

DeWitt PTA News

December • January • February • March
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

The PTA newsletter, DeWitt PTA News, keeps families and staff up to date with what is happening at school. It is published three times a year: September, December and April, 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.

The deadline for the Spring edition is March 8th, 2015

Message From The Principal

Dear Parent, Guardians and Caregivers,

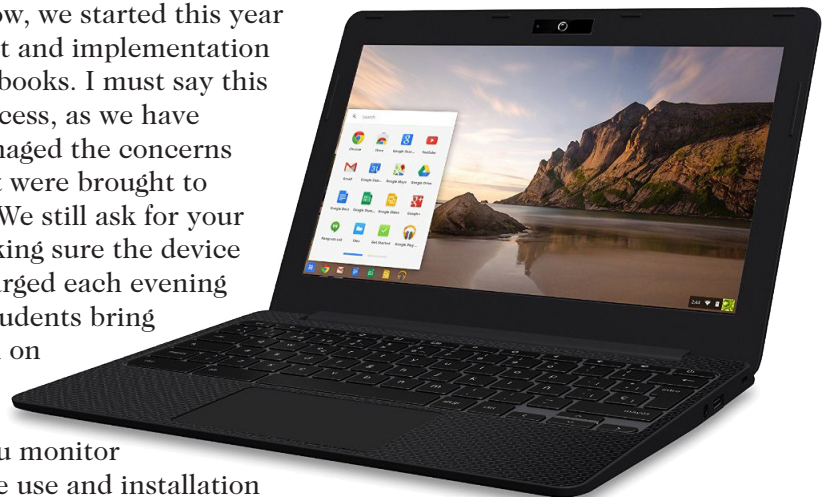
On behalf of the staff and students of DeWitt Middle School, we want to thank you for your support thus far this academic year. Your active involvement and communication has been an essential ingredient to our continued growth and pursuit of excellence. Remember, everyday is an opportunity for success and growth in our learning community.

As you know, we started this year with the rollout and implementation of the Chromebooks. I must say this has been a success, as we have effectively managed the concerns and issues that were brought to our attention. We still ask for your support in making sure the device is properly charged each evening and that the students bring them to school on a daily basis.

In addition, we ask that you monitor the appropriate use and installation of programs and games.

As stated during our PTA meeting, we would like to offer a parent session to orient parents to the various educational uses that the Chromebook can provide. As we continue to use these devices to enhance our teaching and learning process, we welcome your feedback to improve the connection between home and school.

As we progress through the school year, we will continue to meet the challenges of how we create a learning environment that effectively prepares our students for the world they live in or better still, the world they will be responsible for by being creative, innovative thinkers and problem-solvers. We would like to move toward a more interdisciplinary approach to teaching and learning that is student-centered. This will also mean that we will be challenged by the way we assess students and engage in conversations around progress and grade reporting.



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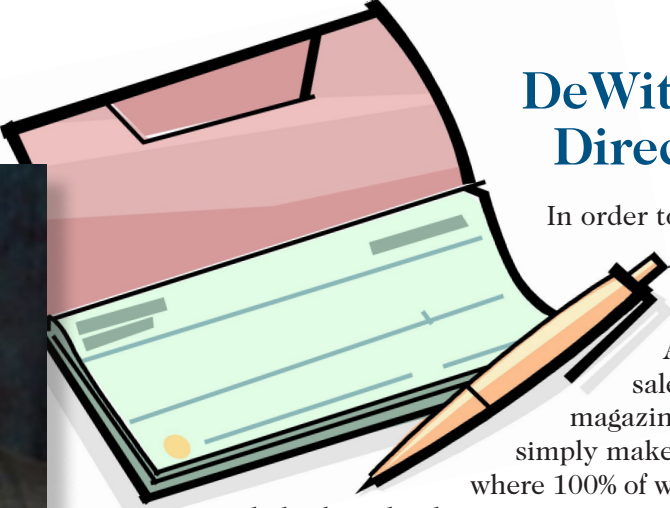
Mac M. Knight, Principal

