

HOLMES Highlights

A NEWSLETTER
OF THE HOLMES
JUNIOR HIGH
SCHOOL PTA

www.dcn.davis.ca.us/go/hjh

October 2009 ♦ Issue 2

Upcoming Events

- 10/12** Picture retakes
10/12 Site Council meeting, 4-6 p.m., Holmes library
10/12 Positive School Climate Committee meeting, 8:15 a.m., Holmes large conference room
10/16 Single lunch WEB activity day, lunch for all grades is 11:50-12:35 p.m.
10/21 Friends and Family Night band performance, 7 p.m., Holmes gym
10/22 Secondary articulation day – school dismissal at 12:30 p.m.
10/22 8th grade hearing screening
10/22 PTA meeting, 7-9 p.m., Holmes library
10/30 Quarter 1 ends
11/9 Positive School Climate Committee meeting, 3:40 p.m., Holmes large conference room
11/9 Single lunch WEB activity day, lunch for all grades is 11:50-12:35 p.m.
11/11 Veterans Day holiday – no school
11/20 Single lunch Mix-It-Up lunch for all grades is 11:50-12:35 p.m.
11/23-11/27 Thanksgiving holiday
12/13 PTA meeting, 7-9 p.m., Holmes library

A Message from the Principal, Derek Brothers

Welcome to the 2009-2010 School Year

I look forward to another very exciting year of learning at Holmes. This year we welcome an active 7th grade class, an exciting 8th-grade class, and a motivated, and very large, 9th grade class. I want to thank all the parents and students for their patience as we opened our school year. I also want to thank the staff for working very hard to make the start of the year go very smoothly.

I am pleased to have Kerin Kelleher as our Vice Principal and to have Ashley Nelson as head counselor, along with Joanna Littell as our other counselor. Both counselors are very important members of the staff. I am looking forward to the continuation of the great work they have started.

At Holmes, our common purpose is to support the highest possible academic, social, and emotional growth of all students. The principles that will guide us in our work in support of this common purpose are as follows:

- At Holmes, we promote and protect a strong classroom instructional program.
- At Holmes, we are a respectful, inclusive community.

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A Message from Your PTA President, Cathy Farman

Holmes Embraces Challenges

Every year, PTA hosts three lunches for the staff at Holmes—the day before school starts, the day after school ends, and on a teacher work day in January. If you have never helped at one of these lunches, I recommend you volunteer at least once before your student leaves Holmes. At these lunches, it becomes obvious why Holmes is such a good place for our students; the students are served by a happy, harmonious, hard working staff.

This is my sixth straight (and last!) year with a student at Holmes. As long as I have had a student here, I have found the Holmes staff to be happy, harmonious and hard working. This

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Principal's Message

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- At Holmes, students are connected to school and motivated.
- At Holmes, everyone is safe.

With these principles in mind, we will again promote the student-run "Mix-It-Up Days", where students are encouraged to mix into new and different groups for fun activities. We will also continue the WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) program. This campus program places 7th graders in small groups where they are mentored by trained 9th graders. Staff members who coordinate WEB are: Bill Williams, Caroline LaFlamme, Kerri Hogan, and Cheryl Ozga. They spent the summer getting ready for the welcoming of 7th graders on the Tuesday before the start of school. WEB groups will also meet throughout the school year.

I also want to welcome a few new staff members this year. Norma Ramirez will teach Spanish courses. Amy Labson is taking over as librarian, and Natalie Zehnder is our new psychologist.

I look forward to these additions to an already wonderful staff.

It has become increasingly clear our school will be facing challenging times in the months ahead. A decrease in funding will, inevitably, impact services, programs, and staffing for our school. As parents, teachers, staff members, and administrators, our job is to make sure that our educational mission remains our top priority. As a community, we must keep our focus on our students and their welfare. The lack of funding from the current state budget severely limits the district's ability to maintain existing classroom programs.

Change is a challenge. Some people thrive on it; others find it unsettling. Either way, managing change is an important task for all of us. This year we can embrace the challenges that will be part of our lives and make Holmes the best school it can be. I am looking forward to a great year and thank you for your continued support.

-- Derek Brothers

Pack a Good Lunch and Recycle Too

The Davis RISE program (Recycling Is Simply Elementary) is in its sixth year at all of the school sites in the district. The following is a reminder about ways that you can reduce the waste in your child's lunch. For more information, please visit www.davisrise.org.

