



## State recognizes Foundation's work

The Davis Education Foundation received the Best of State Statue Award for the category of Community Development during the Best of State Gala.

The Foundation first won a medal for Community Communications in the division of Community Development. It was then selected as the overall winner for Community Development out of 38 other medal winners who had received awards in the same category.

The nomination was submitted for the Foundation's efforts in raising awareness of students experiencing homelessness in Davis County. With more than 1,300 children who experience homelessness in Davis School District, Davis Education Foundation is working with the community



Davis Education Foundation Director Jodi Lunt accepts the Best of State Statue Award for Community Development. The Foundation was chosen out of 38 other medal winners in the category.

to remove barriers to learning for those students. Most prevalent is its building of teen resource centers in eight of the district's high schools and the Renaissance Academy. Teen centers provide students in need with a place to shower, do laundry, study, access basic essentials, and work with counselors to get connected to critical resources.

"The whole purpose of this is to be a trajectory change for students," Davis Education Foundation Director Jodi Lunt said. "To keep them from going from homeless teens to homeless adults. We help break that cycle."

The first center opened at Clearfield High in 2021, five more will soon be completed, and three additional centers

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## District surprises Teacher of the Year with a car

Davis School District surprised Woods Cross High's Andrew Bird with its Teacher of the Year designation during what he thought was a pep assembly.

"Bird" as most people at Woods Cross High refer to him, still considers himself a "new" teacher after seven years in the classroom. He came into education after beginning in a health sciences career. He brings those experiences into his classroom where



Woods Cross High Teacher Andrew Bird is the district's Teacher of the Year.

he teaches medical anatomy and other health science topics. He continues to

juggle both careers working at a hospital on the weekends. Additionally, he coaches the swim team.

Bird was nominated for the District's Best of Davis Award by a student, who is also on the swim team. In the nomination, Abel Chomjak said: "Despite his doubtlessly insane personal life, he never talks about his own problems and rarely lets a bad day ruin his demeanor or how he treats other people. Everyone that interacts

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# Kay's Creek students learn sustainable development

From saving bees to learning about zero hunger and collecting donations for pantry packs, each student at Kay's Creek Elementary participates in a sustainable development project throughout the school year.

For the last three years, students from every grade level have created and implemented projects coinciding with the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations Member States in 2015. Each grade level selects one of the goals, students research the problem, then develop projects to help solve an issue.

"The goal for the school was to help create leadership and service opportunities for students by facilitating real-world problem-solving experiences," said Administrative Intern Courtney Geisler. "We want our students to know that they can make a difference in their community and learn how to put their ideas into action."

This year, kindergarten students learned about food insecurity and helped lead the school in collecting donations and putting together pantry packs of supplemental food for students in need.

"The students couldn't believe there were peo-



Students put together thank you bags for health care professionals.

ple without enough food to eat," said kindergarten teacher Valerie Adams. "We asked for food donations from our school community and took all the donated items to the food pantry located at Layton High School. The whole school became unified as we worked together making posters, boxing up the food items, and really focusing on the basic needs of others."

Students in the second grade worked on the sustainable goal promoting well-being for all. They learned about what health care professionals have been dealing with during the pandemic and made care packages with over 300 handmade thank you cards for hospital personnel.

"I think the biggest success in this was seeing them realize that little things can go a long way and provide such a big change," said second-grade teacher Ashley Berezay. "They knew that just these little packages were going to make a big difference in someone's day."

Fourth graders learned about clean water for sustainable goal number six. Fourth-grade teacher Sandy Bentley said students researched organizations that provide wells in Africa and spoke via FaceTime with her son, who is stationed in Africa.

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will start construction in the upcoming fall.

Family Service Workers and an aide will assist students coming into the centers.

"Our goal is to have these open 12 hours a day," Lunt said. "The idea is to have it open before school and after school, as well as during the school day."

In order to increase community involvement, the Foundation launched a communications campaign to spread awareness of the quiet, but pervasive challenge faced by at-risk students. The most notable piece of the campaign was a video created for this purpose, titled "Give Hope." The video takes the viewer through a day in the life of a teenager experiencing

homelessness and addresses how the community can help. It was based on the real stories and experiences of homeless students encountered by the Foundation.

"Give Hope" has proven to be a pivotal asset in spreading awareness in not only Davis County, but statewide. It has been shown at more than 100 community-driven service projects.

