



# Staying in the Know at DeSana!

**How We Communicate with Parents**

# DeSana's Webpage

<https://www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/desana>

► DeSana's webpage provides you with important information about what is happening at DeSana throughout the year & information about our school. It is kept up-to-date:

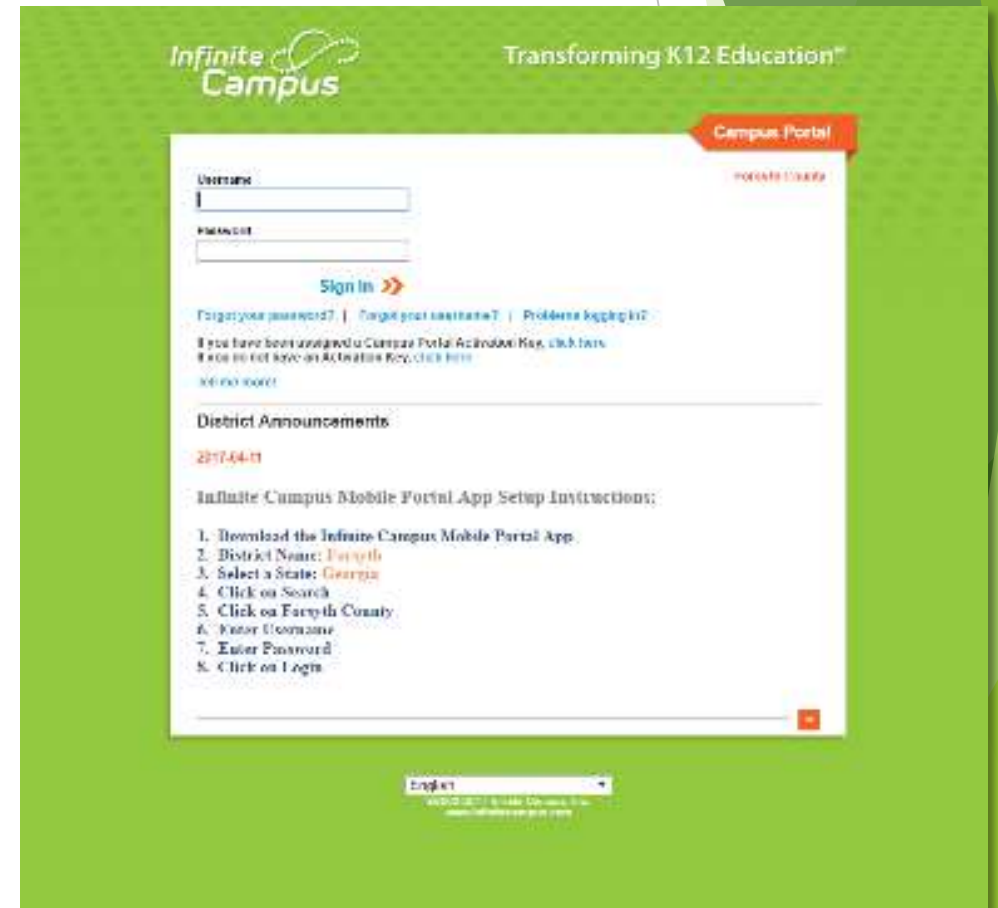
- The Latest DeSana News
- Student Calendar
- School Calendar
- Email Addresses
- Student Absent-Email
- And More!!

The screenshot shows the DeSana Middle School website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the school logo and name 'DESANA MIDDLE'. To the right of the logo are icons for 'STAFF DIRECTORY', 'MYFCS (ITSLEARNING)', and 'PARENT PORTAL'. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links for 'OUR SCHOOL', 'ACADEMICS', 'EXTRACURRICULAR', 'STUDENT SERVICES', 'PARENTS & PARTNERS', and 'STUDENT SUPPORT'. The main content area features a large image of students in a classroom. To the right of the image is a 'Quick Links' section with a search icon and the text 'it:learning Resources'. Below this are several links: 'Parent Portal', 'Help with itslearning', 'DeSana Day of Good Deeds (D3 Day)', 'Student Calendars', and 'Student Absent? Click here to send email to Ms.'. At the bottom, there are three columns: 'Upcoming Events' showing 'April 23 GEORGIA MILESTONES 8TH GRADE EOG ELA SECTION 2 & 3' from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM for a 'Football Parent Meeting'; 'Latest News' with links for 'Denmark Swim & Dive Parent Meeting', 'Dragon Digest Volume 3, Issue 11', and 'April Middle Years Newsletter'; and 'Follow Us On Twitter!' with a tweet from 'DeSana MS @DeSanaMiddle' about rising 9th graders.