What you can do:

- 1) Watch those portions—pack only what will be eaten!
 - Large portions of uneaten food are thrown in the trash every day by students.
- 2) Use reusable products—saves energy and your money
 - Lunch bags or lunch boxes ~~ Drink bottles and thermoses
 - Durable plastic containers ~~ Reusable utensils
- 3) Use recyclable packaging and containers
 - Paper (without wax or plastic attached to it)
 - Glass bottles, aluminum cans, and aluminum foil
 - #1 and # 2 plastic bottles and containers
- 4) Use less packaging— Store-bought, prepackaged lunches generate

GARDENS AT HOLMES

There will be loads of opportunities this year for site improvements and fun garden activities. Over the summer we had a garden sale at the Farmer's Market, and worked on the Kitchen Garden in the back of the school. We have loads of tomatoes, basil and zucchini to start out the school year!

Students, look for these great ways to get involved:

- **The Service Club** – Sponsored by Mr. Dufresne will be each Thursday at lunch.
- **The Garden Club** – Sponsored by Mrs. King will be held biweekly on Wednesday.

VOLUNTEERS: Volunteers can be great help after school and on weekends in the gardens. Focusing in on one area is a great way to help. Adopt a garden to care for! Here are a few that would love to have your time and attention!

- The Rose Garden.
- The Library Garden
- Gardens near the Office
- The Kitchen Garden in the back of the school
- The Zen Garden near the Art room

Special thanks to summer caretakers of the gardens: Deanna Leveque, Sue Carriere, Pam Eimers, Pat and Chris King, Pam Lehnert, Mike Dufresne, Chloe Jones and Laura Apekar-Cassels. We also had some great high school kids, through a workability program, do weeding, garden maintenance and repair.

Please contact School Garden Coordinator Debra Ariola at (530) 400-3652 if you would like to help in any way!

A Message from the Vice Principal, Kerin Kelleher

Parents and Administrators Work Together for Success

As each new school year begins, I look forward to meeting your children, and with your help we will create a safe learning environment for all of us here at Holmes.

It is our goal that all students are present and on time for each school day, if he or she is not ill. If for any reason your child needs to miss class, please notify the Attendance Office as soon as possible regarding your child's absence. Otherwise, your child's absence will be recorded as "unverified", until it is cleared by his or her guardian.

If at all possible, we ask that you schedule any appointments for your child outside school hours. It is often difficult to make up academic learning time.

There are also times when some students choose not to attend class(es), and you may not know about this until you receive a call from the automatic attendance caller. Please do not hesitate to call or come by the Attendance Office and ask for an attendance printout for your child if you have any concerns. It is imperative that our students know we are working together.

Student Handbooks are at the back of the school planner your child received during the first week of school. Please take some time to go over the handbook with your child. Important dates and

guidelines about Holmes are in the handbook, so please take some time to go over the handbook with your child.

Here are a few things your student needs to know in order to leave campus during school hours:

- Before school, bring a note to the Attendance Office, signed by parent or guardian stating the time and reason for which you must leave.
- Pick up your "off-campus pass" and sign-out at the Attendance Office before you leave.
- Students are not allowed to leave campus without permission.
- If you must leave during the school day, only the adults listed on your emergency card may pick you up.
- If you return to school before the end of the day, you must sign in at the Attendance Office.
- All adults visiting school need check in at the Attendance Office. Please do not visit classrooms or hunt for your child without signing in. In general we ask parents who would like to visit classrooms to give at least 24-hours notice to the teachers.

If I can assist you in any way, please do not hesitate to call me here at school at 757-5445.

-- Kerin Kelleher

FROM YOUR PTA PRESIDENT

Continued from page 1

year may try the Holmes triple H factor. For although Holmes had very few staff members cut, each staff member is carrying a larger load. Classes are running larger, so teachers have more students.

The office staff has been reduced, so the workload has increased. Holmes has one less counselor this year, so each counselor has 50% more students to serve. The teachers, the office staff and the counselors all have their efforts complicated by the integration of a new student data software system.

Most certainly for the Holmes staff, Holmes does not feel the

But I know they are all working hard to make Holmes *look* the same for the students. As parents, we need to remember the unusual burdens on staff this year. It may take a little longer to have an email returned or you may wait a little longer for an appointment.

