

MAKING WAVES AT DCS



DHS Students Return to Lansing for High School Level Michigan Youth in Government Conference

A delegation of fifteen Dexter High School students attended a three-day Michigan Youth in Government (MYIG) conference in Lansing in late February. Many of these students attended the middle school level MYIG conference as Mill Creek students in November 2021, but this trip marks the first time Dexter has participated at the high school level. Of the 901 legislative bills presented at the conference, 43 were signed by the youth governor and three of them were written by DHS students!



Michigan Youth in Government is a student-led, student-run mock government program that takes place in Lansing with students from around the state. The conference featured aspects of government such as campaigning for office, the election process, committee hearings, special interest groups and general assemblies. And, though they work hard, students also have the opportunity for fun, bonding activities after the closing banquet with a talent show, trivia, a movie and games.

The following student-created bills were signed by the student governor at the conference:

- HB 500 (Andrew Barbaro): A bill to mandate that Styrofoam containers are no longer used in restaurants in the state of Michigan.
- HB 232 (Eva Petrinko): A bill to mandate that companies replant trees that they cut down to construct buildings.
- SB 603 (Dane Barbaro): A bill to restrict access to assault weapons and machine guns.

DHS teacher and MYIG advisor Steve Wincent applauds the hours of extra work put in by Hannah Olson, Kaela Laurin, Madelyn Corgan, and Rhya Wright to study the case and learn trial procedures in order to participate in the Mock Judiciary Program. Eva Petrinko and Elaina Brant took on the

additional leadership role of legislative clerks, and Dane Barbaro received the “Outstanding Senator” award, as he did at the middle school conference in 2021.

Says Wincent of the students’ effort, “This group worked hard and represented our community well. We are very proud of them!”



As an added bonus and follow up to the conference, students had the opportunity to attend a meet and greet with Senator Sue Shink in the DHS media center on February 27. They discussed what it was like to be a senator, and the bills on which she is currently working.



Participating Students

Amelia Stinnett, Andrew Barbaro, Ben Cicotte, Claire Benateau, Colin McIntyre, Dane Barbaro, Dani Sherman, Eliana Brant, Eva Petrinko, Hannah Olson, Kaela Laurin, Katherine Haidl, Lachlan Imfeld, Madelyn Corgan, Rhya Wright