

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 23rd 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 14th 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 (Freshman at Simpson College), Drake (11th grade), Gage (8th grade), and Grady (5th 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 are currently in the process of building a New Middle School and New Theatre that we are excited to move into next school year in the Fall of 2023. 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 250 students in 6th- 8th 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:



The Falcon Way is our identity. It is who we are as members of DC West Middle School and our community. Each person is held accountable for their academic, personal, and social growth by their peers, staff, and administration. Meeting our expectations exemplifies **The Falcon Way**.

The Falcon Way Core Values (The Falcon 5):

1. Falcons are Safe
2. Falcons are Respectful
3. Falcons are Responsible
4. Falcons are Engaged
5. Falcons are Inclusive



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



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



Pride: Daily Academic Advisory Program for all 6th/7th/8th grade students for 30 minutes after lunch. There are weekly Pride Focus Topics to be discussed throughout the year.



We are committed to meeting all students' needs:

- H.A.L. (High Ability Learning) Monthly Rotation in Math, Reading/LA, and Science
- M.T.S.S. (Multi-Tiered Systems of Support) Individual and Small Group
- E.L.L. (English Language Learners)
- Guided Study Halls (Provide extra Academic Support)
- Falcons Nest (After School Guided Study Hall)
- Specials Classes:
 - **8th Grade:** (6 offerings and students participate in 4 that rotate every Quarter) Intro to French (all students take), Intro to Spanish, Family & Consumer Science, Strength & Conditioning, STEM, and Art.
 - **7th Grade:** (4 offerings that rotate every Quarter) Careers, Information Technology, STEM, and Theatre.
 - **6th Grade:** (4 offerings that rotate every Quarter) Social Skills, Computers, Media Research, and Art.



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



Falcon Flyers: Daily student recognition for students modeling The Falcon Way. One name from each grade will be drawn daily.



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



Falcon Rewards: A Quarterly student incentive program celebrating students that have no failing grades, no written principal referrals, and no missing assignments for the quarter.



Awesome Attendance Raffle: 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. Please still remember that if you are displaying signs of illness to stay home for the day and get to feeling better.



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 . We are looking forward to another great year, Go Falcons!

In Education,

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

Douglas County West Community Schools Website: www.dccwest.org

Douglas County West Community Schools Facebook

DC West Middle School Twitter: @middle_dcw

DC West Community Schools Twitter: @DCWestFalcons

#TheFalconWay #FalconStrong #DCWestROCKS #BeFALCONKind