

DANVILLE

COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

Danville Dispatch

August 2022 • Volume 4, Issue 1



WELCOME BACK WARRIORS!

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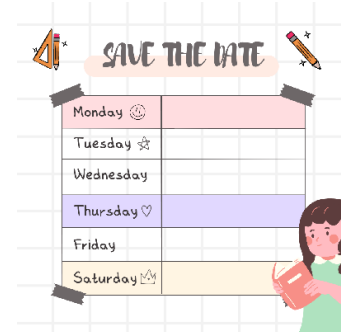
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Important Dates for 2022-2023

September 5 • Labor Day
September 27 • e-Learning Day
October 10-14 • Fall Break
November 23-25 • Thanksgiving Break
December 22 • Last Day of Semester 1
December 26-January 6 • Winter Break
January 9 • First Day of Semester 2
January 16 • MLK Jr. Day
January 26 • e-Learning/Waiver Day - TBD
February 20 • President's Day, possible make-up day
March 1 • e-Learning/Waiver Day - TBD
March 27-31 • Spring Break
April 13 • e-Learning/Waiver Day - TBD
May 25 • Last Day of School



Special Announcement

Breakfast for the 2022-23 school year is FREE for ALL students, regardless of free/reduced status. This only includes breakfast. In order for the meal to be free, students must take at least three of the offered items, with one being a fruit or vegetable.

This year, lunch is no longer free to all students. Additionally, lunch costs have gone up by 20 cents, bringing prices to \$3.05 at North and South Elementary and \$3.15 at Danville Community Middle School and High School. Lunch prices have not increased since the 2019-2020 school year, which makes this the first increase in three years.

New Safety Measures

This year, we will be using STOPit Safety and Wellness Solutions in our schools. By offering anonymous reporting, a 24/7 crisis hotline and updated safety training, this app helps protect the physical, social and emotional safety and well-being of students, staff and parents throughout the school year.

Every student, parent and teacher will receive a brief training on this app in the coming weeks. Please contact Chief of Police Matthew Oliphant at moliphant@danville.k12.in.us with any questions or concerns.

FOLLOW US!



@DCSCWarriors

One Team: One Mission

We commit to maximize our students' success through personalized experiences, so they make a difference in any community.

-FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT-



Our new mission statement was approved by the board on Monday, July 11, 2022. As our community continues to grow and more students fill our halls, we decided it was time to update our mission statement and reinforce the promise that we make to them.

This mission statement has a lot more meaning than it may seem. It carries a very important promise to our students, staff, teachers and community. In fact, it was so important to us to get it right that it went through a series of focus groups to be improved and ensure we tied in every detail. The meaning of each detail can be best understood by breaking it down.

Let's start with the word "we." This word represents the small town feeling Danville is best known for and is inclusive to all. We, no matter who we are in the community, are in this together. We are coming together to "commit" to our students. We are making a promise to every child, teacher and parent "to maximize our students' success," and we will ensure our students are able to do more than just reach their success. With this mission, we raise the bar to exceed expectations.

So, now that we have the promise, how are we going to achieve it? "Through personalized experiences," tells us exactly what our approach needs to be. Every child is different, and we don't want to put them all in the same mold. We want to give them personalized experiences through clubs, sports, one-on-one conversations, classes and even hallway interactions. These experiences give each child the personalized education they need in order to, as I mentioned before, maximize their success.

"So they make," introduces the why of the mission statement. It makes the students the subject of our mission, which is exactly who we work to serve. We want to prepare them to make "a difference in any community," so whether they are thriving in Danville or in a completely different community, they will be equipped to tackle any problems and make an impact on any person or community that they come across. The world outside of Danville Community School Corporation is big, and we want our children to be prepared to face it. That is why we are coming together as one team to work towards one very important mission.

I am proud to be your Superintendent, and I am proud to grow our impact and make the Danville Difference in our community and beyond.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tracey Shafer".

