

Follow us on Social Media!

DCS is now on several social media platforms, such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. We wish to keep parents and alumni informed about the latest things going on at DCS as well as market ourselves to prospective DCS families. Please stay abreast of all the wonderful things occurring at DCS by following one or all of these social media platforms and share them with your family and friends.

- Website: <http://www.dcs4you.org>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/dcs4you.org/>
- Twitter: DCS@DCSeagles
- Instagram: dcs_eagles



New Building News!

A series of videos about updates planned for our DCS/DCC facilities will be released in January. We thank Josh Buller—one of our wonderful parents—for putting the series together.

These videos will address a wide variety of topics about our aging building. The first in the series is an amazing testimony of the faith and generosity of those who built the current facilities or campus. Subsequent videos will address the concerns of our loved but deteriorating building. Ultimately, the videos will express the purpose for a new building and share an exterior view and floor plan of our proposed structure.



The image to the left portrays the footprint of the proposed building, which will be three stories high. The first floor would have a kitchen, offices, and a space for a cafeteria. The second floor would contain elementary classrooms, and the third floor would contain secondary classrooms.

The DCC Elders and staff covet your prayers for discernment as we continue to move forward in this process.

- Principal Zachary Davidson

Recent News

MAP Testing: DCS has completed and evaluated our first round of testing. Of the 38 tests taken by our 1st – 12th graders we scored above the nation average on 35 of them. Even more impressive was observing that our class average was more than a year ahead of where the national average is. This baseline data will serve our staff well as we examine growth trends as we move forward with the implementation of this tool.

Veteran's Day: We had the honor to invite veterans on to our campus on November 11th to honor their service and sacrifices. The afternoon's events included a video tribute, thank you cards, and songs by our elementary students. Our secondary students shared some thoughtful letters written for their *Patriot's Pen* and *Voice of Democracy* competitions. A video produced by our sophomore students highlighted several veterans who were interviewed at the VA hospital in Vancouver during their living classroom experience. We then adjourned to enjoy some desserts provided by DCC's military AMEN ministry. Honoring these brave men and women was another example of our students serving as the visible presence of Christ in our community. If you would like to support the AMEN ministry, contact Pastor Andy McClellan at DCC or shop at Safeway, who is a corporate sponsor for the military.



Scholastic Book and Craft Fair: Thanks to you, the Library Book Fair was a super success. Because of your support and encouragement, we were able to earn \$900 in Scholastic purchases for our library. This allows me to choose many new books for the kids to enjoy, as well as other library materials. From generous shoppers, our teachers received 30 new books as gifts from their Wish Lists. We had a fun time of cookies, crafts, storytellers and pajamas during our evening event. Most of all, kids were able to see the tangible value of ownership of good books. All of this helps them begin to understand and enjoy the love of reading!



Rejoicing, Linda Dennis (DCS Librarian)

Elementary October and November 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 months of October and November. Great job everyone!

	DAVID AWARD	SOLOMON AWARD	PAUL AWARD for PEACE
K	Luke Bemis	Christine Lupulescu	Alissa Ryan
1st	Brian Buller	Madison Searls	Carter Adler
2nd	Jason Lupulescu	Logan Lyons	Evan Goodin
3rd	Tay Balensifer	Natalie Marshall	Addie Buller
4th	Hailee Gianelli	Wyatt Sussman	Eva Ryan
5th	Cole Patrick	Ben McClellan	Sydney Sudaisar
6th	Ava Smith	Abbey Atkins	Sierra Hale
	DAVID AWARD	SOLOMON AWARD	PAUL AWARD for PATIENCE
K	Lindsey Lyons	Kyler Smith	Giselle Trost
1st	Joshua Zakharyuk	Jonathan Koval	Zachary Miller
2nd	Dakota Weber	Gavin Zeller	Lilya Wildman
3rd	Ethan Myers	Natalie Boyette	Gabriella Pappas
4th	Tori Myers	Michael Briece	Ernest Koval
5th	Samantha Boyette	Ace Eddleman	Caleb Davis
6th	Haley Botofan	Abbigayle Bailey	Haley Marshall

1st Quarter - 2016 Highest Honors and Honors

- 4th Grade -

Highest Honors:

Reece Miller
Kate Nelson
Georgia Bess
Wyatt Sussman

Honors:

Brayden Adler
Anna Berezanskaya
Natalie Collins
Ava Mai
Tori Myers
Devin Trost
Nick Yarnell

- 5th Grade -

Highest Honors:

Samantha Boyette
Esther Davidson

Honors:

Sarah Budey
Zachary Herdener
Gemma Kleve
Ransom Lorenzen
Ben McClellan
Cole Myers
Cole Patrick
Keira Roush
Will Sussman

- 6th Grade -

Highest Honors:

Abbey Atkins
Abbigayle Bailey
Hannah Gianelli
Natalie Gohman
Sierra Hale
Haley Marshall
Grae Miller
McKenna Phifer
Emily Werth

Honors:

Maksim Leontiy

Julia Mitchell

- 7th Grade -

Highest Honors:

Andrea Bogdan
Noah Carandanis
Tim Chepelevich
Carter Clear
Zachary Nelson
Emily Powers
Daniel Wilson

Honors:

Ben Green
Ian Gustafsson
Nathan Larson
Chloe Means
David Nacrelli

- 8th Grade -

Highest Honors:

Brooklyn Bresko
Savannah Hale
Nathan Henry
Nina Piscitello
Luke Sullins
Noelle Wakefield

Honors:

Isaac Layzell
Kayleigh MacGibbon
Melissa Manning
McKenna Patrick

- 9th Grade -

Highest Honors:

