



DeWitt PTA News

February • March • 2019

DeWitt Middle School • 560 Warren Road, Ithaca NY 14850 • 607-257-3222

DeWitt Middle School Hours:
8:55am – 3:21pm
(Doors open at 8:00 am)

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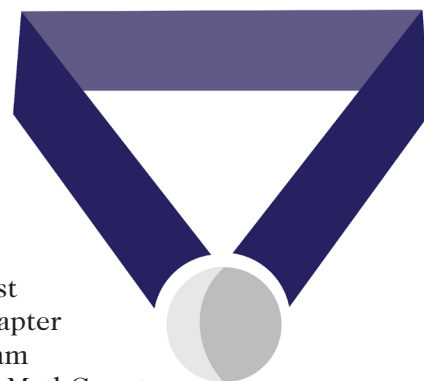
Dewitt PTA News, Vol. 2, No. 3, February/March 2019

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year in September, November,
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DeWitt PTA, Dewitt Middle School,
560 Warren Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850.

Math Counts!

DeWitt Wins First Place

*Xiaodong Cao,
Cornell University Professor
of Mathematics*



Even with one of the smallest and youngest teams entering the recent Mathcounts Chapter competition, DeWitt took home the #1 team trophy! The DeWitt Math Club hosted the MathCounts school round competition on January 15th at DeWitt, and the team participated in the Chapter competition on February 2nd at SUNY Delhi.

The four official team members are Athena Nie (captain), Annalise Thompson, Jasper Agrawal and Lei Cao, but everyone contributed to the team success as part of the team. Other participants were: Hewitt Gao, Vipul Singh, Jennifer Zhao, Boaz Ng and Jonathan Sackett. The students also did very well individually in the chapter competition (Athena #2, Lei #6, Boaz #8 and Annalise #11). In the afternoon countdown round, three of the four finalists were from the DeWitt Math Club: Athena, Boaz and Lei. Boaz won the countdown championship.

Many thanks to Coach Inna for training our kids--she prepared them well individually and especially as a team, and helped our kids build their confidence! Thanks to school teachers Mrs. Danskin, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Knight, Mrs. Troy, and Mrs. Boynton; to PTA board members Empar Sicroff, and Eglantina Lucio-Belbase; to parent volunteers Mike Thompson and Rachel Nie; and to all the parents for their support! Our next challenge is to compete in the state competition, which is March 9th at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY.

**GET READY
FOR HIGH
SCHOOL**

It's Time for 8th Grade Students to Plan Their 9th Grade Schedules

Your child's 9th grade scheduling letters have been mailed to student homes. This letter will have the date and time that your child will meet with his or her guidance counselor here at DeWitt. If you cannot make the appointment and wish to be here for it please call or email Kathy Troy to reschedule. Please note that if you are not at the appointment that is ok as your child will get a copy of their tentative schedule to bring home to you.

Message from the DeWitt PTA

Support Your PTA Today!

When you contribute today to the DeWitt PTA, you support the group's activities to enhance the school experience for students, families and teachers. This is our only fundraising campaign – no calls for bake sales, door-to-door selling, or “thon’s” throughout the year!

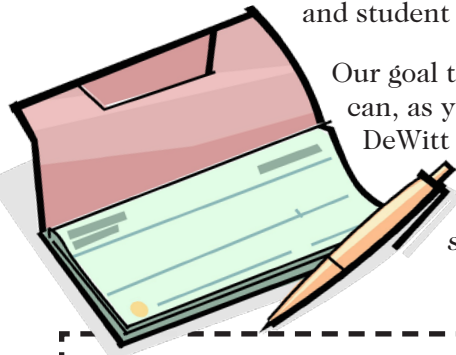
100% of your donation goes directly to our unit, unlike your PTA membership, of which only \$3 comes into our coffers. (The balance supports advocacy efforts at the state and national level.)

Your contribution makes it possible for the PTA to:

- Show our appreciation to teachers and staff
- Present community-building programs like the welcome picnic and movie night
- Host meetings featuring topics of interest
- Enhance school events such as open house and international/immigration night
- Support the 8th grade graduation and field trip
- Provide a channel to learn about and connect with the school through the meetings, newsletter, listserv and volunteer opportunities
- Offer a lending closet for school musicians
- And, if we raise enough funding, provide teacher grants and student scholarships

Our goal this year is \$3,500. Please, give what you can, as you are able, so that we can enrich the DeWitt Middle School experience.

