Delaware Valley Middle School
258 Route 6 & 209, Milford PA 18337
570.296.1830 / fax 570.296.3162

Dingman-Delaware Middle School
1365 Route 739, Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328
570.296.3140 / fax 570.296.3170

BACK TO SCHOOL GUIDE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILIES & STUDENTS

EDUCATING FOR LIFE'S JOURNEY

2025-2026

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Letters from the *Dingman-Delaware Middle School* Administrative Team

Dear Parents/Guardians/and DDMS Students,

We would like to welcome everyone to the 2025-2026 school year! We hope everyone enjoyed an outstanding summer and enjoyed the time they spent with their families and friends. We look forward to another great year and finding new ways to continue the challenge of providing the best environment for our students, while also raising the academic bar to challenge our students to become the best they can be!

Middle school is one of the biggest transitions your children will face in their early lives, and we want to ensure they have a successful three years! The biggest thing that we can recommend to middle school parents is to make sure their child gets involved in every way that they can (club, activity, drama, after-school tutoring). Please take a minute and review all the different clubs and co-curricular activities we offer at the middle-school level. This is where your child will develop a sense of belonging and will meet new friends that will help shape their social development. They will start to understand responsible decision making and how to start creating a positive self-image. In short, that little child you knew so well in elementary school starts to develop into a young adult. There will be many confusing times for both students and parents, but, with teamwork and effective communication, our school will provide an outstanding learning environment which will help build the foundation for success that your children need.

The role of teamwork at the middle-school level cannot be underestimated. When we talk about the team, we refer to students, teachers, administration, school counselors, school nurse, and our entire staff. Good communication allows everyone to receive the information more accurately and quickly. This allows us to help our students and parents in the most efficient way possible while continuing to provide the best learning environment possible. Without communication, frequent misunderstanding and often frustration result. Please become familiar with all that PowerSchool and Schoology can provide parents, allowing them the most up-to-date information on grades for quizzes, tests, assignments, and projects. PowerSchool will also provide parents and students with our daily announcements, keeping you in the loop on what's happening in the schools and what's on the horizon.

Helen Keller once said, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." We really believe that, at the middle-school level, everyone working together can make a huge difference in the future success of our students. Please utilize everything that our middle schools offer to both their students and parents. We feel we have the best teachers around to help raise that academic bar and provide a strong foundation for success. Our goal is to treat your children like they are our own and make these three of their best years in education! With your teamwork and communication, we can accomplish that goal!

We are looking forward to greeting your child on August 25th and, more importantly, having your child coming home saying that it was their best first day of school yet!

Sincerely,

The Dingman-Delaware Middle School Administrative Team

Mr. Brian McCarthy
Principal

Mrs. Lindsay Duffy
Assistant Principal

Letters from the *Delaware Valley Middle School* Administrative Team

Dear Parents/Guardians/and DVMS Students,

We are excited to welcome all our new and returning students and families back to the middle school for the start of the 2025-2026 school year. Our team has been preparing this summer to ensure the best possible student experience.

The transition to middle school presents a significant benchmark in a young adult's life. At DVMS, our staff works collaboratively to best ensure that each student has the opportunity to be as successful as possible in both academics and co-curricular offerings. Students are strongly recommended to get involved in our academic offerings, our performance stages, and athletic programs. Students are encouraged to utilize these offerings to connect to their peers, teachers, and school community. There is so much to offer for a diverse group of student interests!

Our team will help support the emotional welfare of each student. The nurse, school-counselors, teachers, and administration can provide the support to help each child navigate his/her way through challenges that life may bring. Together with your support, our goal is to help best ensure that each student successfully grows each day during middle school while building the necessary skills in life that will prepare them for high school and beyond.

August 25th will mark the beginning of a new school year and a new journey for each student and staff member. We are committed to making this year the best possible experience for all and are very excited for your return. There are few things as wonderful to observe as the first day of middle school and seeing all the new connections begin to establish themselves! Until then, please enjoy each moment as we continue preparing for that ever-important opening day.

Sincerely,

The Delaware Valley Middle School Administrative Team

Dr. Peter Ioppolo
Principal

Mrs. Diane Scarfalloto
Assistant Principal

Middle School Day at a Glance

Arriving at School and School Hours

Before School:

- Students arriving before 7:45 a.m. should report to the cafeteria, or the DVMS Gymnasium, depending on where their bus drops them off in the morning.
- After entering the building, students should report to their lockers and then directly to homeroom.
- After entering homeroom, students must receive permission and a pass from the homeroom teacher to go to the lavatory, office, or anywhere else in the building.
- Students are not permitted to wander through the halls.
- Students reporting to homeroom after 8:00 a.m. will be marked tardy.

After School:

- Students will be dismissed from their 7th period class by the bell.

BELL SCHEDULE

Warning Bell	7:50 a.m
Tardy to School	8:00 a.m.
Period 1	8:00 - 8:54
Period 2	8:58 - 9:44
Period 3	9:48 -10:34
Period 4	10:38 -11:24
Period 5	11:28 -12:58
Period 6	1:02 - 1:48
Period 7	1:52 - 2:38

**Period 5 includes 60 minutes of instructional time plus lunch.*

***Passing times for lunch are included within the 30 minutes of each lunch session*.

Lunch A begins at 11:28 a.m.
Lunch B begins at 11:58 a.m.
Lunch C begins at 12:28 p.m.

TWO-HOUR DELAY BELL SCHEDULE

School Opens 9:50 a.m.
Tardy to School 10:00 a.m.

Period 1	10:00 - 10:39 (35 minutes)
Period 2	10:43 - 11:08 (25 minutes)
Period 3	11:12 –11:37 (25 minutes)
Period 5	11:41 - 1:11 (90 minutes)

Lunch A begins at 11:41 a.m.
Lunch B begins at 12:11 p.m.
Lunch C begins at 12:41 p.m.

Period 4	1:15 - 1:40 p.m. (25 minutes)
Period 6	1:44 - 2:09 p.m. (25 minutes)
Period 7	2:13 - 2:38 p.m. (25 minutes)

THREE-HOUR DELAY BELL SCHEDULE

"A" Schedule

School opens 10:50 a.m.
Tardy to School 11:00 a.m.
Homeroom 11:00 – 11:10 am (10 minutes)
Period 1 11:14 – 11:40 am (26 minutes)
Period 5 11:44 – 1:14 am (90 minutes)
Lunch A begins at 11:44 a.m.
Lunch B begins at 12:14 p.m.
Lunch C begins at 12:44 p.m.
Period 2 1:18 – 1: 56 pm (38 minutes)
Period 3 2:00 – 2:38 pm (38 minutes)

"B" Schedule

School opens 10:50 a.m.
Tardy to School 11:00 a.m.
Homeroom 11:00 – 11:10 am (10 minutes)
Period 4 11:14 – 11:40 am (26 minutes)
Period 5 11:44 – 1:14 am (90 minutes)
Lunch A begins at 11:44 a.m.
Lunch B begins at 12:14 p.m.
Lunch C begins at 12:44 p.m.
Period 6 1:18 – 1: 56 p.m. (38 minutes)
Period 7 2:00 – 2:38 p.m. (38 minutes)

Attendance

Everyone enrolled in school is required by state law to attend regularly. Frequent absences may lead to failure in subjects which may lead to school dropouts. Every student absence requires a written or emailed excuse signed by the parent/guardian. The written or emailed excuse must include the date(s), the reason for the absence, and bear the signature of the parent/guardian. School administrators will determine if the written or emailed note meets the criteria of an excused or unexcused absence. When the student, regardless of age, is absent, the parent/guardian must submit a written or emailed note on the first day the student returns to school. If the excuse is not presented by the tenth school day, the absence will remain unexcused. Any absence beyond 10 cumulative days requires a doctor's note.

