

>>> NEWSLETTER <<<

DYERSBURG CITY SCHOOLS CTE

A Tradition of Excellence



DCS CTE: WHERE YOU ARE GIVEN ROOTS TO GROW AND WINGS TO FLY.

EXPERIENCE EDUCATION LIKE NEVER BEFORE: FALL CTE TOURS

This Fall, Dyersburg City Schools is excited to open our doors for CTE tours at DIS, DMS, and DHS. From our youngest learners to our high school students preparing for their futures, we are proud to showcase the incredible opportunities happening across our schools. Education today looks very different than it did years ago. Our students now have access to some of the top programs and hands-on experiences in the state, beginning at an early age. We want our families, community members, and academic partners to see firsthand the innovation, hard work, and passion that our students and staff bring to learning every day. We are building the future of our community, and we can't wait to show you what we've got!

— Kim Yeiter, CTE Director & Kim Worley, Director of Schools

CTE FOR ALL STUDENTS. ACROSS ALL GRADES.

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EXPLORE HOW DCS STARTS CTE EDUCATION IN 3-5

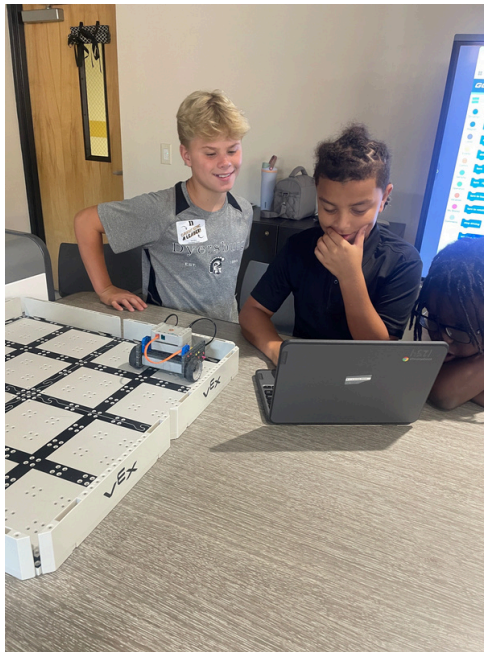
>>> DYERSBURG INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Dyersburg Intermediate School is paving the way for student success with our innovative Career Clubs program, starting as early as 3rd grade! Through this one-of-a-kind experience, students explore a variety of career pathways by choosing several clubs to participate in each year through 5th grade. From agriculture to robotics, cooking to journalism, and everything in between, every club is led by our talented teachers and staff, giving students a creative outlet and real-world inspiration during the week. Our mission is to plant seeds for the future, encouraging post-secondary education through college or technical school, or preparing students to step confidently into the workforce. By providing hands-on opportunities and personal mentorship, we're helping every child grow, discover their passions, and flourish in their own way and time.



This year in the DIS STEM lab, students have kicked off their learning by diving into the engineering design process. They have explored how engineers plan, test, and improve their ideas, applying this process to real-world challenges. To start, students built and tested water turbines while studying the Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) use of hydropower, making connections between classroom learning and local energy resources. They also experimented with renewable energy by creating miniature windmills, seeing firsthand how design adjustments impact performance.

In addition to energy-focused projects, students have been working with VEX GO robotics. They built rovers and then used coding to program the robots to complete specific tasks, combining both engineering and computer science skills. These activities not only teach problem-solving and collaboration but also give students a hands-on introduction to the future of technology.



DIS SMART AND SAFE

Junior Medical Academy students stepped into the shoes of real doctors this nine weeks! They explored how to work with hospital beds and medical equipment while practicing hands-on medical scenarios. This exciting experience gave them a glimpse into the world of healthcare and the vital skills it takes to care for patients.