If you find yourself annoyed or impatient trying to get help or information, please take a deep breath and give the Holmes staff member the benefit of the doubt. Don't give up on what you need — just be patient.

At the back-to-school lunch this year, I pledged to the staff that PTA would support it through this challenging year—in whatever way we can. We will continue to raise money to fund favorite programs and events such as the library,

the holiday toyshop and International Day. We will also look for new ways to help Holmes. The more we can support our school staff, the more they can support our students in their academic and social learning.

Parents can help the PTA help Holmes by joining and contributing whatever time and money you have to give. Every little bit helps! You can help while you shop by using a Nugget, SaveMart or Safeway scrip card—those stores donate a portion of your purchase totals to our school.

If you have questions, comments, concerns, I want to hear them. Now that I have told you what you can do for Holmes PTA, please tell me what Holmes PTA can do for you.

-- Cathy Farman, PTA President

530-750-0321 or
cfarman@shcglobal.net

Library News

Hi there! My name is Amy Labson, and I am the new librarian here at Holmes Junior High. I am thrilled to be here. I truly love teaching and being a librarian. My background includes 10 years of teaching middle school Language Arts and serving as librarian at two other middle schools in California. I have two wonderful library partners - Mrs. Jan de Giere and Mrs. Leigh Hyde. Please stop by and see us here in the library. We are open Monday through Thursday 7:45-5 p.m. and Friday 7:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Our phone extension is x173 and my e-mail is alabson@djusd.k12.ca.us.

Bookmark Contest

The Library is running a bookmark art contest. Entries are due by 3:30 p.m. on Friday, September 25. The theme is "Read." Bookmarks will be judged by staff and students the week of September 28. Prizes will be awarded for the top three entries (Nugget gift cards!). Please stop by the library to see the entries and to vote.

Book Fair/Parent Volunteers

We will have a Scholastic Book Fair in our library in February. Volunteers are much needed. Please contact our library at extension x173.

Library Website

Visit <http://tiny.cc/kuwWd> to see our new website, or you can link to it via the school's home page.

Book Swap

Do you have any old books that are appropriate for students? If so, please drop them by the library for our "book swap" scheduled for the third week in October. We will host the book swap in the library during both lunches. Each student who brings a book will be allowed to "swap" it with another student. Questions? Call the library. More details will be announced to the students in the bulletin.

It All Adds Up: Math Department News

A big "thank you" goes out to the Holmes Community for contributing to develop a class-set of Algebra and Geometry textbooks. We appreciate your generosity and the students appreciate the lighter backpacks!

Parent Support for CPM Algebra and Geometry

Parents who are looking for that *extra little something* in their child's mathematics activities can check out the textbook website at www.cpm.org

The College Preparatory Mathematics publisher provides a parent "portal" which provides links to a Parent Guide, Skill Builders, and homework answers. There is also a student portal with copies of the resource pages, Skill Builders and a link to homework solutions.

The Parent Guide is available in

either electronic or workbook form.

There are Skill Builders materials that provide single skill practice problems and answers. Students can look for a specific topic in the index, go to that page and find explanations of the concept, problems of increasing difficulty, and answers.

CPM has also paid a licensing fee to hotmath.com to provide textbook solutions and answers to selected problems. Students may check homework problems and get hints to help in their solution. With the availability of this resource, students need the maturity to recognize the value of this as a tool to learning, not as a replacement for doing the work themselves. We ask that you share this information as you know the maturity level of your child best.

-- Pat King

Physical Education Is Off to Fast Start

Thanks to the PTA volunteers who helped sell PE uniforms at 7th grade registration and during the first few days of school. We have every student with a uniform, and they are wearing them every day! Thanks for your support at home.

We also have a loaner room for those students who do not have their uniforms. We wash and dry the uniforms, and we can always use donations of laundry soap.

We have used uniforms for sale: medium shirts (\$4), hooded sweatshirts (sm, med, lg, \$5), sweatpants (sm, med, lg, \$5), and used locks (\$4).

We also have new clothes that we sell all year long: shorts (\$12), shirts (\$8), hooded sweatshirts (\$15), sweatpants (\$15), and locks (\$7).

Students have completed their fall fitness testing -- ask your student how well they did. They have also learned some new games as part of our introductory team-building activities. We hope students have learned a few names and have also learned a bit about their teachers.

