



GEORGE M. DAVIS JR. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
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December 19, 2013

Davis Families:

Four months of school have passed SO quickly! On behalf of our school, I'd like to wish your family a restful, joyous holiday season. We are deeply grateful for your collaboration and unwavering support—even after four months, I continue to be awed by your commitment to our staff, your kids, and our school in so many ways.

A few notes to keep in mind as we move forward:

1. **DREAMBOX** is available to your children 24/7. Overall, we are extremely pleased with our students' use and progress since October. Please find time over the next two weeks for your children to use the software (two or three times a week is perfect). ***Watch them play if you can, and talk about your ideas as well.***
2. **READING AND WRITING!** Please encourage your kids to read and write as much as possible over the vacation—for the fun of it. Let them read magazines, comics, mythology or books about dinosaurs. Read with and to your children—**and talk all the while!** Talk about what you do as a reader when you are confused, when you notice something interesting. Speak about what you notice about certain characters, settings, and how your ideas change and develop throughout a book. Reading and talking together about fiction and non-fiction is a great way for us (adults) to **model** effective reading practices and behaviors!
3. Please make sure that you are receiving the automated calls and emails/texts (**ROBO Calls**) I send. If you need to add or change a number, call the main office and our secretaries can update your contact information right away. In the event of an emergency dismissal, we will use ROBO calls and texts/emails in order to communicate.
4. **EARLY PICK-UP** ... in order to facilitate a safe and orderly dismissal every day, beginning this January, we need to make the following adjustment: if you need to pick-up a child early, you must enter the office by 2:45 p.m. Our bus dismissal procedures begin around 3:00 p.m. and our office staff and security staff must attend to their dismissal roles at that time. **As such, the latest that we can effectively accommodate early pick-ups will be at 2:45 p.m.** Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Thank you once again for your support; enjoy a beautiful and restful season with your families.

Sincerely,

Michael Galland