In order to reach any goal, we must work together as a team. Your membership in the PTA and active involvement in the daily functions and scheduled events at DeWitt will be a great support in our transitions and achievements. I also invite you to attend the Shared Decision Making Team meetings. **The date and time for our next Shared Decision Making Team meeting will be December 3, 7:00 pm in the Main Office Conference Room.**

Lastly, I would like to remind our dedicated and devoted parents about driving habits and behavior during drop off and pick up in the morning and afternoon. The speed in this area and the potential danger of having students cross traffic in order to access cars is a great risk to our students and parent drivers. I also want to caution parents about parking alongside Warren Road at the end of the day, as this creates visibility problems for those exiting the side parking lot. Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

—*Respectfully, Mac Knight*

DeWitt PTA Direct Appeal



In order to maximize impact and offer families an easy way to contribute, we are once again conducting a Direct Appeal fundraiser. No bake sales, no selling (or buying!) magazine subscriptions or candy – simply make a tax deductible donation, where 100% of what you give goes directly to

help the school community.

DeWitt PTA provides funding for school programs and events such as the Back to School Picnic, International Night, student supply cabinet, books for the library, Staff Appreciation luncheon, newsletters, and so much more. Help us continue this important work! Any amount of donation is appreciated and makes a difference!

Please make checks payable to “DeWitt PTA” and return to the Main Office (drop off or mail to the school) by Friday, December 18. Include your name and return address if you would like a receipt. Questions? Contact Patricia Sipple, DeWitt PTA Volunteer, at psipple@twcny.rr.com or 216-1952.



Chromebook Covers

Chromebook covers are available for purchase at DeWitt Middle School. The covers are designed to prevent scratching and provide protection against internal damages. The protective covers are padded and also feature a zippered pocket. The cost of the protective covers is \$4.00 each. Checks should be made out to DeWitt Activities. See Penny Boynton for more information.

Message from the DeWitt PTA Co-Presidents

Fall at DeWitt has flown by (as usual!) with great energy and glorious weather. We began September with our Welcome Back to School picnic on a beautiful summer evening at Stewart Park. Thank you to all the incoming and returning families for preparing and contributing the marvelous food as well as helping with set-up and clean-up. A special thank you to Ingrid Zabel for coordinating, Betsy Noel and Debbie Whitehead for shopping and assisting with the many details that make this event a success! Many thanks to the grill cooks, Robert Danberg and Greg Eells! We are currently looking for a coordinator to organize the picnic for 2016. Please contact us if you are interested.

October brought DeWitt's Bring Your Family to School Night. It was wonderful to see all the students leading their families around the building! Thank you Danette Johnson for coordinating and organizing families that provided delicious refreshments.

This year, our annual International Night, where we celebrate the many cultures and traditions represented at DeWitt, will be held in late January/early February. More details to come in early January.

DeWitt's PTA Board has several new faces this year: George Gao as Treasurer, Beverly Way, Secretary, Tracy Keel, Vice-President, and Jacquie Kaden, Co-President. Working together with our members, we serve the students and families of DeWitt through our support and partial funding of the new maps in our Social Studies classrooms; field trips for our students; the Welcome Back to School Picnic; the Student Directory; Staff Appreciation Luncheon; parent education classes; 8th grade promotion party; an email list for parents and staff; coordination of volunteers; participation in PTA Council; and our three PTA newsletters.

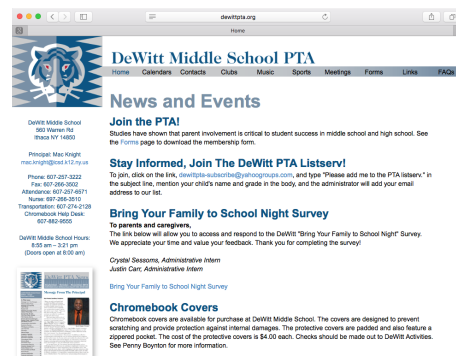
As you can see, the DeWitt PTA is an amazing group and an integral part of your child's education. A membership allows you to be part of the decision-making, vote on events, and determine how funds are used. Your support is critical for continuing the great work the PTA does. Please consider joining online at <http://www.dewittpta.org/>. Membership is only \$7 for an individual! Also, a donation of any amount directly supports and funds PTA activities for our amazing teachers and students!

