

DeMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Faith-Filled Gentlemen and Scholars

4313 Madison St. Hyattsville, Maryland 20781 Main: 240.764.2200 Fax: 240.764.2275

August 2019

August 1

Varsity Football Begins

August 6

9th Grade Course Changes

August 7

Course Changes All Grades

August 10

Used Book & Uniform

Measurements Sale & Swap

August 12, 13 & 16

Senior Pictures

August 15

JV & Freshmen Football,

Cross Country & Soccer

August 18

Freshmen & Transfers

Mothers Welcome Tea

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DeMatha Matters

Volume 12, Issue 1

Schedules & Course Changes



Enclosed is your son's schedule for the 2019-2020 school year.

Questions concerning schedules should be directed to the student's counselor. Course changes for **FRESHMEN ONLY** will take place on **Tuesday, August 6**, from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 and for **all grades** on **Wednesday, August 7** from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Counseling Center.

School Opening:

Freshmen opening day will be **Wednesday, August 21**, from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Lite breakfast and lunch provided.

Wear play clothes. Do not bring books.

Transfers opening day will be **Thursday, August 22**, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Wear warm weather school uniform. Do not bring books. Opening day of school for sophomores, juniors and seniors **Friday, August 23**. Wear warm weather uniform required. No food service. No bus transportation. For **Friday, August 23**:

Sophomores will meet 8:00 am - 9:30 am.

Juniors - 10:00 am - 12:30 pm.

Seniors will meet 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm .

Freshmen no school: Friday, August 23

Parent Alert Emails: Communications on closings, weather, activity and sports updates from DeMatha will automatically be sent via e-mail to the primary email listed on the student's Veracross account.

Principal Notes:

When school is in full session from late August to early June we do lots of things as a community. Liturgies, assemblies, sporting and music events, standardized tests, tag days, walk-a-thons, class-level retreats are just some things that lots of people are doing at once. Of course, everyone is following the same schedule. But the summer provides all sorts of small learning experiences. I talk to colleagues who attend conferences and see the students and families who travel on social media. We had students travel to the Amazon and two groups out on service trips to West Virginia and Tijuana, Mexico respectively. We have students who attend camps designed so they can pursue some specialty and people who organize their time differently during the summer.

One of my favorite parts of returning each fall is to hear these stories of individual and small group experiences - to hear how DeMatha was carried to different places - and then to begin weaving all those strands together in the tapestry of a new year.

Dr. Daniel J. McMahon

Schedule & School Matters

Student schedules should be brought to school everyday during the opening week of school. **Please note the dates and times for schedule/course changes found on page 1.** Students with a free last period may leave school grounds provided they have transportation. **Students may not leave school grounds for any reason and then return for transportation.** Students with free last periods who are staying on campus must report to study locations. All freshmen and sophomores are assigned to study halls during free periods. Please refer to the Parent and Student Handbook for information and to familiarize yourself with school policies and procedures.

REPORT ABSENCE

240-764-2230

Back-to-School Night

Back-to-School Night for all grades will be held on **Tuesday, September 3**, at 7:00 p.m. in the Convocation Center. This is for parents only.

A general assembly will be followed by the opportunity to follow your son's schedule of classes. The purpose of the evening is for parents to hear expectations and not to find out how their sons are doing. If you are interested in talking specifically about your son, please contact the teacher directly. Contact information for all faculty can be found on our website.

DPO - Parent Matters

- ◆ The DPO will sponsor a Used Uniform & Book Swap/Sale on **Saturday, August 10**, from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. You will have the opportunity to buy, sell or trade used books and uniforms. Bring cash. For questions, contact the DPO @ 240-764-2180.
- ◆ The Freshmen & Transfers Mother's Welcome Tea will take place on **Sunday, August 18**, from 2:00-4:00 pm in the Antler Room. Invitations will be mailed. RSVP required.
- ◆ Everyone is invited to the first meeting of the DeMatha Parent Organization on **Tuesday, September 24**, @ 7:00 p.m. in the Antler Room.
- ◆ Bake sales will take place throughout the year.

