DODGE CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Opening New Worlds for Personalized and Purposeful Learning



Weekly Principals' Bulletin September 9th - 13th of 2013

THIS WEEK IN EXTENSION TIME "Constitution Week"



This week as a part of Extension Time, Dodge City Middle School will celebrate Constitution Day on September 17th and Freedom Week. As a reminder that September 17th is Constitution Day and that "[e]ach educational institution that receives Federal funds for a fiscal year shall hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on September 17 of such year for the students served by the educational institution." DCMS is dedicating Freedom Week through daily extension time and has provided special links to ensure every student in our school understands the true value of the U.S. Constitution. You may access these materials on the school website by clicking on the following link, Constitution Day. Links on the page can be selected by going top to left on the Constitution Week info-graphic.

TESTING SCHEDULE FOR 2013 -2014



A new "revised" testing schedule has been posted on the DCMS Wiki for teachers to reference. The online document provides information on all test dates for the 2013 - 2014 school year. The testing schedule provides information on ELA and Math mastery checks, State Transitional Assessments, KELPA assessments, and 8th Grade Explore Exam. Math and ELA mastery check login directions and test ID Numbers can be found on the DCMS Wiki under the subtopic Testing Information. (Click here to access DCMS 2013 - 2014 Testing Schedule)

TEAM LEADERS MEETING (THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH)

Team leaders meeting will be held on Thursday, September 12 at 7:30 A.M. in the Library Media Center conference room. Team leaders are encouraged to be on time as we will start the agenda by outlining team protocol and reports. Mrs. Jacobs will take the second half of the meeting as we will go over student advocacy and artifacts for student portfolios. She will provide you with a list of portfolio items as we discuss due dates and the online parent teacher conference survey. Please preview the online Team Leader's page for teaming information. Agenda will be posted before Thursday.

KSDE TRANSITIONAL ASSESSMENTS



This year's 2013-2014 State assessment will be a transitional assessment aligned with the Kansas College and Career Ready Standards. These new math standards can be found by selecting the <u>Kansas Math Standards</u>. Below is a brief summary of the KSDE Transitional Assessment.

- The test will be multiple-choice with some technology enhanced items (i.e. multiple response and drag and drop).
- There will be no performance based items this year.
- The test will only have two parts.
- This assessment will only be available during the spring semester.
- The KAMM assessment will not be given this year.
- All students qualifying for alternate assessments will participate in the computerized Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) field test in mathematics.
- There will not be opportunity to learn in place this year.
- The assessment will be delivered in a new online testing interface called KITE.

A complete testing overview document can be found at http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=420. More information about KITE and the Kansas Assessment Program (KAP) can be found at http://www.ksassessments.org/.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 11TH LATE START INFORMATION



Our first late start of the school year will be on Wednesday, September 11th.

We will begin our school day at 8:00 A.M. in the band room for a short orientation to district professional development expectations. During the whole group orientation presenters will model the professional development Walkthrough Awareness activity that has been designed for your small group break out content sessions. A schedule of small group breakout sessions, locations and content area assignments will be provided during the whole group startup session.

You can access the daily late start schedule on the DCMS Wiki under Professional Guide or by clicking here <u>Late Start Schedule 2.19</u>. Please note that the regularly scheduled PLC times for Wednesday will not be held due to the late start schedules. Please follow the recommended 2.19 Schedule for late starts including team and plan times.

A NEW VERSION OF AIRSERVER 1.9



A new version of Air Server was pushed out last week and should have installed automatically. Please check to make sure you have version 1.9. To do this, click on the Air Server icon in the lower right corner of your laptop screen and select Settings (you may have to click on the up arrows to see hidden icons). The attached document has better instructions (and screen shots) for accessing Air

Server settings. In the General tab you will find the version. If you are on version 1.1.8 or lower, restart Air Server or reboot your laptop. If you still do not have version 1.9 please call Technology to have Air Server manually upgraded.

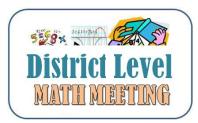
ADVISORY SETTING GOALS ACTIVITY



This week in Advisory, teachers will provide an opportunity for students to analyze their strengths and growth areas. This week's activity will focus on students developing an individual improvement plan. The "Setting Goals" activity requires students to go over their individual goal worksheet. Advisory teachers have been provided a script for this activity entitled. In order for students to be successful in meeting these goals, they need to choose

objectives that are clear, specific, and achievable. We encourage students to select a mix of academic and behavioral goals.

MATH TEACHER IN-SERVICE



Math teachers can access Common Core curriculum district level meetings on the wiki. The document entitled <u>District 6-12 Math Meeting's</u> is located on the front page of the DCMS Wiki under the sub heading "Professional Development." The document provides information on a list of times and dates that you are scheduled to

attend district level math meetings at the Learning Center. Mrs. Burkhart will always confirm your substitute for these meetings by e-mailing you a confirmation grid. If any of the times listed on the <u>District 6-12 Math Meeting's</u> document do not meet your area of need please let us know and we will make the adjustments.

Mid-Term Progress Reports

This is a reminder that mid-term progress reports open on September 13th and will close on Monday, September 16th at 4:00 P.M.

ANNUAL USD443 ONLINE SAFETY TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT



It is that time a year when all USD 443 Employees are required to complete annual safety training. The online <u>Safety Training</u> web-link opened on **September 2, 2013**. Please make sure your name does not make the November 1, 2013 close date list. This year we are shooting for 100% participation by the November 1st close date. There are four (4) courses and each employee must successfully pass <u>all four (4)</u> courses to be considered complete.

To access the Safety Training website go to www.publicschoolworks.com/232 As each employee passes a course, **DO NOT** go back and take the test for a higher score. **Only** USD 443 employees are required to complete this training. 613 employees will complete training through 613.

To log on you will use your user name which will be your last name dot your first name (example: doe.jane). Your password is your ID# which you can find on your ID badge or on your paystub (example: 055526). Please do not enroll yourself in other courses unless you have prior approval from the Maintenance Department.

If you have any problems logging onto the website, please contact Monique Immell immediately at 620-227-1712 or just e-mail her at immell.monique@usd443.org. If you do not have a 443 e-mail address you need to get in touch with Technology at 620-227-1775 to get this set up.

AFTER SCHOOL MATH TEACHER NEEDED

We are in need of an after school migrant math teacher who would be willing to tutor students after school. The Migrant program starts on Monday, September 9th. The days and hours are Monday through Thursday from 3:20 to 4:20 P.M.. If you are interested send me an e-mail at:king.michael@usd443.org.