



November 21, 2012

*A Review of the
Great Things
Happening in
Our Schools.*

Building Beat

Upcoming ...

Monday, Nov. 26:

Hill Elementary Book Fair

Siple Elementary Book
Fair

Tuesday, Nov. 27:

Hill Elementary Book Fair

Siple Elementary Book
Fair

Wednesday, Nov. 28:

Hill Elementary Book Fair

Siple Elementary Book
Fair

Thursday, Nov. 29:

Hill Elementary Book Fair

Siple Elementary Book
Fair

Friday, Nov. 30:

1/2 Day for DAE students
only; end of 1st Trimester

Hill Elementary Book Fair

Siple Elementary Book
Fair

Monday, December 4:

Cardinal Code
Extravaganza, Hahn

Gates Elementary Book
Fair

Cardinal Shop Open
House, 5-8 p.m.

DAE 2nd Trimester Begins

High School, Hahn named as Beating The Odds schools

Davison High School and **Hahn Intermediate** have been named to the Michigan Department of Education's list of 134 "Beating The Odds" schools. This is the third Davison school building within a year to earn such a designation; last year **Hill Elementary** was named as a "Beating The Odds" school.

The list includes schools that are outperforming buildings with similar risk factors and demographic composition. These schools were identified by the MDE through two separate studies using considerably different methodologies.

"I am very proud of the High School and Hahn Intermediate staff along with all of our staff at Davison Community Schools," said Superintendent **Eric Lieske**. "We have strong educational leaders and classroom teachers in our buildings and classrooms. The bottom line is that our entire staff—from our Pre-K to K-4 elementary buildings at the **Cardinal's Nest, Thomson, Central, Gates, Hill** and **Siple Elementary**, to **Hahn Intermediate, Davison Middle School, Davison High School** and **Davison Alternative Education**—is dedicated to giving their best to our students and it shows. Kudos to our staff for continuing to putting the needs of our kids first."

In 2010, Michigan began recognizing individual school success stories through the "Beating The Odds" initiative. This program recognizes Michigan schools that are finding ways to overcome identifiable risk factors associated with low student achievement, such as economic status, race and ethnicity, or proficiency with the English language.

There are two methodologies employed to identify Beating The Odds schools. The first compares schools to like schools in terms of geographic setting, demographic makeup of student population, etc. and recognizes those schools outperforming similarly-situated schools. The second uses identifiable risk factors to project an expected level of student achievement and progress and then recognizes those schools that are outpacing their expected levels. A Beating The Odds school can be identified using one or both methodologies.

All 2011-12 Beating The Odds schools were recognized yesterday by the State Board of Education. Designation as a Beating The Odds school means Davison High School and Hahn Intermediate will be added to the list of state "Reward Schools" for the 2011-12 school year. Reward Schools consist of schools in the top five percent statewide in terms of student proficiency, top five percent in

Where futures begin

A Fully Accredited District

terms of student improvement, or schools that are "Beating the Odds."

DTV recognized nationally with award

The National Scholastic Press Association awarded DTV with the Pacemaker award for best newscast in the nation. The announcement was made Saturday in San Antonio, Texas. This is the third time in 10 years that DTV has received this award.

Also, DTV student **Shawn Bednard** was awarded third place in the nation for Best Sports Story for his story on Davison swimmer **Courtney Weaver**!

A special pat on the back goes to **Randy Scott**, DTV Instructor, and **Sandy Coots**, Programmer/Producer, for their leadership of the DTV program.

To view the winning newscast, please click on this link: <http://www.schooltube.com/video/10c7525383d645a1a7a5/DTV%20News%20Pacemaker%20Weekly>.

DHS Principal Matt Shanafelt named MSCA Administrator of the Year

Congratulations to Davison High School Principal **Matt Shanafelt** who was named as the Michigan School Counselor Association's Administrator of the Year. Matt was nominated for the award by DHS Counselors **Jason Vannest**, **Rebecca Vannest** and **Betsy Wambaugh**.

"Matt is an administrator who actively promotes his primary goal of doing what is in the best interest of kids," Jason said. "He is an extraordinary professional who makes me proud to be in the profession of education in Davison Schools."

"Davison made the right decision when they hired Matt," Betsy added. "He is totally deserving of this award!"

Word is that Matt gave such a fabulous acceptance speech that the MSCA governing board asked for a copy of it to run in its next newsletter. The speech was a light-hearted write-up about all the roles/duties school counselors have.

Not only was Matt recognized as "Administrator of the Year," but Davison Alternative Education Counselor **Jen Thomas** was named "Honorary Michigan School Counselor." Two students wrote about Jen in their scholarship essays and one of the students, DAE 2012 graduate **Jessica Raybon**, was a MSCA scholarship winner.

The MSCA is the largest counseling association in the state of Michigan and most of Davison's counselors are members of this organization. The purpose of the association is to educate counselors on best practices, to learn and discuss the most effective ways to support students and parents and to advocate for appropriate levels of counselor representation within our schools.



Principal Matt Shanafelt, DHS Counselor Betsy Wambaugh, DAE Counselor Jen Thomas, DAE student Jessica Raybon, DHS Counselor Jason Vannest and DHS Counselor Rebecca Vannest at the MSCA conference.



Photos/Lindsey Lane

The first grade classrooms of Mrs. Lindsey Lane, Mrs. Chelsea Long, Mrs. Tricia Smith and Mrs. Brenda Smith participated in a mock election last week. The candidates included the fictional storybook characters of Duck, Grace Campbell and Clifford. Students read aloud the stories that went along with each character and Mrs. Lane made up some "biographies" for each character that informed the students of the candidates' favorites, beliefs and history. On Wednesday, Nov. 7, the students voted for which candidate they thought would make the best president for them. The polls were held in the library where students had to show proper I.D. (Lunch Cards) to Media Center Paraprofessional Mrs. Eileen Button in order to receive their ballot. Once students collected their ballots they found a private voting booth and placed their vote. Ballots were then placed in the ballot box. Ballots were tallied from all four classrooms. The winner of the 2012 First Grade Central Elementary School Presidential Election was ... Duck with 36 votes! Clifford came in second with 33 votes and Grace placed third with 26! "It was quite a close race," said Mrs. Lane. "The students loved it."