Mark your calendars for our next meeting which will be held on Monday, February 1st at 7 PM and is open to all. Please join us to learn about our upcoming events!

We truly appreciate all the support we receive from our volunteers and donors. Thank you for all you do to make Dewitt a special place!

Have a happy, restful and safe December vacation!

—*Jacquie Kaden, Michelle Eells* Co-Presidents, DeWitt PTA



dewittpta.org

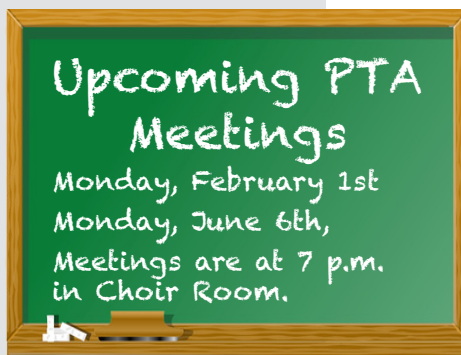
The DeWitt PTA website has been completely re-designed. You can use it to learn what is going on at school, find PTA contact information and much more! Check it out!

You can help keep the website current by submitting information about upcoming events and activities. Email your event information to Carol Barry at cmbarry@icloud.com. Thanks!

Questions About Chromebooks and Google Docs for Education?

A list of common questions about the chromebooks have been sent to the Ithaca City School District's Technology Department. The questions and answers will be posted on the PTA website (dewittpta.org) as soon as they are available.

ICSD is also planning some educational meetings for parents, so we can learn more about the technology and better help our children when they come to us with question. The dates, times and locations for these meetings will be posted on the website. Notices will also be sent out on the listserv.





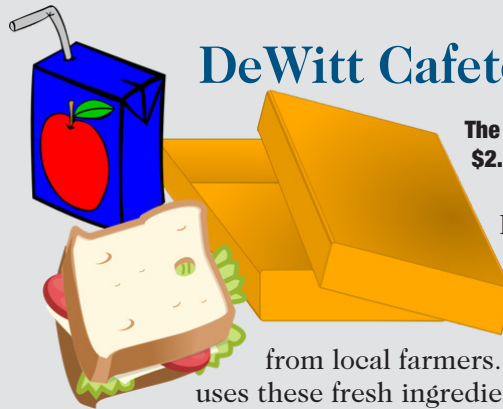
DeWitt's TSA Chapter

(Technology Student Association)

After a whole lot of number crunching by the TSA advisors (Mr. Buchner and Mr. Walters) along with the TSA alumni, eighteen of the applicants were offered membership on to this year's team. That swells the team size to twenty-eight. That number will be whittled down quite a bit through a process of deliverables.

One of those deliverables is attendance, others include turning in forms and replying to requests for information and most important, and new this year, are competitive events.

The team members are:
 Ryan Mao, Aidan Taylor Foley, Alex Whitehead, Arthur Santelli, Brady Weyble, Dylan John Myler, Jefferson Sheng, Lena Wu, Liana Raguso, Ryan Cunningham, Annie Marschner, Sasha Keller, Katrina Jander, Isabelle Zanen, Andrew Lim, Rowan Dodge, Ben Nathabheem, Rohil Khatkhate, Yoonsuh Chris Kim, Xuyan Dong, Patrick Yuan, Tony Mao, Zachary Foley, Eli Ferreira, Benigno Mckain, Aadi Patel, Changhoon (Jacob) Yoon, Lukas Jander



DeWitt Cafeteria Prices

The meal prices are: \$1.50 breakfast, \$2.80 lunch

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

Winter and Spring Modified Sports

Don't forget to fill out your forms

The winter modified sports season has begun and includes Boys and Girls Basketball and Wrestling.

Spring modified sports will begin in March. Spring sports offered this year are Boys Baseball, Girls Softball, Boys and girls Lacrosse and Boys and Girls Track. Normally student forms are due to the school nurse within a month of the start of practice. New forms are needed for each sport season, check with the athletic office (607-274-2155) for any questions.