We need used tennis balls for our tennis unit, and the girls' locker room always needs donations of used socks and gently-used tennis shoes. If you have any to donate, please drop them off in the main office, and we will put them to good use.

Thank you for your support of our department and we look forward to working with your student this year in physical education.

PTA UPDATES

Your Chance to Give Teachers a Yummy Treat

A warm "thank you" to the many volunteers who provided food items and helped with the Back-to-School lunch we served the Holmes staff on August 25! The wonderful salads, desserts and beverages were greatly appreciated by the Holmes staff. The delicious sandwiches, made by Crepeville, were possible because of your generous contributions to our Holmes PTA.

I heard so many compliments about *how lucky* the staff at Holmes feels to be a part of this school community. I heard comments like, "We have the best PTA in the whole district!" Or, "We are so lucky to be so spoiled by you guys." So, again, I send our sincere thanks and gratitude for all of your help and support.

For those interested in being a part of the PTA Hospitality Committee, we would love to talk with you. During this time of never-ending budget cuts, you can help us think of new and creative ways to appreciate our Holmes staff. It does not take a million hours to join this committee - just a willingness to help. Please send an email to: sallyalbertson@comcast.net if you have any interest in becoming a part of this FUN and IMPORTANT committee.

-- Alden Le Verrier and Sally Albertson

Un-Fundraiser Makes Supporting Holmes Easy

The Un-Fundraiser, our PTA's annual fundraiser, will kick off in October. Look for a letter mailed to each family asking for a direct donation to go toward a specific department, program, or class for the 2009-2010 school year.

The goal of the Un-Fundraiser has always been to provide an easy way for parents to help make a noticeable difference in a course or department that benefits all of the students at Holmes. Please help by participating and mailing back your RSVP card. Contact Carolee Gregg, Un-Fundraiser Chair, clbgregg@aol.com or 753-5667 if you have any questions or wish to volunteer to help with this fundraiser. Thanks

PARENT EDUCATION NEWS

The Secondary Schools Parent Education Committee (a joint project of Da Vinci Charter Academy, Davis High, Emerson Junior High, Harper Junior High, and Holmes Junior High parent groups) are planning a full year of parent education nights. Mark your calendars for:

- **Thursday, October 8, 2009 — Community Counseling Coalition Presents Prevention and Treatment of Adolescent Addiction,**

Jon Daily, LCSW, Expert on Adolescent and Young Adult Addiction; 5-7 p.m. Resource Fair; 7 p.m. Speaker Presentation; Brunelle Performing Arts Center (IPAB at DHS), 315 W. 14th Street, Davis

- **Wednesday, November 4, 2009 — College Admissions**

Dr. Sally Springer, Co-Author of *Admission Matters: What Students and Parents Need to Know About Getting into College*, Second (NEW!) Edition

7:30 p.m. Davis High School Library, 315 W. 14th Street

- **Wednesday, January 13, 2010 — Teen Sexuality**

Details to be announced soon

Harper Junior High School, 4000 East Covell Boulevard

- **Wednesday, February 10, 2010 — Time Management for Teens**

Details to be announced soon

Holmes Junior High School, 1220 Drexel Boulevard

- **Wednesday, March 10, 2010**

Details to be announced soon

Emerson Junior High School, 2121 Calaveras Avenue

- **Wednesday, April 7, 2010 — Community College Options**

Don Palm, Dean Sacramento City College Davis Campus; 7:30 p.m.; Davis High School Library, 315 W. 14th Street

If you have any questions or would like to help organize these or future parent education events, please contact a committee member: Davis High PTA Parent Education Coordinator, Eve Dunaway, edunaway@sbcglobal.net; Emerson Junior High PTA Coordinator, Anne Happel, atnchappel@gmail.com; Holmes Junior High PTA Coordinator, Anne Finkelston, afinkelston@sbcglobal.net; Harper Junior High PTO, Ann Moylan, moylan@csus.edu.

