DHS News

June 2013

A publication of the DHS PTA
Davis Senior High School
315 W. 14th St., Davis, CA 95616
www.dhspta.org

PTA President's Message

In the 16 years I have had students at DJUSD schools, the district has changed so much: we have opened two elementary schools and closed one, opened a new junior high, opened a charter high school and expanded its program to junior high, changed school boundary lines 4+ times, added GATE strands at two schools, added Montessori and Dual Immersion magnet programs at elementary schools, changed the name of GATE to AIM, had four superintendents, had three DHS principals, and lost at least 100 staff positions due to budget cuts.

For the first time in many years, we are not facing a worse-than-we-thought financial crunch that spins us into contemplating unbearable staff cuts, and motivates our community into fundraising through foundations or parcel taxes. And so our district is using this moment of relative calm to assess its entire program K-12, and how the district might provide more cost-effective, and better, more equitable services throughout the district for every student.

My wish for my cherished DJUSD community is that we embrace the possibility of change in our schools, as an opportunity to grow and set an example for our children. We hope that our children make the most of opportunities before them. We hope that they always strive to improve. We hope that they understand all sides of an issue and show compassion for the needs of others. Let's show them how it's done!

As adults, let's embrace this moment of financial calm that allows us to get back to the fundamental question we haven't had time to address lately—are we providing excellent education to every child? Let's acknowledge there is room for improvement in our schools, and we should be open to new ideas about what might improve our schools? Let's dispense with the myth that DJUSD is the pinnacle of public education and need never change.

Maybe you think I am into "embracing change" because it is being forced upon me in dramatic fashion as my last child leaves the nest. The truth is, the best education I ever received is the one I got from my kids—that if you want to be a good parent, you had better embrace change because children change so rapidly—physically, developmentally, and emotionally. Maybe you think I embrace change because I am done, and so it won't affect me. The truth is, I've been calling for change for 16 years and am disappointed my children will miss out on what I believe will be a better DJUSD.

I hope every parent starts next school year embracing the possibility of change and acknowledging that some change is good. We should all want for our children to go to school in a district that asks itself every day—how can our schools serve our children better? We should all want for our children to go to school in a district that adapts to changing times, and seeks to use improved methods and technologies. And mostly we should all want for our children to go to school in a district that seeks to provide the best possible educational opportunity to every child, and is committed to improving its offering to those students who are not thriving in the current construct.

Best wishes to all of you in your ever-changing lives. It has been a pleasure serving the DHS community.

Cathy Farman davishighpta@gmail.com or 750-0321

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2012 DHS PTA Bo		mmree Chairs

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DHS Calendar

6/03	DHS Summer Office Hours Schedule Begins
6/03-06	Final Exams – 12:20 release time (see schedule
	on page 3)
6/06	Last Day of School
	Grad Night Decorating Work Party (adults
	only), Emerson Jr. High – 3:00-11:00 pm
6/07	Grad Night - Public Tours (except for the
	Senior Class), Emerson Jr. High – 4:00-7:00 pm
	DSHS Class of 2013 Graduation Ceremony,
	Ron & Mary Brown Stadium – 7:30 pm (this is
	a ticketed event)
	Grad Night, Emerson Jr. High – 9:30 pm-5 am
6/10	Madrigals Benefit Concert for Autism Speaks,
	Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:00 pm
AUGUS	T SCHEDULE (2013-14 SCHOOL YEAR)
8/20-21	2013-14 Course Schedule Pick-Up
8/27	Sophomore Orientation, DHS Campus, 8:00-
	Noon
8/28	1st Day of School – Full Day, 7:45 am-3:30 pm
9/02	Labor Day Holiday – No School
9/04	DHS PTA Monthly Meeting, DHS Library
	at 7:30 pm

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE — JUNE 3 - 7, 2013

NOTE: Seniors are required to attend class during scheduled class periods & final periods during the week of 6/3/13.

