

# Durand Area High School

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## January 13, 2025 Board Report

### Holiday Choir and Band Concerts in our new PAC!

While Mrs. Delay and Mr. Ansgore always do a fabulous job leading our students through our holiday musical concerts, this year was special because we were able to hold our first event in the new Performing Arts Center. The auditorium was packed with family and friends enjoying an entertaining night of holiday music. Thank you to everyone who put in the extra work to make this possible! We have much to be proud of and even more to look forward to with the new opportunities provided by this new space.



## Blood Drive

Mr. Lincoln has been pivotal in organizing a Red Cross Blood Drive at DHS. On December 17, he and his students were able to make that happen, donating over 30 units of blood. We hope to continue to work with the Red Cross to grow the number of blood drives, as well as the number of units donated. We appreciate all of the students who worked the blood drive and those who donated, and Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln for their efforts in organizing and overseeing this event!



**PBIS Update - No Zero November Winners!**

We had 74 students earn a golden ticket for our No Zero November incentive. For January, we are working on our “New Year, New You” event, encouraging self-reflection and goal setting.



### **NHS Students Make Cards for Durand Senior Center**

Mrs. Johnson and the NHS students spent time making holiday cards for the Durand Senior Center. They addressed 100 cards, which were then included with Meals on Wheels for local community residents.



### **Drama Presents “10 Ways to Survive the Holidays”**

The drama class performed their final play in the cafetorium and did an outstanding job. Their play, "10 Ways to Survive the Holidays," showcased their talent and humor and provided some holiday entertainment and cheer to family and friends.



**Pancakes with Santa**

Several of our student groups and staff members collaborated to bring back our Pancakes with Santa event. Mr. Birchmeier, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Johnson, and Mrs. Remenar combined FFA, NHS, and Student Government efforts to produce a wonderful and free family event for our school and community. Mr. Winslow and Mr. Lincoln were also flipping pancakes as children visited Santa and made small gifts and crafts for their families for the holidays. We had a great turnout, everyone was smiling, and it was a great way for our school to serve the community and spread holiday cheer.





## Door Decorating Contest

1st Place - Mrs. Majorana, 2nd Place - Mr. Partlo, 3rd Place - Mr. Frasle



New Signage Installed at DHS



Next time you visit DHS, check out the new signs we had installed in January! These are an added safety feature, making it easier to locate classrooms when glancing down hallways. This also makes it easier for students to navigate the building, and it adds a touch of school pride to the halls by enhancing the navy and white! They look great and everyone was glad to see them (in addition to the exterior signs). They are a huge improvement from the old laminated paper versions that could only be seen when facing the doors! (The orange 114 pictured is what we had before the new signs!)



## Sophomore Field Trip to the Holocaust Museum



Mrs. Tester organized the annual trip to the Zekelman Holocaust Center in Farmington Hills. All of the sophomores, who read Elie Wiesel's memoir "Night," are able to attend the museum to help understand what happened during the Holocaust in a more personal way. This was the first time back to the museum since the completion of their \$31 million renovation project, so there were many new exhibits for the students to explore.



### Food Services Director Meets with Student Government

Food services director Lorie Grant and I met with our student government group to discuss some of the changes that have been taking place during lunch, and to get their input on some of the ideas and plans we still have for the future. The students asked great questions and appreciated the opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas. Lorie left them with some menu samples so they could have time to review them and talk to their peers, and we will revisit the topic to decide on our next steps. We are working with our students to make these improvements!



## **EWIMS Update**

DHS Average Daily Attendance is at its highest for the year, at 92.2% average daily attendance.

Number of students considered severely chronically absent is at its lowest point of the year at 8.2%.

98.1% of students were on-track for behavior in December! There were no suspensions in December, and the 9th grade was 98.8% on-track, which is their best month of this year! They have steadily improved since the beginning of the year.

10.1% of DHS students were “at-risk” based on the final grades for the first semester. This is down from 24% at-risk based on our “first 20 days” report and 19.3% after the month of November. We’ve made great progress!