



Process begins to fill superintendent seat

Search includes town halls for public input on qualifications

Davis School District’s Board of Education is moving forward with plans to hire a new superintendent following Superintendent Reid Newey’s retirement announcement.

Board members met with Utah State School Board Association Executive Director Richard Stowell to begin outlining the timeline for the superintendent search.

That timeline includes three town hall-type meetings to solicit input from the community regarding the personal and professional qualifications the public would like to see in the new superintendent. Those meetings will begin at 7 p.m. and be held in school auditoriums as follows: Feb. 8, Clearfield High School; Feb. 10, Davis High; and Feb. 16, Bountiful High.

Following those meetings, the board will prepare the

position announcement and post it in a variety of places. The position will be posted for about a month. A group of stakeholders will be asked to review the applications and then board members will complete a final evaluation of applications and determine finalists for interviews. A second round of interviews is possible.

The new superintendent may be named as early as the end of April. Newey plans to continue through the end of the school year.

Newey was appointed superintendent by the Board of Education and began serving on Dec. 1, 2016. He was the 18th superintendent to lead the Davis School District.

“I thank all the outstanding, administrators, teachers and staff in Davis School District, as well as the exceptional school board members for their support and work over the past 5 years,” Newey said to all employees in an email announcing his retirement.

“I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as Superintendent of Davis School District.”

In a statement, members of the Board of Education



Superintendent Reid Newey looks over the work a student is doing during a visit to Kay’s Creek Elementary.

See SEARCH, Pg. 2

District-created curriculum takes unique look at geography

Legacy Junior High geography students recently participated in an innovative program headed up by Davis School District Social Studies Curriculum Director Chris Hall.

Hall wants to give students a bird’s-eye view of the world to help them understand how geography impacts their lives by teaching them to apply principles of spatial analysis to satellite imagery. As part of the program, students examined and evaluated

satellite images that included neighborhoods with intricate patterns, fields of varying shapes and settlements in a desert oasis and rivers colored with erosion as part of the program.

“First of all, geography is important because we are more connected to other people and cultures than ever before,” said Hall. “Second, one of the greatest concerns of our generation has to be what’s happening to the planet and the way that will impact the economy — not just global warming

and pollution, but resources and energy. Third, maps are a part of people’s lives more than ever with GPS on our phones.”

State curriculum is gradually reducing geography courses required for junior high students from a year down to a half year. Hall hopes his satellite image curriculum will encourage students to get out and learn more about the world around them.

“The most important reason for

See GEOGRAPHY, Pg. 2

GEOGRAPHY, From Pg. 1

studying geography is that you begin to notice things and enjoy the landscape because you understand what you are seeing,” said Hall, pointing out that geography is not the same thing as history.

Participating students said they gained valuable insight from the instruction.

“The image analysis helped me understand how geography can intertwine with the economic, social and political stand points of an area,” said ninth-grade student Ian. “I never knew how much a picture could tell you about a place. I also found the project very enjoyable and educational.”

Ninth-grade student Lucy said the lessons helped her understand why people choose certain locations for settling.

“I think my favorite part was when we compared and contrasted the South Africa image with the line down the middle between the rich and poor areas,” Lucy said.



Social Studies Curriculum Director Chris Hall teaches students at Legacy Junior High.

SEARCH, From Pg. 1

said: “The Board of Education would like to express our sincere appreciation to Superintendent Reid Newey for the work he has done on behalf of the students, teachers, staff members, and parents of Davis School District. During his five and half years as superintendent, he has led DSD through some of the most challenging times education has ever faced. Superintendent Newey has worked tirelessly to help our district improve in every area of education. We wish him well in his retirement and again thank him for his devotion to Davis District.”

Under his direction, the Davis School District built and opened Farmington High School, which offers a 21st Century approach to personalized learning. He was instrumental in creating the Catalyst Center in Kaysville, which opened to students in mid-January. Through that magnet school, students, local business and industry mentors are brought together.

Additionally, Newey has increased security efforts in schools with secure vestibules and digital cameras being added. Because of his foresight to increase student access to technology and further develop online education, the district was able to move to an online environment when schools were closed to in-person learning in the spring of 2020.

Students give voice to shared message

No More, Not Here. This is a phrase you will be seeing and hearing often around our school district as well as our community.

“No More, Not Here” refers to our commitment to bring attention to and end hurtful speech of any kind. “No More, Not Here” is a means to hold each other accountable for the development of a community that cares about how we treat each other, a community that intends to include all.

“No More, Not Here” is a five-part video series produced by the district in collaboration with students at the elementary and secondary level. Working with the students, we are able to craft a video series that will be relevant to and in the voice of our students. The first set of videos, released on Monday, January 10, provide an overview of the types of speech we will work to have “No More, Not Here.”

Each second Monday for the next four months, a new video will be released on the Davis School District website and will provide students and adults with skills to utilize when they hear hurtful speech.

These skills, developed by the Anti-Defamation League, will focus on Interrupt, Ask, Educate, and Echo. Each of the four upcoming videos will focus on one of these skills. Teachers will be provided with age-appropriate study guides to assist in facilitating their students through conversations of each of these skills.

