November 2026

David City Secondary

School Newsletter



IN THIS ISSUE:

A Note from the Principal - Mrs. Athow

Middle School Football Wrap Up - Mr. Sobota

Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) - Mr. Stephens

Red Ribbon Week - Mr. Nerud

Local Business Spotlight - Timpte

A Note from the Principal

by Mrs. Stacy Athow



Community and School Partnership: Bringing Hope Home This Holiday Season

As the last colorful autumn leaves settle on the ground and the morning air turns crisp, there is an unmistakable shift in the air. Winter is whispering at our doorsteps, bringing with it the familiar magic of the season: snow-covered rooftops, the promise of cozy days spent sledding or skiing, and the anticipation of long-awaited family vacations.

In a small town like ours, the holidays hold a unique enchantment. Traditions run deep—from local parades to school holiday concerts, these are the moments that feel straight out of a Hallmark movie. We gather with loved ones, share favorite recipes passed down through generations, and create joyful memories that stick with our children for a lifetime. We are truly blessed to experience the warmth and togetherness that define this time of year.

A Note from the Principal (cont'd)

However, as we look forward to the festivities, it is important to pause and remember that the holidays do not feel bright for every child in our community. For some of our students, the upcoming break brings anxiety rather than excitement. For families separated by distance or difficult circumstances, the season can feel lonely. For others, financial strain makes even providing a basic holiday meal a struggle, let alone purchasing Christmas gifts or planning travel. Furthermore, when school pauses for the break, some students lose access to the predictable warm meals they rely on. This added strain can create stress at home, making a season meant for peace feel full of hardship, anxiety, and conflict instead.

The heart of the holiday spirit is not just in what we receive, but in what we give. The holidays are only truly joyful when we ensure that everyone in our community feels cared for. It takes all of us working together to make sure every child has a hot meal, a warm coat, and a couple of surprises waiting under the tree. Life brings unexpected challenges to every family at one time or another, but the beauty of living in a small town is that we take care of our own.

This season, let's lead with kindness, understanding, and generosity:

- **Start a new tradition of giving:** Consider taking your family to volunteer at our local food pantry or at the church of your choice.
- **Spread cheer to our seniors:** Spend an afternoon visiting elderly residents at the Villa—a simple conversation or homemade card can brighten their entire month.
- **Support local holiday drives:** Donate non-perishable food items, winter clothing, or new toys to community distributions helping local families.

When we look out for one another, we ensure that the warmth of the holidays reaches every doorstep. Thank you for being a compassionate community and for helping us create a brighter season for all of our kids. **We hope to work with you at DC Pub to make our community better.**

Stacy Athow
Go Scouts!

Upcoming Events

- ***Softball Banquet - Nov 2***
- ***Football Banquet - Nov 5***
- ***Volleyball Banquet - Nov 9***
- ***Winter Sports Parents' Meetings - Nov 10***
- ***Veterans Day - Nov 11***
- ***NO SCHOOL: Staff Professional Development - Nov 13***
- ***SNC Play Production - Nov 16-17***
- ***Esports Fall State Competition- Oct 20***
- ***NO SCHOOL: Thanksgiving Break - Nov 25-27***

Student Spotlight



Grant Eaton was nominated by Mr. Doug Stephens, our JAG instructor. Grant was voted by his peers to serve as President of JAG, a testament to the respect and confidence his fellow students have in him.
Grant was also selected to attend the JAG Leadership Development Conference in Omaha on October 15, 2026. This opportunity recognizes his potential as a leader and provides him with the chance to further develop the skills needed to make a positive impact on his school, community, and future. Grant's leadership may be quiet and unassuming, but his influence speaks volumes!

by Brandon Sobota



2026 MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL

The middle school football team wrapped up its season on October 12. The team consisted of 6 seventh graders and 16 eighth graders.

The Scouts opened the season against a strong East Butler squad. The team competed well throughout the first half, but injuries at several key positions made it difficult to maintain that momentum in the second half.

The next game on the schedule was against EMF, but Mother Nature had other plans. Due to excessive rainfall, the game was postponed until the end of the season. Unfortunately, another downpour on the rescheduled date forced the game to be canceled.