Friday, Sept. 20 - Freshmen


Friday, Nov. 15 - Sophomores

Friday, Feb. 7 - Juniors

Friday, May 8 - All Classes

Cafeteria Optional

Payment Plan

See  the website under quick links for weekly specials and for instructions on the *optional* cafeteria payment plan which **requires** use of a student ID.

DM Express

Interested in our online weekly newsletter the DeMatha Express? To subscribe email tfarrell@dematha.org.

Book Sales



DeMatha uses MBS Direct to provide online textbooks. They also have a buy back program for used books. Visit www.mbsDirect.net. We caution students and their parents to be fully aware of the book **and** edition being used for the coming year. Book lists are available on our website under Quicklinks/ BuyBooks where you will be linked to the mbsDirect website.

Parent Email & Profile Update

We use contact information from Veracross to send email updates to parents. Parents can update their information any time through the Veracross Portal by clicking on *Family Profile Update*. Only one email address is possible per parent. We will send the daily and weekly bulletins, copies of written communications, any urgent notifications, meeting information and sport/activity changes. If you receive any errors regarding account access, please click on *Can't Access Your Account* from the login screen.



Parking

All students who applied and paid on time may pick up their parking permits from Mr. O'Connor in the Attendance Office on **Friday, August 23**, from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Those who applied and paid after the deadline will be assigned parking spaces based on availability beginning **Tuesday, September 3**. Contact Mr. O'Connor with any questions at jocconnor@dematha.org or 240-764-2254.

Senior Pictures



Senior pictures will be taken in the library on **Monday, August 12, Tuesday, August 13, and Friday, August 16** from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. by appointment only. Seniors should have received information from Legacy. Please contact Legacy Studios at 800-348-4360 or customer@legacystudios.com to schedule an appointment or if you have any questions.

Opening Schedule

Sophomores, Juniors & Seniors

Friday, August 23

Sophomores: 8:00am-9:30am meet in the Convocation Center.

Juniors: 10:00am -12:30pm meet in the Convocation Center.

Seniors: 1:00 - 2:30pm meet in the Convocation Center.

This is a required school day.

All students should be in their warm weather uniform.

No food service available.

No bus transportation.

No Metro shuttle service

Freshmen: No School Friday, Aug. 23

Book Lists & Summer Reading Online & in the Main Office

Parent Informational Coffees

Parent Informational Coffees will take place throughout the year. Administrators will be available to answer questions. The **Freshmen Parent Coffee** will take place on **Wednesday, August 21**, from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. in the Antler Room. The **Sophomore Parent Coffee** will take place on **Tuesday, August 27**, from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. in the Antler Room. The **Junior Parent Coffee** will take place on **Thursday, August 29**, from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. in the Antler Room.



Everyone is invited to attend.

Senior parents will attend a **mandatory** senior parent meeting on **Thursday, September 12**, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Antler Room.

Uniforms

Students are required to be in full uniform **Tuesday, October 15**. The DM polo shirt is only available in the DM bookstore. See the Student Handbook for specific uniform requirements. Our school uniform company is Potomac Uniform, 301-339-8466. Uniform information can be found on the website at

www.DeMathaUniforms.com Representatives of Potomac Uniform will be available on **Saturday, August 10**, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and at Back-to School Night, on **Tuesday, September 3**, at 7:00 p.m.



Summer Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 7:30 am-1:30 pm
Friday 7:30 am-12:30 pm

Summer Reading



Each student must read two books from his upcoming grade-level list. Incoming freshmen must complete the summer reading note-taking chart for each title.

Freshmen

<i>Black Ice</i>	Andrew Lane
<i>Unbroken(young adult)</i>	Laura Hillenbrand
<i>Luka & the Fire of Life</i>	Salman Rushdie
<i>Maus, Vol. 1 & 2</i>	Art Spiegelman
<i>The Boy Who Challenged Hitler</i>	Phillip Hoose
<i>Undeclared: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School</i>	Steve Sheinkin

Sophomores

<i>Outcasts United: Story of a Refugee Soccer Team That Changed a Town</i>	Warren St. John
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<i>Black Like Me</i>	John Griffin
<i>March: Books One, Two & Three</i>	John Lewis

<i>All American Boys</i>	Brendan Kiely & Jason Reynolds
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<i>Darkroom: A Memoir in Black and White</i>	Lila Quintero Weaver
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<i>No Direction Home (film)</i>	Martin Scorsese
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Juniors

