



THE DOWNTOWN SCHOOL

601 North Cherry Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
(336) 703-4125

August 7, 2023

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year!!!

Happy August - you know what that means, it is time to get back to school! We have been busy this summer making improvements to our building and sharpening our skills as teachers. And though the summer break is a wonderful time to recharge we are ready to have the kids back.

As a nationally recognized Schoolwide Enrichment Model (SEM) school we take seriously the practices espoused by the founders Dr. Joe Renzulli and Dr. Sally Reis. We strongly promote the three goals of the model (the 3 Es): Enjoyment, Engagement, and Enthusiasm for learning. We believe learning should be active and should be fun. Rather than drill-and-practice, we focus on an enrichment-based approach that infuses creativity and instills ownership. I am sure you can relate, when you are studying a topic of interest that brings joy and meaning to your life you are motivated to engage in the subject and succeed.

Integral to students experiencing the 3 Es is for each student to feel validated and affirmed culturally (including gender, ethnicity, age, nationality, religion, ect.). We as a staff are working hard to be inclusive of all cultures and therefore all students. Please help us by filling out the enclosed questionnaire and bringing it to Open House. You can also fill it out online: <https://forms.gle/zhq9dBy4KeYxw5Y16> . Thanks!

Kindergarten Open House Orientation - August 24, 2023

Location-Building 2 of The Downtown School aka. Pre-K to 1st building by the playground

8:15-11:00- Students with **last names starting A-L**

12:30-3:00 Students with **last names starting M-Z**

Time will include whole group information and 1:1 conferences.

Volunteering! The volunteer requirement is 36 hours per student. Be prepared at Open House to sign up for a volunteer job with your teacher. There will also be a Volunteer sign up for schoolwide opportunities in the cafeteria.

Never hesitate to contact your child's teacher or myself to discuss educating your child. We are honored to have you partner with us.

Welcome to DTS 2023-24!

Andy Lester-Niles, Principal

Student:

Teacher: