

Board Briefs



Discussion of possible bond moves forward with hiring of architect, construction manager

Board of Education members gave the OK Monday night to hire an architectural design firm and construction management company.

"At the March board meeting, we talked about the needs for upgrades and really developing our facilities," said Superintendent **Kevin Brown**, reminding board members that the district surveyed parents and community members last month to determine if stakeholders would be supportive of the district seeking a bond.

"We were a little disappointed in that we only received around 1,500 responses to those surveys," Brown said. "We wanted to get an idea of how the community felt about the district seeking a bond."

Of those who responded, nearly 90 percent indicated they would be supportive of the district seeking a bond to update facilities.

Brown said renovations and upgrades to Davison High School was the clear winner among respondents naming their top priorities. Upgrades to security and technology were the second and third top choices.

Kingscott Associates, Inc., which has served as the district's architectural firm for the past four years, will serve as the district's design firm and the Buildings and Grounds Committee will begin conducting interviews for a construction manager.

"As we start to move down this road, we need to start looking at designs for some of the different things we might want to pursue and start putting some dollars on them so we can go back to the community and see what they would support," Brown said.

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Kevin Brown
Superintendent



Donations gratefully accepted by Board

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

- **Davison United Methodist Church Prayer Shawl Ministry** donated 64 hand-knitted hats and mittens to be used by students in need during the cold months.
- The **Genesee Intermediate School District** donated sets of literacy materials for each K-3 elementary classroom and GSRP. These books were donated to enhance classroom libraries and celebrate "March is Reading Month."

New evaluation tool

Board members approved using a new superintendent evaluation tool developed by the legal firm of Collins and Blaha. The tool that Board has been using, the School Advance Superintendent Evaluation System, is cumbersome and not user-friendly, according to board members.

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



Davison Community Schools

Where Kids Come First and Futures Begin

Connections ♦ Curriculum ♦ Opportunities

Presentations

Gates Elem. Teacher Faith Canning named “Kids First” April recipient

Gates Elementary Teacher **Faith Canning** is the April 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.

Faith was nominated by Gates Elementary Principal **Theresa Wendt**, who wrote:

“Faith is truly a Davison Community Schools Kids First Employee! Although she is a relatively new teacher, Faith has made a tremendous impact on the lives of her students. Faith regularly arrives early and stays late. She works to develop lessons and activities that will meet the individual academic and behavioral needs of her students. Part of her success in the classroom is due to the relationships she develops with her students and their families.

“Faith is not afraid of a challenge and willingly seeks out resources and professional development opportunities to help her in meeting her students’ needs. In fact, in her second year of teaching, she was given a difficult group of students. Faith knew she could make a difference in the lives of those students. Not only did she make a difference, those students have become model students and leaders at Gates!

“Faith has served as a member on the Gates School Improvement Climate Committee since her first year of teaching and this year she became the committee chair. In addition to this responsibility, Faith serves on the District Climate Committee, has completed Math Recovery Training 1 and 2, and works on Grade Level ACC Curriculum.

“Faith is that Kids First employee who takes inventory every day of what she can do to grow as an educator in order to make an impact on her students! I am so pleased to have Faith as a part of the Gates Community!

Other great DCS staff members who were nominated this month include: **Ev Ailing**, Davison High School Teacher; **Lindsey Droblich**, Davison High School Teacher; **Amy Gottlieb**, Davison Middle School Teacher; **Christine Grech**, Thomson Elementary Challenge Coordinator; and **Shasta Mills**, Siple Elementary Paraprofessional.



Left to right, Superintendent Kevin Brown, Gates Elementary Teacher Faith Canning and Board of Education President Kathy Sudia.



Presentations

All-State Athletes

Board of Education members recognized All-State athletes at the April Board of Education meeting. Right, Varsity Hockey Coach Doug Towler, Superintendent Kevin Brown, Division 2 All-State hockey athletes Allen Hughson and Gage Thrall, and Board of Education President Kathy Sudia. Gage has also been named to the Michigan High School Hockey Coaches' Association 2018-19 Dream Team and is in the running for the title of "Mr. Hockey."



Brian Case, Andrew Chambel, Jimmy Colley, Alex Facundo, Jay Nivison, Cal Stefanko and Aden Williams earned the honor of Individual All-State Wrestler this season. This is Alex's second time being honored as a wrestling state champion. Left to right: front row, James Colley, Alex Facundo, Andrew Chambel, Aden Williams, Coach Roy Hall; Back row, Superintendent Kevin Brown, Brian Case, Jay Nivison, Cal Stefanko and Board President Kathy Sudia.