Axel Clear
Adrienne Mai
Keon Miller
Spencer Powers
Laura Rojas

Honors:

Katelyn Bailey
Caleb Carpenter
Ana Chepelevich

Sierra Ellis
Megan Gustafsson
Ally Love
Matthew Mitchell

- 10th Grade -

Highest Honors:

Shane Atkins
Lucas Nelson
Jonathan Shields
Samuel Titchenal

Honors:

Mason Cote
Tory Webb

- 11th Grade -

Highest Honors:

Micah Gandara
Anna Vanacore

Honors:

Michael Allen
Jared Bresko
Andrew Brown
Jackson Hill
Tyler Mai
Josh Mitchell
Ryan Patrick

- 12th Grade -

Highest Honors:

Jacob Atkins
Silas Marvin
Beau Moody
Moses Wakefield

Honors:

Kyle Butz
Gabe Coe
Joy Kendall
Arienne Mabano
Nicole Manning
Seth Murphy
Ally Paullin

AFTER-SCHOOL REMINDER: It is our desire here at DCS to keep your students safe and supervised at all times. Therefore, 7th – 12th grade students need to be either at practice, in the Library, or arrangements need to be made to meet with a teacher after school. There should be no unsupervised students on campus after school.

Upcoming Events

- DCS/DCC **Christmas Break:** Monday – Monday, December 19th – January 2nd (School resumes Tuesday, January 3rd.)
- Christmas Program at 6:30 P.M. in the Sanctuary: Thursday, January 5th
- DCS High School Final Exams: Wednesday – Thursday, December 4th – 5th
- End of 1st Semester: January 13th
- MLK Day, No School: January 16th
- High School Winter Banquet: Saturday, January 21st
- Spirit Week and Homecoming: Monday – Friday, January 30th – February 3rd

Staff Spotlight: Kristine Gandara



Hello, my name is Kristine Gandara, and this is my first year as the 4th grade teacher at DCS. From 2010-2016, I taught 6th grade at DCS, and right out of college, from 1991-1993, I was DCS's 1st grade teacher. DCS is the only school I have taught at full time.

I grew up going off and on to church, but it was not until I was in college that I truly understood what it meant to be a Christian. It was during my sophomore year that I committed myself to Christ, began growing in my relationship with the Lord, and got really involved in Campus Crusade for Christ. My degree is a BA in elementary education, K-8.

I have been married to my husband Shane for 23 years. We met at DCS when I was teaching 1st grade. Shane graduated from DCS in 1985. We have two children, Megan, who is almost 20 and graduated from DCS in 2015, and Micah, who is 17 and a junior at DCS.

I did not grow up going to a Christian school and therefore had no plans to teach at one. Consequently, I am so happy God directed my path to DCS. I could not ask for a better place to work or for a better place for my children to be students.

Besides 4th grade, I also teach Jazzercise at the Sunnyside grange on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at 5:45 A.M. On Saturdays, I teach at 8:00 A.M. The Lord is my true strength, but consistent exercise gives me a boost both physically and mentally.

I really am enjoying my first year as the 4th grade teacher. Change is challenging, but it also is beneficial. A new grade keeps me on my toes, helps me come up with fresh ideas, and keeps boredom far away. Again, I am so grateful to have found such a wonderful school, not a perfect place, but a place where God's values are alive and a Biblical worldview is taught.

Outreach Opportunities

Scrip Coordinator: If you are interested in serving as DCS's Scrip coordinator, please contact Pam Mattechek in the school office. The responsibilities include placing Scrip orders and disbursing orders once a week.

Elementary Chapel Worship Leader: DCS is also in need of a volunteer to come in on Wednesday mornings to lead worship for our elementary students. Chapel worship time usually runs from 8:20 - 8:40 A.M. If you are interested, contact the school office.

End-of-Year Giving: 2016 is quickly winding down. If you are looking for ministries to donate toward for your end-of-year giving, don't forget DCS. Our very own DCEF is a 501C3 foundation supporting the school ministry. You can give online and receive your tax deduction in no time.



Parent Alert

From Pastor Hardy:

Recently I was reminded by some printed pornographic photos “blowing in the wind” past our playground that, try as we do to protect our children, they will see unwanted images in our highly sexualized society. A walk through the mall confirms this reality. According to a source cited by Randy Alcorn ([link to article](#)), pornography consumption begins as young as age 8, and is readily available with almost unlimited internet access. Phones now allow for “sexting”, and children as young as fifth grade are sharing sexual “selfies”. Introduction to porn often occurs through peers sharing their discoveries. Their natural curiosity, and the prevalent opportunities now available, mean parents must discuss the issue with their kids in an age appropriate way.

Alcorn has written an important article, "**Parents: It's Time to Wake Up About Pornography, Sexting, and Your Children.**" We will provide copies for those interested (in the church office), or it may be found online at: www.epm.org/blog/2016/Nov/21/parents-wake-up-porn-sexting

He recommends the book Good Pictures, Bad Pictures by Kristen A. Jenson as a help in discussing this with young children, and we will make a copy of this book available in our library. Other resources are recommended for older children and teens.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the issue of pornography as it may relate to our school or other ministries, or if we can assist you as parents in dealing with this serious topic, please contact one of our pastoral staff or principal Davidson.

Sport and Extra-Curricular Highlights

Winter Sports: Our fall sports have winded down as basketball begins to wind up. Please check our website for game times and locations for all teams – 5-6th grade, junior high, and high school. We look forward to seeing your face in the crowd supporting 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

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