

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are embarking on a new year with many new things happening. The teaching team here at Dewey is phenomenal. The staff are dedicated professionals who center their work around getting your child to meet Common Core State Standards as well as become a responsible, reliable, compassionate, well rounded little person. I am proud to work with the staff and teachers here.

We work hard to academically push our students to their greatest potential. We teach a rigorous academic program as prescribed by Common Core State Standards. We strive to meet the needs of the whole child and recognize strengths in all areas. I believe that parents are the first teacher and are vital to their children's academic and social success. It takes a team so work closely with your child's teacher and you will see your child blossom.

I have repeatedly said that I value the home-school connection and that we have to work as a team to support your child so that they can be socially and academically successful. I am looking forward to this 2022-23 school year so that we can continue on our journey together. We have a few dedicated, strong parent volunteers. We are excited to welcome our parent partners back on campus after 2 long years. We need to keep up the momentum so please don't hesitate to get involved and don't forget to check our website for upcoming events at www.sandi.net/dewey. We are fortunate enough to partner with Liberty School where all of our students get a variety of Fine Arts instruction and exposure once a week throughout the year taught by teaching artists from the various art programs located at NTC.. Fourth graders will get an opportunity to explore instruments in Exploratory Music weekly. We also incorporate a STEM block four days a week to foster design thinking and project based learning in the classroom. The results and level of engagement and curiosity have been amazing to watch over the 4 year implementation period.

Please know that good attendance in school still remains a strong predictor of success in life. Students that miss a lot of school are more likely to fall behind and drop out. Therefore it is not only a district-wide goal to improve attendance rates, but also a goal here at Dewey. We are depending on you to get your child to school daily by 8:30 am and we will educate them until dismissal at 2:45 pm. Thursdays do remain our minimum day – school starts at 8:30 am and ends at 12:35 pm. **There is NO supervision for your child if they are dropped off prior to 8:10 am.** Thank you in advance for your diligence in getting your child to school on time daily. If you are struggling with this please don't hesitate to contact me. I will do what I can to help.

I do realize that Dewey has a significant number of parents/ guardians in the military and that vacations and deployments are sometimes unavoidable. If this is the case and your child will be missing school, please talk with your child's teacher at least one week in advance so that an independent learning contract can be set up to ensure that your child has some school work to do. This certainly will not replace the learning they will be missing in the classroom however it may keep them from falling too far behind.

Looking forward to a fantastic school year!

Sincerely,

Tanya McMillin, Principal