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# Education Commissioner and Legislators Honor Student

MAY 30TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Education Commissioner and Legislators Honor Student

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - Poplar Bluff High School senior Hamiz Mirza was among 15 select students to receive the Missouri Award for Outstanding Achievement in Citizenship on Monday, April 17, in Jefferson City.

The annual state honor—based on academic achievement, participation in extracurricular activities and service to the community—was established in 1989 as a provision under Senate Bill 198. Mirza will also be recognized on the American Bar Association’s Civics and Law Honor Roll.

“A lot of kids can ace government class, but it’s another thing to go out into the community and change lives,” said Mirza’s AP government teacher Mitch Davis during a special recognition Thursday, April 20, at the school board meeting.

Davis and R-I Superintendent Scott Dill presented Mirza with resolutions from the Missouri House of Representatives and Senate signed by Speaker Todd Richardson and Sen. Doug Libla, respectively.

Mirza, who has been accepted at St. Louis University, received straight A’s in several advanced social studies classes throughout his high school career, during which he served as captain of the speech and debate team, placing first last year in a district contest. This school year he helped found the Politics Club, a non-partisan student organization that

meets weekly, and was responsible for hosting a watch party attended by over 100 students on presidential election night.

“I would argue he has been successful in changing the dialogue in our school from hyperpartisan to more of a reflective, collegial atmosphere where it is now ‘cool’ to hear the other side’s views about the role and scope of government in our everyday lives,” wrote Davis on Mirza’s nomination form, which was also signed by PBHS Principal Mike Kiehne.

Perhaps even more meaningful, as Davis indicated to the Board of Education, Mirza volunteered over 200 hours to Smiles of Hope Dental Clinic, a nonprofit operation that began with one philanthropist making monthly clinical visits to a church. The clinic grew within several years to acquire about a dozen licensed dentists, treating more than 2,000 people and extracting over 6,000 teeth, for little to no cost to the patient.

Mirza was further inspired to spend 50 hours of his own, teaching proper dental care to children at churches and schools. He also volunteered 120 hours at the United Gospel Rescue Mission, along with splitting another 100 hours between hospital work and teaching swimming.

“While witnessing single mothers struggling to feed their children, a health care system that has failed many, and a country that is more divided and partisan than ever, it is easy to allow pessimism to leak into one’s own life,” wrote Mirza in a qualifying essay about citizenship. He went on to state: “As citizens of a representative democracy, the burden of ensuring our government is running properly doesn’t just lie with the people working in Washington – it relies on the work and involvement of everyday citizens who vote and raise awareness for what they believe is right.”

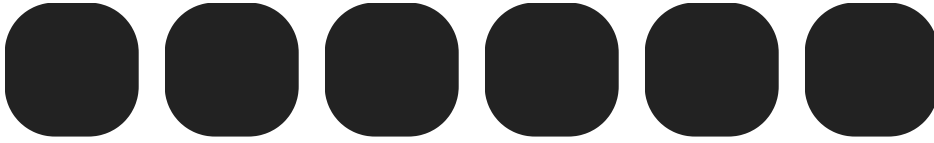
Pictured are PBHS instructor Mitch Davis (left) and R-I Superintendent Scott Dill (right) present Hamiz Mirza with official resolutions for his model citizenry during the school board meeting.

Photo and article submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

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## Dexter School Board Holds Special Meeting on Friday Morning

MAY 26TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Dexter School Board Holds Special Meeting on Friday Morning

Dexter, Missouri - The Dexter School Board met in a Special Board Meeting on May 26, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. Below are the minutes from today's meeting.

**Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge** The Board President announced the meeting is to begin, ascertains the attendance status of all board members with all members being present. He then leads in the saying of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Old Business:**

There was no old business to discuss.

**New Business:**

A. There was no new business to discuss.

**Discussion Items:**

A. Updates to MSBA Policies and Administrative Procedures ADF,

ADF-AP1 and EF-AP1 were discussed with the board.

