

Dyersburg City Schools  
School Board Meeting  
December 2, 2024  
Central Office

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

The following consent items were approved by the Board with a motion from Scott Self, and a second from Courtney Patrick:

- Tonight's Agenda
- Last Month's Minutes
- DHS-Trojan Basketball: 1/25/25, Poplar Bluff, MO
- FY25 ESSER 3.0 Application Board Approval

#### New Business

The JAC Club from DMS, sponsored by Mrs. Lisa Slayback, shared with the board an overview of their accomplishments this semester. These included assisting with the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) Library Exhibit, leading the school in the weekly morning pledge, ensuring every classroom has a flag, organizing Constitution Week, and replacing the flag at DMS. Additionally, Diezel Whittle presented the club's future plans to clean up the outdoor classroom at DMS.

Mrs. Worley presented the proposed 2025-2026 school calendar for review and approval. The calendar was approved following a motion by Whitney Allmon, seconded by Carlos Doss.

Mrs. Julie Norville introduced the 2024-2025 Teachers of the Year to the board.  
DPS: Ashley Winn—Ashley Winn is in her 11th year as a looping teacher and has taught kindergarten, first and second grades.  
“Ashley Winn is a veteran teacher with ten years of experience at Dyersburg Primary School. She served as student teacher at DPS and has taught in kindergarten, first and second grade. Ms. Winn serves as a Learning Leader and is a wonderful mentor to new teachers, often allowing student teachers to learn in her classroom. Ashley displays extensive expertise in teaching reading. She is a compassionate and caring

teacher who goes the extra mile for her students and their parents. Ms. Winn's dedication to early childhood education is an asset to Dyersburg Primary School."

DIS: Sara Stephenson—Sara Stephenson is teaching her 9 th year with DCS, and has taught 5 th and 3 rd grades.

"Sara Stephenson consistently goes above and beyond to inspire both students and colleagues. Her classroom is a place of encouragement and growth, where every student feels valued and motivated to achieve their best. She develops and delivers innovative lessons and fosters a supportive learning environment in her classroom. Mrs. Stephenson exemplifies the best attributes of a highly effective teacher. Her hard work, enthusiasm, and commitment to excellence have made a lasting impact on our school community. Mrs. Stephenson has made outstanding contributions to Dyersburg Intermediate School!"

DMS: Carole McCullough—Carole McCullough is in her 30 th year teaching, and has taught kindergarten and 1 st grade and most recently in middle school grades.

"Carole McCullough is a veteran teacher who leads with a love for learning and has a heart for people. Carole has 25+ years of effective teaching experience with Dyersburg City Schools. Mrs. McCullough makes a positive impact on ALL of her students by holding them accountable for their learning, inspiring them through encouragement, and leading by example with her tremendous work ethic. Mrs. McCullough currently serves as a Learning Leader and also fills in wherever needed at DMS ballgames to ensure they run smoothly."

DHS: Lynsey Butler —Lynsey Butler is in her 18 th year teaching in the CTE / Ag program.

"In her eighteenth year of teaching, Mrs. Lynsey Butler has made a remarkable impact as an Ag teacher and FFA advisor at Dyersburg High School. Over the past four years, she looks forward to the daily opportunity to share her passion for agriculture with her students by offering courses in Greenhouse Management, Ag Science, Large and Small Animal Science, and Vet Science, along with industry certifications in BASF Plant Science and Elanco Fundamentals of Animal Science. Mrs. Butler's commitment to

hands-on learning engages her students in practical activities that deepen their understanding of agriculture and animal science. She also creates numerous opportunities for her students to compete in FFA contests and shows across the state. By collaborating with local post-secondary institutions and agriculture-related businesses, Mrs. Butler ensures her students are well-informed about the various college and career paths available in agriculture. Her dedication and commitment are truly inspiring!"

Mrs. Julie Norville also introduced Angela Rood and informed the board of her recognition as the Regional and State ESL Teacher of the Year.

Board Chairman Jim Coy Houston and Mrs. Worley extended their congratulations and expressed heartfelt appreciation for the outstanding service these teachers provide to the families of Dyersburg City Schools.

Mrs. Worley requested the addition of Scott Bruce to the Discipline Hearing Authority, replacing Vanessa Ahmad. The addition was approved following a motion by Carlos Doss, seconded by Whitney Allmon.

Mrs. Kim Yeiter, CTE Director, informed the board that both Dyersburg Intermediate School and Dyersburg High School have been awarded a 2024-2025 TVA STEM Grant. Each school will receive \$5,000 to support STEM instruction.

