

#### DANSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOLS



**FALL 2022** 



Dear School Community Members,

What an exciting fall we have had! Our students participated in so many great activities and events. Open houses, homecoming, the annual Halloween parade, Leader in Me assemblies, the grand opening of our new athletics facility and our Section V Girls Cross Country champions – What a tremendous start to 2022-23!

Right now our teachers and counselors are focused on students' development, behavior and academic progress. DCS faculty and staff are here to support your children and your family. When parents need some ideas on

how to structure time at home or how to help children with homework or learning to read, we can provide that too. The best kept secret in the District might be the Dansville Family Resource Center at EBH. The center serves all District families and supports parents of children of all ages including newborns. Parents may contact the center by calling (607) 329-2556. Working together with families, having high expectations for academics and behavior, doing our best everyday is making a difference.

It is hard to believe that the holidays are upon us and winter is approaching but we have had our first taste of cold weather and there is no avoiding it now. On most occasions, the decision to delay or close school is made between 5:00 and 6:00 in the morning after we can assess road conditions and review updated forecasts. However, whenever we are certain of severe winter weather, I will close schools and notify parents, students and employees the night before. Emails, robo calls and texts are delivered close to 6:00 AM. Closings and delays are also posted on the DCSD Facebook page and the District's website and shared with local news stations. Please contact us if you have a new address or phone number to ensure you receive notifications.

We never rest at DCS and the District remains on the move. Please come out to DHS on Monday, December 12 between noon and 8:00 PM to vote on the capital project. This project is much needed to replace the high school roof, remove asbestos floor tiles and update climate controls. Thank you for supporting the important work we do on behalf of children.

Yours in Education,

Paul J. Alioto



#### **DHS Cross Country**

Girls Varsity Cross Country Team sets a school record: 19-0

The team competed on Tuesday, 10/18 at Brae
Burn Golf Course and made school history by finishing the regular season an undefeated 19-0!



#### **Mustangs of the Month: September**

Ella Frazer—Girls Swimming
Colin Draper—Boys Cross Country
Maggie Bacon—Girls Cross Country
Nathaniel Gardner—Football
Hannah Bennett—Fall Cheerleading
Megan Tyler—Girls Soccer
Tyler Harris—Boys Soccer
Abigail Roelle—Volleyball

#### **Mustangs of the Month: October**

Kaitlyn Lee—Girls Swimming
Ethan Canfield—Boys Cross Country
Sofia Rodriguez—Girls Cross Country
Elijah Bender—Football
Journie Heiman—Fall Cheerleading
Eleni Mountzouros—Girls Soccer
Jeff Birmingham—Boys Soccer
Navaeh Austin—Volleyball



The lady Mustangs Volleyball
Team received the Steve Hooker
Memorial Sportsmanship award
for Division 1 accepting the award
for Dansville were Senior
Captains Abby Roelle and
Brynn Babocsi.

#### **Sectional Champs!**





Congratulations to our Girls
Soccer All-Stars!
Emma Allen: League All-Star
Eleni Mountzouros: Section V All
-Tournament Team
Megan Tyler: League All-Star

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#### **Lynne Auble**

#### Coach of the Year for Both LCAA and Section V Class C

Coach Lynn Auble was awarded the LCAA
Division 1 Coach of the Year on Saturday, October
29th. To cap off a banner 19-0 season with the
Dansville Girls Cross Country team Coach Auble
was also awarded the Class C Sectional Bob
Bradley Coach of the Year award at the Section V
Championships on 11/5/22. The girls team
captured the Class C title and a bid to the state
championships at Vernon Verona Sherill High
School.





#### LCAA Fall 2022 Awards

#### **Boys Soccer**

LCAA All Stars- Tyler Harris, Jeff Birmingham Exceptional Seniors: Collin Gray, Dylan LaMonte, Jeff Birmingham, Abram Barron Section V All-star- Tyler Harris

LCAA D1 player of the year- Tyler Harris Class B2 All Tournament team- Tyler Harris



#### **Girls Soccer**

LCAA All-stars- Emma Allen, Megan Tyler Class B2 All Tournament Team- Eleni Moutzouros

#### **Girls Swimming**

LCAA County Champion- Ella Frazer 200yd Freestyle LCAA All Star- Ella Frazer, Kaitlyn Lee

#### **Cross Country**

LCAA Girls Cross Country Coach of the Year- Lynn Auble
Section V Class C Girls Coach of the year- Lynn Auble
Girls Cross Country- Section V Class C Champions
Girls Cross Country LCAA Division 1 Champions (19-0)
Girls Cross Country LCAA All-stars- Maggie Bacon, Brianne Hurlburt, Sofia Rodriguez, Haley Beman
Girls Cross Country Sectional Patch Recipients- Brianne Hurlburt, Morgan Ball
Boys Cross Country LCAA All-star- Colin Draper

#### Football

Section V Class B First Team All-star- Elijah Bender Section V Class B Second Team All-star- Nate Gardner Section V Class Honorable Mention All-star- Zaiden VanDurme-Blackman

#### Cheerleading-

LCAA All star- Coralyn Griese, Alexis Masterson Girls Volleyball-LCAA Division 1 Steve Hooker Memorial Sportsmanship Award.

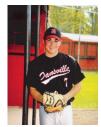
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#### Dansville Athletics Wall of Fame

September 30th was a special evening in Mustang Country. It was the first varsity football game played at the new athletic complex. Additionally, the Dansville School District and community celebrated Homecoming and the evening events brought an extra sense of pride in being a Dansville Mustang.

