



DeWitt PTA News

September • October • 2018
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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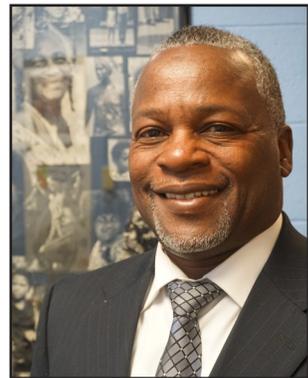
**Dewitt PTA News, Vol. 2, No. 1,
September/October 2018**

Dewitt PTA News is published 5 times a year in September, November, January, March and May by the DeWitt PTA, Dewitt Middle School, 560 Warren Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850.

Message From The Principal

Dear Parents/Caregivers/Families,

It gives me great joy to greet you for the upcoming 2018-19 school year. While the summer is not completely over, it's not too early to begin thinking about and preparing for this 10 month journey together. To start our journey, I want to remind everyone of our core value:



Mac M. Knight, Principal

**H.O.M.E at DeWitt....
Habits of Mindful Excellence at DeWitt.**

The principles that we want ALL our staff and students to value as Habits of Mindful Excellence:

- Collaboration:** working with someone to produce or create something
- Independence:** think and act for yourself
- Integrity:** do the right thing, even when no one is watching
- Reflection:** giving serious thought and consideration
- Resilience:** recover quickly from difficulties

First, I want to say, thank you for your support and loyalty in sharing our commitment to engage, educate and empower our learners at DeWitt Middle School. Remember, you are an essential element to our learning community and we welcome your thoughts, concerns, ideas, suggestions, feedback and more importantly; your active participation in the many planned activities this year. The home-school communication and relationship that we create, maintain and sustain over the middle school years is significant to our continued growth, improvement and success. We will continue with our monthly newsletter, "The DeWitt Observer" A Look Through the Doors of DeWitt For Families to keep you informed. In addition, you can become involved with the PTA and volunteer for their many committees, be a guest speaker, presenter, chaperone and advisor to clubs and after school activities to name a few.

Continued on Page 2

Fill Out and Return Forms By 9/20

Chromebook Permission (page 31-34) and Media Release (page 39) must be completed and returned to DeWitt by September 20. Free and Reduced Lunch Applications are on pages 35-38.



Secondly, I want to share the District's three levers that will be the framework and umbrella in guiding most of our work. They are 1) teaching and learning innovations 2) inclusion and 3) culturally responsive practices. Our staff will be engaging in professional development opportunities that will further advance our learning and application as well as implementation of these key levers at DeWitt. Please note that these three levers are not exclusive of each other as they are interrelated and connected to creating a positive, safe, nurturing environment that educate, engage and empower our young people.

You will hear and see our staff and students engaging in units of instruction that have Project Based Learning outcomes. These authentic problem solving and learning opportunities will engage students to be critical thinkers and collaborators in defining and finding solutions to real world problems. We will continue to make our learning spaces more student-centered allowing students to have more voice and choice in their learning. In addition, there will be only one team per grade level. The goal is to foster more collaborative planning and decision making among staff at each grade level for each student.

In addition, we will continue to support the social emotional needs to have an in-depth understanding of adverse child experiences that impacts learning. Our mission is to always effectively educate, engage and empower students to reach their full potential as learners. We will continue developing our restorative approach and practices with a Reflect and Return room. This room will provide students an opportunity to reflect on their choices and to set goals with alternative strategies for successful return to class. The goal is to support and cultivate a climate of acceptance and to reinforce the culture, that DeWitt is truly a place where ALL students belong. We are expecting everyone to be mindful, have awareness and respect for, to understand and accept our differences as having unique character and qualities. We believe this will truly lead to cultivating a climate that is positive and inspiring, a learning community that is caring, compassionate, empathetic and among all, inclusive.

Thirdly, we will be employing a District-wide Navigate Preparedness System that will provide timely response, communication and accountability during emergency situations. During the summer, administrators, staff and students participated in a mock multi-agent drill that practiced several simulated scenarios for our local first responders agencies. It was also a test of the response time and communication effectiveness of the Navigate Preparedness System. As a result, we will be using several of the scenarios as part of our drills

to provide staff and students opportunities to practice their readiness and response skills to emergencies.

Fourth, the TST P-TECH Academy (Pathways in Technology Early College High School) will be located in the B-100 classrooms at DeWitt, formerly our World Language classes. The program has leased the area for one year while our World Language classes have been moved to a new location in the building. The TST P-Tech program is a six-year program for entering high school students, who will take courses in computer science or advanced manufacturing. They will continue to TC3 receiving an A.A.S degree either in computer information systems, computer support specialist or applied science and technology.

Lastly, you should know that we had several staff changes this year. Take some time to get to know the new staff members and welcome them to our learning community.

Donna Lucy-Lender, Associate Principal

Deborah Reniff, Administrative Assistant to the Principal

Eric Jackson, School Counselor

Marietta Gibb, Grade 6 Math

*Deborah Fishbeck, Grade 8 Earth Science/
Physical Science*

Jezra Spisak, Library Media Specialist

Denise Park, Reading

Harry Nichols, Grade 8 ELA

Cynthia Stoye, ENL

Daniel Wilcox, LTS, Physical Education

Internal Changes

Anne Bechert, will teach Grade 6 Social Studies

Jeremy Wheeler, will teach Grade 6 Science

At the time of this newsletter, we will be interviewing for grade 6 ELA, Math, Technology, Engineer Education, and CSE Chair/Special Education

On behalf of the staff at DeWitt Middle School, we want to work collaboratively and cooperatively with families and their children to achieve successful outcomes this year. We value our learning community and want to form a strong and engaging partnership with ALL families in meeting the academic, social, and emotional needs of ALL students. Therefore, we appreciate and welcome your participation in making this year the best ever.

*Be in Peace,
—Mac Knight*

Message from the DeWitt PTA

Dear DeWitt Families,

As members of the 2018-19 DeWitt Middle School Parent Teacher Association (DeWitt PTA) Board, we extend a warm welcome to our new and returning families. We hope you enjoyed your summer and are ready for the new school year.

In the following pages, you will find answers to:

- What is the PTA?
- What does the PTA do at DeWitt?
- How do I join and support the PTA?
- Why do you ask for donations?
- How do I find out about PTA events or changes in the calendar?

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please feel free to reach out to any of the Board members:

Eglantina Lucio-Belbase, President, elucio@gmail.com

Suzanne Smith-Jablonski, Secretary, ssmithjablonski@gmail.com

Empar Sicroff, Treasurer, esicroff@gmail.com

Other people you may want to touch base with:

Kim Tilsen, Membership Chair, ktilsen@gmail.com

*Suzanne Smith-Jabolonski, Direct Appeal Coordinator,
ssmithjablonski@gmail.com*

Board members and other PTA folks will also be around at the first events of the year (listed in the box below). Please feel free to approach us then.



Welcome to the 2018-19 school year at DeWitt!
—Empar, Suzanne and Eglantina

- **Monday, Sept. 10th – 1st PTA Meeting (6:30pm)**
- **Friday, Sept. 14th – DeWitt Family Picnic**
- **Monday, Oct. 8th – Chromebook Help (6:30pm)**

What is the PTA?

For those who are not familiar with it, the Parent Teacher Association is a national organization advocates for children's education and welfare. Many schools have a local unit of the PTA. The DeWitt PTA is open to everyone in our community, and we welcome any adult who's an important part of a student's life. We hope you will join us as a member (our membership form is on page 21).

We welcome your participation and ideas. Our PTA programs should meet the needs of our community. We can only do this if you join the conversations and help.

What Does the PTA do at DeWitt?

Up to now, we run:

- 3 General Meetings
- Back to School Picnic
- Open House
- International or Immigration Night
- Staff Appreciation
- 8th Gr. Dance and Reception.

What is new this year?

This year, we are adding some new programs to address our families' needs and help our families connect. We hope you will take advantage of these opportunities and lend a hand if you can.

We will add:

- A borrowing closet for concerts (because all of our kids outgrow clothes too fast!)
- A few more PTA meetings and invite guest speakers to share helpful information for families. (Our Oct. PTA meeting will focus on chromebook help).

Here's our wish list for programs we'd love to see happen this year, if we have the volunteers:

- Outdoor Movie Night
- Outdoor Music Festival
- Student help with PTA Newsletter
- We'd love to add money for teacher grants and student scholarships

If you're interested in helping with these three programs, please let us know. Thank you!!!

Dear DeWitt Students,

Welcome to the 2018-19 School Year.

We'd love your help in our community building efforts. Our PTA should reflect our entire community not only the adults in our community but also you.

You're invited to participate and contribute to our PTA events!

When Do We Need Your Help?

Year-round (please refer to PTA calendar on page 25 for specific events and dates)

Where Do We Meet Or Have Events?

DeWitt Middle School

How Can You Help?

We will have many meetings and events this year, and there are different ways you can pitch in. Please pick what feels best for your interests and schedule. If you're not sure, please email me and I can give you more details or other volunteer or participation options.

Thank You,

Eglantina, PTA President
eluciob@gmail.com

Some Of Our Events:

IMMIGRATION NIGHT

We'll need families to set up information booths. Can you set up a booth? Help with setup or clean up?

NEWSLETTER

We need writers to share what's going on at each grade level or team.

MUSIC FESTIVAL

We will need help organizing, getting sponsors, setting up and cleaning up.

CHROMEBOOK HELP MEETING

We'll need some 7th or 8th graders to help during our meeting.

