

Dyersburg City Schools  
School Board Meeting  
December 1, 2025  
Location: Central Office  
5:30

The Dyersburg City School Board met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. at the Central Office. Jim Coy Houston opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance. The other School Board members present for the meeting were: Courtney Patrick, Gleya Twilla, Mike Hickman, Dr. Scott Self, and Whitney Allmon Absent: Carlos Doss

The following consent items were approved by the board with a motion from Dr. Scott Self, and a second from Mike Hickman:

Consent Items

- Tonight's Agenda
- Last Month's Minutes
- DHS FFA, 12/4/25-12/10/25, Las Vegas, NV, High School Rodeo
- DMS Dance, 1/24/26, Henderson, KY, Regional Competition

New Business

- Mrs. Tina Joslin, along with 5th-grade students Curtis Cahill and Aiden Parr-McCraven, presented their Rough Country Grant project to the Board. The students conducted a live experiment showcasing materials purchased through the Rough Country Mini Grant.
- Mrs. Worley presented the proposed 2026–2027 school calendar (attached), noting that Graduation is scheduled for May 14, 2027. Following Board discussion, a motion by

Scott Self and a second by Whitney Allmon, the calendar was approved unanimously.

- Mrs. Julie Norville presented the 2025-2026 Teachers of the Year:
  - DPS – Rachele Morgan - 17<sup>th</sup> year in education. Has taught K, 1,2 and 4<sup>th</sup> grade
    - Mrs. Rachele Morgan was chosen as our Teacher of the Year because she leads with heart, purpose, and unwavering dedication. Her first graders thrive because she creates a classroom where curiosity is encouraged, confidence is built, and every child knows they are valued. Her strong communication with families ensures that students are supported both at school and at home.
  - DIS – Meaghan Hicks – 7<sup>th</sup> year as a Special Education teacher
    - Every day Meaghan Hicks shows up for her students with kindness, encouragement, and a true dedication to helping them grow and succeed. Her classroom is a place where students feel valued, supported, and challenged to reach their full potential. Meaghan's passion for teaching shines through in everything she does, making a lasting impact on each child she encounters.
  - DMS – Jennifer Douglas - 11<sup>th</sup> year. Has taught K, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and now 6<sup>th</sup> ELA
    - "Mrs. Douglas is deeply committed to helping all students grow academically. She consistently holds both herself and her students to high expectations, and she prioritizes building strong, supportive relationships in her classroom. Her time on task in the classroom is exceptionally effective, ensuring students remain engaged.

Mrs. Douglas also helps DMS by being a part of the morning tutoring/detention program, and is always willing to work the gate at any ballgame. DMS admin and staff are very appreciative for all the things Mrs. Douglas does for her students and school."

- DHS – Sara Hardee - 15<sup>th</sup> year as Special Ed teacher. Serves as the Lead Sped teacher at DHS.
  - Sara Hardee has a true passion for helping every single student who walks through her door succeed. She believes deeply in their potential and challenges them each day to be the best version of themselves. With a supportive spirit and high expectations, she creates a classroom environment where students feel encouraged, valued, and motivated to grow.

**Policies: Policies** (4.406-4.805) were reviewed with no changes.

## STUDENT SUCCESSES:

DHS:

Congratulations to the newest members of the DHS ACT 30+ Club:

Kruse Carson

Judi-Kaye Justice

Elizabeth Lemons

Brynlee Seay

Congratulations to the following DHS student-athletes for signing to continue their careers at the collegiate level:

Chelby Jordan- Belmont University, women's basketball

Izzie Odom- Dyersburg State Community College, softball

Congratulations to the following members of DHS FFA at the Regional Livestock Evaluation:

Scarlett Hollingsworth, Ann Thomas Lowery, and Jill Meadows GraceAnn Webb-

REGIONAL CHAMPS!

Ann Thomas Lowery- High scoring individual, out of over 200 students!

