

# From the MS Principal



Parents and Students,

Welcome to Douglas County West Middle School, home of the Falcons! I am Jeremy Travis and I am the Middle School Principal/AD. I am beginning my 21<sup>st</sup> year in education in our school district. Previously, I taught physical education and weight training at the high school for 9 years and I am now currently in my 12<sup>th</sup> year at the middle school. I was also the head boys' basketball coach for 12 years at the high school and I have also been a coach for football, baseball, and track over the years.

Before DC West, I earned my bachelors degree from Midland Lutheran College where I also participated in basketball and golf at the collegiate level. I received my masters in administration degree in Educational Leadership from Doane College.

I am married to my wife Larissa and I have four boys in Brody (11<sup>th</sup> grade), Drake (9<sup>th</sup> grade), Gage (6<sup>th</sup> grade), and Grady (3<sup>rd</sup> grade). We really enjoy participating in all of the activities and athletics that DC West has to offer all of our students and families of the DC West community.

We have a great group of teachers and staff here at DC West that will work hard for our students. I look forward to a great school year, to meeting you, and working with you and your family in the future.

DC West Middle School is located in Valley, NE. and we are a Class C-1 School that consists of approximately 215 students in 6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grades. DC West is a member of the Nebraska Capitol Conference. Here at DC West, providing a safe and positive learning environment for all students is a top priority for us. We want to give students every opportunity to reach their full potential and to ensure student achievement. Students will be encouraged to get involved in our school and to participate in the Athletics, Fine Arts, and Activities that we have to offer. Listed below are just a few things that our Middle School has to offer your son/daughter throughout the year:



A Traditional 8-period day for all 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Middle School Students.



A Homeroom setting for our 6<sup>th</sup> grade students with daily transitions every 45 minutes. Students daily schedule will include the following: Reading, Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Pride/Guided Study Hall, Physical Education, Band/Choir, and Specials.



Pride/Guided Study Hall: Daily Academic Advisory Program for all 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade students for 30 minutes after lunch (10 minutes-Pride, 20 minutes-Guided Study Hall).



We are committed to meeting all students' needs:

- H.A.L. (High Ability Learning)
- R.T.I. (Response to Intervention)
- E.L.L. (English Language Learners)
- Guided Study Halls (Provide extra Academic Support)
- Falcons Nest (After School Study Hall)
- Specials Classes:
  - **8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** (5 offerings that rotate every 35 days) Intro to French, Intro to Spanish, World Foods, Information Technology, and Art.
  - **6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Grade:** (7 offerings that rotate every 25 days) STEM, Media Research, Theatre, Art, Computers, Health, and Social Skills/Career Readiness.



A variety of Extra-Curricular Opportunities in Athletics, Fine Arts, and Activities.



Our Falcon Rewards Program: a quarterly student incentive program, rewarding positive behavior with no failing grades and no office referrals.



Awesome Attendance Raffle: A quarterly student incentive, rewarding students with great attendance throughout the quarter. Any student with two absences or less will enter a raffle. There will be two names drawn from each grade level totaling six students that get to choose an item for lunch. The choices are a large pizza, a dozen donuts, a large blizzard, or a fast food meal.



Above and Beyond: Weekly recognition to students that receive a Falcon Gram from a staff member for displaying positive Above and Beyond behaviors.



Students of the Month: Students are nominated by their teachers and fellow classmates for displaying characteristics that are worthy of potentially being named a student of the month. One boy and one girl from each grade level will be selected.



M.A.P. Testing (Measurement of Academic Progress) in the Fall, Winter, and Spring for our students.



Thematic Cross Curricular Units for all grades throughout the year.

We feel that we have many experiences to offer your son/daughter during their Middle School years. Please feel free to stop in and check out some of the great things that are going on. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Middle School office at 402-779-2646 or e-mail Mr. Travis at [jtravis@dcwest.org](mailto:jtravis@dcwest.org) . We are looking forward to another great year, Go Falcons!

In Education,

Mr. Jeremy Travis, M.A.  
Middle School Principal/AD

Douglas County West Community Schools Website: [www.dccwest.org](http://www.dccwest.org)

Douglas County West Community Schools Facebook

DC West Middle School Twitter: @middle\_dcw

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