



November | 16 | 2020

District Shows Gratitude with 'Giving Thanks Countdown'



As we head into this Thanksgiving holiday, district leaders want to send out a huge thank you to everyone who is making this school year a success despite the challenges we are facing.

This expression of gratitude comes in the form of a "Giving Thanks Countdown," where each day this week on our social media and on the district website we will be recognizing the many employee groups who are working harder than ever to ensure our students are able to continue writing their success stories.

We're kicking off our 5-day countdown with our teachers, librarians and counselors. You inspire, lead and make the unimaginable possible. Over the past nine months, our teachers have had to reimagine their jobs. They have adjusted to teaching online and in person under very different circumstances than ever before. And, they're putting in longer hours and dealing with more stress than they probably ever have before. We see you, and we are grateful.

Today, we say 'thank you' to our teachers, librarians and counselors for giving their all for our students!

In addition to the countdown celebrating our staff, this week every district employee will also receive a token of our appreciation: a long-sleeve district shirt like the one in the video above.

The goal is to say thank you while also showing our unity. We are One - One Team. One Mission. One Heart. All employees are encouraged to wear their shirt Friday, the final day before a much-deserved Thanksgiving break.

Students Paint Positive Messages for Nursing Home Residents

A group of Duncanville High School students brought paint and brushes to a local nursing home on a sunny Saturday afternoon to create artwork on the windows. Their goal? To lift the spirits of residents who've been stuck inside during the pandemic.

Marissa Mercado, a junior who is a member of the high school's student council, helped plan the community service project.

"When the day actually came it was extremely humbling," said Marissa. "Doing something as small as painting a flower on the window really brightened their entire day."

The residents of Laurenwood Nursing and Rehabilitation, like many across the country, have been limited to few visits from family and friends in recent months. The facility's activities coordinator says for her clients, just seeing the young people was encouraging.

"The residents were really impressed. The students did an amazing job," said Laura Mott. "When our residents look outside, they can see the pictures and know somebody is thinking about them."

Read [more](#).



Campuses Celebrate Employees on Veterans Day



Last week, we celebrated our nation's veterans for the sacrifices they made to serve our country. Here in the district, we honored our Duncanville ISD employees who served in the military on our campuses and by posting their pictures on social media. Thank you, to all of our veterans who made it possible for us to have the freedoms we have today.

Pictured above are (left to right) Acton Elementary School veterans Joseph McMillian, behavioral specialist who served in the Marine Corps for eight years; Carla Hargrove, second grade teacher who served in the Navy for eight years, Army National Guard for two years and the Army Reserves for eight years; and Christopher Purvis, music teacher who served in the Army for five years.

See more photos from Veterans Day [here](#).

Upcoming Events:

Duncanville ISD Board of Trustees, meeting on Monday, Nov. 16 at 6:30 p.m. for closed executive session. The public portion of the meeting begins at approximately 7:00 p.m.

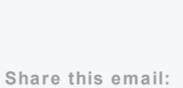
Thanksgiving break, no classes November 23-27



The Informer is distributed by the Communications Department at Duncanville ISD. The weekly newsletter, published each Monday, is intended to keep the community informed about important news and events happening within the district. Story ideas or questions can be directed to: [Lari Barager](#) - Director of External Communications

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