# Parent Portal

## Parent Portal Guide

- ▶ What is Parent Portal?
- ▶ Why do I need access to Parent Portal?
- ▶ How do I get access to my username and password?
- ▶ Every parent will need to have a Parent Portal account this school year.



# ✓ Checkmate

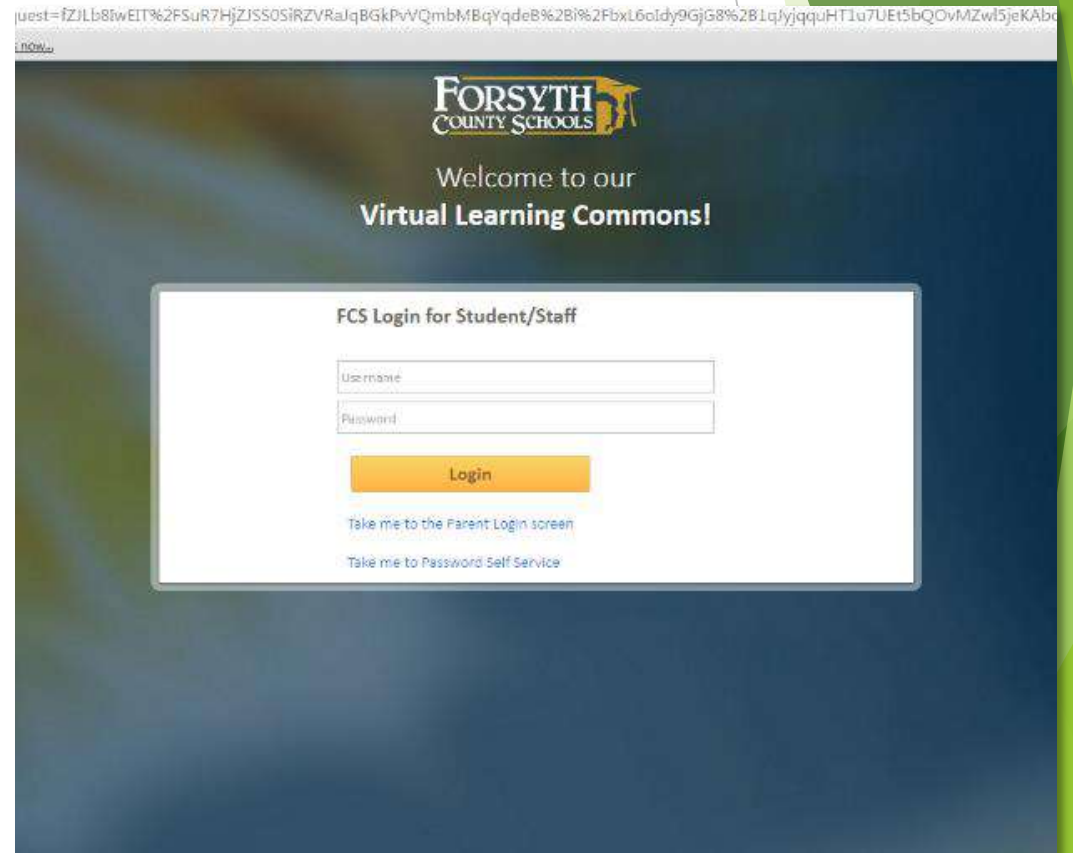
- ▶ DeSana's new and improved way to check out your child.
  - ▶ DeSana does not use checkout cards
- ▶ Every parent will need a Parent Portal account in order to identify who is authorized to check your child out of school (household and non-household) - **Updates can take 24-48 hours to update in the system.**
- ▶ The person who is checking your child out must have two items:
  - ▶ Identification
  - ▶ Student ID Number