Filling out the paperwork may involve taking your child for a physical. You can find links to all of the school forms on the ICSD website (<http://www.ithacacityschools.org/districtpage.cfm?pageid=205>) or ask the school nurse for paper copies. Students must have an updated physical on file in the medical office before they can participate. For more information call the athletic office 607-274-2155.

The complete schedule for Ithaca City School District Sporting Events can be found at Ithacaathletics.digitalsports.com. To view only the sport you are looking for, select your team, in the center of the blue bar, then choose "Apply Filter" at the far right.



Clubs at DeWitt

Registration forms are available on Penny's table. Late buses are available.

Fall/Winter 2015				
Club Name	Day	Time	Staff	Meeting Place
HomeWork Club	M,T,Th	3:20-4:30 pm	Penny Boynton	Cafeteria /classrooms
TSA	Tues.- Thurs	3:30-6:00 pm	Mr. Walters	TECH N
Knitting Club	Mon	3:25-4:30 pm	Ms. Edwards-Parker	E 219 A
French Club	Mon	3:20-4:30 pm	Ms. Stevenson	B104
Art Club	Mon	3:20-4:30 pm	Ms. Bryant	Art Room
Dungeons & Dragons	Mon	3:20-4:30 pm	Pboynton& E. Klimowicz	C205 (every other Mon.)
Chess Club	Mon	3:20-4:30 pm	Pboynton& E. Klimowicz	C205 (every other Mon)
Horse Club	Tues	3:20-4:30 pm	Smith / Palmer	D241
Library Squad	Tues	3:20-4:30 pm	Ms. Church	Library
Club of Clubs	Tues	3:20-4:30 pm	Tvoorheis/Pboynton	Library
Destination Imagination	Wed	3:20-5:00 pm	LLoiacono/PBoynton	D241 2D
Computer Game Design	Thurs	3:20-4:30 pm	Penny Boynton/ IC	Art Computer Lab
Year Book Club	Thurs	3:20-4:30 pm	Ms. Smith	D241
Ping Pong Club	Thurs	3:20-4:30 pm	Ms. Hoffman	game room
Morning Clubs Fall/Winter 2015				
Club Name	Day	Time	Staff	Meeting Place
Aquarium club	Fri	8:00-8:45 am	Mr. Gottlieb	D20
NJHS	Thurs	8:00-8:45 am	Quadrozzi	Library
Agency Sponsored Clubs Fall/Winter 2015				
Club Name	Day	Time	Staff	Meeting Place
Cooperative Extension Adventures in Cooking,	Wed	3:20-5:30 pm	Aislyn Colgan	FCS Kitchen
Media Matters	Mon	3:20-5:30 pm	Aislyn Colgan	D241
Magic Afternoons	Tues	3:20-5:30 pm	Aislyn Colgan	Art Room
Lunch Bunch	Tues. Lunch	11:55 am -1:08 pm	Aislyn Colgan	D241
IYB College Discovery	Mon. & Thurs	3:20-4:30 pm	Ithaca Youth Bureau	Library
Learning Web	Tues	3:20-5:30 pm	Tyra Mazzer	D241
Cornell Film Makers	Wed. & Fri	3:20-5:00 pm	CU Dr. Duff	B102 B103 B104

Music at DeWitt

DeWitt Chorus

The chorus concerts are January 12, 2016 and June 14th, 2016. Both are at Kulp Auditorium, Ithaca High School. Both concerts start at 7:00pm. However, 6th grade students are to arrive in concert dress code at 5:45pm to prepare. They are to meet in the Auditorium of the High School. Guardians are responsible for transporting their child to and from the event. Timely planning is encouraged if there is transportation issues.

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 me directly at jwoodrid@icsd.k12.ny.us.

DeWitt Orchestra

The orchestra concerts are January 20, 2016 and June 9th, 2016. Both are at Kulp Auditorium, Ithaca High School. Both concerts start at 7:00pm. Mr. Buck will let the students know what time to arrive at the auditorium. Guardians are responsible for transporting their child to and from the event. Timely planning is encouraged if there is transportation issues.