2009/10 Teacher and Staff List

<u>Teachers</u>	<u>Voice Mail</u>	<u>E Mail</u>	<u>Administration</u>	<u>Voice Mail</u>
Nancy Agee	202	nagee@djuds.k12.ca.us	Derek Brothers, Principal	104
Jolanda Blackwell	217	jblackwell@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Jeff Bryant	268	jbryant@djuds.k12.ca.us	Kerin Kelleher, Vice-Principal	106
Kathy Bryant	209	kbryant@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Emily Cooper	267	ecooper@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Kate Corlett	211	kcourlett@djuds.k12.ca.us	<u>Counseling</u>	
Teresa Delgadillo	203	tdelegadillo@djuds.k12.ca.us	Joanna Littell-grade 9; A-L Gr 8	109
Mike Dufresne	205	mdufresne@djuds.k12.ca.us	Ashley Nelson-grade 7; M-Z Gr 8	108
Mindy Dufresne	215	midufresne@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Pam Eimers	258	peimers@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Georgene Fritz	206	gfritz@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Scott Grensted	216	sgrensted@djuds.k12.ca.us	Jan Chandler, Principal's Secretary	101
Lance Gunnersen	238	lgunnersen@djuds.k12.ca.us	Judy Stafford, Registrar/Counseling	115
Kris Harvey	263	kharvey@djuds.k12.ca.us	Cheryl Ozga, Attendance Secretary	116
Dianna Henrickson	241	dhenrickson@djuds.k12.ca.us	Debbie Martin, Vice-Principal's Sec.	117
Kerri Hogan	233	khogan@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Michael Inchausti	208	minchausti@djuds.k12.ca.us	Natalie Zehnder-School Psychologist	113
Jean Kennedy	223	jkennedy@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Kris King	226	kking@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Pat King	225	pking@djuds.k12.ca.us	Marie Klaas – Speech	111
Amy Labson	210	alabson@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Caroline LaFlamme	229	clafamme@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Mike Leuchars	230	mleuchars@djuds.k12.ca.us	Holmes Main Phone	
Deanna Leveque	231	dleveque@djuds.k12.ca.us	757-5445	
Karen Moore	234	kmoore@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Angelo Moreno	228	amoreno@djuds.k12.ca.us	Holmes Attendance Message	
Lisa Mowry	235	lmowry@djuds.k12.ca.us	757-5454 ext. 201	
Leeana Neely	204	lneely@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Martha Quenon	239	mquenon@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Clyde Quick	246	cquick@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Jeanne Reeve	240	jreeve@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Paul Rooney	244	prooney@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Kathy Russell	245	krussell@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Ashley Sabot	222	asabot@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Leo Sacramento	213	lsacramento@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Jennifer Sommer	250	jesommer@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Norma Ramirez	251	nramirez@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Frank Thomsen	252	fthomsen@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Heather Wade	256	hwade@djuds.k12.ca.us		
Bill Williams	159	bwilliams@djuds.k12.ca.us		
William Zinn	253	wzinn@djuds.k12.ca.us		

To leave a voice mail for a teacher or staff member please call 757-5453 or 757-5454 and enter the 3-digit extension number.

Please allow teachers and staff 2-3 working days to respond to voicemails and emails.

From the Counselors: Tips for Junior High Parents

Be Aware and Informed -

Middle school is arguably the time when parents need to be the most involved and hyper vigilant.

When your child leaves the house, know where your child is going, who he/she is going to be with, and what they will be doing. Know what kinds of music your child is listening to, what video games your child is playing, and what your child is doing online. Teach him/her safe and appropriate guidelines regarding online and cell phone behaviors. Listen to your instincts.

Communicate - Timing is important. Be available when your child wants to talk. Good times might be when driving, when your child gets home, and right before going to bed.

Monitor your tone of voice and word selection when talking. Your child listens to what you say and how you say it. Even though s/he might not show it, your child looks up to you and cares deeply about your opinions and attitudes.

Don't underestimate the impact that a kind gesture or angry statement will have on your child.

Help Your Child Get Organized

1. Check to make sure that your child is using the student planner to write down assignment due dates. If you check and the planner is empty, be concerned. All students have homework.
2. Remind your child to get ready for the next school day before getting ready for bed. Designate a specific place where your child can put homework and backpack. If your child needs to remember something, encourage him or her to write a note so it is not forgotten.

Be Successful in Class

1. Ensure that your child is on time to school every day.
2. Encourage your child to treat others respectfully.
3. Be available to help your child with homework, but don't give more help than is needed. Keep in mind that it is your child's responsibility to be organized, get homework done, and to be in class.