MONDAY JUNE 3	TUESDAY JUNE 4	WEDNESDAY JUNE 5	THURSDAY JUNE 6	FRIDAY JUNE 7
1st Period Final	3 rd Period Final	2 nd Period Final	6 th Period Final	GRADUATION SCHEDULE:
7:45 - 9:50 9:50 - 10:10 2nd Period	7:45 – 9:50	7:45 – 9:50	7:45 – 9:50	Seniors Practice: Ron & Mary Brown Stadium at 8:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Graduation Line Up: 6:15 p.m.
10:16 – 10:56 3 rd Period				Ceremony
11:02 - 11:42	9:50 - 10:18	9:50 - 10:18	9:50 - 10:18	at 7:30 p.m.
4 th Period	5 th Period Final	4 th Period Final	7 th Period Final	
Lunch	10:20 - 12:20*	10:20 - 12:20*	10:20 - 12:20*	
12:28 – 1:11				
5 th Period * Bag lunch a				
1:17 – 1:57				
6 th Period				
2:03 – 2:43				
7 th Period				
2:49 – 3:29				

Principal's Letter

Dear Parents,

Every 15 Minutes was a success! Especially if success is measured by the positive and powerful impact the event had on our students. Every 15 Minutes is a nation-wide two-day program focusing on high school students, which challenges them to think about drinking, driving, personal safety, and the responsibility of making mature decisions. Along with a simulated alcohol-related car crash, it focused on the impact that our students' decisions would have on family and friends. Our two day program was a carefully planned event with senior Kelly Chuck doing a phenomenal job as the coordinator. The event also had significant assistance from our ASB, local police and fire, parents, administration, and our participating students.

Many of you have discussed with me the state of education in the nation and also here in Davis. All of you expressed the thought that our charge as an educational community is to do it [education] better. One piece is for us to move at the speed of our world, so our students have the skills necessary to face life's challenges. There are many reasons for education to respond more quickly to the growing needs of our society and our children. The top 10 in demand jobs in 2010 did not exist in 2004. Communication has been moving at bullet train speed. The first text message sent in 1992 pales in comparison to the number of texts messages sent and received every day. They exceed the total population of the planet. We are bombarded with information. A week's worth of information in the New York Times exceeds the total information a person received in a lifetime in the 18th century. The cell phone in your pocket today is a million times cheaper and a 1,000 times more powerful and about 100 thousand times smaller than the home computer at MIT in 1965. We are living in exponential times. And our children revel in this speed and are also awed by it.

We as educators [and parents are educators, in fact, the primary educators of our children] need to be able to respond to this blazing pace by letting our children know that they will be ok. That through our experiences - and many of them have been hard - we know that they will be ok, because we were. That they have the capacity to face life challenges and move forward to a life that is meaningful- a life where they can flourish.

This year one of our students in a speech on education she wrote for a state competition said, "But then I realized that in a school system like the one we have today, it doesn't matter...School systems... aren't set up to make sure every child learns at their own pace and reaches their full potential. They don't encourage kids to nurture a passion for learning that will stay with them for the rest of their lives. . . In a world where your self worth is measured by the percentage listed on a report card, it isn't a huge leap from 'every thing matters' to 'but I'm not good enough' to 'nothing matters.' ...We as a society need to change our system so that kids are learning, not for a test, not for college, but for themselves, so that they can grow up and use that knowledge ... "1-18-13

This Davis High student has a wonderful philosophy that we need to listen carefully to.

I must give a rather exuberant shout out to our PTA. In 30 years in this profession, I have never worked with a more dedicated group of individuals. They raised money for greatly needed projects including: new furniture for the library, dissection materials for science labs, PE equipment and endless other projects. They feed teachers regularly throughout the school year, providing breakfasts and lunches including our end of the year staff and faculty lunch. They have asked hard questions about what we as educators do here and sharpened our focus and kept us grounded in the needs of our students and our community. None of us here at DHS can thank you all enough.

