REMINDER

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

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“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.

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 peak at a Detroit History lesson. Read the full story on detroitk12.org.
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 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.

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

**K-2 Classrooms Experience STEM Curriculum**

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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.

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 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
High School Expo

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)
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, DPS22 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.

**HOMEWORK HOTLINE**

833.466.3978

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