

Academic Committee Recap



During the October Academic Committee Meeting, Superintendent Dr. Vitti presented on the expansion of mental health services with the recent announcement of a \$5 million partnership in grants and resources between the District, Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN) and University of Michigan TRAILS.

The grant through DWIHN is funding six neighborhood high schools and feeder pattern schools with mental health resources. The funds will provide professional development for all teachers as well as hiring behavioral health professionals and wraparound services for students onsite at their schools. University of Michigan TRAILS will continue their work in our schools by supporting professional development and resources for students.

Dr. Vitti also reported on the progress of the Family Engagement Programming. He announced an increase in parent engagement, participation, and positive feedback through the Parent Academy program. The District held 447 Parent Academy free workshops with more than 6,667 participants in attendance.

Kindergarten Bootcamp, a transitional summer program serving DPSCD's early childhood development, indicated that 97 percent of parents said their child enjoys reading more after their experience at Kindergarten Bootcamp and 77 percent of children were using new words and 94 percent of children were talking about what they read.

The Parent Teacher Home Visit Program (PTHVP) engages parents, teachers and building staff during non-school hours in the student's home and provides students with one-on-one guidance. Since its launch, 3,758 students participated in the PTHVP and 5,567 home visits have occurred, exceeding the District's goal of 3,000 visits.

Students Rise Up When They Read MORE



DPSCD's **Rise Up, Read More** initiative is taking shape as a premier opportunity for students to engage in robust reading experiences outside the classroom. As DPSCD builds a culture of literacy that says, "YES" to reading, we seek to engage students, staff and families in celebrations for the schools that confirm the most books read. Last school year, students read more than 138,000 books! With new curriculum, supplemental novels, and digital texts through myON, DPSCD is promoting reading in every possible way and rewarding students for their participation.

Students, teachers and parents are encouraged to check DPSCD's website for more information on **Rise Up, Read More** so students can reach and surpass their independent reading goals. Visit detroitk12.org/curriculum.

REMINDER

Curriculum/Academics Committee Meeting

Monday, January 27 | 9 a.m. | Fisher Building, 12th Floor



Breakout Kits Develop Students' Problem-Solving Skills While Having Fun

Have you ever been to an escape room? Our new Breakout Kits for all 8th grade Social Studies classes are like an escape room in a box. Students in this pilot program are using primary sources, or historical artifacts, to solve a mystery. While engaged in this activity, students use clues in the primary sources to find the combinations to various locks in the box to eventually “breakout!”

Mr. Jones’ class at Nolan Elementary-Middle School participated in their very first breakout kit earlier this school year. Students – James Conner, Brandon Blue, and Deshawn Milton pictured – “broke out” of their kits during the allotted time. The first breakout of the school year was focused on the American Revolution. DPSCD students will be engaged in four breakouts throughout the year.



DPSCD’s Positive Momentum of Reform Now Includes NAEP Improvement

DPSCD outpaces national and large urban school district improvement in fourth grade reading and math – Read more at [detroitk12.org/NAEP!](http://detroitk12.org/NAEP)

Read by Grade Three Law Preparations for Student Success

The Read by Grade Three Law may have students, parents and community members wondering, “Why this? Why now? And what can we do to help?” Research says that children who do not read at grade level by age nine or at the end of grade 3, are at greater risk of not graduating from high school than students of the same age and grade who do. The District is already showing improvement in all grades based on M-STEP results from 2018-2019 and is taking further efforts to ensure all students are reading above grade level by diagnosing students reading skills early in the school year and providing them with support to build on those areas where they need the most improvement. All students who are considered “at-risk” will receive Individual Reading Improvement Plans. In addition to diagnosing students, we are supporting our students in reading with



Orton-Gillingham, a multisensory approach to teaching reading that allows students to focus on the sound letters make and how those sounds relate to other letters and sounds. This helps students decode words because they learn the relationships and rules on how letters come together in various ways.

To learn more about Orton-Gillingham and other DPSCD programs designed to help students foster a love for reading, visit detroitk12.org/literacy.



Science and Math Fair is Teaming up with Invention Convention!

