

# Board Briefs



## December

The following action items were approved by the Davison Board of Education at its December 5 meeting:

- **Second Reading of Policy Updates:** Based on recommendations proposed by NEOLA, which reviews the district's policies, the following changes were approved:
  - ♦ 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.
- **Approval of Davison High School Asbestos Abatement:** Board members approved a bid of \$498,000 from Certified Abatement Services to perform the next round of asbestos removal at Davison High School. The work is scheduled to take place during the summer in areas near the main office. The abatement process must be completed before any work can start on the renovations of the building.

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*

- **Approval of Winter Guard Field Trips:** The Davison Winter Guard received permission to take up to three different overnight field trips in order to participate in state competitions. The competitions are scheduled for February 24-26 in Chicago, Ill., March 24-26 in Indianapolis, Ind. and April 12-16 in Dayton, Ohio.
- **Acceptance of Donations:** The following donations were gratefully acknowledged:
  - ♦ **Once Upon a Child** donated 25 winter coats to Davison Community Schools to be used at Central Elementary and GSRP for students in need of a warm coat.
  - ♦ **Daniel Pope** donated a 1965 Baldwin piano to the Davison High School Choir Department.
  - ♦ **Connie Hill**, on behalf of **First Baptist Church**, donated \$205 in Barnes and Noble gift cards to purchase books for Hill Elementary classrooms and school counselors to use with students.
  - ♦ **Shelley** and **Kurt Meibeyer** donated six winter coats to Davison Community Schools to be used at Hill Elementary for students in need of a warm coat.
  - ♦ **Amber Harrison** donated 24 seat pockets for students' chairs in Ms. Staci Maule's classroom at Thomson Elementary.
  - ♦ **Rob Aldridge** donated \$400 to Hill Elementary for the purchase of wagons that classrooms will use for lunches.
  - ♦ **Damon** and **Sharlene Howe** donated \$90 to Hill Elementary for the purchase of wagons that classrooms will use for lunches.
  - ♦ **Troy Spence** donated \$500 to Hill Elementary for the purchase of wagons that classrooms will use for lunches.
  - ♦ **Hilton Screeners** donated \$2,450 to be added to Davison Community Schools' "Gold Out" campaign to aid in the research of and finding cures for childhood cancer. The money will be donated to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.
  - ♦ **The Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #126** donated \$1,500 to Davison Community Schools to be used in the "Shop with a Hero" program.

The next regular Board of Education meeting is set for 7 p.m. Monday, January 9, 2023, at the Davison High School Auditorium.

# Presentations



## *Leading the Pledge*

The December Pledge of Allegiance was led by members of the Mezzo Voce Choir. Italian for “Middle Voices,” Mezzo Voce includes students from Hahn Intermediate and Davison Middle School. The singers use their talents to move the hearts of their audience and they surely did that at the December Board meeting, giving a performance following the Pledge. Mezzo Voce is directed by DMS Choral Teacher **Michelle Wilson** and DHS Choral Director **Garth Starr**. Also accompanying the singers was Davison Middle School Principal **Josie Paquette**.





# Erin O'Connor named Kids First recipient

Thomson Elementary Speech Pathologist **Mrs. Erin O'Connor** was named as the December 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. O'Connor was nominated by Thomson Elementary Principal **Mrs. Melissa Williams** who wrote:

*"Erin O'Connor is the walking embodiment of the Kids First mission! Erin is the speech pathologist at Thomson and fiercely advocates for children."*

*When you walk into Thomson, you might find Erin greeting students at parent drop-off, working with teachers to support students in classrooms, pulling small groups to her office, providing a break spot for a child that needs a calm down space, or working in our pre-*

*school classroom. It is rare to see Erin without a child by her side during the school day. It's also not uncommon to see Erin jump into a situation to support a child or staff member in need. She has an uncanny ability to speak with our youngest Cardinals in a way they understand and feel comfortable with her.*

*Erin has an ever-growing caseload of students that need assistance with articulation and language development. Even with a large caseload that is constantly increasing, she still finds time to meet with all her students, push into classrooms for extra support, complete new evaluations, and volunteer wherever needed.*

*She is an active member of our Student Assistance Team, Medical Response Team, and Behavior Team. Her expertise on these teams has helped create plans to ensure student success. Staff members often reach out to Erin for advice. She is dedicated to supporting students and staff. I am truly honored to work with such a fantastic team member."*



Left to right: Thomson Elementary Principal Melissa Williams, Speech Pathologist Erin O'Connor, Board President Karen Conover and Superintendent Kevin Brown.



## *Eight students earn State Choir honors*

In what may be a first for Davison High School, a total of eight students have been chosen to be a part of the State Honors Choir. DHS Choral Director Garth Starr explained that each student had to audition among hundreds of other students across the state. Congratulations to: **Laina Owen, Taylor Laine, Asa Corlew, Connor Norman, Caleb Ashley, Dustin White, Kendra Kalfayan and Leah Riley.**



## *Board recognizes outgoing board members*

Board of Education members said goodbye to Secretary **Diane Rhines** and Treasurer **Eric Lieske** at the December meeting.

Lieske did not run for re-election and Rhines lost in her bid to return to her seat in the November election.

Board President **Karen Conover** thanked both of them for their service and

each were presented with a desk clock to remind them of the “time” they spent on the Davison Board of Education and thank them for their service and dedication to the students at staff in the District.