The video has also been used as a talking point when meeting with community partners, business owners and state government officials interested in helping with this cause. That list includes individuals such as Gail Miller, Senator Stuart Adams, State Superintendent Sydnee Dickson, and David and Kristina Huntsman.

The Foundation's communication efforts surrounding this issue have directly contributed to the more than

\$2.8 million raised by the community and partners. That number does not include the hundreds of thousands of hygiene items and basic essentials donated in-kind.

Representative Steve Eliason also introduced legislation to allocate \$3.5 million for the construction of more teen centers in the state. This came after he and other state government officials became aware of the teen center projects and eventually met with Davis Education Foundation.

The district will be applying for a portion of that funding to complete the last three centers.

In accepting the award, Lunt expressed her gratitude to the community for stepping up in such a monumental way to not only raise awareness, but to then take action to assist the most vulnerable youth in Davis County.

# District applauds students, staff for achievements

- Among the Best of State 2022 honorees are: The **Canvas Learning First System** developed by the district's curriculum department; **Davis Connect**, the district's online school; **Teacher Academy schools at South Clearfield and Sunburst elementary schools**; **Davis Education Foundation** for Community Communication; **Kasey Bradbury**, a music educator at Viewmont High School; and **Vanessa V. Mori**, principal at Davis Connect.



Peterson

- In the month of May, the Davis School District Board of Education recognized **Heather Peterson** from Tolman Elementary for dedication to students in the district.

- The **Davis High Winter Drumline** placed third at the state championship finals.

- The **Davis School District Healthy Lifestyles Department** is the recipient of

two worksite wellness awards — The Utah Worksite Wellness Council Healthy Worksite Silver Award and the Organizational Worksite Innovation Award, recognizing employers who have developed and successfully implemented an innovative approach to some aspect of worksite wellness.



Horne



Davis

- Several counselors from Davis School District received accolades from the Utah School Counselor Association — **South Davis Junior High**, Team of the Year; **Ruby Rae Horne**, Whitesides Elementary,

Counselor of the Year and **Angie Davis**, Woods Cross High, Rookie of the Year.

- Davis School District students in grades six through eight came out on top in the junior division at the Ritchey Science & Engineering Fair and will compete in the Broadcast MASTERS Science Fair — **Caleb Allen**, Shoreline Junior; **Shaun Baumgartner**, Wasatch Elementary; **Marissa Crawford**, Sand Springs Elementary; **Lyndie Erikson**, Centerville Junior; **Jillian Evans**, Bountiful Elementary; **Jens Jacobsen**, West Bountiful Elementary; **Makenzie Kartchner**, Eagle Bay Elementary; **Ben Landon**, Mueller Park Junior; **Kylee Leishman**, North Davis Junior; **Brad Lloyd**, Millcreek Junior; **Elliott McBride**, Wasatch Elementary; **Mason Richards**, Layton Elementary; **Emma Rushforth**, Stewart Elementary; **Ally Start**, Wasatch Elementary; **Spencer Terry**, Centerville Junior; **Maya Trelaor**, East Layton Elementary; **Russell Webster**, Centerville Junior; **Logan Wong**, Shoreline Junior; **Natalie Wright**, Shoreline Junior; **Zoe Wayment**, West Point Junior and **Daisy Westlund**, West Bountiful Elementary.

- These Utah PTA Reflections winners were honored at the national level — **James Jordan** of Syracuse High received the Award of Excellence and Interpretation of



James Jordan received the Award of Outstanding Interpretation of Theme for PTA Reflections.

Theme, the highest award in the contest. Awards of Merit were given to **Andrew Gunnerson**, Woods Cross Elementary and **Randon Ott**, Adams Elementary.

- Two classes from **Cook Elementary** claimed a top three spot in the national Infini-D League competition, out of 100 schools and 10,000 student participants — Karilee Gardner's sixth-grade class received second place in the 4th – 9th grade competition and Tristan Pedersen's second-grade class received third place in the K-3rd grade competition.

- Utah's Stock Market Game recognized several students for their achievements during the school year. Elementary Division: First place – **Ewan Burton**, West Point Elementary; Third place — **Braxton Allen, Beau Love and Kaden Sweeten**, Adams Elementary. Junior High Division: Second place – **Ryder Passmore** and **Nathan Toone**, Legacy Junior High.



Campbell

- **Todd Campbell**, Woods Cross High, was a Utah State Board of Education distinguished awardee for Secondary Music Instruction and received a grant from the Sorenson Legacy Foundation. The award recognizes educators who embrace the arts with excellence in their practice at Utah's public schools.