In Closed Session:

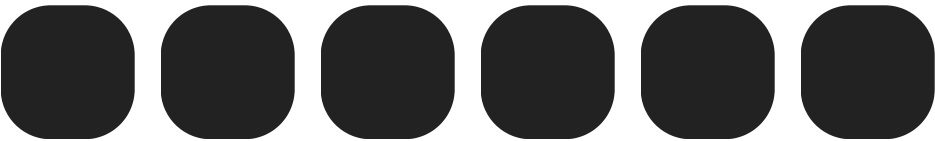
1. The board accepted the resignations/retirements of the following:  
Lori Murphy, ACE Teacher  
Kaylee Hessling, 5th Grade Teacher
2. The board employed Alexis Rauls as a 5th grade teacher for the 2017-2018 school year.
3. Discussion of administrative personnel.

Items presented to the board for informational purposes for future meetings or for discussion include: None at this time

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# DHS Graduates Earn Over 1.3 Million in Scholarships

MAY 25TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

## DHS Graduates Earn Over 1.3 Million in Scholarships

Dexter, Missouri - The Dexter High School Class of 2017 earned more than 1.3 million dollars in scholarships. If each student completes their two or four year degree they will have utilized \$1, 357, 889 in scholarship monies.

Below is the complete list of students and their scholarships as of graduation day.

### HARLEY ALLEN

Southeast Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship 750  
Southeast Missouri State University Regent's Scholarship 23916  
MO Girls State Residence Life Leadership Award 1000  
A+ Scholarship 4000

### HAILEY ANDERSON

A+ Scholarship 4000

### MCKENZIE ANTHONY

Southeast MO State University. Residence Life Leadership Scholarship 1000  
A+ Scholarship 4000

### KELLY ASH

A+ Scholarship 4000

### WESTON AVERY

SEMO Electric Co-op Scholarship 750  
Dexter Kiwanis Club Scholarship 1000  
Dexter Lions Club Scholarship 1500  
Heartland Ag Scholarship 2000  
Bank of Advance Scholarship 1000

SEMO Cattlemen's Assoc. Scholarship 500  
Dexter Elk's Scholarship 500  
A+ Scholarship 4000

**JACKSON BABB**

Three Rivers Music Scholarship 5520  
Dexter Housing Authority Scholarship

**ABIGAIL BATES**

Southeast MO State University Residence Life Scholarship 4000  
A+ Scholarship 4000

**CALEB BESS**

Regina Duckworth Memorial Scholarship 1000  
Dexter Elk's Club Scholarship 500  
Dexter Eagle's Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship 500  
A+ Scholarship 4000

**JUSTIN BESS**

A+ Scholarship 4000

**CALEB BLUNT**

Dexter Lion's Club Scholarship 1000  
Southeast Missouri State University Regents Scholarship 32000  
A+ Scholarship 4000

**WILL BREHMER**

Murray State Provost Scholarship 27388  
Heartland Ag Scholarship 2000  
Dexter Elk's Scholarship 500  
John Bryant Ag Scholarship 500  
Arvella Totten Scholarship 500  
Jason Stidham Memorial Scholarship 250

