawson County 7th & 8th Basketball Schedule 2021-22

Date	Opponent	Home/Away
11/08/21	Fannin	Girls @ DCJHS Boys @ Fannin
11/11/21	Gilmer	Boys @ DCMS Girls @ Gilmer
11/15/21	Lumpkin	Girls @ DCMS Boys @ Lumpkin
11/18/21	Pickens	Boys @ DCMS Girls @ Pickens
11/29/21	Union	Girls @ DCJHS Boys @ Union
12/02/21	White	Boys @ DCJHS Girls @ White
12/09/21	Fannin	Boys @ DCJHS Girls @ Fannin
12/13/21	Gilmer	Girls @ DCMS Boys @ Gilmer
12/16/21	Lumpkin	Boys @ DCJHS Girls @ Lumpkin
01/06/22	Pickens	Girls @ DCMS Boys @ Pickens
01/10/22	Union	Boys @ DCMS Girls @ Union
01/13/22	White	Girls @ DCJHS Boys @ White
TBA	Tournament	TBA

There will be a parent meeting on Monday, October 4th for anyone in grades 6th-8th who is interested in wrestling. The meeting will be held in the DCMS Cafeteria at 5:30 pm. Signup, cost, calendar, and more will be covered at the meeting so please make plans to be there.

HC Andrew Grigsby
Asst Jordan Hannah
Asst Jack Cupp
Varsity HC Arron Haynes

2021 DCMS Wrestling



Date	Opponent (Location)	Start Time (Departure)
Tue 11/9	@ White (WCMS - 283 Old Blairsville Rd, Cleveland, GA 30528)	4:30pm (3:00pm)
Sat 11/13	@ Pickens (PCHS - 500 Dragon Dr. Jasper, Ga 30143)	9:00am (7:00am)
Tue 11/16	@ Lumpkin (LCHS - 2001 Indian Dr, Dahlonega, GA 30533)	4:30pm (3:00pm)
Thur 11/18	vs Pickens (Dawson County Junior High)	4:30pm
Tue 11/30	@ Fannin (FCHS - 360 Rebel Cir, Blue Ridge, GA 30513)	4:30pm (2:30pm)
Tue 12/7	vs Union (DCMS)	4:30pm
Tue 12/14	vs Clear Creek (Dawson County High School)	4:30pm
Fri 12/17	Dual Championship (LCHS - 2001 Indian Dr, Dahlonega, GA 30533)	5:00pm (3:00pm)
Sat 12/18	Traditional Championship (LCHS - 2001 Indian Dr, Dahlonega, GA 30533)	9:00am (7:00am)

To stay informed of schedule changes and estimated return times please sign up for the MS Wrestling Remind by texting:

@midwre to 81010

7TH AND 8TH GRADE FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DAWSON COUNTY 20 TIGERS 21

Date	Opponent	Time	Location
8/11/21	Little Mill	5:00	DCMS
8/19/21	BYE		
Week 1 Aug 26, 2021	White	5:00/6:15	DCMS
Week 2 Sept 2, 2021	Clear Creek	5:00/6:15	DCMS
Week 3 Sept 9, 2021	@ Lumpkin	5:00/6:15	Lumpkin Middle School
Week 4 Sept 16, 2021	@ Fannin	5:00/6:15	Fannin High School
Week 5 Sept 23, 2021	Union	5:30	DCMS *8th only
Week 6 Sept 30, 2021	BYE		
Week 7 Oct 7, 2021	@ Pickens	5:00/6:15	Pickens High School
Round 1 Playoffs Oct 14, 2021	TBD		
Championship Oct 21, 2021	TBD		

Dawson County Middle School

Track & Field



We are considering starting a MS Track and Field team for this spring (Grades 6-8), pending Board of Education Approval. If you are interested in joining the team, please scan the QR Code below and fill out the survey. You ARE NOT committing to joining the team, only expressing an interest. More details to follow if the program is approved.

Events Include:

Sprints
Shot Put
Long Jump
High Jump
Hurdles

Long Distance
Discus
Triple Jump
Pole Vault



After School at DCMS - Extracurricular Activities

Little Tiger Theater Co. Announces Two New Productions

The LittleTiger Theatre Co. announced two upcoming productions. Old Fashion Christmas Performances will be held at DCMS on December 9th-11th. High School Musical Performances will be held at the PAC on March 25th-27th. Congratulations to the cast for both productions! We can't wait to see you perform!