If you'd like to help out with these or other events, please send me an email (eluciob@gmail.com). Thank you!

How do I Join and Support the PTA?

To join the PTA, please fill out the membership form in this newsletter (on page 21) and send it back to the school with your member dues. (You can also find the membership form in our website). Anyone in our community can be a member (students, parents/guardians, neighbors and friends). Though we'd love to see you at our events or participate in the planning, please know that you can partake in as much or little as you wish.

Please note that you do not need to be a member of the PTA to come to our meetings or participate in our programs, but we hope you join the organization.

You can also support the PTA by participating in our direct appeal (see the info below), and we always welcome your time and skills. Please volunteer if you can.

Direct Appeal questions can be directed to Suzanne Smith-Jablonski (ssjablonski@gmail.com).

Why do a direct appeal?

Unlike many PTA units, we do not ask our members to do fundraising. Instead, we ask that you send in whatever you can when you can.

The money we raise through direct appeal goes 100% to our unit. Our goal for this year is to raise \$3500 from direct appeal.

If you're able to do help us at this point, please send in your donation form (on the bottom of page 5) and check. Thank you!

Wait! Why is the PTA asking for donations when I've paid my member's dues?

Remember our DeWitt unit is part of a larger organization. \$4 out of the \$7 we collect are sent to NYS PTA and the National PTA. They use this money for their advocacy efforts.

We only keep \$3 from each membership! The rest of our income comes from direct appeal.

What does the PTA do with the money?

We pay for our insurance, which allows us to use ICSD buildings, rent pavilions and run programs. We also use the money for refreshments at the 8th grade promotion, staff appreciation, open house, etc. And we hope, that we have enough money this year to add teacher grants and student scholarships.

We're attaching a copy of our proposed budget for this year so you can see where how we allocated the money, see page 24. (The budget is also found on our website).

Direct Appeal Form

The membership form is on page 21.

Membership questions can be directed to Kim Tilsen (ktilsen@gmail.com).

How do I Find out about PTA Events?

We're attaching a tentative calendar for the year's events, see page 25. And we'll keep you apprised of changes and send you reminders through the listserv, and updates on our google calendar. We'll do our part to include you in our community

Here are some PTA forums we use to distribute information:

1. The DeWitt PTA News, our newsletter, will undergo some changes this year. The first edition was mailed to families. Hereafter, we will post the newsletter on our website. DeWitt students will be encouraged to participate in this program.
2. PTA website (<http://dewittpta.org>) has information on upcoming events, forms and fliers. You will also find an up-to-date school and PTA calendar on our website. You can add our calendar to your google calendar if you wish. If you have any questions about the website, please contact Carol Barry (embarry@icloud.com).
3. PTA listserv provides important school news, events, community activities, calendar changes, and volunteer opportunities are posted on the listserv. You can receive email notifications or read them online. We strongly encourage all families to join the listserv. Please contact BJ Kim (bjwkim@gmail.com) if you have questions about the listserv.

To join the listserv, please do one of the following:

1. Send an email to: dewittpta-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

OR

2. Go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DeWittpta/join>. Follow the instructions to sign-up.

Within a few days, you will get an email asking you to confirm your request (if you don't see it, please check your trash or spam folders).

You may check the listserv postings on the Yahoo site, have them delivered to your email address or ask for a digest to be sent to your email (you can select either of these two options by modifying the settings on your yahoo groups account).

Note: The PTA listserv should not be used for off-topic postings, such as garage sales, rentals, free equipment, etc.



DeWitt PTA Direct Appeal 2018-2019

Parent/Caregiver Name: _____

Address (if you want a receipt sent): _____

I would like to contribute \$ _____. Enclosed please find my check payable to "DeWitt PTA".

I would like to volunteer. Please contact me at _____

Open House
Thursday,
October 18
Details
To Come!

Older grades typically help at the Open House by bringing finger foods to the cafeteria.
Please contact Anne Thomas at aburnsthomas@yahoo.com if you can help.
Thank you.

Changes to DeWitt PTA News!

In order to make the DeWitt PTA News more timely, we are planning to publish the newsletter an additional 3 times per year.

To cut costs and save time, the newsletters will be posted on the PTA Website, The DeWitt Middle School Facebook Page, and the DeWitt Middle School Website. A link to the newsletter will also be posted on the listserv. (Another good reason to join the listserv—see instructions to the left.) This edition of the PTA Newsletter will be the only edition printed and mailed to family homes.

Student Involvement

We are encouraging students to contributing to the newsletter (see note on page 4).

Deadlines

November 5 (for November/December), January 7 (for January/February), March 7 (for March/April), and May 9 (for May/June).

Opening Your Locker

Opening lockers can sometimes be difficult and frustrating. If your child is having difficulty with their locker, please encourage them to get help from a friend, a teacher, or from the school office. 6th graders will have the first day of school to practice. Below are the directions for how to work the combination dials on the school lockers.

Step 1: Start by spinning the dial to the right, passing the number zero two times past the indicator point. On the second spin, stop at zero. The zero should be lined up with the indicator point on the lock.

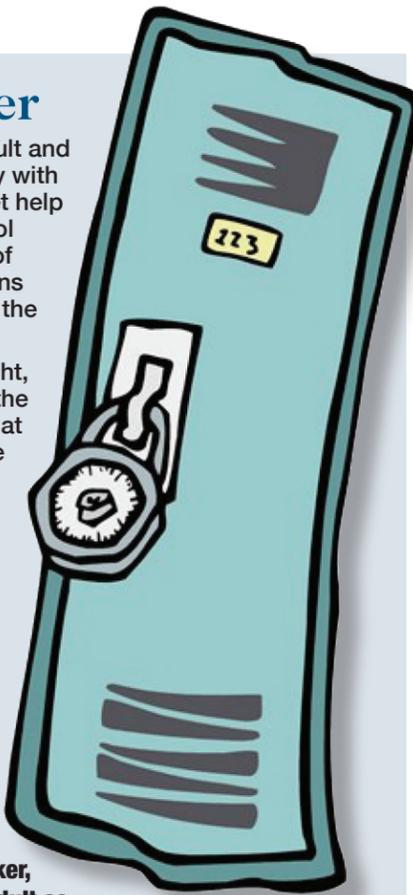
Step 2: Starting from zero, turn dial to the right and stop at the first number of your combination.

Step 3: Turn dial to the left and pass your first number one time before stopping at your second combination number.

Step 4: Turn dial to the right and stop at your last combination number.

Step 5: Pull dial out toward you and continue turning to the right until the lock clicks and the locker opens.

If you are having any trouble with your locker, please report to the main office, or tell an adult as quickly as possible so we can help



Site-Based Shared Decision-Making Council:

**Your Chance to Have a Voice at DeWitt
Open to all DeWitt Parents and Caregivers**

The DeWitt learning community is fortunate to have students and parents who are interested in making decisions that influence our continued success. We provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to have a voice in the future planning and growth of DeWitt. Topics discussed might include: hiring, budget issues, school safety, grounds and facilities improvements.

Meeting dates and times will be announced in October. Everyone is welcome!

—Mac Knight

Welcome Eric Jackson!

DeWitt's New Guidance Counselor

Eric earned his Master's degree in School Counseling from Capella University and his bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Eric comes to us having accrued 8+ years of a combination of Counseling, Teaching, and Tutoring experiences within the Education field. He has worked with students of various populations at the K-12 level, as well as adult learners. Prior to joining DeWitt Middle, Eric was employed at Syracuse University where he was tasked with the design and implementation of student support and case management services. Eric is passionate about addressing student needs and promoting academic, personal, social, and career success for all students. During some of his personal time, he enjoys attending and volunteering at many extracurricular activities as a way to support the students and the community.

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.

For an overall feel for your child's teachers, schedule and classrooms, be sure to attend Open House Night, which will be on Thursday, October 18. (See page 5 of this newsletter).

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



SchoolTool is down for the summer and will reopen September 2, 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.

Join Us at the DeWitt Family Picnic!



Who's invited?

Everyone! Students' families and DeWitt Staff

When?

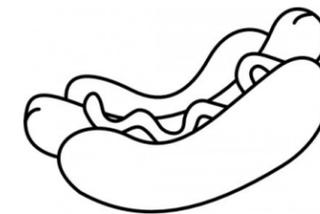
Friday, Sept. 14 from 6-8pm

Where?

DeWitt Middle School

What to bring?

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. You could also bring a Frisbee or ball for the kids to play. We'll provide hot dogs, "not" dogs and water.



Questions?

Want to help out?

Please contact Melissa Rachlinski (mrachlinski@gmail.com) or Eglantina (eluciob@gmail.com).



Meet Penny Boynton!

DeWitt's Family Liaison

Penny Boynton is DeWitt's Family Liaison. She provides support for students and families in many ways, connecting students, families, school staff and community agencies to address their needs. She is also Transportation Liaison, and oversees the Clubs program, including Homework Club.

The Clubs Program

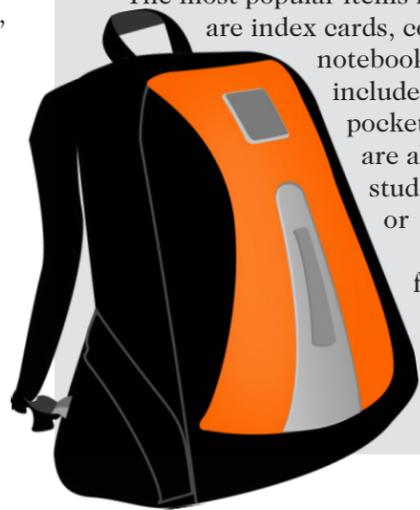
Penny works with students, faculty and volunteers to provide clubs that interest the student population. The Clubs schedule should be available in September. If your child is interested in a club that is not on the list, your child should speak with Ms. Boynton, and she will meet with your student to 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 .

