



A Review of the
Great Things
Happening in
Our Schools.

September 9, 2016

Building Beat

Upcoming ...

Friday, September 9:
Siple Family Inflatable
Day, 5-7 p.m.

Monday, September 12:
DHS Parent Advisory
Committee, 5:30 p.m.
Media Center

Board of Education
meeting, 7 p.m. DHS AMR
(New Teacher Reception
begins at 6:30 p.m.)

Tuesday, September 13:
DMS Parent Network
Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Community Room

Siple Watch D.O.G.S.
Dads and Kids Pizza
Night, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Gymnasium

Wednesday, Sept. 14:
Delayed Schedule Begins
for Davison High School &
Davison Alternative
Education students;
School begins at 9:30 a.m.

School Picture Day,
Thomson Elementary

Thursday, September 15:
Thomson Watch D.O.G.S.
kickoff, 4:30-7 p.m.

Equestrian Team to compete at districts this weekend

Good luck to the **Davison High School Equestrian Team** as they saddle up and head on over to Districts this Saturday at the Shiawassee County Fairgrounds.

The meet will start at 8 a.m. and go until about 6 p.m. The team is currently holding at third place out of seven teams. The top two teams will be going to regionals. All are welcome to come out and cheer the team on!



This year's team consists of juniors **Jessica Childs** and **Hailey Dennis**, sophomore **Taryn Swayze** and freshman **Trinity Waterson**.

A great start to the work week for Gates teacher

Gates Elementary Teacher **Marie Glenn** got an early morning call Tuesday from a parent who excitedly told her she had been nominated—and won—the “Teacher of the Day” contest sponsored by Detroit radio station 95.5 “Mojo in the Morning.”

“The parent called me at 6 a.m.,” Marie said. “At first I was worried something was wrong with her son. She said ‘sorry for interrupting your morning but I nominated you for this contest and you’ve won \$1,000 and I think they are going to call you.’ ”



Marie Glenn It wasn't long before the radio station called Marie. While she was on hold, Marie could hear the parent, Andrea DelVecchio, talking about the special relationship that has developed between her son, a current third grader in Mrs. Jennifer Lauwers classroom, and Marie since he was in the first grade.

“I just balled my eyes out,” Marie said. “The reason I’m where I’m at today is because of my parents and students.”

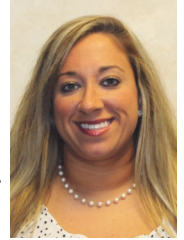
Delayed schedule begins Wednesday for DHS, DAE students

The delayed Wednesday schedule will begin for Davison High School and Davison Alternative Education students on Wednesday, September 14. Students will begin school at 9:30 a.m. (except as otherwise noted) on Wednesdays throughout the school year.

Introducing the newest members to our teaching staff

Thirteen new teachers were hired by the district for the 2016-17 school year. Read on to learn more about our newest members to the DCS Family.

- ◆ **Jackie Arvaneh** is teaching family and consumer science at Davison High School. She attended Mott Community College and Madonna University to earn her degree in family and consumer science with a minor in speech communication. Jackie said she taught her little brother while growing up and loved it, prompting her to become a teacher. Jackie's family consists of a chihuahua dog, Chloe, and two cats, Zoe and Mr. Ali. Jackie enjoys cooking, singing in her car and swimming.



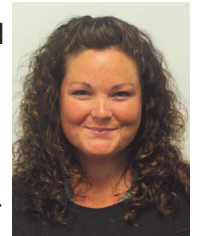
Jackie



Nicole

- ◆ **Nicole Illig** is a speech language pathologist at Siple Elementary and the Cardinal's Nest. She has a bachelor's degree in communication disorders and a master's degree in speech language pathology from Central Michigan University. "I love working with a variety of children and it's rewarding to help someone learn to communicate or communicate more effectively," she said. Nicole's family includes husband, Bryan, stepson, Bryce, 9, and 10-month-old twins Tessa and Tucker. Nicole enjoys reading, baking, yoga/fitness activities and spending time with family.

- ◆ **Shawn Lewis** is teaching math at Davison Alternative Education. She has a bachelor of science degree in education and art from the University of Michigan-Flint and a master of science degree in education and mathematics from Walden University. She will complete her master of science degree in special education, learning disabled from the University of Michigan-Flint next summer. "I decided to become a teacher after having great influences and mentors when I attended Davison schools myself," Shawn said. "During and after high school, I worked in my community to help and teach others and developed a love. I have been a teacher in the classroom for 11 years and I could not imagine a better place to be. Each year I am overwhelmed with the relationships, triumphs and learning experiences for both the students and myself. I continue to be humbled by the challenges and overall experience." Shawn and her husband, Jason, also a Davison alumnus, moved back to Davison from Maryland three years ago and are thrilled to be raising their beautiful 8-month-old baby girl in the same community they both grew up. Shawn said they are very close to family and friends and enjoy spending quality time with them, making many wonderful memories. The family also loves to travel, especially up north, and are active outdoors in all seasons. Their family would not be complete without dogs, Lexi and GiGi, both of whom have proven to be the best "big sisters," according to Shawn.



Shawn



Gwen

- ◆ **Gwen Lindsay** is teaching second grade at Central Elementary. She earned her bachelor of science degree in elementary education from Oakland University. "I became a teacher so that I could work and learn with children," she said. "They are each amazing and have their own special gifts." Gwen is married to Joseph and they have five children: Alexandria, Cassidy, Joey, Cole and Conner. A very large and affectionate golden retriever named Demo is also part of the family. Gwen enjoys hanging out with her family, working outside and playing softball.

