



IMPORTANT DATES:

- April 18th – End of 5th 6-week Grading Period
- April 21st – No School Staff Development
- April 25th – Report Card Issued to students.
- April 29th – TAKS, 7th Math
- April 30th – TAKS, 7th Reading
- May 1st – TAKS, 8th Science
- May 2nd – TAKS, 8th Social Studies
- May 5th – Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 7th – PTSO General Meeting, noon – Library
- May 8th – PTSO Teacher Luncheon
- May 9th – EIS Field Day
- May 10th – Theatre Speech Contest
- May 13th – Progress Reports issued.
- May 15th – Choir Spring Concert, 7 pm DMS Cafe
- May 16th – 7th Grade Awards & Celebration
- May 20th – Band Spring Concert 7 pm @ CSHS
- May 23rd – 8th Grade Awards & Celebration, Burger's Lake Trip
- May 26th – No School
- May 29th – DMS/CMS Theatre Arts Student Film Festival, 6 pm

INSIDE:

- CHOW TIME!
- Nurses Nook
- Teacher Appreciation Wk
- DMS PTSO 2008-09 Last Chance!
- DMS UIL Academic Team
- **TAKS TESTING SCHED.**

If you wish to have something included, please submit your information by email to Caren Wolf at caren.wolf@verizon.net.

From the PTSO President

Happy Spring! The year is quickly coming to a close. Before we close out the year, there are several "housekeeping" items to which we need to attend.

First, thanks to this year's PTSO Board. I appreciate you and all you've done for our school.

Thanks to our Nominating Committee for their hard work in recruiting volunteers for next year's board. The slate of officer's was presented at our April PTSO meeting. We will be voting on the slate at our May meeting. The officers that have been presented for next year are as follows:

President – Beverly Hottois
Vice President – Colleen Monroe
Vice President Disbursements – Echo Klatt
Treasurer – Becky Brown
Secretary – Lisa Manning

Thanks to ALL of you who have volunteered for a position on next year's PTSO Board. It's going to be another great year at Dawson!

Teacher Appreciation Week is coming fast. We will be honoring our staff during the week of May 5 – 9 with special meals, treats, etc. Thanks to Cathy Jackson and Barbara Unkle for coordinating all these activities. Thanks to our wonderful staff for all they do for our students.

Our next General meeting is Wednesday, May 7th at noon in the DMS library. In addition to voting on the slate for next year's PTSO Board, we will have Dr. Jan Morgan, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services and Ms. Pat Watts, K-12 Gifted/Talented (QUEST), as our guest speakers. They will be providing an update on the middle school proposal that is currently in front of the CISD board.

Our PTSO Transition Luncheon will be in the middle of May. Thanks to Sherri Williams for opening her home for this annual event. At this luncheon, we will be installing next year's officers. It will also be an opportunity for this year's Board to meet next year's Board and to pass on any bits of knowledge you may have concerning your position. Be looking for an invitation in the mail soon. This is an event you won't want to miss.

Beverly Hottois, DMS PTSO President

"The Dawson Thing" . . . from the Principal's Corner

Congratulations to Julie Presley, Dawson's 2007-2008 Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Presley teaches Keyboarding, Media Mania, and she also sponsors our Computer Club. Completing her fourth year at Dawson, she consistently demonstrates a passion for working with young people. One can't miss her heart when it comes to helping others. We celebrate with her and thank her for her service at Dawson.

Your kiddos will be experiencing more TAKS testing this month. Thank you for seeing to it that they are rested the night before and that they eat a good breakfast. We appreciate the extra time that teachers are devoting to the preparation process.

If you have visited the back of our building, you will be excited to see concrete! The new gym is coming along well as weather permits! Thank you for your patience in the car line!

Registration for next year is in full swing! Thank you for being a part of your child's decisions during this time. Please encourage them to email their counselor if they have any questions.

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. . . *continued from page 1* - We need your help as we finish the school year. Our goal is to do everything that we possibly can to keep the students focused! Attendance and punctuality is a necessity! Please encourage and see to it that your child is completing their work and studying for quizzes and tests.

As always, thank you for all you contribute at home to ensure that they come to us ready to learn. We have awesome students! As parents, you are to be commended for sending them to us ready to learn!

Have a great Spring!

Mrs. Jackson, DMS Principal

Chow Time

After seeing a few food distribution violations in our lunchroom, I thought it appropriate to remind our school community of the rules and regulations put forth by the Texas Department of Agriculture. The Texas Public School Nutrition Policy (TPSNP), in an effort to keep our students healthy, restricts the types of foods offered to our students during the school day. Our school cafeteria is held to standards of food preparation and portion control. This not to say that students can't find a way to dine on ice cream sandwiches and bread sticks alone at lunch, but standards are in place to reduce if not eliminate that possibility. In terms of what parents send or bring to school, the TPSNP restricts those offerings to be for your student only. Bringing food for your student to share with his/her friends is against the state policy. Where we see this most often at Dawson is sending a birthday food item for your student to be distributed to friends at lunch. Our front office will often notice these potential violations and redirect parents as necessary. Other times, that needed redirection falls on the shoulders of our lunch monitors. I wanted to remind our parents of this state policy to avoid your need to be redirected. Thanks for your cooperation in keeping our students healthy.