The school will offer and implement a Student Attendance Improvement Plan (SAIP) if a student is truant (defined as 3 unexcused absences), habitually truant (defined as 6 unexcused absences), or has excessive absences. Letters such as truancy, excessive absence, and first offense will be mailed home to ensure parent/guardian is properly informed of the student's attendance record. A SAIP plan will be initiated and consequences outlined below will be discussed with the student and guardian:

- Student may not receive their allotted educational time and may not be academically successful
- 10 excused/unexcused absences – may result in the exclusion from attending school-sponsored dances.
- 10 excused/unexcused absences – may result in exclusion from school-sponsored events (e.g. talent show, tournaments, Lip Sync, etc.)
- 14 excused/unexcused absences – may result in exclusion from participation at Music in the Parks and/or Field Day.
- 14 excused/unexcused absences – may result in exclusion from participation in end-of-the-year activities, such as Awards Ceremony and/or the 8th grade field trip, or BBQ, etc.
- Student/Family may be cited or fined for unexcused and excessive absences.
- Pike County Children and Youth Agency will be notified if the student is habitually truant or has been cited for attendance.

A student absent from any class is responsible for all missed work. All work should be completed within a reasonable amount of time after the child's absence. Schoolwork for the child may be obtained by calling the homework hotline, 570-296-3656, accessing the teacher's webpage, or the teacher's voice mail.
No student will be excused from physical education class without a written or emailed excuse from a parent/guardian and/or doctor.

Make absence notes easy, email them!

DDMS / ddmsattendance@dvsd.org

DVMS / dvmsattendance@dvsd.org

Citizenship and Grading System

CITIZENSHIP GRADE

O = Outstanding S = Satisfactory U = Unsatisfactory

At the start of the school year, all students receive outstanding citizenship status. A student assigned a detention will receive a satisfactory grade. A student assigned an in-school suspension out-of-school suspension, or bus suspension will receive an unsatisfactory grade during the quarter being reviewed. A satisfactory grade at the end of a quarter will revert to an outstanding grade at the start of the next quarter. An unsatisfactory grade at the end of a quarter will revert to a satisfactory grade at the start of the next quarter.

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades are used on report cards to indicate the quality of work in each subject. These letters have the following values:

A+ = 98-100	B+ = 87-89	C+= 77-79	D = 65-69
A = 94- 97	B = 84-86	C = 74-76	F = Below 65 (Failing)
A- = 90- 93	B- = 80-83	C-= 70-73	

Some subjects are also marked O (Outstanding), S (Satisfactory), U (Unsatisfactory), P (Pass), or F (Fail). Report cards are sent home after the close of each nine-week marking period.

Make-Up Work/ Homework Hotline

Teacher email, Schoology, web pages and/or similar digital media tools may be utilized as avenues to disseminate homework. Students should make daily contact with the Homework Hotline and/or other communication tools. It is the responsibility of students who are absent from school to access the Homework Hotline and/or other communication tools for missed class work. To call the Homework Hotline, do the following (you will need a touch-tone phone):

1. Dial 570-296-3656
2. Enter the teacher's telephone mailbox number (it has 4 digits), then press #
3. To access another teacher, after the first teacher's assignment is noted--press 0, enter the second teacher's telephone mailbox number, the press #
4. Teachers frequently utilize Class Dojo, remind, Schoology or other technology tools to communicate with families and share.

Tardy Policy

Students who arrive at school after 8:00 a.m. are considered tardy and must report directly to the office for a pass. **The adult bringing the tardy student to school should also sign the book in the office.** If the adult bringing the tardy student to school does not come into the school and sign the student in, a phone call will be made by administration as a warning. If the adult continues to not sign the student in, the student will receive an after-school detention. Please note: the only accepted excuse for a tardy is a written note from a physician or dentist. This note must be brought to the school at the time the student is signed in late. The following will apply to students who are tardy, unexcused, for school:

1. Tardy, unexcused, 3-5 days per semester - after-school detention
2. Tardy, unexcused, 6-8 days per semester - one day of in-school suspension
3. Tardy, unexcused, 9-11 days per semester - two days of in-school suspension
4. Tardy, unexcused, 12 or more days per semester - three days in-school suspension.

Things to Know for Middle School

Cell Phones

The use of a cell phone/electronic device is only acceptable when permission has been granted by an administrator or teacher. The cell phone/electronic device should be off and away during the school day. If a student is using a cell phone/electronic device that is not their own, they are still in violation of the policy, and both students will be subjected to the appropriate level of discipline based on prior history.

- First offense—one (1) detention.
- Second offense—one (1) day In-School suspension, parent/guardian contacted.
- Third offense— two (2) days of in-school suspension, parent/guardian contacted.
- Fourth offense- three (3) days out-of-school suspension. Parent/guardian contacted.

Failure of student to hand over a cell phone/electronic device when in violation of policy will result in a three (3) days out-of-school suspension for insubordination.

Computer/Network/Internet Use

The Delaware Valley School District's Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources Policy, #815, ("Acceptable Use Policy") includes important requirements for students to know as they use the Internet, computers, networks, electronic communication systems, information systems, databases, files, software, and media. The Acceptable Use Policy requirements are in effect any time School District resources are used, whether on School District property or elsewhere. Students are required to read, understand, and comply with the Acceptable Use Policy. Each student's signature and their parent's/guardian's signature are required on the "Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources Policy #815, Acknowledgement and Consent form." This is to acknowledge understanding of the policy and to be able to gain Internet access in school.
The Acceptable Use Policy is available in electronic format on the School District's website at www.dvsd.org (under "Policies").

- The misuse of computer/network/Internet as documented in policy #815 under Consequences for Inappropriate Use will result in detention, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension or expulsion and restricted use, as per the discretion of the Delaware Valley School District Administration. The student also will be responsible for restitution to the school district for any damage to school property; however, the school district reserves the right to review each case and provide consequences for conduct on a case-by-case basis.

Open Houses at the Middle School

Each of the middle schools will host an Open House at the beginning of the school year. The Dingman-Delaware Middle School and the Delaware Valley Middle School will hold their Open House on September 9, 2025 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM.

During this important evening, parents/guardians will experience middle school firsthand by following a condensed version of their student's daily schedule. Teachers will review their routines and expectations, course objectives and requirements, homework procedures and policies, plus the best way of keeping the line of communication open between home and families. This evening is designed for parents/guardians only. Further information will be sent home with students after school begins.

PowerSchool

Parents/guardians have web access to their students' grades, attendance, assignments, and test scores. Contact the school counselors for passwords and procedures. Please click here to access PowerSchool.

School Counseling Services

Students are assigned to a school counselor based on grade level. Due to caseload size, switching school counselors for any reason is not permitted.

Each middle school has 2 school counselors and a Licensed Social Worker available for all students. The middle schools share the 6th grade counselor and social worker, these staff members alternate their locations so that two counseling staff members are present on a daily basis.

Dingman-Delaware Middle School

6th – 8th Grade K-Z School Counselor: Carrie Westgate-Kiesling
6th- 8th Grade A-J School Counselor: Mrs. Lynn Comunale
Licensed Social Worker: Mrs. Vivian Bruno

Delaware Valley Middle School

6 -8th Grade L-Z School Counselor: Mrs. Kimberly Palko
6-8th Grade A-K School Counselor: Mr. Ryan Chickeletti
Licensed Social Worker: Mrs. Vivian Bruno

School Lunch Program

Middle School Student Lunch Price List for 2025- 2026:

- Student Lunch Price: $2.25 / Milk: $0.50
- Student Breakfast Price: $1.25 / Milk: $0.50

View lunch menus and information about Food Services at Lunch menus and nutrition guide

Each student is assigned a student ID number upon enrollment. This student ID number is what students will have to type into a key pad when purchasing food in the cafeteria.

The Delaware Valley School District Cafeterias currently use the School Café. Set up your student's School Café account at School Cafe . Payments to establish student accounts can still be sent directly to the school cafeteria with the student's ID number.