Prior to the start of the football game, captains from the undefeated football teams of 1966 & 1967 were recognized in front of a standing room only crowd. Members from these teams have donated almost \$17,000 over the past 2 years to the Athletic Department at Dansville High School. The captains were provided a "Certificate of Appreciation" which will be displayed in the football showcase located in the high school's Hall of Fame.

At halftime the Marching Mustangs performed, which was followed by the Athletic Wall of Fame - Induction Ceremony. The Induction Class of 2022:



#### **Garrett Hoag - Student Athlete**

Garrett Hoag, a Dansville High School Graduate, Class of 2010,. was a 3-sport all-star athlete at DHS. He was the starting quarterback for the varsity football team for three years, in addition to his selection as team captain, team MVP and all-county honors. At the time of induction, Garrett holds the school record for passing with 111 completions on 210 attempts for 1,667 yards; he also holds the school record for average yards per game (187 yards). During the winter season, Garrett was the starting point guard on the basketball team. In the spring, Garrett was a 3-year varsity baseball player. He was the starting pitcher in 59 games, recording 148 strikeouts in 112 total innings pitched. During his senior season, Hoag recorded a no-hitter at Doubleday Field in Coopers-

town, NY, and was selected as a league all-star. After graduating from DHS in 2010, Garrett continued playing baseball collegiately at Alfred State and SUNY Cortland.



#### Jon H. Shay - Special Contributor

Jon Shay began making his impact on Dansville athletics as a high school student, playing sports and supporting classmates. Upon graduating from DHS in 1960, Jon continued to find ways to be involved with Dansville athletics by, among other things, filming football games and coaching youth sports. Although Jon Shay preferred to donate quietly, he was a generous and dependable supporter of the athletic program and continued to be for 61 years until his passing in 2021. He was an avid spectator at any and all sporting events, as well as a volunteer at the Dansville Rotary Tip-Off Tournament, which he helped organize and run for 25 years. He was a volunteer umpire and a sponsor of youth sports, particularly little league baseball and softball. He was a

charter member of the Dansville Athletics Wall of Fame Committee; in Jon's memory, his family continues to contribute to the Athletics Wall of Fame organization and the Dansville athletic program in general. Since the 1960s, a countless number of athletes, coaches and athletic programs have benefitted from the generosity of Jon Shay and his family.



#### Jim Welch - Coach

From 1995 to 2016, Jim Welch established himself as the most successful swim coach in the history of Dansville athletics. He coached both boys and girls swimming, and established the first Dansville girls varsity swim program in 2004. His coaching resume includes (but is not limited to) 5 LCAA championships and 6 Section V championships; additionally, he was twice selected as the LCAA Coach of the Year, with five turns as Section V Coach of the Year. In 2011, Jim was named the Section V All-Greater Rochester Girls Swim Coach of the Year. Under Welch's time as a coach, 30 athletes went on to swim at the collegiate level. Forty-six individual athletes won Section V titles under his watch, and 23 reached the State meet; he also coached 19 Section V championship relay teams. In 2022, Jim Welch was inducted into the Section V Swimming Hall of

Fame. He was more than a coach, though; he was also the Athletic Director for Dansville from 1997-2000, the Livingston Conference Boys and Girls Chairman and a member of the Section V Swimming Committee from 2008-2016. Coach Welch continues to serve as the Section V Class C Boys Swimming Chairman.

Athletic Director, Dave Moodie, stated: "Dansville Athletics has a proud tradition of talented athletes, knowledgeable coaches and special contributors who go above and beyond to support Dansville athletics. The members of this year's induction class exemplify the standard of excellence that is required to become a Dansville Mustang Wall of Fame Member."

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#### Wall of Fame (continued)



Captains of the 66' & 67' Undefeated Football Teams, joined by this year's DWC Captains. (Steve Williams, Frank Harter, John Huette, Steve Smyder, John Keysaw and Mike Allen).



Pictured: Garrett Hoag, Dave Moodie, Jim Welch (Garrett Hoag also accepted the Induction Plaque for his grandfather, Jon Shay). Thank you to Joe Granita Photography.

#### **Gary "Lark" Lemen Dedication**

On Thursday, October 20th at 5pm, just prior to the start of the Varsity Football game between Dan-Way-Co and HFL, a special ceremony was held by the School District and members of the Dansville Community to recognize Gary "Lark" Lemen. Lark graduated from Dansville High School in 1965 and retired as a school cleaner who worked at DHS for 40 years. Lark was inducted into the Mustang Athletics Wall of Fame in 2000. From the time he was a Dansville student until his passing in December 2019, Lark cheered on student athletes at every home contest and many away games. His love for Dansville Athletics was unconditional and being a lifelong Dansville Mustang was a point of pride. He will be remembered as Dansville Mustangs' number 1 fan.

His positive impact on students, athletes, coaches and the community at large resulted in a recognition plaque being displayed at the new Athletic Complex alongside a red & black Mustang statue (pictured below).

The Dansville School District invited everyone to attend the football game, check out the Gary "Lark" Lemen recognition and to cheer on the DWC football players in their final home game of the season.



Gary "Lark" Lemen



Recognition plaque and mustang



Representatives from the School District and Dansville Community worked on a Sunday morning to install the recognition plaque, mustang and fence.

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#### **Breakfast for Champions**

Provided for our Mustang fall athletes by our Food Service Department.



#### **DHS Alumni Soccer Game**

For 14 years, Coach Arin Belden has been promising her athletes the opportunity play in an alumni game once Dansville built a turf field. Coach Belden was able to make good on her promise and on September 24th, 12 former Dansville Varsity Girls Soccer players gathered at the new stadium to play. Coach Belden and JV Coach Maddie Farrell ('16) hope to make this an annual event to celebrate the girls soccer program.