In regards to the ice cream sandwich reference, remember the "Lunch Money Now" website can help you to see what your kids are purchasing from our cafeteria each day. Information on "Lunch Money Now" as well as other important nutritional information like the TPSNP can be found in the Dragon Dining section of the district website.

*Ryan Wilson,
DMS Assistant Principal*

NURSES' NOOK

7TH Grade Acanthosis Screening:

Screening will be done Tuesday April 22nd and Wednesday April 23rd. Acanthosis nigricans is mandated by Texas Law. Please visit the CISD Health Services website for more information. If you do **NOT** want your child to be screened please do so in writing via email at okersonm@cisdmail.com, fax 817.949.5555, or hand written note **before** the morning of April 22nd.

8th Grade Scoliosis Screening:

Screening will be done Thursday May 8th and Friday May 9th. If you do **NOT** want your child to be screened, follow the instructions above **before** the morning of May 8th.

Immunization Records:

Parents please check your student's **immunization records**, particularly for a Tetanus containing vaccine (Td, Tdap, Adacel) in the last 10 years. This is required for school attendance in the state of Texas. If your student has had the immunization, please send a copy to the nurse.

Immunization Clinic at DMS:

Clinic will take place Thursday May 29th at 9:00 am in the Library. More information will be forthcoming, so plan ahead if your student needs immunizations for school. This is a wonderful opportunity to take advantage of!

Please call with any questions.

*Marie Okerson, RN
(817) 949-5532*

PTSO

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK May 5-9

Volunteers are needed to provide desserts during DMS Teacher Appreciation Week May 5th-9th. Desserts may be store bought or homemade.

Please contact Cathy Jackson at slcfbmom@aol.com if you are able to help.

Thank you!

2008-09 DMS PTSO

Last chance to be a part of the 2008-2009 DMS PTSO

We only have three areas left to fill with willing volunteers. Take a look below and if you hear the calling (I think you do!), please send Colleen Monroe an email at colleen@monroe-monroe.com with the good news!

Beautification– This committee assists Mr. Allison a couple of times a year to maintain the front gardens area of Dawson and the area between Dawson & Eubanks.

Dawson Family Night (DFN) – We need a group of people who will help coordinate Dawson Family Night which is held in the spring. DFN involves the school bands, choir, Home Ec and includes a silent auction and raffle.

Hospitality – A couple of creative and organized people are need to be responsible for the teacher appreciation lunches.

Please let me know if you are interested!

Colleen Monroe (817)416-6699

DMS UIL Academic Team

The Dawson Middle School UIL Academic team competed on Saturday, April 5, at the District UIL Academic Meet at Grapevine Middle School. The team competed against eleven area schools from Coppell, Carroll, Grapevine/Colleyville, Richardson, and Highland Park and as a whole brought home fifteen medals. *The following students were recognized for their achievements:*

Impromptu Speaking: Chloe Rogers-Brown, **1st place Social Studies:** Colin Kantor, **1st place;** Arvind Ventkatamaran, **3rd place;** Lauren Rutherford, **4th place Listening:** Greg Lang, **1st place Editorial Writing:** Lisa Mayer, **2nd place;** Greg Lang, **3rd place Science II:** Patrick Liu, **2nd place Maps/Graphs/Charts:** Lauren Rutherford, **3rd place Ready Writing:** Lauren Rutherford, **4th place Oral Reading:** Lauren Ermish, **5th place Modern Oratory:** Katie Proudman, **5th place Spelling:** Eunice Lee, **5th place Science I:** Krishna Paranandi, **6th place Mathematics:** Eunice Lee

Dawson UIL Academic coaches are: Curri Hildebrand (Mathematics); Heath Johnson (Editorial Writing, Listening, Dictionary Skills); Newell Wallace (Social Studies); Robin Young (Spelling, Ready Writing); Vicki Marinangel (Science I, Number Sense); Karina Metcalf (Science II); Barbara Young (Maps/Graphs/Charts); Danyah Arafat-Johnson (UIL Campus Coordinator, Modern Oratory, Oral Reading, Impromptu Speaking).

Congratulations to all the students and coaches for an outstanding job representing DMS and CISD at UIL!

TAKS TESTING SCHEDULE through May 2008

- **Tuesday, April 29th**
 - **7th Grade TAKS Math**
- **Wednesday, April 30th**
 - **7th Grade Reading**
- **Thursday, May 1st**
 - **8th Grade Science**
- **Friday, May 2nd**
 - **8th Grade Social Studies**

Classrooms cannot be interrupted during TAKS testing. Students cannot receive messages nor have early release from class during TAKS testing.

Please review your personal calendars (doctor appointments, dentist appointments, orthodontist appointments, etc.) and reschedule any appointments that conflict with TAKS dates.