DPSCD and Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program (DAPCEP) have teamed up with Henry Ford’s Invention Convention to bring a new dynamic to the Science and Math Fair this year. Teachers are incorporating mathematics categories into the science and engineering fair competition, as well as the invention process to introduce students to a world in which they will solve their own problems and gain the confidence and 21st-century skills to invent their own future! Every year DPSCD students compete and win 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes in categories that focus on the health of the water we drink, to the invention of a new, safer type of lithium battery for electric cars. We can’t wait to see what our students will present this year with the combination of science, engineering and math. Stay tuned for updates on your social media channels by following @Detroitk12.

Detroit Horse Power Partners with DPSCD

The Detroit Board of Education approved the expansion of the Detroit Horse Power partnership, which will become an enhancement to the District's offerings and whole-child commitment, offering equestrian activities to students at the former Paul Robeson/Malcom X school site. The expansion of the program will allow more students to participate District-wide. Students will learn how to ride and care for horses and learn from those representing various equine professions. Students build confidence, learn responsibility and are challenged to increase perseverance and develop lifelong lessons to help them succeed in school and in life. For more information on this program, visit www.detroithorsepower.org.



M-STEP Preparation

DPSCD is proud of its students' gains in mathematics proficiency on the 2018-2019 M-STEP, but we know we are not where we need to be. Overall, students in grades 3-7 showed an increase in mathematics proficiency of 3.4 percentage points. Our goal is to show even greater gains on the next M-STEP assessment this Spring.

For the upcoming school year, the Office of Mathematics will be developing M-STEP-like, mini-assessments, called Standards Mastery Assessments that teachers can leverage for students (during their differentiated instruction time) to familiarize themselves with the digital M-STEP testing format and to measure their mastery of standards that are highly likely to be assessed on the M-STEP.

Students can also prepare for the M-STEP by visiting the Michigan Department of Education's website which offers online sample M-STEP mathematics questions and answers for students in grades 3-7. Visit the Office of Mathematics page at detroitk12.org/Curriculum to access more information.

HIGH SCHOOL

Preparing for the PSAT and 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 preparation courses and their pathway after high school.



CPM Resources for Students and Parents

This year, DPSCD adopted the CPM Education Program as the new 9-12 mathematics curriculum. According to Edreports.org, CPM is one of the highest rated math curricula nationally. Students have access to free resources through CPM to ensure they are prepared and on-track. Check out these online tools available to all DPSCD high school students:

- **Access to the CPM eBook**
All students have access to CPM's online textbook in both English and Spanish on Clever. Visit clever.com/in/dpscd and login with your student credentials to see your eBook. You can also download the Clever app.
- **CPM's Homework Help**
Visit homework.cpm.org to get help on homework. This resources gives both hints and answers to questions so students can check their work.
- **CPM's Parent Site**
Visit cpm.org/parent-support to find weekly tips for parents and caretakers and a parent guide to help support your student at home.

HOMESCHOOL HOTLINE

833.466.3978



DPSCD's Homework Hotline is a free resource available for all DPSCD students. The use of the hotline encourages outstanding achievement by providing students with an additional platform to seek help and emphasize their problem-solving skills. Students and families are encouraged to call the hotline for support with literacy and/or math homework. The Homework Hotline is offered during the academic year Monday – Thursday, from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. The Homework Hotline is closed on holidays, during school breaks and school closures. To contact the Hotline please call 1-833-466-3978. For more information, visit detroitk12.org/HomeworkHotline. Language assistance is available.

FREE TUTORING AT DURFEE CENTER

Life Remodeled renovated and repurposed Durfee Middle School to create the Durfee Innovation Society. In this space, DPSCD partners like Beyond Basics, work together to provide robust opportunities for DPSCD students and families in the community. For free reading tutoring, visit the Durfee Innovation Society at 2740 Collingwood Street in Detroit. For times of operation, visit www.durfeeis.org.

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 |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| DECEMBER 2019 | | | | | JANUARY 2020 | | | | | JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020 | | | | |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | | H | 2 | 3 | S2 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | RC | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 10 | 11 | CD | 13 | 14 |
| 23 | 24 | H | 26 | 27 | H | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 30 | 31 | S1 | | | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | | |

- Schools Closed-No Students
- Public Holiday
- Semester/Quarter Boundary
- RC Report Card Day
- CD Membership Count Days

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Upcoming Board Meetings Schedule

Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 14, 5:30 p.m.
Henry Ford High School

Policy Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 9 a.m.
Fisher Building, 12th Floor

Finance Committee Meeting
Friday, January 24, 9 a.m.
Fisher Building, 12th Floor

Curriculum/Academics Committee Meeting
Monday, January 27, 9 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

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