Congratulations to the following seniors who placed in the JAG Tennessee competitions:

Chloe Baker- 1st place for Public Speaking

Dariel Figueroa-Ramos- 2nd place for Financial Literacy

Ann Thomas Lowery- 2nd place for Employability Skills

Adrian Serquina- 3rd place for Financial Literacy

Congratulations to D'Quarte Rivers and Brynlee Seay who were honored as WTVMEA All-Northwest Honor Choir Five-Year Award Recipients!

Congratulations to the following students who made the 2025 WTVMEA All-Northwest Junior High Honor Choir:

Jacob Cook

JulieAnn Cundiff

Evelyn Garcia

Julia Hamilton

Ally Hinson

Zoe Paschall

Congratulations to the following students who made the 2025 WTVMEA All-Northwest Senior High Honor Choir:

Owen Bona

Chloe Bruce

Jackson Byler

Peyton Byler

Armani Carter

Marleigh Grant

Maria Hurst

Quentin Jackson

Judi-Kaye Justice

D'Quarte Rivers

Brynlee Seay

Isaac Smith

Isaiah Thomas

Ronnie Williams

DMS:

Congratulations to all of the Dyersburg Middle School students who participated at Youth in Government! Everyone did an outstanding job and represented our school well!

Outstanding delegate are given recognition based on the following criteria:

- Their use of proper parliamentary procedure
- Being cooperative & respectful in their approach to legislation and peers
- Having a Positive Attitude
- Using Excellent Communication skills
- And embodying the core components of the YMCA, honesty, caring, respect and responsibility.

Congratulations to the following student who were recognized as outstanding delegates:

Red Senate: Natalia Martinez, Reese Seratt, Raine Shearon, Aven Sherrod, Sadie Whittle

White House: Cohen Ayers, Bailee Bird, Walker Dunn, Brooklyn Noblin

Blue House: Chandler Bruce, Ann Elizabeth Davis, Lynnlee Houston, Emilio Martin, Maddie White

Outstanding bills are given recognition based on the following criteria:

- Innovation
- Feasibility
- Statewide impact
- Correct written format
- And content that demonstrates the YMCA core values of Honesty, Caring, Respect and Responsibility.

Congratulations to the following groups who were recognized as having outstanding bills:

- Andrew Phelps, Braxton Anderson, Liam Portee
- Ellie Huynh, Maddie White
- Jonathan Dudley, Jaxson Redmon, Daniell Farrell
- Arely Torres, Natalia Martinez
- Sadie Whittle
- Raine Shearon, Ben Davis
- Hattie Minton, Reese Seratt

- Tinley Newsom, Katherine Rogers
- Baley Eno, Kalie Thurmond, Michaela Dorse
- Nolan Baker, Tanner Riney, Calob Winstead
- Brooklyn Noblin, Lilly Hicks

## Trojans of the Week

### 6th

"Be somebody who makes everybody feel like a somebody." — Kid President  
6B's Trojan of the Week does just that. He is the kind of student who makes our school a brighter, happier place! He's always smiling, always kind, and always ready to lend a hand. Whether he's helping a classmate, greeting teachers in the hallway, or cheering on his friends, his positive attitude never goes unnoticed. Our Trojan of the Week is not just an outstanding student. He's an active member of our school community—playing basketball, participating in the Plus 1 program, and planning to join esports. Outside of school, he continues to lead by example. He's involved in his church's youth group and volunteers his time coaching his little brother's basketball and flag football teams. His dedication, patience, and big heart shine both on and off the court! This student is a team player in every sense of the word—encouraging others, including everyone, and doing whatever is asked with a smile. We're so proud to celebrate Bo as our Trojan of the Week.

### 7th

7th grade just completed their Living Wax Museum projects, where students researched and became historical figures who have overcome adversity in the face of overwhelming obstacles. Among those on "display" was the late, great Coach Pat Summitt, who once said, "Here's how I am going to beat you. I am going to outwork you. That's it. That's all there is to it." And while she was talking about the game of basketball, and later applied it to her own obstacles in life, it just so happens to apply to 7B's Trojan of the Week as well. She is one who works harder - achieving honor roll so far in 7th grade while meeting AR and Zearn goals; she maintains her composure- both in the classroom and on the soccer field, where she is a competitive athlete in her own right, AND she just so happened to have portrayed Coach Pat Summitt in 7B's wax museum. Congratulations

to Annslee, our Trojan of the Week! 7B is so proud of your determination, hard work, and kindness you show every day. We cannot wait to see what all you accomplish as you continue striving for your goals. Way to go!