Aiden	Demographics
Calendar >	*****When adding a new contact, add at least one phone number for the contact.
Responsive Schedule >	Please do not add yourself as guardian of your spouse.
Health >	
Assessment >	<b>Aiden Shawn Garcia</b>
Transportation >	<b>Personal Information</b>
Fees >	Legal Name: Aiden Shawn Garcia      Date of Birth: 07/29/2013
To Do List >	Gender: M
Demographics	
<b>Family</b>	<b>Non-Household Contacts</b>
Messages >	Darron Clayton Glenn
Discussions >	Work Phone :      Relationship with Aiden:      Uncle/Child
Household Information >	Cell Phone : (470)505-6105      Guardian:      No
Family Members >	Other Phone :      Contact Order:      3
Calendar >	Email :      Secondary Email :      dg17934@aol.com
To Do List >	<input type="button" value="Update"/> <input type="button" value="Remove"/>
<b>User Account</b>	
Account Settings >	<b>Kimberley Almira Clare Glenn</b>
Contact Preferences >	Work Phone :      Relationship with Aiden:      Aunt/Child
Notification Settings >	Cell Phone : (347)320-8611      Guardian:      No
	Other Phone :      Contact Order:      4
	Email :      Secondary Email :
	<input type="button" value="Update"/> <input type="button" value="Remove"/>

# itslearning

<https://forsyth.itslearning.com/>

- ▶ This platform allows your child and you to have access to class notes, homework assignments, class projects, etc.
- ▶ <https://screencast-o-matic.com/watch/cbiT22lwvk> - itsLearning instructional video for parents





# Dragon Digest

- ▶ This year, the Dragon Digest will be published one time a month, at the beginning of each month.
- ▶ It is sent out to all parents who have an email address in Infinite Campus via a link, and is also posted on our DeSana webpage. Paper copies are also available in our front office.
- ▶ It gives parents access to what is happening at DeSana Middle School for all grade levels and activities.
- ▶ <https://www.smores.com/76mvc>



**DRAGON DIGEST**

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 16 / APRIL 12, 2019

**DESANA DAY OF GOOD DEEDS**



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR D3 DAY!**

*D3 Day is May 21!* We need 100 volunteers to help our *DeSana Day of Good Deeds* to be a success! Please use this [link](#) to sign up today. There will be two training times available for our volunteers - - **Monday, May 13** at 8am or **Thursday, May 16** at 6pm. Set a great example for your student by signing up to serve with us on *D3 Day!*

# E-News

- ▶ Published once a month at the first of the month
- ▶ Each grade level will have an E-news. Each subject area will have a brief description of what students will be learning each week throughout the month.
- ▶ Sent through email blast to all grade level parents who have their email address in Infinite Campus.
- ▶ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XMu/view>

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Earth Science

*Liz Derrickson, Soomy Sim, Stacey Hannel*

We are finishing up our Weather unit. We are starting our Hydrology Unit. This unit will cover freshwater and the availability of freshwater on our planet.

- Week of March 6 – Explore severe weather and review for test on March 9th
- Week of March 13 – Begin the Relationship between the earth, moon and sun. Students will explore how the relationship between the earth, moon and sun create our seasons, phases of the moon and eclipses. We will conduct many fun hands on labs in order for students to understand this relationship
- Week of March 20 – This week will be dedicated to understanding the phases of the moon.
- Week of March 27 – Finish up reviewing concepts and study for test on March 31<sup>st</sup>