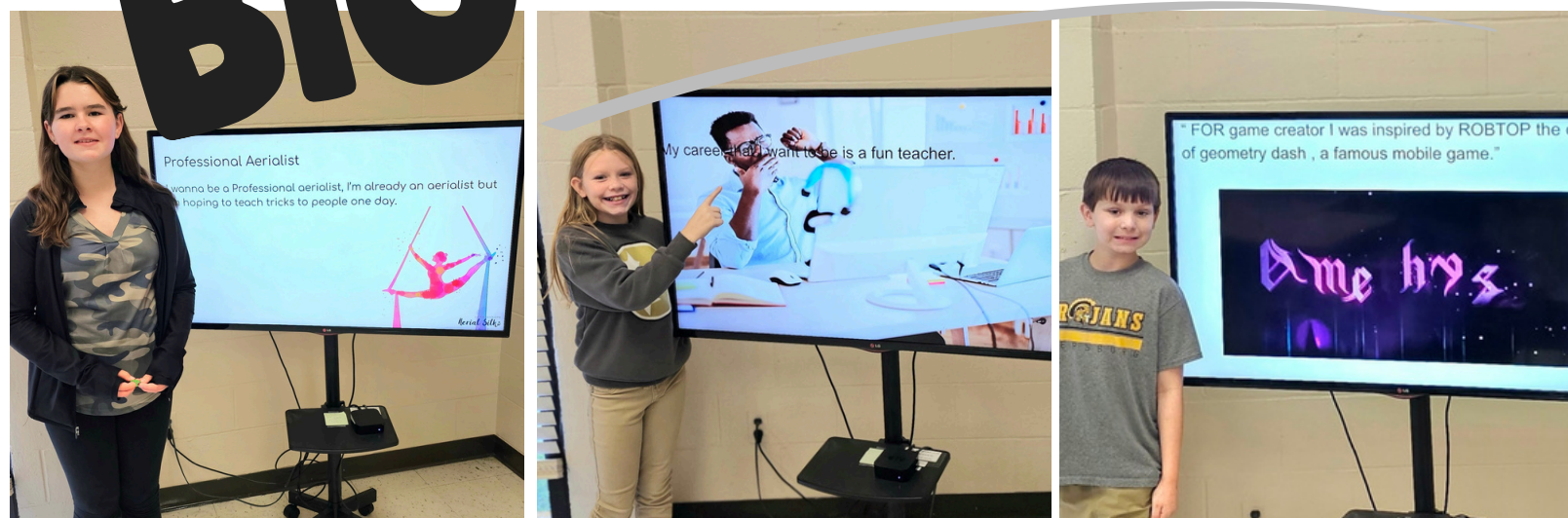
Dyersburg Intermediate School (DIS) has an immersive career exploration program with up to 5 weeks of active learning for students in grades 3-5. The DIS Career Exploration activity class helps students discover how "Careers are Everywhere" by connecting classroom activities to real career options, both locally and globally. By exploring diverse pathways, students can match their interests and skills to future career possibilities. This experience enables students to dream big, connect classroom learning to real-world careers, and understand the importance of ongoing skill development.

Students have been busy exploring how "Careers are Everywhere" and learning how their favorite activities, interests, and skills could easily translate into a career in the workforce or entrepreneurship. Classroom dialogue, self-assessments, and career presentations have kept the students' interest in graduating high school and furthering their education to thrive in their dream job.



