



200 Warrior Way
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www.danville.k12.in.us

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COST CUTTING CORNER

Over the summer, the Danville Community School Corporation acquired Chromebooks for use by our students. Grades three through 12 are now 1:1, with each student having their own device. Students in kindergarten through second grade are 2:1, sharing one device for every two students.

By seeking trade-in credits on disposable older hardware, our Technology Department was able to cut the cost for our new Chromebook protection policy by nearly \$18,000. This cost savings will be passed directly on to our parents and guardians, resulting in strong physical protection for our students' devices at a more cost-effective price.

Effective stewardship of taxpayer and family dollars remains a top priority for the Danville Community School Corporation. Thank you for your continued support!

-FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT-

Great schools

make a

difference!



It's easy to look around Danville Schools and find someone that is having an impact on the life of a child. We call it "The Danville Difference" for a reason - our teachers, staff and administrators come to work each day knowing that they are shaping the future, and we make it a priority to be the difference.

We feel incredibly lucky to have such an amazing community that continues to see the importance of education and supports its schools. With that support from our community members, local businesses and town leaders, we see a bright future for the families we serve and for the town of Danville.

The 2019-20 school year begins with our tribe focusing on the educational, mental and emotional needs of our students. We hope that you will see the difference that great schools truly make in a community, and that you will continue your support for our families, teachers and staff.

Dr. Tracey Shafer, Superintendent

THE DANVILLE DIFFERENCE

DANVILLE

COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

Talk of the Tribe

Aug. 2019 • Volume 1, Issue 1



Being The Difference

It's a story over 50 years in the making that begins with a teacher going above and beyond to make a difference in the life of her student. Danville High School art teacher Joan Kisner made a lasting difference in the life of 1964 graduate Mike Arnold, one that Mike remembers and cherishes to this day.

With an innate love for design, Mike said his parents doubted whether a successful future awaited him. Joan took the time to meet with Mike's parents while he was at work one day, assuring them of his talent and possibilities.

"Joan saw things in me and encouraged me to not be afraid," Mike explained. "It touched me that she went to so much trouble to understand."



Through a simple birthday request for donations to the Danville Community Education Foundation (DCEF) by our school board Vice President Matt Steward, Mike decided it was time for him to give back and made a \$5,000 donation in Joan's name. This donation will be directed towards teacher grants for men and women making a difference just like Joan.

"Because of her encouragement and investment in Mike as a high school student, Mike has had a successful life and career," DCEF President Christina Ward said. "Joan went above and beyond to make a difference!"

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My buddy and me

There is a new addition on the playground at South Elementary this year! The Buddy Bench is open each day at recess for students who need a friend to play with.

Funding for the Buddy Bench was raised by students in the K-kids service club at South and by the Kiwanis Club of Danville, which supports K-kids throughout the year.

Kiwanis president Deelynna Oliphant said the Buddy Bench is a great way to teach children about kindness, compassion, empathy and paying it forward.

"It provides a safe place for a child to go when they are feeling sad or lonely, and it allows other students to acknowledge when one of their peers is in need," Deelynna explained. "I hope the Buddy Bench inspires our students to continue to give back to their community."

South Elementary school counselor Kelsie McGee agreed.

"Not only will it be a visual cue for students to see when another student may need a kind invitation to join them, but it will also be a visual comfort when the bench is empty knowing our students are assuring that everyone has someone," she said. "Here at South, we want each and every student in our building to have lasting, happy memories and I believe the buddy bench is just another positive way to achieve this."



Learning 'The Warrior Way'

North Elementary welcomed about 185 kindergarten students to their very first day of school with open arms and big smiles. They quickly learned The Warrior Way - being respectful, responsible and ready to learn!

But, first - let's have fun!

Danville Community Middle School students started their first day off right with "Chuck the Toy." Each grade level aimed to get their ping pong ball into the designated area (kiddie pools/bucket) to win prizes!



