

# DEER ISLE-STONINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

*"...Launching lifelong learners and responsible citizens able to keep our island community vital"*

TODD WEST  
PRINCIPAL

SANDRA ROBINSON  
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

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ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013

To All Deer Isle-Stonington High School Students and Parents:

Welcome to the 2013-2014 school year at Deer Isle-Stonington High School. We hope your summer was restful and enjoyable. We are excited to have you all back and are looking forward to another great year. This year, classes will begin on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> *for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students only*. The first day of school for all students grade 9-12 will be Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.

We will continue to start school at 7:50am this year and dismiss school at 2:40pm Mondays-Thursdays and 1:30pm on Fridays. Parents and students can go to the school website ([www.dishs.org](http://www.dishs.org)) and find links for the daily bell schedule, the school calendar, and the master course schedule. Speaking of the school website, the school continues to focus on providing parents with timely and important information about their students and the school. Visitors to the webpage ([www.dishs.org](http://www.dishs.org)) can find a school calendar, news feed, and many useful links that will be updated throughout the year.

DISHS also has a Facebook page to communicate with parents who are on Facebook, as well as a Twitter feed that can be followed. There are links to both on the homepage. Additionally, our Student/Parent Handbook is now a completely on-line document and can be accessed directly from the school's homepage ([www.dishs.org](http://www.dishs.org) → "2013-14 Student-Parent Handbook"). Please contact the main office if you would like a hard copy of the handbook or if you need computer access to view the handbook.

DISHS supports student use of technology to provide authentic, engaging learning experiences to our students. It is important for students to have access to mobile devices connected to the internet for their coursework at DISHS. This year, DISHS is excited to be able to provide each student with an iPad. We will still provide MacBook laptops in the library, available to be checked out by students. Students and parents who would like to provide their own laptop computers may do so, *but students need to have their iPad at school every day*. Included in this mailing is both the iPad permission slip and information on optional iPad coverage in case you would like to return them before the start of school.

We will provide more information as the dates draw closer, but we would like to let all parents know that September 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> will be "Off-Campus Learning Days" at DISHS. All students will be involved in several activities outside of the building, including Studio-based Learning at Haystack, trips to several colleges both near and far, and community building activities at Camp Beech Cliff in Somesville. Several of these trips will be returning after the normal school day ends. More specific information and permission slips will come home in the student packet on the first day of school.

I hope you have the opportunity to enjoy the last two weeks of summer. I look forward to seeing everyone on September 4<sup>th</sup> or sooner.

Sincerely,



Todd West, Principal

[www.dishs.org](http://www.dishs.org)

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