DREAM BIG

WORK HARD



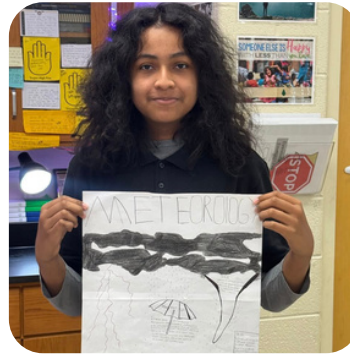
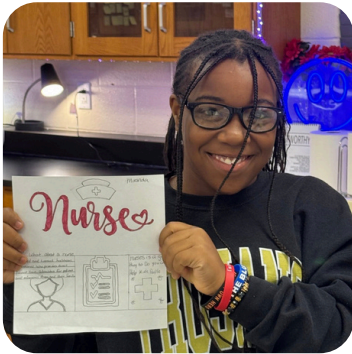
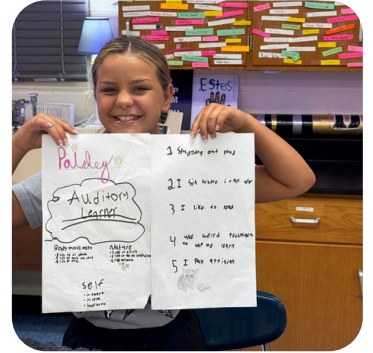
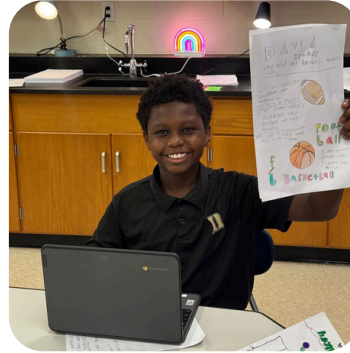
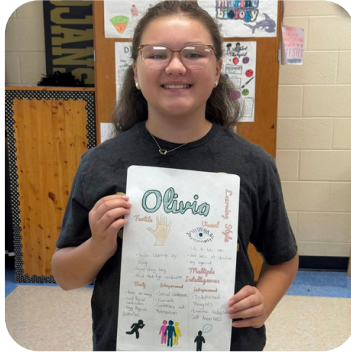
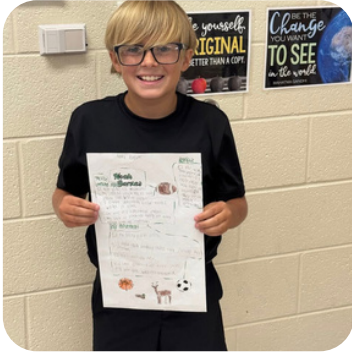
DYERSBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL

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➤➤➤ DMS CAREER EXPLORATION

DMS students in Career Exploration have been hard at work! Our 6th graders wrapped up projects focused on discovering their natural strengths and abilities. They explored learning styles, personality traits, and multiple intelligences to better understand how they learn and what makes them unique.

Meanwhile, our 8th graders dove into postsecondary planning and career exploration. Through interest inventories and interactive surveys, they identified career pathways and future plans tailored to their strengths and passions.



➤➤➤ DMS DIGITAL MEDIA ARTS

Students from Dyersburg Middle School's CTE Digital Arts Program once again captured the spotlight at this year's Dyer County Fair, earning top honors in the Youth Photography division. Under the coordination of second-year teacher Chris Dishman, the talented group of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders proudly submitted 57 entries, earning an impressive 46 First Place ribbons and 11 Second Place ribbons. This success builds on last year's inaugural showing, when students brought home 70 First Place and 22 Second Place ribbons, underscoring their continued hard work, talent, and dedication. The entries reflected not only technical skill, but also creativity, determination, and unique perspectives on campus life and the world around them, with each photograph telling its own story. Dishman praised his students' commitment, noting that their achievements reflect both artistic ability and the pride they put into their work. Now in its second year, the CTE Digital Arts Program at DMS continues to grow, offering students hands-on opportunities to explore photography, design, and creative expression—successfully preparing them for a bright future in the arts.



Discover
more



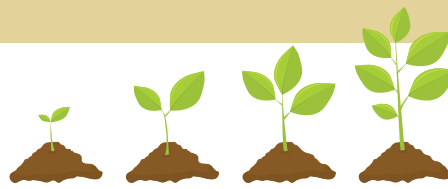
At Dyersburg Middle School, STEM students have been hard at work putting their skills to the test through hands-on challenges that push their creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork.

Our 7th grade STEM students took on the exciting challenge of building the tallest freestanding tower using 3D pens and building a device that is capable of picking up a ping pong ball. Through these activities, students quickly learned the value of the engineering design process, especially why having a solid plan is important before jumping into construction. Their designs showcased creativity, resilience, and a competitive edge as they tested their towers against one another.

In just four short weeks our 8th grade students built two different robots, learned to code and program them, and successfully completed multiple driving challenges. Along the way, they demonstrated outstanding teamwork, creative troubleshooting, and incredible determination.