# Agents Across Anerica

#### Duel in the Pool Raises Over \$2600

The fifth annual "Duel in the Pool" was held Saturday, September 17th at the Haverling Aquatics Complex in Bath, NY. Over 150 varsity girl swimmers from across the region competed in this charity fundraising event which pitted the Livingston Conference (LCAA) as one team against rivals of the Finger Lakes League (FLL).

This unique cross-conference meet gives the girls the opportunity to be

teammates at a swim meet instead of competitors and to form new friendships with girls from other schools. Co-chairmen, Jim and Natalie Welch, believe the success of this meet continues each year because of the bond that lies between the lady swimmers, coaches and officials from both leagues. These individuals and numerous other volunteers create the success of this charitable event.

Swimmers were mixed with schools in their league to compete in 12 events. The intentions of the Duel are to establish a competitive, fun-filled meet while raising money for a much needed cause.

The Duel netted a total of \$2,625.00 for this charitable organization through canvas bag sales, admissions, donations, and a 50/50. This amount will allow the LCAA and FLL girls to purchase 175 wreaths to be placed on the graves of our country's fallen servicemen and women at the Bath National Cemetery to remember and honor our heroes.

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#### **DCSD New Physical Education and Athletics Complex**

The new athletic track and field officially opened on September 2 with the varsity boys' and girls' soccer games against the Wayland-Cohocton Eagles. Both teams won their games and the very first goal on our new field was scored by DHS senior Tyler Harris in overtime. The grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony was held between the two games, with all fall athletes in attendance.













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# Congratulations!





Carol Ames, Transportation Jennifer Deaton, Teacher Andrea Deats, Para Christina Gullen, Teacher

Kellie Loveland, Teacher Melanie Moulthroup, Para Betty Jo VanScooter, Para





Dave Moodie, HS Principal





Craig Harris, Teacher Joanne Knudsen, Cleaner Jill Levee, Teacher Aimee Pagano, Teacher Rob VanScoter, Teacher

Barb Anselm, Library Aide Tina Arend, Clerk Typist Derek Belcher, Teacher Sue Bowser, Teacher Tom Frazier, Dep. Superintendent





Deb Fisher, Para Wendy Luckenbach, Clerk Typist

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#### To our new DCSD Family!



#### **High School**

Brittany Atwell, Social Studies
Katelynn Bailey, Special Education
Karina Cartella - HS Paraprofessional
Megan Clement, ELA
Ryan Conklin, PE
Stacey Corriea, Paraprofessional
Jana Everett, Earth Science
Grace Gropp - HS Paraprofessional
Mary LaBarron-Dewey: HS Paraprofessional
Jennifer Price: 7-12 Reading Teacher
Elizabeth Ribble - HS Monitor

#### **EBH**

Desiree Greco, Paraprofessional
Julia Mark, Special Education
Grace Mast, Special Education
Allison Padden, Paraprofessional
Tabitha Prinzi, Paraprofessional
Emily Ryder, Paraprofessional
Stephanie Schumacher, Paraprofessional
Meghan Stefko, Elementary Teacher

#### **Food Service**

Victoria Beach, Food Service Worker Jocelyn Santiago, Cook Ashley Strobel, Food Service Worker Debra Howells, Food Service Worker

#### **Primary School**

Bridget Blodgett, 3PK-Special Education Casey Burr, Paraprofessional Linda Coffey, Cafeteria Monitor Jessica Scott, Paraprofessional Lauryn Smith, School Psychologist Intern

#### **Transportation**

Floyd Sick, Transportation Supervisor Randi Bates, Bus Attendant Danielle Dugo, Bus Attendant Fabian Gonzalez, Driver Gregory Mahany, Driver Lisa Mejia, Driver Todd Rowan, Driver Dillon Wright, Mechanic

#### **Special Programs Office**

Jamie Mann, Clerk-Typist Sara O'Connor, Clerk-Typist

#### **Facilities**

Melissa Colon-Hill, Laborer Chris George, Laborer Aloysius Fox, Cleaner Steve Petrillo, Cleaner Savannah Tucker, Cleaner Sofia Buckel, Cleaner Mackenzie Tucker, Cleaner

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#### Letter from Melissa Goho, Primary School Principal

Winter is in the air! At DPS, we are focused on building community in class-rooms as well as throughout our whole school. Classrooms have morning meetings each day where students greet each other, learn about each other, and kick off their day together. This year we also have DPS morning meetings for the whole school at the High School Auditorium once a month. Our Student Lighthouse Team plans and facilitates the meeting with the support of Lighthouse Action Team members. The DPS morning meeting includes a greeting, announcements, pledge of allegiance, joke of the day, a focus on our Leader in Me Habits, and singing our DPS song.

Our Student Lighthouse Team includes: Addison Anderson (2nd), Brooklynn Anderson (2nd), Elizabeth Arena (1st), Hera Bauter (2nd), Amya Burley (K), Clara Clark (2nd), Zachary Doviak (2nd), Andrew Grimsley (K), Damien Hayes (2nd), Alivia Huey (2nd), Sawyer Kobylanski (1st), Dominic Lana (1st), Greyson Miller (K), Nina Potter (2nd), Lawson Ringelberg (1st), Cooper Rounsville (1st), Kensley Smith (K), Korbin Snyder (K), Gwen Vanderwerken (K), and Natalie Versluis (1st). They are busy planning Spirit Weeks, our DPS morning meetings, and other upcoming leadership events with the support of Lighthouse Action Team members (Mrs. Dale, Mrs. Doggett, Mr. Grimsley, Mrs. Grimsley, and Miss Petrillo). The Student Lighthouse Team's goal is to lead, learn, and achieve by making a positive impact on Dansville students, faculty, staff, families, and community members and they are off to a great start.

