

DHS News

December

2013

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

PTA President's Letter

Hello Friends of Davis High School!

As we are wrapping up the Thanksgiving Holiday, I am reminded of all the blessings we have at Davis Senior High School. Here are some things that I am thankful for at Davis High School:

We have a new principal that is literally “running” from school event to school event, and he’s sharing photos of the kids along the way so those of us who are not able to attend each event in person can get a sense of what the kids are accomplishing! I happened to run into our new DHS Principal, Will Brown, last weekend. He had already had a very full day – attending the Cross Country Section Finals, where Davis students won the Conference; then attending the Water Polo Section Finals, where Davis students won the Conference; next he was on his way to go watch Pippen, the musical performance the DHS Drama Department put on the past couple of weekends. Will Brown is one busy Principal – and he seems genuinely committed to supporting the students of Davis High School! Please ask your student if they see Principal Brown out and about on campus – I am very certain that your student will tell you that YES – he is visible and available! THANK YOU to DHS Principal Brown!

I am also thankful for such a generous community of parents and guardians of DHS students. The PTA raised almost \$24,000 to support the Partners In Education (PIE) Grant Program. The PTA has been reviewing staff grant applications for specific funding for items the school site and district do not have funds budgeted to cover. Some of the requests the PTA has funded for this school year are audio equipment for Brunelle Theater, dissection materials for science classes, a potter’s wheel for the Art Department, document cameras, calculators, physical education equipment, tape recorders for the World Language Department, books, garden tools, and more!

THANK YOU to each teacher, counselor, staff member and affiliate of Davis High School for the contributions each of you make to teach and support each student attending DHS! It certainly takes a “whole community” effort to keep DHS running in a way that the students can get the very most out of their three year experience at Davis High School. Please join me in saying “THANK YOU” to the DHS staff for the work they do!

Since there will not be another PTA Newsletter until after Winter Break, I would like to share a reminder. I would ask everyone to please be considerate of the students and staff as they approach the first semester Finals Week, Dec. 16-20. This can be a stressful time for everyone. We, as caring and supportive parents and adults, can take a deep breath, and plan to be patient and calm, so that we can help alleviate stress, rather than creating extra stress that is not productive for anyone. If you need to talk to your student, or a teacher, or a member of the DHS staff, please remember that everyone is working hard, and everyone is under a great deal of stress, and that everyone responds better to someone who is calm and in control of their emotions. The goal in all cases is to support the students, and to try to do what is in their best interest.

In closing, I would like to once again say, “THANK YOU” to this great team of DHS teachers, counselors, principal and staff for their hard work and dedication! And “THANK YOU” to the parents that are so generous and supportive of Davis High School! Lastly, “THANK YOU” to the students of DHS for their hard work and commitment to the classes they are taking! TOGETHER we can do great things at Davis Senior High School!

With a thankful heart,

Sally Albertson, DHS PTA President

Principal's Letter

Greetings Blue Devil Nation,

The weather is changing and with that comes the Junior Prom, the New Year and the end of the first semester. For the second time DSHS will hold finals week before the winter break. Finals will take place Tuesday, December 17th through Friday, December 20th. Please see the schedule here in the newsletter or view it on our website, <http://dshs.djUSD.net/>. The week prior to final examinations is considered "Dead Week" and during this time there will be little to no homework assigned. Leading up to and throughout final examination week, please make sure that your children get adequate sleep, eat solid breakfasts and arrive at school on time and prepared.



The winter concert season will be in full swing very soon. Don't miss our All District Jazz Extravaganza on December 10th. The DHS Symphonic and Concert Bands are holding their Winter Rhapsody Concert December 12th. The following day, December 13th, is the DHS Orchestra's Winter Concert featuring our Chamber, Baroque and Symphony Orchestras and the Messiah Concerts take place December 20th and 21st. Each of these events promises to be awesome. If you can't make them all then please commit to one; it'll be well worth your time!