The Scouts earned victories over Osceola and Centennial, but the two games unfolded very differently. Against Osceola, the Scouts put together a strong team performance, with contributions from every player. The Centennial game, on the other hand, was full of ups and downs.

After taking a 14-0 lead in the first quarter, the Scouts found themselves trailing 22-20 at halftime. That score remained unchanged until just two and a half minutes were left in the fourth quarter, when the Scouts completed a 65-yard touchdown pass to take the lead and secure the victory.

The Scouts faced two more tough opponents in Tri County and Clarkson. Although the Scouts lost both games, they continued to compete hard and give their best effort.

Throughout the season, the team demonstrated determination and resilience while overcoming challenges from opposing teams, injuries, and unpredictable weather. Practice plans had to be adjusted numerous times due to extreme heat and excessive rainfall. Unfortunately, parents may have also had to wash football gear more times than they would care to count! Despite these challenges, the athletes continued to work hard, improved their skills, and grew as a team throughout the season.



JAG NE
Jobs for America's Graduates Nebraska

David City Public Schools has brought Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) to its class offerings in the 2026-2027 school year. JAG is a national, nonprofit school-to-career program that empowers young people with the skills, support, and real-world experience they need to succeed in education, employment, and life.



Students learned how to properly use ABC fire extinguishers and put their skills to the test with the David City Fire Department's simulator, practicing in a realistic setting without a real fire.





JAG students from DCHS toured CCC in Columbus, including the plastic lab, the Hydraulic Lab, the Welding Lab, and the electronics control lab (pictured above). A very educational day for students to get introduced to some fun career choices.





David City JAG spent 9/11/2026 observing this day, taking a field trip to the Fire department, and writing thank-you cards to every volunteer fire department member. It was a reverent day of observation.

DCHS JAG Teacher
Doug Stephens

October 23-31 www.redribbon.org

Red Ribbon Week



Make A Difference. Be a Hero.

October brought an opportunity for students and staff to come together for Red Ribbon Week and promote the importance of living drug and alcohol free. Members of STAY-U (Students Taking Action for Youth Unity) led activities that encouraged students to consider how their choices affect their health, goals, and future. This high school organization works to prevent and reduce alcohol and other drug use among youth while helping students build the confidence to make positive decisions.

This year's theme, "Make a Difference. Be a Hero. Stay Drug Free," reminded students that they do not need superpowers to have a positive impact. Being a hero can mean resisting peer pressure, encouraging a friend to make a healthy choice, or setting a good example for younger students. Choosing to stay drug and alcohol free helps students protect the things that matter to them, including their friendships, interests, and future plans. The theme encouraged everyone to recognize their ability to make a difference through everyday actions.

A Week of Action

Students and staff showed their support through dress-up days and activities throughout the week. Monday's "Red-Y to Say No to Drugs" encouraged everyone to wear red. STAY-U members greeted elementary students with high fives, handed out bracelets, and visited with elementary students . They also assisted local police officers with an impaired vision goggles demonstration. Tuesday's "Your Future Is Key" invited students to dress as their future careers, connecting healthy choices with future goals. Members distributed stickers, tied red ribbons to cars, and helped students create superhero capes and masks as part of their pledge to stay drug free. On Wednesday, STAY-U partnered with the National Honor Society (NHS) for "Scare Away Hunger," with students wearing Halloween costumes. Members also handed out pencils and led some educational & fun trivia, giving students another opportunity to participate in the week's activities.



STAFF RECOGNITION SERIES

Celebrating Excellence: This Month's Traveling Staff Award Winners

Honoring the extraordinary educators and staff members who dedicate their hearts, energy, and kindness to our school community every day.

This month, our school community came together to launch the Traveling Staff Awards, a tradition celebrating staff members across three distinct categories: the student-voted **Spotlight Staff Award,** the peer-selected **Tireless Teacher Award,** and **the Cup of Kindness Award.** Please join us in celebrating this month's outstanding honorees for their commitment to our students.

