

# Board Briefs

## Thank a school board member It's Board Appreciation Month!

Board of Education members were honored for their commitment and dedication as part of Board of Education Appreciation Month.

A special presentation was led by Siple Elementary Principal **Christy Flowers** to recognize board members **Karen Conover, Kathy Sudia, Mark McGlashen, John Hair, Diane Rhines, Granger Stefanko** and **Matthew Smith**. Flowers borrowed inspiration from "Mister Rogers," and even sang his trademark song, "Won't you be my neighbor?"

"It's easy for people to say 'I wish they would do it this way' or 'I wish they would do it that way,' but the people sitting around this table have willingly taken on a role in this community to support our kids and us."

Each board member was presented with a framed quote from Mr. Rogers with "Davison Community Schools Board Appreciation 2019-20" at the bottom. The gifts were paid for with contributions from district administrators.

**Sara Howes**, vice president of the Davison Education Association, also recognized board members for their commitment to the students and staff, and announced that the teachers' union made a contribution to the district's Shop with a Hero program in honor of the board.



Donned in red cardigans, Executive Director of Student Services **Holly Halabicky**, Siple Elementary Principal **Christy Flowers** and Thomson Elementary Principal **Natalie Miller** present Board of Education members with a framed quote from Fred Rogers, reading: "Anyone who does anything to help a child in his life is a hero to me."

**D**avison Community Schools

Where Kids Come First and Futures Begin

*Connections ♦ Curriculum ♦ Opportunities*



### Board officers to remain the same

The first official act of business for the new year was the election of officers. Board members voted to re-elect **Kathleen Sudia** as President; **Mark McGlashen** as Vice President, **Karen Conover** as Secretary and **Diane Rhines** as Treasurer. **John Hair, Granger Stefanko** and **Matthew Smith** will continue to serve as Trustees.

### Board selects delegates

The following board members were selected to serve in the following capacities:

Treasurer **Diane Rhines** will serve as the district's representative at the annual GISD budget hearing on April 29. Trustee **Granger Stefanko** was named alternate.

Secretary **Karen Conover** was selected as liaison to the Genesee County Association of School Board Members' Executive Committee. The committee typically meets on the third Thursday of each month. President **Kathy Sudia** will serve as alternate.

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

# Presentations

## Thomson teacher Jenni Galbreath is “Kids First” January recipient

Thomson Elementary Teacher **Jennifer Galbreath** is the January 2020 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.

Galbreath was nominated by Thomson Elementary Principal **Natalie Miller**, who wrote:

“While Jenni is only in her second year with Davison, it was evident during her interview that Jenni Galbreath has always been a Kids First teacher. She is one of the most conscientious, caring, and dedicated teachers that I have had the privilege of working with.

“Through true relationship building and the love she shows her students, you immediately get the sense of ‘family’ when entering her classroom. This does not mean that there is a lack of structure or routine, these are areas she is diligent in providing her students with as she knows the value of strong classroom management. Her students know what is expected of them and strive to meet those expectations because they do not want to disappoint her. Jenni welcomes ALL kids into her classrooms and is masterful in the theory of ‘fair is not equal, equal is not fair.’ When placing students with special needs, there is never a doubt that she will welcome them each day

with a warm smile and a hug regardless of disability and/or behavioral needs. Her students are eager to help each other because of the example she models for them. This, along with her commitment to curriculum, is why Jenni’s students show wonderful growth throughout the year.

“It is important to note, Jenni will do anything to meet the academic needs of her students and spends countless hours planning and preparing for instruction. From researching new teaching strategies and materials, to attending professional development on her own time, to writing grants for materials needed to meet group and individual student needs, she is always working to better her craft in the service of students. While she has several years of experience, she is a life-long learner. Additionally, and while maybe not her favorite, Jenni has willingly opened her classroom to other teachers who are looking to hone their skills in a given academic area and is willing to share ideas with her fellow teachers. She is a team player in every sense of the word! From the moment Jenni walks into the building until the moment she leaves, kids are at the forefront of her mind! She is a role model for her fellow staff and future educators. Jenni is a successful teacher because of her love and dedication to the profession and her students. Jenni is a ‘Kids First’ employee in every sense of the word and I am so proud and honored to get to work with her every day!”