Presentations



Leading the Pledge

The April Pledge of Allegiance was led by Thomson Elementary students who have been selected this year to sit at The Table of Honor. Students who exhibit Cardinal Code on a daily basis and serve as a positive role model for their peers are selected to sit at a special table once a month where they are served by staff members, including Music Teacher Michael Romanik who dresses in a tuxedo, and given a special treat. The group was accompanied by Principal Natalie Miller, Teachers Andrea Bell, Sara Howes, Lori O'Brien, Emily Williams and Paraprofessional Anna Eastridge.



Action items

Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week is May 6-10

Board of Education members have designated May 6-10 as Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week in Davison.

“A huge thank you to everyone who goes above and beyond for all of our kids,” said Board President **Kathy Sudia**.

School building parent/teacher groups and administrators will be working together to find ways to recognize staff during this special week, said Superintendent **Kevin Brown**.

Board approves bid for roof replacement at Hahn

Board of Education members approved a bid for \$675,003 from Quality Roofing, Inc., of Whitmore Lake, to replace the failing roof at Hahn Intermediate. The work will include removing the existing roof and installing a completely new one with a 20-year warranty. Work will begin immediately when the school year ends in June and is expected to be completed before school resumes in August. Executive Director of Operations **Phil Thom** said the district only received one bid for the job; however, after an extensive review and background check, he is confident that the company is able to perform the work to district expectations.

Board moves forward in purchasing property

After years of “watching” adjacent property on Lapeer Road, the Board of Education finally got its chance to make a move and Monday night voted to purchase the 5-acre parcel containing the former Colonial Suites building.

“We’ve been looking at the property for some time now,” said Superintendent **Kevin Brown**. “It has a paved driveway out to Lapeer Road. We actually purchased the 23 acres adjacent to it several years ago. It has lots of potential and opportunity for the district especially if we are going to pursue a bond. And, the price is right for a 4,500-square-foot building on five acres.”

Members of the Buildings and Grounds Committee toured the site as well as the district architect and found the building to be in great shape.

Executive Director of Operations **Phil Thom** said the property will be paid for out of the Building and Site Fund over a course of 22 months so the expenditure will not have any direct affect on the district’s general fund.

“The Hahn roof bid coming in \$300,000 below budget was key to finding the money for a down payment so we can purchase the property over a 2-year span without dipping into our fund balance,” Brown said. “The stars sort of aligned.”

Curriculum text approval

Board of Education members approved the purchase of nearly \$300,000 in curriculum materials for the 2019/20 school year. The supplies, including textbooks, supplies and technology, was recommended by the Advisory Curriculum Council (ACC), a dedicated group of curriculum coordinators, teachers and principals that meets several times throughout the year to review and study curriculum and prepare budgets.

Materials approved for next school year include: K-4 Physical Education, K-8th grade Science, 9-12th grade Physical Education, AP Government (high school), Sports Medicine (high school), Yearbook (high school), Government/Transitions (Davison High School/Davison Alternative Education) and Economics/Transitions (Davison High School/Davison Alternative Education).

Action items

DECA competition

The Marketing DECA Club was granted Board of Education approval to attend the International DECA Conference April 26 to May 1, 2019 in Orlando, Florida.

Sixteen students have qualified to attend after competing at the March 8-10th State DECA Conference. They will now be a part of the Michigan delegation at the International DECA Conference.

Students will be accompanied by DECA Adviser and Marketing Teacher **Matt Ames**.

Board appoints school safety liaison as part of new state law

Recent legislation now requires school districts to designate a school safety liaison to the Office of School Safety and the School Safety Commission. In addition, Public Act 670 requires local school boards to designate an emergency contact for the Attorney General's OK2SAY hotline to serve as the district's emergency contact for receiving information. Board of Education members voted to designate Director of Public Information **Michelle Edwards** as the district's school safety liaison and emergency contact for the Attorney General's hotline.

Board Secretary named as designee to ISD biennial election

Board Secretary **Karen Conover** was selected to represent the Davison Board of Education at the Genesee Intermediate School District's biennial election set for June 3. Board President **Kathy Sudia** was named as alternate.