The winter athletic season opens this month. Remember that our coaches and players need your support in order to reach their full potential. Fundraising, attending games, encouraging your children to do their best each day on the field and in the classroom are just a few of the ways you can support both your child and our school in a successful winter season.

In case you might be wondering, it is not too early to begin thinking about a safe and sober graduation night. Plans are in motion as we speak to make this a fantastic night for our graduating seniors. Every student eligible to walk in the graduation ceremony is eligible to attend this event. The price is now \$75; as we get closer to the end of the year the price goes up until the day of the event when the price reaches \$110. If your student receives free or reduced lunch, he/she is eligible for a reduced price. Any student with a monetary hardship should contact their counselor. Our parents would like to see as many students attend as possible. Stay tuned over the next months for more details about this important celebration.

In closing, I would like to wish you all well during this holiday season and remind you all that TOGETHER we can accomplish ANYTHING... Go Blue!!!

Sincerely,

Will Brown
Principal

Final Exam Schedule—Semester 1

Monday December 16	Tuesday December 17	Wednesday December 18	Thursday December 19	Friday December 20
Regular Monday Schedule	1 st 7:45-8:25	2nd Per Final 7:45-9:50	3rd Per Final 7:45-9:50	1st Per Final 7:45-9:50
	2 nd 8:31-9:11			
	3 rd 9:17-9:57			
	Break 9:57-10:01	Break	Break	Break
	4 th 10:07-10:52	9:50-10:10	9:50-10:10	9:50-10:10
	5 th 10:58-11:38	4th Per Final 10:10-12:10 *	5th Per Final 10:10-12:10 *	6th Per Final 10:10-12:10 *
	6 th 11:44-12:29			
	Lunch 12:29-1:19			
	7 th Per Final 1:25-3:25			

Junior Prom Information

Neptune invites you to **Junior Prom 2013: City of Atlantis**. Our junior prom is a formal dance which will be held on December 7th from 9:00-midnight in the North Gym. Doors will open at 8:30 and close at 10:00. All students' grades 10-12 attending one of the four Davis high schools (DHS, Da Vinci, King, and DSIS) are welcome to attend. Guest passes are available in C-04 at DHS or online for those who do not attend one of the four Davis high schools and wish to attend. Tickets will be sold at the DHS finance office and on the DHS web store (www.tinyurl.com/dhswebstore) for \$25 with ASB and \$30 without ASB for the week of 12/2-12/6. All students must have a dance contract on file to attend Junior Prom.

Counseling Corner

As we wind down from the college application process for this year, some of our seniors are eager to give advice to our juniors about mistakes to avoid:

Start the process EARLY. Seniors say they were not aware of how long it takes to complete applications. They recommend juniors start their college lists now. They recommend starting senior year with a finalized list.

The application process time goes fast so you need to be organized. (Next year the portal for UC applications will open August 1, giving students two additional months to work on their applications.)

Complete your Letter of Recommendation packet during the summer. It is available now in Naviance in the Document Library. Be thorough and put effort into it. The information you provide assists staff in writing more personal letters about you. Be sure your parent writes an anecdote.

Send SAT/ACT scores EARLY. This should be one of the first things you handle. It takes 4 weeks for the scores to be sent to colleges and you can always add colleges later. Some students found themselves in the position of having to pay extra to “rush” their scores to colleges; particularly students applying for early decision or early action. They also learned that colleges prefer they not use the Score Choice option offered by College Board. (Colleges do not penalize students for lower scores; readers just see the highest scores. If students took a later test (Nov/Dec), those scores will automatically be sent to the colleges even though earlier scores have already been sent.)

Early action/early decision: Follow the instructions of giving the letter of recommendation packet to your counselor and teachers 4 weeks prior to the due date. Some students rushed in the day before an application was due and were disappointed when staff could not drop what they were doing and write the letter. Remember that staff has to prioritize their work with letter of recommendation requests. Be considerate of their time and job demands.

Do not wait until the last second to write the essay. Write the essay first. You can see the prompts used this year now. They do not change much and you can always fine tune later. Many seniors wished they had worked on the essay during the summer.