For those parents of seniors, be present; deeply value these last few weeks or months until they move on to college, training or a career. Because although they will come home to visit-in some cases even live for a while- it is never the same. Treasure

them, cherish them and always let them know you love them them to move on into a life of flourishing independence.	. These are some of the sustaining factors in life that will permi
As always, I wish you all a fantastic summer!	

Respectfully,

Jacqui Moore

Senior Information

Seniors must request that their FINAL TRANSCRIPT be sent to the college that they will be attending. Bring in a stamped addressed envelope to the Transcript Counter and follow the posted instructions. If a common application college is requesting submission of a final report- the request will need to be made at the transcript counter. Stamped addressed envelope is not needed.

Seniors are also asked to fill out a PERMANENT ADDRESS CARD. Seniors that haven't already should turn in their completed card to the Front Desk or Counseling Office.

Notification Checklist:

Complete a PERMANENT ADDRESS CARD Complete SENIOR SURVEY OF COLLEGES

Request FINAL TRANSCRIPT- bring a stamped addressed (to college attending in the fall) business envelope

Graduation Ceremony

The Davis Senior High School's Class of 2013 graduation ceremony aims to provide graduates and their families with a dignified occasion celebrating the 13 years of hard work and effort our students have undertaken. Working in collaboration with students, teachers, parents, and members of the community, our graduation staff is proud to host an event that reflects the accomplishments of our graduates and celebrates the spirit of Davis Senior High.

The ceremony takes place on Friday June 7th with the student processional beginning at 7:15 PM, and the program starting promptly at 7:30 PM.

Seniors completed requests for DHS 2013 Graduation Tickets and received a confirmation for the number of tickets they will receive. These tickets will be distributed to graduates at the mandatory graduation practice taking place on Friday morning, at 8:30 a.m. on Halden Field in the Ron and Mary Brown Stadium, so be sure your grad is there! If additional tickets remain, seats will be put on sale to the community.

Following past traditions established by student committee, no decorated mortarboards will be allowed into the graduation ceremony. This decision has nothing to do with a desire to limit freedom of expression or to limit creativity, but is a step to maintain a formal tone to the celebration.

The graduation ceremony is expensive to put on and we would appreciate any financial assistance you would like to offer. If you would like to donate to this event, you can make payments out to "Davis Senior High School Graduation 2013" and mail your contribution to the Davis Senior High School Finance Office, 315 West 14th Street, Davis CA 95616.

For the fourth year, Joan Anton is redistributing used caps and gowns to DHS graduates, saving families money and keeping these gowns out of the landfill. She has collected gently used, BLUE Davis Senior High School graduation caps and gowns that she loans to graduates on a first come, first served basis. If you are in need of graduation garb (she has about 30 gowns still available), contact Joan at Joan_1717@hotmail.com.

WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR CAP & GOWN?

Prior alumni have donated their graduation caps and gowns to be redistributed, collected, and then passed out again. The counseling department collects these items to be distributed to future graduates who cannot afford to purchase them. You are encouraged to drop off donated graduation attire to the Counselors' Office during their summer hours, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Contact Courtenay Tessler, ctessler@djusd.net if you have questions or need additional information.

Important dates for next year's seniors

October 3 – CSU workshop October 10 – UC workshop December 3 – FAFSA workshop

As we conclude this school year, we want to thank our PTA and all the parents who have provided support to our students in so many ways. We are grateful that we have the privilege of working with your children. Have a fun summer... enjoy your time with your family.

PARENT EDUCATION

Did You Miss This Year's Parent University Lecture Series? If so, you can still access two of our lectures.

http:/dctv.davismedia.org/dpu links you to:

N.Y. Times Best Selling Author Madeline Levine.

Setting Limitations, The Brain," How Drugs and Alcohol Effect the Growth of Your Child"

Both of these presentations were brought to you by "The Community Wide K-12 Parent Ed Collaborative." If you have any suggestions for next year's programs, please contact us at davisparented@gmail.com.