Working with our enhanced partnership with Davis County Commissioners, Hill Air Force Base, and the Governor’s office, we look forward to sharing and spreading our intent of “No More, Not Here.” Thank you to Bob Stevenson (Davis County Commissioner), Col. Jenise M. Carrol (Hill Air Force Base Commander), and Utah First Lady Abby Cox (Governor’s Office) for collaborating with Davis School District in this effort. We look forward to developing this partnership to assist us and our community in our efforts not only to further “No More, Not Here,” but also in providing greater access and inclusion to all members of our community.

As our students say in the first video: “Let it start with ME. Let it start with US. I’ll be the ONE. When you hear something wrong, offensive, hurtful, or hateful, speak up! No More, Not Here.”

Together, we can and will build a more inclusive, compassionate, and respectful community.

- Assistant Superintendent John Zurbuchen

Employees, students honored for achievements

• **Silas Becker**, a sixth grader at **Davis Connect**, was one of eight students in Utah selected to win a \$1,000 college savings scholarship in the 2021 Make Your Mark bookmark contest. The contest, sponsored by my529 and the Utah Board of Higher Education, invited students throughout the state to create an original bookmark design.



Hadlow

• In the month of January, the Davis School District Board of Education recognized **Bonnie Hadlow** from **Meadowbrook Elementary** for dedication to students in the district.

• Two students from **West Point Junior High** received top honors in the Veteran of Foreign Affairs Speech Contest as Outstanding Spokesperson of the

Future Contest. **Kali Kay Jenkins** was awarded \$100 for a first-place finish and **Abigail Thayne** received \$75 for a second-place finish.

• The American Geographical Society honored **Jessica Jensen** of **Farmington Junior High School** with the American Geographical Society's 2021 GeoBoost grant to purchase resources for additional activities that boost students' geographical learning.



Pierson

• **Nani Pierson**, special education teacher at **Windridge Elementary** in Kaysville, was awarded the "Most Valuable Educator Award" presented by Instructure and the Utah Jazz. She received a \$1,000 grant for her classroom.

• **West Point Junior High** students **Amaiah Garcia**, **Guadalupe Rodriguez** and **Sienna Resigner** were winners

of the One Utah: A "Revolutionary" Contest and received tickets to see Hamilton in Salt Lake City. Applicants shared their revolutionary ideas about what can help Utah today.

• **Farmington High** teacher **Marci Porter** was recertified in 2021 as a National Board-Certified Teacher.

• The **Mountain High DECA team** competed in the Northern Regional DECA competition, placing second in Marketing Communications and third in Apparel and Accessories.

• This year's Weber State Storytelling Festival, Karen J. Ashton Award was given to **Monica Flint**, Administrative Intern at **East Layton** and **Columbia** elementary schools.

• Two students were recently recognized by Clearfield City Mayor Mark Shepherd for their contributions to the creation of the city's



Flint



Students display T-shirts sporting the Clearfield City Centennial logo. Clearfield High Assistant Principal Tawna Smith joined Clearfield City Mayor Mark Shepherd in recognizing the students.

Centennial logo. **Savanna Huff**, **Clearfield High**, and **Natalie Corbridge**, **Legacy Junior High**, submitted artwork for the logo.

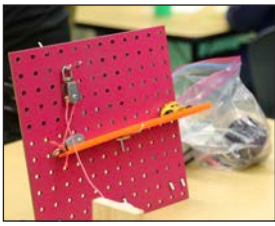
• The **Layton High cheer team** placed first in the state 6A competition for the songleading/pom category and second place in the 6A sideline/timeout freestyle category. The **Woods Cross High cheer team** placed second in the 5A competition for songleading/pom and the **Bountiful High cheer team** placed second in the 5A competition for sideline/timeout. The **Clearfield High junior varsity cheer team** placed second in the 6A All Girls show category.

• The **Syracuse Junior High cheer team** won first place at the state competition in the junior high category. The **Legacy Junior High cheer team** placed second and **South Davis Junior High cheer team** placed third in the junior high category.

• **Layton High** student **Emily Graf** was crowned as United States of America's Teen Utah 2022. The annual pageant was held at the Ziegfeld Theater in Ogden on November 13. She will represent Utah at the national event Feb. 16-20 in Las Vegas, Nev. During her one-year reign, she plans to focus on encouraging teens to find a passion through service.



• **Gabrielle Fessler**, a senior at **Syracuse High School**, was chosen as one of four recipients for a scholarship from the Salt Lake City NAACP. She plans to attend Weber State University. She has volunteered at the West Point City Golf Tournament, coordinated Christmas for underprivileged families, cared for a community garden and created mental health care bags for elementary schools in the community.



SCIENCE OF BUILDING



A student connects the wheels to his portion of the machine.



A representative from the Leonardo Museum shows students how to use better leverage with their project.



Two students work together on their portion of the Rube Goldberg machine.

Students create own Rube Goldberg machines

The Leonardo on Wheels exhibit recently visited Sunset Junior High, giving science students the chance to create their own Rube Goldberg machine. The educational program, sponsored by The Leonardo Museum, travels to junior high schools across the state.

As part of the exhibit, students created a simple machine to learn about the relationship between forces, motion and energy. Small teams worked on separate sections, set up so that each action triggered a response.

Students tested and reworked their designs to get just the right movement before pushing their desks together to create the class Rube Goldberg machine. Toy cars were sent down runways, knocking over blocks, causing wheels or other objects to spin, catapulting small balls onto the next section of the machine and in the end, helping students fully engage in the science of learning.



Right: A student reacts after watching a section of the machine work.