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. 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!

Picture Day! September 27th

LifeTouch will be at DeWitt on Thursday, September 27th. They will be back at school on Friday, November 2nd for retakes.

Want To Join TSA?

Scan the QR Code



or go to: <http://tsadewitt.blogspot.com>

DeWitt TSA 37 years young and stronger then ever. If you are interested in joining TSA this year, please see Mr Buchner and watch for information at school. TSA typically begins around October 1st and continues right into July at our national conference. For more information, check out: tsaweb.org.

The first part of the application is due on the first Friday in October. Questions may be addressed to Mr. Buchner at dbuchner@icsd.k12.ny.us.



National Junior Honor Society

Happy September! Our fist meeting will be on Thursday, Sept. 13 at 8:15 in my room (D105).

This is a mandatory meeting.

Summer hours are due at this meeting.

Our induction ceremony also will be on Thursday, Sept. 13 at 6:00 pm.

See you there!

—Mrs. Q

French Club News

**Parlez-vous français?
Voulez-vous parler français?
Join French Club!**

Come for fun games and activities to improve your French and earn about French-speaking countries! We cook! We sing! We act! C'est très amusant!!

See Madame Stevenson for more information including meeting day, time, loaction and registration forms.



Ski and Board Club.

Information about how to register, options and prices for DeWitt's Ski and Board Club will be available in a few weeks.

Registration will be done online. Families will pay for passes and equipment rental, online directly to Greek Peak. Families pay for transportation, by check or cash, directly to DeWitt.

The club goes to Greek Peak on Fridays for six consecutive weeks. We leave school at 3:40 and return to DeWitt at 9:45 PM. The start date will be announced.



Immunizations Must be Up-To-Date by September 20

Students will be excluded if they are not compliant with all the state mandated vaccinations by September 20,2018. Immunization information can be found on pages 28. If you have any questions please contact the school nurse, Mary Gessini, 607-266-3510, (mgessini@icsd.k12.ny.us).

Interested in Volunteering with the PTA?

See the list of volunteer opportunities on page 23. We need people to lead events and programs, and many more people to help support those events and programs. There is something for everyone! Don't forget to join the PTA, the membership form is on page 21.

Music at DeWitt

All concerts will be at Kulp Auditorium at Ithaca High School. Concert dates will be announced. Guardians are responsible for transporting their child to and from the concerts.

7/8 Choir For the 2018-2019 Year:

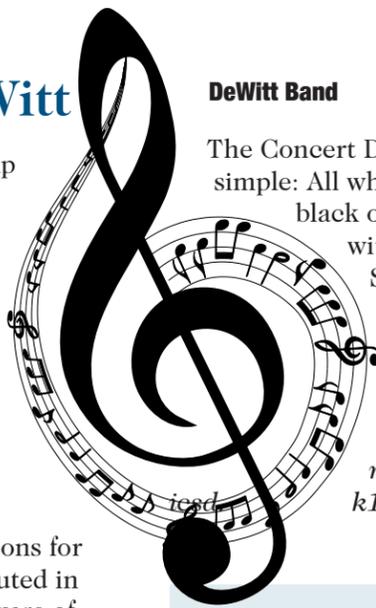
- Performance and class requirements /expectations for this class will be distributed in September. Please be aware of calendar dates for concerts in December and May— these are required events as part of this performance-based-learning class.
- 7/8 Choir members meeting specific requirements will have opportunities to possibly participate in several Festivals this year: All-State in the fall, All-County in January, The Hershey Competition, and the NYSSMA spring solo festival. All requirements and/or audition information will be posted late September/early October.
- There will likely be a Broadway show/NYC cultural trip again this year. Stay tuned.

Questions about 7/8 Choir requirements, opportunities, or workload for the year? Contact Ms. Kivisild: jkivisil@icsd.k12.ny.us

DeWitt 6th Grade Chorus

The Concert Dress Code is simple: All white on top and black on the bottom. No ties. Comfortable shoes. If there is a need due to economic restraints, guardians can contact me no later than two weeks prior to the concert.

Guardians can email Mr. Woodridge directly at jwoodrid@icsd.k12.ny.us.



DeWitt Band

The Concert Dress Code is simple: All white on top and black on the bottom with black shoes. Skirts must fall below the knee when sitting down. You can contact Mr. Treat at michael.treat@k12.ny.us.

DeWitt Orchestra

The Concert Dress Code is all black. Black shirts, pants and shoes. Girls may wear black dresses that fall below the knee when sitting down.

DeWitt Middle School Musical

Stay tuned for information about this year's musical! For information contact Mr. Woodridge at jwoodrid@icsd.k12.ny.us.

Check Out Our New Concert Dress Borrowing Closet!

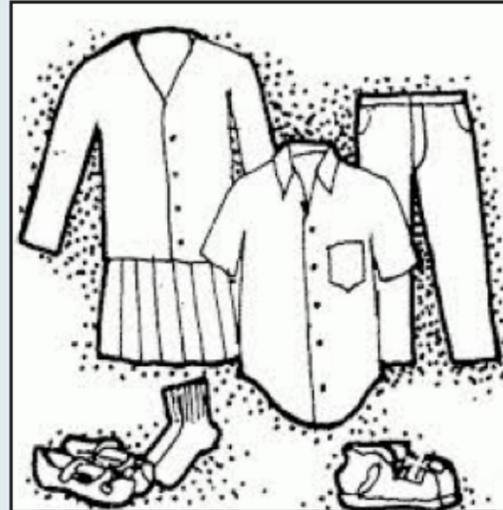
The PTA closet will have some concert-ready clothes for students to borrow.

If your child needs to borrow some clothes, please let the 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.

In particular, we need black shoes.

If you'd like to make a donation please contact Loredana. Thank you!



Concert Dress Code Items

- Black dress shirts (for orchestra only)
- White dress top (for band, chorus and choir)
- Black dress pants
- Black shoes
- Black socks.
- Solid black dress (*MUST fall below the knees when sitting down*)
- Black skirts (*MUST fall below the knees when sitting down*)

If you have any concerns re: the dress code, please contact the teacher.



Dances at DeWitt

The School Dance schedule will be announced in early September. All dances are held on Friday evenings from 7 to 9pm. During ski season, dances are on Saturdays. Dances are held in the gymnasium with half the gym dedicated to the dance, and the other half open for basketball or other similar activities. A live DJ plays music on the dance area of gym. Music is reviewed for middle school by our DJ who is a staff member at DeWitt.

Dance entrance is through the cafeteria door by the large side parking lot.

- Ticket price will be announced in September. Tickets can be purchased during lunchtime on the Friday prior to the dance, or at the door before the dance.
- Dress code is the same as the school day. Soft-soled shoes help preserve the gym floor.
- Food and drinks are sold at the dance. Prices vary from 25¢ to \$1.
- Friends of middle school age from other schools are welcome to attend with a DeWitt student. However, you must sign them up during lunch no later than end of school day on the Friday before dance, otherwise they will not be able to attend.
- Once students arrive they cannot leave and come back unless a parent is with them.

- Dances are chaperoned by staff members and parent volunteers. Parent chaperones are always needed. Please let the Main Office know if you can help.

Fall 7th & 8th Grade Sports

Ithaca City School District is now partnering with FamilyID for all sports registration.

The Athletic Department and the Nurses office are excited to announce that we are now offering the convenience of online registration through FamilyID (www.familyid.com). FamilyID is a secure registration platform that provides families with an easy, user-friendly way to register for our athletic programs, and helps us to be more environmentally responsible. When families register through FamilyID, the system keeps track of your information in your FamilyID profile.

You will need to upload your student's most recent physical to complete the registration process.

The Deadline for Fall sports registration is August 19

Instructions and links to online registration platform can be found on the Ithaca City School District's website. Follow the link to "Athletics" under the "Departments" heading. (<http://www.ithacacityschools.org/districtpage.cfm?pageid=205>)

ALL START DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Please check with the Athletic Office 607-274-2155 to confirm start dates, times and locations.

Boys/Girls Cross Country

Start Date: Monday, August 27.

Football

Start Date: Monday, August 20.

Boys/Girls Soccer

Start Date: Thursday, September 6.

Modified Girls Tennis

Start Date: Thursday, September 6.

Girls Volleyball

Start Date: Thursday, September 6..

For more information call the athletic office 607-274-2155

Winter Modified Sports

Modified sports offered in the winter are boys and girls basketball and boys wrestling. Check the Ithaca City School District Website later in the fall for October registration deadlines.

Modified Wrestling will begin Monday, November 5.

Basketball will begin Monday, November 12.

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! Follow the instructions on page 5 to sign up!

School Bus Information

Families should expect to receive their student's bus assignments and pick-up times in the mail the week before school. Students will also be bringing home a booklet about transportation from school the first week of school.

Please call the ICSD transportation department, at 607-274-2128, if you have any questions.

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.

Transportation Information



Did you know that ICSD schools have Transportation Liaisons? Your liaison, Penny Boynton (pboynton@icsd.k12.ny.us) can help you figure out how to get to school meetings and events, and get your child to sports events, enrichment classes, and more.