A big thank you goes out to the Dansville Fire Department, Dansville Ambulance, and West Sparta Fire Department! On Wednesday, October 12th, DPS students watched a firefighter get dressed in all his gear and learned how to call 911. They also enjoyed exploring the vehicles and seeing all the equipment.

Our Open House on October 20th was very successful as 295 DPS students showed family members all around our school. The smiles were contagious that night as students gave tours of all the important places they learn and work in at school.

We celebrated Red Ribbon Week from October 24th-28th. All DPS students received red ribbon shoelace tokens. We also had fun dressing up around the theme of being leaders and making healthy choices (such as "Cowboys/Cowgirls Day", saddle up because healthy choices lead to a long life, and "Crazy Socks Day", we are crazy about being leaders).

And of course we can't forget the fall favorite - our DPS Halloween Parade. Our 3PK and 4PK students wore class costumes while our K-2nd grade students enjoyed parading in their personal costumes.

I'm so proud of all the DPS students and I can't wait to see all that they accomplish the rest of this year! I hope to see many of you at our Cozy Christmas Family Literacy Event on Saturday, December 10th!

Best, Melissa Goho

#### PK Visits FitzPatrick's Farm Market

3PK friends enjoyed their time at FitzPatrick's Farm Market. They explored fruits and vegetables with their senses, went on a fall scavenger hunt, fed the goats, played on the playground, and of course, picked pumpkins! Thank you to the FitzPatrick family and staff for a great fall experience!



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#### **Fire Prevention Week**

A big thank you goes out to the Dansville Fire Department, Dansville Ambulance, and West Sparta Fire Department! The students learned how fire fighters get ready for a fire with all their gear and how to call 911. They also enjoyed exploring the vehicles.















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#### **Red Ribbon Week**

We celebrated Red Ribbon Week at DPS by giving students red ribbon shoelace tokens. We also had some fun dressing up with the themes of being leaders and making healthy choices.

- Cowboys/cowgirls Day saddled up because healthy choices lead to a long life
- Crazy Socks Day we are crazy about being leaders
- Superheroes Day superheroes are super leaders
- Beach Day your future is sunny and bright
- Red & Black Day At DPS we are leaders



#### **DPS Morning Minutes**

This year DPS is having whole school morning meetings once a month in the HS Auditorium. The Student Lighthouse Team plans and leads the meetings with the help of some DPS faculty members. The October meeting was focused on Habit #1 - Be Proactive. The meetings include: announcements, the pledge of allegiance, greeting, joke of the day, instruction on ways to be a leader and follow the 7 habits, and singing our DPS school song all together.





#### **DPS Leaders**

These DPS students received recognition as Student of the Month for Habit #1 - Be Proactive. They show characteristics, such as

- I have a "can do" attitude and always try my best
- I follow the directions and do the right thing, even when nobody is looking
- I choose my actions, attitudes, and moods



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The Dansville Primary School Library hosted its fourth annual Storybook Pumpkin Patch this year! Families were invited to create a pumpkin based on a favorite book character to join our pumpkin patch in the library. We got so many amazing pumpkins and kiddos had such a fun time walking through the pumpkin patch and seeing characters they know!













#### **Primary Project**

Check out our new playroom! Primary Project is a child-led, play-based intervention in the Primary School designed to provide select students in Prekindergarten through 2nd grade with an opportunity to interact in a play-like setting with a child professional. We have been lucky to provide this service to our students since the 2017-2018 school year; this means we are now in year 6! Even during the COVID closure and throughout our modified schedules, we have offered students and families social/emotional support through the Primary Project. We began in 2017 as a small grant funded program and

have since transitioned to full district sponsorship. We are grateful for the support of our faculty and the larger community! For more information about the Primary Project, please contact us in the Primary School office, or check out the Children's Institute website, at: <a href="https://www.childrensinstitute.net/programs/primary-project">https://www.childrensinstitute.net/programs/primary-project</a>.







#### **DPS Celebrates the Bills!**

On October 17 DPS celebrated the Buffalo Bills with a Josh Allen Day! Students were able to participate in a variety of activities around the school including: sight word football, fast feet drills, a Josh Allen scavenger hunt, and an ABC fist bump scavenger hunt! Kiddos even got to get their picture taken with a life-sized Allen! We had so much fun showing our love of our "home team" and #17 and also focusing on some literacy skills! Go Bills!





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#### **Reading and Literacy at DPS**

DPS celebrated reading and family time with 3PK kids and the book Room on the Broom! Families were invited to a fun-filled evening where they could participate in lots of literacy based activities thematically linked to the book. We had so much fun making wands, coloring cat and dog masks, creating brooms and creatures and finding hidden pictures with some sensory play! Families were even able to hear the story read aloud by Dr. Alioto with bassoon accompaniment! Each kiddo got to take home their creations as well as their very own copy of the book! Special









#### **Pete The Cat**

Oh what fun we had when Pete the Cat came for a visit! Students went on a scavenger hunt in the building and finished in the library with Pete!







#### **NEW Large Motor Room for UPK**

We have a brand new large motor room for our 3PK and 4PK students to explore and use this year. It will give the students opportunities for large and fine motor movement, especially on the days that it is rainy or too cold to play outside on our playground.









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#### Letter from EBH Principal, Lisa Allen

Hello from all of us at EBH!

A busy and fast fall has flown by! Hard to believe that Thanksgiving is right around the corner.

We began our year with a very successful Open House. This happened the day before the first day of school and allowed everyone to come meet their teacher and find the

classrooms. The turnout was very large as usual! In October we had a theme week for Red Ribbon Week and it culminated with the 46th Annual Cross Country Run. We had a beautiful day for the event and students had a great time.