**KAYLEE CAREY**

Crowley Ridge Athletic Scholarship 2325  
A+ Scholarship 4000

**KATIE COLEMAN**

A+ Scholarship 4000

JARED COOKSON

Dexter Elks Scholarship 500

HALEY CORNETT

Southeast Missouri State University Scholarship 8000

Southeast MO State University. Residence Life Leadership Award 4000

Stoddard County Development Foundation Scholarship 500

A+ Scholarship 4000

CARLY DEAN

Southeast Missouri State University Scholarship 8000

CHARLES FORTNER

Dexter Junior League Bowling Award 500

TARYN FORTNER

Southeast Missouri State University Scholarship 8000

Montgomery Family Foundation Scholarship 4000

A+ Scholarship 4000

MEGAN FOSTER

A+ Scholarship 4000

GEORGE FROST

A+ Scholarship 4000

ANDREW GARNER

MO State Promise Scholarship. 1500

1st Christian Church-Rotha Wilson Scholarship. 500

A+ Scholarship 4000

CIDNEY GATHINGS

Bridge to Success Award

Residence Life Award

BRITTANY GIBSON

A+ Scholarship 4000

**BRIANNA GOURLEY**

Vocational Rehabilitation Award

A+ Scholarship 4000

**MACY GRAVES**

Heartland Ag Scholarship 2000

A-State Pride 24000

Montgomery Family Foundation Scholarship 2000

A+ Scholarship 4000

**VERONICA HAMPTON**

A+ Scholarship 4000

**JACOB HARRIS**

SEMO Electric Co-op Scholarship 750

Missouri State University Scholarship 24000

MO Bright Flight Scholarship 10000

Dexter Beta Club Scholarship 500

Ruth Covington Scholarship 500

**HANNAH HAYNES**

A+ Scholarship 4000

**JOHNNA HINKLIN**

Three Rivers College Music Scholarship 5520

A+ Scholarship 4000

**PEYTON HOLCOMB**

A+ Scholarship 4000

**BETHANY HYTEN**

Jerry & Laverne Waddle Scholarship 500

Sheriff Jim Elliott Memorial Scholarship 4000

BEC/Ambassador's Scholarship 4000

A+ Scholarship 4000

**JASON JARRELL**

SEMO Electric Co-op Scholarship 750

Evangel University Academic Scholarship 15500  
Evangel University Baseball Scholarship  
MSHSAA Award of Excellence  
A+ Scholarship 4000

EMILY JOHNS

Monsanto Scholarship 1000  
Stoddard County Fair Board Scholarship 1500  
UMKC Conservatory of Music Scholarship 26000  
Dexter Faculty Scholarship 500  
A+ Scholarship 4000

LACEY MARIE JOHNSON

A+ Scholarship 4000

GARRETT KEATHLEY

Three Rivers College Incentive Scholarship 7680

KELSEY KENDRICK

MO Bright Flight Scholarship 10000  
MO State University. Board of Governor's Scholarship 20000

JACLYN KIGER

Pat Brickhaus Memorial Scholarship 250  
Dexter CTA Education Scholarship 500  
A+ Scholarship 4000

GARRETT LARAMORE

A+ Scholarship 4000

TAYLIN LEIJA

Southeast MO State University. Bridge to Success Scholarship 300

JANIE LINDSEY

Southeast Missouri State University Regents Scholarship 24000  
James Harold Pallus Biology Scholarship 4000  
Dexter Altrusa Club Scholarship 500  
Dexter Booster Club Scholarship 500

## ABIGAIL MANGUM

Three Rivers College Music Scholarship 5520  
Rotary Interact Scholarship 500  
MO Bright Flight Scholarship 2500  
Dexter Rotary Club 1000

## ETHAN MARTINEZ

MO State Promise Scholarship 2500

## ALEXIS MAY

Shelter Insurance Scholarship 2000  
Beta Sigma Phi Scholarship 500  
Dexter Elks Scholarship 500  
Stoddard County Farm Bureau Scholarship 250  
American Red Cross Scholarship 500  
Ruth Covington Scholarship 500  
Virgie G. Wilson Memorial Scholarship 2500  
Rotary Interact Scholarship 500  
Dexter Rotary Club 1000  
Dexter Booster Club Scholarship 500  
Dexter Eagle's Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship 500  
A+ Scholarship 4000

## TYLER MAYFIELD

A+ Scholarship 4000

## ANGEL MAZE

Three Rivers College Incentive Scholarship 7680  
A+ Scholarship 4000

## MADISON MCCONNELL

Audrey C. Fralick Memorial Scholarship 2000  
A+ Scholarship 4000

## CODY MCFADDIN

John W. Brehmer Ag Scholarship 500  
Jamie Sifford Memorial Scholarship 500  
A+ Scholarship 4000