Policy – The following policy contains changes according to state law. They were approved on first and second reading after a motion from Carlos Doss and a second from Courtney Patrick

- 6.200–Attendance

#### Student Successes

#### DIS

DIS Trojans of the Week:

Week of Oct. 14: Kalleigh Edwards, Wes Crowe, Kevin Vasquez

Week of Oct. 21: Maleena Jones, Zoe Hickerson, Mary Burks Garner

Week of Oct. 28: Elizabeth Childrey, Noah Sandoval, John Marvin Lambert

Week of Nov. 4: Connor Willcutt, Darby Ayers, Jocey Landeros

Week of Nov. 11: Nyvia Lowe, Gentry Wilson, Perla Flores

Week of Nov. 18: Piper Bohannon, Retal Suleiman, Silas Mathis

DIS inducted 73 students into the first year of Elementary Beta Club.

Seventeen of these students qualified to compete in state competitions:

Prepared Public Speaking: Liza Kate Brock

Creative Writing: Whitley Harris

4th Grade Health & Physical Education: Cora Jackson (5th in State)  
5th Grade Health & Physical Education: William Watson  
4th Grade Language Arts: Rashad Lanier  
5th Grade Language Arts: Aven Sherrod  
4th Grade Math: Aiden Parr  
5th Grade Math: Bentley Knight  
Poetry: Charlie Caldwell  
4th Grade Science: Elgin Bledsoe  
5th Grade Science: Maleena Jones  
4th Grade Social Studies: Ross Coats  
5th Grade Social Studies: Trey Puente  
4th Grade Spanish: Giselle Olvera  
5th Grade Spanish: Perla Flores  
4th Grade Spelling: Arden Owens-Welch  
5th Grade Spelling: Jose Larraga

## DMS

### 6th Grade

Our Trojan of the Week works hard from the moment she walks into the team area to the moment she leaves for the day. She stands tall in the classroom, is very mindful of her schoolwork, and has a consistently great attitude. She gets along with her classmates and never shies away from lending a helping hand. This student is an active member of the Trojan Band where she plays the tuba. She also has lots of pets, including her newest one - a chinchilla! In her spare time she likes to draw and roller skate. We have no doubt that with her strong work ethic her dream of becoming a doctor will one day be a reality. 6C teachers are proud to announce Ta'Liyah Ragland as our Trojan of the Week!

### 7th Grade

Team 7C is proud to nominate ARELY TORRES as Trojan of the Week. Arely has so many qualities that make her a great asset to DMS, and we can not say enough great things about her. Arely is friendly, helpful, dependable, and trustworthy. She is also one of the hardest workers who pays attention to detail, resulting in making good grades and being in the Beta Club. One of the things we love the most about Arely is her self-control and calm, quiet demeanor. You are an outstanding example of a DMS Trojan, and we are so proud to have you on our team!

## 8th Grade

8c's Trojan of the week is a well-rounded student that is involved in many activities, a great student in class and around her peers, brings energy and enthusiasm when learning, and always strives to do her best. From pigs to pageants, the activities she is involved in include: Beta Club, FCA, cheer, volleyball, yearbook staff, and FFA. Congratulations Jill Meadows as being 8C's Trojan of the Week!

## 6th

The 6th Grade TOW is a student who is off to a fantastic start at DMS! This student has a quiet, kind, hard working spirit. In the classroom, they are on top of their school work and on their way to Honor Roll and aspiring to be a Beta! Outside the classroom, this student is on the Cross Country team, basketball manager, Book Club member and has plans to seek employment with Youth Enterprises. This student stops by the library in the afternoons to offer help and also to chat, which Mrs. Odom loves! This student is a reader and is making their way through the magical world of Harry Potter, which Mrs. Odom also loves! Mrs. Odom is proud to announce Michael Smith as this week's 6th grade TOW! Keep it up, Michael!

## 7th

7th grade Trojan of the Week is Diamond Parks.

Diamond may be quiet, but she is a hard worker and never seeks attention. Diamond is focused in class and puts in extra work if needed. She is a kind hearted person who shows respect to adults and is responsible. Her quiet determination inspires those around her, showcasing that hard work doesn't always have to be loud to make an impact.

## 8th

This is what Mrs. Hayes has to say about her choice for 8th grade Trojan of the week, "When I think of this student she is always trying her best and working hard. She embodies the life advice "work hard and be nice to people." If you see her, she usually has a smile to share. She is kind, considerate and

thoughtful of her actions which makes her a good citizen to her school." Mrs. Hayes is proud to select Brooke Gilliland as Trojan of the week.

