March 20, 2023

Davison Community Schools Building Beat

Hahn Heroes named for March

Each month staff member have the opportunity to recognize a student from their class as a Hahn Hero

This month's winners include: **Caiden Abraham, Will Anderson, Callie Asher, Amiyah Bowman, Jaxon Brady, Morgan Burley, Connor Cook, Hadley Craft, Landen Crockett, Isabella Curtis, Finnegan Dean, Evan Demo, Takota Durham, Chloe Edwards, Skyler Ellwart, Aryana Flores, Bud Fuson, Aiden Hall, Ayvah Hart, Noah Heyworth, Ella Horwath, Brooke Huntley, Alexis Juhl, Michael Kellaway, Rylen Keller, Ivan Kuzmanovski, Gabriel MacDonald, Grace Mayer, Bailey Minzey, Cadence Murray, Arketo Patterson-Powell, Ryan Pierson, Paige Prill, Alivia Reece, Kinsley Robertson, Eleanor Rood, Otman Samarah, Sophie Schwabauer, Carlee Schwartz, Faith Smith, Jackson Summitt, Rayna Travis, Peyton Van Jeuna**, and **Vincent Waller.**

GHS facilitates smoking cessation, support groups

Since signing a Memo of Understanding with Genesee Health System in December, a smoking cessation class has begun at Davison Alternative Education to help students give up vaping, nearly a dozen student support groups are meeting twice a week at Davison Middle School and a mobile unit has been summoned several times to assist with emergency mental health care.

"Once they realized this wasn't a 'gotcha' thing and that we really are here to help them, we already have students recruiting their friends to attend," Davison Alternative Education Principal **TJ Fischhaber** said about the smoking cessation class.



Teacher **Shawn Lewis**, who helped to organize the group, said the response has been overwhelming from both students and the GHS counselors facilitating the smoking cessation pilot program.

"We are all hopeful that their success, along with word of mouth will only lead to further ability to have more sessions, and help more students develop awareness, self-control and the coping skills needed to quit and/or avoid this addiction," she said.

At Davison Middle School, about 75 students have been participating in weekly support groups since February 7. Students were invited to join and had to obtain parent permission in order to participate.

Counselor **Joni Clemons** said that GHS is facilitating two groups in the afternoon on Tuesdays, a grief group for seventh and eighth graders and a positive coping and relationship skills group for seventh graders.

On Thursdays, there are five support groups with two therapists from GHS in each group. Those groups include: improving healthy relationships, coping with loss and trauma, anger management and positive coping and relationship skills.

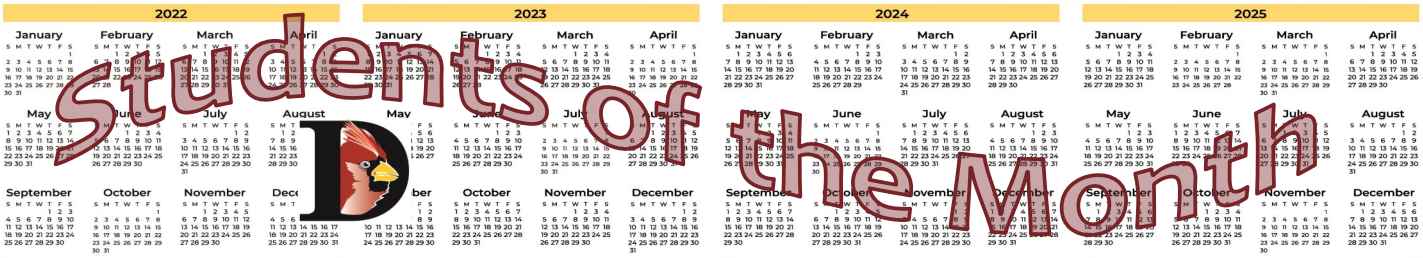
"During our positive coping and relationships group, I heard a student say, 'It helps to know that others are struggling like me, and we can do something about it,'" Clemons said.

