

Board Briefs



District to begin gauging interest for bond to upgrade facilities

Davison Board of Education members gave Superintendent **Kevin Brown** their blessing Monday night to begin looking at the possibilities of the district seeking a bond to upgrade facilities.

"Every year we consult our parents through our Parent Satisfaction Survey and every year we ask questions about the appearance of our facilities," Brown said. "And every year we receive more and more comments about our facilities and the need for updates and upgrades. We have a phenomenal staff, top notch curriculum and offer outstanding academic, athletic and extracurricular activities, but if you take a drive through our district you don't necessarily see that ... we do not have first class facilities and our kids deserve that."

Brown said the district will begin by surveying parents, staff and community stakeholders to first determine whether or not they would be supportive of a bond request and, if so, what projects would they like to see considered. Once surveys are collected, Brown will report back to the Board either in April or May to share the results.

"We have some real crucial needs with roofs and boilers," said Board Secretary **Karen Conover**. "They may not be the pretty parts but they are some of the more serious things that need to be addressed."

School officials learned last year that the roof at Hahn Intermediate—the district's newest building—will need to be replaced soon. It's expected to cost more than \$700,000 for that project alone.

In the meantime, with the exception of Hahn Intermediate and Central Elementary, which received upgrades several years ago, all school buildings in the district are at least 50 years old, said **Phil Thom**, Executive Director of Operations.

"We are maintaining buildings that were built in the 50s, 60s and 70s," Thom said, adding that the boiler at the high school is the same system that was installed when the building was built in the early 1970s.

"If we don't do something soon, I think we're going to be left behind," Brown said. "If we really want to be a destination district, we need to have first class facilities."



Davison Community Schools

Where Kids Come First and Futures Begin

Connections ♦ Curriculum ♦ Opportunities



Donation gratefully accepted by Board

The following contributions were accepted at last night's meeting:

- **MEEMIC Mark Owen Agency** donated three \$100 Visa gift cards for the Kids First recognition program.

Board approves student trips

The following student trips were approved by the Board of Education:

- **Team 3534 House of Cards Robotics Team** Competition for three overnight field trips contingent upon their success at each level: Districts in Marysville on March 28-30, State Competition at Saginaw Valley State University on April 10-13 and World Competition in Detroit on April 24-27, 2019.
- **Business Professionals of America State Championship** in Grand Rapids on March 15-17, 2019.

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

Presentations

DMS Teacher Patti White named “Kids First” March recipient

Davison Middle School Teacher **Patti White** is the March 2019 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.

Patti was nominated by Davison Middle School Principal **Shelly Fenner-Krasny**, who wrote:

“Patti White puts kids first every day at Davison Middle School. As the Teen Survival teacher, Patti works with nearly 350 students each year, teaching a wide spectrum of kids---from those who are in the honors program to those students who have significant special needs. The main thing is that all kids leave her class having more confidence, knowing the basics of first aid, sewing and cooking.

“Patti came up with the idea of a Teen Survival class after noticing there was a need for a hands-on class designed to focus on important life skills. She single-handedly designed the class, drawing on her experiences as a vocational education teacher and knowledge of middle school kids. Since the class was added to the DMS curriculum nearly 20 years ago, Patti has worked hard

to incorporate best practices into Teen Survival and she has continually sought feedback to make this class even better. This is undoubtedly one of the reasons Teen Survival is the most popular elective class at DMS.

“As a teacher, Patti works tirelessly to prep for her classes and to provide the support her kids need to succeed. She spends hours after her regular school day ordering fabric and shopping for the cooking unit, always keeping the interests of her kids in mind. Patti helps kids during lunchtime and after school on a regular basis, demonstrating patience as well as a belief in their ability to reach success with support.

“Outside of her regular teaching duties, Patti has served on a number of collaborative teams over the years and she has sponsored several after-school clubs. For the past three years, she headed up the DMS M-STEP plan (#StepItUp Davison) to motivate students to do their best by teaching them what effort looks like, providing them with a chance to set goals, and then recognizing their work with positive incentives. Patti also recently teamed up with math teacher, Lorie Smith, to implement the gingerbread house project with their respective homerooms which combined teamwork in addition to math and cake decorating skills.

“Patti White has made significant impacts on her students and all students at Davison Middle School. She is an innovative educator and a “doer.” Patti always puts kids first!”

Other great DCS staff members who were nominated this month include: **Stacy Evans**, Gates Elementary Teacher; **Matt Giguere**, Security; **Tracy Griggs**, Central Elementary Teacher; **Wanda Mitchell**, Hill Elementary Monitor; **Josh Rhinebolt**, Davison High School Head Custodian; and **Lindsey Thams**, Hahn Intermediate Teacher.



Left to right, Davison Middle School Principal **Shelly Fenner-Krasny**, Davison Middle School Teacher **Patti White**, Superintendent **Kevin Brown** and Board of Education President **Kathy Sudia**.



Presentations

Walworth is National Merit Finalist

In November, three Davison High School students were recognized for being named National Merit Scholar semifinalists. One of those students, Kaden Walworth, has now been recognized as a National Merit Scholar finalist! This is a tremendous achievement! Kaden, who has been offered several full-ride scholarships because of his accomplishments, was recognized with a plaque.



Leading the Pledge

The March Pledge of Allegiance was led by members of the Davison Middle School Leadership class. Students learn about leadership skills and then experience the benefits of positive interactions within their community. The group was accompanied by Principal Shelly Fenner-Krasny and Teacher Tisha Torres.