>>> DMS AG



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DMS FFA has been on the move since starting back to school. Students have been finding success both in the show ring and at contests.

Our Horse Judging team traveled to Martin and placed 3rd in the Regional Contest. During the Dyer County Fair week our students could be found volunteering all week from handing out ribbons at livestock shows to spending their Friday morning at Youth Day teaching kids how to care for sheep. This year our members were given the opportunity to attend the Greenhand/COLT conference and further develop their leadership skills.

In the classroom, students have been working on designing a landscape for the water garden and learning about propagation methods. And the greenhouse... students have been growing pansies and violas for fall pots and have already started the ferns that will be sold at our spring plant sale!!!



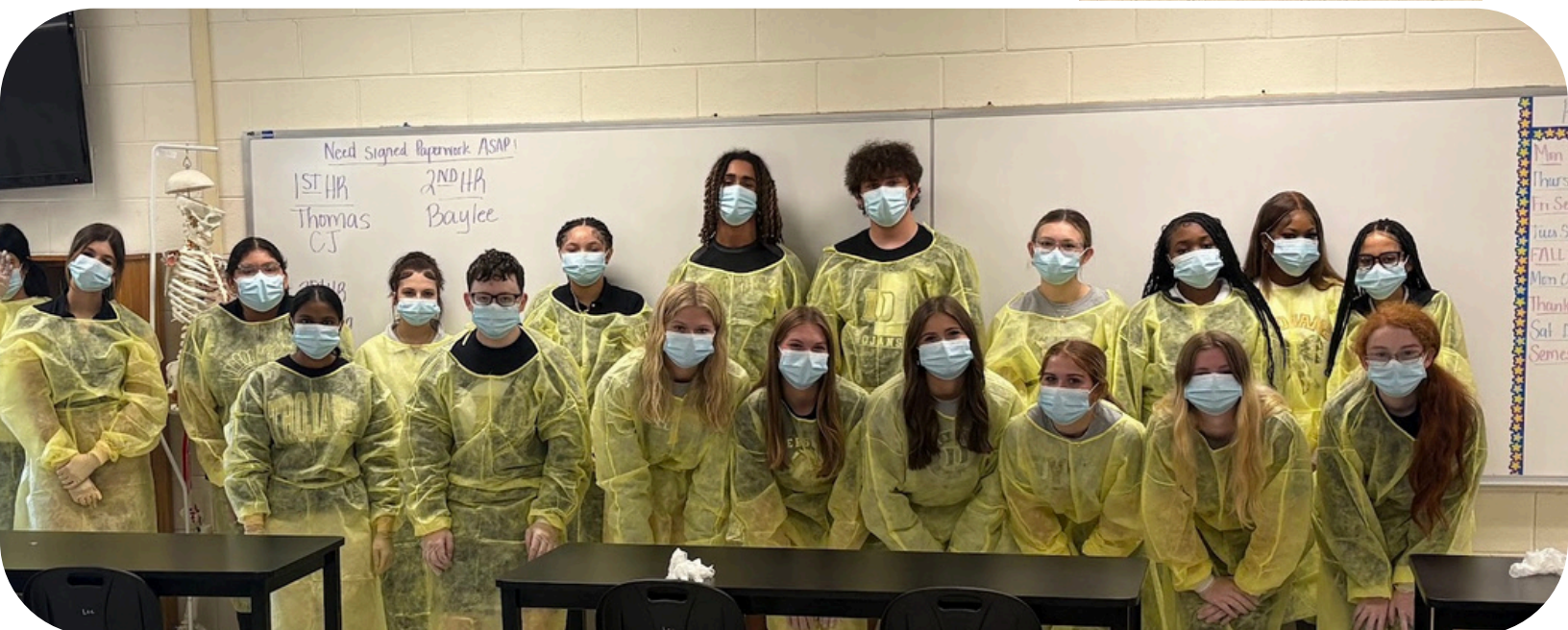
DYERSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

»»» DHS JOURNALISM

The Trojan Torch, our student-run newspaper, has a brand-new look! The site recently received a makeover, making it easier than ever to stay connected with what's happening at DHS. Our student journalists are working hard to publish stories more quickly and cover even more of the exciting events, achievements, and activities across our school. Be sure to check back each week for fresh content and new stories at dhstrojantorch.com.