- ◆ **Ashley McCann-Markham** is a special education teacher at Central Elementary. A Davison High School graduate, Ashley earned her bachelor of arts in special education from Spring Arbor University, master of arts degree in teaching from Marygrove College and educational specialist degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of Michigan. “There are many reasons why I became a teacher but the biggest influences were the amazing teacher examples that I had in my life,” Ashley said. “My mother, Robyn Cook, was a para educator in the Davison district for many years. My second grade teacher, Mrs. Webb, at Gates. My math teacher in sixth grade, Mrs. Smith. Mrs. Blake (Overstreet) was my assistant basketball coach and a huge influence on my life. Also, Mr. Timmerman, my varsity basketball coach. All of these educators influenced me in such positive ways. I knew I wanted to be able to do the same for other students.” This is Ashley’s 11th year of teaching and she said she is excited be back home and giving back to the community that gave so much to her growing up. Ashley is married to David Markham. She has two children, Gage and Fisher McCann. The family also includes pet dogs Henry and Bentley. Ashley enjoys raising her two awesome children and spending time with family and friends.



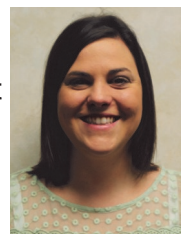
Ashley



Rebecca

- ◆ **Rebecca McConnell** is teaching first grade at Gates Elementary. She earned her bachelor of science degree with a major in elementary education and specialization in early childhood, from the University of Michigan-Flint. Rebecca said she pursued a career in teaching because she was inspired by her second grade teacher. Rebecca and her husband, Ken, are expecting a baby in December. Their family also consists of two cats, Chloe and Sawyer. Rebecca enjoys traveling, Pinterest, reading and kayaking.

- ◆ **Ellen Meinecke** is teaching fourth grade at Central Elementary. She earned her bachelor of science degree in elementary education with a major in language arts and minor in math from Central Michigan University. “Working with kids has always been a passion,” Ellen said. “I spent time in the classroom with my mom who was a preschool teacher in the Davison area for many years. I felt it was my calling.” Ellen’s family includes dad, Mark, an electrician at GM; mother, Janet, a retired preschool teacher; and sister, Laura, a chemical engineer for Kellogg. Ellen enjoys being outside in the beautiful summer weather, taking trips to explore nearby places, visiting animal shelters to get her furry friend time in and preparing to possibly one day adopt her own pet. “I’m so excited to be a part of the Davison Community Schools family,” Ellen said. “As a neighbor to Davison, growing up in Lapeer, I always knew this was the place where I wanted to end up. I completed my student teaching at Gates in the fall of 2014 and spent last school year as a long-term substitute at Hahn Intermediate. I can’t wait to share my Cardinal pride!”



Ellen



Melissa

- ◆ **Melissa Schwab** is teaching preschool as part of the Great Start Readiness Program at Central Elementary, Melissa earned her degree in early elementary education from Baker College. “I want to be part of changing the world,” she said. Melissa is married to Andrew and they have a 4-month-old son, Blake. She enjoys softball and playing with her son.

- ◆ **Angela Stratman** is teaching English language arts and social studies to seventh graders at Davison Middle School. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan-Flint, majoring in elementary education with minors in English language arts, social studies, mathematics as well as a ZS endorsement. "I decided to become a teacher because I love teaching and learning, and I want to make a difference in the lives of students and their families," she said. Angela is married to Mark. They have four children: Alli, Courtney, Mark and Katie; two grandchildren, Raelynn and Cade, and two dogs, Sunny and Samson. Angela is very active in her church and serves on the praise team, choir and teaches Sunday school to students in sixth through eighth grades. She enjoys gardening, baking, walking, traveling, reading, home improvement projects and spending time with her family.



Angela

- ◆ **Mixsy Trinidad** is teaching fourth grade at Central Elementary. She has a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Caldwell University, a bachelor of science degree in elementary education from the University of Michigan and a master of arts degree in elementary education from Michigan State University. "From a very young age, when I would tutor other students, I knew that one day I would become a teacher," Mixsy said. "Helping to motivate students achieve their goals is what drives me each day to be the best teacher I can be. Ever since I became a teacher, I haven't 'worked' a single day because I am doing what I love!" Mixsy and her husband, Alex, have two daughters, Alexis, 16, and Ashley, 14. Their family also includes two golden retrievers, Maggie and Ryder. Mixsy loves to read—especially young adult literature and biographies. She also enjoys long walks with the dogs and the Friday night lights—football games—and color guard competitions.



Mixsy

- ◆ **Faith Weier** is teaching first grade at Gates Elementary and also coaching eighth grade girls' basketball. Faith earned her bachelor of arts degree from Alma College. "I have a passion for children and love seeing them grow and become who they are supposed to be." Faith is engaged to Sean Canning. Her family also includes mom, Katrina Fellenbaum; dad, James Weier; step-mom, Shelley Benner; and step-father, Kyle Fellenbaum. Faith enjoys basketball, reading and children's ministry.



Faith

Also joining our faculty this year are:

- ◆ **David Binkley**, Teacher and Career Technical Director at Davison High School
- ◆ **Erin Woodruff**, Business Teacher at Davison High School.

We love to hear from our staff, students and alums! If you have a story or accomplishment to share, or would like to let us know what you are doing since graduation, please email us at: medwards@davisonschools.org

First Day of School for GSRP