Other great individuals who were nominated this month include: Guest Secretary/Intersession Coordinator **Tracy Bennett**, Guest Teacher **Andrea Derricks**, Transportation Aide **Kathy Miller**, Hahn Intermediate Teacher **Amy Tysick**, District Assessment Coordinator **Eric Chorley** and Davison High School Teacher **Tim Pizzala**.



**Superintendent Kevin Brown, Thomson Elementary Principal Natalie Miller, Teacher Jennifer Galbreath and Board of Education President Kathy Sudia.**





# Presentations



Same four students qualify for State Honors Choir second year in row

For the second year in a row, four Davison High School vocal music students have been selected to perform in the State Honors Choir, a prestigious honor reserved for approximately 375 students across the state. The four earned the honor by auditioning and competing against other vocalists at district and regional Michigan Vocal Music Association events. The State Honors Choir will perform later this month at the Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids. Pictured above, left to right, are: Superintendent Kevin Brown, vocal music students Sophia Perrault and Joey Crowley and Board President Kathy Sudia. Music students Jon Faydenko and Gabe Ashley were unable to attend the board meeting.



State champs!

Players and coaches of the 2019 Davison High School Varsity Football team were recognized for their history-making Class A Division I State Championship win at the January Board of Education meeting.

# Action items

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## Donations accepted from generous community members

Board of Education members gratefully accepted the following contributions:

- **Davison Middle School Jr. Optimist Club, Jim and Kay Shepherd, John and Karen Conover, Leslie and Dave Young, Natale Miller, Diana and Randall Rutherford, Robin Ricica, Skip and Nancy Davis, Davison Education Association (DEA), Christine and John Noteware, Cheryl and Allen Nitzschke, Tiffany and Phillip Hopper, First Baptist Church, Dan and Carol Riegle, Integrity Investment Group, Ron and Karen Adam, Gwendolyn Phillips, Angie Hards, Fraternal Order of Police, Lori Tallman, Davison Chamber of Commerce executive board members** and several **anonymous individuals** made financial donations to the district's Shop with a Hero Program.
- **Carol Lieske** made a financial donation to the Cardinal Care Fund to assist students and families in need.
- **Adam Brozo**, general manager for OUTFRONT Media in Flint donated the use of one of his company's digital billboards on I-69 to recognize the varsity football team's D-1 State Championship.
- **Dr. Wax Orthodontics** made a \$290 donation to the Davison High School based on a portion of registration fees from their Lace Up for Learning 5K Run/Walk held in November.
- The new Davison branch of **Financial Plus Credit Union** donated \$2,500 to the district's Food Services program. The donation will be used to help offset outstanding lunch balances. The credit union also donated gift cards to the PBIS program.
- **C & L Ward** donated four Fandango movie gift cards; **Credit Union One** made a financial donation; **Helena's El Charritos** donated two \$20 gift certificates; **Australian Sun Tanning** donated free tanning certificates; **Davison Home Bakery** donated 30 \$10 gift certificates; **Pierson Pet Hospital** donated a candy bouquet and Panera gift cards; **Davison Family Barber** shop donated free haircut certificates to the PBIS program at Davison High School.

## Board approves Student Council trip

Student Council members will be headed to Chicago for leadership training provided by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Board members approved the overnight trip that will take place Friday, Feb. 28, through Sunday, March 1.

Student Council Advisor and Davison High School Teacher **Linda Martin** will chaperone the trip. High school officer training is designed for Student Council and National Honor Society officers and students who aspire to hold officer positions. The program will discuss topics such as: self-esteem, what makes a good leader, tips and activities for leaders, goal setting, organizing your group, problem solving and conflict resolution. Students will also attend a General Membership meeting where they will learn about the National Student Council, State Representatives, as well as what other Student Councils are participating in across the country.



## Leading the Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Hahn Intermediate Student Council members and Hahn Heroes. Students were accompanied by Principal Verle Gilbert and club sponsors Mr. David Clifford, Mrs. Amanda Hoggard, Mrs. Karen Gresell and Mrs. Tara Hendrix.

