



DeLong Middle School

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Web Page: www.ecasd.us/DeLong-Middle-School/Home

August 2019

Dear Family of a DeLong Student,

Our school year is fast approaching, and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to DeLong Middle School for the 2019-2020 school year. We are looking forward to working with all of you, and we have a very exciting and challenging year planned.

The primary purpose of this mailing is to give you a head start on some of the beginning of the year "bookkeeping" items. Parents have told us that receiving all the fee, emergency, and picture forms at the beginning of the year makes the start of the year too difficult. We hope this mailing helps relieve some of that stress by giving you more time to review and complete these forms.

Attention sixth grade families: the sixth-grade orientation night is Wednesday, August 28th. This is a great opportunity for sixth graders to meet their teachers, meet some of the other families on your team, try your locker, walk the building, and get all your questions answered. We will have members of our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), members of both the student and city transit companies, cafeteria staff members, and the school nurse available at stations in the IMC to answer questions. The PTO will also have treats for sale. Orientation night is always very well attended so you may want to arrive at DeLong between 6:00 and 6:30 p.m. You will be given a packet of directions as you enter the building, and our teachers will start their presentations at 6:30 p.m. During any unscheduled time, you are welcome to get familiar with the building, visit the resource people in the IMC, pay for your child's PE shirt, or enjoy a treat with the PTO.

Students will receive notification of what team they will be on through the Knight's Quarterly newsletter. The mailing label will designate which team the student has been assigned. Seventh and eighth grade students can pick up their class schedules on Thursday, August 22nd, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. in the gym. Also, on the 22nd there will be an orientation for all new seventh and eighth grade students to DeLong at 1:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

The fall sports meeting for 7th and 8th graders (and 6th graders participating in Cross Country) will be on Tuesday, August 27th, at 3:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Students and parents will meet the Athletic Director and coaches. They will explain expectations for athletes, practice schedules, game schedules and answer questions you may have during the meeting. Athletes will also have a light practice on August 27th, 28th and 29th.

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The Eau Claire Board of Education has adopted extra-curricular participation fees, and you will find a fee form enclosed with information regarding the fees and directions for payment. Also included on the form are our charges for a PE shirt (students may use the same PE shirt they purchased in sixth or seventh grade or they may purchase a new one; PE shirts will be distributed in PE class the first week of school). Seventh and eighth grade students may pay their fees when they pick up their schedules on the 22nd or on the 27th at the athletic meeting and sixth grade students may pay their fees at sixth grade orientation on August 28th. You may also send them with your child the first week of school. Your child may drop them off in the Principal's office.

You will find an emergency form enclosed in this mailing. Please fill out this form and have your student return it to the attendance office or their first hour teacher.

School pictures are very early again this year. All students are scheduled to have their pictures taken on Friday morning, **September 6th**. We have included school picture information in this mailing with the hope that receiving this information now will give you time to make decisions and prepare for pictures on **September 6th**. In addition, we have included information regarding our health education program/meeting and parent volunteer opportunities.

Also enclosed is a map of our parking lot with drop off areas marked and bus line up. We would ask parents to NOT use Doors 1, 2, or 3 from 7:00 to 7:45 a.m. and from 2:35 to 3:00 p.m. Student pick-up and drop-off at these times should be at Doors 6, 13, and 14. This is a very busy time for traffic. Please pull all the way forward and have your child prepared to exit the car immediately. Also, vehicles should exit the same way they entered (example: if you entered off Vine Street, you will exit out Vine Street and the same with Moholt Drive). Please keep safety as your #1 priority when picking up and dropping off your child.

Enclosed is information regarding an immunization clinic the Eau Claire City-County Health Department is providing at DeLong. On October 23rd from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. students can get their shots for free and adults can get the flu shot for a fee.

As you have probably heard, our district is participating in the Peak Energy Rate Program through Excel Energy. The Peak Control Rate (PCR) is an alternative electric rate for customers that are able to shed load during Excel Energy peaks and is designed to reduce our energy costs. The risk of the program is that it may affect the school day by causing us to close school early; however, in the last 23 years there were only two occasions when service would have been interrupted during the school year. The district will receive at least one-hour notice before the interruptions.

The district will handle an energy shut-down similar to closing school early for inclement weather. The news media will be contacted immediately so they can report the early closing. As with snow days, please make alternate arrangements for your child on days when the district closes early. Thank you for taking time to talk about this as a family so everyone knows what to do in case of an early dismissal.

For up-to-date information, please visit the DeLong website (www.ecasd.us/DeLong-Middle-School/Home). This site includes all of the information in the DeLong calendar plus up-to-date school news, event calendars, staff rosters, and much more. Please visit the website often.

Sincerely,

Tim O'Reilly, Ed.D.
Principal