Liaisons know the latest news on transportation services and supports to get to school and wherever else you need to go. Look out for updates in the DeWitt newsletter or emails. Check out the options below:

FOR INFO:

Dial 2-1-1 for information on current transportation services and supports. Or see ccetompkins.org/community/way2go for more information and tips on ways to get around.



RED (Retired Educators Drive):

Rides to school meetings and activities by volunteer drivers, as available. Contact RED two or more days in advance by emailing redschoolrides@gmail.com or calling the RED coordinator at 607-659-5003. Drivers decide which and how many rides to offer – even just one ride makes a difference!

TCAT:

Youth (6 to 17) semester passes, for September 1st to January 31st, or February 1st to June 30th: \$30 (Zone 1); \$40 (Zone 2). A 15-ride pass for youth is \$10 (Zone 1) or \$17 (Zone 2) and can be used over any period of time. For more information, go to: www.tcatbus.com or 607-277-7433 (277-RIDE).



TAXIS:

Collegetown Cab: 588-8888. Ithaca Dispatch: 277-7777.

WORKING FAMILIES TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE:

Up to two months of discounted gas cards, bus passes or City and rides for qualifying families. Call Cynthia Kloppel at 274-5022.

COMMUNITY SHARE:

We encourage you to look to your neighbors and other parents who live near you, who may be able to help get children to school or school events. Bring together members of your community today so that students can get to school, to sporting events and even rehearsals for music and art programs.



Electronic Devices at DeWitt

The Ithaca City School Board has adopted an electronic device policy covering proper use and consequence for misuse. In applying those policies we want to make you aware of some important facts and details surrounding your child and electronic devices at DeWitt.

Students can use electronic devices to listen to music and play games before 8:55 in school lobby and in the cafeteria during break-fast. All other times all electronic devices must be put away, that includes devices and ear buds/headphones.

Students are not allowed to text or go on social media sites (Facebook, Snap Chat, Instagram, etc.) at DeWitt.

DeWitt is not responsible for the loss or theft of personal electronic devices. It is important to report loss or theft immediately to the Principal or Associate Principal so that we can try and assist, however, laws restrict how much we can search to find personal items.

DeWitt Administration/Staff can confiscate your child's electronic device if it is being improperly used at DeWitt. If this happens the electronic device will be returned at the end of the school day or held onto until a parent/guardian can pick it up.

Important information to know about Social Media, Texting and Sexting:

- Did you know that any person under the age of 13 is prohibited from having a social media account. That means parent/guardian need to give permission for use of Facebook, Snap Chat, Instagram and similar sites.
- There are currently no laws in New York State specific to sexting (sexting is a form of texting whereby someone sends explicit pictures through an electronic device to one or more persons). If any person is found transferring pictures of minors the individual can be charged under States Child Pornography Statue. If a person is under 18, probation is usually recommended as a first step. Currently there is a bill that is being proposed at the state level that would send first time offenders 18 or younger to mandatory educational classes.
- If a student is negatively targeting another student through texting and it impacts the student receiving the texts daily function in school, we have the right to investigate and take appropriate action.

How Can I Protect and Monitor My Child's electronic usage

If you have given your child permission (under age 13) to have a social media account and or text there are some safeguards and websites that can assist you with being informed.

- Wireless Carriers have their own parental control apps. So check with your carrier.
- MamaBear App- This app allows you to locate your child, keep tabs on social media activity.
- MMGuardian is a parental control app that can locate a phone, monitor text activity and set various use restrictions.

Websites that can help keep you updated on social media

- www.commonsensemedia.org
- Stopbullying.gov



New DeWitt Cafeteria Prices

The meal prices are:
\$1.80 breakfast (\$0.25 for reduced),
\$2.90 lunch (\$0.25 for reduced).

The Ithaca City School District Child Nutrition Program incorporates farm-to-school practices by purchasing fresh produce from local farmers. Additionally, the program uses these fresh ingredients to prepare plant-based recipes from scratch.

For information and online account payment, go to: <http://www.ithacacityschools.org/districtpage.cfm?pageid=231>

The Free and Reduced Lunch Application can be found on pages 35-38.



Early Release October 2

DeWitt Middle School will release students at 3:05 pm on Tuesday, October 2.

Ithaca City School District will be conducting a district-wide mandatory emergency early release drill.

All schools will be closing 15 minutes early. All students and staff must leave the buildings. There will be no after school activities.

DANCE HARD
LIFE IS SHORT

Armstrong School of Dance
15 Catherwood Rd | Ithaca | 607.266.0209 | armstrongdance.com

Photo: Rachel Philipson

Teach someone to code and they'll change the world

WICC x Girls Who Code

Women in Computing at Cornell (WICC) is collaborating with Girls Who Code and Google's IgniteCS to bring computer science workshops to the community! Our GWC clubs, aimed at girls and underrepresented minorities, introduce middle and high schoolers to Computer Science. We hope to expose students to a new, exciting field and spark their interest in technology.

Interested in joining?
Find out more at wicc.acm.org/outreach.php

All genders welcome | No experience necessary!

<WICC> wicc.acm.org | **girls who code** girlswhocode.com

Supply Lists 2018-2019

Sixth Grade Supply List

When the Back-to-School ads begin, you may feel pressured to buy supplies students might not need at DeWitt Middle School. Therefore, to help streamline your back-to-school supply shopping, we have prepared a list of basic supplies your child will need for school. Please do not bring additional items. *Please let us know in September if purchasing these supplies creates an undue hardship so that we may assist you.* We look forward to an outstanding year!

English	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 spiral single subject notebooks <input type="checkbox"/> 1, two-pocket folder <input type="checkbox"/> Sticky notes (3x3) - any color -(kept in the classroom)
Math	<input type="checkbox"/> Spiral notebook <input type="checkbox"/> 1, two-pocket folder (preferably plastic) <input type="checkbox"/> Optional:TI-30X IIS Calculator
Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Spiral notebook (that fits into the binder) <input type="checkbox"/> 1, two-pocket folder <input type="checkbox"/> 1 inch binder <input type="checkbox"/> 3 subject dividers
Social Studies	<input type="checkbox"/> Spiral notebook-single subject <input type="checkbox"/> 1, two-pocket folder
6th Choir	Any needed materials will be provided
General Music	<input type="checkbox"/> A pocket folder
Band	<input type="checkbox"/> 1" 3 ring binder with pockets on the inside (exclusively for band use) <input type="checkbox"/> A pencil to be kept exclusively in that binder <input type="checkbox"/> Instrument (Contact Mr. Treat the week before school starts if you are unable to rent or purchase an instrument or have any other questions) michael.treat@icsd.k12.ny.us
Orchestra	<input type="checkbox"/> 1"3 ring binder <input type="checkbox"/> Pencil <input type="checkbox"/> Shoulder Rest (if you do not have) <input type="checkbox"/> Theory Book (TBA)

Sixth Grade Supply list continued on page 16

General Supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> ALL STUDENTS must have a reusable water bottle (labeled with first and last name) <input type="checkbox"/> Protective padded covering for Chromebook <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow plastic two-pocket pocket folder (no prongs) - for homework <input type="checkbox"/> Glue sticks (10 pack) to be collected in social studies <input type="checkbox"/> Colored pencils (24 pack) <input type="checkbox"/> #2 Pencils (replenish throughout the year) <input type="checkbox"/> Eraser (Pink Pearl or Staedtler) <input type="checkbox"/> Ear buds or portable headphones <input type="checkbox"/> Centimeter/Inch Ruler <input type="checkbox"/> Markers (Wide or thin) <input type="checkbox"/> Highlighters in 3 different colors <input type="checkbox"/> Black or blue pens <input type="checkbox"/> Lined paper (1 package wide or college ruled) : to be collected in English <p>Optional Donations (Thank you!):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Box of tissues (for first period class) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 box of Ticonderoga pencils (for first period class) <input type="checkbox"/> Tape (Scotch or masking tape)
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Students are registered for the some of the following classes on a rotation. Please wait to see your student’s schedule before purchasing the following supplies.

Art	
Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Pocket Folder
Family & Consumer Sciences	<input type="checkbox"/> Pocket Folder
Technology Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> One spiral bound, 1/4" graph paper notebook

We will label folders and notebooks in class.

7th Grade Supply List

**Subjects listed with * indicate classes with different supplies depending on teacher. You may want to wait to receive your schedule before purchasing these supplies.*

Math:

- 1 spiral notebook
- 1" Binder with 3 Dividers
- Optional: TI-30X IIS calculator (This is the same calculator that was recommended in 6th grade.)

Science:

- 1 spiral notebook (or spiral with embedded folders)
- 1" 3-ring binder
- 2 dividers

English:

- 1 **composition** book **NOT A SPIRAL!** (It doesn't need to be pretty. It will be covered!)
- 1 pocket folder
- 1 set of earbuds (dollar store earbuds are fine!)
- 1 highlighter of any color (to donate to class supply)
- Multi-pack of glue sticks (10 if possible). Student will keep 5 and donate 5.

***Social Studies:**

Pritz:

- 1 pocket folder

Engram:

- Two 2-pocket folders
- 2 pack of colored pencils (1 for class supply)
- 1 red or purple editing pen

Technology Engineering

All that is needed is a pencil and a spiral bound notebook that has unlined paper.

