

Board Briefs



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

November



The following action items were approved by the Davison Board of Education at its November 7 meeting:

- **Approval to schedule January 2023 Board Meeting Date:** Since the Board of Education meetings are scheduled by calendar year at the January Organizational meeting, board members voted to hold the first board meeting of the 2023 calendar year on January 9, 2023. The dates of the remaining board meetings for 2023 will be proposed and voted upon at the January meeting.
- **First Reading of Policy Updates:** Based on recommendations proposed by NEOLA, which reviews the district's policies, the following changes were approved for first readings:
 - ♦ 0144.1 Compensation. This addresses compensation for Board of Education members. The Policy Committee recommended that board members' stipends be increased from \$45 to \$65 per meeting and that limits be placed on lodging and meals for conferences.
 - ♦ 6108 Authorization to Use Electronic Transfer of Funds and Automated Clearing House Arrangements. Since there was no policy in place previously addressing this practice, this policy will just simply codify current procedures.
 - ♦ 6460 Vendor Relations. This policy allows the District to use preferred vendors when the cost of the work being completed is below the bid threshold of work having to come to the Board.
 - ♦ 6700 Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). This is a revision reflecting a change in the law regarding maternity leave and designated breaks and areas for the purpose of breast feeding.
 - ♦ 8805 Flags and Displays. This new policy gives the District the authority to allow or ban flags/displays. Superintendent **Kevin Brown** said the policy does not ban flags; however, would allow the District to prohibit flags or displays that may be considered political or controversial.
 - ♦ 9150 School Visitors. This policy is being revised to reflect an update in laws regulating the Sex Offenders Registry Act that prohibited those listed on the Registry from living, working or loitering within 1,000 feet of a school.



Davison Community Schools

Where Kids Come First and Futures Begin

Connections ♦ Curriculum ♦ Opportunities

- **Superintendent's Annual Performance Evaluation and Employment Contract:**
Based on the results of Superintendent Kevin Brown's performance evaluation as "highly effective," Board members approved a four percent salary increase effective January 1, 2023, for the remaining six months of his contract until his retirement on June 30, 2023. Supt. Brown did not receive a raise when his contract started this school year so board members approved the four percent, six-month raise as it is equal to the two percent raise received by district employees earlier in the year.
- **Acceptance of Donations:** The following donation was gratefully acknowledged:
 - ♦ **Richard and Sandy Kaiser** donated \$500 to be used to purchase appropriate clothing for students in the DHS PIVOT class for job placements in the community. Any remaining funds will be used for the Cardinal Closet, which provides clothing for students needing assistance.
 - ♦ **Nancy Davis**, on behalf of the **Quilters at Trinity Lutheran Church**, donated 27 handmade quilts. The quilts have been divided among the buildings and given to students in need of a warm blanket.
 - ♦ **Dustyn Kruger** donated \$200 to Gates Elementary to help pay student lunch account balances.
 - ♦ A donation from **Randy Wise Chevrolet** was made to the Davison Varsity Girls' Swim Team to pay for the embroidery on varsity jackets.
 - ♦ **Karen Brown** donated new children's clothing to Gates Elementary to be used when students may need a change of clothing.

The next regular Board of Education meeting is set for 7 p.m. Monday, December 5, at the Davison High School Auditorium.

DHS student named Commended Scholar

Davison High School senior **Peyton Spodney** has been recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program as a Commended Student Scholar. In order to qualify for this honor, Peyton was among the top 50,000 students scoring on the Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.



In late September, more than two-thirds (about 34,000) of the approximately 50,000 high scorers

on the PSAT/NMSQT received Letters of Commendation in recognition of their outstanding academic performance. Commended Students are named based on a nationally applied Selection Index score that may vary from year to year and is typically below the level required for participants to be named Semifinalists in their respective states.

Peyton is the daughter of Lori and Neil Spodney. She is a member of the Davison First Robotics Team and is treasurer of the National Honor Society. Peyton plans to attend Kettering following graduation to become a mechanical engineer.

Presentations



Leading the Pledge

The November Pledge of Allegiance was led by members of the Davison Alternative Education Principal's Advisory Committee, also known as the Alpacas (ALT. PAC). These students represent their peers in their daily advisory class and meet monthly with Assistant Principal Jesse Szatkowski to discuss ideas for improvement and leadership opportunities at DAE over pizza. They are the Student Council of DAE and positive leaders of the school. Students were accompanied by Principal Jerry Piger and Assistant Principal Jesse Szatkowski. **Isabella LaCross**, right, a member of the Alpacas, designed the T-shirts that the students wore.



Emily Beaver named Kids First recipient

Gates Elementary Teacher **Mrs. Emily Beaver** was named as the November 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. Beaver was nominated by Gates Elementary Principal **Mrs. Natalie Miller** who wrote:

“Emily Beaver is an extremely hard-working educator! While only in her second year in Davison, after teaching for several years in another district, she has already earned a reputation as a teacher who will do whatever it takes to implement curriculum and meet the needs of her students.

“Emily has worked to learn and implement curriculum in ways that keep her students engaged in learning and she is not afraid to ask for help when needed. Through small group, whole group, and individual instruction, she works to make sure that the needs of her students are being met. Emily has provided her students with flexible seating options throughout the classroom. She understands that children need to move. The flexible seating she has provided allows them to wobble, rock, bounce, lean or stand, which increases oxygen flow to the brain, blood flow and core strength, and helps keep young minds more alert and focused which will no doubt translate into improved student growth and a reduction of poor student behavior.

“Speaking of behavior, Emily has several students in her classroom who present with behavior that could be considered very challenging; however, not once have I heard her speak negatively about her room or the students. Instead, she has met each student where they are and worked to implement interventions that work for that student. Early on in the school year and during her special, she was working with one particular student. I asked if she wanted me to work with the student so she could get her planning time. Her response, “No, I was told I didn’t have to do this during my special, but he is MY student.” Then she proceeded to read with the student. You see, Emily understands that building relationships with students is key to a successful year and this is just one example of her giving of her time to do just that.

“It is for these reasons and so many more, that Emily is truly a Kids First employee. I am grateful to get to work with someone of her caliber every day and see firsthand the difference she is making in the lives of our kids.”



Left to right: Gates Elementary Principal Natalie Miller, Teacher Emily Beaver, Superintendent Kevin Brown and Board Vice President Granger Stefanko.