DCSC Superintendent Dr. Tracey Shafer



Setting the 'PACE' for a successful year

This summer, our PACE before and after school program was filled with friendship, learning and circus-themed fun! PACE, the program for Positive And Caring Experiences, hosted 75 students this year and kept them active with crafting, movies, swimming, dress-up days, a foam party, a petting zoo, a clown visit, a magician, an ice cream truck and weekly visits with the Danville-Center Township Public Library. It shaped up to be one of the best summers yet!



Welcoming our Warriors home

Danville Community Middle and High School hosted Warrior Welcome Day on August 3! Several students, both new and returning, came out to decorate their lockers, store their supplies, learn their schedules and get their new ID's!



Feeding the community

The summer feeding program with Danville Community School Corporation served 2,121 breakfasts and 1,856 lunches!

Making the Danville Difference

Throughout the spring and summer, the Nutrition Club volunteered at the concession club to earn money for our students! This allows them to supply food to families across our community on weekends, holidays and school breaks.



Keeping students safe

The DCSC Police Department hosted a School Safety Awareness Night for parents. Parents asked our panelists a series of questions, and they heard a powerful message from Carly Posey, the mission director for the "I Love You Guys" Foundation.



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Danville Community Schools...WE ARE WARRIORS!



THE DANVILLE DIFFERENCE

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Homecoming 2022

A pep rally, a parade, a victorious football game and more! This year's Homecoming celebration was one that we won't soon forget. Thank you to the students, parents and staff who helped make this year's festivities so incredible! Our community proves time and time again what it means to be a Danville Warrior.



Students and teachers compete in a relay race during the Homecoming Pep Rally. This challenge was a close call, but the seniors came out on top! See them celebrating in photo #2.



The best part of the Homecoming Parade is that participation is open to all ages! These young cheerleaders and football players had so much fun throwing out candy and shouting to the people lining the streets cheering for them.



The DCMS cheerleaders did a great job of getting the crowd excited before the football team ran on the field and began preparing for their big game. Even better, THEY WON! Great job, Warriors!



heART of a Warrior at North

North Elementary Art Teacher Mrs. Starks completed a project earlier this year that was designed to bring the whole community together. They used their creativity and imagination to make a big banner covered with hand-printed hearts for the football players to run through at a home game for our whole town to enjoy. They also wrote and designed letters for coaches, players, cheerleaders and band members! This project was super fun, and it had a positive impact on all those who could be involved. Here is what North Elementary Art Teacher Mrs. Starks had to say: "I wanted my students' artwork to connect with the community in a fun and impactful way. My little artists were more than thrilled to create a banner and cards for high schoolers! We were very excited to share at the football game during the DJFL night when many elementary families attended the game. The beginning of the school year is when students at North Elementary learn the Warrior Way: respectful, responsible, and ready to learn. We discussed how the high school band members, cheerleaders, and football players show these characteristics as well. HeART of a Warrior was born with the spirit of the Warrior Way and a desire to share our art with our Danville Community."



Pumpkin Drop at South

Our STEM Club students once again worked through the engineering design process to design packages that would keep their pumpkins safe. The whole event was so much fun, and they learned a valuable lesson: If at first you don't succeed, try, try again!



Book Fair at DCMS

DCMS enjoyed their annual Book Fair from October 24-28. Students would come with their classes to look at books, posters, pencil pouches, and other fun treasures. We love to see our students so excited for books!



Competing for extra credit at DCHS

Mrs. Henry's class competed in a coil contest to become more comfortable creating coil pots. They raced to see who could create the tallest and the most well-designed coil pots. The winning groups got 15 points of extra credit!





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ONE TEAM...