Instrumental music students qualify for state level after receiving Superior ratings

Our student musicians gave some very impressive performances this past weekend at Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association (MSBOA) District Festivals. The Concert Band and Wind Ensemble performed at Carman -Ainsworth and the String and Symphonic Orchestra competed at Swartz Creek. All of the ensembles received Superior ratings and will move on to the State level at the end of April.



"We are all so very proud of their hard work and dedication," said DHS Instrumental Music Director **James Schuster.**



DHS/DAE Students of the Month for February, March

Congratulations to the following students selected as Students of the Month for February and March:

FEBRUARY

9th Grade - **Sophie Thomas**
Nominated by: **Mrs. Neimi**
Sophie is a wonderful person. I see her demonstrate kindness and tolerance to others outside of her social circle. She is a hard worker, prepared for class, and rises to academic challenges. Sophie regularly participates in class discussions adding valuable input to our conversations in world history. She is also artistic and has demonstrated her drawing skills on projects for class. Sophie spreads joy to others and makes DHS a better place with her kindness and positivity!



Sophie

10th Grade - **Joseph Merz**
Nominated by: **Mrs. Woodruff**
Joe is a great student. He's often first to be done with his work and will help others finish their work. He gets along well with everyone, and is seldom absent or tardy!



Joseph

11th Grade - **MiAngel Harris**
Nominated by: **Mrs. Zimmer**
MiAngel (Myaa) is one of the kindest, hardest-working students I have the privilege to teach. She consistently puts forward her best on everything she does, from classwork to extra-curricular activities to her home life. Myaa never hesitates to ask for assistance if she needs it, but more often gives assistance when a classmate or I need it. I can always count on Myaa to do "the right thing" and without complaint. She advocates for herself when needed and is always respectful and kind when doing so. My favorite

part of working with Myaa is hearing what she does in her free time and how family-oriented she is. She brags about her siblings and all they do; she seems like a great sister. I'm so very proud of Myaa!



MiAngel

12th - **Makenzy Workman**
Nominated by: **Mrs. Martin**
While Makenzy has only been with our Student Council for a year and a half, she has volunteered to either chair or help on many committees and events. I know that when we are behind or need an extra hand, she will not only stand up to help, she will make sure that we finish what we have started. She has shown growth as a leader and continues to work with teachers, administrators and fellow classmates supporting school spirit and our club. Most recently, she is working with a team to share ideas with other school councils at a local conference, while working through a plan for our first indoor pep assembly in three years.



Makenzy

DAE - **Julian Draper**
Nominated by: **Mrs. Springsteen**
Since arriving to DAE in November, Julian has been a model student and a bright spot in class. To begin with, Julian stays fully engaged in learning, no matter what is going on. Julian asks insightful questions and makes a genuine attempt to deepen his understanding of whatever material we are covering. Additionally, he is kind to his fellow classmates, as well as his teachers. Julian has initiated a friendship with a very quiet student who has struggled to make friends, and invited her to sit with him at lunch. Finally, Julian is dependable and always ready to learn in class each day; he is well-organized and prepared with the proper materials. He sets a great example for other students to look to. Overall, Julian is a wonderful person and a great addition to DAE.





Josie

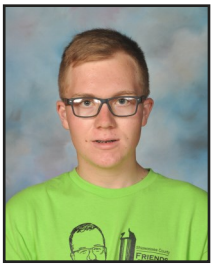
<u>MARCH</u>

9th Grade - **Josie Kish**
Nominating Teacher: **Mr. Pizzala**
Josie is an outstanding student! She always comes to class prepared and ready to learn. She is respected by her peers and has a strong work ethic. In addition to being very strong academically she has a positive attitude and always exceeds expectations!