The cafeteria sells nutritionally-balanced lunches at a reasonable cost to students. Students carrying their own lunches may purchase milk. After the regular lunch is served, the cafeteria also offers nutritious snacks. Students are to enter the cafeteria and go directly to their seats. Students who are purchasing lunch will be called up by their monitor in an orderly fashion. Just prior to dismissal from the cafeteria, students are to become silent, in order to provide an orderly dismissal from the cafeteria. While in the cafeteria, students should behave as if they were in a restaurant. Students should:

- talk quietly
- remain seated until excused to buy lunch
- remain in the same seat for the entire lunch period
- return all trays to the tray drop-off area
- place all litter in the garbage cans
- make sure the table and floor are clean
- never take food or beverages out of the cafeteria
- follow all other rules of the adults on lunch duty

Student Assistance Program (SAP)

All secondary schools in the Delaware Valley School District offer the Student Assistance Program (SAP), which has been mandated by action of the state legislature. The program is run through a specially trained building team which includes administrators, counselors, teachers, the school nurse, and outside counseling agencies.

The building team's primary goal is to identify students at risk of not doing well due to experiencing certain problems. These problems may be related to academic, drug and alcohol, or mental health problems. It has been a proven method for intervening and helping students by appropriate referrals to available community services.

Students who are experiencing issues of drug or alcohol abuse and seeking assistance may refer themselves to staff members without being subject to disciplinary action. Staff members who receive such information will refer the students to the appropriate helping personnel of the Delaware Valley School District.

Student Dress

We recognize that school is like a place of business. Further, we recognize that part of one's education is learning when, where, and how to dress appropriately. Therefore, a basic guideline for student dress relies on what is appropriate for a formal, business-like, public school environment.

- All clothing worn to school should be clean.
- No clothing should be worn which would distract others from the basic educational purposes of the school, present a safety or health hazard to any student, cause damage to school property, or is deemed inappropriate by the administration.
- Personal grooming should conform to reasonable standards of cleanliness. This especially, but not exclusively, pertains to proper care of a student's hair.
- It is not a healthy and safe practice for students to wear coats in the building. Students are expected to dress appropriately for the weather conditions; i.e., long sleeves, sweaters, etc., in the colder months.
- Students should not wear clothing that is more suitable for the beach, playground, or other informal occasions.
- Bare backs, bare midriffs, pajamas, ultra mini skirts,and tank tops are not appropriate for school. Undergarments should not be showing at any time. Faddish torn jeans may be worn if the tears are at or BELOW the knees. Hats, caps, bandannas, or hoods may not be worn indoors.
- Slacks, jeans, and sweatpants are appropriate.
- Students should assure themselves that any clothing they wear is relatively modest and suitable for the business-like atmosphere of a public school.
- Offensive T-shirts, undershirts, tank tops, etc., are not appropriate for the school (e.g., advertising alcohol or drugs, offensive language, promoting violence).
- Appropriate shorts in class may be worn. They will be judged using the "Finger Tip" Length Method. The "Finger Tip" Length Method is when a student stands with arms comfortably at sides, and when the skirts or shorts are worn normally (does not continue to move above the "Finger Tip Method" when moving or seated), the bottoms of skirts or shorts must be below the fingertips at all times throughout the school day. The shorts or skirt should conform to the "Finger Tip Method" all the way around (front, back, and sides). Students should not wear the following: biker shorts, cutoff shorts, gym shorts, short shorts.
- Studded/spiked clothing, bands, belts, and chains attached to clothes are not to be worn. Chains of any length are inappropriate and may not be worn.
- Students are not to wear any type of gloves, fingerless gloves, or cut-off gloves, in the school building.
- Students are not to wear clothing that have holes in them to put thumbs or fingers through
- No "Heelys," slippers or other skating footwear.
- The wearing of headphones, earphones, airpods, or other devices to listen to audio should not be worn indoors. Students should have their head phones off and away when entering the building.

Who to Call in Middle School

Parents/guardians often wonder whom to call when they have particular concerns. As a general rule, it is best to seek a solution at the building level with the individual(s) closest to the origin of the concern. Here are some frequently occurring examples:

Concern	Person to Call
Grade	Teacher who issued the grade
Detention	Teacher who issued detention (Assistant Principal if concern remains)
Placement	School Counseling Office at the beginning of the year; teacher/School Counselor during the year
Peer Problems	School Counselor, Assistant Principal/Principal
New Student	School Counseling Office
At-Risk Student	School Counselor, Principal/Student Assistance team
Homework	Teacher/School Counselor
Homework Requests (illness)	Building Secretary
Bus Discipline	Assistant Principal/Principal
Transportation	Office of Support Services
Teacher Complaint	Teacher first, then Principal
Medical	Nurse
Tutoring/Homebound Instruction	School Counseling Office
Vacation/Education Trip Requests	Building Secretary
Program/Curriculum	Teacher/School Counselor/Principal
Co-Curricular	Sponsor/Coach/Assistant Principal/Principal/Athletic Director, as necessary

Important Dates for Middle School Families

***** Indicates this event as a tentative date.*** Refer to the CALENDAR for a full list of district events.

New Student Orientation	*August 18, 2025*	DVMS
6th Grade Orientation	*August 19, 2025*	DVMS
Picture Day	September 5, 2025	DVMS
Career Day	October 8, 2025	DVMS
Picture Day Re-Takes	October 23, 2025	DVMS
Veteran's Day Program	November 10, 2025	DVMS
NJHS Induction	November 19, 2025 (tentative)	DVMS
Drama Production	November 21-23, 2025	DVMS
Field Day Grades 6 & 7	June 3, 2026	DVMS
8th Grade Class Trip	June 3, 2026	DVMS
6th Grade Orientation	*August 18, 2025*	DDMS
New Student Orientation	*August 19, 2025*	DDMS
First Day of School for Students	**August 25 2025**	**DDMS/DVMS**
Free and Reduced Lunch Applications Open	**August 25, 2025**	**DDMS/DVMS**
Labor Day Recess	September 1, 2025	DDMS/DVMS
Open House & 6th Grade Open Forum	September 9, 2025	DDMS/DVMS
Picture Day	October 1, 2025	DDMS
Columbus Day Recess	October 13, 2025	DDMS/DVMS
Career Day	October 17, 2025	DDMS
In-Service Day/No School for Students	October 27, 2025	DDMS/DVMS
Picture Day Re-Takes	November 7, 2025	DDMS
Veteran's Day Recess	November 11, 2025	DDMS/DVMS
Senior Citizen Drama Production and Social	November 13, 2025	DDMS
Drama Production	November 14 & 15, 2025	DDMS
Parent Conference Day	November 25, 2025	DDMS/DVMS
Grandparent's Day	November 26, 2025	DDMS/DVMS
Fall Recess	November 27 -Dec. 1, 2025	DDMS/DVMS
NJHS Induction	December 4, 2025	DDMS
Winter Recess	December 24 – January 2, 2026	DDMS/DVMS
In-Service Day/No School for Students	January 19, 2026	DDMS/DVMS
Presidents' Day Recess	February 16, 2026	DDMS/DVMS
In-Service Day/No School for Students	March 13, 2026	DDMS/DVMS
Spring Recess	April 2-6, 2026	DDMS/DVMS
Take Your Child to Work Day	April 23, 2026	DDMS/DVMS
Memorial Day Recess	May 25, 2026	DDMS/DVMS
Chalk Walk	TBD	DDMS
Field Day	TBD	DDMS
8th Grade BBQ	TBD	DDMS
6th/7th/8th Grade Awards Ceremony	TBD	DDMS
8th Grade Ceremony/End-of-Year Ceremony	June 5, 2026	DDMS/DVMS
Last Day of School	June 5, 2026	**DDMS/DVMS**

Testing Dates and Codes

Preliminary KEYSTONE Testing Window for 2025-2026

Algebra	May 11-22, 2026	Grade 8

Preliminary PSSA Testing Window for 2025-2026

English Language Arts	April 20-24, 2026	Grades 3-8
Mathematics, Science, Make-ups	April 27 - May 1, 2026	Grades 3-8

Transportation Department

Audio and/or Video Recording on District Buses

All Delaware Valley School District buses are equipped with a video and audio recording device. Student behavior and conversation may be monitored.