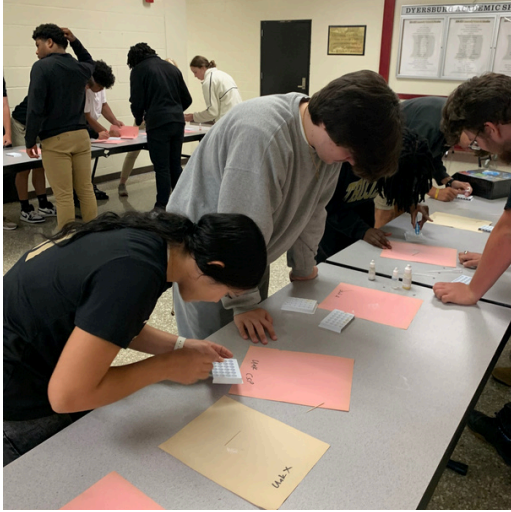
»»» DHS NURSING EDUCATION

The Health Science/Nursing Ed. classes have been extremely busy these last several weeks. Health Science classes have been working on learning First Aid, Safety and CPR. The Nursing class has completed their OSHA and CPR certifications and we are practicing our skills getting ready for Clinicals at West TN Healthcare.



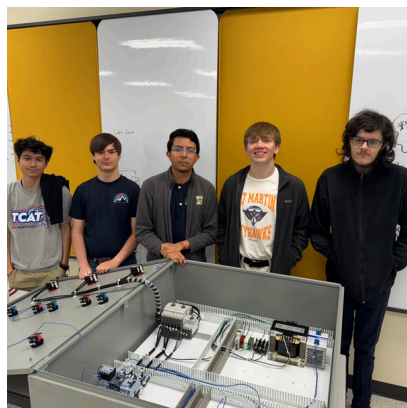
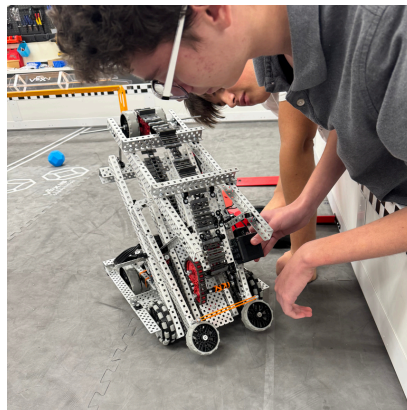
>>> DHS CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Students in the Criminal Justice program are gaining hands-on experience through their Forensic Science module, where they are learning how to process and identify drugs in a controlled lab setting. In Criminal Justice I, students are practicing the fundamentals of fingerprinting by taking prints from one another and learning the proper techniques for collecting and analyzing them. These real-world skills give students an inside look at the work of law enforcement professionals and prepare them for future opportunities in the field.



>>> DHS STEM

The STEM program is buzzing with excitement as the Robotics Competition team gears up for their first-ever Robotics competition in Jackson, TN. This year's game, called Push Back, challenges students to design and operate robots that can complete specific tasks under pressure. Engineering I students have spent the entire first quarter working through the STEM Labs curriculum, building and testing their robots while developing critical problem-solving and teamwork skills. Their dedication and creativity are setting the stage for an exciting competition season.



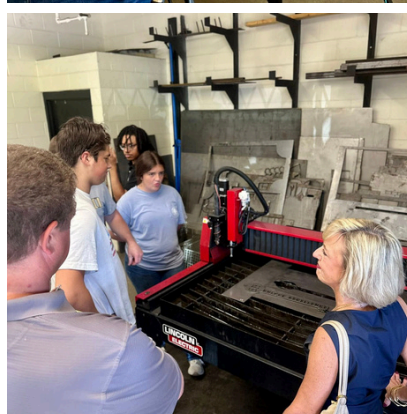
>>> DHS A/V PRODUCTION

A/V Productions I students have been learning the ins and outs of cameras, from taking them apart and cleaning them to adjusting settings and exposure for the perfect shot. They're putting that knowledge into action by creating a virtual tour of Dyersburg High School, capturing footage before fall break and learning editing techniques afterward. Meanwhile, A/V Productions II students are working toward certification in Adobe Premiere Pro, with their first major project creating business ads for local stores like Buff City Soap, Shave Ice Barn, and Southern Blend. Check out their work soon on the DHS A/V Productions YouTube page!



