



Inside Track

A Model District Where Students Want To Be
Home of the Railroaders!

Band Festival

Earlier this month, several band students performed at the MSBOA District Solo & Ensemble Festival at St. Johns High School. There was a total of 17 students in 15 different solos, duets, and quartets. The students learn the music for this festival on their own time and organize their own after-school rehearsals. Nine events earned a Division 1 (Superior) rating, and six events earned a Division 2 (Excellent) rating. Those who earned Superior ratings qualify for State Solo & Ensemble Festival on March 18.

Students earning Superior ratings for solos and ensembles were: Nicholas Mazzara, Giorgi Dean, Sada Reed, Simon Salaev, Andrew Pearson, Cameron Counterman, Kelsay Garner, Jessica Fureigh, and Josh Pratt.

Students earning Excellent ratings for solos and ensembles were: Katie Monroe, Zoe Wolsfeld, Jordyn Morrish, Rachel Kozlowski, Sada Reed, Simon Salaev, Drew Jones, Mark Sworm, Cameron Counterman, and Kaitlyn Hendrickson.
Great job representing DHS!



Sensory Seating

Students now have a choice when it comes to seating in the classroom. All classrooms at Robert Kerr are now equipped with different forms of sensory seating. These options help students to stay alert and focus during the school day. The sensory seating also allows students to burn off excess energy in a non-disruptive way.

The student council worked with Durand Middle School to raise money to help the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society find a cure. Throughout the month of January the school was able to raise approximately \$640. The incentive to raise money was to tape Mrs. Dobson to the wall if they raised \$400. The students did an amazing job and we are so proud of their dedication to this event.

On February 2nd, the entire middle school went to the Whiting to see a musical, "Everyone's Hero: The Jackie Robinson Story." The students learned about Jackie Robinson and the significance of his life. Students were excited to see a play and relate it to information from the classroom.



DHS Railroaders of the Month

The following students were chosen by staff members as Railroaders of the Month for February: 8th grader Emma Maiden, 9th grader Cacia Kaupp, 10th grader Devin Wood, 11th grader Devin Spencer, and 12th grader Macayla Davis. Congratulations!

Positive Behavior Celebration

Students at Robert Kerr recently celebrated meeting school-wide goals for being "On Track" and demonstrating positive behaviors. The students were able to take a break from their academic studies to watch a movie and enjoy some popcorn. On a daily basis students are striving to stay "On Track" and be respectful, responsible, and safe!

"Climb Aboard Explorers and Dive Into Learning"

Kindergarten and Preschool Registration

Students who qualify for Kindergarten or Preschool will be able to register on:

Thursday, March 9 • 5-7pm
Friday, March 10 • 9am-3pm
at Bertha Neal Elementary

Students who will be 5 or before 9/1/17 are eligible for Kindergarten.
*Age waivers will be available for Kindergarten students.
Students who will be 3 or 4 or before 9/1/17 are eligible for Preschool.

www.durand.k12.mi.us

You will need to call the school to sign up for a registration time.

ITEMS TO BRING: Legal Birth Certificate, Immunization Records, Proof of Residency, Proof of Income (Preschool ONLY)

Please call Bertha Neal Elementary 989-288-2016

Superintendent News

With this unseasonably warm February weather, our thoughts quickly turn from dealing with the cold and snow to thoughts of spring and warm weather. In turn, as spring approaches our schools will be gearing up toward planning and executing the improvements to our facilities that come as a result of passing the no-mil bond increase a year ago. Site work began this winter with a formidable ditch and water drainage project on the north side of Roundhouse stadium that leads all the way out to Lansing Road. You'll see it if you drive by the soccer facility. This work was done to alleviate water drainage issues impacting our service drive and football field and track area. Also at Roundhouse stadium you might notice the December project where new fencing along the bleachers and the improved safety and handicap changes up in the stands was completed. As the summer draws closer, more plans and updates will be shared in this column.
A major piece of news that was long talked about

and has now actually happened is that the Victory Biker Church turned in the keys to Doyle Knight Elementary. That means the district once again owns Doyle Knight Elementary. The building was sold "as is" but VBC determined that there was enough pipe damage from frozen water lines that the boiler system wouldn't be worth replacing. Because of this, they were not able to get an occupancy permit. Ultimately, there wasn't enough cash on hand to complete a transition to a forced air system at this time so the decision was made to terminate the contract signed with the district.

At the printing of this article, the district will have already put Doyle Knight Elementary up for bids (sale). Bids will be due at the Durand Area Schools Administration office, 310 North Saginaw Street, by 12:00 p.m. on Monday, March 13. Here is the schedule with important dates and times.

February 15, 2017: Doyle Knight Elementary put up for sale and the sealed bid process begins.

Wednesday, March 1: Committee of the whole

board meeting, 7:00 p.m. Administration building.

Thursday, March 2: Walk through opportunity for bidders at Doyle Knight Elementary: 1:00 p.m.

Monday, March 13: Bids are due at the administration building by 12:00 p.m. Opening of bids at 12:05 p.m.

Monday, March 13: Regular board meeting. Bids will be discussed: 7:00 p.m. at the middle school.

Wednesday, March 29: Committee of the whole meeting: Bid awarded and board action taken.

Please visit the Durand Area Schools Website at <http://durand.k12.mi.us/> for full information and please don't hesitate to contact me at the administration office at (989) 288-2681.

Sincerely,

Craig A. McCrumb,
Durand Area Schools Superintendent