All shiny and new

Students at Danville Community High School are starting a new year with a new Chromebook device! All students in grades 3-12 are, thanks to smart spending and investments.



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Our school corporation is always on the lookout for cost efficiencies both large and small! In the past month, we have taken the following steps:

- Saved long term salary costs by not filling a central office position following a retirement.
- Assigned a staff member to cover front office responsibilities in multiple buildings during a leave of absence, saving the cost of a temporary staff hire.
- Revised a postage meter lease to cut equipment costs in half.

Just like with household expenses, any opportunity to save money is a victory for our bottom line.

Congratulations *Miss Pourcho!*



2020 Indiana Teacher of the Year

We couldn't be more proud to share the news - North Elementary art teacher Miss Katie Pourcho has been selected as the Indiana Teacher of the Year for 2020 by the Indiana Department of Education!

"Our students succeed because of exceptional instruction in the classroom. This is the type of instruction Katie Pourcho has provided her students for nearly a decade, and I am honored to recognize her as Indiana's 2020 Teacher of the Year," State Superintendent Dr. Jennifer McCormick said.

Miss Pourcho brings magic into her classroom daily with our kindergarten, first and second grade students, as well as our preschoolers in the Little Warrior Learning Center. She also pursues her passion and talent for art with commissioned pieces and displayed works.

"Our first graders have been learning about the word 'symbol,' a picture that says something without words," Miss Pourcho said. "This award is a symbol of what a great school we have and of all of our team work."

THE DANVILLE DIFFERENCE

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Talk of the Tribe
 Oct. 2019 • Volume 1, Issue 2



All in the family

With a history rich in education, Danville resident Steve Johnson and his family have dedicated their lives to education and their community! Having retired after 38 years of being an educator and a coach at Danville Schools, Steve said it continues to be important to him to stay involved.

"Danville Schools mean a lot to me and a lot to my family," Steve explained. "My whole family has an active role in education and try to give back to the community in that aspect."

His wife, Susan, is also a retired teacher and their two daughters, Casey and Carey, are teachers. Steve's sons-in-law often help him coach sports. All together, they are making education a family affair.

"They saw what my wife and I did in education," Steve said. "I'd like to think we were an influence and they saw the good that we did."

Beginning his Danville career in 1971, Steve said he was attracted to a basketball coaching position at the middle school. Over the years, he was a science teacher and a physical education teacher. His coaching resume is even more impressive, with both boys' and girls' basketball, as well as baseball and football coaching positions.

"I love working with kids. Each one is a little different, and that's what makes the job so neat," Steve added. "I was one of those teachers in the classroom that always tried to find a way to connect with each student. I think that's what made all the difference."

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A little help from my friends

The morning was filled with smiles and laughter at North Elementary when students from Danville Community High School took time out of their busy schedules to greet, read to and play with our little Warriors in kindergarten, first and second grades.

Members of the DCHS Student-Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC) work to promote leadership and sportsmanship among student-athletes, DCHS Assistant Athletic Director and North P.E. teacher Mr. Kyle Yoder explained.

"Each year coaches select one junior or senior that shows excellent leadership skills to represent their team," he said. "We have 20 student-athletes representing the council. My returning members came up with the idea that they wanted to give back to the younger kids to be a mentor to them and inspire them to become student athletes when they get older. As an educator, it was amazing to see."

Combining the importance of reading in the classroom and trying new activities in their physical education class, SAAC students demonstrated their sports like "swimming" on scooters pictured above.

The SAAC is planning a similar adventure to South Elementary and will be preparing for the Special Olympic Night this coming winter and a track night in the spring.



Furry friends at LWLC

Our friends in the Little Warrior Learning Center preschool got a visit from Jay and Debra Ard and their pony Beau during Pets Week! They also got to visit with turtles, a therapy dog and parakeets.

Creating art at South

South Elementary students get their creativity flowing in Mrs. Bertoli's art class! These fourth graders were learning all about Zentangle – a method of creating beautiful images from repetitive patterns.