Clubs and activities have been in full swing for a while now. We have Lego Robotics, Band, Chorus, Pageturners, Chess Club, Archery Club, Art Club, Fitness, Makerspace, Sewing Club, etc. So many opportunities due to a very willing group of adults who love to supervise these extra activities for our students. We also have many Student Action Teams that allow students to demonstrate their leadership skills. We were recertified as a Lighthouse School and these Action Teams are a large part of that.

Parent Teacher conferences are coming November 21 and 22. Be sure to sign up with your child's teacher to have a time to come in and talk about progress so far this year. These days will also include 11:30 dismissal times so that we have time to meet with families in the afternoons. Report cards will come home in December at the end of the 1st trimester.

I hope you were able to see our Marching Band in the Homecoming Parade on September 30. They looked and sounded great - with only a few rehearsals! Impressive! Winter concerts will be coming up in December and January and everyone is preparing already. I can't wait to hear them!

We have been fortunate to be able to offer an afterschool program to some 5th and 6th graders. The Encompass program runs on Tuesdays and Wednesdays until 5:15. The teachers at the program help students with homework, provide tutoring in areas of need and then do some enrichment activities for fun. The students have been heard saying "this is fun!". We are so lucky to be able to do this! We will have another 8 week session starting in January. Our autumn group has worked to create a "restaurant" and I look forward to trying their creations!

We have had a great start to the school year and I know it will continue. I look forward to seeing all that our students will accomplish this year. Have a wonderful holiday season with your friends and family.

Lisa Allen Principal

October 31 was a big day at EBH! Other than the usual Halloween festivities, the adults took part in a Halloween Spirited Cookie Contest. Coach Welch led the planning and we had amazing entries! After a day of testing and voting, the winner was Mrs. Laura Wadsworth. We can't wait until our next baking challenge event coming in November!





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#### Results of the 46th annual EBH Elementary School Cross Country Run

The EBH Cross Country Run was held on Friday, October 28, 2022. This year marked the 46th running of the annual event, and the first time utilizing our beautiful new athletic stadium. This also marked the first time since COVID-19 that students of all grades were able to compete in the race as one whole, unified school community. The weather couldn't have cooperated more amazingly, giving the runners/walkers a sunny afternoon to complete the one-mile course.

3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th graders participated in the one mile run for fun, fitness and a healthy heart. First place overall was 6th grader Connor Gardner, crossing the finish line at 8 minutes 26 seconds. 6th grader Kennedy Allison was the overall girls champion finishing at a time of 8 minutes 48 seconds.

Placing in the sixth grade for the boys & girls divisions were: 1st place: Connor Gardner and Kennedy Allison. 2nd place: Skyler Mehlenbacher and Keira Nagle. 3rd place: Caleb Baird and Kinsley Sauerbier. 4th place: Myles Cutlip and Ava Huey. 5th place: Josh Forrester and Nettle DeZarn.

Results for the fifth grade for boys & girls divisions were: 1st place: Gavin Schledorn and Colleen Metcalfe. 2nd place: Hunter VanAuken and Samantha O'Connor. 3rd place: Paxton Berry and Isabella York. 4th place: Dawson Johnson and Anna Bacon. 5th place: Bruce Mushtare and Maylie Henry.

Results for the fourth grade boys & girls divisions were: 1st place: Carter Coburn and Jordan Doviak. 2nd place: Aiden Rook and Harper Clark. 3rd place: Kash Powell and Arya Rook. 4th place: Jacob Forrester and Anna Luce. 5th place: Guage Dechau-Parcels and Chloe Quinlan.

Results for the third grade boys & girls divisions were: 1st place: Levi Goins and Kenzi Peaty. 2nd place: Jonah Appleby and Harper Ebert. 3rd place: Asher Bridge and Natalie Buchinger. 4th place: Peter Bacon and Ophelia Breidenstein. 5th place: Jase Bradley and Alex Fassbender

Results for the teacher division were: 1st place: Ms. Swain. 2nd place: Ms. Sears. 3rd place: Mr. Palotti. 4th place: Mrs. Wachholder. 5th place: Mrs. Lewis.

















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#### Letter from David Moodie, High School Principal



Dear Parents and School Community Members,

The 2022-2023 school year is off to a great start! As you will see in this newsletter, Dansville High School continues to offer our students opportunities to be part of the school community and be recognized for their hard work. Our motto at the high school is "We Learn, We Lead and We Succeed". Each and every day, students are challenged to work hard academically; encouraged to hold themselves and others accountable; and celebrated for making progress toward accomplishing their goals. The following students have been selected as Mustangs of the Month by their teachers for doing their part to learn, lead and succeed: September: Zaiden VanDurme-Blackmon, Ethan Canfield, Ketsia Corbett, Silvia Folts, Emma Mackey, Justin Maine, Killian McCartney, Joslyn Morrow and Connor Rechichi. October:

Kaylie Babocsi, Briana Blair, Whitney Carlin, Ketsia Corbett, Arabella Fronk, Mollie Herrmann, Madison Kunes, Jacob Kreiley, Kera Metcalfe, Dawsyn Mistretta, Kim Saluzzo and Kian Trimboli.

Our 7th and 8th grade students have participated in classes on self regulation and conflict resolution. Our 7-9 school counselors, Mrs. Drollette and Ms. Wolcott, have led these lessons and have related the content to the idea "Think like a Mustang". Students receive these lessons at the start of each marking period so that it can be a focus of theirs for 10 weeks. Speaking of students in the 7th and 8th grade, how about the fall drama production?!?! Students and their advisors worked extremely hard to prepare for and give an amazing performance. Furthermore, on November 9th, select 7/8 band students participated in the annual Genesee Valley School Music Association Solo Festival. These students gave exceptional performances!