Ask teachers early if they are willing to write a letter of recommendation for you. Some set a limit on the number of letters they will write. The end of the school year is not too early to discuss this with teachers, particularly since colleges prefer teachers who had you as a junior.

If applying for private colleges that use the Common Application, complete the profile and education sections and then invite your counselor and teachers. You can finish the rest later, but this gives staff the extra time they need to write your letter.

Request your transcripts at the same time you turn in your Letter of Recommendation packet to your counselor. Otherwise, you delay the process of getting a completed application to the colleges.

Seniors did not understand that 9th grade is considered the start of your high school experience. They were trying to put down Harper, Emerson, Holmes, etc. and could not find the courses. That is because the courses you took in 9th grade are listed under Davis Senior High School on the UC/CSU applications.

Seniors did not keep their report cards from 7th and 8th grades. They then had to scramble to figure out how to locate these grades. They wish they knew that if math (starting with algebra 1) or world language was taken in 7th and/or 8th grade, they would need these grades. If you cannot find your report cards you can look up your grades on Zangle Student Connect.

Community college is a good option. If you do not get into the college of your choice, you can go to community college for two years and then transfer in to the college you want to go to. Seniors wished that parents and students would stop stigmatizing this option.

Not everyone goes to college. Some students go to vocational schools to learn a trade, such as cosmetology, car mechanics, and culinary arts. Seniors feel we need to value these options as much as college.

Seniors wished they had heard about the college application experience from seniors when they were juniors. They recommended that we have a panel of seniors in January describing their college application experience so that juniors have a chance to listen and learn in the hopes of making their experience less stressful. We will let our juniors know when this program is arranged.

By the time you receive this newsletter your students will be preparing for finals and winter break. This semester is quickly coming to an end. We want to take a moment to wish you a happy holiday season.

Madrigal Dinner

Celebrate a Traditional Olde English Christmas with the Madrigals.

Tickets are still available to attend the 45th Annual Madrigal Dinner on Friday, December 6th at the First Baptist Church of Davis. The Dinner is the Madrigal Singers' premiere singing event and a wonderful holiday tradition. The choir, resplendent in Renaissance costumes, will entertain and delight you as you are transported back in time – to a traditional Olde English Christmas:

Enjoy music, song and merrymaking with dinner and dessert. Raise a glass of Wassail to toast the season. Sample the Figgy Pudding and marvel at the melodic voices.

This event features a silent auction, with the opportunity to view and bid on over 100 items. For more information or to download a registration form visit <http://www.davismadrigals.com> or contact Cindi Parente at cindijmk@att.net.

Davis High School Musicians Present Handel's Messiah

Enjoy the first-ever joint concert of Davis High School's Advanced Treble Choir, Baroque Ensemble, Concert Choir, and Madrigal Singers performing Handel's Messiah. The richness and spirit of this glorious masterpiece will be sung by a chorus of 100 students and accompanied by the 30-piece chamber orchestra.

Catch the holiday spirit listening to these magnificent musicians and distinguished guest soloists Megan Buchanan, Katie Jolly, Lisa Parente, Evan Pretzlaff and Brad Soler perform this extraordinary oratorio under the direction of Dr. Karen Gardias and Angelo Moreno.

The concert takes place on Friday evening, December 20th and Saturday evening, December 21st at Saint James Catholic Church, 1275 B Street in Davis. General admission tickets (\$20/adults, \$10/students) are available for purchase at Watermelon Music.

Career Center News

Financial Aid Workshop: The Financial Aid Workshop held on December 3 was very well attended, and participants received a great deal of information about funding their student's college education. If you were unable to attend, financial aid handouts are available in the high school's Career Center.

FAFSA: All seniors planning to attend college who would like to be considered for federal, state and college-based financial aid need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students can apply online beginning January 1 at www.fafsa.gov. The deadline for submitting a FAFSA is March 2, 2014. For questions about completing the FAFSA, contact the Career Center at 757-5400, ext. 140, the FAFSA Help Line at 800-433-3243, or go online to: www.studentaid.ed.gov.