>>> DHS ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Our Welding Department recently teamed up with Security Bank on a unique and meaningful project! Students took a concept from the drawing board all the way through machining and coating to create a custom award honoring Security Bank employees who demonstrate excellence in customer service. This collaboration showcased our students' technical skills while teaching the importance of teamwork and community connection. Projects like this provide valuable real-world experiences right in our classrooms!



>>> DHS COMPUTER SCIENCE

Students began with Google Basics, learning to navigate tools, communicate professionally, and use email effectively. They've also been hands-on with Python programming; building simple programs, solving problems, and seeing their code come to life. Along the way, students have explored careers in software development, cybersecurity, data science, and game design, discovering that computer science is as much about creativity and problem-solving as it is coding. It's been exciting to watch them grow in confidence and begin seeing themselves as creators in the digital world.

>>> DHS AG



DHS FFA Goat Show Exhibitors have been in the winner's circle all show season. These students have learned and grown so much as livestock showmen! Students in Small Animal Science learn to groom dogs. The Trojan Animal Care Dog Salon will be open after Fall Break! The FFA Horse Judging team competes in the regional contest at UTM. FFA Members participate in the Greenhand and COLT Conferences. "Living to Serve" at the Dyer County Fair" was a great event for members to teach kids about Agriculture and paint faces at Kids' Day. Students in Ag classes visit the Crop building, livestock barn, & 4-H Barn to get an enhanced "hands-on" experience about things they learn in class.



>>> DHS MARKETING/ACCOUNTING

On September 28-30, DECA students traveled to East Tennessee to participate in a two day workshop where they had the opportunity to visit multiple departments of both theme park and hotel/ resort operations . Students gained insights into the hospitality industry at Dollywood's theme park and resort while hearing from leadership teams about their journey and potential career options. The dual-enrollment accounting program through DSCC is diving into hands-on work with general ledgers.

>>> DHS JOBS FOR TN GRADUATES (JAG-TN)

In JAG, students have been focusing on the importance of soft skills that are essential for success in school, careers, and life. They've explored professionalism, effective communication, proper greetings, mutual respect, building others up, public speaking, and active listening. In addition to these critical skills, students have been completing their FSA IDs and taking advantage of Tennessee's free College Application Week/Month, preparing themselves for the next steps in their educational journeys.



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>>> MEET OUR TEACHERS

At Dyersburg City Schools, our CTE teachers are shaping tomorrow's leaders and preparing students for success in school, careers, and life. Through hands-on learning, real-world projects, and guidance every step of the way, they are equipping students with the skills, confidence, and vision to make our community stronger and our future brighter.

Dyersburg Intermediate School

Andrea Davis- Money Matters
Brenda Gibson- STEM
Yuketa Hall- Career Exploration
Alicia Hopgood- Smart and Safe
Tim Strayhorn- AG

Dyersburg Middle School

Chris Dishman- Digital Media Arts
Mari Kate Estes- Career Exploration
Melissa Lowery- AG
Trinia Roy- STEM



Dyersburg High School

Vanessa Anderson- Computer Science
Lynsey Butler- AG
Seth Coleman- STEM
Brandon Estes- JAG
Joseph Hardin- Advanced Manufacturing
Erik Larson- Criminal Justice
Angela Lee- Nursing Education
Melissa Lowery- AG
Blaine Mahaffey- JAG
Tom Mathis- JAG
Jamie Reynolds- Marketing, TAP
TJ VanDyke- Journalism
Julie Walker- Accounting
Trevor Yarbrough- A/V Production