



DaVinci Academy

OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

CULTIVATING CURIOSITY | IGNITING EXCELLENCE



School Links

[DaVinci Academy](#)
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Important Dates

8/10 Open House, 3 pm -
7 p.m.

8/15 First Day of School
1st-8th Grade

8/17 First Day of School,
Kindergarten

8/18 Picture Day

Food Service Program

Current Lunch prices -
including milk

Hot, Alt. or Emergency
Lunch:

- Full Pay = \$3.50;
- Free/Reduced =

Greetings!

To the left, you will find helpful links to important pages on our website (School Links), and will provide a quick list of upcoming events (Important Dates.)

NEED TO KNOW.....

NEW BUS ROUTE ADDED

Transportation & Busing

[\(Holly Fischer\)](#)

We have added a Black Bus Route to the busing schedule in order to accommodate riders. Please contact the office if you need assistance making sure you know the accurate bus time for your child and where to park while waiting for the bus.



We have 443 students who have signed up to use the busing service this year. In the Back to School Packet we sent those students bus tags which should be prominently displayed on back packs for the first few weeks of school (for K-3 students) or carried in back packs (for the older students). This way, school staff will have a visual as students are walking to their buses at the end of the day and bus drivers will know which stop children are using. If there is a problem with your bus tag or it needs an adjustment of some kind, please look for the Transportation table on Open House Night.

If you have not signed the Busing Contract, your child will not be able to ride the bus. So, please do this A.S.A.P. to ensure your child can ride on the first day. Contact the office if you need the busing contract.

It is critical that parent follow the directions Kottke's provides about where to safely wait with and for your child.

\$0.00

Vegetarian Lunch:

- Full-pay = \$4.50;
- Reduced-price = \$0.40;
- Free = \$0.00

A La Carte Items -charged to ALL students:

- Milk-only = \$0.50;
- Pre-Ordered Extra slice of pizza = \$1.50,
- Emergency meals = \$3.50
- Extra Entree (Grade 6-8 only) = \$1.50

Current Breakfast Price:

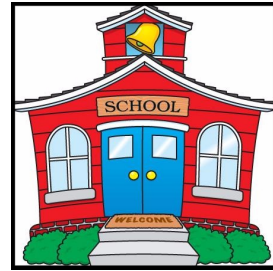
- Full-pay = \$1.75
- Kindergarten = \$0.00
- Reduced-price = \$0.00
- Free = \$0.00

Go [here](#) to apply for free or reduced-price meals or to find out more about the food service program.

Open House (8/10, 3- 7 p.m.)

Families are invited to join us on **Thursday, August 10 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** for an Open House. Among other things, you will be able to:

- Tour the new school & playground
- Complete required transportation elections
- Drop off school supplies
- Deliver student medication and required forms
- Pay food service and other fees
- Meet with available teachers
- Receive homeroom teacher assignments or class schedules
- Get your questions answered about Silent Dismissal or Infinite Campus



Who is your child's teacher?!

This is the question of the hour. Thursday you should be able to log on to your Infinite Campus parent portal and see your child's teacher, and if you have a middle school student, your child's schedule.

Middle school schedules will also be available at open house night so please be sure to visit the homeroom teacher to get that schedule.

School Progress

This is an exciting week. The play ground was assembled on Friday and Saturday by an amazing team of volunteers and, teachers and staff have been busy unpacking and setting up classrooms.





Action Required - Back to School Packet Arriving by Mail

Packets were mailed on Saturday 8/5. It included the following documents:

- Silent Dismissal instructions and dashboard identification tags - prior to Monday, August 14, ALL families must set transportation specifications (bus riders and parent pickup/carpool).
- Bus tags (please put on your child's backpack)
- Infinite Campus Parent Portal access key and instructions. In order to update household information and to have access to your student's online information, you must set up a parent portal account on Infinite Campus.

It is important for families to set up their Parent Portal. This allows families the chance to:

- review and update all student, parent and emergency contact and medical information
- view attendance, fees and grades
- receive messages from teachers (Middle School)

Watch your mailbox for more information and if you don't receive this mailing come to Open House.