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.

The 7th and 8th grade Orchestra is planning a trip to Montreal Canada in the spring. Details will be sent home with your students.

You can contact Mr. Buck at abuck@icsd.k12.ny.us.

DeWitt Band

The band concerts are December 17, 2015, March 2nd and May 17th, 2016. All concerts are at Kulp Auditorium, Ithaca High School and will begin at 7:00pm. Mr. Treat will let students know when to arrive at the auditorium. Guardians are responsible for transporting their child to and from the event. Timely planning is encouraged if there is transportation issues.

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.

The 7th and 8th grade band is planning a trip in the spring. Details will be sent home with your students.

You can contact Mr. Treat at michael.treat@icsd.k12.ny.us.



Important Dates from the Music Department

- December 17th at 7:00pm – DeWitt Winter 6-8 Band Concert at Kulp
- January 12th at 7:00pm – DeWitt Winter 6-8 Choral Concert at Kulp
- January 15-16 – All-County Chorus
- January 21st at 7:00pm – DeWitt Winter 6-8 Orchestra/Chamber Concert at Kulp
- January 29th – 7th/8th grade band workshop at Boynton
- March 2nd at 7:00pm – Combined Band Concerts at Kulp
- March 3rd at 7:00pm – Combined Band Concert Snow Date
- April 21st at 7:00pm – Jazz Band Concert
- May 6-7 – NYSSMA Solo Festival
- May 17th at 7:00pm – DeWitt Spring 6-8 Band Concert at Kulp
- May 20-21 – Grade 7/8th Band Trip
- June 13th at 7:00pm – DeWitt Spring 6-8 Orchestra/Chamber Concert at Kulp
- June 14th at 7:00pm – DeWitt Spring 6-8 Choral Concert at Kulp
- Orchestra Trip dates to come
- Band Trip dates to come
- 7/8 Chorus Trip (May be just 8th grade)



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-K; Alan Miller (alan.miller@icsd.k12.ny.us) for last names L-Z.

Another way to stay informed with your child's progress is by signing up for the School Tool Parent Portal. (<https://ithaca.schooltool.cnyric.org/schooltoolweb/>) You can access the Parent Portal Request Form at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ouyodBC-SMLtig9ObUbukNG-ipKxtX6LpSlGDfb150U/viewform>.

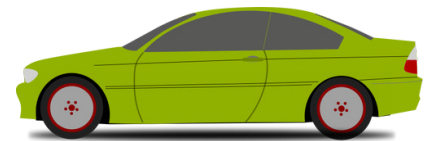


Student Drop-Off and Pick-Up

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.