Bus Conduct and Expectations

By Pennsylvania School Law, students riding a school bus and at the bus stop are under the authority of the school. Walking to and from school is not allowed**.** Students are expected to behave on the bus and at the bus stop in the same manner they would in a classroom. Bus drivers have the right to assign specific seats to students. All students must sit in their assigned seats. Students riding on the school buses have the following responsibilities:

- to be at their bus stop five minutes before the bus is scheduled to depart
- to respect the rights of people who live near the bus stop
- to behave as if in a classroom, except for ordinary talking
- to keep heads, hands, feet, and arms inside the bus
- to keep the aisle clear
- to keep the bus clean
- to follow the directions of the bus driver

If a student misbehaves on the bus, he/she will receive a Bus Conduct Report (BCR) from the bus driver. In addition to the BCR, students may be subjected to further disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by school administration.
The discipline will be handled in the following way:

- First Offense--Consequences will range from a written warning to a bus suspension.
- Second Offense--Three (3) day bus suspension.
  Parents/Guardians will be notified, and a conference will be held with the student by the administrator. The parents/guardians will be warned that the next BCR will result in a five day (5) bus suspension.
- Third Offense--Five (5) day bus suspension.
  Parents/Guardians will be notified, and a conference will be held with the student by the administrator. The parents/guardians will be warned that the next BCR will result in a ten-day (10) bus suspension.
- Fourth Offense--Ten (10) day bus suspension.
  Parents/Guardians will be notified, and a conference will be held with the student by the administrator. The parents/guardians will be warned that the next BCR will result in loss of busing privileges for the remainder of the school year.

Bus Drills

Twice each year, students will participate in bus drills. These drills are intended to familiarize all students with emergency procedures which may be necessary to implement in the event of an accident.

Late/Activity Bus Information

Activity buses are for middle and high school students who must stay after school for athletic activities, drama practice, detention, and other school activities. **Only students involved in supervised after-school activities may ride the activity bus, and an Activity Bus Pass provided by the coach or advisor is required to ride the bus. Students riding the activity buses are subject to the same disciplinary guidelines as students on the regular buses.**

The buses servicing the Delaware Valley Campus leave from the main entrance of the Delaware Valley High School at 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM Activity buses are a convenience offered to parents/guardians to reduce the amount of driving time to transport students in after-school activities. Activity buses are not a replacement for the regularly scheduled bus routes; the activity bus may only bring a student to the approximate area where the student resides. Students need to advise the driver where they need to depart the bus in advance of that stop. Parents/guardians may still have to drive to a suitable location along the route to transport the student home. The 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM activity runs follow the same routes. The Dingman-Delaware Middle School late bus runs Monday through Friday at 5 PM, and Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4:30 PM.

Milford, Shohola Run (Activity Run #1)

The bus leaves Delaware Valley High School and proceeds west on Route 84. The bus will then proceed west on Route 6 to Twin Lakes Road to the Shohola Elementary School. The bus continues north on Twin Lakes Road to the village of Shohola, onto Route 434 North, to Shohola Falls Road, to Route 6 East to the intersection of Route 6 and Twin Lakes Road, where the route ends.

Silver Lake Road, Wild Acres (Activity Run #2)

The bus leaves Delaware Valley High School, drives nonstop to the intersection of Route 2001 and Log Tavern Road and begins student drop off while proceeding south on Route 2001. The bus turns onto Route 739 to Doolan Road, to Silver Lake Road to Marcel Lake Estates. The bus then drops off at Pocono Mountain Lake Forest at Moose Court. The bus returns south on Silver Lake Road to Childs Park Road to Wild Acres, then continuing on Park Road turning right onto Milford Road. Proceed to Log and Twig/Milford Road for a stop. Turn left onto Chestnut Ridge, following until the bus makes a left onto Wilson Hill proceeding to the Milford Road/Wilson Hill stop. The bus will proceed north on Route 2001, returning to the intersection of Route 2001 and Route 739, where the route ends.

Route 2001 Log Tavern Road, Route 739 North (Activity Run # 3)

The bus leaves Delaware Valley High School and proceeds to its first stop at Oak Manor Estates. The bus turns onto Log Tavern Road, to Route 739. The bus proceeds on Route 739 to the Sunrise Lake Entrance, and continues on to Cranberry Ridge and then to Conashaugh Lakes. The bus then returns on Route 739 and drops off along Route 739 (right-handed stops) to the Park and Ride and then returns back on Route 739 dropping off again right-handed stops back to the Dingman-Delaware School complex where the route ends.

Milford, Sawkill Road, Raymondskill Road (Activity Run #4)

The bus leaves Delaware Valley High School making stops along Route 6 south to Milford. The two stops in Milford and Broad Street at Sarah Street and West Harford Street at Fifth Street. The bus then proceeds south on Route 2001 to Sawkill Road to VanAukin Hill Road to Raymondskill Road to Route 6 East. The bus leaves Route 6 to proceed east on Sawkill Road returning to the intersection of Sawkill Road and VanAukin Hill Road where the route ends.

Matamoras (Activity Run #5)

The bus leaves Delaware Valley High School and proceeds to Matamoras. The stops are: Pennsylvania Avenue at Maple Avenue, Pennsylvania Avenue at 5TH Street and First Street at Avenue K.
Run # 5 and Run #1 are combined at 6:00 PM.

Dingman-Delaware Middle School Late Bus Information

5:00 Activity Run #1

Bus will travel south on Route 739 and turn right onto Doolan Road. The bus will turn right onto Silver Lake Road dropping off along Silver Lake Road and at Marcel Lake and Old Marcel Lake and proceed to Pocono Mountain Lake Forest Gate #2. The bus will return along Silver Lake Road and drop off at the Birchwood entrance on Silver Lake Road and make a left onto Park Road. The bus will drop off at Wild Acres and proceed to the intersection of Park Road and Milford Road where the bus will make a right hand onto Milford Road to Log and Twig Road. The bus will then make a left onto Chestnut Ridge and then turn left onto Wilson Hill Road proceeding to Milford Road and return to Route 739.

5:00 Activity Run #2

Bus will travel north to Cranberry Ridge, dropping at Sunrise and Conashaugh Lakes. The bus will then return back along Route 739 and turning left on Log Tavern Road and dropping off along Log Tavern Road to Milford Road and turning right on Milford Road and returning to Doolan Road via Route 739.

Tuesday and Thursday 4:30 Late Bus – A late bus will leave the Dingman-Delaware Middle School at 4:30 pm. The bus route will be: North on Route 739 to the main entrance of Sunrise Lake and continuing north on 739 to Cranberry Ridge. The bus then returns south on 739 to the entrance of Conashaugh Lakes, continuing south on 739 to Doolan Road. The bus travels Doolan Road and turns right onto Silver Lake Road to make stops at Marcel Lakes and Pocono Mountain Lake Forest Gates 1& 2. The bus then returns south on Silver Lake Road and turns onto Park Road to Wild Acres. The bus then continues on Park Road and makes a left onto Route 2001 towards Milford. The bus turns onto Log Tavern Road and the final stop is Gold Key Lake.
All late bus runs may be changed at any time.

Click here to visit the Transportation Department section of the DV website

District Information

Co-Curricular Activities

Both Dingman-Delaware Middle School and Delaware Valley Middle School offer a variety of Co-Curricular Activities for students to get involved with throughout the school year. All students who participate in co-curricular activities must complete a Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy General Authorization.

