
THE PARENTS' PRESS

Duke Memorial Weekday School | September 2020

Mark your Calendars:

Sept 8: Parent Orientation via ZOOM at noon
Sept 9: First Day of School
Sept 9: Carline Starts
Sept 15: Lunch Bunch Begins
Sept 16: First Parents' Council Meeting at 9:30 via ZOOM
Sept 18: Health Forms Due

Looking ahead:

Oct 1 & 2: Individual Photos- outside
Oct 7: Parents Council Meeting at 9:30 via ZOOM
Oct 8 & 9 - Individual Photo Rain Date



504 W. Chapel Hill St.
Durham, NC 27707
919.688.5130
www.dmws.org

Dear DMWS Parents,

Welcome to a new school year! The staff at DMWS is excited to partner with your family during your child's preschool experience. Safety of the children and staff is very important to us. Please remember our carpool line is a **CELL FREE ZONE**. This includes all parking lots. We will conduct daily health screenings in carpool line before children enter the building. All drop-off and pick-up will occur outside. If you are late and miss carline drop-off, please call the school office at 919-688-5130 so a staff member can meet you on the school porch and conduct the health screening. This fall we will all be adjusting to these new procedures, so please be patient with us as we become more efficient at the morning screenings.

Our classes will be considered "pods" this year so there will be no mixing of classes. We are splitting the playground in order to allow for adequate time outside while keeping classes separated. The school will also be using the front lawn as weather permits.

Be sure to check our website www.dmws.org to keep undated on important information and access the 2020-2021 Handbook. You may also choose to pay your tuition by credit/debit card through a secure link on our webpage. The payment link can be found under the **ADMISSIONS** tab. Payment may also be made check or by auto-draft. If you did not receive an auto-draft form by email earlier in the summer, please contact the office.

I look forward to the new school year and am so glad to have you and your child as part of the Duke Memorial Weekday School family. Feel free to contact me with questions or suggestions.

Julie Allen
Director DMWS
julieallen@dmws.org





Julie Allen, Director



Teri Lowder & Dawn Perkins
Kindergarten



Emma Hales & Amanda Sublett
5 day Pre-k



Blythe Thompson & Chesley Sneed
5 day Pre-k



Holly Speight & Crystal Snow
4 day Pre-k



Leslie Alkins & Stephanie Ferrell
5 day 3's



Necia Joy Gooch & Shay Charles
4 day 3's



Jenn King & Nicole Nelson
3 day 3's



Mary Lee Bailey, Jane Hardin, &
Anne Marie Boyd
3 day 2's



Maddie Kujawa & Amy Mitchell
2 day 2's



Jane Marsilio, Music



Joe Stevens AKA Mr. Joe
Building Manager

Face Coverings at DMWS

In order to provide a safe environment for both students and staff, we will be wearing face coverings inside the building except when eating. Teachers are required to wear either a regular face covering or one with a clear panel while inside the building and when 6 feet of distance cannot be maintained outside. We expect students to also wear face coverings in the building except when eating. Children will not be asked to wear face coverings on the playground. Your child's teacher will communicate more with you regarding this change to school.

DID YOU KNOW?

Duke Memorial UMC completed the renovation of the exterior of the Sanctuary Building last year. The lower level of that building is currently under renovation. You will see construction vehicles in the paved parking lot for the next few months. While the work is confined to the other building, it will be exciting for the children to see the construction vehicles and the workers when they are on the playground.

Parking at DMWS

Please use the paved parking lot on Memorial Drive if you need to park and walk across the street. The spaces along the fence at the back of the parking lot (marked in yellow on the fence) are reserved for Church World Service employees.

Remind Texting Service - Sign up now!

Remind is a free messaging tool to help educators communicate with parents. Parents can opt in to receive texts from the school in the event of an emergency (fire, etc). It will also be used in the event of school cancellation/delay in addition to email notification.

To receive text messages, parents should **text @dukemem to 81010 or (828)394-2095**. Parents can unsubscribe at any time.

**THIS SCHOOL IS
PEANUT FREE**



THANK YOU
for keeping our school safe!

DMWS is Peanut-free

No peanuts or peanut butter will be allowed in DMWS classrooms. Children who bring lunches to school for Kindergarten or Lunch Bunch may use other nut butters (cashew butter, almond butter, sunflower seed butter, etc).

September Dining Out

Our first Dining Out will be at Mellow Mushroom at American Tobacco on Tuesday, September 22nd from 11:00 am - 9:00 pm.