Grade 7 General Music:

A pocket folder that will be stored in class, two pencils, lined loose leaf paper
No personal cell phones or electronics of any kind

Seventh Grade Supply list continued on page 18

NOTE: All Students

(6th, 7th & 8th grade) will be receiving a Chromebook to use this year. They will carry the device to and from school. We strongly recommend that students have a backpack with a padded “laptop” pocket, and/or a separate padded “sleeve” to protect the device. A variety of reasonably priced padded sleeves can be found at Amazon.

Don’t forget to fill out and send in your Chromebook Permission Form (on page 30).



Band:

Instrument (contact Mr. Treat if you need to rent through the school for financial reasons)

1" 3-ring binder dedicated for band use

Pencil to keep inside binder

The method book "Making Music Matter Book 2 (available through Hickey's music store).

7 & 8 Choir:

A pocket folder and pencil for class, a highlighter recommended for music score-reading. **Always: a refillable water bottle for vocal hydration during rehearsal, and earbuds for music tests/listening!**

Family Consumer Science (FCS)

A folder (can be from a previous quarterly class), a pen or pencil, looseleaf paper

German

- 1 pocket folder
- 1 spiral or bound notebook
- 1 pack of 3x5 index cards

French

- 1" 3-ring binder

Spanish

- 1 pocket folder
- 1 3-ring binder
- 1 spiral notebook

PE

Combination Lock for PE locker

General Supplies

- 1 pack of colored pencils
- 2 packages of lined loose-leaf paper, regular or college ruled (One to keep, one to donate to class supply)
- 3 dozen pencils (sharpened) (Two to keep, one to donate to class supply)
- Hand-held pencil sharpener
- 1 box of tissues
- 1 ruler
- 1 pair of scissors
- 1 Jumbo Eraser
- Reusable Water Bottle (labelled with full name)
- 1 Dry Erase Marker
- OPTIONAL: 1 set of metal flatware (1 fork, spoon, knife) to donate to cafeteria supply.
 - Please only donate previously used flatware (do not buy anything new!)

	Social Studies	English	Art/FCS/Health/Tech	Differentiated Math 8	Algebra	Physical Science	Earth Science	World Language
3-ringer binder (1 inch)						Yes With 3 dividers	Yes With 4 dividers	Will vary with teacher
Spiral notebook	1 comp notebook for journaling	1 or comp book		1 spiral notebook containing lined or graph paper	2 (1 1st semester and 1 2nd semester)	2 (1 1st semester and 1 2nd semester)	2 (1 1st semester and 1 2nd semester)	1 spiral notebook
Pocket folders	2	1	FCS - 1	1	1	1	1	1
OTHER		Post it notes, high Lighter	Mechanical pencil. NEW to DeWitt bring \$4.00 for a custom printed engineering notebook	Students will need a pencil every day so please purchase a large supply and keep their backpack well stocked	Graphing calculator strongly encouraged. Texas Instruments TI-83 or TI-84 will be used in class.	Extra set Colored pencils Box of pencils	Extra set Colored Pencils Box of pencils	For Spanish: 3 ring binder

FCS	Band		
folder	1" 3 ring binder with pockets		
	Pencil to stay in that binder		
	Instrument (email Mr. Treat if you have questions about securing an instrument)		

Supplies for multiple classes:

- Reusable water bottle with name on it
- Set of colored pencils
- Pens and pencils
- Yellow and blue highlighter
- Large Eraser
- Personal pencil sharpener
- Loose leaf paper (Note: only bring a few sheets each day)
- Ruler
- Kleenex 2 boxes
- Set of inexpensive earbuds/headphones for use with computers at school
- Water bottle and ear buds**

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



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!



Ithaca's Special Education PTA (SEPTA) is looking forward to the 2018-2019 school year and to continuing the all important discussion about ICSD's inclusion efforts that benefit ALL students!

Please join us to discuss how ICSD can continue to build on its efforts to Engage, Educate and Empower EVERYONE!

For more information, contact us at ithacasepta@gamil.com

Explore Life! its diversity and beauty at Cayuga Nature Center



- ◆ View live **animals** in indoor and outdoor exhibits.
- ◆ Climb **TreeTops** our six-story tree house.
- ◆ Learn about the **ecology** of the Cayuga basin in our historic **Lodge**.
- ◆ Sign up for our **Schools Out!** and **Summer Camp** programs.
- ◆ Explore miles of **hiking trails**.



CAYUGA NATURE CENTER

1420 Taughannock Blvd, Ithaca, NY
(607) 273-6260

priweb.org/naturecenter

Discover Life! its origins and evolution at Museum of the Earth



- ◆ Journey back through time to discover the **evolution of life** on Earth.
- ◆ View the huge **Hyde Park Mastodon** and **Right Whale #2030** skeletons.
- ◆ Watch as specimens are uncovered in our **Museum Prep Lab**.
- ◆ Discover the diversity of life in our **coral reefs**.



MUSEUM OF THE EARTH

1259 Trumansburg Road, Ithaca, NY
(607) 273-6623

priweb.org

PTA Coordinators and Volunteer Opportunities

Board

President	Eglantina Lucio-Belbase	eluciob@gmail.com
Secretary	Suzanne Smith-Jablonski	ssmithjablonski@gmail.com
Treasurer	Empar Sicroff	esicroff@gmail.com

Programs

Membership	Kim Tilsen	ktilsen@gmail.com
Direct Appeal	Suzanne Smith-Jabolonski	ssmithjablonski@gmail.com
Borrowing Closet	Loredana Locatelli	ll775@cornell.edu
T-Shirt Sales	Laura Dolch	lwdolch@gmail.com
PTA newsletter	Carol Barry Kelly King-O'Brien	cbarry@icloud.com kko_june23@yahoo.com
Newsletter Ads	OPEN	please consider volunteering

Events

DeWitt Family Picnic	Melissa Rachlinski	mrachlinski@gmail.com
Open House	Anne Thomas	aburnsthoas@yahoo.com
Fall Movie Night	OPEN	please consider volunteering
Movie Night Concessions	OPEN	please consider volunteering
Immigration Night	Anindita Banerjee	ab425@cornell.edu
Ice Cream Social	OPEN	please consider volunteering
Staff Appreciation	OPEN	please consider volunteering
Outdoor Musical Festival	OPEN	please consider volunteering
8th Grade Ceremonies	Karen Gorsky	karengorsky@gmail.com

If you'd like to volunteer for any of the open positions, please contact Eglantina. If you'd like to help one of our coordinators, feel free to contact them directly.

5 Reasons to Join the PTA

1. Its Good For Your Child. Research shows that children whose parents are involved in school earn better grades and have fewer disciplinary problems at school.

2. You'll Make Connections. There is no better way to know what is happening at school. You will be the first to hear about important decisions and changes the school is considering. You will get to know administrators and teachers. You will have opportunities to meet other parents who share your concerns and common goal of improving the school for all children.

3. You'll Make A Difference. The PTA works to establish a supportive and encouraging environment for the entire school. The goal is to create the best educational environment for our children.

4. You'll Be A Role Model. You'll show your children that not only they are important to you, but their education is as well. They will see you taking a stand to make their school better for them and their peers, and they will follow your example.

5. It Is For Every Care Giver. Your opinion matters! You will make a difference by speaking up. Your voice and ideas can help improve the quality of education for all students.

Join the PTA today! Complete and return the form on page 21

DeWitt PTA 2018-2019 Approved Budget	
	2018-2019
	Budget
Income	
Membership dues / Donations	\$500
Fall Fundraiser - Direct Appeal	\$3,000
Advertising - Directory and Newsletter	\$200
T-shirt fundraiser	\$200
Concessions at Outdoor Music Festival	\$150
Concessions at Outdoor Movie Night	\$150
Interest	\$50
Music Festival Sponsor	
Total Income	\$4,250
Expenses	
Admin	\$10
Mailing Permit/Postage (6 bi-monthly newsletter)	\$275
Insurance (paid by June 1)	\$320
PTA Council dues (101-150 member level)	\$35
Membership dues to NYSPTA	\$300
Projects	
Welcome Picnic	\$500
Bring your family to School Open House	\$150
8th grade promotion reception	\$750
8th grade Field Trip - Taughannock Falls	\$200
Staff appreciation luncheon	\$200
International night	\$300
Snacks for special themed meetings	\$100
Outdoor Music Festival	\$400
Outdoor Movie Night	\$200
Library Flag Project	\$90
Contingency Line	\$300
Total Expenses	4,130.00
Net Income (Spending)	\$120

TENTATIVE 2018-19 PTA AND ICSD CALENDAR

PLEASE SAVE THE DATES FOR OUR EVENTS!

PTA Meetings are usually the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:30.

Event details will be published on the website and listserv closer to the dates. This information is also available on the PTA google calendar (found on our website). Updates will be reflected on the google calendar and posted on our listserv.

September

T 04 1st day for staff

W 05 1st day for 6th graders

R 06 Full day for 6-8 grades

M 10 PTA Meeting: Q&A with Principal and Family Liaison

F 14 DeWitt Family Picnic 6-8pm

October

T 02 early dismissal

***W 03 PTA Meeting: Chromebook Help**

M 08 Indigenous Peoples Day Recess

R 18 Open House

F 19 District Conference Day

TBD Movie Night?

November

M 12 Veterans Day Recess

R 15 Immigration Night

21-23 Thanksgiving Recess

December

M 10 PTA Meeting: TCPL Teen Services Librarian

24-1 Winter Recess

January

M 14 PTA Meeting

M 21 MLK Day Recess

February

M 11 PTA Meeting

18-22 school recess

March

M 11 PTA Meeting: ICSD Budget

F 15 vacation

M 18 District Conference Day

April

01-02 NYS ELA Assessments

T 09 Ice Cream Social

15-19 Spring Recess

May

W 01 Staff Appreciation

06-07 NYS Math Assessments

M 13 PTA Meeting

F 24 break?