For more information, please contact Suzanne Smith Jablonski at ssmithjablonski@gmail.com.



DeWitt PTA Direct Appeal 2018-2019

Parent/Caregiver Name: _____

Address (if you would like to receive a thank you/acknowledgement):

I would like to contribute \$ _____.

Enclosed please find my check payable to “DeWitt PTA”.

ICSD Budget
Presentation:
Monday, March 11
6:30 pm
in the Music Room

Dear DeWitt Families,

We wanted to ask for your input in terms of next year's priorities. Please keep your eye out for a PTA survey in the coming weeks. bit.ly/PTAQs

Also, as we plan for next year, we are aware that there will be openings in several committees. If you would like to coordinate one of the following programs or join the committee, please let me know: Welcome Back Picnic, Open House, International Night, Staff Appreciation and the 8th Grade Committee.

Finally, we have PTA Board openings. We are looking for co-President(s) and a Secretary. If you are interested in these positions, please let me know as soon as possible.

Thanks,
–Eglantina (eluciob@gmail.com)

ICSD Budget Presentation

Please join us at our March PTA meeting (03/11 6:30pm). Our guest speaker will be ICSD's CFO, Amanda Verba. She will be presenting the 2019-20 budget that taxpayers will vote on in May.



Meet Ms. Collins Zinda, Science Teacher

By Brenna Lucio-Belbase

There are many new additions to the DeWitt staff, all valuable to the school's mission. Brenna interviewed two of the new teachers—Ms. “CZ,” sixth grade science teacher, and Ms. Gibb, mathematics teacher—to find out a little more about them.

Ms. Elisa Collins Zinda

Did you live anywhere before Ithaca? If so, where?

Yes! Most recently I lived in Providence, Rhode Island for three years, but I've been all over. I grew up in a small town near Flint, MI (Michigan), but lived in Madison, WI (Wisconsin) for five years. I've also lived twice in China for a total of 17 months as well as twice in the Philippines, for a total of 7 months.

Were you a science teacher in the place(s) you lived before Ithaca, too?

I got my classroom certification while living in Rhode Island, but I taught science lessons for school field trips through various jobs at insect museums, the Detroit Science Center, and Olbrich Botanical gardens.

What are some of your hobbies? What do you like doing outside of school?

My hobbies change based on the age of my children, because it's very hard to make things out of yarn with a toddler around! I love to read, though it's sometimes hard to find the time. I'm currently reading a book called *The Overstory* by Richard Powers and recently finished *The Name of the Wind* by Patrick Rothfuss. In the summer, gardening and hiking take over my time. I also love to bike, and as the weather warms up I'll start biking to DeWitt.

Why do you like teaching science?

My undergraduate degrees are in Conservation Forestry and Entomology, and ecology is my love. But no science stands alone - biology requires an understanding of chemistry, and everything requires an understanding of physics. Space science blows my mind every time. My curiosity won't let me settle on a single subject, because they are all so interconnected.

What do you like about Ithaca?

There's so much to love! It's culturally similar to Ann Arbor, Michigan, where I did my MA in Science Education, and Madison, Wisconsin, but only Ithaca has the Ithaca Festival's Volvo Ballet! The gorges are lovely enough that I don't miss the mountains as I do in flatter places.



Photo by Hans Reniers on Unsplash

What do you like about DeWitt?

During my time at DeWitt, I've enjoyed the way the staff and administration support one another. I'm grateful to the teachers who have welcomed me as part of the team, as well as the students who have helped me grow as a teacher.

What's the most interesting science activity you've ever done?

For middle school, I can't say, because I hope you'll be doing it next year in Life Science! While teaching a college botany course, I got to model how some ants taste like lemons if you lick their abdomen!

What's the funniest thing that has gone wrong in one of your science classes?

Hard to say. I laughed later when a second grader asked me (in front of about 80 people) about the mating habits of ants, but it was important to keep a straight face at that moment.