MELISSA MCKUIN

A+ Scholarship 4000

REAGAN MILLER

U.S. Naval Academy Scholarship 40,000

1st Christian Church Rotha Wilson Scholarship 500

A+ Scholarship 4,000

SARAH MILLER

Southeast MO State University Vocal Talent Scholarship 6,000

Southeast MO State University Residence Life Scholarship 4,000

Dexter Rotary Club Scholarship 1,000

Rotary Interact Scholarship 500

Belmont Leadership Scholarship 1,500

A+ Scholarship 4,000

ANTHONY MOORE

A+ Scholarship 4,000

CHEYENNE MOSBY

Dexter Faculty Scholarship 500

A+ Scholarship 4,000

EMILY MOUSER

St. Louis University Dean's Scholarship 72,000

St. Louis University Enhanced Merit Scholarship 8,000

Stoddard County Fair Board Scholarship 1,000

SEMO Electric Scholarship 750

Heartland Ag Scholarship 2,000

Dexter Lions Scholarship 1,500

John Bryant Ag Scholarship 500

John W. Brehmer Ag Scholarship 1,000

Arvella Totten Scholarship 500

Danzil & Pauline Dowdy Family Scholarship 1,000

A+ Scholarship 4000

CHELSEA MULLINS

St. Louis College of Pharmacy Academic Scholarship 21,000

KAYLEA MURDOCK

A+ Scholarship 4,000

EMILY PAGE

A-State Pride Scholarship 29,280

A+ Scholarship 4,000

BLAKE PALMER

Three Rivers College Cheerleading Scholarship 2,000

HUNTER PARROTT

MO State Troopers Assoc Scholarship 100

A+ Scholarship 4,000

NATALEE PEDROZA

Missouri State University Inclusive Excellence Award 8,000

CAROLINE PENBERTHY

Dexter Elks Scholarship 500

A+ Scholarship 4,000

ZACHARY POTTS

Dexter Elks Scholarship 500

Sacred Heart Catholic Church Scholarship 500

Montgomery Family Foundation Scholarship 500

A+ Scholarship 4,000

CAROLINE POWERS

Virgie G. Wilson Memorial Scholarship 2,500

Kastner Memorial Scholarship 200

Southeast MO State University Residence Life Scholarship 4,000

Southeast MO State University Vocal & Performing Arts Scholarship 6,000

Southeast MO State University - University Scholarship 8,000

Columbia College Academic Scholarship 40,000

ZACHARY PROPST

Dexter Junior League Bowling Award 500

TANNER RICKMAN

A+ Scholarship 4,000

DANIEL ROBEY

A+ Scholarship 4,000

SYDNEY ROGERS

A+ Scholarship 4,000

BRYCE SIMMONS

A+ Scholarship 4,000

OLIVIA SITZES

Audrey C. Fralick Memorial Scholarship 2,000

A+ Scholarship 4,000

BRANDON STONE

Southeast Missouri State University. Lifetime Leadership Award 4,000

MYCA SUTTON

University of MO Chancellor's Award 26,000

MO Bright Flight Scholarship 12,500

Show-Me Scholars Award 1,500

A+ Scholarship 4,000

ANDREW TEEL

Three Rivers College Music Scholarship 5,520

A+ Scholarship 4,000

ALYSSA TEETS

Jack & Elsie Smarr Scholarship 690

Karen Pippens Memorial Scholarship 500

A+ Scholarship 4,000

KIRSTEN TEFFERTILLER

Montgomery Family Foundation Scholarship 12,000

A+ Scholarship 4,000

**MCKINNA TIDWELL**

A+ Scholarship 4,000

**MACY URHAHN**

SEMO Athletic Conference Scholarship 250

Sacred Heart Catholic Church Scholarship 500

Montgomery Family Foundation Scholarship 1,000

A+ Scholarship 4,000

**LILLIAN WHITEHEAD**

A+ Scholarship 4,000

**BRIANNA WRIGHT**

Southeast Missouri State University Regent's Scholarship 48,000

A+ Scholarship 4,000

**ASHLYNN WYMAN**

Dexter Kiwanis Club Scholarship 1,000

Dexter Lions Club Scholarship 1,000

Heartland Ag Scholarship 2,000

MO Assoc. of Insurance Companies Scholarship 1,000

