

**UPPER DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY BULLETIN
SEPTEMBER 2018**

Mon., 9/10	Woodruff School Fall Pictures PTO Fall Fundraiser begins
Tues., 9/11	Moore School Back To School Night – 6:30PM PTO Meeting at Moore School
Wed., 9/12	Family Night – No Homework
Thurs., 9/13	Seabrook School Back To School Night – 6:30PM
Tues., 9/18	Woodruff School Back To School Night – 6:30PM
Fri., 9/21	BLUE & GOLD DAY Woodruff School Student Council Welcome Back Dance: 7PM – 9PM
Tues., 9/25	PTO Fall Fundraiser Ends – All orders and money due at this time Board of Education Meeting – 7PM Woodruff School Library
Fri., 9/28	Moore School Fall Pictures

Welcome Back: We welcome all students and parents back from the summer vacation to another exciting school year. Our administrators and teachers are excited to work with your children to assist them in their pursuit of academic excellence. Our schools cannot be successful without a collaborative effort among the parents, teachers and administrators. Through collaborative support between home and school, our students can achieve success and reach their potential. Our teachers are committed to inspiring your children by providing them with the opportunity to succeed. Each year brings excitement of having our students enter the buildings ready to learn and embark on a successful school year. On behalf of our teachers, staff, and Board of Education, I thank you for your commitment to supporting our schools in the community.

First Few Days: We ask your patience on the first few days of school as buses tend to run late during the first week as they get acclimated to the stop. There are many unpreventable factors that go into this. In the morning, it is usually a young child that is struggling to board the bus for the first time. In the afternoon, it is because hundreds of students are trying to remember which bus they board to take home. In addition, there are traffic issues that often impact our pick-up and delivery process. We do anticipate this, and all of our schools are well versed in their arrival and dismissal plans.

School Forms/Information: During the first week of school important information will be coming home with your children. Please take time to review the information and return all forms needing a signature to the school off attendance.

Back-to-School Nights: The back-to-school nights in the district are listed below:

Seabrook School – Thursday, September 13 at **6:30**

Moore School – Tuesday, September 11 at **6:30**

Woodruff School – Tuesday, September 18 at **6:30**

The back-to-school night is an opportunity to meet your children's teachers and find out more about the educational programs and expectations of our schools.

Parent Portal: Parents can access their child's grades and missing assignments by way of the GENESIS Parent Portal. If you haven't received this information and need a password, please contact the Moore School or Woodruff School to obtain this information. The password from last year remains in effect. You can view assignments on the website under each teacher's webpage.

Family Night: Upper Deerfield Township School District recognizes the importance of family and spending time together. This month we have designated Wednesday, September 12, as family night. No homework will be assigned in the district on this night.

School Pictures: Mark your calendars for the Fall picture schedule in each of our schools:
Sept. 10 – Woodruff School, Sept. 28 – Moore School, Oct. 25 – Seabrook School

Make This Year a Great Year: As a parent, there are many things you can do at home to help your child have a good school year. These include making sure your child gets enough sleep, getting him to school on time, and reading at home every day. Here are ten important ways to get started from colorincolorado.org:

1. Medical care - Children need regular medical checkups, immunizations, and dental care. Check with your school to see if a physical and immunizations are required before the new school year. Some medical and dental services may be available at the local clinic or your child's school.

2. A healthy diet and exercise - Children who eat a healthy diet and get regular exercise can concentrate better during the school day. It is important that your child eats a balanced diet with plenty of fruits and vegetables, and has opportunities to exercise every day through a sports team, fun activity, or playtime outside.

3. Sleep - Getting enough sleep will help your child get up on time, feel good, and be ready for a full day of learning. Children need different amounts of sleep at different ages. Ask your doctor how many hours of sleep your child needs each night.

4. Getting to school, every day and on time -It will be easier for your child to complete daily lessons, homework, and tests if he gets to school on time every day. Limit the time your child misses for family trips and activities. Contact the school immediately if your child will be absent.

5. Homework - Help your child set a regular time and place for homework. Choose a time that works well for your family's schedule. Find a place that is quiet and has good lighting. Make sure your child has supplies such as pens, pencils, paper, and a dictionary. Ask

your child to show you her finished homework each night so that you can see what she is learning and confirm that she is doing all of her assignments.

6. Television, video game, and computer time - Limit the time your child spends watching TV, playing video games, and using the computer. When possible, do these activities together, and look for educational programs and games. Help your child understand that he should never give out personal information on the computer or talks to strangers online.