<i>Don Quixote</i>	Miguel de Cervantes
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<i>Just Mercy</i>	Bryan Stevenson
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<i>The Boys in the Boat</i>	Daniel James Brown
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<i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</i>	Mark Haddon
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<i>Defending Jacob</i>	William Landay
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<i>The Kite Runner</i>	Khaled Hosseini
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Seniors

<i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>	Charles Dickens
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<i>Game of Thrones</i>	George R.R. Martin
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<i>The Way Home</i>	George Pelecanos
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<i>Red Rising</i>	Pierce Brown
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<i>Between the World and Me</i>	Ta-Nehisi Coates
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<i>Weapons of Math Destruction: How Big Data Increase Inequality and Threatens Democracy</i>	Cathy O'Neil
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Information can also be found on the website under [Academics/SummerPrograms](#).

Christian Service Program

Service hours must be submitted online through the students' DeMatha email accounts. Instructions for the service verification system can be found on our website and at <http://bit.ly/DMServiceHourInstructions>. ONLY students can access the form from their DeMatha email account. No supervisor signature is necessary, but students MUST provide contact information so Mrs. Bright can verify the hours via phone or email. Christian Community Service Hours will continue to be emailed to students' DeMatha email and parents' email once a month. Summer service hours are due August 31.

Metro Shuttle DeMatha operates a free shuttle service to and from the College Park Metro Station. The morning pick up is 7:45 a.m. and the return trip is made at approximately 3:15 p.m. Shuttle service will begin on **Monday, August 26**, and will operate on regular school days. If your son uses the shuttle, please remind him of his responsibility for good behavior. Students misbehaving will not be allowed to ride the shuttle.

Physicals All incoming freshmen and transfers MUST create an ATS account online and upload physicals onto their profile. All students must have this submitted by the first day of school and all athletes must have it done **before** the first practice. Paper copies of physicals and other medical forms will NOT be accepted. Students not registered on ATS will not be permitted to practice. Instructions can be found on the DM website. Any questions, please contact Adrienne Faircloth, afaircloth@dematha.org.

Transportation Matters

Five bus routes have been established: 1) Annapolis/Bowie, 2) Dunkirk/Upper Marlboro, 3) Charles County/Ft. Washington, 4) Montgomery County and 5) Clinton/Forestville/Eastern Market. Each of the established routes operate with predetermined pick-up and drop-off locations with adjustments made for the safety of the students. Interested individuals must complete a registration form which can be found on the school website www.DeMatha.org - and include a \$100 non-refundable registration fee. Routes, as used this past year, may be updated and confirmation of the routes and schedules for the current year will be published on the website before **August 23**. Bus fees will be **\$2200 for both ways and \$1320 for one way (in addition to the \$100 non-refundable registration fee)**. Expect quarterly payments at the beginning of each academic quarter. Transportation is billed separately from the FACTS Tuition billing. Billing questions, please email ametz@dematha.org. Route information and questions, please refer to the website or email transportation@dematha.org. Please register as soon as possible in order for us to confirm routes and consider possible changes. General questions regarding transportation should be directed to transportation@dematha.org. **Service begins on Monday, August 26.**

Freshmen & Transfers



Mothers Welcome Tea

Invitations will be mailed to all mothers/female guardians of freshmen and transfers for the Welcome Tea which will take place on **Sunday, August 18**, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. An RSVP is requested.

Calendar August 2019 Cont. from pg

August 20

Transfer Parent Cookout

August 21

Opening Day Freshmen

Freshmen Parent Coffee

August 22

Opening Day Transfers

August 23

Opening Day 10th, 11th & 12th

No Classes 9th Grade

August 26

Regular Classes Begin

Bus & Metro Shuttle Begins

August 27

Sophomore Parent Coffee

August 29

Junior Parent Coffee

August 30

12:50 Early Dismissal

Summer Service Hours Due

September 2

No Classes - Labor Day Holiday

September 3

Back-to-School Night

Ring Measurements Any junior or senior interested in purchasing a school ring, measurements will take place on **Wednesday, September 18** and **Thursday, September 19**. A deposit is required. More information will follow.