M 29 Memorial Day recess

TBD Music Festival

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

Dates in bold are PTA sponsored events (or school/PTA) interspersed with ICSD calendar dates.

September 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27 Fall Modified Cross Country Begins (Modified Football Begins August 20)	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5 6 th Grade and New Entrants report to school	6 All grades return to school Fall Modified Soccer, Girls Tennis, and Girls Volley Ball Begin	7	8
9	10 PTA Meeting Q&A with the Principal and Family Liaison Music Room 6:30 pm	11	12	13 National Jr. Honor Society Induction Ceremony 6 pm	14 Welcome Back PTA picnic at 6 pm DeWitt Middle School	15
16	17	18	19	20 Math Open House 6 pm	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Picture Day	28	29
30						

October 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1	2 Early dismissal/ release at 3:05	3 PTA Meeting Chromebook help Music Room 6:30 pm	4	5	6
7	8 Indigenous Peoples Day recess	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Open House 6 pm	19 Professional Learning Day. No School for Students	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Ithaca City School District Academic Calendar 2018-2019

9/3 Labor Day
9/4 First Day for Staff/
District Conference Day
9/5 K - 6 & 9th gr. & All New Entrants
9/6 Full Day K - 12

10/2 Early Release
(15 Minute Early Release - Mandatory Emergency Drill)

10/8 Indigenous Peoples Day Recess
10/19 District Conference Day

11/9 Elem. Parent/Teacher Conf. Day
11/12 Veterans Day Recess

11/21 - 11/23 Thanksgiving Recess

12/24 - 1/1 Winter Recess

1/1 Winter Recess
1/21 Martin Luther King, Jr Day Recess
1/22 - 1/25 Regents Exams

September				
M	T	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

February				
M	T	W	Th	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	

October				
M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

March				
M	T	W	Th	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

November				
M	T	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

April				
M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

December				
M	T	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

May				
M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

January				
M	T	W	Th	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

June				
M	T	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

2/18 - 2/22 President's Day/Winter Recess

3/14 Elem. Parent/Teacher Conf. Day
3/15 Vacation Day
3/18 District Conference Day

4/15 - 4/19 Spring Recess

5/24 **School Recess**
5/27 Memorial Day Recess

6/3 Global Hist. & Geo. II Regents Exam
6/18- 6/25 Regents Exams
6/25 Last Day for Students
6/26 Last Day for Staff

****Emergency Closing Days****
Due to emergency closing days, school may be held on May 24th, 2019.

= Vacation Days
 = Regents Exams
 (No school for IHS except for students taking exams)
 = District Conference Day
 (No school for students)
 = Parent/Teacher Conference Days for Eleme
 = Staff Work Day
 = Early Release - Mandatory Emergency Drill

Created March 26, 2018
ADOPTED by BOE April 10, 2018

400 Lake Street, P.O. Box 549, Ithaca, New York 14851-0549

Cathy Sinnott
Coordinator of Health Services and Wellness

Tel: (607) 274-2127
E-mail: cathy.sinnott@icsd.k12.ny.us

Dear Parent or Guardian:

New York State Public Health Law requires that parents/guardians provide written documentation indicating that their child has been immunized in accordance with the schedule mandated by the State of New York.

Immunization records are due on the day your child starts school. Children for whom we do not have immunization records will not be permitted to attend school after September 20, 2018.

Immunizations can be obtained from your child's physician or from the Tompkins County Health Department. The federal Vaccine for Children Program will provide free or subsidized immunizations for children whose health insurance does not pay for vaccines. Call the Tompkins County Health Department at 274-6616 for more information or to make an appointment. If you need help in meeting the state requirements for immunizations, contact your child's school nurse.

Below are the current requirements for the 2018-19 school year.

Updated New York State Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance

Vaccines	Pre K	Grades K-3	Grades 4-5	Grades 6-9	Grades 10-12
DTap/DTP/Tdap	4 doses	4 to 5 doses *	4 to 5 doses *	3 doses	3 doses
Tdap	N/A	N/A	N/A	1 dose	1 dose
IPV/OPV	3 doses	3 to 4 doses *	3 doses	3 to 4 doses *	3 doses
MMR	1 dose	2 doses	2 doses	2 doses	2 doses
Hep B	3 doses	3 doses	3 doses	3 doses	3 doses
Varicella (chicken pox)	1 dose	2 doses	1 dose	2 doses	1 dose
Meningococcal	N/A	N/A	N/A	Grades 7&8 1 dose	Grade 12 1 to 2 doses *
Hib	1 to 4 doses *	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PCV	1 to 4 doses *	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

*check with child's physician or school nurse if you have questions.

Our goal is to keep all children in school healthy-and by doing that, their family and the community as well.

Cathy Sinnott RN, BSN, MPH
Coordinator of Health Services and Wellness

Melissa Dhundale, MD
School Physician



Fine Arts Booster Group

SUPPORTING THE ARTS IN THE ITHACA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Fine Arts Booster Group
c/o IPEI
P.O. Box 4268
Ithaca, NY 14852

www.fabgithaca.org
Join the listserv,
email fineartsboosters-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

president@fabgithaca.org

WHAT DO THE BOOSTERS DO?

Promote, Support and Celebrate "All the Arts for All the Kids!"

The Fine Arts Booster Group (an affiliate of the Ithaca Public Education Initiative) supports students and teachers through grants, recycling of used musical instruments, partnerships and fostering of communication. Boost arts education with your donation, your time and/or your ideas!

NAME(S): (as will appear in the IPEI Annual Report)

____ I would like to remain anonymous.

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Join the listserv by emailing fineartsboosters-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

I CAN HELP WITH: _____

Communications, grants, instruments, performance booklets, web and more....

I CAN RECYCLE AN INSTRUMENT! Email president@fabgithaca.org.

I WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE! Email ads@fabgithaca.org.

I CAN SUPPORT THE BOOSTERS WITH A DONATION OF \$ _____

Any amount appreciated! \$10 to \$100 or more!... Your support goes to students and teachers (checks payable to IPEI/Fine Arts Booster Group and mail to address below or donate online at fabgithaca.org).

Donation in honor of: _____ or in memory of: _____

Please send notice of this gift to: (name and address)

Please return this form to FABG, c/o IPEI, P.O. Box 4268, Ithaca, NY 14852.

Thank you!



"IPEI is truly the gold standard for how communities and schools can partner to engage, educate, and empower our young people."
 --Jason Trumble, Principal, Ithaca High School

20+ Years Supporting the ICSD

What is IPEI? The Ithaca Public Education Initiative (IPEI) is a local non-profit that makes grants to teachers and staff across the ICSD to support innovative projects and programs that connect classrooms to the community of Ithaca.

How does IPEI impact my student? IPEI's grants, totaling more than \$50,000 in 2016-17, supported programs and projects in classrooms and schools across the ICSD.

Since 2004, IPEI has also supported *Kids Discover the Trail! Ithaca*, a program allowing all ICSD students in Pre-K through fifth grade educational visits to sites along the Discovery Trail with partner classes from other schools.



A student paints her self-portrait during Boynton's "Night at the Museum," funded by and Red and Gold Grant. The student-led presentation featured stories derived from archaeological artifacts, histories and explorations that were acted out in real time.

In 2016-17 IPEI Funded:
 14 Teacher Grants
 45 Red and Gold Grants
 2 Connecting Classrooms Grants

How you can help:

- We need **financial contributions, community partners, and volunteers.**
- Join us at the 20th IPEI Adult Spelling Bee on **March 4, 2018!**

Support from the community helps IPEI assist ICSD create the very best learning opportunities for students and teachers.

Learn more: www.ipei.org

Find us online @IthacaPEI

Questions?
ipei@ipei.org 607.256.4734

Ithaca City School District: Google Apps for Education / Chromebook Permission Form

Acceptable Use Policy



Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s):

The Ithaca City School District will provide students with Google Apps for Education accounts in grades 4-12 and Chromebooks in Grades 6-12 (access in Grades 4-5). Google Apps for Education includes free, web-based instructional and collaborative tools. This service is available through an agreement between Google and ICSD. Once you have read this letter, please sign and return it to your student's teacher, by mail or to the main office. For more information regarding the classroom benefits of Google Apps for Education, please visit:

<https://www.google.com/edu/>

Google Apps for Education is intended for educational use only. Your student's teachers will be using Google Apps for lessons, assignments, and instruction. Email features will be restricted to use within the ICSD domain (Grades 4-5) unless outside access is specifically requested by instructional staff and approved by administration. This means that students will not be able to send or receive emails from anyone outside the school district using this system. Standard Email features for grades 6-12 will be available.

Students in Grades 6-12 will be issued a Dell Chromebook for use throughout the school year. Please refer to the Parent / Student 1:1 Handbook for additional information. Students in Grades 4-5 will have access to district Chromebooks during school hours only. Information regarding the ICSD 1:1 program can be found on our website:

[ICSD 1:1 Information](#)

IMPORTANT: Collaboration and communication will be restricted to accounts within the ICSD.K12.NY.US domain (Grades 4-5).

Google Apps for Education is also available at home, the library, or anywhere with Internet access. School staff will monitor student use of Apps when students are at school. Parents/guardians are responsible for monitoring their child's use of Apps when accessing programs from home (parents will be given student passwords). Students are responsible for their own behavior at all times.