# Facebook

@desanams

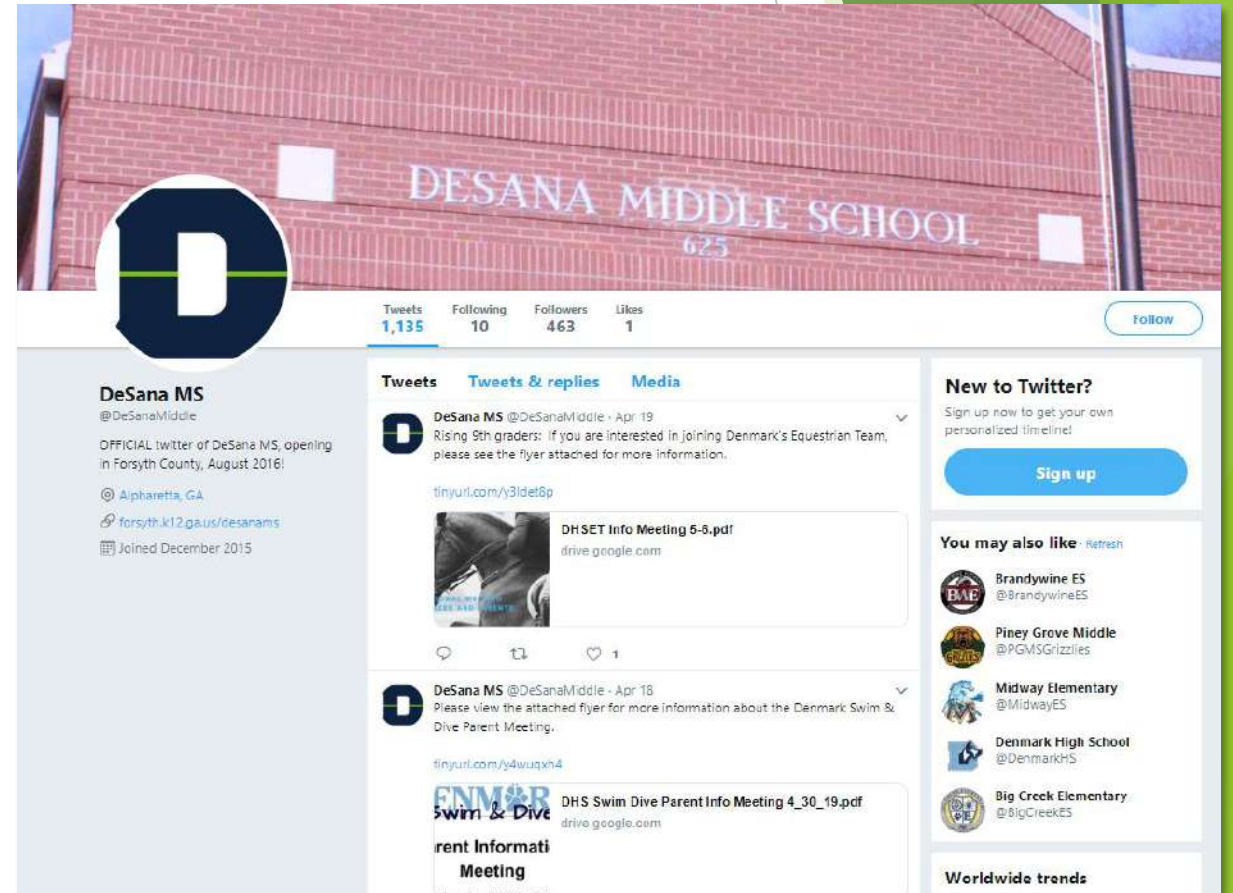
- ▶ You will be able to find the most recent news and updates that are happening at DeSana.
- ▶ Like the DeSana Middle School Group

The screenshot shows the Facebook profile for DeSana Middle School (@desanams). The page layout includes a top navigation bar with search, home, create, and notification icons. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with options like Page, Notifications, Insights, and Ad Center. The main content area features a profile picture (a stylized 'D' logo), the school's name, and a cover photo of the school building. A 'Create Post' section is visible, along with a post from DeSana Middle School published by Lacey Gooch. The post text reads: "April is our month to collect cereal. Please send in boxed or bagged cereal with your student or drop off your donation in the front office through next Friday with your student's Dragon Time teacher attached. This cereal will ultimately serve children/families at The Place, Bald Ridge Lodge, and Jesse's House over the summer when kids do not have access to breakfast at school." Below the text is a large blue and white graphic for "DESANA DAY OF GOOD DEEDS CEREAL DRIVE" featuring a box of Rice Chex cereal and a "Donations" button. The right sidebar contains "Page Tips" and language options.



# Twitter

- ▶ Twitter is another resource that DeSana uses in order to provide information to all stakeholders.
- ▶ It is especially good to use when buses are running late in the afternoons as we tweet out when each bus leaves the building (extremely helpful at the start of the school year).
- ▶ @DeSanaMiddle



# Other Ways DeSana Communicates

- ▶ Email
- ▶ Phone calls
- ▶ Remind 101 (some teachers)
- ▶ Early Release Conference days
  - ▶ October 22-23 and March 12
- ▶ eFlyers
- ▶ DeSana's Student/Parent Handbook
- ▶ Instagram - @desanams

# Questions?