The following co-curricular activities are offered at DDMS:

- Pep Band
- Junior SASA
- Yearbook
- Student Council
- Drama
- DDTV
- Odyssey of the Mind
- National Jr. Honor Society
- Art Club
- Newspaper
- Science Olympiad
- Sound & Lights Club
- Math Counts
- Literary Magazine
- Student Ambassadors
- Ski & Snowboard Club
- Tutoring
- Walking Club
- Fashion Club
- Ping-Pong Club
- Fishing Club
- Golf Club
- Lighthouse Team
- Anime Club
- Engineering Club
- Jazz & Orchestra Club
- Stock Market Club
- Reading Olympics

The following co-curricular activities are offered at DVMS:

- Adapted Fit Club
- Art Club
- Chess Club
- Cooking Club
- Creative Writing Club
- Drama Club
- DVMS Week in Review
- Fishing Club
- Future Business Leaders of America
- Jazz Band
- Junior SASA
- Homework Club
- Indoor Band/Percussion/ Color guard
- Letter Writing Club
- Literary Magazine
- Magic: The Gathering Club
- Marching Band Grades 7 & 8
- Martial Arts
- Movie Club
- National Junior Honor Society
- Newspaper Club
- Odyssey of the Mind
- Peer Buddies
- Rachel's Challenge
- Reading Olympics
- Role-Playing Game Club
- Rugby Club
- Student Council
- Science Olympiad
- Ski & Snowboard Club
- Strength and Fitness Club
- World Cultures Club
- Yearbook Club

Co- Curricular Code of Conduct

Do not miss a practice, performance, or game in accordance with attendance guidelines.
Do not use alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs.

Do not attend parties or activities where other students are drinking alcoholic beverages, using tobacco, or are involved with illegal drugs.
Do not embarrass your school, team, family, or yourself with inappropriate behavior during practice or events, in school or in the community.
Do not fail to meet all expectations as set forth by the school district and the team's coach.

Core Beliefs

The DV Five

1. Be Responsible
2. Be Respectful
3. Follow Directions
4. Keep Hands and Feet to Self
5. Be on Time and be Ready

District Mission Statement

Delaware Valley School District, in partnership with our community, stands committed to maximizing student potential, fostering life-long learning and promoting responsible citizenship.

Drug and Alcohol Testing

According to Delaware Valley School District Board Policy #227.1 Drug and Alcohol Testing for Co-Curricular Participation, Driving, and Parking Permit Privileges all students who participate in a co-curricular activity or team sport must complete a general authorization to participate in the monthly Drug and Alcohol Testing. The list of students to participate in the testing is generated randomly by an outside agency; therefore, it may require students to test more than once in an academic school year.

Interscholastic Sports

The schools sponsors sport teams that play other nearby schools. These teams include basketball, wrestling, soccer, football, field hockey, cross country, baseball, tennis, volleyball, track, lacrosse, cheerleading, and softball. In order to play on one of these teams, students must meet the standards set by the school district. Eligibility for participation will follow School Board Policy 112.2, Co-Curricular Eligiblity. Student grades are continually monitored by school staff for eligibilty.

Intramurals

Students must have permission from their parents/guardians to participate. They must be covered by some type of accident insurance and ride one of the buses, unless special permission is given to ride with parents/guardian. Good sportsmanship is also a must!

PA Homeless Children's Initiative (McKinney-Vento Act)

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act was created to aid homeless persons. The Act defines the term "homeless children and youths" as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Please use the link below for information regarding Pennsylvania's Homeless Children Initiative (McKinney-Vento Act):Pennsylvania's Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness Program
If you believe you may be eligible, please contact the Delaware Valley School District Homeless Liasion or your school counselor to find out what services and supports may be available.
DVSD Homeless/Foster Care Liaison Office: 570-296-1827

Student Registration

Student Registration is located in the Office of Support Services located at the entrance to the Delaware Valley Middle School Cafeteria. The entrance is off the Middle School parking area on the Route 6 & 209 Campus approximately 4 miles north of the Borough of Milford, PA.

If you have any questions or need further information, contact the Office of Support Service at 570-296-1889. If needed, a fax can be sent to 570-296-1818.

Health Services Department

Dental Exams

The Pennsylvania School Health Law requires that all students receive a dental examination on entrance to school for 7th grade. This exam can be dated anytime during the 12 months prior to the start of the mandated exam school year. If you are unable to pay for an examination by your dentist, please notify your student's school nurse. Your student can then be scheduled for a dental exam by the School District.

Health Care & Confidentiality of Student Health Information

- A full-time nurse is available for emergency and non-emergency health care.
- Other than administrators, the school nurse is the only member of the school staff who can excuse a student from school during the day because of illness or injury.
- Illnesses or injuries that occur during the school day should be reported by the student immediately to their teacher or to the school nurse.
- On-going health care for student illness or injury is the responsibility of the student's personal physician.
- The school nurse maintains health records for each student. Parents or guardians are responsible for notifying the school nurse, in writing, of medical needs that may affect a student while in school. Parents or guardians are expected to update this information regularly, especially when a student's needs change. In accord with School code section 14-1409, to the extent necessary to protect the health and safety of a student, staff members.

Immunization Requirements

All students (grades K-12) must have completed immunizations before the first day of school. Documentation must be provided from your Primary Care Provider verifying that these requirements have been met. All 7th grade students are required to have a tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis (Tdap) and meningococcal vaccine (MCV4) by the first day of school. If these requirements are not met prior to the 2023-2024 school year, your student will not be permitted to start classes on August 25, 2025. Families will receive notification by mail if these immunizations are not up-to-date.

- Medical exemption – when the physical condition of the student is such that immunization would endanger life or health (requires physician's signature)
- Religious exemption – when the parent/guardian adheres to a religious belief whose teachings are opposed to such immunizations (requires parent/guardian signature)

Insurance

Students are urged to purchase the special accident insurance policy offered to all students at the beginning of the school year if they do not have another type of accident insurance. Insurance claim forms may be obtained from the office. The school district carries liability insurance; however, parents/guardians should be aware that the school district does not carry medical insurance on students. The school district carries primary excess medical insurance for interscholastic sports and related activities per the Schedule of Medical Benefits.

Click here to visit the Health Service Department section of the DV website

School Vehicle Accident Procedure for Processing Medical Bills

The following helps to answer questions about procedures that address medical expenses relating to an accident as outlined in the insurance regulations:

- All owners of motor vehicles in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are required by law to purchase and maintain automobile insurance. The laws relating to automobile insurance coverage are compiled in the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility Law of 1984-commonly referred to as the "PA No Fault Law."
- First party benefits are a mandatory coverage. This is a basic no-fault type of medical insurance for your own medical bills. The minimum required by law is $5,000. Regardless of who is at fault for the accident, the medical bills will be paid through your First Party benefits coverage. Using this coverage will not affect your rates or premiums in any way.

The priority of benefits or the order as to which party's auto policy provides the benefits to the injured party is as follows:

- **First -** Student has own auto policy and is a named insured under that policy.
- **Second -** Student is covered under parent's/guardian's policy, whether or not old enough to drive, as a "resident relative." If there should be a case when you as the parent or guardian do not have auto insurance, the laws states that any resident relative in the household who carries auto insurance would file the medical bills. If the medical bills go above the policy limit - they will have to be submitted to student's health insurance. There is no recourse beyond this step.
- **Third -** The owner of the vehicle the student occupied at the time of the accident.

Note: First party benefit coverage cannot be stacked between priority levels. Once coverage under the first applicable policy has been exhausted, claimant may not seek additional first party benefits from other policies at lower levels.

IN SUMMARY, IF SOMEONE IN THE HOUSEHOLD HAS AUTO INSURANCE, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE COMPANY IMMEDIATELY AND HAVE THIS INCIDENT ON FILE WITH THEM AS THEY WILL BE ABLE TO ASSIST YOU ON HOW TO FILE ALL MEDICAL BILLS. IF THERE IS NO AUTO INSURANCE IN THE HOUSEHOLD, PLEASE CONTACT THE BUSINESS OFFICE FOR INFORMATION ON PROCESSING THE MEDICAL BILLS THROUGH THE AUTO INSURANCE OF THE OWNER OF THE VEHICLE THAT THE STUDENT OCCUPIED AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT.

If you need any further assistance, please feel free to contact the Business Office at 570-296-1806.

