



January | 05 | 2021

District Recognizes Trustees for Leadership



January is Board Recognition Month, and we are so grateful to our Duncanville ISD Board of Trustees. They continue to put students and staff first, especially during the pandemic. From approving educational programs to best serve our students to supporting employees with a \$2,000 one-time payment, we thank our board for all they have done.

We'll be featuring each trustee throughout the month so you can learn more about how they serve our community. Stay tuned!

Panthers Punch Third Straight Ticket to State Semifinal



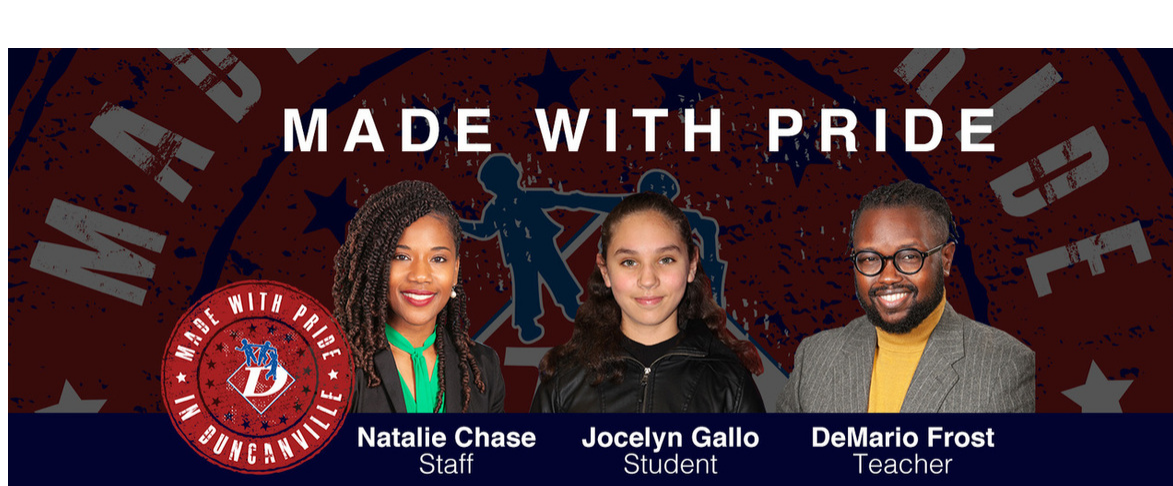
Running back Malachi Medlock scores a touchdown against DeSoto.

Congratulations to the Duncanville High School football team for its successful run in the playoffs. For the third consecutive year, the team will play in the State Semifinal game for a chance to return to the State Championship.

After defeating longtime rival DeSoto 56-28 in the quarterfinal round on Saturday, Jan. 2, the team will meet Southlake Carroll in the semifinal.

The game is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on Saturday at Globe Life Park. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased [here](#). Parking is \$15 and can be pre-purchased or paid at the lot. Gates open one hour prior to kickoff.

Congratulations to December Made with Pride Honorees



Each month, Duncanville ISD honors a student, staff member and teacher who go above and beyond. They are chosen from nominations submitted by coworkers, classmates or community members.

These individuals reflect the excellence and pride of our district and they are Made with Pride in Duncanville.

Natalie Chase, a teacher specialist at Hastings Elementary School, is the December Made with Pride in Duncanville staff member of the month. Assistant Principal LaTonya Hall said Mrs. Chase is 'one of the heartbeats of our campus and the glue that holds the leadership team together when things are difficult.' During the pandemic in March, Mrs. Chase not only continued her service of coaching teachers, she also started a calling cycle to check in on her coworkers. She sent e-cards to staff members and her words of encouragement were heaven sent.

DeMario Frost, a kindergarten teacher at Hyman Elementary School, is the December 'Made with Pride in Duncanville' teacher of the month. The parents who nominated Mr. Frost said he is an amazing and compassionate teacher who addresses each student by name every lesson. He encourages student-to-student communication during virtual lessons by asking the children to call on one another. Mr. Frost engages the children through songs, positive praise, encouraging words and a uplifting smile.