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...ONE MISSION

- From the CFO -



The month of November is here already. The time is flying by, and with November comes Thanksgiving, and Christmas follows shortly after, which everyone knows brings LIGHTS. Well, here at Danville Community Middle School, we are working on our lights, too, just not the ones you would normally see for the season. These lights are not going to change colors or flash off and on. No, our lights are working hard to save money. You might be wondering how that is. Our lights are being replaced with LED lights, and while they might not be changing colors, they are saving us *green* or money. We expect to have all the lights at the middle school replaced with LED lights by the start of school in January. These savings have a direct impact on our Operations Fund, where we pay all our utility bills, along with many other operational expenses.

You might be asking, "Why only the middle school? Why not all the buildings in the district?" Don't worry! We thought about that too. These are part of our campus master plan and will be replaced at Danville Community High School and South Elementary during the building project that is already in process. North Elementary was done last year when we did our building project there.

So, this year, when you are looking at the lights at Ellis Park or the lights in your neighborhood, think of the lights here at the schools and how we are constantly trying to improve our efficiencies and save money.

Corey Herbert, Chief Financial Officer



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Student-Athletes Win Big On and Off the Field

Several of our student-athletes are making big moves both on and off the field, as we had eight of our seniors receive Academic All-State Honors. Congratulations to James Beck (top left), Ethan Walls (top right), Carter Bilyeu (middle left), Brayden Spurlock (middle right), Parker McIntyre-Craig (bottom left), Caleb Harvey (bottom right), Dalen Miller (not photographed) and Marshall Clark (not photographed).

Honorees of this award are chosen by the Indiana Football Coaches Association, and it recognizes student-athletes who are varsity athletes on a sectional roster and who have a minimum grade-point average of 3.4 on a 4.0 scale. To receive this award is a huge honor and illustrates a commitment to growth.

In addition to this award, the DCSC Football Team was nominated as a National Football Foundation Academic Team of Excellence for the second year in a row. In order to be nominated for this award, the team must have a minimum cumulative team GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, superior academic application and performance and a successful football season.

DCSC Football Head Coach Jayme Comer said, "The first goal of our Danville Football program is to have our student-athletes WIN in the classroom. We can proudly say that the 2022 Warrior Football team accomplished that goal. Earning the honor of the National Football Foundation Academic Team of Excellence is a major accomplishment, one of only sixteen teams in the state to earn the honor, and one of only a handful to earn the honor in back-to-back years. As Head Coach, I am proud of our young men for striving for greatness in the classroom and on the field. The skills learned through managing a heavy academic course load and still achieving highly on the field of play, will serve our young men well for the rest of their lives! It is a great day to be a Warrior!"

Congratulations to these student-athletes for these two huge accomplishments!



THE DANVILLE DIFFERENCE

- In Pursuit of Excellence -



The realization of excellence lies equally as much in the journey as it does in the destination. Developing sound work habits, continually refining practice over time and the basic desire to do better are key steps in the pursuit of excellence. When our students and staff work together to attain excellence, we want to celebrate and make note of such gratifying outcomes. I would like to share with you three examples of excellence in process.

Earlier this year, our Danville third-grade students attained the 10th-highest rate of success in the state of Indiana on the third-grade IREAD-3 exam. Of the roughly 289 school corporations plus the charter schools, our Danville students and staff were 10th overall in the percentage of our students demonstrating reading mastery by grade three. What a proud accomplishment!

More recently, the high school football team had eight senior student-athletes who attained Academic All-State Honors. In addition, the Warrior Football Team was nominated as a National Football Foundation Academic Team of Excellence for the second year in a row. To qualify, teams must have a minimum cumulative team GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, superior academic application and performance and a successful football season.

Most recently, in February, our drama department performed three exhibitions of "The Clockmaker." Not only was this an excellent show by all involved, but it had a very unique story within the show. The Clockmaker was written and directed by none other than our very own high school senior student, Hunter VanBebber. Hunter has been refining his playwriting craft for the past four years to bring us this excellent production.

Each of these three recent successes by Danville students and staff exemplifies excellent work habits, refinement of practice and a strong desire to be better. Congratulations to all of these students not only for their excellent academic accomplishments but, equally important, for the excellent journey they have made to attain excellence.