DJUSD'S Nutrition Nook – Hot Summer + Lots of Water = Happy, Healthy Kids!

As the weather heats up and children spend time outside, be sure to protect them from heat-related illnesses -- cramps, exhaustion, and stroke. To avoid dehydration, be sure your child is well rested, well fed and well hydrated. Drink plenty of water before, during, and after activities, and avoid caffeinated beverages. Early signs of dehydration include fatigue, thirst, dry lips and tongue, lack of energy, cramps and feeling overheated. But if kids wait to drink until they feel thirsty, they're already dehydrated!

Student athletes should acclimatize before the start of team training by walking and riding their bikes for a couple weeks before practices begin. Student athletes need plenty of water, and as they exercise and sweat more they need more electrolytes (mainly sodium and chloride) not sugar.

In the event of a heat illness: first, get the child out of the sun into a cool place; second, have the child drink plenty of cool fluids and take off any excess layers of clothing or bulky equipment; third, put cool, wet clothes on overheated skin. Remember anyone who is experiencing a heat related illness likely doesn't know they are having problems, so keep an eye out for trouble!

If untreated dehydration can progress to more serious conditions:

Heat cramps: Painful cramps of the abdominal muscles, arms, or legs.

<u>Heat exhaustion</u>: Dizziness, nausea, vomiting, headaches, weakness, muscle pain, and sometimes unconsciousness. **** Seek medical help ****

<u>Heat stroke</u>: A temperature of 104 or higher and severe symptoms, including nausea and vomiting, seizures, disorientation or delirium, lack of sweating, shortness of breath, unconsciousness, and coma. **** This is a medical emergency – call 911 ****

More information is available at: <u>Exertional Heat Illness during Training and Competition</u> and <u>National Athletic Trainers' Association</u>.

Counseling Corner

One of our former students just graduated from Berklee College of Music. Annie Lennox was their graduation speaker. In her speech, Annie concluded by saying:

"Wherever you think you are heading right now might turn out to take a completely different route down a completely different path. And what looks like an ending might actually be the start of a brand new beginning. Wherever and however we find ourselves what a privilege it is to enrich our lives through music... Share with the world in the very best way you can." Annie is known for her musical accomplishments as well as her humanitarian efforts in the world.

As our seniors approach graduation, they are starting a new adventure. Plans will change along the way, unanticipated opportunities will present themselves, goals will be reached or changed, and life will continue to evolve. We wish them the best in reaching their aspirations.

One of our senior parents shared some of her insights about the private college application process:

It's not the highest scores and GPA's that get you in. It's what you do that sets you apart from other students.

You can still get into a great school with a few B's if you have other activities to offset it. Not all extra-curricular activities have to be school affiliated.

Each school is looking for something different in the type of student they admit. Just because you love a school and think it is perfect for you, doesn't mean the school feels the same way. It's kind of like dating—you like them but they might only want to be friends!

You have to show LOVE to a school if you really want to be accepted there. Chances of getting in if you have never visited are much lower. Don't just do the standard campus tour. Make arrangements far in advance to visit with program directors, advisers and, if possible, specific professors. You can always visit the classes on approved class list. But, if there is something else in which you are really interested, email the professor and try to get approval to visit his/her class, lab or office.

You need to try and establish a relationship with your admissions representatives. They need to know who you are and like you so that they will fight for you and will find it hard to reject you. Don't send them mindless emails. If something important comes up, contact them. Send them updates after your application has been submitted.

Whatever your passion is, start early. Your goal should be to accomplish something significant by November 1 of your senior year. If you are doing competitions, you need to submit and win by the end of your junior year or over the summer between junior and senior year.

Select your schools very carefully. Make sure you have at least a couple of academic safeties as well as financial safeties.

A safety school cannot be a school that is significantly below your stats. Schools reject students who are way above their median scores in order to protect their yield. They do not want to admit a student whom they feel is using them as a safety.