Medications

Delaware Valley Middle School and Dingman-Delaware Middle School are serviced by a school nurse. Students who become ill in school may report to the nurse, after obtaining a pass from the classroom teacher. The nurse regularly checks students' hearing and vision, as well as height and weight. The Delaware Valley School Board Policy # 210 Use of Medications does not permit the school nurse to dispense medication of any kind without proper authorization from your physician and consent of the parent/guardian, including over-the-counter medication such as aspirin and cough medicine. Steroid use by athletes is prohibited. All medication must be brought to school in the pharmacy or doctor's container labeled with your name, medication, dosage, and time of administration. Students are NEVER allowed to carry medication or look-alike medication of any kind unless they are transporting the medication to the school nurse with the required doctor's order and parents/guardians permission. Students must report to the school nurse with the medication immediately upon entering the building. Any medication classified as a controlled substance must be delivered to the school nurse by a parent/guardian. The only exception to this is that students are permitted to possess asthma inhalers, epinephrine injectables, and glucagon and to self-administer the prescribed medication when such is parent/guardian/physician authorized using the appropriate medication form. See your school nurse for the appropriate form.

Nurse Dismissal from School

The only accepted way a student will be dismissed from school for an illness is through the school nurse. Students are not allowed to call/text their parents/guardians asking them to come to the school to pick them up because they are sick. Students need to be evaluated by the school nurse, and the school nurse will contact a parent/guardian to arrange pick-up/dismissal.

- First offense—one (1) day in-school suspension.
- Second offense—three (3) days out-of-school suspension.
- Third offense—five (5) days out-of-school suspension.

Physical Exams

The Pennsylvania School Health Law requires that all students receive a physical examination on entrance for 6th grade. This exam can be dated anytime during the 12 months prior to the start of the mandated exam school year. The best interests of your student are served by having a continuous relationship with a Primary Care Provider. A copy of a camp physical or athletic physical form will suffice in lieu of the DV physical form. If you are unable to pay for an examination by your primary care provider, please notify your student's school nurse. Your student can then be scheduled for a physical exam by the School Physician or Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner.

Communications Department

Closings and Delays

When inclement weather occurs, the Delaware Valley School District uses an automated phone system to contact parents/guardians. Please update the school with any changes to your telephone contact numbers. Calling any of the main school telephone numbers (296-3140-DDMS, 296-1830-DVMS) and then pressing "1" after the system answers will provide an announcement of school delay or closing information. School closing information can be found on our school website at www.dvsd.org.

School Websites

Delaware Valley School District

Dingman-Delaware Middle School

Delaware Valley Middle School

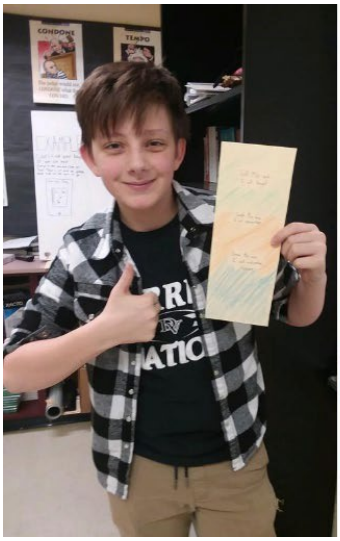
Social Media- Official Delaware Valley Accounts

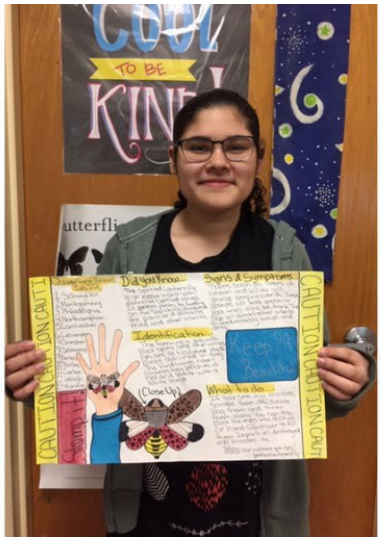
Delaware Valley shares news, important information, and stories about what's happening throughout the District on social media. The District maintains three official social media outlets that are open to the public:

https://www.facebook.com/Delaware-Valley-School-District-147681382076800/

https://twitter.com/DVSD_Warriors

https://www.instagram.com/delaware_valley_sd/





Safety and Security

Building Evacuation Procedures

- If evacuation must take place, notice will be given via the intercom or the distinct sounding of the fire alarm. Secretary will call cafeteria and custodial staff.
- All students and teachers report to the assigned positions as quickly and quietly as possible.
- Teachers having class at the time of the evacuation will take roll using the Navigate Prepared App. and will communicate with administration and staff using the chat feature.
- The nurse will be centrally located with emergency forms.
- Students will remain with class groups. NO ONE WILL LEAVE THE AREA WITHOUT TEACHER PERMISSION. Permission to leave will be granted in a dire emergency only.
- Secretaries will leave the office with sign-out book and assist school counselor in tracking down absentees.
- English teachers and athletic director will assist in sending lost students to assigned areas.
- Physical education teachers will assist the nurse in handling first aid and emergencies.

Lockdown Drills

Lockdown drills are held periodically throughout the school year to ensure our staff and students feel confident of our emergency plans in place at each building. Practice drills also allow buildings to evaluate our emergency operation plan and improve on response skills. Lockdown drills may be unannounced prior to the drill taking place.

Safe2Say Something

On January 14,2019, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania launched the Safe2Say Something program. This program allows individuals to report a safety concern securely and anonymously to help identify and intervene upon at-risk individuals before they hurt themselves and/or others. The program is mandated by Act 44 of 2018 and requires all K-12 school districts to participate. A phone number, smartphone app, and web-based application are options for reporting. These reports will be triaged by the Crisis Center at the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General. A communication process is then initiated to the county 911 dispatch center and a set of pre-identified school district officials. All students at the middle school are trained or offered a refresher class in the utilization of the program at the beginning of each school year.

School Police Officers

The Delaware Valley School Police Officers work to ensure a safe and secure school environment. The school police investigate any and all crimes reported to the administration. Two officers facilitate classes in D.A.R.E and also address bullying, law, and seatbelt safety in addition to other topics. The School Police Officers will also conduct mediations with student(s) to help solve any issues that are currently ongoing with that student(s).

- Delaware Valley Middle School Police Officer: Amanda Boyd & Kenneth Byrnes
- Dingman-Delaware Middle School Police Officer: Scott Siegfried

Weather Drills

The National Weather Service mandates that the school participate in weather emergency drills once a year. Specific details will be provided to the students by the administration.

Policies and Procedures

Athletic Code

Athletes are student leaders and, as such, serve as role models for their peers and for young children as well. As representatives of the school district and leaders in their schools, students involved in athletics are expected to exemplify high standards by the public and are held in high esteem by other students. Athletes are expected to accept the responsibilities accompanying these opportunities.

