



D2S Summer Success! 2021 Parent/Guardian Handbook

D2S Summer Success Executive Director · Yvonne E. Jones · (203) 691-8540

July 5 – July 30

Welcome Parents, Guardians, Friends and Participants to the 2021 D2S Summer Success Program at D.E.S.T.I.N.E.D. to Succeed, Inc.!

This is our first year of providing D2S Summer Success with restrictions and we would like to introduce participants and their families to the program. This handbook has been prepared to answer any questions you may have.



What will Participants be learning?

This summer, we are partnered with Hamden Public Schools. While our summer focus will be on keeping Participants engaged in fun activities, D2S Summer Success is not just about fun. Participants will develop their personal and social skills through our educational program. The staff and guest speakers will provide information on high school prep, sports & fitness, leadership, social & life skills, college & future planning, entrepreneurship & careers, education & empowerment, and much more

Where will the participants be all day?

D2S Summer Success Participants will use the facilities and classrooms at Hamden High School, 2040 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, CT. Participants will, on a daily basis, be exposed to the outside when weather permits. The sports and outdoor activities will take place on the baseball and track fields, as well as the basketball and tennis courts. Indoor activities will be held in the gymnasium.

What is D2S Summer Success?

D2S Summer Success is a program of D.E.S.T.I.N.E.D. to Succeed, Inc., a 501 (c)(3) youth and family empowerment organization. The program is designed to give Participants the opportunity to participate in group sports instruction and competition with children of similar ages. It also includes educational classes and programs that teach Freshman prep, career exploration, college preparation, leadership development, and life skills, as well as positive memories and real-world skills that will assist them in their lives and in their communities.

Who sponsors D2S Summer Success?

D.E.S.T.I.N.E.D. to Succeed, Inc.'s D2S Summer Success 2021 program is sponsored by Hamden Public Schools. This partnership allows us to run this program at no cost for Participants other than a nominal non-refundable Registration Fee that holds the Participant's spot.

When does D2S Summer Success run?

D2S Summer Success will run from July 5-July 30, 2021, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Busing is provided by the District.

Will the participants be fed?

All Participants will receive drinks and two snacks during the day. They will eat their meals at the High School. Breakfast and lunch are being provided by the District. Participants who suffer from allergies or those who do not want the provided lunch will bring their own brown bag lunch.

Who is eligible for the Program?

D2S Summer Success is open for all incoming 8th graders at HMS and incoming 9th graders at HHS.

What about transportation to and from Summer Success?

Transportation is being provided by the District. Participants who do not wish to take the bus will need to be dropped off and picked up. All children, whether arriving by bus, by car, or on foot, are expected to be at D2S between 8:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. If Participant will be picked up by someone other than the parent/guardian, written permission from the parent/guardian is required and will be retained on file.

How is COVID being addressed?

For the continued protection of our Participants, staff and the local community, we have prepared our COVID-19 Safety & Response Plan. We will continue to evaluate best-practices and adapt as we receive any new information and guidance from the State of Connecticut, the CDC, and our health care professionals. Participants will have their temperatures taken daily before being allowed on site, will wear masks, and practice social distancing rules.

Will parents get a chance to see D2S Summer Success in action?

Yes. We have a tentative date for D2S Summer Success Family Day. On this day, all parents/guardians will be invited to come to the Program to watch the participants in D2S Summer Success and to enjoy lunch with the children. We will inform you once we have confirmation from the District. In addition, parents are encouraged to attend D2S Summer Success on any day to see how their child is performing. Please contact Mrs. Jones, Program Director, to arrange your visit.



Any more questions that we did not answer?

Please call D2S Summer Success at (203) 691-8540 or email us at info@destined2succeed.org. We welcome all parent input and questions. We will do our best to make this a great summer for you and your child!





D2S Summer Success Rules

D2S Summer Success has a set of rules that must be followed by all Participants. The rules are intended to ensure safety, encourage a fun environment, and establish respect between staff, participants, and their fellow participants. The main rules are:

Proper attire should be worn daily:

D2S Summer Success is an educational, sports, and general fitness program. Participants must come ready to run around. Proper clothing consists of a T-shirt, gym shorts or sweat pants, socks and sneakers. Participants should not wear cutoffs, skirts or any kind of jewelry. Participants who show up in the morning wearing jewelry like watches, earrings, necklaces, or rings will have those items taken by staff and returned to the Participant at the end of the day. All participants will receive a D2S Summer Success T-shirt during the second week of the program and will wear them on Fridays.

Participants must attend each day:

D2S Summer Success will run for 4 weeks. Participants are allowed only 3 absences. While this rule may sound strict, there are several reasons for it. First, we believe it is important for the staff to get to know each participant well and for Participants to get to know each other. This is difficult if a Participant doesn't come every day. Second, the sports skills and the educational enrichment are both designed to build knowledge from the first week until the last day.

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What is a typical day like?

The Program will run from 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Each day of the Program, there will be a minimum of two different sports, general fitness activities, educational topics, lunch and two snacks. Here's a sample of a typical schedule:

Daily Schedule

8:30 - 9:00 am	Participant arrival/Breakfast
9:00 am	Participants assemble/Icebreaker
9:10 - 9:55 am	1st Activity Period (sports instruction)
10:00 – 10:20	Snack
10:25 – 11:10 am	2 nd Activity Period (Freshman Prep)
11:15 – 12 noon	Educational Enrichment Activity (L.I.O.N.S., Game Changers, Achieve the Dream, Game of Life)
12:00 - 12:45 pm	Lunch and Bathroom Breaks
12:50 - 1:50 pm	Gender specific Social Skills activity
1:55 - 2:45 pm	3rd Activity Period (sports instruction)
2:50 - 3:10 pm	Snack
3:15 - 4:00 pm	Fitness Instruction (Yoga/Zumba/Dance)
4:05 - 5:00 pm	Educational Enrichment Activity (Practical Skills)
5:00 - 5:30 pm	Assembly / Debriefing / Departure

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Participants who miss days will fall behind the other Participants. Finally, we do have a waiting list of children who we could not accept into the program and families will be notified if a place in the program opens up. Parents can help by notifying the staff of any pre-planned absences. This way, we will know not to expect your child during vacations, appointments, etc. On a separate but related note, D2S Summer Success Participants cannot bring friends with them who are not officially enrolled in the program. We are only insured for the Participants who have completed the official program application.

Respectful, cooperative, positive behavior:

To encourage an atmosphere of respect and cooperation, any fighting, stealing, swearing, sexual harassment, name calling, or other forms of disrespect will not be tolerated. These rules apply to all D2S Summer Success staff members equally. Participants will be participating in athletic competitions, which can often lead to disrespectful behavior. We aim to teach them the benefits of competition as a way to test and improve individual skills and to foster teamwork. Disrespectful behaviors like taunting or making fun of other Participants are not consistent with either teamwork or athletic excellence and will not be allowed or tolerated during competitions or at any other time during D2S Summer Success hours.

D2S Summer Pledge

As a D2S Summer Success Participant, I pledge to conduct myself in decency and in order. I will do what is necessary to get along with others. I will have pride for myself and represent my parents well making sure to do nothing that embarrasses me or them. I will give my best effort in everything I do and always be honest and fair in competition and in life.