Be Accountable

1. Encourage your child to make school-related goals.
2. Attend all open houses and parent conferences. Know when each grading period ends. Make sure you see all progress reports and report cards.
3. Plan ahead by researching future course options and requirements. Help your child to align course selection with educational goals.
4. Do not just assume that someone will call you if there is a problem.

If you have concerns about your child feel free to contact your child's teachers or assigned counselor. Email addresses and voice mail extensions are included in this issue of Holmes Highlights.

Joanna Littell, 8th grade last names A-L and 9th grade – ext. 109 or jlittell@djud.k12.ca.us

Ashley Nelson, 7th grade and 8th grade M-Z - ext. 108 or anelson@djud.k12.ca.us

Davis Parents Who Host ... Lose the Most

Don't Be a Party to Teenage Drinking

The parent groups at Davis high schools and junior highs have launched a campaign, aimed at informing the adult community of teen alcohol and drug use.

Our hope is that as parents learn about the prevalence of substance/alcohol use and the risk to teens, we will take more active steps to prevent use by teens. Families with junior and high school students received a letter with their back-to-school materials, asking parents to sign the following:

I pledge:

- To host only alcohol-free, tobacco-free and drug-free parties for teens
- To discourage teens from consuming

alcohol, tobacco or other drugs in my home; and

- To discourage my teen(s) from attending unsupervised parties

If you sign this pledge your name will be included on the list of Davis families who are committed to preventing teen drug and alcohol use. Check out the list of parents who have already made this pledge, at davisparentsdo.org. We hope that you commit to this community effort to reduce substance use by teens.

For questions, to make this pledge, or join the committee, please contact a committee member:

Cathy Farman, cfarman@sbcglobal.net
 Cathy Sacks, cjsacks@comcast.net
 Ellen Mark, ellenmark89@yahoo.com

Parent Question-Answer Guide for Holmes Jr. High

If I need to:	I can call:	What can I expect to happen?	Comments
Update emergency card information	Contact the attendance secretary, Cheryl Ozga at (530) 757-5445 ext. 116 or by email: cozga@djUSD.k12.ca.us	The information on the emergency card is absolutely essential. PLEASE NOTE: The permission for health care decisions, transportation exceptions, and emergency interventions can only be given to the person(s) listed on the card.	The school staff respects what is put on the emergency card. We do everything reasonable to assure that the instructions on the emergency card are followed. Please let us know if information on the emergency card needs to be changed or if an exception should be made.
Speak to the school principal, Mr. Derek Brothers	Contact Mr. Brothers' secretary, Jan Chandler at (530) 757-5445 ext. 101 to make either direct phone contact or an appointment with Mr. Brothers.	Ms. Chandler can: alert Mr. Brothers about a specific concern; inform you of Mr. Brothers' time schedule; help you to make an appointment to meet with Mr. Brothers; and connect you to Mr. Brothers' voice mail.	Mr. Brothers makes every effort to be available to students, parents, and community members. Matters related to general policy, school climate, curriculum, department management, and general protocol.
Make arrangements when an extended illness is involved	Contact your child's school counselor. It is possible that a home and hospital educational service is an appropriate intervention.	You will be required to provide documentation from a medical doctor that recommends in home service for a period of time.	Some hospitals provide educational services to inpatients. These are individual circumstances that should be discussed with your child's school counselor.
Report a crime witnessed by my child to the school vice-principal, Ms. Kerin Kelleher	Contact Ms. Kelleher's secretary, Debbie Martin at (530) 757-5445 ext. 117 to make direct phone contact or to make an appointment with Ms. Kelleher.	It is important to provide as much detail as possible about the crime. Consider the information important and possibly related to another issue under consideration.	Some campus actions result in either the school or parent making a formal police report. Some behaviors break community laws but require special administrative consideration or action.
Discuss academic, social, or career concerns you may have regarding your child	Contact your child's teacher or counselor: Joanna Littell, 8 th grade last names A-L & 9 th grade – ext. 109 or jlittell@djUSD.k12.ca.us ; Ashley Nelson, 7 th grade & 8 th grade last names M-Z - ext. 108 or anelson@djUSD.k12.ca.us ;	Counselors and teachers will strive to return phone calls and emails within 1-2 days. You can address concerns to your child's counselor or teacher(s) through email, phone, and/or by making an appointment at the school site.	The school counselor's role is to support your child as s/he grows and learns at school. The counselor can address many concerns, including: communicating with school staff; helping your child to cope with peer issues; and addressing academic concerns.
Take my child out of school during school hours	Contact the attendance secretary, Cheryl Ozga at (530) 757-5445 ext. 116, by written correspondence or by email: cozga@djUSD.k12.ca.us	Have your child bring a note signed by a parent or guardian to the attendance office or contact the attendance office before school, stating the time and reason s/he must leave.	If the school is not aware in advance that your child must leave, the class will be interrupted with a phone call requesting your child be sent to the office.