Meet Ms. Gibb, Mathematics Teacher

By Brenna Lucio-Belbase

Ms. Marietta Gibb

Did you live anywhere before Ithaca, if so, where?

I did, I lived in Pensacola, Florida.

Were you a math teacher there, too?

I was, I taught fifth grade, but at that school, you changed classes for subjects (like DeWitt), so I taught two or three groups.

What are some of your hobbies? What do you like doing outside of school?

I have three kids, so I have to take them to all of their different activities. I'm a theater nerd—I like to learn about different shows, and I like music. I also like to travel.

Why do you like teaching math?

I've always liked math, since I was a student. I can't explain why, it just makes sense to me, it's the way I work. I like showing my students how it makes sense. A lot of students think math is really confusing, though.

What do you like about Ithaca?

Seasons are new. It was summer in Florida pretty much all the time. Fall's been fun, and winter's exciting. I like the people, it's so diverse—there are so many different types of people here.

What do you like about DeWitt?

Probably the people. Great teachers to work with, and great students.

What's the most interesting math activity you've ever done?

I have some favorites. I won't say my top one, because we haven't done it yet. Generally, I like the ones that involve any art or creativity.

What's the funniest thing that has gone wrong in one of your math classes?

In Florida, I was trying to explain speed and velocity, distance over time, that kind of thing. I was trying to show how you can cover the same distance in different times, if you change your speed. So I took off running across the classroom. But I was wearing high heels, and I fell. I slammed into some cabinets, it was an epic fall. Then I turned it into a writing assignment, so they had to write about the time their teacher fell on her face. We laugh a lot, but I can't think of anything else in particular.

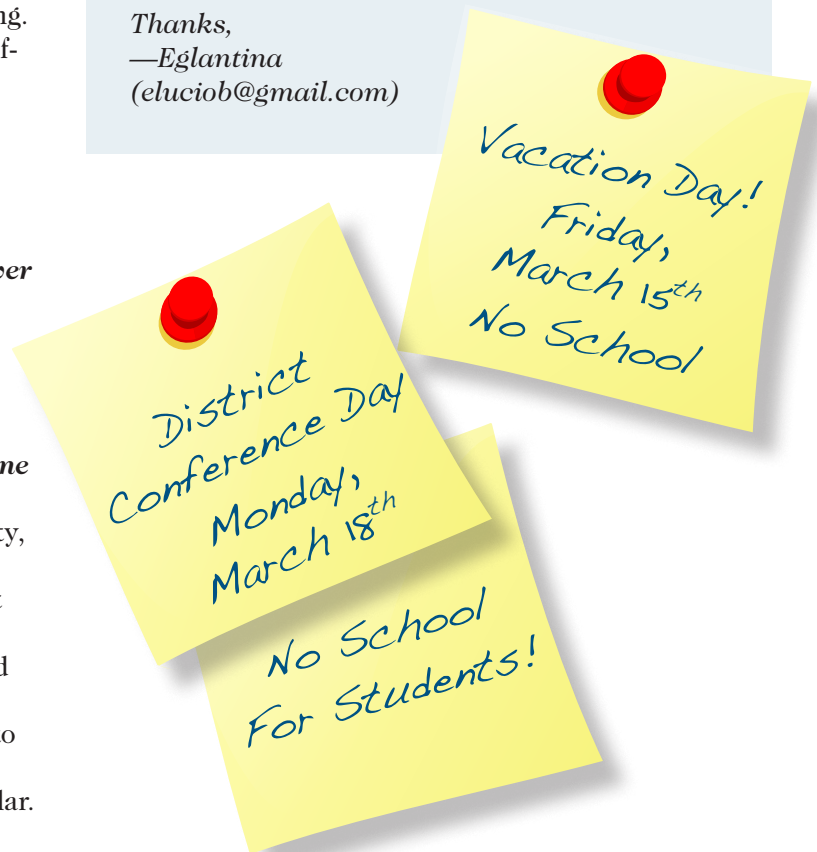


Photo by Alireza Etemadi on Unsplash

Staff Appreciation Lunch is Scheduled for May 1st – Save the Date.