- **Kayle Gisselle Orantes**, Woods Cross High, is a 2022 National Merit Scholarship finalist, one of 2,500 awardees selected from 15,000 finalists nationwide.

- Four students from Davis School District were announced as National Merit Scholarship winners — **Spencer Bringhurst**, Farmington High; **Berkeley Hamaker**, View-

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## ACHIEVEMENTS, From Pg. 3

mont High; **Kylee Jackman**, Syracuse High; and **Roan Walker**, Viewmont High.

- The **Davis High Girls Golf** team placed third in the state championship.

- Several employees in Davis School District were recognized as Health Heroes for their commitment to live well through healthy life-style choices and actions — **Laurie Bagford**, Clinton Elementary; **Ken Barkema**, West Point Junior High; **Jill Bonsteel**, Sunset Elementary; **Barbara Bushnell**, Bountiful Junior High; **Tomee Call**, Mountain High; **Kristy Carson**, Special Education; **Tagan Christensen**, Clearfield High; **Nicole Deaton**, Shoreline Junior High; **Paul Doty**, Muir Elementary; **Jill Hart**, Ellison Park Elementary; **Alisha Johnson**, Morgan Elementary; **Ashley Kaiser**, Syracuse Junior High; **Shauna Lund**, Community Relations; **Carrey Maedgen**, Facilities/Architectural Services; **Clint McKay**, Transportation; **Ken Nelson**, Syracuse High; **Sheri Sauve**, Teaching & Learning; **Jay Welk**, Catalyst Center; and **Chris Whitaker**, Foxboro Elementary.

- Several high school theatre programs in the district received accolades at the Utah High School Musical Theatre Awards. Best Musical goes to **Davis High School's** performance of Bright Star. Northridge High School's **Hayden Henderson** is recognized as Best Actor for his performance as Quasimodo in Hunchback of Notre Dame. Other awards include Best Cameo Performer — **Avrie Prows**, Farmington High School; Best Ensemble — The Music Man, **Northridge**



Utah High School Musical Theatre Awards recognizes Northridge High School's Hayden Henderson as Best Actor for his performance as Quasimodo.

**High School**; Best Student Director(s) — **Katelyn Luke, Kara Larsen, Ella Dickson, Brennan Wells, and Ellie Palmer** for Davis High School's Seven Brides for Seven Brothers.

- Several teams from Davis School District placed in the state VEX Robotics competition.

Tournament Champions: How Does This Thing Work, **Davis High**; Tournament Finalists — Gecko Assassins, **Davis High** and Pirates of Antelope Aisle, **Davis High**;

Excellence Award: My Little Pony Fan Club, **Syracuse Junior High**;

Teamwork Champion Awards — My Little Pony Fan Club, **Syracuse Junior High** and High Voltage, **Millcreek Junior High**;

Teamwork Second Place — Bosses, **Kaysville Junior High** and South Clearfield Terminators, **South Clearfield Elementary**;

Teamwork Third Place — Schrute

Farms, **Syracuse Junior High** and Jolly Rogers, **Antelope Elementary**;

Teamwork Fourth Place — **Centennial Junior High Team**; NLJH Longhorns, **North Layton Junior High** and Ciphers, **Burton Elementary**;

Design Award — How Does This Thing Work? **Davis High** and South Clearfield Terminators, **South Clearfield Elementary**;

Robot Skills Champion — **Centennial Junior High Team**;

Think Award — **Centennial Junior High Team** and South Clearfield Terminators, **South Clearfield Elementary**;

Amaze Award — Troopers, **Woods Cross Elementary**;

Build Award — Davis Connect Lynx, **Davis Connect**;

Create Award — Bosses, **Kaysville Junior High**.

## TEACHER, From Pg. 1

with Bird comes away, not only happier, but a better person as they see his example and wisdom.”

The district chooses its Teacher of the Year from among 30 Best of Davis Award winners, which is the district's employee recognition program.

Nominations for the Best of Davis Awards are submitted by supervisors, coworkers, parents and students. A committee made up of community members, district staff and former Best of Davis winners narrows hundreds of nominations down to 30 educators.

The Teacher of the Year designation comes with a big prize — a

one-year lease of a Kia Sportage and insurance thanks to the support of The Davis Education Foundation, Young Automotive Group, Golden West Credit Union, KSL.com and Young Caring for Our Young.

Bird represents Davis School District in the Utah Teacher of the Year competition.



A Layton High student takes a final selfie as the graduates prepare for the recessional.