In order to give students an opportunity to participate in one or more sports, the Delaware Valley School District provides a varied program of athletics. All students in good scholastic standing are urged to try out for teams. In addition to complying with the school's student handbook and district policies, the athlete must obey all regulations governing athletics at Delaware Valley:

- Specific team rules will be determined by the coach and approved by the athletic director. These are to include, but are not limited to rules governing attendance at practice sessions and games. When developed, these rules will be kept on file in the office of the athletic director and principal.
- Profane and obscene language will not be tolerated. Athletes using profane and obscene language during practice sessions or at athletic contests will result in disciplinary action determined by the coach.
- Unless an acceptable excuse is given to the coach, an athlete who quits the team before the end of the season shall be ineligible to participate in any sport during the remainder of the season. If, after trying out for a sport within a two-week period, an athlete wishes to leave the team, the coach must be consulted. With permission, the student may try out for another sport during this two-week period.
- The athlete is responsible for all athletic equipment issued. It is also the athlete's responsibility to give this equipment the best of care and to return the equipment promptly at the end of the season. The athlete or their parent/guardian(s) shall pay for any equipment not returned, or equipment altered beyond regular use. This must be rectified by the first event of the next sport season, or the athlete will be ineligible.
- All athletes must travel to and from all athletic contests with the squad unless the coach or athletic director grants permission in advance. Athletes who do not travel with the squad without prior permission will be subject to disciplinary action.
- At away games, athletes are guests of the host schools. Proper conduct is expected and reflects in a positive manner on the athlete, the team, and the community.
- Proper dress is expected of all student athletes. Coaches will set the standard of dress for individual teams.
- Officials are selected because of training and experience. Student athletes should realize that officials are honest in their intent. Athletes are reminded that officials are in complete charge of an event. Athletes should not challenge the decision of the official. Violations of sportsmanship conduct will result in negative consequences for the athlete and the team.
- Delaware Valley training rules for athletic team's stress sound principles for healthful living. Prohibition on the use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, steroids, chewing tobacco, stealing, vandalism, hazing / bullying or gross misconduct apply to an athlete during the time they are participating in a given sport. Possession of drugs, alcoholic beverages, steroids, and tobacco products also constitutes a violation of the rules and regulations during a given sport season.
    - **a.** The penalty for the first violation of the code for drinking, smoking, using chewing tobacco, drugs, steroids, misconduct, vandalism, stealing, hazing/bullying, or possessing alcohol, drugs, or tobacco products will result in restricting a student athlete from participating in interscholastic contests for a minimum of 20 percent of the contests. An athlete who is restricted from participating from a first offense is required to practice during the period of suspension. The second offense will result in suspension for the remainder of the school year.
- Attendance as it relates to Athletic & Co-Curricular Activities for Grades 7-12

a. Students leaving school early due to illness and students absent from school due to illness are not allowed to participate in any co-curricular activity after school on that day. Students with excused late arrivals or early dismissals must attend at least four class periods to be eligible to participate in after school activities. Students must arrive no later than 10:30 a.m. and must attend four classes to be eligible to participate in an after-school co-curricular activity. Excuses in reference to participation in sports should be directed to the coach or athletic director.
b. If a student is absent from school or leaves school without the student or a parent/guardian informing us of the reason, it will be assumed that the reason for the absence is illness and the student will not be able to participate. Excuses in reference to participation in sports should be directed to the coach or athletic director.
c. If a student has been approved to be on an individualized field trip, attends a school-sponsored field trip or has received administrative clearance to participate in co-curricular activity because of extenuating circumstances, the coach or activity supervisor will be informed generally by written notice. Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) rules state that examples of excused extenuating circumstances would be a death in the immediate family, court subpoena, quarantine, or a religious activity/function, which the church requires its members to attend.
d. When a student has accumulated six unexcused absences/tardies at any time during the school year, participation in all athletic activities will cease until a meeting with the parents/guardians takes place to discuss the student's absence. It may be decided at that meeting that a cessation of participation will continue.
e. A coach or designated person must attain a daily attendance report from the school office each day of participation. The coach is responsible to review the report and enforce the rules. Infractions must be reported to the school administration.
f. A student who has out-of-school suspension will not be allowed to participate in an activity during the duration of suspension. Restriction from participation (practice, contests, etc.) will begin as soon as the student has been notified of the suspension.
g. Athletes who display a willful and persistent disregard for school regulations (by receiving detention and in-school suspensions) will jeopardize their standing with the team.
h. Athletes who miss practice the day before or after a contest may be ineligible for the next contest unless the coach or athletic director excuses them.

Physicals Requirements

No student shall be eligible to represent the middle school in any athletic contest unless they have been examined by a school or family physician prior to the beginning of that sport season. Wrestlers must also obtain from the physician, prior to the beginning of practice, a certification of the minimum weight class at which they may wrestle for the entire season. A PIAA certificate to this effect, signed by both physician and parent/guardian, shall be filed in the office of the athletic trainer.

All participants in a sport must be covered by insurance. Questions related to claims should be directed to the athletic trainer.

Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association eligibility rules shall be followed. Listed below is a condensed version of these regulations.

- Amateur Status & Awards - to be eligible to participate in a sport, you must be an amateur in the sport. You will lose your amateur status in a sport for at least a year if:
- You, or your school, or an organization which you represent, or your parent or guardian, receives money or property for, or related to your athletic ability, performance, participation, or services.
- You accept compensation for teaching, training, or coaching in a sport. You may receive normal and customary compensation for acting as an instructor in, or officiating recreational activities, or for serving as a lifeguard at

swimming areas. You may receive awards only from your school, the sponsor of an athletic event, the news media, or a non-profit service organization approved by your school principal. Permissible awards are a sweater, jacket, blazer, blanket, shirt, jersey, watch, ring, scroll, photograph, medal, plaque, or similar trophy, which must bear appropriate organizational insignia or comparable identification.

- All-Star Contests: All-Star Contests may only involve senior students who will not be involved in the same sport again in their high school career.
- Out-of-Season Participation: All PIAA sports have a defined season. If any team conducts practice and/or plays a contest after the concluding date for PIAA season or previous to the starting date in a sport, you will lose your eligibility for one year in that sport.

Periods of Attendance/Participation/Grade Repetition/Age

- You will lose your eligibility when you have been in attendance more than eight semesters beyond eighth grade. If you repeat a grade after eighth, you will be ineligible as a senior.
- You may participate only one season in each sport during each school year.
- A middle school student may not participate in any sport for more seasons than there are grades in his school above sixth grade.
- You may not have reached your 19th birthday by June 30th immediately preceding the school year (15th birthday where interscholastic competition is limited to 7th and 8th grades; 16th birthday where limited to 7th through 9th grade).

Copyright

The Delaware Valley School District recognizes that the Federal Constitution grants authors and creators certain rights to protect their property as a means of promoting and advancing knowledge, and that Congress enforces these rights through U.S. Copyright Law.

Copyright protection applies to original works of authorship that can be perceived, reproduced, or communicated, either directly or with the aid of a machine or device. The works include the following categories: (i) literary works, (ii) musical works, including any accompanying words, (iii) dramatic works, including any accompanying music, (iv) pantomimes and choreographic works, (v) pictorial, graphic and sculptural works, (vi) motion pictures and other audio video works, (vii) sound recordings and (viii) architectural works. Copyright protection extends to most computer software, which is typically protected as a literary work. Users must make a standard practice of requesting permission from the holder of the work, or their agent, complying with license agreements pursuant to the school district's procedures, and legally use fair use principles.

Violations of copyright law will lead to disciplinary action form suspension up to and including expulsion from school. In addition, violations of copyright law can be a felony, and the law allows a court to hold individuals personally responsible for infringing the law. Refer to Delaware Valley School District Board Policy # 814 Copyright.

Eligibility for Co-Curricular Activities

To be eligible for non-credit, co-curricular activities, a student must pursue a curriculum approved by the principal as a full-time curriculum. Where required, this curriculum or its equivalent must be approved by, and conform to, the regulations of the State Board of Education and the Pennsylvania School Code, as well as any local policies established by the local School Board. Students must also comply with Board Policy on drug and alcohol testing.

The principal, working in conjunction with the athletic director, will establish a monitoring system where all students failing subjects within the approved curriculum are reported to the athletic director weekly by the district staff. Co-Curricular Advisors will be responsible for carefully monitoring all members of their organizations.