Missouri State University Dean's Scholarship 1,500

Missouri Girl's State Scholarship 1,000

Missouri State University Residence Life Scholarship 1,000

Missouri State University -University Scholarship 2,000

John W. Brehmer Ag Scholarship 1,000

MSHSAA Award of Excellence

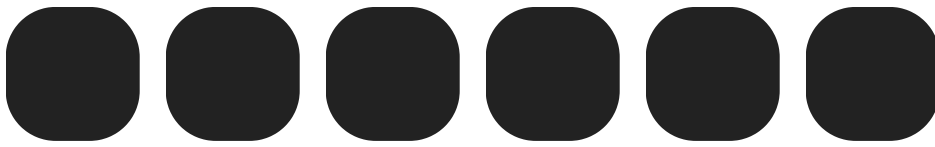
A+ Scholarship 4,000

**TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS \$1,357,889**

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## Chitwood Receives Dicken Scholarship

MAY 25TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Chitwood Receives Dicken Scholarship

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - Montana Chitwood was Poplar Bluff High School's fourth recipient of the \$400 Kyle Dicken Memorial Scholarship.

Chitwood plans to study music education at Missouri State University in Springfield. "She's in the marching band, jazz, concert – pretty much her whole schedule is band," said instructor Stephen Winters, half-jokingly.

Curtis and Wanda Dicken, the grandparents of the late Kyle, who would have graduated in the Class of 2014, would like to grow their endowment fund, which they say is the only scholarship available exclusively to local band students. For more information, email the Community Foundation of the Ozarks at [awingo@cfozarks.org](mailto:awingo@cfozarks.org) or call 573-803-1248.

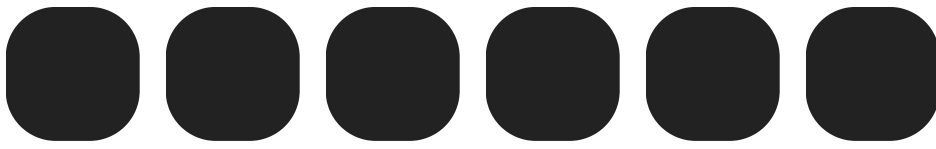
Pictured (From left) Curtis and Wanda Dicken, Montana Chitwood, and Stephen Winters.

Photo and article submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

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## Missouri Good Sports

MAY 25TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Missouri Good Sports

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - Multi-sport student athletes who display exemplary sportsmanship, ethics and integrity—as determined by coaches—received awards of excellence from the Missouri State High School Activities Association on Friday, May 19.

Sierra Sievers and Joseph Hardimon were named Missouri Good Sports at Poplar Bluff Junior High, and Katie Sliger and Adam Vincent received the annual award at Senior High. Sierra plays basketball, volleyball and cross country, with an 11.0 GPA. Joseph plays basketball, and track and field, with a 9.8 GPA. Katie runs cross country, track and field, and participates in swimming and diving, with a 10.886 GPA. Adam plays football and soccer, and runs track and field, with a 9.944 GPA in the classroom.

“We at MSHSAA firmly believe that a positive role model such as yourself can positively influence the actions of others in your school – your teammates, younger students, your opponents and even spectators,” stated Jason West, MSHSAA communications director. “By taking the responsible steps in displaying positive sportsmanship, you are helping to rekindle the spirit of citizenship and are serving as a positive representation of your school and community.”

Pictured: (From left) Adam Vincent, Katie Sliger, Athletic Director Kent Keith, Sierra

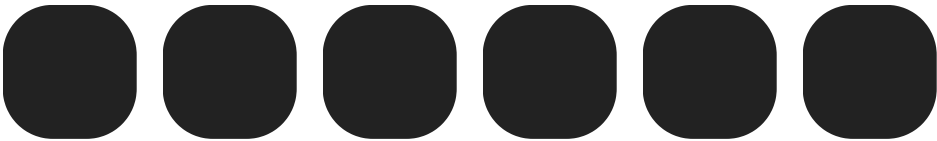
Sievers and Joseph Hardimon.

Photo and article submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director,  
Poplar Bluff R-I School District

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