## District celebrates thousands of graduates

Students from the district's nine traditional high schools, alternative high school and online high school said their final goodbyes.

A total of 5,511 graduates participated in ceremonies over three days. The graduates earned nearly \$93 million in scholarships. Several graduated with an associate degree and others graduated with skills certifications.

Students are heading off to new adventures with some joining the military, others pursuing careers and many attending universities.

Students plan to attend a variety of higher education institutions including each of the Utah universities. Out-of-state institutions of choice range from Brown University to Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Culinary Institute of Hyde Park.



A Davis High student shakes hands with Principal Dr. Greg Wilkey after receiving his diploma.



The Class of 2022 celebrates.

# Pomp & Circumstance



A Viewmont High student celebrates the moment after receiving her diploma.

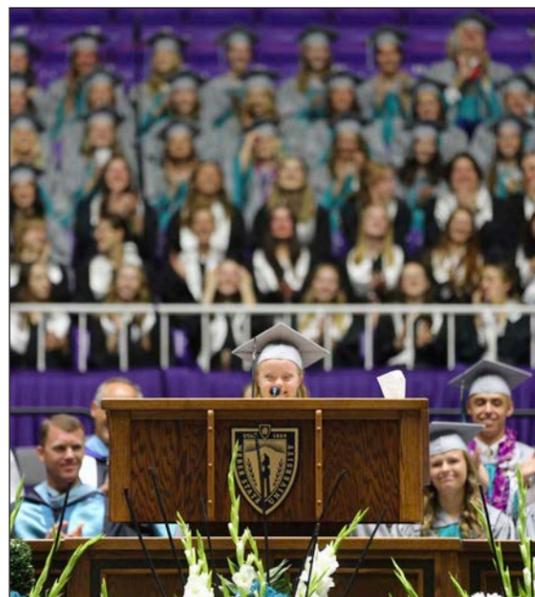


Woods Cross High Principal Deanne Kapetanov speaks to the graduating class of Woods Cross High School.



A Clearfield High graduate smiles after locating family members in the crowd of well-wishers at the Dee Events Center.

Farmington High graduation speaker Aubrey Allredge advises the graduating class: "Don't be afraid of your future. Don't be afraid of hard work. ... Be kind. Be positive. Make every day your best day."



Family members and friends gather at the Dee Events Center to show support for the graduates.



Far left: Even a Syracuse High graduate's service dog takes part in the celebration.

Left: A Mountain High student gives a graduation speech.



Syracuse High students sing during the ceremony.



Secondary Director Ryck Astle congratulates a Northridge High senior.



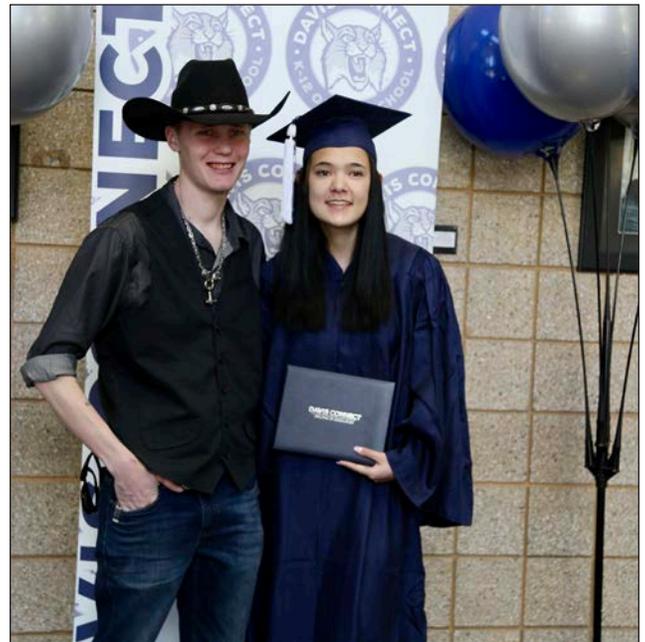
Layton High students prep before lining up for graduation.

## Graduation by the numbers

- Bountiful High - 428
- Clearfield High - 639
- Davis Connect - 92
- Davis High - 700
- Farmington High - 600
- Layton High - 675
- Mountain High - 104
- Northridge High - 613
- Syracuse High - 699
- Viewmont High - 458
- Woods Cross High - 503



A Bountiful High graduate waves to loved ones as she celebrates graduation.



Davis Connect, the district's online school, joined in celebrating its graduates.