

The Mighty Mammoth Message



Upcoming Events

November 1

PTO's Donuts with Dad

November 11

BASE Full Day

November 25 & 26

BASE Full Days

November 27-29

BASE CLOSED –
Happy Thanksgiving!

November Full Days

November is a short month, and when you add in all the holidays, and days off from school – it's even shorter!

Please be advised that MHE BASE Programs will be OPEN Monday, November 11th as well as the Monday & Tuesday of Thanksgiving Week (November 25th & 26th). MHE BASE Programs will be CLOSED Wednesday-Friday of Thanksgiving Week (November 27th, 28th, & 29th)!

Full Day - November 11th: Nurf Terf will be visiting MHE! What is Nurf Terf? Think Dart Warz – just in the comfort of our own gym! Nurf Terf activity hours are 1:00pm-3:00pm. Cost for the day is \$42/per child – a pizza party lunch is included! Please dress your child in comfy clothing & shoes!

Full Day – November 25th: We will be going to see a movie (TBD) at Twenty Mile AMC, and eat lunch at Pizza Hut. Tentative field trip hours are 10:00am-3:00pm. Cost for the day is \$50/per child – lunch is included! Please do NOT send additional money – we will NOT be getting snacks at the movie theatre!

Full Day – November 26th: We will be going to Hu Hot for lunch, and Belleview Lanes for a little bowling. Field trip hours are 9:30am-2:30pm. Cost for the day is \$50/per child – lunch is included! Please dress your child in comfy clothing - including socks!



Contact Corner

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(text message friendly!)

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(text message friendly!)

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Exciting News!

We are excited to announce that as an organization, The Douglas County BASE Department is going through the accreditation process! Council on Accreditation (COA) is a not-for-profit independent accreditor that partners with human service organizations (like ours) worldwide - including before and after school programs. The accreditation process begins with a comprehensive self-evaluation against nationally developed and recognized best practice standards, and ends with a site visit and final determination that includes a set of ratings for all of the applicable standards, as well as an explanation of our department's strengths and opportunities for improvement.

The standards we are measured against include out of school time programming, risk management, financial management, ethics, performance quality and improvement, client rights, training and supervision, behavior support and management, administrative and service environment, human resources, ethics and governance.

Douglas County BASE leadership participated in the review of best practice standards with leaders across the country in the out of school time field. See part of the press release below:

"Currently we have 17 programs accredited and now are seeking to achieve this as an organization. Each time we have gone through the process we have improved the way we deliver services to you and the community, and have established strategies for continual improvement in the years to come."

As we continue through the Accreditation process, we will inform you of any changes or additions we need to implement as we evaluate our current processes against the after school standards. For example, we will be forming our first BASE Oversight Council very soon. This group of District and BASE Leaders is also seeking parents and community members to join us in helping us to develop goals and outcomes that promote program excellence, and stakeholder satisfaction. They will also provide us with valuable input and feedback about our program, which will become part of our continuous quality improvement process. If you are interested in learning more about this group, please email BASE Director, Alicia Elmore at akelmore@dcsdk12.org.

Additionally, if your BASE Program does not already have one in existence, they will be forming a parent advisory committee very soon. This group of 5-7 parents will be involved in helping the BASE program align with the school community and its goals. Please reach out directly to your BASE Manager for an opportunity to be a part of the team.

In March, we will be hosting our COA Site Endorser team. As this is our first time going through organizational accreditation, the Endorsers will be reviewing our collective policies and procedures, and our satisfaction surveys with kids, families and staff. In January, the Endorser Team will pick 13 of our 44 sites to visit personally. During a typical site visit, the Endorser Team observes aspects of our programming based on the self-study evidence we submit which allows them to see our day to day practice. They also take feedback from kids, families and staff.

We will continue to be in touch as we move through this process, and will inform you if your school is selected for observation.

Thank you in advance for being a part of our continuous improvement process, and for your support of BASE!

Sincerely,

Alicia Elmore
Director of BASE

Note: MHE BASE Programs is one of the 17 BASE Programs already Accredited with COA! We were expedited through COA's accreditation process in November 2016!