Dances at DeWitt

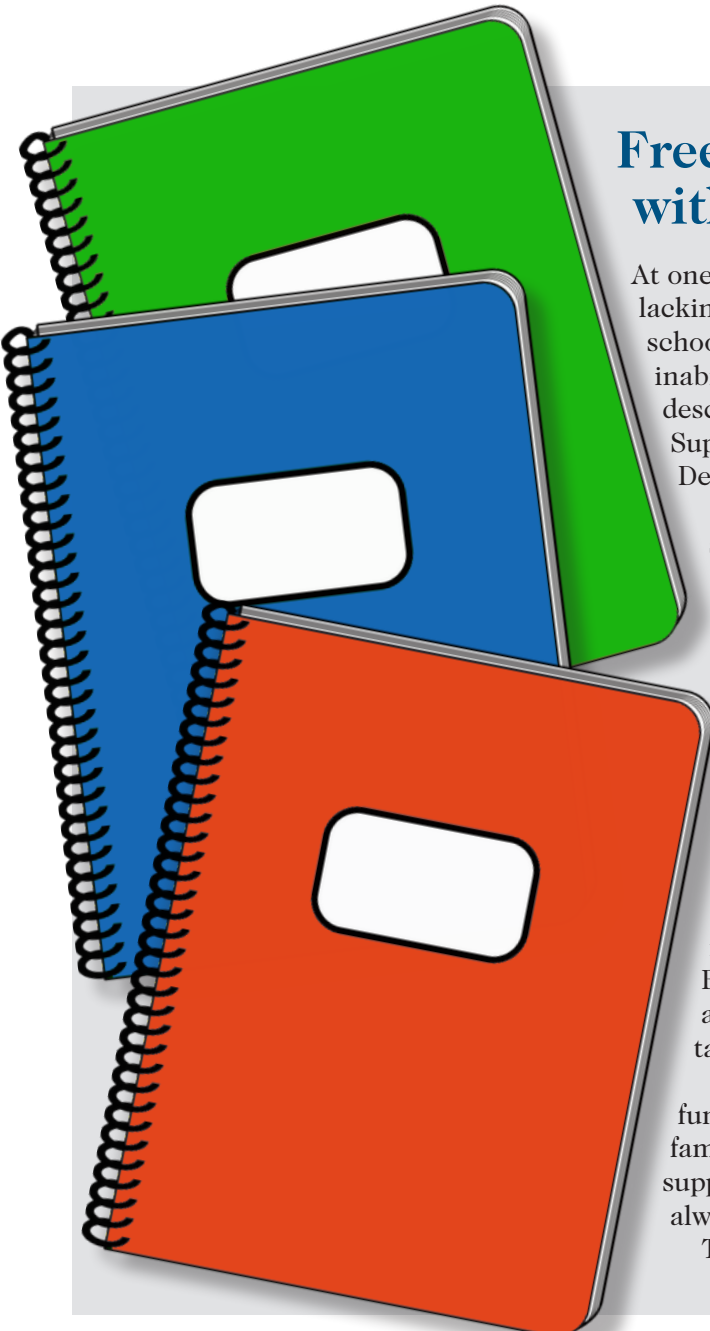
School dances typically take place once a month on Friday evenings from 7 to 9pm. During ski season, they are on Saturdays.

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.

Enter through the cafeteria door by the large side parking lot.

- A DJ plays music throughout the dance.
- Tickets are \$4 and can be purchased during lunch on the Thursday and Friday prior to the dance, and 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 Thursday before the 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.

If your organization is sponsoring a dance, send the information to Carol Barry (cbarry@icloud.com) and she will put the dance on the calendar and post the date and time on the website.



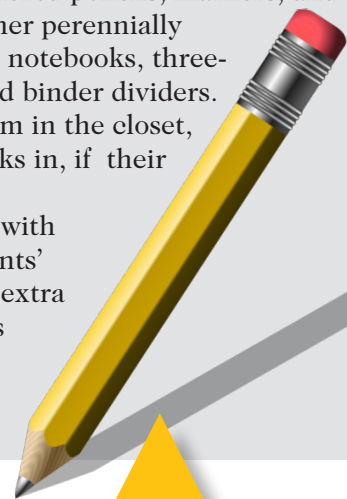
Free School Supply Closet with Its Pass-It-On Point of View

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 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!




Shared Decision-Making Team:

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. As a result, we have provided an opportunity for all stakeholders to be active participants and have a voice in the future planning and growth of DeWitt. Topics discussed might include: hiring, budget issues, school safety, grounds and facilities improvements.

Please take advantage of this opportunity and join our collaborative team. Everyone is welcome. Get involved and support our mission for excellence! **The date and time for our next Shared Decision Making Team meeting will be December 3, 7:00 pm in the Main Office Conference Room.**

—Mac Knight



**PTA Meeting
Monday, February 1
7:00 pm
In the Choir Room.**



Take Charge of Your Transportation

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

YOUR SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION LIAISON!

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

CARS ARE FOR DRIVING FULL:

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

HELP WITH RIDESHARING:

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

TCAT BUS PASSES

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

INSTANT HELP USING TCAT BUS ROUTES:

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

RED

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

VIDEOS!

