



Board Briefs

First responders hailed as heroes for lifesaving efforts

It was an emotional reunion Monday night for Rob Congdon as he stood alongside the Davison school staff members who helped save his life just a month earlier.

Board of Education members recognized five employees, including Transportation Secretary **Tracy Bennett**, Davison Alternative Education Secretary **Tammi Brandes**, Bus Driver **Jeff Oaks**, Dispatcher **Annie Hansen** and school Nurse **Megan Rule**, Monday night for their roles in saving Congdon's life after he had an allergic reaction following a bee sting September 24. Congdon, a bus mechanic with American RV, was working outside near the Transportation Department and had called a co-worker to come pick him up after he had been stung. However, Bennett and Hansen soon realized Congdon was in distress and made him come inside to the Transportation Department office and lie down. When Congdon began to feel worse, Bennett directed Oaks to run next door to

Please see **HEROES**/Page 2



Left to right: Rob Congdon, school Nurse Megan Rule, Bus Driver Jeff Oaks, DAE Secretary Tammi Brandes and Transportation Secretary Tracy Bennett.

The mission of the Davison Community Schools is to develop individuals who demonstrate skills necessary for lifelong success in a changing, global society.



Graduation dates set

Board members approved the following dates for 2015 graduation ceremonies:

- **Davison High School**, 7 p.m. Monday, June 8, 2015, at Perani Arena and Event Center
- **Davison Alternative Education**, 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 10, Davison High School Auditorium.

Board approves DHS Varsity Choir trip

The **Davison High School Varsity Choir** got the OK to travel to Florida March 13-18 to participate in the Disney Sings workshop at Disney World. Students will focus on stylistic interpretation and vocal dynamics associated with Disney live performances and sound tracks.

Agreement renewed

Board members renewed a three-year contract with Gallagher Benefit Services to assist the district in complying with PA 106, which requires the District to bid out employee insurance at least once every three years.

Board Briefs is a monthly newsletter published the day after Board of Education meetings. For additional information, please contact the Communications Department at 591-0852.

Presentations

Cool to Care campaign kicks off

Davison High School seniors **Kaitlyn Church**, **Emma Osterholzer** and **Matthew Smith** will lead this year's Cool to Care campaign.

Kaitlyn and Emma are members of DECA and Matthew is a member of DTV.

Cool to Care is held annually to collect canned goods, non perishable items and money to help the less fortunate during the holiday season.

This year's goal is to collect 40,000 items. Monetary donations will also be accepted and counted toward the goal with every dollar counting for two cans.

Last year, nearly 25,800 items were collected.

"It's important to help the community and inform people of the needy in our community," Kaitlyn said.

"I know there a lot of kids who need help and you might go to class with them every day and not even know it," Emma said.

All school buildings, including the Cardinal's Nest, will be collecting items and money through Tuesday, December 2. All of the items and money collected will be delivered to Outreach East, a non-denominational agency based in Davison that assists individuals with food, clothing and other needs.

"I don't think people truly understand the need in Davison," said Superintendent **Eric Lieske**. "When they learn that 42% of our students qualify for free and reduced lunch, which is really one indicator of being at risk of graduating from high school, they are truly amazed."

In addition to DECA, Kaitlyn is a member of the cross country team, National Honor Society and Student Council. Emma is a cheerleader and member of the National Honor Society.



Davison High School seniors Kaitlyn Church, left, and Emma Osterholzer present an outline to Board of Education members which includes a plan to collect 40,000 items district wide in this year's Cool to Care campaign.

Heroes/Continued from Page 1

Davison Alternative Education to get an EpiPen®. Brandes, who serves as secretary of the DAE building adjoining the Transportation offices, ran back with Oaks and injected the pen into Congdon.

"If it had not have been for Tracy catching this, this could have all ended up differently," Congdon said. "Tracy, Annie, Jeff, Megan and Tammi—I just can't say enough; it's because of them I have my wife, kids and five grandkids to say thanks."

Congdon said he quit breathing at one point while at the hospital and still suffers from side effects from the incident.

"I will now carry a mini pack (EpiPen®) on my belt and will use it if someone thinks they are (having an allergic (reaction)," Congdon said.

Beginning this school year, Michigan school districts are required by law to have two auto-injectable epinephrine devices and one or two staff members trained to administer the devices for students or adults having an anaphylactic reaction.

"I'm very proud of our staff," said Superintendent **Eric Lieske**. "Their actions truly made a difference in this situation between life and death."

Action Items

Donations accepted

The following donations were accepted by the Board of Education:

- **Dan McPhail** donated his DJ services (equipment and time) to operate an announcing station at the corner of Main and Clark streets during the Homecoming Parade.
- Retired high school teacher **Gary Cockman** donated a rain gauge to Davison Middle School for use in the seventh grade science department.
- The **Badour Family (Shelley, Paul and Paul Ryan)** donated \$500 to Hill Elementary to purchase supplies for afterschool clubs.
- **Menards of Davison** donated building materials, paint and supplies in the amount of \$212.50 to the Davison High School Class of 2015. The senior class used the items to build this year's homecoming float and plan to pass on the materials for future class floats.
- Davison resident **Rosemary Thiebaut** donated an AED cabinet in memory of Joel Thiebaut to the Great Start Readiness Preschool program at Central Elementary.
- **John Endres** of North Star AED donated an AED with pediatric pads in memory of Joel Thiebaut to the Great Start Readiness Preschool program at Central Elementary.
- Davison resident **Marj Theodoroff** donated a clarinet to the instrumental music department at Hahn Intermediate for student use.
- Parent **Chris Bozynski** donated an alto saxophone to the instrumental music department at Hahn Intermediate for student use.



Leading the Pledge

Central Elementary Safety Patrol students led the Pledge of Allegiance at the November Board of Education meeting. The students were accompanied by faculty advisor Mr. Mike Kennedy and Principal Mr. Lance Harper.