Cal Grants: The State of California offers financial aid in the form of Cal Grants for students planning to attend a California college. Every high school senior who has at least a 2.0 GPA, meets income and residency requirements, and applies on time is guaranteed a Cal Grant. Students must submit the FAFSA and a verified GPA to be eligible. In November, senior GPAs were electronically submitted to the California Student Aid Commission for CalGrant consideration. This eliminates the need for students to complete a paper Cal Grant GPA Verification Form.

All college-bound seniors are encouraged to apply for financial aid even if they think they don't qualify. Many factors besides income are taken into account to determine eligibility. By submitting the FAFSA, students will be considered for federal and state grants, loans, work study, and public and private college-based aid.

Scholarships: The Scholarship Bulletin is published every two weeks and is available in the Career Center, on the Career Center's webpage, and on Naviance. Scholarships provided by the local Davis community for Davis Senior High School students will be announced in the Scholarship Bulletin beginning in January. Scholarships can also be found on the internet, and students are welcome to come to the Career Center for a list of useful scholarship websites.

Grad Night Tickets—The Perfect Holiday Gift!

Grad Night is an amazing event and gives our graduates a fun, safe and sober way to celebrate completion of their high school education. For the past 28 years, Davis graduates have been enjoying this event held at Emerson Junior High School for graduates of all four Davis high schools (DSIS, King, DaVinci, and DSHS). Planning for Grad Night 2014 is already underway. The evening is a great way for our seniors to spend time with their friends well into the wee hours of the morning. Activities include music, dancing, casino games, outdoor activities, shows and a huge raffle, with plenty of food and refreshments all included in the ticket price. It promises to be an unforgettable night for our seniors; the perfect send-off after 13 years of hard work! Nearly 90% of graduates attend each year. So, as you're thinking about the ideal stocking stuffer or gifts for Hanukkah, don't forget a ticket to Grad Night 2014!

Tickets are now available online for \$75, which covers the cost of all activities, food and drinks for the entire evening. Prices go up after January 1, to \$90.00 so, don't delay. Every year there are many graduates who made their plans at the last minute and had to buy their Grad Night ticket at the door for \$110. While our students are currently consumed with senior year activities and school, college applications or other post-graduation planning, we know they are not yet focused on graduation, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't be thinking ahead. Save \$35 and get this perfect gift now!

Tickets for the 2014 Davis Grad Night Celebration are now available for purchase online through the Davis Grad Night website at <http://groups.dcn.org/davisgradnight/tickets>. Scholarship tickets are also available through school counselors.

We need volunteers! Parents of all age students can help make this night successful for our graduating seniors. Please contact Lori Schilling-Davis at gnavolunteers@gmail.com to help. There are many ways you can participate...before, during and after the event! WE NEED YOU!

Also, if your student is graduating, please dig out that Kindergarten picture of your senior to be sure they are included in the awesome "Kinder Wall" at Grad Night send your picture (copies are okay) with graduate's names on the back, to: Sandy Langley at 2026 Klee Place, Davis 95618. Please provide a self-addressed stamped envelope, if you would like the photo returned.

Thanks,
Roberta Kuhlman, Grad Night 2014 Publicity Chair
rdkuhlman@aol.com

Agricultural Engineering- Together We Can

Thank You

Thank you PTA for your support of CTE and Agricultural Engineering. As a Partners In Education (PIE) award recipient, the Agriculture Program has been able to order a new set of cordless power tools for students use. We have ordered the Dewalt Contractors set and are looking forward to delivery of the cordless drill, circular saw, reciprocating saw, light, and battery packs. The power tools will enhance our program by providing students access to tools commonly found on jobsites. Students will be able to use the tools on class projects, SAE, and FFA activities. For example, students now have upgraded tools to build owl boxes, planter boxes, and poultry carriers. Your help enables students to make their imaginations come to life. Thank you, together we can build programs that are better equipped.