We will have a meeting to organize the May 1st Staff Appreciation Lunch soon. This meeting will be scheduled on either Wednesday March 20th from 4-5pm OR 7-8pm, OR on Friday March 22nd, from 8-9am. If you're interested in helping with this event, please let me know which meeting date/time works best. We'll keep everyone in the loop via email if you can't make the meeting.

Thanks,
—Eglantina
(eluciob@gmail.com)





DeWitt Musical Performances

By Luna King-O'Brien

Dewitt provides a plentiful array of music opportunities and performances. Our upcoming performances include a chorale concert, an orchestra concert, and a band concert, all of which will be held at the Kulp Auditorium in Ithaca High School. Past performances have had wonderful turnouts, and are treasured as excellent showcases for students' work. If you have ever been to one of these concerts, you know that the enjoyment isn't just in the audience; the students are delighted to share their music and the work they have put into it. Viewing the concert, you will be able to see their enthusiasm in the pieces themselves.

**Music in our Schools Combined Band Concert:
Wednesday, March 6th, 7:00 pm**

Spring Band Concert: Tuesday, May 14th, 7:00 pm

Spring Choir Concert: Thursday May 30th, 7:00 pm

Spring Orchestra Concert: Thursday, June 13th, 7:00 pm



Music Department Borrowing Closet

Check out our new PTA concert dress borrowing closet!

The closet has some concert-ready clothes for students to borrow. If your child needs to borrow some clothes, please let his/her teacher know, or contact Loredana (LL775@cornell.edu).

If your child has outgrown last year's concert clothes, please consider donating them to our closet. **We especially need black shoes.** If you'd like to make a donation, please contact Loredana (LL775@cornell.edu). Thank you!



Concert Dress Code Items

- Black dress shirts (for orchestra only)
- White dress tops (for band and choir)
- Black dress pants
- Black shoes
- Black socks
- Solid black dresses (must fall below the knees when sitting down)
- Black skirts (must fall below the knees when sitting down)

If you have any concerns about the dress code, please contact your teacher.

6th Grade Update

Submitted by Kelly Horrocks

The 6th graders have been very busy these past weeks. In social studies classes, they have been studying ancient India and China. Mrs. Horrocks' classes have embarked on their biggest project of the year, researching and creating an 8-panel pamphlet that covers six aspects of Chinese civilization. Ms. Bechert's classes will cover the same material, creating an infographic from their research.

English classes spent several weeks researching and writing persuasive essays on the mystery of the death of the pharaoh Tutankhamen ("King Tut"), coordinating with the social studies unit on ancient Egypt. They are beginning the new term with a literature unit on overcoming obstacles. Students experienced a "book tasting" where the room was set up like a restaurant, with many different books on the menu. Students rotated from table to table "tasting" each selection in order to pick the one they most wanted to read!

Science classes have had many hands-on lab experiences. They have been studying the periodic table, reading and writing about Marie Curie, experimenting with chemical reactions, and doing creative, independent work on their mid-year portfolios. Math classes did a unit on graphing and integers, and practiced dividing and multiplying fractions.

On February 5th, we celebrated the Lunar New Year, complementing our studies of ancient China. Hallways were decorated with Chinese dragons and flags, core classes participated in different China-themed activities, dragon dancers roamed the halls and visited classrooms, Chinese food was served, and we ended the event by watching Mulan.



Calendar

PTA events are listed in bold

March

M 11 PTA Meeting: ICSD Budget

F 15 Vacation Day

M 18 District Conference Day
- no school

April

M 01 - T 02 NYS ELA Tests

T 09 Ice Cream Social

M 15 - F 19 Spring Recess

May

W 01 Staff Appreciation Day

M 06 - T 07 NYS Math Tests

M 13 PTA Meeting

M 27 Memorial Day recess

June

M 10 Last PTA Meeting

F 21 8th Grade Dance

M 24 8th Grade Promotion

T 25 Last day for students

W 26 Last day for staff

Spring Sports Registration

The 2019 7/8th Modified Spring Sports Registration opens on February 25th. Please register online through Family ID. You can find a link to FamilyID on the ICSD website, on the Athletics page (<http://www.ithacacityschools.org/districtpage.cfm?pageid=205>). Registrations will be open until March 24th.

