Welcome to Dayton Christian School!  
2019-2020 Back to School Letter

Theme for the Year: Focusing on Christ – His Servanthood  
Theme Verse for the Year: Philippians 2:5-8

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dayton Christian School is founded on four core values: Unity, Scripture, Excellence and Service. I’ve thought a lot about each of these as I’ve sought God’s vision for our 2019-2020 school year, and his answer has clearly been found in Ephesians 4:1-3. It’s here where Paul urges believers to walk in a manner worthy of their calling, committed to humility and a gentleness rooted in the unity of Christ.

This is my hope for our community as we move into this new school year. There’s no doubt that 2019-2020 is going to be an exciting year for DC, and a time of rebirth in many ways. The opening of the Warrior Center is the most visible change that will take place, but there are many other things happening behind the scenes.

This includes expanded academic offerings such as Spanish enrichment in elementary, the introduction of a robust counseling service to all grade levels, and increased security with our own security resource officer. We also will enjoy the continuation of successes from 2018-2019 including our second annual “Trunk-or-Treat” event, enhanced academic services with ACT prep classes, and the expert direction that comes from numerous advisory councils.

Moreover, I’m excited to see our school grow by leading our faculty and staff in three main areas:

1. Advancing the cause for Christian education throughout the Greater Dayton area
2. Pursuing godly excellence in all things
3. Building a contagious spirit of community among our DC family

We hold a treasure within DC – one that many families only need to experience in order to know what they are missing. Let this be the year that we expand our reach to further Christ’s kingdom.

Blessings!

Dr. John S. Gredy  
Head of School
MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT DATES

There are many activities and opportunities for Dayton Christian School and Dayton Christian Homeschool parents and students to better get to know our school. We welcome you to take note of the following activities and attend as they apply to you and your student(s). Below is a list of events that will help in the transition to a new school year. Additional dates for Dayton Christian Homeschool are in the Homeschool section of this letter.

**PLEASE NOTE: Several events are either new or have changed from previous years.**

![Table](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 30</td>
<td>OHSAA Pre-Season Meeting, grades 7-12 fall athletes, Apex Church</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>Grades 7-12 schedules available on DC Connect</td>
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<td>August 1</td>
<td>Grades 7-12 schedule changes made in person in guidance office</td>
<td>1 pm – 3 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 2</td>
<td>Grades 7-12 schedule changes made in person in guidance office</td>
<td>9 am – 11 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 2</td>
<td>PreK-6 homeroom teacher letters sent home</td>
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<td>August 9</td>
<td>New Student Orientation: Preschool</td>
<td>8 am – 9:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 9</td>
<td>New Student Orientation: K-12</td>
<td>1 pm – 3:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 9</td>
<td>New Student Orientation: Homeschool 9-12 Hybrid Program</td>
<td>1 pm – 3:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 12</td>
<td>Elementary School Back to School Night</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 12</td>
<td>Drop in / Drop off supplies</td>
<td>5:00 – 5:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 12</td>
<td>Elementary Orientation: Grades PreK - 6 (cafeteria)</td>
<td>5:45 – 6:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 12</td>
<td>Parent Orientation (cafeteria)</td>
<td>5:00 – 5:30 pm</td>
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<td>August 12</td>
<td>Student Drop In</td>
<td>5:30 – 6:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 12</td>
<td>Meeting for Parents of Seniors (auditorium)</td>
<td>6:00 – 6:20 pm</td>
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<td>August 12</td>
<td>Meet and Greet Dr. Gredy (in the courtyard)</td>
<td>5:00 – 6:45 pm</td>
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<td>August 14</td>
<td>First Day of School</td>
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<td>August 14</td>
<td>All School First Day Event: Warrior Center Grand Opening</td>
<td>8:30 am (parents)</td>
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<td>August 15</td>
<td>School Picture Day</td>
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<td>August 19</td>
<td>DCES Meet the Teacher Night: PreK - 6 – Parents only</td>
<td>5:30 – 7:05 pm</td>
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<td>August 21</td>
<td>Fall athletic photos</td>
<td>3:15 pm</td>
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<td>August 25</td>
<td>New Parent Reception</td>
<td>2 pm</td>
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<td>August 26</td>
<td>Meet the Teacher Night (grades 7-12)</td>
<td>6:30 – 8:39 pm</td>
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“Back to School Night” is an informal time for students to drop off school supplies, briefly say hello to their teacher, find their desk or locker, etc. It is a drop-in event for all. “Meet the Teacher” times are geared toward parents. This is when our teachers take time to tell you about themselves and their classroom philosophy and to explain how their classroom is managed. At the junior/high school level, parents walk their student(s’) schedules to meet all their teachers. These “Meet the Teacher” times are not recommended for students.

