

REMINDER

Curriculum/Academics Committee Meeting | Monday, April 20 | 11 a.m. | Fisher Building, 12th Floor



**Academic
Committee
Recap**

During the February Academic Committee Meeting, Superintendent Vitti presented DPSCD's fiscal year 2021 planned capital investment projects. Dr. Vitti provided a high-level overview of the Capital Projects Fund budget designed to address facility needs district wide including, immediate health and safety issues, roof replacements, HVAC construction, building maintenance, and playground repairs.

The District also plans to adjust school building use and programs to increase enrollment, utilization, and the number of high-quality seats as defined by the Facility Condition Index (FCI) scores, outlined in the facilities report. More information and a copy of the presentation can be found by visiting detroitk12.org. Click Board of Education in the menu and scroll to Board Meetings. Upcoming Academic Committee meeting dates are March 2 and April 20.



**GM Donates \$1 Million to
Beyond Basics' Literacy Program
to Impact 500 DPSCD Students**

In February, General Motors announced a \$1 million donation to the Beyond Basics' *Be The Solution* literacy campaign. This donation will allow for nearly 500 DPSCD high school students the opportunity to participate in the nonprofit's literacy program. "This is not about throwing money at another problem. Beyond Basics gets at the heart of the challenges linked to reading below grade level and delivers a strategy that is coherent, comprehensive and truly research-based," said Dr. Nikolai P. Vitti, superintendent of the DPSCD.

Read the full press release on detroitk12.org.

Detroit History Curriculum One Year Later

Rachael Joseph, third-grade teacher at Munger Elementary-Middle School, opened her classroom doors for a peek at a Detroit History lesson. Read the full story on detroitk12.org.

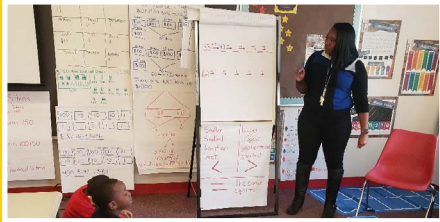


"I have students telling me they can't wait to share what they learned when they get home, that's how you know the curriculum is working – they're excited and reciting the information back to their families and friends," said Miss Joseph.

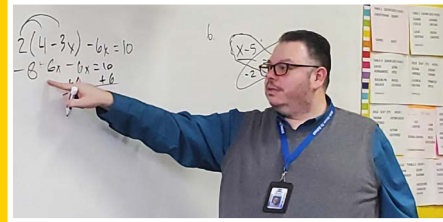
May is Teacher Appreciation Month!

DPSCD teachers are known for helping students to rise. Be sure to follow @detroitk12 on social media for more teacher highlights during the month of May!

Congratulations DPSCD mathematics master teachers Reneshia Allen, Ramon Hernandez, Satyra Johnson, and Janine Scott for being recognized as 2020-2021 regional semi-finalists for the Michigan Department of Education Teacher of the Year.



Reneshia Allen teaches second grade at Marion Law Academy and takes pride in making mathematics fun for her students as well as coaching her colleagues in best instructional practices.



Ramon Hernandez "teaches life lessons in the language of mathematics" to his high school students at Academy of the Americas.



Satyra Johnson enhances the learning experiences for all students at Greenfield K-8, through opportunities such as the Math Bee, Math Counts, i-Ready Challenge, and preparing a Thanksgiving feast every year.



Janine Scott is a mathematics instructor, robotics mentor, Honor Society adviser, and tutor at Davis Aerospace Technical High School. She wants her students to know that their lives add value to the world, and she feels it is her job to help students realize this fact.



Western International High School, AP Spanish teacher, **Maria Magdalena Vela**, a DPSCD educator since 2016 (arriving in Detroit from Spain), hit an incredible mark this past fall by having 90% of her students receiving college credit upon completion of their AP Spanish examination! Maria credits her collaborative classroom setting and emphasis on note taking as "essential" to student success.



Krystal Robinson, a teacher at Gardner Elementary School, presented at the New Teacher Center's annual Symposium in February. The title of her session was *Defining the Role of the Mentor*. Ms. Robinson shared how DPSCD's New Teacher Mentors are working within our school-based mentor induction program to support and develop new educators.



DPSCD's 2020 NAACP Art & Essay Winners

Each year the NAACP Detroit Branch Invites Detroit students to apply for scholarships through its Art & Essay contest; this year's theme "What The Civil Rights Struggle Means to Me." Congratulations to the 2020 DPSCD winners:

Elementary Essay

- 1st Place: Antonio Stoudemire, 5th Grade, FLICS
- 2nd Place: Mohammed Islam, 4th Grade, Davison
- 3rd Place, Kayli Howard, 2nd Grade, Davison

Elementary Art

- 1st Place: Su'raj Brown, 5th Grade, Bow
- 2nd Place: Kie'Lyn Smith, 3rd Grade, Fisher Lower
- 3rd Place: Inaet Husain, 2nd Grade, Davison

Middle School Essay

- 2nd Place: Maiyah Boyd, 6th Grade, Mark Twain

Middle School Art

- 3rd Place: Jaiden Smith, 7th Grade, Bow

High School Art

- 1st Place: Kyndall McMillion, 10th Grade, Cass Tech
- Honorable Mention: Faith Jones-Honey, 9th Grade, Cass Tech

High School Essay

- 1st Place: Sayaf Abaid, 12th Grade, Cass Tech
- 3rd Place: Therron Montgomery, 12th Grade, Cass Tech

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



K-2 Classrooms Experience STEM Curriculum

DPSCD partnered with the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) to bring a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Literacy Challenge with A World in Motion (AWIM) for K-2 teachers. Teachers have an exciting opportunity to engage their class in a STEM Literacy Challenge with the help of Ford Motor Company volunteers. Ms. Mary Lovelace's first grade class at Gompers experienced the Making Music Challenge and explored the how, what, and why of sound and vibration through interactive lessons. Students investigated how the human eardrum works and explored concepts such as pitch, longitudinal and transverse waves. Working in teams, they collected information through hands-on investigation and observation, engineering a musical instrument! Students also made a literacy connection through an accompanying book to help bring the concept of sound and vibration to life through sounds of nature.