Students eligible to participate in events such as games, productions, competitions, club meetings and similar activities shall be based on the following:

- Student Eligibility Requirements
    a. A student must not be failing two (2) or more subjects
- Eligibility Procedure
    a. Academic eligibility will be determined weekly
    b. All grades will be cumulative with in each nine (9) week period
    c. Teachers will report any failing grades to the athletic director by the last day of the school week.
    d. The athletic office will provide the ineligibility list to sponsors, coaches, and teacher every Friday during the season.
- Academic Warning - A student who is failing one (1) subject will be placed on Academic Warning. The student may participate in practice, competitions, and events following a mandatory, tutoring program.
    a. A student that falls into Academic Warning must attend study session until such a time that the student attains a passing grade in the subject.
    b. A student's progress towards academic proficiency will be monitored on a weekly basis by the principal or designee
    c. A student failing to fulfill the requirements of his/her academic warning status will be declared ineligible for the following week (Sunday-Saturday).
    d. A student who is failing one (1) subject for ten (10) weeks will require additional intervention by the school district.
- Academic Ineligibility
    a. A student who has been deemed academically ineligible must attend mandatory study sessions prior to attending any practice and must not participate in any competitions for the following week (Sunday-Saturday). The student will not be reinstated his/her eligibility until the general provisions of this policy are met.
        1. If a student has not met the general provisions of this policy at the end of the nine (9) week grading period, he/she will be deemed academically ineligible for fifteen (15) school days of the next grading period.
        2. Athletic eligibility for students beginning prior to or at the time the school year begins will be based upon final grades of the previous school year. A student not meeting the academic requirements will be deemed academically ineligible for the first fifteen (15) school days of the first marking period. The student may participate in practice prior to the beginning of the first quarter and up to the fifteenth (15th) day of school; however, the student may not compete in any competition at this time. After the fifteenth (15th) school day, academic eligibility will be determined on a weekly basis.
        3. A student may attend summer school in order to correct deficiencies in regard to the general provisions of the policy. In such cases, the final summer school course grade will be used to determine eligibility for the first quarter of the school year.

Click here to visit the Athletic Department section of the DV website

Non-Discrimination and Title IX Compliance

Pennsylvania school districts shall not discriminate in their educational programs, activities or employment practices based on race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, gender expression, disability, age, religion, ancestry or any other legally protected classification. This policy is in accordance with state and federal laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, Information relative to special accommodation, grievance procedure, and the designated responsible official for compliance with Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504 may be obtained by contacting the school district. The district also provides equal access Boy Scouts and other designed youth Groups. Inquiries may be directed to the Title IX Coordinator or the Section 504/ADA Title II Coordinator at 252 Route 6 & 209 Milford, PA 18337 or 570-296-1800.

Procedure for Public Complaints

Any student, parent/guardian, resident or community group shall have the right to present a request, suggestions or complaint concerning district personnel, the program or the operations of the district. At the same time, the Board has the duty to protect staff from unnecessary harassment. It is the intent of this policy to provide a fair and impartial manner for seeking appropriate remedies. Refer to Delaware Valley School Board Policy # 906 Public Complaints.

If you have a particular complaint dealing with a staff member or program, you should follow these steps:

- Try to resolve the issue informally through discussion with the staff member directly involved.
- If this discussion fails to resolve the matter, discuss the matter with the building principal or staff member's supervisor.
- The principal will make the superintendent or designee aware of unresolved issues and further discussion can be held with the superintendent or designee.
- Should the matter remain unresolved, the issue can be reviewed by the Board or a committee of the Board.

Spectator Decorum/Sportsmanship

It is expected that coaches, athletes, parents/guardians and spectators will conduct themselves within the guidelines of good sportsmanship. Many sports have rules governing coach/athlete/spectator misconduct. The penalties range from removal of the offender(s) to forfeiture of the game. Good conduct from everyone involved in an athletic event will help to provide a positive atmosphere and make the experience an enjoyable one. In general, positive support of your team is acceptable, and negative behavior directed toward either team, their fans, officials, or facilities is unacceptable.

Delaware Valley students who attend any athletic event, dance, concert, etc., may leave the building with their parent/guardian at any time during the event, but they may not return without prior permission from the staff and/or faculty supervising the event.

Delaware Valley School District events that are conducted off school grounds but are considered home events (for example, home softball games at Airport Park), will have the same rules and sanctions as though the events were conducted on a Delaware Valley Campus. Students who misbehave at the away games/matches of Delaware Valley teams will be subject to the same sanctions as home events.

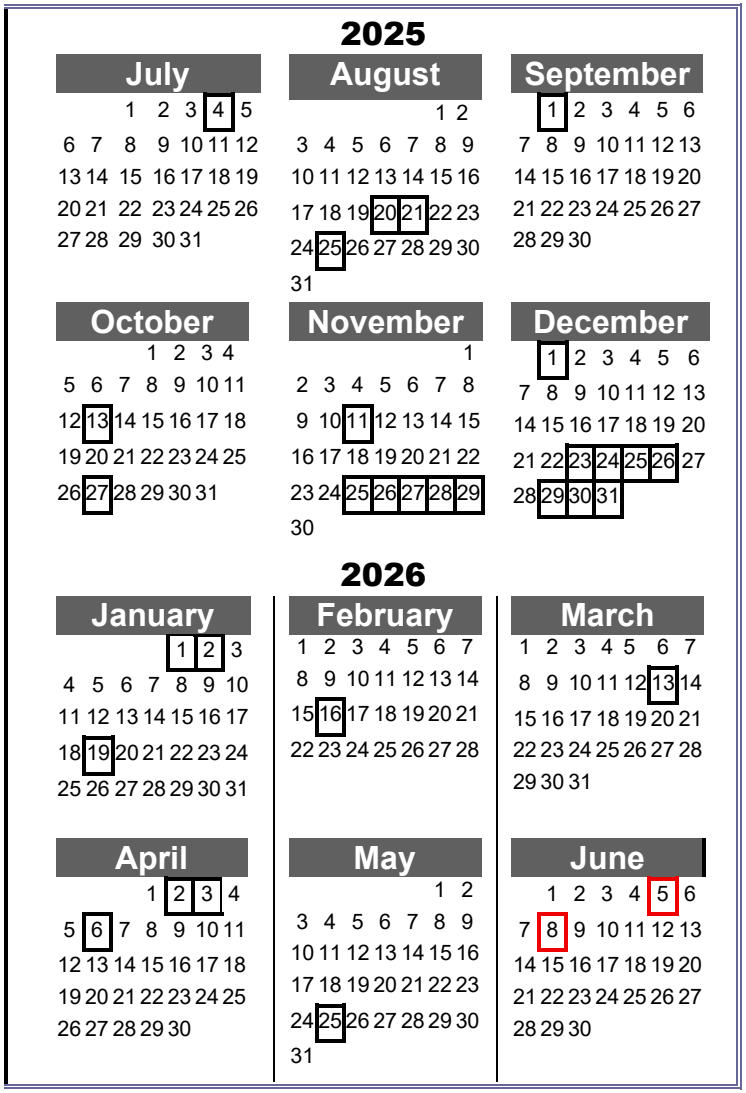
Delaware Valley School District

2025-2026 School Year

July 4	Independence Day Recess
August 20	In-Service Day
August 21	Teacher Work Day
August 25	First day for Students
September 1	Labor Day
October 13	Columbus Day Recess
October 27	In-Service Day/No School For Students
November 11	Veterans Day Recess
November 25	Parent Conference Day/Early Dismissal for Students*
November 26	Early Dismissal
November 27,28, Dec 1	Fall Recess
December 23	Early Dismissal
December 24-Jan. 2	Winter Recess
January 19	In-Service Day/No School for Students
February 16	Presidents' Day
March 13	In-Service Day/No School for Students
April 2-6	Spring Recess
May 25	Memorial Day
June 5	Last Day of School/Early Dismissal/Graduation
June 8	Teacher Work Day

Month	Student Days	Teacher Days
August	5	8 (includes 1 Flex Day)
September	21	21.1
October	21	22
November	17	17.5
December	16	16
January	19	20
February	19	19
March	21	22
April	19	19
May	20	20
June	5	6(includes 1 work day)
	183**	190**

* Early Dismissal- In the event of inclement weather necessitating a 2-hour delay, parent conferences will be postponed and there will be a "regular school day."

** Six (6) emergency weather-closing days are allotted in the calendar. If additional emergency days are needed, the district will consider the use of Flexible Instruction Days (FIDs). Additionally, revisions in the school calendar will be approved on an as needed basis.

Approved: 02/20/2025
Re-Approved: 08/14/2025