- The 2019-20120 school calendar may be found on the Parents and Students drop down on the top right side of the DCS website homepage.
- Additional homeschool dates and information may be found within this communication as well as on The Homeschool Blog at https:dcsshomeschooltogether.wordpress.com.

SCHOOL DAY BEGINNING AND DISMISSAL TIMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>8:15 am – 11:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>8:15 am – 2:45 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>DCES 1-4</td>
<td>8:15 am – 2:50 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>DCMS 5-6</td>
<td>8:15 am – 2:55 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>DCJS 7-8</td>
<td>8:15 am – 3:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>DCHS 9-12</td>
<td>8:15 am – 3:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extended Care</td>
<td>Until 6 pm (PK-6)</td>
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</tbody>
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COMMUNICATION

FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL/SCHOOL
Dayton Christian principals each have their own unique way of communicating with our school families.

Preschool
Wendy Tesmer (Dayton Christian Preschool Lead Teacher): weekly “Plugged-In” email

Dayton Christian Elementary School (Grades K-6)
James Holliday (DCES Principal): weekly elementary update (Thursdays)

Dayton Christian Junior High and High School
Gabe Pethtel (DCJH/DCHS Principal)
• Weekly Update email (Thursdays)
• DC Connect for daily announcements on the Dayton Christian High School Community News page

Dayton Christian Homeschool
Lauren Malmstrom (DC Homeschool Director)
• EXCEL/ Academy announcement emails
• Ignitia, Hybrid and Independent Studies announcement emails
• Updates on the Dayton Christian Homeschool blog

FROM YOUR HEAD OF SCHOOL
Our Head of School, Dr. John Gredy, will send out a weekly email newsletter, “Weekly Warrior Update.” In addition, you will receive updates regarding school events and announcements as needed.

FROM THE BOARD
After each board meeting, the DCS Board of Trustees will send out an update regarding happenings of each monthly meeting (with the exception of July).

SURFING THE WEB
Listed below are Dayton Christian School websites and social media sites to help keep our families connected and informed.

- Dayton Christian School websites:
  - www.daytonchristian.com
  - www.daytonchristianwarriors.com (Athletics)

- Academic Information/Messaging:
  - DC Connect

- Dayton Christian Homeschool website:
  - www.daytonchristianhomeschool.com

- Social Media sites:
  - www.facebook.com/DaytonChristian
  - www.facebook.com/DaytonChristianHomeschool
  - www.facebook.com/DaytonChristianSchoolAthletics
  - https://www.instagram.com/dcswarriors
  - www.dcshomeschooltogether.wordpress.com (DC Homeschool blog)
PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK AND SCHOOL POLICIES

The school will strive to consistently enforce our policies and procedures. Please review the Parent/Student Handbook that contains the guidelines for the school. Please take a look at the guidelines that will govern cell phone usage and dress code. We believe that these policies remove unnecessary distractions and will help the school provide a better educational environment. The Parent/Student Handbook is available on DC Connect.

Please take the time to read the following policies that were added to the Parent/Student Handbook during the previous school year.

- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Cell Phone Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Diversity Policy

LIENS

Those students who have not paid for book fines, library fines, liens, gum fines, participation fees, or who have not completed community service hours for the 2018-2019 school year must take care of those items before the new school year begins. Returning students will not be permitted to attend classes in the fall until these commitments have been resolved. Call your school office if you have any questions.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

All school supply lists for grades pre-K to 8th grades can be found on DC Connect. Look for the “Resources” tab, and then you will find a large icon that says “Supply Lists.”

UNIFORMS AND DRESS CODE INFORMATION / SPIRIT WEAR

DRESS CODE and UNIFORM ORDERING
The 2019-2020 School Uniform Dress Code and Uniform Ordering Information is available on the DCS website.

