



# *Morris-Union Jointure Commission Board of Education*

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August 1, 2018

Dear DLC Parents:

Summer has gone by so quickly and the Extended School Year (“ESY”) program will be ending soon on Wednesday, August 8, 2018. Students have participated in academics as well as social events and our ESY has been a productive and fun time. Here’s what’s been happening!

## Summer Events at DLC

### DLC- New Providence

In addition to working on IEP goals and participating in swimming and community-based instruction, DLC – New Providence students have enjoyed many special events. For “Patriotic Week,” which began on July 2, we were excited to have a volunteer visit us and launch a rocket. The students were amazed by the sight! Students and staff had fun at the annual Basketball Shootout during “Sports Week,” which began on July 9. Several student/staff teams rode a scooter across the gym and then put the basketball in the hoop. Students began “Movie Week” on July 16 by taking a survey to choose which movie they would like to view. At the end of the week, the Professional Development Center was set up as a movie theater where the students enjoyed watching the winning movie, “Monsters, Inc.” A highlight of the summer was Sibling Day on July 18. It was a beautiful day and siblings were able to assist with the annual Rain Gutter Regatta. Students designed their boats and then had the opportunity to race them. “Western Week” began on July 23 and included our annual barbecue to which many students and staff wore their jeans, flannel, and cowboy boots. The Homerun Derby was held on July 31 during “Beach Week.” Everyone wore their favorite Hawaiian shirt for the event and enjoyed being at the beach.

### DLC – Warren

DLC – Warren students have also been enjoying their ESY special event activities. Students participated in a Homerun Derby Contest the week of July 9. Students practiced their batting skills to prepare for the Homerun Derby competition during the week prior to the Homerun Derby. Students were joined by their siblings at the end of the week for Sibling Day on July 13. “Movie Week” was celebrated during the week of July 16,

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which concluded with a special viewing of the movie, "Rango." "Western Week" was held during the week of July 23 and culminated with a barn dance on Main Street, which was transformed into an old western style street. The final weekly theme was "Beach Week" with students playing boardwalk type games during the adaptive physical education classes as well as enjoying the annual barbecue, which is always a hit of the season!

### Barbecue Fun

Everyone always looks forward to the DLC annual summer barbecue. Students and staff feast on summertime foods such as hot dogs, hamburgers, corn on the cob, and watermelon. DLC – New Providence enjoyed their barbecue on July 25 despite the rainy weather, while DLC – Warren's barbecue will be held on August 2. Thank you, Maschio's Food Service, for preparing all the delicious food!

### Parent/Administration Chat Conference

As you know, in the past the MUJC hosted monthly parent meetings, held at noon at the Developmental Learning Centers, which were referred to as "brown bag" meetings. These meetings provided parents and school administrators an opportunity to come together, whether by teleconference or in person, to discuss current events, make suggestions, share comments, and have questions answered related to the MUJC and DLC. These meetings have always been positive, productive, and informative; however, attendance and participation have dwindled over the years and we have made changes for the 2018 – 2019 school year, which we think will benefit everyone by increasing participation. The MUJC administration will be offering monthly call-in sessions that will take place on one Wednesday per month from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. To participate in the monthly "Parent/Administration Chat Conference," you will be provided directions to call in and conference with MUJC and DLC administrators. Administrators will be available as a group at this time to discuss and answer general questions pertaining to events in the Superintendent's Spotlight or about other general school events or procedures. The monthly teleconferences are meant to keep lines of communication open between parents and administrators and maintain a positive, productive school community. As always, please feel free to call the principal of your child's class about individual questions related specifically to his/her educational program.

A schedule of the 2018 – 2019 Parent/Administration Chat Conference meetings will be in the electronic bookbag prior to September 1 and is posted for your convenience on our website by using the "Parent/Administration Chat Conference" link under the "Parent" tab.

### DLC – New Providence Renovation

As indicated previously, the MUJC has been planning a renovation project at the DLC – New Providence for its heating, ventilating, and air conditioning units (HVAC). We have recently confirmed that the contractors are ready to begin the project at the close of the ESY program. This is a major structural renovation which will enhance immeasurably the heating, ventilating, and cooling of the DLC – New Providence. It is anticipated that this project will be ongoing during the 2018 – 2019 school year and conclude by late winter. As we did with the renovations

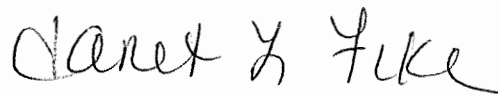
of the DLC during the ESY 2017, we will move student classrooms to various sections of the building that are not being renovated. This will be done in a safe, organized, and planned manner so that disruption is minimized. As the construction proceeds, I will provide updates to DLC parents and staff.

Welcome Transportation and Central Office Staff

Finally, I am pleased to announce that the MUJC Board of Education has approved Anne Prenovost as the MUJC's director of transportation and Kathy Fanning as dispatch manager. We also have a new addition to the central office as Geavorna Smith joins us as the MUJC's central office secretary. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to Anne, Kathy, and Geavorna!

I hope that you and your family enjoy the rest of the summer. As a reminder, if you wish to view the school calendar for 2018 – 2019, it can be accessed on the MUJC website using the "District Calendar" link under the "Parent" tab. We look forward to welcoming our DLC students on the first day of school, Wednesday, September 5, 2018. Thanks and see you in September!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet L. Fike". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'F'.

Janet L. Fike

JLF:kgb