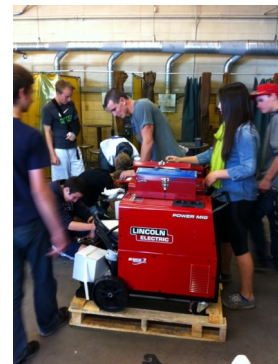


Electrifying News- \$27,000.00 Grant Awarded

Agricultural Engineering, in partnership with the University of California, Davis School of Education (UCD SOE), has been selected to receive Lincoln Electric's Welding Education Grant. We are one of only six in the nation to receive this grant which Lincoln Electric believes will be instrumental in transforming Welding Education in the United States. We are honored to be a recipient of this award.

The award includes \$27,000.00 worth of equipment, \$895.00 worth of consumables, and technical support by a team from Lincoln Electric dedicated to the effort. We have three primary goals for the grant award. First, we want to create and implement STEM welding lessons aligned with Common Core (improve curriculum). Second, we want to enhance professional development opportunities for agriculture teachers (improve teaching). And third, we want to engage and reward youth interested in welding technologies (improve learning).

While the equipment is arriving now, much of the work will be done starting in spring and lasting through 2015. This is a great time to be involved or get involved in agricultural engineering as it collaborates with a leader in education and a leader in industry. Together, we can improve our programs by working with others to improve all programs.



DHS Contact Information

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Vice Principal	Teresa Delgadillo	tdelgadillo@djud.net	757-5400 ext. 114
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Counselor	Cathie Pereira	cpereira@djud.net	757-5400 ext. 146
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PTA Executive Board and Committee Chairs

DHS PTA Executive Board		
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Green Committee Rep	Colleen Richter	colleenrichter@gmail.com
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Class of 2015 Listserv Admin.	Julie Kuo	dhs2015listserv@gmail.com
Class of 2016 Listserv Admin.	Kris Borowsky	dhs2016listserv@gmail.com

Calendar

December

- 12/10 All District Jazz Extravaganza
- 12/11 Rent-a-Senior
- 12/12 Winter Band Concert—Brunelle Theater, 7:30- 9:00 pm
- 12/13 Orchestra Winter Concert—Brunelle Theater, 7:00-9:00 pm
- 12/16-20 First Semester Final Exams
- 12/20-21 DHS Musicians Handel's Messiah— St. James Catholic Church
- 12/23-1/3 Winter Break—No School

January

- 1/8 DHS PTA Association Meeting—DHS Library, 7:30-9:00 pm
- 1/10 Friendship Day
- 1/14 California Mathematic League Contest 4
- 1/16 Orchestra Concerto Competition— Brunelle Theater, 7:00 pm
- 1/17 Semester 1 ends

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS CONCERT

Celebrating a 33 year partnership with the DJUSD to support the Arts!

Don't miss the tenth annual "Home for the Holidays" community concert Sunday, December 8, 7:00 pm at the Veterans Memorial Theatre.

This is not just an amazing concert, it's people supporting and honoring their roots.

The concert, produced by Bill Fairfield, is a benefit for the Davis School Arts Foundation, which supports music and arts education in Davis public schools. The show is designed to showcase nationally recognized local musicians, many of whom attended Davis public schools, and allow some younger local performers the chance to share the stage. For more information, see Davis School Arts Foundation on Facebook and www.billyfairfield.com.

This year's concert will include Joe Craven in his 10th appearance as emcee. In addition to Craven and his trio, other performers include The Cups (featuring Chris Webster, Tracy Walton, and Kathy Elzey) supported by White Ginger Lei, the Rita Hosking trio, Biscuits and Honey, the Vocal Art Ensemble, Davis High School Jazz Choir, Voices of the Wood, along with special guests and audience sing-alongs.

Tickets are on sale now at Watermelon Music and at Armadillo Music. The cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children under 18.

Next PTA Meeting: January 8, 2014, 7:30 p.m.

Davis CA 95616

315 W 14th St.

DHS PTA