Always apply to at least one in-state college/university.

If there are specific accomplishments you would like your teachers to mention in your letter of recommendation, ask them! Reminding teachers of specific examples is helpful.

Don't put photos of yourself in university t-shirts on Facebook. It is fine to wear your high school colors. If you get into the university, then you can change your profile photo.

Parents: Let your student guide the process so that his/her personality comes through on the application. There is a place out there for every student and it might just surprise you where that place is!

COUNSELING DEPARTMENT CHANGES: The DSHS Counseling Department has been reduced by .65 counseling staff for the 2013-14 school year. We are sad to see Teresa Anderson leave us. She has been a dedicated counselor who has been a joy to work with. The students Teresa has counseled will be re-distributed amongst the remaining counselors. We will try our best to provide the same level of professional care that Teresa gave to her students.

CLASS OF 2014: Students need to start writing college essays and making decisions about which colleges they are going to apply to in the fall. The letter of recommendation packet (download from Naviance document library) must be given to teachers and counselors October 1 – October 31.

Student Research

The PTA is pleased to provide the results of some insightful DSHS student research efforts on our website, http://dhspta.org.

The **LEAD Class** conducted a survey of DHS students and their parents to see how they interpreted pressures from school, how students and parents are affected by these stressors, and how much pressure parents' put on their children. *See Academic Stress*

Each year Kevin Williams' **Race and Social Justice** students are required to complete a defined research project focusing on a topic of contemporary significance whose roots can be easily discerned in U.S. History. *See Teen Drug Use.*

Grad Night 2013

Please encourage your senior to attend Grad Night, Friday, June 7, 9:30 pm - 5 am at Emerson Jr. High. Visit www.davisgradnight.org for information (tickets, kinder photos, volunteer opportunities). Any questions? Email info@davisgradnight.org.

Tickets are now \$110 and scholarships still available! Your student can contact their DHS counselor to receive a scholarship ticket. The only items that graduates need to bring are 1) a form of ID; 2) lightweight jacket and cell phone if desired, and; 3) ticket form and payment if not already received. Everything else is provided - all you can eat food buffet, entertainment, drinks...

There are two volunteer opportunities available to families:

We would love to have people high school graduates and older help decorate on Thursday, June 6 from 3:00 - 11:00 p.m.. Dinner and snacks will be served;

Friday, May 31 we need mowers, weed eaters, shovels, rakes, wheel barrows, gloves and man power from 4:00 - 9:00 p.m. at Emerson. Please come by and help make the campus beautiful not only for Grad Night but for all the students.

Public tours will be conducted between 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. on Friday, June 7. Stop by to see What Grad Night looks like!

Thank you all for your support!

Georg Rosenblum, Grad Night co-chair

PTA Senior Awards

PTA is proud to announce the winners of its Senior Awards, honoring 3 students who have made unique contributions to the DHS community: Nancy J. for her compassion for other students and her support of a particular student during a difficult time, Sydney R. for her friendship with an autistic student, and Raquel V. for her efforts with the Latinos Unidos club at DHS. Congratulations to these members of the Class of 2013.

Jazz-N-Pops Concert

Don't miss Jazz-N-Pops, the final Davis High School choir concert of the year, featuring the talents of the Davis High School Jazz Choir. Performance time is Saturday, June 1st at 7 pm at the DHS Brunelle Theatre. Advanced tickets are available through choir members or Mr. Zinn. All tickets will be \$10 at the door. Need info? Email Mr. Zinn at wzinn@djusd.net.

Davis Madrigal Benefit Concert for Autism Speaks

The Davis Madrigal Singers are privileged and honored to be invited to sing at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament for a fourth annual benefit concert. The concert will take place at the Cathedral, 1017 11th Street in Sacramento on Monday, June 10th at 7:00 p.m. Donations will be collected at the conclusion of this free event with a portion of the proceeds donated to Autism Speaks.