Modified Spring Sports Include:

- Baseball
- Softball
- Boys and Girls Lacrosse
- Boys and Girls track
- Boys Tennis

Tryouts and practices start March 25th. If you have questions regarding registration, please contact Family ID. Coaches and Practice Schedules will be listed on the ICSD Website.

Community Notice!

The Large Athletic Field Next to Northeast Elementary School will be Closed all Summer for Maintenance!

Ithaca City School District will be improving this athletic field over the summer, therefore the field will be closed.

Please spread the word!

If you know of an organization that uses that field during the summer, please let them know they will need to make other arrangements. If you have questions, please contact Samantha Little at the ICSD Athletic Office. slittle@icsd.k12.ny.us, (607) 274-2155

Clubs At DeWitt

If your child is interested in a club that is not on the list, they should speak with Ms. Boynton, and she will meet with your student to try to make that happen.

Penny has a club information and sign up table in the cafeteria and you can contact her at pboynton@icsd.k12.ny.us or 266-3554 .

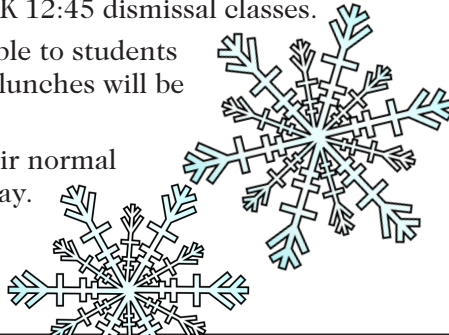
Club Names	Day	Time	Staff	Meeting place
Home Work Club	M,T,Th,	3:20-4:30	Penny Boynton	Cafeteria /classrooms
Jazz Improv Club	Mon.	3:20-4:30	Mr. Treat	Band Room
Sewing/Knitting	Mon.	3:20-4:30	Janet Edwards Parker	E219
Girls Empowered	Mon.	3:20-4:30	Ms. Smith	Library Lab room
Chess Club	Mon.	3:20-4:30	Robert Weinberg/Penny	C205
TSA	Tues. Thurs.	3:30-5:30	Mr. Buchner	Tech South
Writers Guild	Tues.	3:20-4:30	Mr. Arm	B204
Science Club	Tues.	3:20-4:30	Ms. Quadrozzi	D105
LGBTQ&Support	Tues. 2 nd , 4 th	3:20-4:30	Mr. Isley	F119
Guitar Club	Tues.	3:20-4:30	Mr. North	B206
Battle Bots	Tues.	3:20-4:30	TCPL/Joah Tang	Lib. Computer Lab
Math Club	Tues.	3:20-4:45	Mr. Cao	C204
Art Club	Thurs.	3:25-4:30	Ms. Kivisild	Art Room or E203
Bass Club	Thurs.	3:20-4:43	Mr. Buck	E204
Library Squad	Thurs.	3:20-4:30	Ms. Spisak	Library
YearBook Club	Thurs.	3:20-4:30	Ms. Smith	Lib.computer Lab
Ping Pong Club	Thurs.	3:20-4:30	Ms. Hoffman	A205
Morning Clubs				
Aquarium club	Fri.	8:00-8:45	Mr. Gottlieb	D205
NJHS	Thurs.	8:00-8:45	Ms. Quadrozzi	Library
Cooperative Extension				
Magic the Gathering	Tues.	3:20-5:30	Beth Bannister	Art Room
Dungeon&Dragons	Tues.	3:20-5:30	Beth Bannister	Art Room
Art & Soul	Wed.	3:20-5:30	Beth Bannister	Art Room/
Other Programs:				
Go Tutors	Tues. Thurs.	3:20-4:30	Robin Rosoff/K Harrell	Library
STEP Cornell	Tues.	3:20-4:30	Ray Hage	A201
IYB College Discovery	Mon. Thurs.	3:20-4:30	Ithaca Youth Bureau	Library
Cornell Film Makers	Wed.& Fri.	3:20-5:00	CU Dr. Duff	A101 A106 Lib.compLib
Paul Schreurs (IYB)	Thurs.	3:20-4:30	Mike Smith, IYB	A201

Two-Hour Delay Procedure:

On these days, parents are encouraged to develop a plan so their children can safely stay home for an additional two hours.

