



# Denton High School

*"In the Ultimate Pursuit of Excellence in Education"*

AN INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE WORLD SCHOOL

DHS PTSA Newsletter

1<sup>st</sup> Edition – Fall 2014

Sept 2014

Denton High School  
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The DHS PTSA publishes a total of **five (5) newsletters** throughout the school year. Submissions for the school year may be emailed to: [cjrperry@msn.com](mailto:cjrperry@msn.com).

## DHS COUNSELOR CORNER

- Want to feel more connected to DHS? Want information that you can use to help stay on track of important events at DHS, trends that impact young people, and details that can help you prepare for your future? **Follow the DHS Counseling Department on Twitter. Find us at @DHSCounsDept.** You can also find events that the counselors and other DHS students and staff are up to by searching **#DHScares**.
- **The junior year is the best year to start solidifying any college plans.** During this year and over the summer prior to senior year is the ideal time for students and families to explore colleges and make official college visits. These visits give a student a chance to walk on a college campus, meet staff and instructors, and see the resources that a school offers. Great information about how to plan and do a college visit can be found at [www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org) under "Find Colleges."
- Any junior students who are planning on attending any type of college after high school graduation should **take at least one ACT and/or SAT test before the end of the junior year.** There are limited test dates remaining for this school year and registration spots are filling fast. Please visit the Testing page on the Denton High School Counseling Department web **page** ([www.dentonisd.org/DHScounselors](http://www.dentonisd.org/DHScounselors)) for complete registration deadlines and dates.
- Any Senior students who are interested in pursuing full time work after high school graduation can volunteer to participate in a group that will provide students with valuable job searching and interviewing skills. The group will take place in October and companies from around Denton will provide the instruction. Please contact Dr. Fields, DHS School Counselor if your Senior student would like to participate.

## UPCOMING EVENTS!!!!

**Oct. 16, 2014 & Oct. 2, 2014: Bank on Denton:** DHS, in cooperation with United Way Bank on Denton County, will be hosting a training for students on financial literacy.

**Oct. 11, 2014: SAT Test Date**

**Oct. 25, 2014: ACT Test Date**

**Oct. 27, 2014 through Oct. 31, 2014: Red Ribbon Week:** The DHS Counseling Team will help students be the voice for themselves by participating in Drug Awareness and Prevention.

**PTSA**  
everychild.one voice.®

**Be Involved! Be Included!  
Be A Leader! Be PTA!**

## **OCTOBER IS NATIONAL BULLYING AWARENESS MONTH**

October is National Bullying Awareness Month. DHS believes all students have the right to attend school where individual differences are respected and celebrated and to learn in a safe, secure and supportive environment that is free of bullying. National statistics show that:

- Approximately 160,000 students stay home each day out of fear of being bullied.
- 40% of suicide victims had been bullied during their lifetime.
- 86% boys and girls polled said they've seen someone else being bullied
- 48% said they've been bullied
- 42% admitted to bullying other kids at least once in a while
- 90% of students do not like to see someone bullied
- Even though most bystanders don't like to watch bullying, less than 20% try to stop it. This happens frequently because they don't know what to do
- When bystanders intervene, they can stop bullying within 10 seconds over 50 % of the time

In an effort to stand up against bullying the DHS Bully Prevention Committee along with DHS student organizations have united to raise awareness and turn "bystanders" into "upstanders" against bullying. A bystander is defined as someone who witnesses bullying and does nothing. Bullying is hurtful for everyone involved including those who witness bullying. By simply observing the bullying behavior the bully often gets the message that his/her peers approve of their abusive behavior. Being an "upstander" means that the person observing the behavior knows the behavior is wrong and does something to try and make things right. The following are ways that students can intervene in a safe and effective way:

- Don't join in the bullying
- Support the victim in private—show your concern and offer kindness
- Stand with the victim and say something
- Mobilize others to join in and stand up to the bully
- Befriend the victim and reach out to him/her in friendship
- Alert an adult

Additionally, students can get involved by participating in school wide events. This year's Anti-Bullying campaign will include classroom presentations on the prevention of bullying as well as student and staff participation on **UNITY Day, which is October 22, 2014**. "Make It PURPLE and Make It End! Up-Standers Unite Against Bullying!" "Be a DHS Up-Stander and be the Voice for a Victim of Bullying!" This is a day that everyone can link together—in schools, communities and online—and send one large, PURPLE message and support students who have experienced bullying. **By wearing PURPLE on October 22<sup>nd</sup> you will be showing your support for students who are bullied and taking a stand against bullying.** If you would like to make

a difference by contributing, we are asking for donations of t-shirts and or other clothing items such as bracelets, ribbons, etc. that are PURPLE, which will be given away to students so that everyone will have the opportunity to UNITE and send a clear message against bullying. If you would like to make a donation of items, please contact Jennifer Mize (940)369-2136 or by email [jmize@dentonisd.org](mailto:jmize@dentonisd.org).