#### 6th Grade

6A nominates Thomas Nolan as the Trojan of the Week. Thomas exemplifies what being a Trojan should be about. He is a very hard worker, he is always on time with his work, he is always willing to give a helping hand, and he is a person of great character. Thomas' dependability makes him an amazing example of a DMS Trojan!

#### 7th Grade

A quote from Steve Largent says "I think leadership is more than just being able to cross the t's and dot the i's. It's about character and integrity and work ethic." This quote sums up 7A's Trojan of the Week. Not only does he cross his t's and dot his i's by getting his AR goal and making golden honor roll, but he also shows leadership and integrity in and out of the classroom. He is kind and helpful to his classmates and is a model student for his teachers. He is a leader as a member of Beta club and the soccer team. Jack Chitwood, your teachers and school could not ask for a better representative!

#### 8th Grade

For this week's Trojan of the Week 8A has selected Keneth Bonilla-Ortiz. He is dependable, hardworking, and motivated to do well in all things he does. His teachers are able to rely on him to demonstrate all the qualities of a good student. He is a role model to all other students in our team area. \*8A is so proud to have this student.

#### DMS Beta Convention

Nicolas Martin, 8th grade Spanish, 1st place

Julia Hamilton, 8th grade science, 1st place

Jack Chitwood, 7th grade spelling, 2nd place

Sydnee Coleman, 7th grade ELA, 3rd place

JT Nunley, 7th grade science, 4th place

Robotics - 4th place - team members, Nolen Eno, Nicolas Martin ,Henry Polk,

Jack Chitwood, Jonathan Dudley, Gauge Holder, Hunter McDonald, JT Nunley

Large Group Talent - 2nd place

DHS

DHS Model UN students participated in the state competition this weekend. 2 students, Isaiah Krusch and Clare Bernheisel won Outstanding Delegate, and 2 delegations won for Outstanding Resolution. All students advanced to the second round of competition, which is a first for DHS MUN teams

During the Lynn Whitfield Basketball Thanksgiving Classic tournament, Chelby Jordan was named the “Jasmin James Player of the Game”

At the 53rd Annual MLK Jr. Basketball Tournament, Marcus Wharton was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship recipient.

#### Athletic Signings:

Joya Crawford for University of Cincinnati women’s basketball (11/13)  
Upcoming- Kalen Edwards (University of Kentucky football, date 12/4), Preslee Quertermous (Lyon College volleyball, date TBD) and Breyden Turnage (Mississippi State University football, date 12/4)

#### DHS FFA:

Regional FFA Contest- Livestock Judging Team placed 3rd and advancing to state contest, McKenzie Duggan placed 3rd high individual  
Regional 4-H Contest- Livestock Judging Team placed 3rd out of 21 teams! Ann Thomas Lowery placed 11th high individual and McKenzie Duggan placed 13th high individual out of 88 students!

DHS Dance Team won the TSSAA Cheer and Dance State Championships for the 7th year in a row in varsity kick!! They also were awarded 3rd place in Small Varsity Game Day.

Congratulations to our DHS Choir students that made the Senior High All-Northwest Honor Choir! GraceAnn Webb, Chloe Bruce, Micah Tosh, Ronnie Williams, Avery Coleman, Meredith Meeks, Armani Carter, Amariah Atkins, Marleigh Grant, Judi-Kay Justice, Cara Jones, Brynlee Seay, AL Harris, Lamon Moore, Owen Bona, D’Quarte Rivers, Isaac Smith

#### DHS Beta State Convention honors:

- Clare Bernheisel won State Champion for 12th grade Language Arts
- Brynlee Seay awarded Premier Performer Vocalist and a Golden Ticket to National Convention
- Team Clara Serquina, Gracie Burkett and Jiselle Howard placed 3rd for their Service Learning Showcase

-Tuesday Gann won 5th place for Digital Art Division III

- VI. Future Meetings  
January 6, 2025 @ CO  
February 3, 2025 @DIS  
March 3, 2025 @ DMS  
April 7, 2025 @ CSC  
May 5, 2025 @ DHS and Teacher Retirement/TOY Dinner

With no further business and Board approval, Mr. Jim Coy Houston made a motion to adjourn with a second from Dr. Scott Self.

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Kim Worley, Director of Schools

Jim Coy Houston, Board Chairman