

## 2015-2016 Has Officially Begun!

I am pleased to announce this school year has officially started! It feels like so much has already taken place, but I look forward to an entire year filled with learning as well as sporting events and musical performances. Remember to read your monthly newsletters like this one and to frequently check our website, [www.dcs4you.org](http://www.dcs4you.org), so you can stay abreast of news and upcoming events as well as discover academic successes and outreach opportunities within DCS and our community.

- Principal Zachary Davidson



## Recent News

**ALUMNI IN THE NEWS:** On September 11<sup>th</sup>, a portion of Highway 212 was dedicated as Fallen Hero Highway to honor Cpl. Keaton Coffey, a 2007 DCS grad. He enlisted in the military shortly after graduation to protect his country's freedoms. Tragically, he lost his life during his second tour in Afghanistan just weeks before returning home to be married. As a school, we mourn over his death, but we also celebrate his life and the legacy he leaves behind for our current students. The dedication of Hwy 212 is a great tribute to remembering him and other service men and women who have given so much for our freedom. DCS will miss our eagle Keaton, but we proudly claim, "Once an eagle, always an eagle!"



**WORK DAY A SUCCESS:** On September 19<sup>th</sup>, over 40 volunteers spruced up DCS. Volunteers—whose ages ranged from two to retired—worked on jobs such as sidewalk clean up, removing 100's of staples from walls and ceilings, painting classrooms and play structures, and increasing campus safety. We want to send a huge THANK YOU to those who served the school and church. It was a great time of fun and fellowship. If you were unable to attend, we will be having more work days in the future.

## Upcoming Events

We have a great opportunity to honor our grandparents on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at our annual **Grandparent's Day!** A special program designed just for them will showcase our school and run from 10:15 A.M. until 12:00 P.M. All students will dismiss from school at noon. Please begin to invite your grandparents or adopt a special stand-in.

Juniors will be participating in the **PSAT** on Wednesday morning, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Please encourage your students to get plenty of rest and eat a healthy breakfast that day.

- The DCC Women's Retreat at Cannon Beach will occur September 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>.
- No school will be held October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> for teacher in-service.
- Juniors will take the PSAT on October 14<sup>th</sup>.
- An open forum with parents regarding technology and safety will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 P.M. in the library.
- **Grandparent's Day** will be October 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:15 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. School will dismiss at noon.
- Picture retakes will be available October 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Hearing and Vision Testing on October 27<sup>th</sup>
- Attend the DCC/DCS **Harvest Festival** on October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5 – 8 P.M.
- **Parent-teacher conferences** will be held November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. School will dismiss at noon on the 5<sup>th</sup> and will not occur at all on the 6<sup>th</sup>.
- No school will be held November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> for teacher in-service.
- Thanksgiving break will be November 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>.

## Staff Spotlight: Linda Louise Urbanowski (a.k.a Mrs. Urbal)



I very nervously began at Damascus Christian School the first day of the 1976-77 school year. I started as an aide to Mr. Rasmussen, and after three weeks, Mr. Oakley switched me to the 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> learning center. Feeling overwhelmed, I chose to trust what GOD had for me; for I had not been a Christian even a year at that time. In the 1977-78 school year, I began teaching 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade and high school speech. This continued for seven years, at which time I continued to pursue my college degree. I began teaching history the 1987-88 school year and have been at it ever since.

I am still excited to be at DCS. GOD is the one who has gifted me in the area of teaching and working with young people. HE has also given me the passion to reveal GOD through history, and it has been His strength that has kept me teaching through physical trials. To GOD be the glory!

## Financial Update

We are excited about using generated auctions funds to address issues related to technology and safety. We are currently reviewing our final steps to place Wi-Fi on the school and church campus, upgrade our firewall and install a new switch. These upgrades were greatly needed and will enable both staff and students more flexibility and mobility while safely accessing the intranet. We are also pursuing a couple of grants with the desire to meet additional needs of our staff and students as it relates to technology. Finally, we are meeting with School Guard, which 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. On October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 P.M. in the library, I will be holding an open forum to address finances, technology and school safety as I seek to manage our school resources to benefit our students the greatest.

## Outreach Opportunities

**DCC / DCS HARVEST FESTIVAL:** The annual Harvest Festival is coming up on Saturday, October 31st, from 5:00-8:00 P.M. This carnival-style festival provides hundreds of kids in our community with a fun and safe alternative to Halloween's trick-or-treating. The Harvest Festival houses over twenty games and booths, distributes thousands of pieces of candy, and welcomes many children who will experience the love of Christ through volunteers' joy and service. It is definitely our largest outreach to children in our community! So, plan to bring your whole family and enjoy a fun-filled night! There will also be flyers available to use as invitations for your friends and neighbors.



We need **volunteers** with a joyful heart and love for children to man the booths and food court. Volunteers will be showing God's love and grace to all those in attendance—eager children, parents, the fire department, and local businesses. If you would like to offer your services, please sign up. Manning a booth for an hour is a great opportunity to serve beside your children. Finally, this event would be nothing without **candy**. You may donate bags of individually-wrapped candy in the church foyer. Gently used **toys** can also be donated for the Toy Shoppe booth. Please contact Rachel Davidson (503)-290-9393 if you have questions.

## Sport and Extra-Curricular Highlights

The soccer, cross-country and volleyball seasons are well underway. Please check our website for game times and locations for all teams – 5-6<sup>th</sup> grade, junior high, and high school.

We are thrilled to announce that 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 stay tuned for more information related to our drama program.



### 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

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