

Comet Community Chronicle

Moving Forward with Promise

November 1, 2019

Dear Fellow Comets,

Promise.

An important word when given by someone. Today, I want to share how the district has honored their promise to you as parents, community members and taxpayers. At the most recent Board meeting, we have fulfilled another promise to you.

During the summer of 2018, Mr. Klein, our Business Administrator, and I shared with the community our promise on how the November 2018 Operational Referendum would be spent. We outlined how we would reduce class sizes and hire staff. We promised we would purchase curriculum materials, computers for students, and equipment for the Career and Tech. labs in the High School. And, we promised the tax levy impact would be \$75.00 for \$100,000 home value.

I proudly share with you that we have accomplished all of these promises!

Promises are important. When accomplished they create trust. I find nothing more rewarding than to lead the Delavan-Darien School District back to a sense of Pride, Accomplishment, and Achievement. I thank you for your support and commitment in this work.

On a different note, with the early snowfall, I encourage you to double check and verify that your information is correct in your Parent Portal allowing you to receive a call if/when school will be closed or delayed. For example, if we delay school by 2 hours, then buses would pick up your child precisely 2 hours after their normal pick-up time. While we have not delayed school in years, it is something that I will institute to hopefully ensure we do not need to make-up days in June as the state requires a certain number of instructional minutes per year. Finally, school closings or delays will be posted on our school website and on our Facebook page. We will conduct a test of the calling system on Wednesday, Nov. 6th by Noon. If you do not receive a call, please notify your child's school.

Comet Proud,

Jill Sorbie, EdD

District Administrator / Director of Instruction

jsorbie@ddschoools.org



Comet Community Chronicle

Moving Forward with Promise

November 1, 2019

High School

Delavan-Darien High School had an amazing October with a lot of students gaining real world experiences through a variety of field trips. Ms. Gurholt & Mrs. Simpson took our Bridges students to the McClellan Farm to learn about the various jobs around the farm and potential future careers.



The Technology Education Metals I classes toured Swiss-Tech, LLC

in Delavan and Gateway Technical College in Elkhorn. We had 35 students sign up for the manufacturing tours. Students were eager to learn about the world of manufacturing and post-secondary options. Students that attended



were all interested in possibly pursuing a career in the manufacturing sector. We would like to thank Swiss-Tech, LLC, Gateway Technical College, and the Walworth County Economic Development Alliance for teaching our students about the manufacturing sector and post-secondary opportunities.



Our Hospitality Management class was able to tour the Apple Barn for an amazing opportunity to see and experience a tourist attraction through the perspective of the owners and employees! The owner, Judy Jacobsen, taught students all about the process of running such a prominent tourist attraction in the Delavan area. Her insight was perfect for the class as it reinforced the

content students had been learning and will be working on in the future. Thank you to the Apple Barn for providing such a valuable learning experience!

The Interior Design class was able to visit Curate as well. Thanks to the mentorship of the owner and staff, the students were able to work in two teams to compete for the job

Comet Community Chronicle

Moving Forward with Promise

November 1, 2019

of designing a living room for a potential client. Each team presented their design to the staff, who eventually chose the winning design and rendered it using a computer program to show the students what their design will look like in real life. The students truly learned a lot and put their content knowledge into practice while having a fun time exploring design options and gaining experience in the industry. We feel fortunate to have such an amazing and welcoming local business in Curate to partner with for our program!



Mrs. Jordan's Introduction to Health Occupations course had the opportunity to travel to Mercyhealth Hospital. The day was a huge success as students were able to visit with the HR manager for Mercyhealth Hospital and a nursing representative to explore various career

options in the medical field, the job shadow coordinator to start the job shadow process if they are interested, and 21 college representatives to see the options available to them after they graduate high school. Students were able to build relationships with both Mercyhealth professionals and colleges all over the Midwest! To make it even better, every industry professional present, including the event coordinator from Mercyhealth, raved about the excellent behavior and communication skills each student had while at the event. They were extremely impressed with the Delavan-Darien students.



Mrs. Salamone was able to successfully host a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aide) event on the night of conferences, allowing 22 of our seniors to successfully submit their FAFSA applications. We will be offering another workshop in the future due to

the success of this event. We had many elated parents as a result of their success!



We also hosted our 2nd Annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, adding several more DDHS Alumni to our recognition wall of former graduates that are making a difference in our society and making our community

Comet Community Chronicle

Moving Forward with Promise

November 1, 2019

proud. The nine new inductees are Tim Tully (Class of , Keiya Square (Class of 2000), Shane Koehl (Class of , David Kraayeveld (Class of 1973), Stacey Sawtelle Vohra (Class of 1998), Tom Scharfenberg (Class of , Ryan DeBuck (Class of 2001), Michael Buzzell (Class of 1969), Roxanne (Grabow) Armstrong (Class of 1979)

We are thankful to all the community organizations that have supported the growth of our students, while also being excited about future opportunities that will be provided as the year proceeds.