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

ITHACA CARSHARE DISCOUNT:

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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

CONTACT:

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

2015-2016 DeWitt PTA Board and Chairpersons

CO-Presidents	Michelle Eells Jacquie Kaden	meells@juno.com jacquiekaden@gmail.com
Vice-President	Tracy Keel	keeltr@gmail.com
Treasurer	George Gao	zefenggao@yahoo.com
Secretary	Beverly Way	bway66@yahoo.com
PTA Council Rep	Kim Munson-Burke	munsonburke@yahoo.com
Membership Chair	Michelle Landers	mi.landern@gmail.com
Direct Appeal	Patricia Sipple	psipple@twcny.rr.com
Newsletter Editor	Carol Barry	cmbarry@icloud.com
Website Manager	Carol Barry	cmbarry@icloud.com
Listserv Moderator	Sara VanLooy	svanlooy@umich.edu
School Directory	Eglantina Lucio-Belbase	eluciob@gmail.com
Directory Advertisement	Myra Hubbell	mhubbell@hotmail.com
Volunteer Coordinator	VACANT	Please consider volunteering
Welcome Picnic	Ingrid Zabel	izabel@twcny.rr.com
Open House	Danette Johnson	djohnson@ithaca.edu
International Night	Tal Cohen	talorco@gmail.com
8th Grade Promotion	Karen Gorsky Holly Heitzman Debbie Whitehead	karengorsky@gmail.com johnhollyhietz@yahoo.com hrblockr@hotmail.com
Staff Luncheon	Elsa Hyde	ehyde65@msn.com
Shared Decision Making Team Rep	VACANT	Please consider volunteering

DEWITT NEEDS YOU...

Currently the PTA needs volunteers to chair a few positions:

- We need a Volunteer Coordinator to assist filling key PTA positions next year as many parents will be graduating from DeWitt..
- We need one or two persons to be our DeWitt PTA representative to attend and represent our school at the PTA Council and Site Based Council.

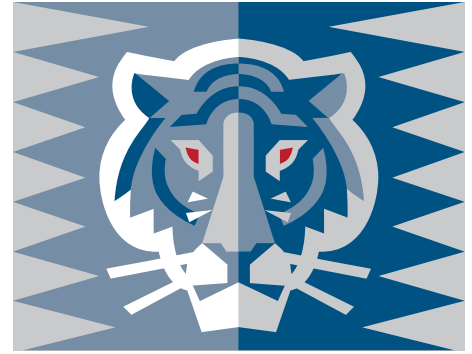
These positions are not very time intensive, so please consider helping our school PTA and contact us if you are willing to fill these positions.

Thanks for all you do! Michelle Eells and Jacquie Kaden, PTA Co-Presidents:

Join The DeWitt PTA!

We have just under 500 students at DeWitt, but so far only 40 parents have joined the PTA this year.

We are counting on many more families to join and support PTA efforts through voting, volunteering, and membership fees and donations. If you have been meaning to join, but keep forgetting, it is not too late. You can find a Membership Form here: <http://www.dewittpta.org/uploads/20152016-PTA-Membership-Form.pdf>. Your child can drop an envelope marked PTA Membership (remember to include both form and membership dues) to the front office.



For every \$7 membership, \$4 gets sent to the NYS PTA and \$3 stays to fund needs and activities at DeWitt. Many parents joining the DeWitt PTA choose to make a donation together with their membership fees. We are grateful for these donations, which are tax-deductible and go 100% toward supporting our children's learning experience at DeWitt.

PLEASE JOIN THE DEWITT PTA TODAY!

2015-2016 DEWITT PTA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

_____ Telephone _____

Student name(s) _____ Grade(s) _____

Student name (s) _____ Grade(s) _____

Membership (\$7 individual; \$5 additional family members, \$4 teacher) \$ _____

Additional tax-deductible contribution to DeWitt PTA \$ _____

TOTAL (check payable to DeWitt PTA) \$ _____

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

See the PTA Volunteer Opportunities form on the next page.

Thank you for your support!

PTA VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: GET INVOLVED AT DEWITT

DeWitt Middle School encourages parents to become involved in the school. One way you can do this is by volunteering. If you can volunteer some of your time for school programs and activities, please complete this form and return it to the DeWitt school office (attention: DeWitt PTA). For more information contact Debbie Whitehead at hrblockr@hotmail.com. Thanks!