UNIFORM REMINDERS for grades K-12
As you do your back to school shopping, please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- In order to protect the hardwood floor of the new Warrior Center, SHOES WORN ON GYM DAYS MUST HAVE NON-MARKING SOLES.
- Students in K-4 grade may wear polo shirts without the DC logo in the following colors only: white, navy, light blue, red, light pink, and burgundy. All other colors must have the DC logo.
- Shorts and pants should be khaki or navy blue in color. No white, gray, or black. Inseam must fall between 8” and the ankle.
- Pants and shorts must be modest and loose-fitting. The current fad of leggings and stretch pants are not permitted. No tight or low-riding pants, saggy, or “skinny” styles.
- Denim fabric is permitted only on official casual days. For Friday “Spirit Days,” normal uniform pants are required.
- Shirts should be properly sized and loose-fitting, not taken in or tight-fitting.
- Cargo pockets on shorts and pants are permitted.
- Undershirts should be solid in color. Long sleeves are permitted.
- Outerwear worn in class must have a DC logo.
- For grades 7-12, students are permitted to wear a spirit shirt with uniform pants or shorts on Friday as long as the shirt is a Dayton Christian shirt (for example, a missions team t-shirt, band t-shirt, etc).
EXCEL/Academy students of Dayton Christian Homeschool will follow the Friday uniform guidelines stated above with the addition of any DC Homeschool t-shirt.

If you are looking to purchase Warrior gear, be sure to stop by the Spirit Store on Back to School night (August 12). You can also purchase spirit wear on Fridays from 2 pm – 3:30 pm or online on the Spirit Store website at any time. You can choose to have your order sent home on Friday with your student or pick it up in the store.

**IMPORTANT CO-CURRICULAR AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

**EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPATION FEE**
As a reminder, there is a participation fee per fine arts and athletic activity. Fees will be billed to the family’s account.

**FINE ARTS INFORMATION**
For more information about the Fine Arts Boosters, please contact Karla Herman, dcsfinearts@gmail.com.

**ATHLETIC INFORMATION**
In order to contact a member of the DCS Sports Boosters, please see below.

President: Kellee Collins  kelleecollins@rocketmail.com
Treasurer: Laura Skujins  skujins24@gmail.com

**SPORTS PHYSICALS/PRIVIT**
ALL student athletes MUST have completed physicals uploaded to their online Privit accounts and approved by the athletic office before they can begin practices on August 1 for all fall sports. We use the online PRIVIT system for collecting physical forms and completing all other OHSAA required paperwork in order to participate in interscholastic athletics. Please allow yourself ample time to complete the online process.

**PRACTICES**
For Dayton Christian School practice information, check for information on our athletic website or call the athletic office at 937-291-7219 to receive contact information for the respective sport's coach you are inquiring about.

**ATHLETIC WEBSITE**
All information pertaining to Dayton Christian Warrior Athletics (schedules, announcements, team information, calendar, rosters, etc.) can be found on the Dayton Christian athletics website: http://www.daytonchristianwarriors.com.

**TRANSPORTATION**

**BUS TRANSPORTATION – LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS**
The following school districts provide busing to Dayton Christian: Centerville City Schools, Franklin City Schools, Miamisburg City Schools, Springboro Community City School District, and West Carrollton City Schools. If you are unsure about whether your school district provides transportation to Dayton Christian School, contact your local school district’s transportation department.

**BUS TRANSPORTATION – FIRST STUDENT, INC.**
DCS has contracted with First Student, Inc. to provide shuttle bus transportation (for a fee) to DCS families living in the City of Dayton and areas west and north of Dayton. For families interested in these services, please contact Randy Sweigart, DCS Transportation Manager, at 937-291-7322 or rsweigart@daytonchristian.com. You can learn more about First Student by visiting its website at www.firststudentinc.com.

**REIMBURSEMENT**
Reimbursement may be available from local school districts that do not provide a bus. Due to cutoff dates, inquire promptly with your local school district for eligibility.