In the event that a two-hour delay is activated, the following procedures will be followed:

- Local news and radio stations will be contacted to report the delayed start, notices will be posted on the District website, Twitter and Facebook pages and emails will be sent to families using the SchoolMessenger system. Caregivers are encouraged to update their contact information in SchoolTool by contacting their school secretary.
- If conditions do not improve within two hours, classes may be cancelled for the entire day and the same methods of notification will be made.
- All bus routes will be delayed by exactly two hours (i.e. If your bus stop is normally at 8:37 a.m., it will be at 10:37 a.m. on delayed start days).
- All schools will start exactly two hours later than normal. Elementary students should arrive at school between 9:40 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
- Secondary school doors will open at 10:30 a.m. Students will follow a condensed bell schedule of all scheduled classes. There will be no zero period at Ithaca High School on two-hour delay days.
- Pre-K classes will NOT be held if a two-hour delay occurs on a Friday. This does not apply to Pre-K 12:45 dismissal classes.
- Simple breakfasts will be available to students when schools open and regular lunches will be served at modified times.
- Schools will be dismissed at their normal times at the end of the school day.



Wondering if there is a School Closing or Delay?

Check the Ithaca City School District Website: <https://www.ithacacityschools.org>. If school is closed, or there is a delay, a banner will be posted on the home page.

Notifications are also be found on the listserv, sent by email and text (see below).

ICSD is Adding Text Messaging Capability to SchoolMessenger

The Ithaca City School District is adding text messaging capability to SchoolMessenger Communicate, the system it currently uses to call and email families.

The new service will allow schools to send parents and guardians important informational text messages about events, school closings, safety alerts, and more, directly to their mobile devices.

For details visit <https://www.ithacacityschools.org/districtpage.cfm?pageid=1313>



8th Grade End-of-Year Events: Save the Dates!

Submitted by Karen Gorsky

The 8th Grade Party celebration will be held at DeWitt Middle School on Friday, June 21. The 8th Grade Committee will be looking for parents and guardians to volunteer.

The 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony is set for Monday, June 24 in Ithaca High School's Kulp Auditorium. The 8th Grade Committee will be looking for volun-

teers to bring cupcakes to the event.

More to come in the spring!

8th Grade Committee Coordinator
- Karen Gorsky (karengorsky@gmail.com)

Parent Volunteer Party Coordinator
- Lisa Biskup (ldb5@cornell.edu)

The next 8th Grade Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 19 at 7 p.m. at DeWitt Middle School All are welcome!

Free School Supply Closet With Its Pass-It-On Point Of View

At one time or another, nearly everyone has found themselves lacking a pencil, ruler, notebook, or other important item for school—whether through forgetfulness, carelessness, or an inability to acquire the item in the first place. If any of the above describes you—or a student you know—take note of the School Supply Closet, a free-to-students service run by Penny Boynton, DeWitt's Family Liaison.

The closet runs on a “pass-it-on” gift philosophy. If any student, for any reason, needs a school supply, that student can stop by Penny's office (or browse the auxiliary supply cart located just outside her office—her door opens into the cafeteria) and

take whatever supplies are needed. The pass-it-on part is this: students who have the means—whether now or at any time in the future—are asked to give back to the closet. So, a student could take a pencil one day, but give back with a three-ring binder a day later, a year later, or still later as an adult. The most popular items in the closet at the start of the school year are index cards, colored pencils, markers, and loose-leaf notebook paper. Other perennially popular supplies include spiral notebooks, three-ring binders, pocket folders, and binder dividers. **This year we have a desperate need for water bottles.** Backpacks are also a desired item in the closet, and students can trade backpacks in, if their tastes or needs change.

The PTA provides the closet with funding for some items, but students' families are encouraged to donate extra supplies to ensure that the closet is always stocked. Thank you for your help!