Garrett

10th Grade - **Garrett Britton**
Nominating Teacher: **Mrs. Gokey**
Garrett is a responsible and respectful student. Garrett shows up every day ready to complete his work and participate in class. When Garrett misses school, he takes it upon himself to complete the work to stay caught up with the rest of the class. On top of being a great student, he is an absolute pleasure to be around. He exemplifies what a student of the Month should look like.



Jeffery

1th Grade - **Jeffrey Bowren**
Nominating Teacher: **Mr. Coron**
Jeffrey is one of my top performers in Career Development and Independent Living. Jeffrey also has a great sense of humor. Not only is Jeffrey getting it done in the classroom, but he has also been holding down part-time employment with Genesee County Parks and NCG Cinemas. Jeffrey also serves as a teacher's aide with Ms. Ruggerio, helping out with the recycling

club and different classroom needs.



Megan

12th Grade - **Megan Harris**
Nominating Teacher: **Mr. Kovatch**
Megan is a very hard-working student in my Astronomy class. Unfortunately, she has been unable to participate in some of her favorite activities during her senior year. She is a very nice and thoughtful young lady who should be recognized for her hard work. This is not how Megan wanted her senior year to be, but she is truly making the best of a difficult situation.



Indigo

DAE - **Indigo Campbell-Watts**
Nominating Teacher: **Mr. Friske**
Indigo is a positive influence on her peers. She is punctual, kind and willing to help others. Indigo continues to succeed in academics and will without a doubt have a successful career in the future.





Students at Hill Elementary celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

Have an idea for Building Beat? We love to hear from our staff, students and alums! If you have a story or accomplishment to share, know of a student or staff member we should feature, or would like to let us know what you are doing since graduation, please email us at: medwards@davisonschools.org

Gates Elementary PTO funds art program



Students at Gates Elementary are being introduced to artists such as Vincent van Gogh, Pablo Picasso and Andy Warhol thanks to funding by the PTO and a team of teachers that came up with the six lessons that will be taught this school year.

Fourth grade teacher Brielle Bayliss said she was attending a PTO meeting when some parents vocalized how much their students loved art and that they wished the PTO funds raised through student fundraisers could be used for an art program.

"I told them and (Principal) Mrs. Miller that if this is ever something they would like to move forward with, I have been an art director before and would be happy to help implement it," Brielle said.

It was decided to move forward and Brielle enlisted the help of fellow teachers Tammy Rappley, Erica Medbery, Katie Gist and Rebecca McConnell.

"Our goal for this program is to introduce and teach the fine arts—which is a part of the humanities that can be often overlooked yet has vital importance," Brielle said. "Art has the ability to change and influence the past, present and future. Personally, I love the arts. I was always a student who felt called to art and felt it gave me the ability to fully express and validate my true self. Furthermore, studying famous artists always allowed me to find deeper meaning within their art and gave me inspiration as well."



The goal for this year is to introduce some of the most famous artists to students, their artistic style, and that artist's medium of choice. In February, students focused on Vincent van Gogh and discussed some of his more famous paintings like "Starry Night," "Terrace at Night" and "Sunflowers."

Brielle said students talked about the artist's color choice and expressive paint strokes before getting the opportunity to try and replicate his style with oil pastels on multi-media art paper.

This month, the featured artist will be Andy Warhol. In April, students will learn about George Seurat and two artists will be featured in May—Pablo Picasso and Georgia O'Keeffe. Frida Kahlo will be the featured artist for June.

Brielle said she would love to continue the art lessons next year and hopes to focus on different art mediums as well such as scratchboard, watercolors, charcoal, collages, etc.

"I have always found that art enhances student confidence and self-esteem," Brielle said. "There is a reason art therapy has become so huge in recent years; it soothes the soul."

In addition, Brielle has also begun to notice an unexpected benefit of the art lessons.

"I told them that some of the most famous pieces of artwork have come from mistakes," she said. "Mistakes are part of the process, thus; if you make a mistake, make it into art! Since then I have heard my students say multiple times, 'Whoops, I made a