DCSC Superintendent Dr. Tracey Shafer

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...ONE MISSION

High School Family and Consumer Science Class Creates Special Gift for Our Little Warriors

DCHS Family and Consumer Science Teacher Michele Mussman saw a very unique sewing project completed by a friend in another state, and her and her students agreed it was the perfect project to complete here in Danville. They immediately created a project outline and asked our Little Warriors to draw monsters for them to create.

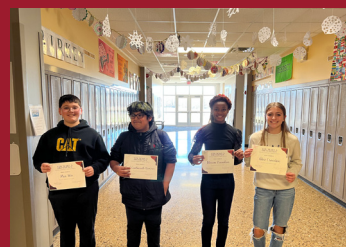
The project was created to give the high school students a new way to review and practice basic sewing skills that they had learned during the 2021-22 school year, but it became so much more. They saw the meaning that their work had, and they were able to make a real impact. "The students really enjoyed the work. They especially enjoyed giving the "monsters" to the little students. We talked about how we would improve the project in the future and we even had a grandparent stop by and tell them how the monsters had a positive impact on their grandchild," said Mrs. Mussman.

Thank you to these FACS students for the hard work and dedication you put into this project. You made so many Little Warriors very happy!



DCMS Students Make a Difference

One of our 7th-grade teams at DCMS (Team Ice) is doing something extra special this year to recognize our students' hard work. They are giving out monthly awards to students who are "making a difference" in and out of the classroom. Awards are given to students for attitude, integrity, effort, classroom leadership and kindness. "The 'You Make a Difference' Awards have been a culture builder this year. It's been a great opportunity to remind students that hard work and who they are as people are both so important - it's a way to publicly recognize their wonderful qualities outside of grades and data points. They are great people and celebrating their greatness in our hallway has had a positive impact. It is so great to have all the students line the hallway, call out the names of the students making a difference, and watch the others cheer and high-five them. It has helped create a positive community for our team," said DCMS English Teacher Mrs. Keri McRoberts. Keep up the good work Team Ice!



100 Days Smarter at North Elementary

Our students at North Elementary celebrated the 100th, 101st and 102nd days of school in so many creative ways! Dressing up, themed challenges and special snacks are just a few ways our teachers helped our students celebrate this important milestone. The best part? Our students LOVED it and felt so special along the way!



Numbers + Fun = The Perfect Valentines Day Activity at South



This Valentines Day, we love MATH at South Elementary. Miss Valentine opened a "Sweet Shop" for her students, and they had a set amount of money that they could spend on imaginary treats. The students learned about counting money and spending within a set amount, and they got a very special treat as a reward (a real cupcake) at the end.



DCHS Student Writes and Directs His Own Play

As many of you saw, several DCHS students recently performed “The Clockmaker,” a play written and directed by DCHS Senior Hunter VanBebber.

Hunter started writing this play during his Freshman year, and as he continued on with his high school career, he saw the play change in many different ways. By the time he finished writing it, his play took on a deeper meaning beyond the characters on the stage. It depicts a story about the world around us and changes the way people think to potentially make a larger impact on their community.

Hunter comes from a very creative family and has been writing stories since he was in Kindergarten. He always had a passion for storytelling and using his imagination, which is what led him to writing his own play.

When asked what he is most proud of about this experience, he said he is proud that he didn’t abandon his work and finished creating something so big. He added, “The fact that I’m seeing this to fruition, and it’s looking really cool, which is surprising, is nice.”

After graduating in May, Hunter will head off to college to study to become a high school history teacher and hopefully someday run a theatre department of his own. It didn’t take him long at all to describe his top goals because, for him, they’ve never changed.

“The main goals in my life that would give me fulfillment is I want to be a good teacher, a good writer, a good dad and a good grandpa,” said Hunter.

He hopes to one day look back at this as a proclaimed writer and see how much his work has grown and how proud he should be of what he accomplished at a younger age.