Student Safety and Content Filtering

ICSD will use the GoGuardian application to locally manage, filter, and monitor student Google Apps accounts and Chromebooks. This service allows the district to filter content anywhere and anytime on any network. No existing system can provide perfect filtering but it can be very effective when coupled with classroom/parent oversight.

<https://www.goguardian.com/>

Rules for Using Google Apps for Education

Acceptable Use (Privacy and Safety)

Apps for Education is primarily for educational use. Students may use Apps for personal use subject to the restrictions below and additional school rules and policies that may apply.

Privacy - School staff, administrators, and parents all have access to student email for monitoring purposes. Students have no expectation of privacy on the Apps system.

Limited personal use - Students may use Apps tools for personal projects but may not use them for: Unlawful activities

Commercial purposes (running a business or trying to make money)
Personal financial gain (running a website to sell things)
Inappropriate sexual or other offensive content
Threatening another person
Harassment or bullying
Actions which are a violation of DASA
Misrepresentation of the Ithaca City School District, staff or students. Apps, sites, email, and groups are not public forums. They are extensions of classroom spaces where student free speech rights may be limited.

Safety

Students are not allowed to post personal contact information about themselves or other people. This includes last names, addresses and phone numbers.
Students should **never** meet personally with someone whom they have met online without their parent's approval and participation.

Students will tell their teacher or other school employee about any message they receive that is inappropriate or makes them feel uncomfortable.
Students are responsible for the use of their individual accounts and should take all reasonable precautions to prevent others from being able to use their account. **Under no conditions should a student provide his or her password to another person.**

Access Restriction - Due Process

Access to Google Apps for Education is considered a privilege afforded at the discretion of the District. The District maintains the right to immediately withdraw the access and use of Apps when there is reason to believe that violations of law or District policies have occurred. In such cases, the alleged violation will be referred to the principal or principal's designee for further investigation and account restoration, suspension, or termination. As a party of the Agreement with Google, the school also reserves the right to immediately suspend any user account suspected of inappropriate use. Pending review, a user account may be terminated as part of such action. In addition, further consequences may be applied per the student code of conduct.

Digital Citizenship (Advice for All)

Treat others well. It hurts to get a mean email just like it hurts when someone is mean in the school hallway. When using email or making a post on a forum or web page, be kind. Everyone will see what you write, so think before you type. Be careful with what you say about others and yourself.

Respect the rights of copyright owners. Copyright infringement occurs when an individual reproduces a work without permission that is protected by a copyright. If a work contains language that specifies acceptable use of that work, the user should follow the expressed requirements. If the user is unsure whether they can use a work, he or she should request permission from the copyright owner.

Students have First Amendment rights to free speech. Your rights can be limited in school. If you post something via email or on a school web page that disturbs the learning environment in your school, your right to free speech may be limited. A school or school district has the right to limit student speech that disturbs the learning process.

Cyber Ethics and Cyber Safety Information. The district incorporates information found in the Commonsense.org cyber-ethics and cyber-safety K-12 curriculum. Parents are strongly encouraged to review this very informative website for additional information.

-- CommonSense - <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>

These laws and policies assist in protecting our students online:

Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

The school is required by CIPA to have technology measures and policies in place that protect students from harmful materials including those that are obscene and pornographic. This means that student email is filtered. Mail containing harmful content from inappropriate sites will be blocked.

-- CIPA - <http://fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/cipa.html>

Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)

COPPA applies to commercial companies and limits their ability to collect personal information from children under 13. By default, Google advertising is turned off for Apps for Education users. No personal student information is collected for commercial purposes. This permission form allows the school to act as an agent for parents in the collection of information within the school context. The school's use of student information is solely for educational purposes.

-- COPPA - <http://www.ftc.gov/privacy/coppafaqs.shtm>

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

FERPA protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents rights to review student records. Under FERPA, schools may disclose directory information (name, phone, address, grade level, etc...) but parents may request that the school not disclose this information.

The school will not publish confidential academic records (grades, student ID #, etc...) for public viewing on the Internet.

The school may publish student work and photos for public viewing but will not publish student last names or other personally identifiable information.

Parents may request that photos, names and general directory information about their children not be published.

Parents have the right at any time to investigate the contents of their child's email and Apps for Education files.

-- FERPA - <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa>

Opt-Out

Parents/Guardians can choose to opt their student out of the ICSD Gmail component of the Google Apps for Education. Notification of an opt out must be submitted in writing to a building administrator.

Parents/Guardians of students in 6th through 12th grade can choose to opt out of having their child bring a district issued Chromebook home. However, students will be expected to sign out a district Chromebook daily using the library loaner system. Notification of an opt out must be submitted in writing to a building administrator.

Students will still use a Chromebook while at school and are still responsible for completing all assignments.

Note: The decision to opt a student out of the Google Apps program (GMail) may have academic implications. Parents/guardians are encouraged to consult the student's teachers to discuss the implications of this decision and to discuss appropriate alternatives.

ICSD Google Apps for Education Parent Permission Form: 2015-2016

Please review the above information; complete and return this portion to school.

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

***Grades 4-12:**

I give permission for my child to use **ICSD K-12 Google Apps for Education (Gmail)**.

***Grades 6-12 ONLY:**

I have read and agree to the terms in the [ICSD Chromebook 1:1 Handbook](#) and understand that my child will receive a district issued Chromebook.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Letter to Parents for School Meal Programs

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. **Ithaca City School District** offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs **Elementary \$1.55, Middle \$1.80, HS/LACS \$2.05**; lunch costs **Elementary \$2.65, Middle \$2.90, HS/LACS \$3.15**. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is **\$0.25** for breakfast and **\$0.25** for lunch.

1. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced price meals. Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: **ICSD Child Nutrition Program 1601 North Cayuga Street, Ithaca, NY 14850 or to your local school kitchen staff.**
2. WHO CAN GET FREE MEALS? All children in households receiving benefits from **SNAP, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations or TANF**, can get free meals regardless of your income. Categorical eligibility for free meal benefits is extended to all children in a household when the application lists an Assistance Program's case number for any household member. Also, your children can get free meals if your household's gross income is within the free limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Households with children who are categorically eligible through an Other Source Categorical Eligible designation, as defined by law, may be eligible for free benefits and should contact the SFA for assistance in receiving benefits.
3. CAN FOSTER CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Yes, foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court, are eligible for free meals. Any foster child in the household is eligible for free meals regardless of income. Foster children may also be included as a member of the foster family if the foster family chooses to also apply for benefits for other children. If non-foster children in a foster family are not eligible for free or reduced price meal benefits, an eligible foster child will still receive free benefits.
4. CAN HOMELESS, RUNAWAY, AND MIGRANT CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Yes, children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant qualify for free meals. If you haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail **Michelle Yaple, (607) 274-2117, myaple@icsd.k12.ny.us** to see if they qualify.
5. WHO CAN GET REDUCED PRICE MEALS? Your children can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Eligibility Income Chart, shown on this application.
6. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? Please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. Call the school at **607-274-2117** if you have questions.
7. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT ANOTHER ONE? Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first 30 operating days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.
8. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILD(REN) GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please fill out a FREE/REDUCED PRICE MEAL application.
9. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes and we may also ask you to send written proof.
10. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
11. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: **Michelle Yaple, 1601 North Cayuga Street, Ithaca, NY 14850 (607)274-2117, myaple@icsd.k12.ny.us**
12. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for free or reduced price meals.
13. WHO SHOULD I INCLUDE AS MEMBERS OF MY HOUSEHOLD? You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends) who share income and expenses. You must include yourself and all children living with you. If you live with other people who are economically independent (for example, people who you do not support, who do not share income with you or your children, and who pay a pro-rated share of expenses), do not include them.
14. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
15. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE INCLUDE OUR HOUSING ALLOWANCE AS INCOME? If you get an off-base housing allowance, it must be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income.
16. MY SPOUSE IS DEPLOYED TO A COMBAT ZONE. IS HER COMBAT PAY COUNTED AS INCOME? No, if the combat pay is received in addition to her basic pay because of her deployment and it wasn't received before she was deployed, combat pay is not counted as income. Contact your school for more information.
17. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for **SNAP** or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call **1-800-342-3009**.

**2018-2019 INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES
FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS OR FREE MILK
REDUCED PRICE ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART**

Total Family Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$ 22,459	\$ 1,872	\$ 936	\$ 864	\$ 432
2	\$ 30,451	\$ 2,538	\$ 1,269	\$ 1,172	\$ 586
3	\$ 38,443	\$ 3,204	\$ 1,602	\$ 1,479	\$ 740
4	\$ 46,435	\$ 3,870	\$ 1,935	\$ 1,786	\$ 893
5	\$ 54,427	\$ 4,536	\$ 2,268	\$ 2,094	\$ 1,047
6	\$ 62,419	\$ 5,202	\$ 2,601	\$ 2,401	\$ 1,201
7	\$ 70,411	\$ 5,868	\$ 2,934	\$ 2,709	\$ 1,355
8	\$ 78,403	\$ 6,534	\$ 3,267	\$ 3,016	\$ 1,508
*Each Add'l person add	\$ 7,992	\$ 666	\$ 333	\$ 308	\$ 154

How to Apply: To get free or reduced price meals for your children carefully complete one application following the instructions for your household and return it to the designated office listed on the application. If you now receive SNAP, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) for any children, or participate in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), the application must include the children's names, the household SNAP, TANF or FDPIR case number and the signature of an adult household member. All children should be listed on the same application. If you do not list a SNAP, TANF or FDPIR case number for any household member, the application must include the names of everyone in the household, the amount of income each household member, and how often it is received and where it comes from. It must include the signature of an adult household member and the last four digits of that adult's social security number, or check the box if the adult does not have a social security number. An application that is not complete cannot be approved. Contact your local Department of Social Services for your SNAP or TANF case number or complete the income portion of the application. No application is necessary if the household was notified by the SFA their children have been directly certified. If the household is not sure if their children have been directly certified, the household should contact the school.