### **STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**

#### **Student Assistance Counselor- Jennifer Mize, LPC-Intern**

In response to the growing social and emotional needs experienced by our students, Denton ISD utilizes Student Assistance Counselors on all secondary campuses. The role of the Student Assistance Counselor is to provide crisis intervention, psycho-educational counseling services and referrals to community counseling agencies when necessary. The goal of the Student Assistance Counselor is to identify and resolve issues significantly impacting a student's success in the classroom. Referrals to the Student Assistance Counselor can be made by school counselors, administrators and parents. Many times, students refer themselves. For more information or resources, please see Ms. Mize's website <http://www.dentonisd.org//Domain/523> or please contact Ms. Mize at (940) 369-2136 or by email [jmize@dentonisd.org](mailto:jmize@dentonisd.org).

#### **Bilingual Licensed Social Worker – Martha Puga, LBSW, MSW**

Denton ISD utilizes Licensed Social Workers to provide services that improve school attendance, increase graduation rates and encourage students achieve academic success. The role of the social worker is to provide the following services: case management and wrap around services, individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, home visits, provision of child care, transportation to school and daycare, instruction related to child development, parenting skills, assistance in obtaining resources from community and government agencies, prenatal or post partum homebound services to pregnant students. The Social Worker is available to meet with students not pregnant or parenting, students that are pregnant or parenting, homeless and unaccompanied minors, and students that reside at Cumberland Home. The goal of the Licensed Social Worker is to provide information, make referrals, and sustain active involvement in the community to determine what resources are available. Referrals can be made through students, parents, campus counselors, nurses, faculty, or staff. For information, please contact Martha Puga at (940) 369-2027 or by email [mpuga@dentonisd.org](mailto:mpuga@dentonisd.org)

#### **Communities in Schools of North Texas – Jessica Franco**

CISNT is a program designed to give the extra support students need to be successful in school. Mrs. Franco runs case management services for students who are designated at-risk for dropping out of school. Case management includes supportive guidance, health and human services, assigning tutors or mentors, enrichment, parental involvement and career and college awareness. This program is free of charge. Parents, teachers, or administrators can refer students or students can refer themselves to this program. If you would like more information about this program, please contact Mrs. Franco at (940) 369-2029 or email to [jfranco\\_cis@dentonisd.org](mailto:jfranco_cis@dentonisd.org).

## DENTON HIGH SCHOOL BRONCO BAND



The DHS Band is a family of students brought together by a common goal: success. Our passion and dedication to what we do allow us to excel in music as well as in life. By surpassing all obstacles, we become role models for our peers and for future Broncos. In a supportive community, we strive to set new standards and uphold the PRIDE of Bronco Country.

The DHS Band program, with 150 students, is led by **Director of Bands, Brian Wilson; Director of Jazz Studies, Jesse Woolery; and Director of Percussion Studies, Robert Brannock.** It consists of a competitive Marching band, three Concert bands, three Jazz ensembles, a competitive Percussion Studio, and an award winning Color/Winter Guard.

Performances by the Bronco Band include Mansfield Marching Contest, USBands Marching Music Series, UIL Marching, Concert and Sight Reading Contests and numerous concert performances and special events. The Jazz ensembles perform concerts throughout the year and play for many community events, including the Denton Arts and Jazz Festival. The Percussion studio also competes in various percussion competitions, as well as performing their annual Champions Recital and Percussion Bash.

The Color Guard, led by Sandra Wills, performs with the Marching band during the fall, adding colorful imagery to the marching show. Starting in January and throughout the spring, they compete as a Winter Guard in the North Texas Colorguard Association Circuit.

**The Denton High School Bronco Band - the PRIDE of Bronco Country!**



### MORE TESTING NEWS!

**DHS 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students will take the PSAT test on Oct. 15. 9<sup>th</sup> grade students will also take a “practice” test on this day. Students need to bring a calculator and pencil. Tests begin at 8:50.**

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

**The class of 2017 sponsors need parent and student volunteers to work UNT concessions to raise money for the class of 2017. If you are interested please contact Jennifer Oswalt [joswalt@dentonisd.org](mailto:joswalt@dentonisd.org) or Gina Anderson [ganderson2@dentonisd.org](mailto:ganderson2@dentonisd.org)**

## CLASS OF 2015 PARENTS

There are lots of volunteer opportunities for parents of the Class of 2015. Email [kshelburne@dentonisd.org](mailto:kshelburne@dentonisd.org) for more information.



## The following is the Denton ISD's policy regarding weather procedures:

The decision to close schools based on inclement weather is made when possible by 6:30 a.m. School closing decisions are reported on the [Denton ISD Website](#), the [Denton Record-Chronicle Online](#) and on the major television networks: Channel 4 (KDFW), Channel 5 (KXAS), Channel 8 (WFAA), Channel 11 (KTVT), Channel 23 (KUVN) and Channel 39 (KXTX). The major radio stations include: FM 88.1 (KNTU), AM 820 (WBAP), AM 1080, (KRLD), and others.

It is also announced on the district's main telephone line at (940) 369-0000. This year, we will use our automated Call-out system for weather alerts. **Please be sure to have your current contact information on file with each school your child(ren) attends.** You can also [sign-up to receive an e-Alert](#) in your email.