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

Phone _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Child's Name(s) _____

Grade _____

Some options for volunteering include, but are not limited to:

_____ Help in the Library

_____ Site Council Parent Representative

_____ Fundraising activities

_____ PTA Events (Picnic, International Night, Staff Appreciation Lunch, 8th Grade Promotion)

_____ Serve on an interviewing committee for staff applicants

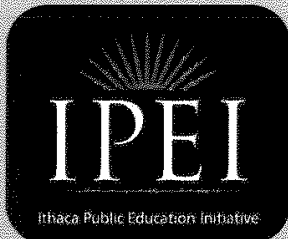
_____ Chaperone a field trip and/or dance (*circle preference*)

_____ Newsletter (writing articles, gathering information, preparation for mailings)

_____ Help with DeWitt communications

_____ Solicit Ads for School Directory and Quarterly Newsletters

_____ Call me when a need arises and I'll help if I can



Spark Student Learning!

Join IPEI in our mission to connect school and community, engage students and enhance education. IPEI needs volunteers to assist with social media messaging, website development, other communications needs, and with events like our Adult Spelling Bee.

ipei@ipei.org

607-256-4734

www.ipei.org

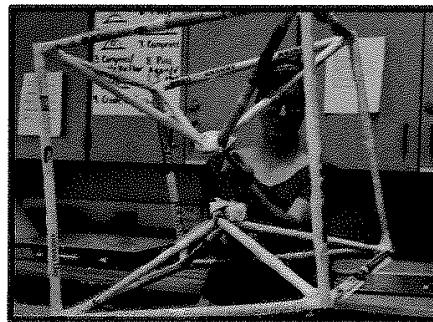
Phun with Physics

"It's great to see students becoming the teachers and learning from each other."



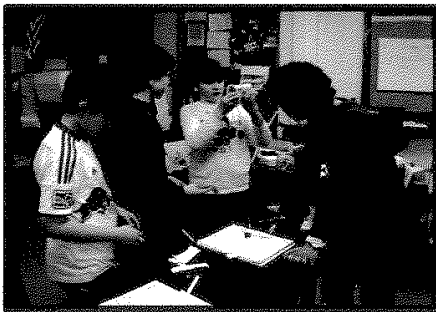
Improvisation and Process in Sculpture

"Art students confronted a basic limitation of sculpture—gravity. Working against physical limitations often stimulates creative solutions!"



Engineering and Electricity with Magnets

"This is real science! Trial and error problem solving, collaborating, thinking outside the box, that's what makes it exciting."



Caroline Wilderness Campus Curriculum Initiative

"The entire school seems so happy to be involved and you can see and feel the ownership the students have over their work."



"Thank you so very much for the opportunity to help me grow as a teacher and for my students to grow as independent learners."

-2014-15 IPEI Grant Recipient

For more, visit
www.ipei.org

December 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Shared Decision Making Team Meeting 7:00 pm	4 8th Grade Career Day	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Winter Band Concert Kulp Auditorium 7:00 pm	18	19
20	21	22 Immigration Night (8th Grade Only)	23 6th Grade Skating (AM only)	24-26 Winter Break — No School		
27	28	29	30	31	Winter Break — No School	

January 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Winter Break — No School	2 Winter Break — No School
3	4	5	6	7	8 Ski & Board Club Begins (Weather Permitting)	9
10	11	12 Winter Choral Concert Grades 6-8 Kulp Auditorium 7:00 pm (students arrive at 5:45)	13	14	15 All County Chorus	16 All County Chorus
17	18 Martin Luther King Day — No School	19	20	21 Winter Orchestra Concert Kulp Auditorium 7:00 pm	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 7th & 8th Grade Combined Band Workshop with Boynton	30
31	Regents Exams					

February 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 PTA Meeting 7:00 pm in the Choir Room	2	3	4	5	6 DeWitt Dance 7:00 pm (Saturday due to ski club)
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					February Break — No School	
					French Club Trip to Québec City	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
February Break — No School						
French Club Trip to Québec City						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					

March 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Combined Bands Concert Kulp Auditorium 7:00 pm	3 Combined Bands Concert (Snow date) Kulp Auditorium 7:00 pm	4 DeWitt Dance 7:00 pm	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

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

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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