

Dear Parents,

As we begin week four, first and foremost, I want to thank everyone for helping us to be so successful with back to school and all of the new procedures we have in place. I am happy to share we have had zero COVID-19-related illnesses affecting our community!

Please find your weekly campus update, including community and COVID-19 policy reminders, below:

**Thursday, September 10 at 4:30 PM:** Classroom Ice Cream Socials  
**Friday, September 11:** DGM Dads Zoom Social (details in Transparent Classroom)

## PHONE NUMBERS & SUPPORT

- **Main Office / Front Desk:** (480) 496-9833
- **Attendance Line:** (480) 893-6516
  - Please use the attendance line for ALL attendance-related communications including early pick-up, illness, and planned vacations. This number is a dedicated voicemail line, so it's accessible to you 24/7. If you are calling to notify of an early pick-up, please also be sure text your classroom curb number five minutes prior to your arrival to campus. This provides the classroom staff advanced notice to prepare your child for safe departure.
- **Classroom Curb Text Number:** Located in Transparent Classroom (varies per classroom)
- **Email:** [support@desertgardenmontessori.org](mailto:support@desertgardenmontessori.org)

## CHECK-IN/CHECK-OUT CURB

- You must use your assigned curb time(s). You can find your assigned times in Transparent Classroom. Utilizing the assigned curb times allow for us to adequately prepare traffic adjustments and have staff available to safely transition your child at curb.
- **We will begin assessing late day charges on September, 8 2020 at 4:01 PM.** If you arrive at 4:01 PM or later on Tuesday, you will be charged according your arrival time.

## DGM CALENDARS

Our new record-keeping system, Transparent Classroom, allows us to serve you personalized calendars individualized to your applicable classroom(s). To see your upcoming events:

1. Login to [Transparent Classroom](#).
2. Click **Home > Events**. Click **View all** to see the full school calendar.

## SOCIAL CONNECTION & BUDDIES/MENTORS

During Coffee with the Director this week, some parents voiced they would love for the online and in-person children to have a personal "buddy system" as support for both curricular and social connections during this time. We heard your voices and we love this idea as well! We are reviewing current mentor placements and creating additional *intentional* student connections.

## **SWIVL SYSTEMS HAVE ARRIVED!**

Our new distance learning support systems have arrived. We will be installing and transitioning Swivl into applicable classrooms over the next two weeks

## **UPPER ELEMENTARY UPDATES**

As we mentioned in our previous communication, Upper Elementary has transitioned to be one classroom family in order to best support the academic, social, and emotional needs of the children.

## **MYHS STUDENT HELPERS IN CLASSROOMS**

Beginning this Friday, MYHS will begin their service and volunteer work within our community. Service work is an integral part of the DGM culture and it is also a graduation requirement for our older students. To encourage and forge connections with the rest of our DGM community in these times of separation, we have created an opportunity for all of our 10th and 11th graders to volunteer in other classrooms in the school on Friday afternoons. These students will become part of the classroom family for which they volunteer. For safety concerns, we have done our best to partner each student with a classroom where they already have a connection such as a sibling.

## **MYHS UPDATES**

As we begin week four, we continue to evaluate scheduling, classroom arrangements, and possibilities for future outings. We will communicate all determinations and any possible changes in the weeks to come.

Once again, thank you for all of your love and support within our community.

With greatest appreciation,



Shetal Walters  
Executive Director