

Family Newsletter

Davis-Emerson Middle School



November 4, 2009

Wow! The final six weeks of the first semester of school has officially started. The year is flying by and there is so much left to accomplish. As holiday time approaches, it is important to keep our focus on school as well as balancing our other commitments. Please continue to follow up on your child's progress, have them in school every day, and remain involve in as many school activities as possible.

Events & Activities

November

- 3 Boston Butts Kick-Off, 6th Gr
DEMS Tip-Off Tourney
- 4 CLEAN SLATE, 6th Grade, 1:30
- 5 CLEAN SLATE, 7th Grade, 1:30
DEMS Tip-Off Tourney
- 10 Basketball v. LWMS, Away, 4pm
- 11 **Veterans' Day Holiday** - No School!
- 12 Boston Butts Kick-Off, 7th Gr
Basketball v. Ewood, Away, 4:30 pm
- 13 Boston Butts Kick-Off, 8th Gr
In-School Basketball Game, 1:45
- 16-20 **AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK**
- 17 Boston Butt Orders DUE, 6th Gr
Basketball v. ACA, Away, 4 pm
- 19 Basketball v. CRMS, Away, 4 pm
- 23-27 **THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS**

December

- 1 Boston Butt Orders DUE, 7th & 8th Gr
Basketball v. Echols, Away, 4:30 pm
- 2 Boston Butts Pick-Up, 6th Gr 3-5 pm
Progress Reports Go Home
- 3 Basketball v. Southview, Away, 4 pm
- 4 Boston Butts Rewards Game -- 1:30 pm
- 8 Boston Butts Pick-Up, 7th Gr 3-5pm
Basketball v. Bwood, Away, 4 pm
- 10 In-Schl Basketball Game, 1:45pm
Boston Butts Pick-Up, 8th Gr 3-5pm
Band Concert, 6:30 pm
- 14 Basketball v. HCMS, Home, 4:15 pm
- 15 Basketball v. W'lawn, Home, 4:30 pm
- 17 CLEAN SLATE, 6th Gr (Bowling)
Basketball v. Bwood, Home, 4 pm
- 18 CLEAN SLATE, 7th Gr & 8th Gr (Bowl)
- 21 Six Weeks Exams, 1st-3rd Periods
Full Day of School!
- 22 Six Weeks Exams, 4th-6th Periods
Full Day of School!
Last Day of First Semester

WINTER HOLIDAYS
December 23 - January 6
Students Return: January 7, 2010!

Pride Team Leads the Way!

The Davis-Emerson Middle School PRIDE Team, under the direction of Ms. Parker, worked very hard preparing information and an awareness skit related to the dangers of drugs and alcohol abuse. Their message promoting a healthy lifestyle was presented at our PTO Family Kick-Off Night and also for the students at Holt Elementary.

Thanks to Our Parents!

Many good activities and programs are being planned now by a small, but committed group of parents. Our TAFFY (*Teachers and Families for Youth*) organization has held two planning meetings and a beginning workshop. At the workshop, sessions were presented on: First Choice Diploma Options, STI-Home, Destiny Library Access, Severe Weather procedures, and tips to help your child be successful in school. Additional projects include: assisting with the monthly Bulldog Bites store, field trips, Holiday store, 8th grade prom, and a field day for the spring.

Volunteers are still needed and welcomed. If you missed the opportunity to join, you may do so by sending the school your name and registration (individuals for \$3; families for \$5). How do you get involved?? Let your child's teacher, the counselor, or principal know of your interest. You may also leave a message for Mrs. Kathy Hofstadter through the school office.



PERSONNEL UPDATES

We are proud to announce that **Mrs. Tonya Westberg** has been named as our new school counselor. Mrs. Westberg formerly taught reading strategies and a 6th grade science section. **Ms. Michelle Ash** has been named to replace Mrs. Westberg. You may contact either by leaving a message through the school office or by e-mail:

Mrs. Westberg's email: twestberg@tcss.net
Ms. Ash's email: mash@tcss.net

MM, MM, Good!
**Order Your Boston Butt Today &
Help our School!**

One of our most successful fund-raisers has been our **Boston Butts Sale**, especially for the holidays. We will be kicking off a sales campaign by grade-levels to sell Boston Butts for \$25 each (the school receives \$10 for each sold). Students who sell at least 3 **Boston Butts** will attend:

- a special December 4th scrimmage basketball game;
- receive a drink and snack as part of the activities; and
- be eligible for a drawing of 10 students to attempt a foul line shot a halftime for a special prize.

The main reward is in helping our school raise needed funds to carry on our programs at DEMS. We hope you will assist your child in participating for our entire school.

Kick-Offs by Grade:

6 th Grade	November 3 rd
7 th Grade	November 12 th
8 th Grade	November 13 th

Orders/Money Due:

6 th Grade	November 17 th
7 th Grade	December 1 st
8 th Grade	December 1 st

Pick-Up Dates:

Rear of school (gym entrance) from 3-5 pm

6 th Grade	December 2 nd
7 th Grade	December 8 th
8 th Grade	December 10 th

Holiday Schedule

November 11th Veterans' Day
November 23rd - 27th Thanksgiving Holidays
December 23rd - January 6th Winter Holidays

*FULL Days of School, with exams:
December 21st and 22nd*

DEMS Contact Information

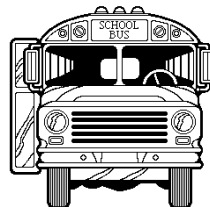
Davis-Emerson Middle School
1500 Bulldog Blvd
Cottondale, AL 35453
Ofc: 342-2750
Fax: 633-1155
Lunchroom: 633-0650

Website:

<http://dems.tcm.schoolinsites.com/>

Weather is Turning Colder

It is that time of year and the temperatures are starting to drop. Even middle school students need to be reminded about proper clothing at times. Please be sure your child is coming to school with needed jackets and sweaters. Parents transporting their children to school by car in the mornings are reminded that they are not to be dropped off before 7:30 a.m. as we do not open the front doors until that time.



Students Must Ride Their Assigned Buses

In the early part of the year, we receive many questions about bus routes. Bus routes are set by the Tuscaloosa County Transportation Department. Routes are planned for the safety of students but also so that routing times and distances are reasonable. Students must ride the bus to which they are assigned based upon where their residence is located. Students may not use bus transportation to get to sleep-overs or events at other children's homes.



**American Education Week:
Nov. 16-20**

Each year, the third week in November is used to celebrate American Education. The annual theme, "Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and our Responsibility" says much to each of us.

Education is an important right that needs to be cherished. Along with that right, comes the important acceptance of our responsibilities for taking every advantage of the opportunity afforded. Students, parents, educators, community members - ALL have a great stake in our public education system. Take time this week to talk with your child about the importance of education, send a teacher a note thanking him or her for what they do, and continue to look for ways to be involved with our school.

Band Concert - December 10th 6:30 p.m.

Please make plans to join us for a great evening when our band students take center stage to perform. Students have been preparing all semester for this event and your attendance is encouraged. The band will perform under the direction of Ms. Kassi Gulliford. There is no admission charge.

**Stay Involved! Talk With Your
Child Every Day About School!**