ELEMENTARY – MIDDLE SCHOOL

DPSCD Chess Teams take State by Storm!



Congratulations to the DPSCD teams and individuals who placed at the State Elementary Chess Tournament!

WINNING DPSCD TEAMS

- Chrysler Elementary won the K-5 State Championship for the 2nd year straight.
- Bates Academy came in 2nd place in the K-6 section.



INDIVIDUAL WINNERS

Gold Medals

Delano Green (Bunche)
Keiland McGinnis (Bates)
Joel Evans (Bates)
Kaden Hill (Bates)

Silver Medals

Dillion Key (Edmonson)
Andrew Mitchell (Edmonson)
Foxx Williams (Chrysler)
Wendell Smith (Bunche)

Kamauri Knuckles (Bunche)
Bryan Reynolds (Bates)
Carter McBeth (Bates)
Anika Tankerd (Vernor)

Bronze Medals

Jonathan Byrd (Bates)

Did you know DPSCD schools offer chess as an extracurricular activity? The game of chess is known to improve problem-solving skills and enhance concentration senses. For more information, please visit detroitk12.org/curriculum.

Update: 3rd Grade Reading Law



DPSCD families received an updated parent letter and fact sheet on the 3rd Grade Reading Law, describing the good cause exemptions that will allow the District to promote students that might be identified for retention under the law. Visit detroitk12.org to download digital files of the letter and fact sheet (available in Arabic, English, Bengali and Spanish). Families are encouraged to contact their school principal with any questions or concerns.

HIGH SCHOOL

High School Math Curriculum Focuses on College and Career Readiness for Students

This school year, DPSCD adopted CPM as the high school mathematics curriculum for all high schools to help students improve their college and career readiness. The Three Pillars of CPM are collaborative learning, problem-based learning, and mixed-spaced practice. These pillars follow research that students learn more deeply when they discuss ideas with classmates, learn ideas more usefully for other areas when they work on problems from the real world, and learn ideas more permanently when they engage and re-engage with content over time.

The photos to the right show our students participating in mixed-spaced practices to learn how they will be incorporating mathematics problems in college and/or their career.



SAVE THE DATE FOR

LevelUP

High School Expo



Find Your Passion!

The Level Up Expo showcases dozens of options for a great high school experience. Whether your child is looking for a comprehensive program or small school environment, we have it all. Learn about our college and career-ready programs exceptional opportunities and resources for families. For more information, visit detroitk12.org/LevelUp

Saturday, March 21, 2020

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Cass Technical High School
2501 2nd Ave. (South Entrance)**



Preparing for the SAT

This year, 11th graders will take the SAT test on April 13, 2020. Students can begin preparing now at home with these free resources:

- **Khan Academy's Official SAT Practice**

A 2017 study showed an association between 20 hours of Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy and score gains of 115 points between the PSAT and SAT. Your student can access Khan Academy's Official SAT Practice through Clever by visiting clever.com/in/dpscd and clicking on the Khan Academy icon.

- **Download the College Board's Daily SAT Practice App**

Visit www.collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat to practice daily SAT questions or download the app. In addition, DPSCD high schools are offering the PSAT/SAT Preparation course for 10th and 11th grade students. Students should talk with their guidance counselor today about resources and their pathway for after graduation.

Academic Calendar

To view the complete 2019-2020 Academic Calendar, visit detroitk12.org.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
MARCH 2020					APRIL 2020					MAY 2020				
2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3					1
9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8
16	17	PTCh	19	20	13	TD	TD	Q3	Q4	11	12	13	14	15
23	24	PTC	26	27	20	21	22	RC	24	18	19	20	21	22
30	31				27	28	29	30		H	26	27	28	29

- PTCh Parent/Teacher Conferences - High School
- TD High School Testing Days
- H Public Holiday
- PTC Parent/Teacher Conferences
- S Semester/Quarter Boundary
- Schools Closed-No Students
- RC Report Card Day



Upcoming Board Meetings Schedule

Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 10, 5:30 p.m.
Henry Ford High School

Policy Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 11, 2 p.m.
Fisher Building, 12th Floor

Finance Committee Meeting

Friday, March 27, 9 a.m.
Fisher Building, 12th Floor

Curriculum/Academics Committee Meeting

Monday, April 20, 11 a.m.
Fisher Building, 12th Floor

The DPSCD Board of Education Curriculum/Academic Committee Members

Angelique Peterson-Mayberry
Committee Chair

Dr. Deborah Hunter-Harvill
Committee Member

Georgia Lemmons
Committee Member

Contact us: (313) 873-3111

The Office of Curriculum and Instruction

Beth Gonzalez

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

Contact us: (313) 873-8533

dpscd.curriculum@detroitk12.org



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@detroitk12



For more information about DPSCD please visit

Detroitk12.org



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