

Give Thanks...

As I approach my six month here at Damascus Christian, I find it easy to embrace the Thanksgiving spirit. I am so grateful for this ministry and the opportunity to serve alongside others who desire to pour spiritual truth into lives of children and to bathe them in prayer. I am thrilled and thankful with the growth we have made in these past few months and the goals we have set and are pursuing. However, it is imperative that DCS continues to pursue God's will in all its endeavors, and I covet your prayers for the students, staff and school as we move forward. I pray you are able to enjoy this Thanksgiving with your family and reflect on the many ways God has poured out His blessings on your family.



- Principal Zachary Davidson

Recent News

Veterans Day: Damascus Christian School hosted a Veteran's Day Celebration on November 11th. It was so neat to see every single class of students involved in honoring our veterans! Our guests were greeted by the seniors and then had a time of fellowship and dessert hosted by the junior class. Our main presentation began with the color guard, led by DCS students who are boy scouts from Troop 212. Then, K-10 students presented a program in the auditorium, which included patriotic songs, inspirational readings, and singing of the military song for each service branch. Our final tribute included having all veterans come forward, so we could proudly salute them and present to them student-made "Thank You" bookmarks as a memento of our gratitude for their service.



Elementary October Awards:

Each month, elementary teachers acknowledge a few students, who demonstrate characteristics of David, Solomon, and Paul (spiritual fruits). The following students were recipients for the month of September. Great job everyone!

	DAVID AWARD	SOLOMON AWARD	PAUL AWARD for PEACE
K	Michael Foley	Carter Adler	Brian Buller
1st	Jason Lupulescu	Elijah Davidson	Mark Sacara
2nd	Tayanah Balensifer	Jillian Handley	Gabriella Pappas
3rd	Eva Ryan	Ernest Koval	Reece Miller
4th	Ransom Lorenzen	Elijah Nikiforest	Esther Davidson
5th	McKenna Phifer	Ben Hartman	Hannah Gianelli
6th	Kylee Maxwell	Ruvim Koval	Grace Rojas

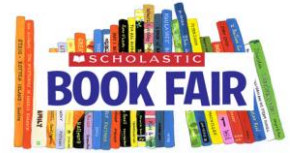
Upcoming Events

- No school will be held November 23rd and 24th for teacher in-service.
- Thanksgiving break will be November 25th – 27th.
- Tuesday, November 24th – Turkey Bowl (football) from 10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. at Damascus's Centennial Park

- **Sunday, November 29th, there will be a DCS-themed church service at Damascus Community Church at 8:15 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. Please join us for worship, proudly wearing your DCS spirit-gear!!**



- Wednesday, December 2nd – DCC Youth Group: Movie Night from 7:00 – 9:00 P.M.
- Coming soon to our DCS Library! We are hosting a Scholastic Book Fair December 9 – 11th, from 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. This event will be better than ever because we are also having our Craft Fair on Friday, Dec. 11th. From books and crafts, you will be able to find gifts for many people on your list!
- Gospel Christmas program featuring Harlan Harris on Sunday, December 13th at 8:15 and 11:00 A.M.
- Wednesday, December 16th – DCC Youth Group: A Night of Worship from 7:00 – 9:00 P.M.



Staff Spotlight: Rachel Velez



Accompany me to work on any given morning and you will likely hear me say, “I just can’t wait to get to work!” I feel immeasurably blessed to have a job that aligns with my passion—that of coming alongside students experiencing academic struggles and helping them become confident and competent learners.

I was hired at DCS in 1990 to establish the National Institute for Learning Development (NILD) program and have served as an educational therapist ever since. My hours are filled with assisting students in acquiring academic skills, organizational tools, and strategic thinking.

Working with these students, their families, and classroom teachers is a great privilege.

I grew up on a farm in a rural community near Elkton, Oregon. Driving sheep, picking prunes, raising bummer lambs, gardening, helping my mom with summer canning, and teaching a Sunday School class kept me busy. Following high school graduation, I attended Biola University for one year before transferring to Baptist Bible College in Springfield, Missouri. Summers were spent working at a Child Evangelism Camp in Mariposa, California, where I not only loved working with the children, but also met the man who three summers later slipped an engagement ring on my finger.

We are blessed to have two adult children and five adorable grandchildren ranging in age from one to twelve. When I am not teaching at school, you will likely find me enjoying some “grandma time”, reading, hiking, gardening, or just out exploring God’s amazing creation.

Financial Update

Recent auctions have raised money for both technology and safety. The following description provides an update as to how those funds have been spent recently to improve our facility and the learning process.

We are excited to welcome Wi-Fi to the DCS and DCC campus. Staff will initially be using it as we determine if we need to increase our bandwidth with the additional internet traffic. This technology will provide teachers with more flexibility and reliability when using technology in both instruction and planning. Our students will also benefit by learning through more dynamic lessons and being protected when online. We are all very excited to more effectively utilize current and future technology in order to enhance instruction, communication and collaboration.



We are hoping to fully roll out School Guard to our staff after a few areas of communication and logistics are improved. This is a company that uses a phone app to increase communication both within the school and outside the school in times of a crisis or emergency. Please visit their website at <http://schoolguard.guard911.com/> to see



how this product will increase our ability to respond as a staff. We are also pursuing bids for implementing the use of hand radios on campus to improve communication and our ability to respond in a timelier manner to a variety of incidents where quick and concise communication will enable us to serve the needs of our students better.

Outreach Opportunities

LOBBY GREETERS: We continue to seek volunteers to staff a reception desk in the foyer or lobby by the upstairs entrance from 8:00 A.M. through 4:00 P.M. Monday through Friday. Volunteers would work shifts of 2 hours (or longer if desired) for the purpose of greeting visitors, signing them in and out, providing guest badges, and directing them to their destination. This is a great opportunity to warmly welcome visitors to our building and maintain security for our students.

Scrip: Scrip is an easy way to support our school by purchasing gift cards for items that your family regularly purchases. For example, if you regularly fill-up your car at Safeway, you could purchase Safeway gift cards through DCS. You receive the gift cards to use as you would like, and DCS wins by receiving a certain % back from Safeway for the purchase of the gift card.



If you are planning to purchase gift cards as stocking stuffers, plan ahead and order them through DCS. Also, we periodically hold scrip contests to promote this great fundraiser. Talitha Wilson was November's scrip winner.



End of Year Giving: If you are looking for ministries to make a tax-deductible donation as 2015 winds down, we encourage you to remember DCEF—our very own 501C3. Your year-end gifts help fulfill our mission. Donations of every size are needed and greatly appreciated. We encourage you to check out our link for the Damascus Christian Education Foundation on our website (www.dcs4you.org/). Thank you for your generosity!

Sport and Extra-Curricular Highlights

DRAMA OPPORTUNITY: DCS will be presenting a spring **drama production** this school year. As we desire to maintain our strong fine arts legacy, we eagerly anticipate providing this opportunity for our junior high and high school students. Please contact the school office if you are seeking further information.

WINTER SPORTS KICK OFF: The basketball season is underway and our elementary programs already have competed in several games. Please consult our weekly Eagle Eye or the school website for upcoming games, so you can come and cheer on our Eagles.

Damascus Community Church

Sunday Services: 8:15 & 11:00 AM

Community Groups: 9:45 AM

Children's Sunday School: 8:15, 9:45 & 11:00 AM

Zachary Davidson
Principal, Damascus Christian School

Website: www.dcs4you.org/
Email: zach.davidson@damascuscc.org
Address: 14251 SE Rust Way, Damascus, OR 97089
Phone: (503) 658-4100