Davis High's award winning internationally recognized high school chamber choir will perform under the direction of Madrigal Director Dr. Karen Gardias in a prelude to their historic and educational choral tour of Italy.

Davis Future Farmers of America

It was an outstanding year for the Davis FFA! At the State Finals held at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in early May, the Horse Judging Team took second place. The Vegetable Crop team took seventh place. These victories are on top of the numerous ribbons the teams took home from regional competitions. Significantly, this was the first year of competition for the two teams. The Agricultural Mechanics team continued to improve throughout the competition season. However, they did

not qualify for State Finals.

FFA is a wonderful organization which teaches agricultural education, public speaking, and leadership skills. Under the leadership of FFA Advisor Ellie Michel, participation and interest in the organization has grown. Students are automatically members of FFA if they enroll in an agricultural education class. These classes include: Agricultural Biology, Animal Science, Art and History of Floral Design, and Agricultural Engineering. The Agricultural Biology class is typically held at one or more of the junior highs as well as DHS.

Being a member of FFA involves attending at least two FFA activities such as the corn maze field trip, monthly meetings, or barn clean-up days. Each member also participates in a Supervised Agricultural Experience project. These projects can include for example, having an agriculture or animal related internship, rehabilitating an animal, raising an animal for the fair, or growing plants in the greenhouse. These projects provide the FFA members with project management and public speaking skills, as well as unsurpassed responsibility.

We look forward to another exciting year from the FFA!

Davis High Summer Volleyball Camp: June 17-20th @ Davis High South Gym -

This camp is open to both boys and girls and is a great way to meet the Davis High coaches and other guest coaches. All girls and boys planning on trying out for DHS volleyball next year should sign up for the team camp. Other youth interested in learning the basic fundamental skills of volleyball,

sign up for the youth camp.

Youth camp: K-8th grade, 8-10am; Team camp: 9-12th grade, 11-2pm

There are 2 ways to register: ONLINE through the Davis High website www.davisseniorhigh.net and click on "Pay Online" and select your camp choice OR Log onto the Davis High Volleyball website http://groups.dcn.org/dhsvolleyball - Download and print the Registration form.

YOLOBUS Youth Summer Passes Are Just \$15 or 35¢/Ride!

Summer is quickly approaching and YOLOBUS is heating things up with this year's Summer Sizzler program! Every summer, thousands of Yolo County youth look for new ways to spend their time once the school year comes to a close. With this in mind, Yolobus and Unitrans, Davis's public transit service, have partnered to offer highly discounted youth fares through the Summer Sizzler program.

Summer Sizzler allows youth passengers 18 and younger have the option to either purchase a summerlong bus pass for \$15 or individual trips at just 35¢ per boarding. Both the bus pass and discounted boarding price are valid from June 1st through August 31st. Destinations of Yolobus include UC Davis, downtown Sacramento, Old Sacramento, Raley Field, Vacaville Factory Outlets, local shopping malls, movie theatres, and much more.

Drive less, save more with Yolobus this summer! For more information on Summer Sizzler, call 530-666-BUSS (2877) or visit www.yolobus.com.

Summer 2013

Davis High School office will begin summer office hours on June 3, 2013. Office hours:

- June 3: 7:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
- June 7 (graduation day): 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
- June 10—June 28: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday
- July 1—August 2: 7:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (with the exception of July 4th holiday when the office will be closed.)
- Beginning July 17, 2013, work permits will be processed by summer school staff at Holmes Junior High School.

2013-14 SCHOOL YEAR

DSHS Schedule Pick-Up for the 2013-2014 School Year

Seniors	Tuesday, August 20: 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Junior High Students/Split Site	Tuesday, August 20: 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Juniors	Tuesday, August 20: 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Sophomores*	Wednesday, August 21: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon Sophomore orientation is Tuesday, August 27, 2013 from 8:00 am to 12 noon
First Day of School	Wednesday, August 28th (regular day, periods 1-7)

Next PTA Meeting: September 4, 2013

DHS PTA