



Durand Middle School Board Report  
 March 2025  
 Rebecca Shankster-Principal



I. Enrollment:

- ❖ DMS currently has 306 students enrolled, the same as February.

II. School Improvement and Happenings:

- ❖ School Improvement:

- DMS is very proud to share our perception data results. Our perception data is trending in a positive direction across staff, student, and parent surveys. We believe this is due to taking the results seriously and continually making improvements to address areas that need to be improved. Below is a summary of our strengths and challenges based on highest and lowest scores on the survey. The strengths are the areas we wanted to celebrate for having the highest scores, while the challenges are areas with the lowest scores and what we want to focus on improving. A huge celebration is that we do not have any areas of concern with all our scores being above a three out of five possible points. Our lower scores are also improving as we make changes.

Perceptual Data- Staff	
1. What are the school's perceptual <i>strengths</i> and <i>challenges</i> ?	
<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Challenges</i>
-My administrators are effective instructional leaders (4.87) -My administrators facilitate communication effectively (4.87) -I believe very student can learn (4.86)	-I believe student achievement can increase through the use of computers (3.86) -I believe I communicate with parents often about their child's progress (3.86) -I believe I communicate with parents often about class activities (3.68)

Perceptual Data- Students	
1. What are the school's perceptual <i>strengths</i> and <i>challenges</i> ?	
<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Challenges</i>
-My family wants me to do well in school (4.7) -My family believes I can do well in school (4.44) -When I am at school, I feel my principal cares about me (4.3)	-I feel I have choices in what I learn (3.02) -I feel I have fun learning (3.23) -I feel students at my school are friendly (3.28)

## Perceptual Data- Parents

1. What are the school's perceptual <i>strengths</i> and <i>challenges</i> ?	
<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Challenges</i>
<i>-I support my child's learning at home (4.61)</i> <i>-I respect the school's principal (4.58)</i>	<i>-The students show respect for other students (3.4)</i>

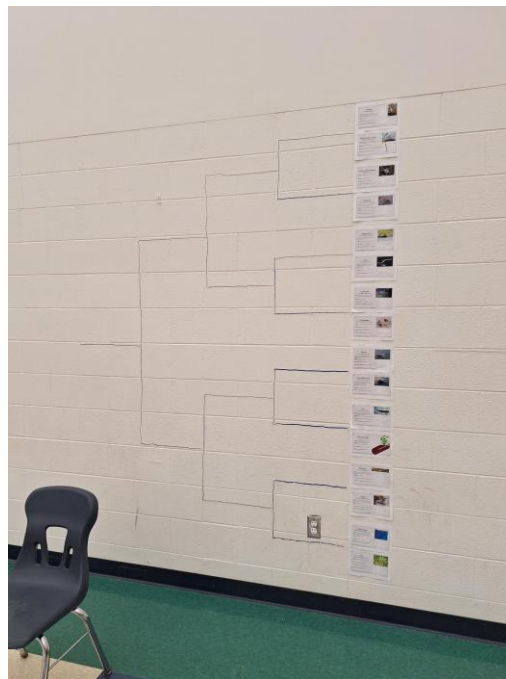
### ❖ March is Reading Month:

- The DMS ELA department is once again working to celebrate extra fun and excitement about reading during the month of March! The theme this year is celebrating books that have become movies and we have lots of fun activities planned!
- We will be having a March is Reading Month spirit week March 10th-14th and fun Friday dress up days all month long!
  - Monday: "Bedtime Stories" Pajamas Day
  - Tuesday: "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" 90's Day
  - Wednesday: "The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants" Tourist Day
  - Thursday: "Wonder" Kind Word Shirt Day
  - Friday: "Hunger Games" Sports Wear Day
  - March 7th: Jumanji Day - Animal Print Day
  - March 14th: Hunger Games - Sports Wear Day
  - March 21st: DC Comics - Super Hero Day
  - March 28th: Parent Trap - Twin Day
- We will be culminating the month in a whole school trip to the PAC to watch a movie on the 28th and celebrate all the reading!
- We kicked off March is Reading Month with our second annual book fair! This was Amy Perry's first book fair as our new media center paraprofessional. She was able to still receive guidance from Melissa Raley, who held the media center position for many years before transitioning to the front office secretary job. Amy did a fantastic job and the book fair was a huge success.



❖ March Mammal Madness:

- Our science department is putting on a March Madness bracket competition, but instead of basketball, it is all about mammals. Students will be researching the mammals in the brackets and predicting the winners in each match-up! It's time to have some March Madness fun, science style! The teachers already have the brackets up in the cafeteria and ready to go!



❖ Change of Seasons/Playground Update:

- As the winter season is coming to an end, we are happy to report that the playground will be ready for our students this spring. March 10th-13th, the old equipment will be removed and equipment that is age appropriate for all of our students will be installed. Students will be very excited to try it out!
- ❖ New RC Club:
  - Mr. Burley and Mrs. Woolman are sponsoring a new RC car club after school once a week. A group of students had the ideas to start the club and made a proposal. They did a great job and found mentors to lead the club. We encourage students to use their leadership and advocacy skills and to explore their interests. The students who are starting this club are doing just that!
- ❖ End of Winter Sports:
  - We have some talented and hard working athletes! The 7th and 8th grade boys basketball teams finished up their season March 3rd in home games against Lakeville and came away with wins. The 7th grade team was undefeated for the season and the 8th grade team will be league co-champions with only one loss for the year.
  - We had two middle school students compete at states for Powerlifting at the JV level as 8th grade students. Nash Carpenter finished 12th and Madison Root finished 20th. Both students had personal bests at the competition.
  - We have several students who have qualified for wrestling at the state level and we are excited to cheer them on as they finish their season!



## II. Staff and Students of the Month (March):

- ❖ Each month, staff and students are nominated by the staff members using an anonymous Google form. All the staff members who are nominated are celebrated at our monthly staff meetings and are able to spin the “Wheel of Appreciation” and receive prizes. It is important to celebrate those who are going the extra mile for our students and our students who are on TRACK.

6th Grade: Jacob Watson “Jacob is a wonderful friend to other students. He makes sure to have something kind to say to others whenever he can. He works hard in his classes and is a model student for others.”

7th Grade: Rae Stuckey “Rae is always working hard to complete her work. She is helpful to others and works well in a group of her peers. She never complains when things are hard. She’s a true example of perseverance.”

8th Grade: Autumn Possillo “Autumn works really hard in class. She helps others on their assignments. She volunteers to model things on the board and do other helpful tasks to help out Ms. Baker. She is always kind and respectful to others.

Staff: Ms. Sebok “Ms. Sebok is always coming up with new ways to make science fun. She has a great relationship with her students.”