Reporting Changes: The benefits that you are approved for at the time of application are effective for the entire school year. You no longer need to report changes for an increase in income or decrease in household size, or if you no longer receive SNAP.

Income Exclusions: The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care Development (Block Grant) Fund should not be considered as income for this program.

In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age or disability

Nondiscrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
 - (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
 - (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.
- This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Meal Service to Children With Disabilities: Federal regulations require schools and institutions to serve meals at no extra charge to children with a disability which may restrict their diet. A student with a disability is defined in 7CFR Part 15b.3 of Federal regulations, as one who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities. Major life activities are defined to include functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working. You must request the special meals from the school and provide the school with medical certification from a medical doctor. If you believe your child needs substitutions because of a disability, please get in touch with us for further information, as there is specific information that the medical certification must contain.

Confidentiality: The United States Department of Agriculture has approved the release of students names and eligibility status, without parent/guardian consent, to persons directly connected with the administration or enforcement of federal education programs such as Title I and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), which are United States Department of Education programs used to determine areas such as the allocation of funds to schools, to evaluate socioeconomic status of the school's attendance area, and to assess educational progress. Information may also be released to State health or State education programs administered by the State agency or local education agency, provided the State or local education agency administers the program, and federal State or local nutrition programs similar to the National School Lunch Program. Additionally, all information contained in the free and reduced price application may be released to persons directly connected with the administration or enforcement of programs authorized under the National School Lunch Act (NSLA) or Child Nutrition Act (CNA); including the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, the Special Milk Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC); the Comptroller General of the United States for audit purposes, and federal, State or local law enforcement officials investigating alleged violation of the programs under the NSLA or CNA.

Reapplication: You may apply for benefits any time during the school year. Also, if you are not eligible now, but during the school year become unemployed, have a decrease in household income, or an increase in family size you may request and complete an application at that time.

The disclosure of eligibility information not specifically authorized by the NSLA requires a written consent statement from the parent/guardian. We will let you know when your application is approved or denied. Sincerely, Beth Krause, ICSD Child Nutrition Program

Family Number _____ Date Withdrew _____

F ___ R ___ D ___

2018-2019 Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals/Milk

To apply for free and reduced price meals for your children, read the instructions on the back, complete **only one** form for your household, sign your name and **return it to the address listed below**. Call [\(607\)274-2302](tel:6072742302), if you need help. Additional names may be listed on a separate paper.

Return Completed Applications to: **ICSD Child Nutrition Program (Or to your local school kitchen staff)**
1601 N. Cayuga Street
Ithaca, NY 14850

1. List all children in your household who attend school:

Student Name	School	Grade/Teacher	Foster Child	Homeless Migrant, Runaway
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. SNAP/TANF/FDPIR Benefits:

If anyone in your household receives either SNAP, TANF or FDPIR benefits, list their name and CASE # here. **Skip to Part 4, and sign the application.**

Name: _____ CASE #: _____

3. Report all income for ALL Household Members (Skip this step if you answered 'yes' to step 2)

All Household Members (including yourself and all children that have income).

List all Household members not listed in Step 1 (including yourself) **even if they do not receive income**. For each Household Member listed, if they do receive income, report total income for each source in whole dollars only. If they do not receive income from any other source, write '0'. If you enter '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report.

Name of household member	Earnings from work before deductions <i>Amount / How Often</i>	Child Support, Alimony <i>Amount / How Often</i>	Pensions, Retirement Payments <i>Amount / How Often</i>	Other Income, Social Security <i>Amount / How Often</i>	No Income
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

Total Household Members (Children and Adults)

□ □

*Last Four Digits of Social Security Number: XXX-XX- ____ - ____

I do not have a SS#

*When completing section 3, an adult household member must provide the last four digits of their Social Security Number (SS#), or mark the "I do not have a SS# box" before the application can be approved.

4. Signature: An adult household member must sign this application before it can be approved.

I certify (promise) that all the information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that the information is being given so the school will get federal funds; the school officials may verify the information and if I purposely give false information, I may be prosecuted under applicable State and federal laws, and my children may lose meal benefits.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Home Address: _____

5. Ethnicity and Race are optional; responding to this section does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino Not Hispanic or Latino

Race: American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian Black or African American Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Island White

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE – FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY

Annual Income Conversion (Only convert when multiple income frequencies are reported on application)
Weekly X 52; Every Two Weeks (bi-weekly) X 26; Twice Per Month X 24; Monthly X 12

SNAP/TANF/Foster
 Income Household: Total Household Income/How Often: _____ / _____ Household Size: _____
 Free Meals Reduced Price Meals Denied/Paid
Signature of Reviewing Official _____ **Date Notice Sent:** _____

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To apply for free and reduced price meals, complete only one application for your household using the instructions below. Sign the application and return the application to ICSD Child Nutrition.

If you have a foster child in your household, you may include them on your application. A separate application is not needed. Call the school if you need help: 607-274-2302. Ensure that all information is provided. Failure to do so may result in denial of benefits for your child or unnecessary delay in approving your application.

PART 1 ALL HOUSEHOLDS MUST COMPLETE STUDENT INFORMATION. DO NOT FILL OUT MORE THAN ONE APPLICATION FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD.

- (1) Print the names of the children, including foster children, for whom you are applying on one application.
- (2) List their grade and school.
- (3) Check the box to indicate a foster child living in your household, or if you believe any child meets the description for homeless, migrant, runaway (a school staff will confirm this eligibility).

PART 2 HOUSEHOLDS GETTING SNAP, TANF OR FDPIR SHOULD COMPLETE PART 2 AND SIGN PART 4.

- (1) List a current SNAP, TANF or FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations) case number of anyone living in your household. The case number is provided on your benefit letter.
- (2) An adult household member must sign the application in PART 4. SKIP PART 3. Do not list names of household members or income if you list a SNAP case number, TANF or FDPIR number.

PART 3 ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS MUST COMPLETE THESE PARTS AND ALL OF PART 4.

- (1) Write the names of everyone in your household, whether or not they get income. Include yourself, the children you are applying for, all other children, your spouse, grandparents, and other related and unrelated people in your household. Use another piece of paper if you need more space.
- (2) Write the amount of current income each household member receives, before taxes or anything else is taken out, and indicate where it came from, such as earnings, welfare, pensions and other income. If the current income was more or less than usual, write that person's usual income. **Specify how often this income amount is received: weekly, every other week (bi-weekly), 2 x per month, monthly. If no income, check the box.** The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care and Development Block Grant, TANF and At Risk Child Care Programs should **not** be considered as income for this program.
- (3) Enter the total number of household members in the box provided. This number should include all adults and children in the household and should reflect the members listed in PART 1 and PART 3.
- (4) The application must include the last four digits only of the social security number of the adult who signs **PART 4** if Part 3 is completed. If the adult does not have a social security number, check the box. **If you listed a SNAP, TANF or FDPIR number, a social security number is not needed.**
- (5) An adult household member must sign the application in PART 4.

OTHER BENEFITS: Your child may be eligible for benefits such as Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). To determine if your child is eligible, program officials need information from your free and reduced price meal application. Your written consent is required before any information may be released. Please refer to the attached parent Disclosure Letter and Consent Statement for information about other benefits.

USE OF INFORMATION STATEMENT

Use of Information Statement: The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not submit all needed information, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the primary wage earner or other adult household member who signs the application. The social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs.

We may share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Consent and Authorization for Media Purposes
ITHACA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

400 Lake Street • P.O. Box 549 • Ithaca, New York • 14851-0549

Engaged students are successful students. Critical to our mission is the ability to communicate, through media outlets, the excellence that occurs in the Ithaca City School District every day.

By signing below, I give the Ithaca City School District and its schools permission to record audio, video and/or digital footage containing my child for the purposes of broadcasting the recording(s) as the district and its schools see fit.

This Consent and Authorization shall be interpreted to meet the requirements of the New York Civil Rights Law for the use of my child and their likeness. I hereby release and discharge the district and its officers, employees, agents, representatives, and students from all claims and liability arising out of or in connection with the activities I have authorized above, including but not limited to any claims for defamation, invasion of privacy, right of publicity, or any similar causes of action.

Parent/Legal Guardian – Print Name

Signature

Date

Child's Name (first, last)

Grade

School

Address

Telephone Number

**ITHACA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
DeWitt Middle School
560 Warren Road
Ithaca, NY 14850**

**Non-Profit Organization
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Permit No. 361**

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

The PTA newsletter, DeWitt PTA News, keeps families and staff up to date with what is happening at school. It is published six times a year: September, December and March, mailed to every family and posted on the DeWitt PTA website (dewittpta.org).

If you would like to submit an article, please send it to Carol Barry at cmbarry@icloud.com

November 5 (for November/December), **January 7** (for January/February), **March 7** (for March/April), and **May 9** (for May/June).