SPOTLIGHT STAFF AWARDS



Mr. Wiseman

PE Teacher & Basketball/Football Coach

Mr. Wiseman has officially achieved a remarkable milestone, winning the student-selected Spotlight Staff Award for the third time in two years! Recognized for his infectious energy on the field and in the gym, he continues to inspire students to achieve their best.

> *"He pushed me to try my hardest. He is overall just a great teacher."*
>
> **~ Lakelyn**

> *"Very caring to students, an amazing teacher/ coach, welcoming to others, and the funnest teacher I've had."*
>
> **~ Leihilayanis**



Mrs. Dredge

Middle School Science Teacher

Beyond teaching science, Mrs. Dredge serves on the Principal's Advisory, MTSS Team, and Middle School Team. She leads small support groups and is currently pursuing her Master's in School Counseling.

> *"She always tries her best to help all the students and makes sure everyone feels welcome."*
>
> **~ Josselyn**

> *"Mrs. Dredge always makes sure you understand something, and if you don't, she's willing to help you."*
>
> **~ Emersyn**

CUP OF KINDNESS AWARD



Liz Tvrdy

Staff Honoree • 3rd Floor Old Building

Nominated by Miss DeMers-Sahling and Mrs. Petersen, Liz was chosen for her compassionate spirit and calming influence:

> *"If you want to find a person who embodies the word kind, look no further than Liz. She cares about their mind, body, and soul. She will stop everything to make sure a student is okay and cared for. She always brings a calm presence into the room. We are lucky to have her."*
>
> **~ Peer Nomination**

TIRELESS TEACHER AWARD



Mrs. Jami Olson

AP, 12th & 10th English / Yearbook Sponsor

Selected by her colleagues and nominated by Miss DeMers-Sahling and Mrs. Noonan, Mrs. Olson is recognized for her tireless commitment behind the scenes

> *"It takes a lot to be an English teacher... Many times Jami is the first one at the school and the last one to leave all while still raising kind and hardworking children of her own. She is a pillar of this school and an example of what it means to be a scout. We see all she does before 7:45am and after 3:45pm."*
>
> **~ Peer Nomination**

Take time this week to celebrate a teacher or staff member who has made a difference for your student. Don't hesitate to reach out and let them know how much they are appreciated!

Local Business SPOTLIGHT

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY • BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES

TIMPTE

Built for Life.



ABOUT TIMPTE

Timpte has been building trailers in David City since the early 1980s, specializing in ag trailers and now equipment trailers. Timpte is a diversified company who focuses on the customer, employee, and shareholders. They provide customers with innovative and valuable products. In addition to that, they provide a safe, competitive and enjoyable workplace that rewards long-term employment.

THE TIMPTE DIFFERENCE

CUSTOMERS
Provide innovative and valuable products.

EMPLOYEES
Offer a safe, competitive and enjoyable workplace that rewards long-term employment.

SHAREHOLDERS
Build a strong, sustainable future.

Investing in Our Students

Our school has been able to build a phenomenal partnership with Timpte, as they provide an innovative youth-registered apprenticeship program for David City's Junior and Senior students who have taken STS courses, which allows them to gain hands-on experience in the manufacturing industry.



Thank you, Timpte, for being a valued part of the David City community!

Artist of the Month



Cat
Colored Pencil

Tessa Slonecker

TESSA IS AN EIGHTH GRADER AND IN MIDDLE SCHOOL ART. HER PARENTS ARE JOSH SLONECKER AND HOLLY TICHOTA.STUDENTS USED THE GRID METHOD TO DRAW THE OUTLINE OF A FURRY ANIMAL THEN USE COLORED PENCIL TO REPLICATE THE COLOR, DIRECTION AND LENGTH OF THE ANIMALS FUR. THIS IS WHAT SHE HAD TO DAY ABOUT HER ARTWORK, “I'M REALLY PROUD OF IT.”

Artist of the Month



Stillife
Pencil

Mahala Hall

MAHALA IS A FRESHMAN AND HER MOTHER IS MADLIN SCHULTZ. STUDENTS WERE TASKED WITH USING DRAWING PENCILS TO RECREATE A STILLIFE THAT WAS SET UP IN THE ART ROOM.