In late September, as part of our career exploration initiatives, about 50 DHS students in grades 10-12 enjoyed attending the GLOW With Your Hands field trip. This was a great opportunity for students to get hands -on experience and learn about various careers in agriculture, manufacturing, and many other skilled trades. We are very thankful to the members of the Livingston County Area of Chamber Commerce and all of the local businesses who sponsored this event. Additionally, on October 17th, DHS hosted a Rochester Area College Fair in our gym. Juniors and Seniors had the opportunity to meet with college admissions representatives to learn more about their respective college/university. Further opportunities for college awareness include offering seniors the opportunity to visit college campuses during the school day. We have visited SUNY Geneseo and Roberts Wesleyan University, with more visits being planned.

We hope everyone enjoyed Homecoming at the new Physical Education and Athletics Complex. Students, advisors and parent volunteers did an outstanding job building this year's floats. Homecoming is a special event and this year it was accompanied by a beautiful sky, winning football, recognition of numerous Dansville Mustangs and a halftime performance by the Marching Mustangs. Our entire school community has benefited from the new complex. Our PE classes have been taking advantage of the turf and track well into November. Members of our soccer and football teams have indicated that our field is one of the best to compete on. Section V agreed and asked us to host multiple sectional soccer games. There is a lot to be proud of at DHS. Thank you for supporting our school.

Go Mustangs!

Dave Moodie DHS Principal

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#### High School Rotary Club Students of the Month

The Dansville Central Schools "Rotary Club Student of the Month" has changed a bit from years past. Students are selected based on the Rotary "Four Way Test":

By applying the "Four Way Test" to student nominations, we will be able to acknowledge students who are consistently helping others, volunteering their time, and generally being model students and citizens.

- 1. Is it the TRUTH?
- 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

We are proud to announce the following students as September and October "Rotary Students of the Month":



#### SEPTEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

#### **Abram Barron**

Parents: Nathaniel and Beth Anne Barron

Honors/Activities: Varsity soccer, Baseball, Honor Roll, Boys State, Junior Scholarship Recipient,

National Honor Society

**Future Plans:** Attend college to become a sports or occupational therapist.



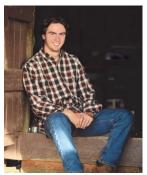
#### **Gabriel Doe**

Parents: Rodney and Lorilyn Doe

Honors/Activities: Club Tennis, Varsity Tennis, multiple musicals/drama club productions, Chorus, Chambers Choir, Drum Major for the band, Treasurer for multiple clubs (NHS, Class Officer, Chorus Officer), and student representative for The Foundation for Dansville Education

Officer), and student representative for The Foundation for Dansville Education.

**Future Plans:** Attend college to be a bio-chem major in pre-med with a minor in psychology to help push me to a career in the medical field.



#### **OCTOBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH**

#### **Jeffrey Birmingham**

Parents: Mike and Kim Birmingham

**Honors/Activities:** Varsity Soccer, Varsity Swim, Varsity Indoor Track, Varsity Outdoor Track, LCAA All Star (Track, Swim, and Soccer), Class Vice-President, NHS President, FBLA, Clarkson University Leadership Award, and Rensselaer Medalist.

Future Plans: Attend West Point or the United States Naval Academy.



#### Maggie Bacon

Parents: Peter and Renee Bacon

Honors/Activities: Cross Country, Indoor Track & Field, Outdoor Track & Field. Honor roll, Script D, Junior and Senior Class President, Leadership Committee Member, National Honor Society Member, Pony Express Leader, Student Council Member, and Technology Club. Livingston County Teen Recognition Award (2020, 2021), Livingston County Sheriff's Department "Do the right thing award." Sportsmanship Award for Class C Girls in Section V, Sectional Champion 4x800 Indoor & Outdoor (2022), Sectional Patch recipient (Top 10 and Top 5, 2020, 2021), School record holder Indoor Track 1500m, League XC All Star (2019,2020,2021), Division 1 Team League Champions (2021,2022), XC Sectional Champion (2022).

Future Plans: Attend college to study Sport Management.

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#### **Science Learning**

In Mrs. Lenhard's 7th grade science class students are putting metric measurements into action. We measured and converted between mm, cm and meters.



Big thank you to our Pony Express Leaders for helping to make sure that our 7th grade students had a great 1st day!

### Shout-out to Livingston County Chamber of Commerce for organizing the GLOW event for high school students.















#### **DHS Music Stars**

On Wednesday, November 9th, select 7th and 8th grade band students traveled to Livonia CSD for the annual GVSMA (Genesee Valley School Music Association) Solo Festival. Students performed a solo, 7 Major scales for memory and sight reading at their audition. All of the students did a wonderful job and we are so proud of them and their hard work!

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# Mustangs of the Month

At monthly department meetings, discussions involve selecting students to represent the department as a Mustang of the Month. Each member of the department has the opportunity to nominate a student. The positive conversations that occur during this time are meaningful and celebratory in nature. Students who are selected receive a certificate and their picture, as well as, reasons for being selected are publicized. Who will be the next Mustang of the Month?