***Please note: Media outlets only inform viewers and listeners of those school districts that are either starting late or canceling school. If no information is given, Denton ISD will be starting at the regular time.***

**Any School closings will be posted at the Denton Independent School District website .....[here!!!](#)**

## TEEN READ WEEK

Merchants from the Denton Square area week have been sending “selfies” to DHS – holding their favorite books! The goal is to create excitement about reading. A bulletin board at the school will be filled with these photos – sharing with our students the joy of reading!

During actual teen week Oct 12-18 there will be have various contests, including “Canned Books,” which are shredded books in jars where the teen will visually try to piece what book it is.

In the “Book Wars” Scavenger hunt there will be approximately 10 clues hidden in books of all genre, and “Book Worms” is a guessing game – of how many gummy worms are in a jar.

Business owners are being encouraged to donate a prize to place in the library display case generating even more advertising and excitement for the kids. Everyone who participates will get a prize and grand prizes will be drawn on the 18th.



## INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMME NEWS



### May 2014 Diploma Results

The Denton High School International Baccalaureate Diploma Program is exceptionally proud to announce the recipients of the Distinguished IB Diploma from the Class of 2014:

**Jacob Audirsch** (Texas A&M Honors College), **Juliana Bershell** (Texas Tech), **Sarah Fremder** (UNT), **Alex Herring** (UT Dallas), **Kirsten Holmes** (Chapman University), **Truett Ide** (Baylor), **Christian Luke** (UT Austin), **Sarah McLaughlin** (TWU), **Jamie Morgan** (McMurry University), **Maya Nixon** (University of San Francisco), **Anna Passey** (UT Austin Honors College), **David Rios** (Hunter College), **Morgan Van Aken** (UNT Emerald Eagle), **Rachel Villarreal** (UNT), and **Isaac Warriner** (UNT Emerald Eagle & Honors College).

These students succeeded in the 2 year, college preparatory program in order to obtain this coveted and internationally renowned honor. Denton High School's IB graduates represent the essence of 21<sup>st</sup> century learners and in addition, have earned at least 24 and up to 65 hours of college credit at a number of commended public colleges and universities.

#### **Beth Hughes**

International Baccalaureate Coordinator  
Diploma Programme

940-369-2238 / [www.dentonisd.org/dhsib](http://www.dentonisd.org/dhsib)

## IB DP is awarded a \$75K Grant from the IB Americas/Dell Foundation

The DHS DP is proud to announce that we have been awarded a \$75K value grant from the IB Americas and the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation called "Bridging the Equity Gap." Through the Bridging the Equity Gap Project, the IB will develop and implement a model for building capacity within US high schools serving low-income students to increase the participation and achievement of low-income students in the DP. Denton High School is very excited to be one of the five US IB schools chosen to participate. The IB Project Manager visited DHS on September 9<sup>th</sup> to help us begin our work.

## Summer Studies: Emma Besier at Stanford University



This summer IB diploma junior **Emma Besier** participated in a cardiothoracic surgical skills internship at Stanford University. She studied anatomy and physiology under well respected surgeons. She also performed coronary artery bypasses, aortic valve replacements and other procedures on porcine hearts. This experience was a

continuation of her MYP Personal Project on the heart. Congratulations on being selected to this awesome program **Emma**!

## Summer Studies: Anjali Balakrishna at Harvard

IB DP junior **Anjali Balakrishna** attended the Global Young Innovator's Initiative leadership conference held at Harvard University this past summer. She had the opportunity to work with Leadership Initiatives. It was a great experience because she was able to help create various solutions to better a tailoring business in Nigeria. Through this, she discovered the International Business Alliance Program (run by Leadership Initiatives) and was later accepted. We are really proud of your leadership in bringing the program to DHS.



**ORCHESTRA NEWS****Denton High School Orchestra Boosters****Fall Mum Sale**

October 1 - 14

Contact any orchestra student for information

**Denton High School Orchestras present  
Java Night!**

Enjoy a 'laid back', relaxed atmosphere with  
the DHS Orchestras on Tuesday,  
October 21, 2014

The orchestra room will be turned into a coffee  
house from 7 - 9 p.m.

Enjoy flavored coffees and pastries as students  
perform for the audience

Donations will be accepted at the door

**Denton High School Orchestras present  
their Fall Concert**

Thursday, October 23, 2015

DHS Auditorium

7-9 p.m.



*Denton High School, in partnership with the home and community, is dedicated to the development of knowledgeable, compassionate individuals who actively and ethically contribute to the betterment of our world.*

*By providing challenging and educational experiences that encourage cooperation, creativity and intercultural understanding, DHS aims to create life-long learners who embrace the diversity of others.*

*Adopted 2007*

**DHS USEFUL LINKS FOR PARENTS,  
STUDENTS AND STAFF!****Denton Independent School District**

[For Parents: Information and Resources](#)

[For Student: Information and Resources](#)

[For Staff: Information and Resources](#)