Think pink at DCMS

Our 7/8 volleyball team showed their support for Danville Community Middle School Principal Mrs. Webster and her fight against breast cancer!





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COST CUTTING CORNER

School corporations invest significant resources into transportation. In calendar year 2019, we spent around \$350,000 to purchase school buses, nearly \$150,000 on fuel, and more than \$1 million on wages and benefits for drivers and staff.

We are proud to provide safe and convenient transportation options for our students. We are also aware that we have to find cost savings in a variety of places. By finding efficiencies in route planning and managing the number and types of buses in our fleet, we can save taxpayer dollars. We will be communicating cost saving plans with our community in the months ahead in preparation for the 2020/2021 school year.

-FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT-

**Great schools
make a
difference!**



As public school educators, we often find that our roles reach far beyond teaching children the traditional reading, writing and arithmetic. We are continuing to face new challenges each year and the need to foster positive emotional and mental growth is proving to be an ever-increasing field.

While working to provide that fundamental nurturing environment for student growth, we also must focus on establishing equity and inclusion in Danville Schools. Equity seeks to ensure fair treatment and fairness in access to information and resources for all. Inclusion builds a culture of belonging by actively inviting the contribution and participation of all people. We believe this is only possible in an environment built on respect.

Please join us as we prioritize continued development of a welcoming and kind school family that supports one another. We hope that by making this a priority in Danville, our students will carry this with them as they go out into the world.

Dr. Tracey Shafer, Superintendent

THE DANVILLE DIFFERENCE

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COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
Talk of the Tribe
 Feb. 2020 • Volume 1, Issue 3



Wrapping Our Town in *love*

Elbow deep in purple, pink and red paint, DCSC staff found themselves surrounded by smiles, laughter and love at North Elementary's Wrap Our Town in Love event. The day welcomed families, friends and neighbors to join our students in creating community art for the town of Danville.

Dreamed up by our 2020 Indiana Teacher of the Year and North art teacher Miss Katie Pourcho, the day featured Danville citizens painting banners, stickers and wrapping paper to be displayed around town through the month of February.

"Over the years, I have received incredible support from our community as an art teacher at North Elementary. Whether it be donations of art supplies, community sponsored meals, or words of encouragement, Danville is a town that expresses appreciation through acts of kindness," Miss Pourcho explained. "Wrap Our Town in Love is an embodiment of the vibrant neighborly love and strength of community that rests at Danville's core."

Thank you to all who volunteered, participated and donated - you are the Danville Difference!



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Science Club zooms at DCMS

Before school begins and the hallways are normally quiet, students in the Danville Community Middle School Science Club gathered for a very distinguished scientific experience - racing cars, of course!

Club leader and science teacher Mr. Brandon Gleason said the club meets about twice a month and anyone can participate. On this foggy morning, students showed off their skills of Newton's Laws by competing in a CO2 car race where they learned about force, friction, inertia, mass and acceleration. They had been working on their cars for about two months, and were in control of the entire process from designing to sanding, cutting to drilling holes.

"The greatest benefit of science club is unifying the building. This allows for all grades to interact with each other," Mr. Gleason said. "In addition, science club focuses on the engineering design process and allows students to collaborate on real-world problems."

With 30 cars entering the race, it all came down to two, pictured right, with the winning car hitting 13.8 meters/second, about 34 mph!

Great work, Warrior Scientists!



100 days at North

Our friends at North Elementary recently celebrated being 100 days smarter by wearing fun shirts and participating in 100-themed activities like counting, sorting, stacking and creating.

Water works at South

Third grade students at South Elementary had a visit from IDEM Senior Environmental Manager Heather Cravens. They discussed water pollution and their impact during the interactive program.



Feeling special at DCHS

Danville Community High School students teamed up with Tri-West to host the annual Special Olympics basketball fundraiser. Special Olympic athletes got to show their skills on the court!