January 26, 2022

Building Beat

Christy Turner named local VFW Teacher of the Year

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Dave Love, Jr. Vice President of Davison VFW Post #4087 said Christy will be competing at the state level at this weekend's VFW convention.

"Mrs. Turner is a master educator and utilizes best practices to ensure she teaches the curriculum with excellence," said Mrs. Christy Flowers, Principal at Siple Elementary. "Her student achievement data is evidence that her students make tremendous academic growth every year. What makes Mrs. Turner exceptional is her dedication to teaching the whole child. Yes, she delivers strong content instruction, but she takes it the next step by also focusing on character development and citizenship.

Mrs. Turner works hard to develop a strong sense of community within her fourth grade classroom. She teaches character traits through the Positivity Project and promotes being a good citizen not only at school but in the community. She spends time explicitly teaching the positive behavior expectations of the Cardinal Code for her students in the classroom and the school. She has even created different videos to capture the students attention and deepen their understanding of the importance of good behavior and citizenship.

"Christy believes she can make a lasting impact in the lives of her students and makes every effort to do so to help them be positive members of the community," Mrs. Flowers said. "She knows that every child can and will learn and become successful. She works tirelessly to make this happen. She cares deeply about each of her students and works to help them develop personal confidence and a sense of community and belonging in the classroom and school as a whole.

The Davison VFW Post has been intentional about nominating an educator for its Teacher of the Year program for the past eight or so years, according to Love.

"It's a great thing for the community and recognition for our teachers, who just aren't recognized enough," Love said. "Plus, it gets our VFW involved with our schools and that is one of our main goals is for the VFW to support kids."

Cool to Care campaign nets record amount for Outreach

Despite setbacks due to the COVID pandemic and storage issues at Outreach East

Xello replaces Career Cruising

Students in grades 7-12 have now moved to a platform called Xello for career education and completion of their EDP (Education Development Plan). Xello provides a complete interactive career, personality and learning style assessments to help them better understand their unique interests, skills and strengths.

"One of the many things offered for all students is the ability to build self-knowledge with personalized student portfolios," said **Anna Wells**, EDP Coordinator at Davison High School.

Parent involvement is highly encouraged and parents of all students in grades 7-12 should have received information to be able to login to their child's account. Parents needing assistance should contact Ms. Wells at 591-0139 or awells@davisonschools.org.

that prevented the district's traditional canned food drive, our students, staff and families supported this year's Cool to Care effort by donating a whopping $13,015.92 to the cause.

The check was presented to Outreach Director Jan Lebert on Tuesday, January 25.

Special thanks go to Davison High School students **Kylie Haremza** and **Paige Craft** for leading this year's campaign.

DHS/DAE Students of the month for December

Congratulations to the following students selected as Students of the Month for December.



Savannah

9th Grade - **Savannah Lalonde**
Nominated by Mrs. **Darcey Kondel**
Savannah Lalonde is the ideal student! She is a hard-working student who puts forth her best effort in everything in class. She never hesitates to ask for help if needed and is always willing to help those around her. Her attendance is fantastic and she is always on time for class. Savannah does not hesitate to volunteer her answers for a warm up and has been a very positive influence in class. I love hearing her help those around her and explaining how to do different problems in her own words. She is a huge asset to those around her!



Gavin

10th Grade - **Gavin Shepherd**
Nominated by Mrs. **Lindsey Gokey**
Gavin is a great representation of the Cardinal Code. He is always kind to his classmates and willing to help them out whenever he can. He comes to class every day and tries his best. Gavin gets along with everyone in the class and works well with others.



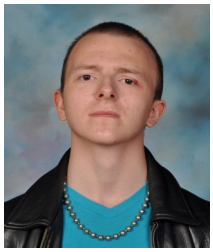
Vivian

11th Grade - **Vivian Griffin**
Nominated by Mr. **James Wilcox**
Vivian just at the beginning of the year has shown determination and hard work in a class that can be difficult, and at a time when her mathematical self-confidence is low. She pays attention, respects others, and is a positive benefit to the classroom.



Nadia

12th Grade - **Nadia Owens**
Nominated by Mrs. **Sarah Seiter**
As the second year as our HOSA president Nadia has also been by my side for the three amazing years I have had at DHS. Every project I have done Nadia has been there to help me every step of the way. I can depend on Nadia for anything and everything. When she leaves DHS to fly on her own it will be a very sad day for me. I have become amazing friends with her family and I know where Nadia gets her hard work and dedication from.

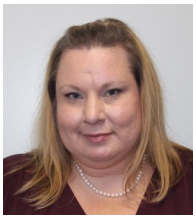


Liam

DAE - **Liam McCormick**
Nominated by Mrs. **Jennifer Orkisz**
Liam transferred to the Alt this year. Choir is his world and is genuine when saying it is what brings him joy each day. He was so worried about not being in choir with the change in buildings, but was very honest saying that he needed to graduate and knew it was the right thing to do. He is my consistent bass....he has a great musical ear, promotes singing by being a great example and a great leader. He is such a joy to have in class and is always polite by saying goodbye each day.

Pamela Ruggiero

Pamela is teaching science at Davison High School. She earned her bachelor's degree from St. Mary's College and her master of arts degree from Madonna University.



Pamela

"I've wanted to be a teacher since kindergarten," she said. "Mom and my first grade teacher were my inspirations."

Pam is still very close to her mom, and also has a brother, sister, two nephews and a niece. Her family also includes two dogs, two fish, one frog and a box turtle.



In her spare time, Pamela enjoys fixing up her old house, gardening, family time and her dogs, reading, movies and learning new things.

Dennice Atkinson

Dennice is a paraprofessional at Thomson Elementary.



Dennice

"All teachers love to work with children but working with kindergarten-aged children is especially gratifying," Dennice said. "Add in the amazing staff at Thomson Elementary and I have the greatest job!"

Dennice has been married for 35 years and has two amazing daughters who have blessed her with five grandchildren.

Dennice enjoys walking her dogs daily, reading and spending time with her grandchildren. She especially loves going to the trampoline park with them.

Melanie Berry

Melanie is the Early Learning Director and oversees the District's Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) and Cardinal's Nest preschool programs.



Melanie

"I believe the experiences children have before the age of 5 set the foundation for the rest of their lives," Melanie said. "I'm proud to be a part of building that strong foundation for children."

Melanie is married to Scott and they have three children: Claire attends Davison Middle School, Molly is a student at Gates Elementary and Seth attends preschool at the Cardinal's Nest.

Melanie enjoys spending time with her family (which always comes first). When she does have time, she enjoys reading, water sports, home décor shopping and listening to podcasts and music.



Amy

Amy Hyrman

Amy is a counselor at Davison High School. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan-Flint and has her master of arts degree from Central Michigan University.

Amy says she loves working with and helping young people.

Amy and her husband, John, have three children: Daniel, Jacob and Emma. In her spare time, Amy enjoys reading, cooking and learning new things.