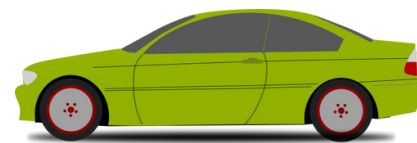


Student Drop-Off And Pick-Up

When dropping off or picking up your child at DeWitt, please make use of the drop-off/pick-up area at the North exit (parking lot exit).

Please follow the one-way direction of cars to create a smooth flow of traffic, and be patient during the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. In order to keep the flow of traffic moving, it is important that drivers pull up as far as possible in the drop-off area.

It is critical to pay attention to cars moving in all directions and, more importantly, check for pedestrians crossing the lanes. Thank you for your consideration.



Parking Reminder

For the safety of everyone in the DeWitt school community, please do not park in the Fire Lane area. Even if you are picking up your child, you must park in a parking spot, not the Fire Lane. Thank you for your cooperation.

Volunteer Opportunities With The PTA!

We need people to lead events and programs, and many more people to help support those events and programs.

We are looking for 8th grade parents to help with the June events. If you are interested, please contact Karen Gorsky, karengorsky@gmail.com.

If you can help with help with Staff Appreciation, please contact Eglantina, eluciob@gmail.com.

Join The DeWitt PTA Listserv!

Sign-up on the DeWitt Listserv to receive important information regarding school events, choir/band, PTA events, and community announcements! Sign-up at dewittpta-subscribe@yahoogroups.com with “Join Listserv” in the subject line.

Parent/Teacher Conferences at DeWitt

If your student attended elementary school in the Ithaca City School District, you've probably already been to a few parent-teacher conferences and you know that parent-teacher conference days are marked on the official ICSD calendar. However, once a student moves up to middle school, these conferences don't occur automatically.

If you would like to arrange a meeting with your child's teachers, contact their Guidance Counselor: Leann Young (leann.young@icsd.k12.ny.us) for last

names from A-L; Eric Jackson (eric.jackson@icsd.k12.ny.us) for last names M-Z.

Another way to stay informed with your child's progress is by signing up for the SchoolTool Parent Portal. To sign up please contact Kathy Troy at 257-3445 or (ktroy@icsd.k12.ny.us).

Details can be found on the ICSD website. (<https://ithaca.schooltool.cnyric.org/SchoolToolWeb/>) or click on the school tool button at the top of the of any ICSD web page.

DeWitt PTA Membership Form

Join Us!

Name of Parent or Guardian: _____

2nd Parent/Guardian or Child (if s/he would also like to be a member): _____

Telephone: _____

email: _____

☐ Check here if you'd like to be added to the Dewitt PTA listserv (we'll post info and updates on PTA and school events).

Oldest/Only Child's Name (Grade): _____

Membership fees (cover some of our unit's expenses, and our NYS and National PTA dues)

Individual membership: \$ _____ x \$7
(We keep \$3)

Additional member: \$ _____ x \$5
(We keep \$1)

Additional Donation: \$ _____
(We keep 100%)

Grand Total: \$ _____

☐ cash or ☐ check (# _____)

Please make checks payable to DeWitt PTA.

We invite you to participate in as many events and programs as you wish to join.

Please let us know if you or another member of your family like to help us. Some of these programs require a minimal time commitment.

Would you like to volunteer?

☐ Yes! ☐ I'm not sure (please contact me)

I'd love to help coordinate or volunteer for the following program(s):

- ☐ Back to School Picnic
- ☐ Open House
- ☐ Outdoor movie night in the Fall
- ☐ Immigration Night
- ☐ Outdoor musical festival in the Spring
- ☐ Staff Appreciation
- ☐ 8th Grade Dance and Promotion
- ☐ Help coordinate student efforts for Newsletter
- ☐ Help with the Newsletter
- ☐ Manage the PTA website

Mail form and dues to DeWitt PTA, attention: PTA Membership, 560 Warren Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850, or put in an envelope labeled "DeWitt PTA / Membership" and send in with your child to school. Thank you!



**Supporting student success means making sure all students
can get to activities they're interested in,
and families have the transportation they need to stay involved.
Students and families who participate do better!**

PENNY BOYNTON, YOUR SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION LIAISON!

