



Delaware Military Academy

September 4, 2018

Good Afternoon, Seahawk Nation,

Welcome back to the start of the 2018-19 school year and triple digit temperatures! In a couple months we will be talking about the below zero temperatures, so we will take it all in stride. Overall, it was a smooth transition back in, but our biggest challenge we face is cadets who drive and who are dropped off. Cadets must be on campus by 7:15am and in first block by 7:25am. A couple of things you can do to safely expedite the flow of traffic. Most importantly, be on Middleboro Road **before 7:00am**. Secondly, have your cadet have their gear/belongings in their lap so when you pull up they can open the door, exit the vehicle and both of you can be on your way. Please, watch your speed in the parking lot! Cadets are constantly backing into spots and crossing the street. The speed limit on our campus is 5MPH!

As for our cadets who drive, we will be checking for parking passes this week. You must have your parking pass visible on your windshield. Vehicles without a visible parking pass will be treated as an unauthorized vehicle and removed at the owner's expense. If you do not have your parking pass please see Mrs. Taylor at the front desk today. Again, Cadet Drivers, the excuse that you were in traffic on Middleboro Road is not going to be accepted. Leave yourself plenty of time, make it a habit to be to school early, and avoid any of the aggravation that comes with being late. Trust me; you will make your life and ours less stressful.

Here is what is happening around DMA as we get into the swing of things:

❖ ***Please help me welcome our newest Staff Members to the DMA Family:***

- *Master Sergeant Terrance Jordan* - MSGT Jordan retired from the Marine Corps in 2015 with a very distinguished career. He served as a Naval Science Instructor at First State Military Academy for two years and comes to DMA highly recommended.
- *Master Chief Petty Officer Frank King* - MCPO King comes to DMA directly off active duty where he served more than 30 years with over 25 years as a leader, mentor, instructor, and advisor.
- *Monica Diaz* - Ms. Diaz comes to us from St. Elizabeth's school and is teaching Spanish II this year. This will be her 5th year working and living in Delaware.
- *Joyce Harkey* - Mrs. Harkey is our new choir and performing arts teacher. She is an experienced vocal instructor and private piano teacher at Accent Music, a business that she and her husband opened 30 years ago.
- *Amy Krzyzanowski* - Ms. Krzyzanowski joins us from the Appoquinimink School District where she has taught social studies for the last eight years. She is excited for a new adventure at DMA and will be teaching Historical Economics and Asian Studies at DMA.
- *Brandy Short* - Ms. Short will be our new biology teacher. She has taught for the last 16 years, 13 of them as a biology teacher. She joins us from the Brandywine School District.

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- *Alex Torres* - Mr. Torres has been on staff as a part time custodian for the last year and is moving in to a full-time role for the 2018-2019 school year.
- ❖ On September 11th we will hold our Annual 9/11 ceremony. This is our 16th year of remembering those who perished on that fateful day and you are all welcome to join us in remembering. If you have never attended, it is quite memorable and our cadets do an amazing job. The ceremony begins sharply at 8:00am, lasts approximately 30-35 minutes, and parking is first-come, first-served. (This is a weather-permitting event.)
- ❖ DMA was invited to take part in the commissioning of the newest submarine to the fleet, The U.S.S. Delaware, on September 15th. We will be taking a handful of cadets to Norfolk, VA to be a part of the commissioning. It should be a great experience!
- ❖ On September 20th we will hold a dedication for our newly constructed Service Flag Memorial that we constructed over the summer. More to follow as that date gets closer.
- ❖ The PSAT/NMSQT is being administered at DMA on Wednesday, October 10th. This is the last opportunity for juniors to take the PSAT and is the first step in potentially qualifying for merit based scholarships. Interested juniors should see Ms. Urquhart ASAP to register. The cost is \$20. Checks should be made payable to Delaware Military Academy.
- ❖ Our new Choral Director, Mrs. Harkey, promises a fantastic year in choir with fun performances, trips and special events! Consider this an open invitation to all cadets; if your schedule allows, it is not too late to come out and try choir. Whether you have experience singing or not, it is a great way to have fun. It is also a good way to 'round-out' your education for college applications! Chorus is held during Block 4, which is study hall and/or lunch for many students. Students who have lunch will be allowed to eat quickly and then join the choir. If anyone has questions, please contact Mrs. Urquhart. The deadline for joining choir this fall is Friday, September 14th.
- ❖ Welcome back Parents! The DMA-PTA school year started in July with the Boot Camp Picnic. It was wonderful to see the new class come together at the conclusion of the week, and then join their families for a picnic. Last week the Staff Appreciation Committee welcomed the teachers and administration back with a luncheon and the Activities Committee served breakfast for the Big-Little Breakfast. "Friday Lunch" begins this week. A Sign-up Genius has already gone out. If you haven't joined, please visit our website, dmapta.net. You can either download a membership application to send into the school or join online. Mark your calendar for September 20th for the Joint meeting of the PTA, Music Association and Sports Boosters. Hope to see you there!

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Looking forward to a great year with our cadets, our parents, and our staff, and to finishing the campus vision with the completion of the stadium! As always, we are looking towards the future to continue making DMA the finest school it can be for Delaware residents. For all of our new families, welcome to the Seahawk Nation, and to our returning families, welcome back! As always, anything we can do to make your time at DMA more enjoyable please let us know. See you all around campus or at events throughout the year. Have a wonderful week.

Kind regards,

Anthony Pullella

Commandant

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