Back To School Information

If you are looking for information about next year or the open house, please go to the DaVinci Academy home page and click on the Back To School button.

At this time, you will find information about:

- Important Dates
- Supply Lists
- Food Service
- Student Medication & Immunization
- Receive Technology Help With Silent Dismissal Registration



Each year it is important for families to review the [Student Handbook](#) and the [School Policies](#) as these are to change as the School Board sees fit.

Kindergarten Family Conferences

Ms. Borg, Mrs. Creary, Mrs. Holle, Mrs. Metty, and Mrs. Steinbruckner, have been contacting the kindergarten families to schedule in-person conferences. If you have a kindergartener and have not heard from a teacher, please email the [office](#).



The conferences will take place on Tuesday 8/15 or Wednesday 8/16. Families and students will have a chance to see the classroom, drop off school supplies (if not done on 8/10) and meet with their teacher to discuss the upcoming year.

Watch your inbox for more information

Media Release - Opt Out Option

We no longer require families to do the Back to School Registration each year. However, if you do NOT give your permission for your child's image to be used in the different media, both internally and externally, you will need to opt out. This includes, but is not limited to, articles and photographs in a school newsletter, video of a student program shown in school or published to families via an online program, a news story by local media, or something on our web site.

Click [here](#) for the Media Release Form.

We Need Mentor Families for Open House.

([Holly Fischer](#))

Easy Tasks:

- Greet new and returning families
- Help point people in the right directions
- Answer questions about things that new families will need to know

To review or sign up for activities, **you must be logged in to your HelpCounter account.**

If you already have a HelpCounter account, sign up using the [Home Access Link](#) and update your volunteer interest form.

If you do NOT have a HelpCounter account, please use the [New](#)

[Volunteer Link](#) and you can indicate your interests during the sign up process.

HelpCounter School Volunteer Manager

Volunteer Log in

**If a links below does not get you directly to the sign up for the activity, please select "Volunteer Home" and the "Check for Upcoming Opportunities"

No user name?

Create New User Name

Otherwise, please log in using your user name and password.

User Name

Password

Log In

☐ Keep me logged in on this device
Do not check this box if you are on a public or shared computer

Priority Volunteer Activities

click on the links below to sign up for an individual activity**

[Back to School Night Mentor Families on 8/10](#)

[Parking Lot Safety - Direct Traffic](#) - Needed for the first couple of school.

[School Bus Monitor](#) - Ride the bus for the first 2 weeks of school to make sure the little ones get off on the correct stop.

Thank you for your time and effort!

If you have any questions on these activities or using HelpCounter, please contact [Brenda Gerard](#).

NICE TO KNOW.....

Volunteer Background Checks

[\(Brenda Gerard\)](#)

Are you one of our awesome DaVinci Academy volunteers or would you like to be a volunteer?

Has it been two years or more since you completed a background check consent form?

If so, a background check consent form will need to be completed and turned into the school office along with payment of \$10.

As appropriate for the protection of our students, **volunteers who have contact with students will be asked to submit to and successfully complete a background check every two years, at their own expense.** If you cannot afford the processing fee at this time, do not let that stop you from volunteering, contact [Ms. Lach](#) to discuss.

Below you will find a copy of the criminal background check consent form. You may also find the form on the DaVinci Academy web site under the volunteering tab, pick one up at the back to school event on August 10th or at the school office at anytime.

Once we have your completed form and payment, you will be able to sign into the Helpcounter computer terminal and begin volunteering!

Thank you again to our wonderful volunteers!

Article

Click [here](#) to download the background check form.

School Supply List

School supply lists can be found [here](#).

If any part of the school supply purchase is a financial burden to your family, please contact [Terry Moffatt](#) to make other arrangements.

Dropping Off Lunch For Your Student(s)

If you are dropping your student(s) lunch off there will be a cart in the front office. Office staff will deliver your child's lunch to the cafeteria so that learning is not interrupted.

Picture Day

Picture Day is Friday August 18th. This is a regular uniform day, uniforms must be worn.