If I need to:	I can call:	What can I expect to happen?	Comments
Alert the school and teachers about a specific health issue	Contact your child's teacher, counselor or the school nurse: Rhona Youtsey- ext. 105 or ryoutsey@djud.k12.ca.us	General medical information is located in your child's health file. Appropriate notification about specific health issues are given to your child's teachers. PLEASE NOTE: Make sure your child's acute medical needs are made known to the school office	The school nurse is knowledgeable and helpful regarding concerns related to adolescent development and health matters. Prescription medications are kept in a locked cabinet on campus and dispensed according to instructions. Required documentation must be in file. Medication should NOT be carried by student while on campus.
Consult with someone about a specific matter of discipline or general school safety	Contact the school vice-principal's secretary, Debbie Martin at (530) 757-5445 ext. 117 to make direct phone contact or to make an appointment with vice-principal, Ms. Kerin Kelleher.	While Ms. Keller has many aspects to her job, a primary role is to maintain a safe environment for our students during the school day and during activities related to school. Report any concerns you have regarding your child's safety or the safety of another person on campus to Ms. Kelleher. Parents are responsible for knowing and abiding by school rules. Refer to your child's planner as a resource for the school rules and dress code.	Ms. Kelleher will work with students, parents, & school staff to resolve issues before discipline is part of the picture. While some school rules are guidelines and have some room for negotiation, many rules are specific and have non-negotiable consequences. Understanding Holmes' school rules are essential for your child's safety and the safety of others on campus.
Report my child's absence or request homework	Report absences at (530) 757-5454 ext. 201 as early in the day as possible. If your child is absent for 3 days or more due to illness, a homework request can be made through the counseling secretary, Judy Stafford, at (530) 757-5450, ext. 115, on the morning of the third day.	Ms. Stafford will contact your child's teachers to inform them of your child's absence and request that they send homework to the office. You can come to the main office at the end of the school day to get your child's work.	If your child is absent one or two days s/he can call his or her study buddies and check the teachers' websites, if available, to get information about what was discussed in class and what homework assignments were given by the teacher.
Arrange for my child to go on travel study	Contact Davis School for Independent Study at (530) 757-5333 to arrange for Travel Study	Davis School for Independent Study staff will explain the requirements of the travel study program.	Contact Davis School for Independent Study at least two weeks before your child leaves for travel study or vacation to ensure that your child is able to contact his or her teachers and clarify what will be expected.

Police Department Offers Parent Education Nights

- **Drug and Alcohol Warning Signs and Symptoms**

Drug Testing – Why and How?

What is Parent Project?

September 29, 2009 – Emerson Jr. High, 7-8:30 p.m.

- **On-line Safety; Social Networking**

November 19, 2009 – Harper Jr. High, 7-8:30 p.m.

- **What You Should Know About Inhalants, Alcohol and Marijuana**

January 28, 2010 – Holmes Jr. High School, 7-8:30 p.m.

- **Dangers of Over-The-Counter Medications, Prescription Drugs and Ecstasy**

April 22, 2010 – Harper Jr. High, 7-8:30 p.m.

Submit photos for the Yearbook

The yearbook staff invites students and parents to submit photos for the yearbook. If you have great photos of school and community events or of you and your friends just having fun, we'd like to see them. Please send any summer activities and fall sports photos ASAP.

Here is how you can submit photos online:

- Go to: <https://images.iostens.com/login>
- If it does not automatically log you into the site, enter username:400002127 and password:HJHYB10
- Browse to select the photo(s) you wish to upload
- Enter information about the photo and provide contact information in case the staff needs additional information
- Click "save details"

It's that easy! Submit your photos today. The last day to submit photos is March 20, 2010.

Fall Sales Reminder

Yearbooks are on Sale for \$37 through December 8. Forms are available at the attendance office. Personalization is only available until December. Prices go up in January.

-- Deanna Leveque

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