#### SEPTEMBER 2022



Van Durme-Blackmon Canfield



Ethen



Ketsia Corbett



Silvia Folts



Emma Mackey



Justin Maine



Killian McCartney



Joslyn Morrow



Connor Rechichi

#### OCTOBER 2022



Kaylie Babocsi



Briana Blair



Whitney Carlin



Ketsia Corbett



Arabella Fronk



Mollie Herrmann



Madison Kunes



Jacob Kreiley



Kera Metcalfe



Dawsyn Mistretta



Kim Saluzzo



Kian Trimboli

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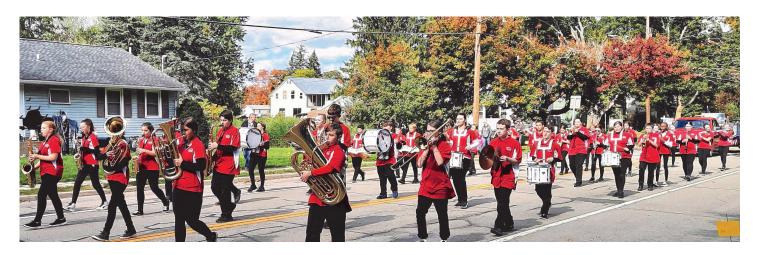
#### 7th/8th Grade Marching Band

The 7th and 8th Grade Band has had a very busy fall! They performed "Low Rider" in the Homecoming Parade on September 30 and also at the Cohocton Parade on October 8. They are currently working hard on their music for the upcoming Holiday Concert which will be on Wednesday, December 21 in the High School Auditorium. Their songs will include "Saxes We Have Heard On High", "Ding Dong Merrily On High" and "Summit Fanfare." We hope you will be able to attend! Several students have also been working hard on memorizing 7 major scales and preparing a solo for the GVSMA Solo Festival to be held at Livonia CSD on Wednesday, November 9. Keep up the great work, 7th and 8th Grade Band!









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#### **HS Students Mentor First Grade**

Bennett/Wensel: Mr. Wensel's English 10 class traveled over to the primary school to work with students in Mrs. Bennett's and Mrs. Williamson's first grade class on writing. The high school writing buddy shared a poem that they wrote about themselves while first grade students shared a small moment story. High school buddies then helped first grade students continue to work on their stories. We look forward to great partnerships in writing this year!





#### **Culinary Students Get Hands-On Lesson**

Mrs. Bacon's Culinary Class received a first-hand knife skills presentation from Chef Jason Howard of Jack's Gaslight Grill. Students observed the demonstration learning knife holding techniques as well as several cutting techniques such as mincing, dicing, chiffonade, oblique and rondelle. Students put their new skills to practice while Chef Howard looked on and gave one-on-one guidance. Students found the presentation informative and useful. A huge thank you to Chef Howard for gifting us his time and talent!





#### **Stephanie Youngers Accepted into Junior Dairy Leagues**

DHS senior Stephanie Youngers applied and was accepted into a statewide youth program called "The Junior Dairy Leaders of America." She had to submit an essay stating why she was interested in Agriculture and what she wanted to do in her future with Agriculture. The "Junior Dairy Leaders of America" is a leadership and college planning program intended for young people interested in a career in the Agriculture industry who would like to gain hands-on experience. The "Junior Dairy Leadership Program" is a great opportunity and educational experience for young leaders to see the agricultural industry in a more global manner, network with other interested youth across the U.S. and Canada and learn about different career paths in agriculture.

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#### **New Furniture in the HS Cafeteria!**









## DHS Music Teacher Participating in the Macy's Day Thanksgiving Parade

On November 23, 2023, **Dansville High School Band Director Mrs. Holly Carson** will be joining up to 400 band directors from across the country in New York City in this historic and legendary parade. She will be playing her primary instrument, the trombone, in the parade! Mrs. Carson was one of the selected members from over 700 applications.

The concept behind the Saluting America's Band Directors (SABD) project was to create a unique marching band of band directors comprising band directors and music educators from across North America. The band was recruited through advertising, social media, word of mouth and endorsements from well-known leaders in the profession. Renowned band director Jon Waters joined this effort to lead the Band Directors Marching Band.

#### 8th Grade ELA Students Community Service

The boys and girls varsity cross country teams would like to thank Mrs. Young's 8th period English class for cleaning the graffiti off the gazebo picnic tables at Babcock Park. Our practices start and finish at the gazebo and we are so appreciative to have a space free of inappropriate doodling.





When Colonel Murdock calls his family to his mansion to read his will, hilarity ensues as each member is killed off one by one. This goofy who-done-it was performed by a cast of 7th and 8th grade students on October 28th and 29th.

Congratulations to the DHS fall Drama Club students for a fabulous show!

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# HOMECOMING























Juniors: Addison Musto

Seniors: Adryanna Arriaga (Queen), Colin Gray (King) & Braelynn Potter









#### Dansville's Therapy Dog Program a Success!

When you walk into a room at Dansville Central School District with a therapy dog in attendance, you will notice the dog, and you will notice the children's responses to the dog. What you may not notice unless you have been in the room for an extended time, is the calm mood, low anxiety and well-being of those in room.

Our handlers' "best friends" have become our students' best friends and our staff enthusiastically embrace the positive outcomes of DCSD's Therapy Dog Program.

Schools have seen a rise in mental health issues. With over-exposure to social media, cyberbullying, digital media, images of violence, and much more, some students may experience overwhelming feelings of stress, anxiety, and depression. With 1 in 6 U.S. youth aged 6–17 experiencing a mental health disorder each year and suicide as the second leading cause of death among people aged 10–34, implementing a program to improve the mental well-being of our children is critical and necessary (National Council for Mental Wellbeing).

Something else you may not notice is the increase in academic performance. A study conducted by the University of California on canine reading programs found that students who participated in one program increased their reading fluency by between 12 percent and 30 percent (National Association of Secondary School Principals).

Dansville Central Schools now boast nine therapy dogs! There are two in our primary school, two at EBH and five in the high school. Additionally, there are several retired therapy dogs that have been through our doors. We are in our fourth year of the therapy dog program.