We are so proud of all of Hunter’s work, and we cannot wait to see what the future has in store for him. We have no doubt in our minds that we will someday see more works of art with his name on them.



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...One Mission

- From the Superintendent -

Each school year, we formally culminate the end of year with the graduation of the senior class. On May 26th, we were so happy to celebrate the graduates of the senior class of 2023 at the commencement exercise that evening. This provides a wonderful time to reflect on the years leading up to this treasured event. We are so proud of our seniors and also proud of the people who have served, taught and inspired them through their respective school careers. This year also ended with nine of our staff, teachers and administrators retiring from their educational careers in Danville. We so appreciate the value they have added to the lives of the children in our school community and thank them for their service. Likewise, our building teachers of the year, Mrs. Mershon at North Elementary, Mr. Romanetz at South Elementary, Mr. Jeffries at Danville Community Middle School, Mrs. Young at Danville Community High School, and staff member of the year, Mr. Eric Brooks were recognized and celebrated for their accomplishments. Congratulations to our awesome Seniors and many thanks to our outstanding educators for contributing to the Danville Difference!



THE DANVILLE DIFFERENCE

Elementary Teacher of the Year Mr. Jacob Romanetz



“Jacob Romanetz (aka Mr. R) is an exceptional teacher and leader at South Elementary School. Jacob works with third and fourth grade students who need extra support. He exemplifies what it means to be inclusionary of all students no matter their strengths and learning differences. He is not afraid to advocate for his students. Jacob works exceptionally hard to ensure all students receive the support they need in engaging and innovative ways that he is happy to share with his colleagues. Just walk into Mr. R’s room and you will see a learning environment unlike any other in the school. Over the summer, he spent countless hours creating a nature themed learning environment for his students. He uses flexible seating to allow students to be comfortable and engaged in learning. Students who are not pulled for RTI are sometimes disappointed that they do not get to visit his oasis at the school. He takes care of classroom animals which the students connect with and enjoy having. Jacob spends many hours after school volunteering with K-Kids and Jr. Hope Squad, attending professional development meetings, holding an iLearn remediation group, and preparing new lessons for the next school days. He even stayed after multiple nights to set up for Santa Shop, which turned out to be an unforgettable experience for students. If there is something to volunteer for or a colleague in need of help, Jacob is there to help and assist with a smile on his face and genuine heart.”

Secondary Teacher of the Year: Mrs. Jamie Young

“I would like to recommend Jamie Young as a candidate for Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Young is a gift to the students at Danville Community High School. She has a VERY high level of knowledge in the field of mathematics. Many times someone who has a high knowledge level does not make an amazing teacher, that is not the case for Mrs. Young. Not only does she fully understand the curriculum, but she also does an outstanding job of passing that knowledge to her students. She is amazing at explaining very difficult concepts, but she is also very consistent and methodical in the way she presents the information. Teaching the information in the same way, for every lesson is so important in math because it is a subject that builds upon itself. Mrs. Young was recording her lessons and posting them on YouTube way before it became something that all teachers were doing due to the pandemic. One day I woke up early and I heard Mrs. Young speaking in our house. My first thought was, “What is Mrs. Young doing here at this hour?” and then I realized that my daughter was sitting at the table re-watching the lecture examples to complete her homework. Mrs. Young was one of the first to realize that posting these lessons would do nothing but help her students. Multiple students access these videos daily. Mrs. Young also shows up early. EVERY DAY. She is available for math help at 7:30 without fail. Many students utilize this extra help time, and it is rare for Mrs. Young to not be giving a student extra help in the morning. She does this without complaining, without any prompting on anyone’s part except her own. Mrs. Young has put a huge amount of effort into her preparation for the classes she teaches. Not only does she go to a specialized conference every year, but she has also learned how the AP tests are scored, and she helps the students prepare for those exams. She teaches calculator tips, math concepts, and test-taking skills with amazing clarity. Mrs. Young also helps other teachers improve their craft by investing her time in them and the curriculum of the entire math department. The personal time Mrs. Young has invested in her craft is commendable. On top of all of these incredible teaching skills, Mrs. Young also has a great rapport with the students. They not only respect her but enjoy her class and their time with her. She is personally vested in their lives and they know that. I am thrilled that my children have been privileged to have Mrs. Young as a teacher and I could not recommend any educator any higher.”