#### 8th

Gavyn is the 8th grade TOW. Gavyn is an outstanding student who leads with character, integrity, and a strong work ethic. Gavyn is dependable, hardworking, and always gives his best—whether in the classroom or out on the football field. Gavyn sets a great example for others and is a true leader and role model at our school! We are so proud of you Gavyn and how you represent DMS!

#### 6th

"There may be people that have more talent than you, but there's no excuse for anyone to work harder than you do." - Derek Jeter "The Captain"

6C's Trojan of the Week truly embodies the spirit of hard work and dedication. Whether in the classroom or on the field, this young man consistently gives his best—striving to grow, support his classmates, and uplift his teammates. A true leader demonstrates integrity, self-awareness, courage, respect, compassion, and resilience—and he displays each of these qualities with pride. His determination and gratitude shine through, even when faced with challenges. Congratulations to 6C's Trojan of the Week, Evan.

#### 7th

Stephen Hawking said, "Quiet people have the loudest minds," and this statement is so true for Team 7C's Trojan of the Week, Kalie. Kalie may be quiet, but she is a bright, motivated, and creative student who stands out both academically and artistically. She has a genuine love for learning that shows in each of her classes as she consistently excels, placing her on the Golden Honor Roll. Whether she is analyzing a story, solving a complex math problem, or retaining much information in science and social studies classes, Kalie approaches every task with focus and determination. These attributes have also earned Kalie a spot in Plus 1 class. Kalie's teachers really do admire her ability to think critically, write thoughtfully, and articulate her ideas clearly during class discussions as she also exhibits kindness and leadership, always willing to help classmates and her teachers, too. Kalie, we are so proud of you, and Team 7C is a better place because of you.

## 8th

Our TOW is involved in cheer, choir, and trying out for the DMS softball team.

Our student may be quiet, but it's not about being loud, but about being influential through quiet strength, introspection, and a focus on empowering others. Her thoughtful approach, consistent effort, and willingness to support her peers demonstrate that influence isn't measured by volume, but by authenticity and purpose. She radiates positivity, always staying calm and cheerful, even under stress. We are so happy to have Selena on our team! Congratulations, Selena!

## 6th Grade

On this Thanksgiving Break Eve, Team 6A is so thankful for all of our students, but especially our TOW. Golden Honor Roll student, football player, ESports, Energy Club, and Student Advisory member...our TOW has it all! No matter where you see our TOW, he will be kind, helpful, and working hard. In the classroom, he is an example for his peers in his work ethic, behavior, and academic excellence. He holds himself to the highest standard, and achieves it each day! This kid also has a great sense of humor and is ready to help classmates and teachers in any way. He is wise and mature beyond his years, and stands up for what is good, right, and true. We look forward to seeing him succeed in big ways. We are so proud of you, Charlie! Go be great!

## 7th Grade

7A's Trojan of the Week is a quick-witted seventh grader who somehow manages to keep his teachers laughing and still get his work done! In class, he jumps into discussions, asks great questions, and helps his peers when needed. He makes sure to get his AR goal early and stays determined to do his best work possible. On the football field, he works hard, hustles, and keeps his teammates motivated. He's also active in his church youth group, where he brings the same mix of humor and heart. We love having Hayes on 7A and we are so proud of the way you represent us!

## 8th Grade

This person is a responsible, hardworking, reliable, and respectful student. She is always prepared in class and works diligently to make good grades. She sets the standard high for what academic achievement can look like in all of her classes.



Guadalupe is a great example of a Trojan of the Week, and 8A is so lucky to have her on our team!