7. Talking about school together - Ask your child to tell you about the school day. Ask her what she learned, and how she felt during the day. Listen carefully to her answers, and help her think of ways to solve any problems she might be having in her schoolwork or in the classroom.

8. Reading - Set aside time to read with your child each day. You can make reading a part of daily routines by reading stories at bedtime and keeping lots of books and magazines in the house.

9. The library -Help your child get to know the library and what you can find there, including books, audio books, magazines, CDs, and DVDs. Libraries also offer homework resources and a quiet place for students to work.

10. Learning at home -Help your child learn at home by sharing activities together, singing, talking, and telling stories. Visit educational places such as museums, the zoo, the park, or a historical monument. Find out what your child's interests are, and look for activities and books that are connected to that interest.

Bus Safety:

- **All students who ride the bus, as required by law, are to remain seated at all times with their seatbelts on. There are no exceptions and students who do not adhere to the bus rules and bus safety will be subject to disciplinary action which can include a loss of bus riding privileges.**
- **Students are reminded to arrive at their assigned bus stop and wait for the bus in an orderly manner. Running, pushing, playing games or doing something to put yourself or others in danger is prohibited and students violating this code of conduct will be subject to disciplinary action.**
- **For safety reasons, it is necessary for bus students to adhere to being picked up and dropped off at their regularly scheduled stop. If it is necessary for a change, the school office must be notified. No student or parent should make arrangements with the bus driver to change a stop. Bus changes were to be submitted in August. The next opportunity for a change is in January. If the office is not notified of a change or the change is unable to be accommodated due to a late notice, students will be dropped off at their assigned stop.**

Safety Matters: Parents are reminded to adhere to the drop off and pick up zones at times of arrival (7:40 – 8:00) and dismissal (2:15)

Full Day Pre-School: Once again we are offering a full day pre-school program. The more students we can serve at the pre-school level the greater impact this will have on their overall academic, social and emotional development in their formative years.

PTO: The Upper Deerfield Township PTO meets the first Monday of each month in the Seabrook Media Center. These meetings begin at 6:30PM. All are welcome to attend and support the PTO in their mission to assist all our schools in the district; **HOWEVER, the first meeting of the 2018-2019 school year will be held on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 at Moore School.**

Board of Education: The Upper Deerfield Township Board of Education meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise noted in the calendar, at 7:00 PM. This year the meetings will be held in the Woodruff School Library. The September 2018 meeting will be held on September 25.

School District Website: www.udts.org Please use our website to remain updated on the events in our schools. You can put money in your child's lunch account, review board meeting notes, visit a teacher webpage for information, and access your child's grades in the parent portal of the GENESIS program). Community members are welcome at all of our student performances, athletic events, PTO meetings and Board of Education meetings. You may contact the Woodruff School office at 856-455-2267 ext. 3201. We welcome your suggestions as to how the district can better serve your needs.

Student Dress Code: Please make sure your child is in compliance with our district dress code per the student handbook. Two areas of concern with the pants not being worn properly and holes in clothes exposing the skin. Boys in particular are wearing pants below the hip/buttock area exposing undergarments and skin and the holes in clothes are exposing undergarments, pockets, and skin. This is not only a dress code violation, but offensive as well and this could be cause for harassment. For dress code and other items related to the code of conduct, please be sure to read the student handbook for clarity of the dress code.

Electronic Equipment at School:

IT IS THE POLICY OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION THAT STUDENT CELL PHONES ARE NOT PERMITTED IN SCHOOL AND DESIGNATED SCHOOL ZONES. THEY ARE ONLY PERMITTED FOR AFTER SCHOOL USE AND AFTER SCHOOL EMERGENCIES. THE USE OF A CELL PHONE DURING SCHOOL HOURS, INCLUDING ON THE BUS TO AND FROM SCHOOL, AND DURING A SCHOOL FUNCTION IS NOT PERMITTED (refer to student handbook section titled - "Electronic Equipment"). IF A STUDENT USES A CELL PHONE OR OTHER ELECTRIC COMMUNICATON DEVICE DURING THE TIMES THAT ARE NOT PERMISSABLE, THE STUDENT WILL BE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

Quotes Worth Quoting:

"No one can look back on their school days and say with absolute truth they were altogether unhappy." –George Orwell

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." – Nelson Mandela

"Remember that you're a fantastic person, and no one can take that away from you!" – A.A. Milne

" Get outside your comfort zone. You never know if it will end in success unless you try." – Albert Einstein

A Great School Year for 2018-2019: We welcome everyone to a new school year and are ready to make this year better than it was last year for our students in Upper Deerfield Township School District. Let's all work together to meet the needs of our students and community.