Little Tiger Theater Co's
"High School Musical Jr." Cast 2021-2022

Character	Group	East High Cast	Wildcats Cast
Gabriella Montez	Brainiacs	Brooklyn Marcotte	Annabella Berry
Troy Bolton	Jocks	Will Bean	Ronan O'Keefe
Sharpay Evans	Thespians	Trinity Rarick	Kyndle Wright
Ryan Evans	Thespians	Zach Dietzel	Charlie McCall
Kelsi Nielsen	Thespians	Lilly Sheffield	Ayana Tucker
Chad Danforth	Jocks	Austin Martin	Mac McGriff
Zeke Baylor	Jocks	Nolan Bellinger	Dariann Evans P.L.M. Sr.
Taylor McKessie	Brainiacs	Kendal Greenway	Rylie Hall
Ms. Darbus	Thespians	Sedona Krause	Abigail Escoto
Coach Bolton	Jocks	Ezekiel Lewis	Kason Komuda
Martha Cox	Brainiacs	Keyleigh Gilleland	Abigail Weed
Kratnoff	Brainiacs	Payton Sullivan	Avery Whitmine
Cathy	Thespians	Emma-Claire Tinsley	Annabelle Clark
Cydra	Thespians	Nadia McKinney	Kayla Allen
James/Jamie	Thespians	C.J. Bearden	Addie Graves
Susan	Thespians	JoHannah Carnes	Anna Leigh Kinney
Jackie Scott	Thespians	Layla Morris	Makylah Phillips
Ms. Tenny	Adults	Rylee Grigsby	Preslie Hall
Brainiacs Ensemble	Brainiacs	Addie Graves Anna Leigh Kinney Avery Whitmine Ayana Tucker Josselin McDonald Rylie Hall	C.J. Bearden Josselin McDonald Kendal Greenway Layla Morris Lilly Sheffield Payton Sullivan
Jocks Ensemble	Jocks	Charlie McGriff Dariann Evans P.L.M. Sr. Kason Komuda Kayla Allen Mac McGriff Ronan O'Keefe	Austin Martin Charlie McGriff Ezekiel Lewis Nadia McKinney Nolan Bellinger Will Bean
Cheerleaders Ensemble	Cheerleaders	Abigail Weed Annabella Beary Makylah Phillips Preslie Hall Senia Mae Zejac	Brooklyn Marcotte JoHannah Carnes Keyleigh Gilleland Rylee Grigsby Senia Mae Zejac
Thespians Ensemble	Thespians	Abigail Escoto Annabelle Clark Blakeleigh Griffith Charlie McCall Kyndle Wright	Blakeleigh Griffith Emma-Claire Tinsley Sedona Krause Trinity Rarick Zach Dietzel
Assistant Stage Manager	-	Angie Almazan	Angie Almazan

MULTICULTURAL CHORAL CELEBRATION FEATURING THE...



Dawson County Middle School
Dawson County Junior High School
Dawson County High School



CHORAL PROGRAMS

Thursday, October 7th, 2021 at 7:00 PM
DCHS Performing Arts Center

Need Help? We've got you covered!



Extended Day

Academic help is available every
Tuesday and Thursday after
school in all content areas!
Students should report to Room
C23 from 3:00-4:00.

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!*

Counselor's Corner



The Help A Child Smile School Dentist is Coming to our School on October 26th

Great news! The Help A Child Smile school dentist is coming to our school. We know that many of our students are in need of safe dental care, now, more than ever. All insurance is accepted including Medicaid and PeachCare. By having your child seen by the dentist at school, you can keep them healthy, in school, and learning. Sign up online NOW at www.myschooldentist.com



What's for
Lunch at
DCMS???
Click here
for the
menu!

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
Middle School

JOIN US FOR A VETERANS DAY ASSEMBLY

Please join us in honoring our national
heroes as we celebrate
Veterans Day, 2021.

Please submit your photos of our servicemen and
women for a special Veterans Day slideshow in their
honor. Submit all photos to
kwestbrook@dawson.k12.ga.us by November 8th.



NOVEMBER 11, 2021
9:30 AM



There will be a reception immediately
following for all veterans and active-duty
servicemen and women and their families.

A message for our Assistant Principal, Josh Lipps



Over the summer, I had lunch with one of my longtime friends from Ohio. We have been friends since 1st grade. Whenever we get together, we share some of our favorite stories from school. Inevitably, one of us says something to the effect of, "I'm glad cell phones and social media weren't around to record that." I think all of us who are at or over a certain age have said that at some point as well.

Unfortunately, our students today are growing up in a world full of social media and it is causing a number of issues. Don't get me wrong, social media can have its positives. It is a great way to communicate with friends and family, celebrate each other, and provide important announcements. I love seeing fun pictures and videos, encouraging posts, and uplifting quotes. The thing to remember is that these are the actions of responsible individuals. Children have not necessarily learned all the social and emotional skills necessary to use social media responsibly. With 81% of teens on social media (according to the Pew Research Center), it explains why we see so many negative effects in their lives.

We understand that parenting in the digital age can be scary with the potential of so many issues arising from the various social media platforms:

- Exposure to harmful or inappropriate content.
- Cyberbullying and the increased risk factors for depression and anxiety that can come from it.
- Dangerous people trying to contact your child.
- Privacy concerns with them sharing personal data which could lead to identity theft.
- Interference with sleep, academic performance, and family activities.

All of these dangers exist on multiple platforms with Snapchat, TikTok, and Instagram being some of the more popular and dangerous ones.

So, what's a parent to do? How can you protect your child's mental, emotional, and physical health if they have access to these apps?

1. Be aware and place limitations. Be aware of the apps your child uses; they can be clever with hiding them. Be aware of who they are communicating with and what they are communicating. Set limitations with the amount of time they spend on social media. An example is no screens after 9:00 p.m. It is not like when we were kids and said something we regretted to a friend. If it is put out on social media, then it is there for everyone to see and it exists forever.
2. Educate and communicate. Educate and model for them responsible use of social media and technology in general. Communicate why you are not allowing them to have unrestricted access to a phone or certain apps. Let them know the real concerns you have and how this protects them.
3. Know you're not alone. Every year we instruct your child on responsible use of the school issued iPad and we monitor it. However, your voice as the parent has the greatest influence in the life of your child. Your words and actions carry more weight than you may think.

There are many resources and sites for additional information on social media, its effects on children, and support for you to help them in their understanding. Here are just a few I found helpful. Working together we can help your child navigate these difficult years as they mature and grow toward responsible adulthood.

[8 dangers of social media to discuss with kids and teens](#)

[A Complete Guide to Potentially Dangerous Apps for Kids](#)

[7 Ways to Protect Your Kids on Social Media](#)

Josh Lipps

Assistant Principal



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.



Help Center



Dawson County Middle School

 Facebook  @DCMSTigers

 5126 Georgia HWY 9, Dawsonvi...

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