DMWS will receive 10% of all dine-in and take-out orders when DMWS is mentioned to staff and receipt is placed in the designated location.



Did you know?

You can help support the school by linking your accounts to DMWS:



A message from the DMWS Parents' Council...

Welcome to Duke Memorial Weekday School! We are thrilled to welcome all of the new parents, as well as catch up with those families who are returning.

Getting involved in Parents' Council is a great way to get to know other families at our school, to find out more about upcoming events, and to support your child's school. While we would love to have you serve on the Parents' Council as an officer or committee chair, it is by no means a requirement that you hold a position in order to attend our monthly PC Meetings. All DMWS parents are invited to attend. Our first meeting is **Wednesday, September 16th at 9:30am** via zoom. If you would like to be involved in any way, log into our PC Meeting to see what we're all about. Meetings are always kid friendly, so feel free to bring little ones who are not in school!

We can't wait to get to know you this year!

Ashley Wojnarski and Heather Couture, Parents' Council Co-President

What is Parents' Council all about?

The Parents' Council is an organization of parents that supports Duke Memorial Weekday School. The council's primary functions are to build community within our school and to perform fundraising efforts to support school projects, special programs, and tuition assistance.

Parents' Council meetings:

- Meetings usually take place on the first Wednesday of the month, at 9:45am via zoom.
- Meetings are focused on discussion of community building events, fundraising projects, and general school needs. We would love your suggestions, feedback, and help!

How to get Involved?

There are many opportunities to get involved! You can attend a meeting and volunteer to serve on one of our committees (see next page) or volunteer to become a Parent Representative for your class. Teachers will be inquiring about interest in these Class Representative positions during conferences. Interested parents are also encouraged to reach out to our Presidents, Ashley Wojnarski and Heather Couture at dmwsparentscouncil@gmail.com.

Committee Volunteers

We have committees that plan, organize, and run Parents' Council events and the more people we have to serve the better! This years committees include:

- ◆ Book Fair (October and May) – **Chair and members needed.** This committee organizes virtual book fairs.
- ◆ Parents' Press - Mandy Wilkinson. Members work to compile a monthly newsletter for the school.
- ◆ Events Committee - **Chair and members needed.** This committee plans, organizes and executes fundraising and community building events.
- ◆ Silent Auction - **Chair and members needed.** Volunteers help solicit items to be auctioned, pick up donated items from vendors, set up the auction (likely virtual), monitor auctions, collect payments, and organize receipt of winnings.
- ◆ Hospitality Committee - Chaired by Kat Murray and Jen Finch, **members needed.** Members organize and manage events such as the monthly teacher breakfast, teachers' luncheon in December, and meals for teachers during Teacher Appreciation week.

DMWS Parents' Council Officers for 2020-2021

President: Ashely Wojnarski & Heather Couture

Vice President: Amy Wilson

Treasurer: Ericka Sowers

Secretary: Maren Schreiber

A message from the DMWS Board...

What does the DMWS Board do?

The DMWS Board works in partnership with the DMWS Director Julie Allen, supporting the management of the school's day-to-day operations. Through monthly board meetings and the work of individuals and committees in-between, the Board is responsible for decisions related to policies, strategy, school leadership, budget management and facility maintenance. In consort with the Director, the Board sets the school's yearly operating budget and reviews requests for tuition assistance. Comprised of DMWS parents and faculty/staff, Duke Memorial United Methodist Church members, and leadership from our facility partners, the Board's work is centered around considering the viewpoints of all constituencies and ensuring the school will continue to thrive.

How can I get involved?

Simply reach out to John Tassa (DMWSboardofdirectors@gmail.com) or another current board member regarding your interest and how your unique perspective and set of experiences that can contribute to the governance of our school. Our board serves a variety of functions that requires a variety of skill sets; but the best asset a board member can have is an earnest desire to serve our school and a commitment to the work required. We want to hear from you!

DMWS Carpool Line



CARPOOL LINE IS A CELL-FREE ZONE AT ALL TIMES. STAY FOCUSED AND KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE.



Three cars at a time pull along curb for loading.



Wait at stop sign for next turn in loading zone. Please have your carpool number displayed.



There is no left turn into the parking lot. Follow the route around the police station.



Carpool line occupies the bike lane. **Do not block the bus stop or the Duke St intersection.** If the line is full, repeat the loop around the police station.

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Parents walking to pickup should line up along the sidewalk with their carpool number in hand.



Use crosswalk at all times. Do not cross between advancing carpool cars.