Linda Whitman, who has a grandchild in Mr. Frost's classroom said he 'is patient with our grandchild who is in a wheelchair and has trouble with turning his mic off and on to participate and when he drops pencils and manipulatives. He is aware that our grandchild is academically ahead, and plans for those enrichment tasks.'

Jocelyn Gallo, a sixth grader at Brandenburg Intermediate School, is the December 'Made with Pride in Duncanville' student of the month. Jocelyn's teachers say is a model student who exemplifies Brandenburg PAWS (Positive Attitude, Act Responsibly, Wise Choices, Stay Focused).

Her English, Language Arts and Reading teacher said, 'Jocelyn excelled during virtual only learning, logging in each day and completing assignments. Jocelyn made honor roll first quarter and is once again on her way to making it again this quarter.'

Read [more](#).

Board Business: District Hires Fine Arts Director

The Duncanville ISD Board of Trustees hosted a regular board meeting on December 14, 2020. A video recording of the meeting can be viewed [here](#) on the district website under Board of Trustees.

Information shared and decisions made during that meeting include the following:

The Duncanville ISD Board of Trustees approved the hiring of new Director of Fine Arts, William Young.

Mr. Young comes from Cedar Hill ISD where he was the Director of Fine Arts and has held previous roles as band director and assistant band director in Dallas ISD.

Mr. Young has a Bachelor of Music from Southern University and A&M College and a Master of Education from Concordia University.

Mr. Young said he hopes to motivate the fine arts staff in asserting their inner strengths and abilities to teach students in Duncanville ISD.

Read more Board Business [here](#).



Voice Your Opinion on District Academic Calendar



As we prepare for the 2021-2022 school year, we would like to know your thoughts on three sample calendars created by the Calendar Planning Committee.

Providing students with the best opportunity for success is always the focus in creating the district school calendars.

Due to the current health crisis, student learning has been impacted and the need for more instruction time was clear.

Click this [link](#) to view the options and select your favorite.

Your input will be shared with the Duncanville ISD Board of Trustees as they prepare to vote on an academic calendar.

Join Parent University Classes Online to Connect with District

Duncanville ISD's Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Department is offering the next edition of Parent University: January 2021 Series.

The series of courses will provide opportunities for you to connect, engage, and succeed with Pre-K Curriculum, Choice Programs, and Academic Apps.

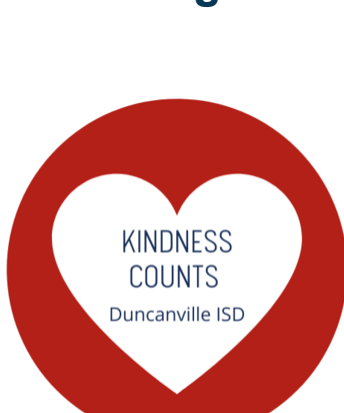
Special district guests will highlight need-to-know information, and give-aways will be provided.

Mark your calendars for January 5, 12, and 26 at 6:00 p.m.

More information [here](#).



Counseling Corner



New Year, New You! Do you want to rewrite your narrative?

The Duncanville ISD Counseling Department shares tips on how to reduce stress, set goals and take better care of yourself.

There is also a feature with ideas on how to connect with your kids by making family movie night memorable. View *Parenting Magazine's* list of "best family movies" for ideas in the January newsletter written especially for district families.

Click [here](#) to read.

Upcoming Events:

Duncanville ISD Board of Trustees Meeting, begins at 6:30 p.m. and goes into executive session, on Monday, Jan. 11 at the Duncanville ISD Education Plaza, 710 S. Cedar Ridge Rd., Duncanville. The public portion of the meeting resumes around 7:00 p.m.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, on Monday, Jan. 18 - no classes



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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