Picture Retake Day is September 18th.

An information flyer will be sent home with your child on the first day of school.

Does Your Child Have Health Insurance?

If not, help may be available. Click [here](#) for more information.

ON GOING.....

Food Service

([Cassy Anderson](#))



Meal prices have not increased from last year. See the Food Service webpage for details. If you would like to apply for free or reduced price meals, please complete and return this [Application for Education Benefits](#).

Parents are required to order vegetarian meals 2 weeks in advance. Send the request to foodservice@davincharterschool.org to be added to the vegetarian order email.

Vegetarian meals are the only meals that need to be ordered in advanced.

My School Color Run for DaVinci Academy - 9/23



DaVinci Academy welcomes you to join us as we run, walk, and jog while raising funds for our school! This fun run/walk is open to EVERYONE in the community and we hope to see you there!

The My School Color Run is an un-timed fun run/walk featuring a 5K. Throughout the course participants will experience color splash zones where they'll be doused in color and end with a final color toss celebration!

- Check in starts at 9:00 a.m.
- Race Starts at 10:00 a.m.

REGISTER EARLY!

Registration includes a race bib, color packet, and t-shirt only if you sign up before 9/8/17.

Early Packet Pick Up will be available on Friday, September 22nd from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at DaVinci Academy.

You can pick up your items at the registration table the day of the event. Paper registration forms are available upon request.

SHARE WITH YOUR FRIENDS WHEN YOU REGISTER
[#myschoolcolorrun](#) [#davinciacademy](#)

Please be sure to register by 9/8/17 to guarantee that you'll receive a race bib, color packet, and t-shirt!

At a glance

WHAT: My School Color Run for DaVinci Academy

WHEN: Saturday, September 23rd, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.
WHERE: National Sports Center 1700 105th Avenue NE, Blaine, MN 55449
REGISTER: DaVinciMSCR.eventbrite.com
CONTACT: [Robyn Creary](#) 763-754-6577

DaVinci Den is Full - Wait List Applications Accepted

([Julie Kresh](#))

The DaVinci Den extended care program is currently full and, at this time, **we do not plan to increase the size of the program.**



DaVinci Den

CLICK [HERE](#) TO SIGN UP FOR THE WAIT LIST.

Before You Throw it Away...

([Terry Moffatt](#))

At the new school, we will be adding a Makerspace. This is a space with lots of materials available for students to use to create. As you are doing your spring/summer cleaning and you come across old toys, scraps of fabric, pieces of wood, old tools, obsolete technology or almost anything else, think to yourself, "Could a child make something out of this?" If you didn't have to think very hard and the answer is yes, please put it aside and then when school starts in the fall, bring it in. We will be making a formal request for materials at a later date, but as you clean out that garage, keep an eye out for anything that could become something else!

Area Summer Food Programs

- National Hunger Hotline at 1-866-3-Hungry or 1-877-8-HAMBRE. It's a free call, available in both English and Spanish, and is available from Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Eastern Time.
 - Call the 2-1-1 Hotline or from cell phones - metro area: 651-291-0211, outstate: 800-543-7709, TTY: 651-291-8440.
 - go to the [National Hunger Hotline](#)
-

Gently Used Toy Donations

Were you thinking of having a garage sale this summer but are feeling overwhelmed by the task? Well, have we got an



opportunity for you! We are looking for craft items, board games, card games, puzzles and all other fun, gently used toys to be donated to our new after school program the DaVinci Den. If you have items that would keep our kiddos occupied after school and you would be willing to bring them in we would appreciate the gift. Please contact program coordinator [Julie Kresh](#).

Thank You!

Reminder - Middle School Uniform Change August 2017 to Navy Blue Polo Shirts

Starting next August, middle school students (grade 6-8) will be wearing navy blue polo shirts instead of the current red polo shirts. This will be one more way of giving middle school students their own identity and distinguish them from the K-5th students. Start shopping the sale racks now!



Sears is closing stores in Minnesota and deep discounts may be available.

The [Uniform Policy](#) has been updated. Please take time to read through it.