As your School Transportation Liaison, I can share information on existing transportation services and resources, and/or help problem-solve transportation challenges. I can be reached at pboynton@icsd.k12.ny.us or 266-3554.

CARS ARE FOR DRIVING FULL:

Find or offer a ride, and help make the whole community successful! For help setting up carpooling or shared rides, contact your Transportation Liaison (see above) or call Sophie at Way2Go at (607) 272-2292 x184. Or talk directly with other parents/caregivers, your child's coach, drama director, afterschool program teacher, or other activity leader, to offer or look for a ride.

HELP WITH RIDESHARING:

Way2Go also offers a guide to ridesharing that can help you support parents and caregivers like yourself who want to do more ridesharing! To get the guide and/or volunteer to help out, contact your School Liaison, your child's activity leader, or Way2Go, as shown above.

TCAT BUS PASSES

Are available for students who can use a TCAT bus route for transportation to or from school-based (or related) activities. Contact your school transportation liaison or Way2Go.

INSTANT HELP USING TCAT BUS ROUTES:

Download a free app from iTunes called Ride 14850 for instant bus info based on where you want to go. The app is not affiliated with TCAT, but is based on TCAT's route maps.

RED

School Rides offers rides to school meetings and events by volunteer drivers, when possible. Contact RED at least a week ahead by emailing redschoolrides@gmail.com. If you call at the last minute, they will try but it's harder to find a ride. If you have a car, consider volunteering to help families get to meetings. You decide which and how many rides to offer—even just one ride makes a difference!

VIDEOS!

See Way2Go's videos on using the bus, carsharing and ridesharing at way2go.org.

ITHACA CARSHARE DISCOUNT:

For self-serve, by-the-hour access to Ithaca Carshare cars—plus a truck and a minivan—check out the Easy Access plan for low-income families! Call Ithaca Carshare at 607-277-3210.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Call 2-1-1 (or 877-211-8667) for information on current transportation services, contact your school Transportation Liaison, or see www.way2goinfo.org or call Way2Go at 272-2292.

CONTACT:

Sophie Somerfeldt, Way2Go Educator
607-272-2292 ext. 184; chrisophia@cornell.edu

DeWitt At A Glance

A Reference Guide to Help Families Find What They Need

Who Do I Call?

Absent/Tardy Excuses	Attendance
Academic Concerns	Guidance Counselor
AIS	Support Teacher
Athletic/ Sports.	Main Office
Attendance	Attendance
Bulletin Board Approval.	Principal
DeWitt Website.	Coordinator
District Enrollment	274-2201
Early Dismissal.	Superintendent
ENL.	Guidance
Extracurricular Activities.	Family Liaison
Field Trips	Principal
Homework Requests.	Guidance
Illness	Attendance/Nurse
Lockers.	Attendance
Lost & Found	Family Liaison
Lunch Charges	Cafeteria
Personal Problems	Guidance/Nurse/Principal Social Worker/Psychologist
Program of Studies	Guidance
Registration/Withdrawal.	Guidance
Self-Discipline	Associate Principal
Scheduling	Guidance
School Calendar	Main Office
School Policies	Principal
Testing Information	Guidance
Transportation	274-2128
Visitations.	Attendance
Working Papers.	Nurse

Phone Numbers/Who's Who

Principal	Mac Knight 257-3222
Associate Principal	Donna Lucy-Lender 257-3881
Attendance	Patty Potter 257-3881
AIS/Reading	Caitlin Redfield 257-0734
Cafeteria	Nancy Smith 257-3884
CSE Chair.	Dawn Johnson
Guidance	Kathy Troy 257-3445
Counselors	Eric Jackson Leann Young
ENL.	Carol Hoffman 257-3222
Family Liaison	Penny Boynton 266-3554
Head Custodian.	Carleen Corey 257-3885
Library	Jezra Spisak 882-9858
Nurse	Mary Gessini 266-3510
Main Office Staff.	Patty Potter Deborah Reniff 257-3222
School Social Worker	Mary Baker 257-3269
School Psychologist	Carin Trabout 257-3406
Special Ed Office	Helen English 257-3444
PTA.	Eglantina Lucio-Belbase eluciob@gmail.com