#### DIS:

##### New Beta Inductees:

4th Grade: Adrian Gonzalez, Alani Wright, Amariah Porter-Smith, Arden Brent, Bennett Brooks, Briley Fair, Brylan Triplett, Carter Bartlett, Charlotte Gatlin, Declan Mackey, Eli Kellar, Ellie Holt, Ellis Johnson, Emma Capps, Harper Holt, Houston Ford, Jai'vian Lake, Jamyla Spain, Jett Burns, Justice Coman, Justice Robinson, Katherine Brandy, Kiarra Thomas, Kylan Morgan, Liam McCoy, Logan Presley, Londyn Junior, Lynleigh Goff, Maddox Franklin, Makenna McCord, Mary Burks Garner, Melissa Blanco, Meshva Patel, Miguel Garcia, Miller Baker, Mitchell Dishman, Nolen Bartlett, Olivia Baker, Olivia Caldwell, Olivia Thompson, Piper Bohannon, Sawyer Dudley, Sebastian Ramirez, Tey'von Adams, Ty Newsom, Willa Shelton, William Keiser, Wyatt Hanks, Xanni Suan, Ella Goldsmith, Rayah Simmons, Kathia Placencia-Ponce, Kyrie Fowlkes

5th Grade: Alauna Pounders, Avery Peckenpaugh, Bailey Howell, Britley Wiggins, Cade Patterson, Curtis Cahill, Evelyn Davis, Everett Patterson, Farrah Vaughn, Hadley Hardee, Harrison Noel, Ivy Holmes, Jake Baskin, Karter Coe, Kashon Nance, Carter Sakarelos, Preston Smith, Rebekah Green, Retal Suleiman, Sophia Zacarias

##### Top Runners for the Cross Country Season:

Cora Jackson, Mason Fussell, Tucker Jackson, Jacob Gadlage, Sebastian Ramirez

##### Trojans of the Week:

Week of October 13: Kenslee Hadley, Alexander Sierra, Ari Perryman

Week of October 20: Hunter Spoon, Braylie Williams, Mary Burks Garner

Week of October 24: Katelyn Palmer, Jodeci Arnold, Jordan Fesmire

Week of Nov 3-7: Hadley Hardee, Justice Coman, Silas Carroll

Week of Nov 10-14: Kinzlee McCoy, Xanni Suan, and Jake Owens

Trojans of the Week for Nov 17-21: Rashad Lanier, Jamyla Spain, Lizbet Lopez

DPS

- DPS students who won the first annual DCS Christmas Card Designs: Maddie, Amelia, Darrell, Haddie and Chiara.
- Classrooms created their favorite book character pumpkins for our DPS Pumpkin Parade! What a great day it was topped off that evening with their pumpkins on display at our Fall Into Reading Night. Attendees loved the book readings and activities shared by DPS and really enjoyed seeing all the pumpkins on display!
- Our Terrific Team Members for the month of October:
  - October 17th - Speech Department
  - October 24th - Kindergarten Teachers
  - October 31st - Office Staff
- We had a successful first awards day on October 24th with lots of student recognition!
- Book Fair week was amazing and in conjunction with our Parent/Teacher Conferences
- We had a great time on October 31st with our Pumpkins and Pajamas theme day! Students and staff were able to wear pajamas to school and have treats throughout the day! Our Admin came around with the Pumpkin Cart to all staff and let us blind draw from the pumpkin for prizes! It was a great day!

#### 2025-2026 School Board Meeting Dates:

January 5, 2026 - CO

Feb. 2, 2026 - CO

Feb. 20, 2026 - School Board

Retreat Begin at 1 p.m.

Mar 2, 2026 - CO

April 6, 2026 - CO

May 4, 2026 - DHS - TOY and

Retirement Dinner to follow

Jun 1, 2026 - CO

July 6, 2026 - CO

#### 2025-2026 School Board Meeting Dates:

Nov. 13 - Nov. 16, 2025 - TSBA Annual

Convention in Nashville

Dec. 1, 2025 - CO

January 5, 2026 - CO

Feb. 2, 2026 - CO

Feb. 20, 2026 - School Board Retreat

Begin at 1 p.m.

Mar 2, 2026 - CO  
April 6, 2026 - CO

May 4, 2026 - DHS - TOY and Retirement  
Dinner to follow

### Adjournment

With Board approval, Dr. Scott Self made a motion to adjourn.

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Director of Schools

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School Board Chairman