

Board Briefs



Central Elementary project will head to voters on Feb. 26

After 16 months of meetings, a facility study and seeking community input, board members officially decided Monday night to ask voters to consider funding a measure that would turn the district's oldest building, Central Elementary, into a 21st century learning center.

The project, which will be placed on a February 26, 2013, ballot, includes additions for classrooms and a cafeteria, renovations to the existing 81-year-old building and installing educational technology.

The \$11.9 million project equals .75 of a mill, which would cost the owner of a \$100,000 home (with a taxable value of \$50,000) \$37.50 a year. The owner of a home valued at \$75,000 (with a taxable value of \$37,500) would pay around \$28 annually. The tax levy is for 15 years.

"I feel like we are doing the right thing," said Trustee **Mark McGlashen**, who also serves as chair on the Board's Buildings and Grounds Committee. "This building has been an icon for education in this community."

Superintendent **Eric Lieske** said plans call for the school to continue looking like a 1931 building from the front while the back and inside would be updated to a state-of-the-art elementary school building.

"It's an exciting opportunity for the school district and our students but it's also an exciting opportunity for our community to have that big, historic landmark on M-15 to get some much needed attention," he said.

Board Treasurer and Finance Committee Chairperson **Kim Lindsay** said he was impressed with how much work is planned for the price.

"It's amazing the bang the district is going to get for the buck with this project," he said. "All of my children went through Central Elementary and it's a good place to learn but this is going to make it a superior

Please see **BOND**/Page 4

The mission of the Davison Community Schools is to develop individuals who demonstrate skills necessary for lifelong success in a changing, global society.



Board approves purchase of property

Board members have approved the purchase of nearly four acres of property adjacent to the Cardinal Center.

"Anytime you have a piece of property that adjoins a school property, you have to take a strong look at it," said Superintendent **Eric Lieske**. "We feel the purchase of this property aligns nicely with our Board of Education goals."

Lieske said the property, located at 1458 N. Oak Road, may be used in the future to expand early learning opportunities.

Funds from the district's building and site sinking fund will be used to pay for the \$54,000 purchase price.

Summer Marching Band Camp dates set

The 2013 Marching Band Camp will be held August 4-9 at Echo Grove Camp in Leonard, Mich.

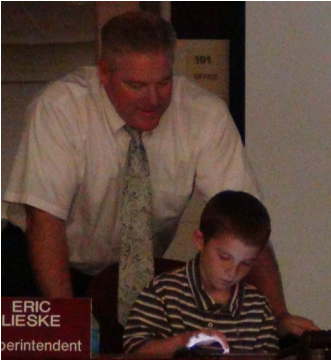
Board Briefs is a monthly newsletter published after Board of Education meetings. For additional information, please contact the Communications Department at 591-0852.

Presentations

Students demonstrate use of iPads in the classroom

Hill Elementary teacher **Lisa DuPrey** and eight of her students demonstrated Monday night how they are using iPads in the classroom.

The district has provided mobile iPad labs for each elementary building this school year.



Board Treasurer Kim Lindsay looks on as Barrett demonstrates a testing app on the iPad.

"We have integrated iPads into our school life," said Mrs. DuPrey, adding that students are using the mobile devices in lessons from math to music.

Students demonstrated several math activities, a test-taking activity and music lessons on the iPads.

"Just giving these kids iPads makes learning fun but giving them iPads with a teacher like (Mrs. DuPrey) takes it to the next level," said Superintendent **Eric Lieske**.



Left to right: Lilian Moore, Teacher Lisa DuPrey, Makela Stone, Mallory Morton, Mia Aubuchon, Barrett Teft, Ryan Bougie, Sam Calleja and Jacob Meek.

School improvement and accreditation: an ongoing process since 1963

A lot has changed since Davison High School was the first building in the district to become accredited in 1963 but one thing has remained the same: the process is a lot of work.

"We are very proud of the work we have done," said District School Improvement Co-Chair **Angie Hards**. "Our process has changed very much over the years."

Davison Middle School has been accredited since 1994 while Central, Gates, Hill, Siple and Thomson Elementary buildings earned accreditation in 1998. Davison Alternative Education has been accredited since 2000 and Hahn Intermediate earned the title in 2001.

Co-chair **Eric Chorley** updated the Board of Education on current district accreditation efforts through AdvancED. Davison Schools was one of the first dozen schools in the state to earn district accreditation in 2009. The district will undergo its second review to continue that accreditation during the 2013-14 school year.



Board President Kathy Sudia presents DHS Principal Matt Shanafelt with a plaque celebrating 50 years of accreditation at Davison High School while District School Improvement Co-Chairs Angie Hards and Eric Chorley look on.

Action items

Donations accepted with gratitude

The following contributions have been accepted:

- Davison resident **Connie Hill** donated \$300 to the district's Cardinals' Care Fund to assist students in the district who are in need.
- **Kent** and **Emily Gieselman**, parents from Gates Elementary, donated 20 books to the counseling department to assist children who are going through common counseling issues.
- Davison High School graduate **Brian Serr** donated a French/English dictionary and the French version of #1-36 Dragonball Manga comic books to the French Club to provide students materials to practice reading colloquial language at age appropriate levels.
- Gates Elementary parent **Verlinda Luark** donated 60 pairs of winter gloves to Gates Elementary for students to use as needed throughout the winter season.
- **Mr. Danny Griggs**, on behalf of the Davison Eagle Riders #3589 donated \$250 to Davison Schools' Holiday Assistance Program that assists families in need throughout the holiday season.
- **Davison Kiwanis Club** donated \$100 to the district's Cardinals' Care Fund to assist students in need.
- Davison parent **April Eckles** donated \$600 to Hill Elementary for the purchase of mentor textbooks for two first grade classrooms. These textbooks will supplement the school's writing program.
- **Paul, Shelly** and **Paul Ryan Badour** donated 144 pumpkins to the Hill Elementary After School Program. The pumpkins were used in the program's "Pumpkin Patch" event.
- Davison parent **Stephanie Omron** donated approximately 70 gently used hard and soft cover books to Gates Elementary for students to enjoy both in the classroom and library.

Leading the Pledge

Students who participate in the Central Elementary Cardinal Links program led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance at Monday night's Board of Education meeting.



BOND/from Page 1

place. I'm hopeful the community will support the project so we can move forward."

The project includes additions for classrooms and a cafeteria, renovations to the existing building and installing educational technology. Other highlights would include:

- A new entrance with the main office on the west side of the building near the parking lot and bus drop off loop.
- 100 percent accessibility to the entire school building.
- All classrooms would be at ideal sizes. The ideal size for a classroom is 800 to 900 square feet. Currently classroom sizes range from 500 to 1,100 square feet; there is one classroom so small there isn't even room for a teacher's desk!
- A complete hot water heating system that would be energy efficient. Currently, part of the building is heated by steam heat while the other portion is heated by hot water.
- New cafeteria/multi purpose room. Students now eat in the basement of the building. The new cafeteria would be at grade level and could also serve as a "holding" place for students before school and at dismissal.
- Additional classrooms and a new media center. Enrollment projections predict that Davison Schools will continue to grow during the next several years.