Support Staff Member of the Year: Mr. Eric Brooks



“I am nominating Eric Brooks for Support Staff Member of the Year. Over the last year, I have had the privilege of observing Eric’s work and contributions to the community, and I can’t express enough how truly thankful I am for all that he does. I don’t think I have gone a single day at DCSC without seeing Eric on the move. He is constantly moving from building to building to make sure everything that needs to be fixed is fixed. Not only that, but he often goes out of his way to do it! No matter the time or day or what he is doing, he is always there to assist. Even for tasks as simple as hanging photos in your office or changing out lightbulbs, Eric will come promptly and get the job done quickly and efficiently. Every single time I have worked with Eric, he has answered every single one of my questions and has done so with a smile. I always look forward to working with him, and I know I’m not alone. For these reasons and so many more, I believe Eric should be our next Support Staff Member of the Year.”

DCHS Seniors Walk the Halls as Students One Last Time

As the school year came to a close, our senior students walked through the halls of each school one last time. They started at South Elementary, then they went to North Elementary, then, finally, they made their way to Danville Community Middle School. It was so great to see the younger students cheer them on and understand the importance of this huge accomplishment. So many teachers saw former students and embraced them in congratulatory hugs, and many tears were shed as they waved goodbye one last time. This is such a special tradition that we will all hold near and dear to our hearts forever! Here are some of the congratulatory messages shared in response to the Senior Walk on social media:

"Best. Tradition. Ever! Congrats!"

"Congratulations class of 2023!"

"Exciting times for these grads - well done!"

"This is awesome. Congratulations class of 2023."

"Congrats! You all are awesome!"



North Students Get Creative

Our 2nd-grade Warriors created their own Wax Museum!

They each picked their animals, conducted in-depth research, created clay figures, and prepared their tri-folds for the big presentation! Mr. Murphy said the following about the project: "The most valuable skill they gain, in my opinion, is an early and positive experience with public speaking. A huge percentage of adults fear this, but our second graders are fearless! They love it! The best feedback I get from this project is from my students who tell me they want to do it all over again."



South's Got Talent!

South Elementary's 2023 Talent Show, hosted by the K-Kids, was a huge success! It featured singers, dancers, comedians, beatboxers and SO much more! There was even a staff flash mob at the end! As the year came to a close, it was great to see students so excited to cheer each other on and have fun with each other for an afternoon before saying goodbye for the summer. Great job to ALL of the performers who took the stage and blew us all away.



DCHS Students Visit DCMS

A few of our DCHS Student Council members recently came over to DCMS to tell them all about what they do! Going into high school can be scary for so many kids, but these students made sure to help them as much as they could. The overall goal of the visit was to encourage 8th-grade students to get involved with Student Council next year, but it most certainly also helped them see the benefits of getting involved with any club.



DCMS Hosts Luau for Students

Our incredible PTO planned and organized a Luau for our DCMS students! This was a super fun evening for all involved.

Students danced, played games and enjoyed delicious snacks with their friends. Thank you to everyone who helped provide these students with a night filled with memories!



Danville Community Schools 2022-2023: A Year to Remember



It has been a great year in the Danville Community School Corporation! We are so proud of our students and staff for their dedication to education, excellence and the Danville community. Here is a brief look at all of the amazing things our Warriors were up to this year. At Danville Community Schools, we are ONE TEAM with ONE MISSION.

For our full Year in Review, visit <https://www.danville.k12.in.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=332> and scroll to the bottom of the page or scan the QR code below!