Please consider joining us at many of our upcoming events and activities listed below. We look forward to starting our winter sports and activity seasons as the fall season draws to a close. Currently, we have our girls swimming and boys soccer still competing to conclude their sports seasons and wish them much success as they close out their seasons.

November Calendar of Events for DDHS

Friday, November 1 - No School (Teacher In-Service)

Monday, November 4 - Community Collaboration (6 PM / Quad 147)

Monday, November 11 - Veteran's Day Assembly (9 AM / Gymnasium)

Monday, November 11 - Fall Pops Concert (7 PM / Auditorium)

Friday, November 15 - 1st Quarter Progress Reports Posted to Infinite Campus

Wednesday, November 20 - Reality Fair (students only)

Wed-Fri, November 27-29 - Thanksgiving Break

Phoenix Middle School

October 24th was our fall conference night where parents dropped in to meet teachers and discuss student progress. If you were unable to attend, please take a moment to sit with your child and review their grades. Students can go on Infinite Campus to share grades and assignments. This is a powerful tool to share with your son and daughter to discuss academic performance. Download the free App for parent portal on your cell phone. In the settings you can set your alerts to be notified whenever an assignment is entered or set it to a certain grade threshold!

Comet Community Chronicle

Moving Forward with Promise

November 1, 2019



On October 25th Phoenix held our annual Monster Bash. This year, the costumes were truly amazing. Students, danced, ate pizza, played in the gym and enjoyed a hay-ride provided by Sandy and Jim Huff. In November we will hold our 5th grade activity night. The money raised during the activity night for grade 5 will go towards the annual spring trip to Miller Park!

Darien Elementary

The winds are blowing and the leaves are changing. Must be fall! October is such a beautiful time of year as we see students working hard in and out of the classrooms every day.

As stated last month, we are working to have students attend 95% or more of the school days this year. We had 182 of the 220 students attend 95% or more of the days in September. We want to encourage you to send your child to school unless they are ill. And if they go to a medical appointment (doctor, dentist, counselor/therapist, etc.) please send a verified doctor note with your child upon their return.

Family Conference Night was held recently and parents had a chance to sign up for individual parent teacher conferences. If you haven't signed up for a parent teacher conference, please contact your child's teacher. Conferences are Tuesday, Oct. 29th

from 4:00-7:00pm and Thursday, November 7th from 4:00-7:00pm. Teachers will explain your child's progress on the MAP assessment as well as each academic area and their behavior.

As the year continues, we plan to have community members visit our school and our



Comet Community Chronicle

Moving Forward with Promise

November 1, 2019

students to get out into the community. Recently some of our students enjoyed having Officer Mike read a social skills story to them regarding answering the door.

Our third graders hosted Fire Inspector Allyn Hackett as he spoke about fire safety. Students in our Bridges classroom also enjoyed a visit to the Darien Ice Cream Shoppe while they worked on many social skills. Thank you to each of these community partners!



All students have received information about our upcoming Veterans Day assembly which will be held on Nov. 11th at 2:15 in the Darien School gym. If you know of a Veteran who would like to join us, please let us know. We will reach out to them personally. It is an honor to recognize all who have served.



Upcoming events at Darien:

Oct. 29th Parent Teacher Conferences from 4:00-7:00pm

Nov. 1st No School for students-Teacher inservice

Nov. 7th Parent Teacher Conferences from 4:00-7:00pm

Nov. 11th Veterans Day assembly in Darien gym at 2:15pm

Nov. 26th End of 1st Trimester

Nov. 27-29th No School (Happy Thanksgiving!)

Turtle Creek Elementary

Thank you to all our families that recently attended the Family Conference Night! We appreciate you taking the time to come to build that partnership with your child's teacher. We will be running the 1:1 family conferences as a follow up from now until Thanksgiving Break. If you do not have a time scheduled to meet with your child's teacher, please reach out to set this up. Your child took the NWEA Map assessment this Fall and the scores, along with other classroom assessments, will be shared at this time. Please consider asking the following during your conference:

- How is my child performing academically?
- Is my child able to complete the assigned work in a timely manner?
- Does my child treat others with respect and have friendships?
- What can I continue to work on at home?

Comet Community Chronicle

Moving Forward with Promise

November 1, 2019



Firestation while our 5K DL team went to the Animal Gardens. It is a great opportunity to build background knowledge and bridge student learning!

Turtle Creek also hosted the Harvest Hullabaloo which was put on by staff from Turtle Creek, Aram Public Library and Parks and Rec. It was a great turnout and look forward to doing this again next year!



A few teams have also had the chance to go on a few field trips this month to tie to their academic learning. Our 5K Mono teams had the chance to visit the

4K Outreach this month was “Boo-Bowling” at Delavan Lanes. Students could dress up in their costumes and enjoy bowling with their friends and families! We encourage all our 4K families to attend these events since we do not have school that day!

Upcoming Events at TC:

11/1: No School due to teacher inservice

11/6: Picture retake day!

11/19: Seal A Smile @ TC

11/20: 4K outreach-No regularly scheduled classes

11/26: End of 1st Trimester

11/27-11/29: Thanksgiving Break-No School