EBH teacher, Christina Gullen, says "The best part of my day is watching a student light up when they see a therapy dog in the hallway. Our kids love these dogs and our dogs love them back. It's exactly what our program is designed to do -- to encourage a positive and nurturing school environment."

Most therapy dogs that are approved to be in the classroom are trained by Kaylee Walker. Kaylee is the owner/operator of "K's Canine" on Route 36 in Dansville. According to Walker, "We work super hard to make sure that the dogs love their job and will be a good fit for the classroom or office they are in. Training takes a lot of work on the handler's part and I couldn't be more proud of all the time and effort they put in. The dogs bring a sense of calm. I think at times they also offer motivation in a classroom. Kids have a better understanding of dog behavior. This even helps the kids in their lives outside of school. This is one of my favorite programs to work on and I'm so grateful to see it grow!"

DCS also hosts dogs trained by retired teacher Deb Fenton. Deb is a certified dog trainer and a Tester/Observer for the Alliance of Therapy Dogs. Fenton says "Therapy dogs are a huge asset in the educational setting. I've seen students who were physically unable to focus on their work be able to complete assignments with no difficulty when they had a dog sitting at their feet. Dogs also calm students who come in upset and can't articulate why. They hug or hold the dog and they immediately feel better. The connection between dogs and humans is very special."

Each dog goes through extensive training and the handlers also need to commit to an additional 250 hours of training on their own.

Funding is provided by The Dansville Foundation for Education, and the investment is evaluated annually.

#### Our current dog handlers are:

High school: Kova and handler Lynne Blum; Cassie and handler Holly Carson, Daisy Duke and handler Tracy Gregorius; Elise and handler Kari Evans, and Sophie and handler Julie Drolette. Therapy dogs at the primary school are Remington and handler Katie Bancroft; Daisy and handler Erin Smith. Our elementary school has Toffee and handler Sheila Cripps, and Lyla and handler Tina Gullen.

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The benefits of therapy dogs in an education program are improvement in human physical, social, emotional, and/or thinking and intellectual skills. When applied to special education settings, the program is goal directed for individual students. There is a specific end in mind, such as improvement in verbal skills, attention span, etc. The process is documented and evaluated.

Dr. Annie Valuska, Senior Scientist, Purina, says that reading to pets can help boost kids' reading skills. She says that it can improve reading fluency, increase reading confidence, and improve self-confidence overall.

Dr. Paul Alioto, superintendent at Dansville is committed to the program. "A small group of teachers began talking about therapy dogs with me 5 years ago. We visited other districts with programs, saw the benefits and thought that we could do that too. At the time, Deb Fenton was an active teacher at DHS and she was the strongest proponent of therapy dogs and what they could do for our kids and adults too! Later, as a DCSD School Board member, Deb continued her advocacy and the program grew. People see the dogs, handlers, kids and lots of smiles. They may not realize how much work goes into training and planning. We are very grateful to our faculty members who have taken on these considerable responsibilities."

Perhaps the greatest benefit of therapy dogs in the classroom is the effect on students' social-emotional development. Loving and lovable, dogs are friendly companions and good listeners who make no judgements. Children bond easily with these gentle creatures, helping them feel more connected and confident. This leads to a reduction in negative behavior and aggression.

Primary School AIS teacher Katie Bancroft (Remington's handler) said that "The therapy dog program was one of the things that drew me to Dansville. I know how much better (calmer) I feel when my dog is around. Especially after the last few years of stress and uncertainty, I am even more convinced that having a therapy dog around is a







great way to teach our littles so many things. He naturally helps me discuss topics such as feelings/emotions that we feel and is a good model at keeping calm and focused when we are working. Many times I have observed Remington being a super calming influence for kids that are having a rough day or transition. I love bringing him to work and sharing him with the DPS family. I am grateful to Dr. Alioto for the opportunity and to Kaylee for all of her training

and constant support."

Mrs. Williamson's 1st graders say that Remington "keeps us safe," and "makes me feel calm and relaxed when I am scared," and "when I pet him, he makes me feel happy."

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### What's Coming up at DCSD



November 28 Welcome Back From Thanksgiving Recess

December 3 EBH Chess Tournament

December 8 EBH 5th/6th Band and Chorus Concert 7:00pm

December 8, 9, 10 Rotary Boys Basketball Tip-Off Tournament

December 10 DPS Cozy Christmas - 11:00-2:00 pm

December 12 Public Referendum (Vote Noon - 8:00 pm

DHS Gymnasium Foyer)

December 19-23 DPS Holiday Spirit Week

December 21 7-12 Winter Band Concert

December 26-January 2 Holiday Recess

January 3 Welcome Back

January 7 EBH Chess Tournament

January 12 EBH 4th Grade Band and Chorus Concert 6:00pm

January 16 No School: Martin Luther King Day

January 24-26 DHS Regents

January 27 No School: Superintendent Conference Day

February 1 3PK & 4PK Registration Begins

February 6 School Counselor Week

February 11 EBH Chess Tournament

February 20 No School: President's Day

February 21-24 No School: Winter Recess

March 13 & 14 11:30 Dismissal: Parent/Teacher Conferences

March 16-18 DHS Musical

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#### DCS DISTRICT RESIDENT



DCSD continues the search for bus drivers and bus attendants.
Please call 585-335-4001 for more information!



#### Eighth Wall of Pride Seeking Nominations for Fall 2023

The Foundation for Dansville Education announces the call for nominations for the 2023 Wall of Pride induction to be held in October 2023. **Nominations will be accepted now through May 2023.** Nomination forms can be obtained from the Dansville Central School District Office at 337 Main Street, Dansville, or on their district website at this address: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/qvqhg46">https://tinyurl.com/qvqhg46</a>.