HOMESCHOOL INFORMATION

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:
- August 13  Homeschool High School Meeting (B212)  6:00 – 6:30 pm
- August 13  Homeschool Academy Meeting (B212)  6:30 – 7:30 pm
- August 29  Back to (Home)school Night for EXCEL (cafeteria)  6:30 – 8:00 pm

EVENTS FOR K-8 HOMESCHOOL STUDENTS AND PARENTS
- July 23, July 30, & August 6: Starting Strong Seminars (See below for more information)
- August 6: Summer Connections Park Day, 10 am -1 pm at Centerville Activity Park (pick up your t-shirt)
- August 30: First day of Academy
- September 6: First day of EXCEL

STARTING STRONG SEMINARS – 7/23, 7/30, 8/6 at 6:30 pm (DCS Library)
Starting Strong Seminars are for K-8 homeschool parents, whether this is your first year or your tenth! We want to help you start the year energized, strong, and equipped. Join us for these educational and encouraging seminars. Parents and guests are welcome to one or all of these sessions.

July 23, 6:30 pm – “Engaging Your Active and/or Inattentive Learner”
July 30, 6:30 pm – “Plan Your Year: Homeschool Planning for Purpose and Peace”
5:30 pm – Notification Help Session prior to the seminar
August 6, 6:30 pm – “Creatively Enriching Your Student’s Homeschool Experience”
5:30 pm – Notification Help Session prior to the seminar

Parent Volunteers Needed!
If you are interested in volunteering during EXCEL days this year, email Lauren Malmstrom at lmalmstrom@daytonchristian.com. Whether you would like to volunteer during drop-off or pick-up times, during friendship parties, field day, Winter Wonderland, or during EXCEL lunch time, any help would be greatly appreciated!

PRAYER

PRAYING MOMS
Joining our group of Praying Moms at Dayton Christian is a great way to support our school and to connect with other moms. They meet every Monday morning at 8:15 am in room D109. If you are interested, please contact Beth Welker at mwelker@woh.rr.com.

DC MEN IN PRAYER
Fathers and grandfathers of Dayton Christian School students and all men who have a heart to pray for our school and community are invited to gather at the school each Wednesday morning in the administrative office conference room.

Prayer begins at 7am and ends at 7:45am, and men are welcome to stay for all or part of the prayer time as their schedule allows. The administrative offices are located inside the school’s Building A entrance. Please feel free to contact Jeff Thompson via email at jeff@thompson-writing.com or text at (937)815-2095.
HELP US GROW STRONGER – OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT AND TO SERVE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
God has gifted us in many different areas, and there is always a need for assistance from parent volunteers. You are vital to our success! Your principal will be communicating those needs throughout the year.

The DCS Athletic Boosters are looking for volunteers to help man the store throughout the school week. Currently, the store is open from 2 to 3:30 pm on Fridays, but they would like to be open more often. If you are interested, please contact Laura Skujins at skujins24@gmail.com. Additional volunteer service opportunities are available with Warrior Center concessions during athletic events. Please call the Athletic Office at 291-7219 to learn more.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HOST HOMES
We welcome international students to the DCS family as we strive to represent the best parts of our culture and Christian faith. We are currently hosting students from China and Vietnam, and we are looking forward to growing this program. Have you considered opening your home to an international student who attends our school? It's a great opportunity as a family to live out the gospel in your home, partner with an international family, and make an impact on a young life. If you’re interested in hosting a student, please contact Polina Schroeder, Admissions and Financial Aid Director, at 937-291-7212 or pschroeder@daytonchristian.com.

PERSONNEL AND CONTACT NUMBERS

ADMINISTRATORS
Please remember to pray for DCS administrators during the school year:

- Krystal Cox, Executive Assistant to the Head of School
- Dr. John Gredy, DCS Head of School
- James Holliday, Elementary School Principal (Pre-K through 6th)
- Gabe Pethtel, High School / Junior High School Principal (7th – 12th)
- Theresa Powell, Chief Financial Officer
- Julie Thompson, Director of Enrollment Management and Marketing
- Lisa Todd, Chief Operations Officer

SCHOOL NUMBERS:

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<tr>
<th>School/Office</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
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OUR MISSION
Through prayerful dependence on God, DCS provides a Biblically-integrated, academically-rigorous educational experience:
• Instilling in students a love for Christ and God’s Word, a love for learning, and a love for others (Matt 22:35-40)
• Inspiring students to approach scholarship, athletics, fine arts, and service as an act of worship (Eph 4:1-3; Col 3:23-24)
• Equipping students to reach their full, God-given potential within the Body of Christ, to live out their faith with grace, wisdom, and courage (Phil 1:7-9; Col 1:28-29)