



Board Briefs

Second graders finish among top 10% on national math test

Students in Mr. **Ben Montgomery's** class were recognized at the June 12 Board of Education meeting for high achievement in the Noetic Math competition. The Central Elementary class is ranked 14th in the nation among second graders taking the test. In addition to the class ranking, eight students scored within the top 10 percentile and 16 earned honorable mentions. In all, 24 out of 34 students taking the test earned some sort of extra honor.

Mr. Montgomery said his class has participated in the competition since he learned about it four years ago. The test is marketed for private schools, he said.

"We've been chasing this win for awhile," he said, noting that past classes have come close.

The 20-question, 45 minute test has problems that are designed to trick students, Montgomery said.

"It's a different way to think about patterns and numbers," he explained.

Mr. Montgomery was especially pleased that his classroom earned the Team Award.

"I am very proud of these kids," he said. "The Team Award means so much to me—the ability to work together and to solve problems and some of the growth I've seen out of these students has been incredible."



Students in Mr. Ben Montgomery's classroom, along with their teacher and Principal Lance Harper.



Davison Community Schools

Where Kids Come First and Futures Begin

Connections ♦ Curriculum ♦ Opportunities

Board, DEA ratify 2-year contract

Board of Education members voted to approve a contract with the Davison Education Association (teachers) at its June 12 meeting. The contract was ratified by the DEA on May 18. The agreement covers the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years.

Donations accepted

The following contribution has gratefully been accepted:

- **Hope Medicos, LLC**, donated \$1,000 to the Davison Community Enrichment and Recreation (DCER) Scholarship Fund. This money will be used for students in need to participate in the afterschool, extra-curricular and enrichment programs.

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

Presentations

Social worker Laura Carlson named “Kids First” June recipient

Social Worker **Laura Carlson**, whose office is based at Hahn Intermediate, is the June recipient of the “Kids First” Award.

Each month, administrators nominate a DCS employee who best exemplifies what it means to be “Kids First.” Winners receive a \$100 Visa gift card thanks to Mark Owen, owner of MEEMIC insurance agencies in Davison and Flint Township, and a certificate. The winner is chosen at random.

Mrs. Carlson was nominated by Executive Director of Student Services **Holly Halabicky**, who wrote:

“It is my honor and pleasure to nominate Laura Carlson for the Kids First Award. Laura is one of our school social workers and works with students with special needs and their families. As a school social worker, Laura works with some of our most at risk students and the area of risk is most often behavior and mental health. Often, the students she works with are not receptive to adult intervention and may not even trust the adults in their lives are going to be there for them in their time of need. Laura has the ability to establish a meaningful, trusting relationship with the student, which is key to them being receptive to the strategies she has to offer.

“Whether she is meeting with staff, outside agencies or the family, she is an advocate for the student and that is not always easy. There are times when being that advocate means taking a stand and speaking up when things are not as they should be in order to do what is best for the child. Laura is always willing to support staff and families, coming alongside them to guide and offer her expertise to the situation in an effort to create a plan that leads to success for the student. I admire Laura’s tenacity and commitment to doing the right thing even when the right thing is much harder than another path.”

Other great DCS staff members who were nominated this month include: **Eric Chorley**, District Assessment Coordinator, **Rachel Crawford**, Counselor at Siple and Hill Elementary buildings, **Dena Downey**, English and Social Studies Coordinator, **Marie Glenn**, Teacher at Gates Elementary, **Angie Hards**, School Improvement and Title I Director, **Matt Lobban**, Science and Math Coordinator, **Ben Montgomery**, Second Grade CAP Teacher at Central Elementary; **Kathy Morris**, Benefits and Communications Secretary at the Cardinal Center; **Ashley Romine**, Teacher at Central Elementary; and **Lori O’Brien**, Teacher at Thomson Elementary.



Left to right, Board of Education President Kathy Sudia, Social Worker Laura Carlson and Superintendent Eric Lieske.

Presentations



VFW Teacher of the Year honors

Davison High School Teacher Raina Palso, left, was officially recognized as District 10 Teacher of the Year by Davison VFW Post 4087 members Dave Love, Madam President Rita Stevens and Commander Dan Burrows. Raina dedicated the award to her father, a two-time Purple Heart veteran who passed away in September. "I miss him every day and I know he would be proud," she said.



Leading the Pledge

This month's Pledge of Allegiance was led by students in Mr. Ben Montgomery's classroom at Central Elementary. Principal Mr. Lance Harper and Mr. Montgomery accompanied the students.

