

Local Schools



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Greaser of the Week Featuring Molly Simmons

OCTOBER 03RD 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

Greaser of the Week Featuring Molly Simmons

Dexter, Missouri - School is back in session and DHS Choir students are already preparing for their upcoming musical "Grease". Jamie Sepulvado and her crew are featuring a "Greaser of the Week!" so you can get to know DHS performers!!

Performances will be Wednesday, November 20th through Saturday, November 23rd! We'll let you know when tickets go on sale etc, but until then get to know your castmates and prepare for a spectacular show!

Greaser of the Week: Molly Simmons

Molly is a freshman, and she will be performing as Miss Lynch with the Red Cast on Wednesday and Friday.

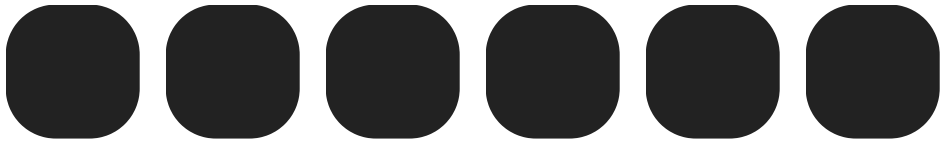
Molly has performed previously in DHS's Beauty and the Beast.

She says that she started getting involved in musicals because her sister, Meg Simmons, was in them.

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Dexter School Board Monthly Meeting Minutes - September 24, 2019

OCTOBER 03RD 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter School Board Monthly Meeting Minutes - September 24, 2019

The Dexter School Board of Education met for their regularly schedule September meeting. Below are the minutes for that meeting submitted by superintendent C.A. Counts.

Regular Board Meeting Minutes for September 24, 2019

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

Consent Agenda: The Consent Agenda was approved.

Public Comments: There were no public comments made.

Old Business:

A. None

New Business:

A. The board approved a resolution for \$4,100,000.00 bond anticipation note to cover construction cost thru December 2019. This note will be paid off with proceeds from the 2020 bonds.

This was due to work progressing faster than expected at the schools according to superintendent C

B. The board approved budget amendment for the 2019-20 school year.

C. The board approved change orders for various items from the construction project.

D. The board approved the district assessment plan for the 2019-20 school year.

Discussion Items:

A. The board was presented the MCE Board Policy Updates that will be approved at the October board meeting.

B. The nurse's report was shared with the board.

C. The principals reports were shared with the board.

D. The superintendent gave his report to the board.

E. The next board meeting was set for October 15, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

In Closed Session:

1. The board approved the following substitutes for the 2019-20 school year:

Shelly Maddox

Caroline Powers

Peggy McGowan

2. The board approved the following bus driver for the 2019-20 school year:

Ben Beecher

3. The board approved a special circumstance early graduation

Items at the conclusion of Executive Session

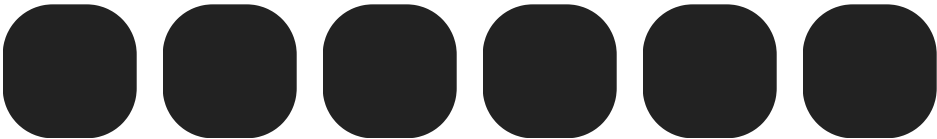
None

Stoddard County Clerk Cecil Weeks approached the Board to discuss the possibility of moving voters of Dexter Wards 1, II, and III to the Bearcat Event Center. If this worked well then he would look to move Dexter rural to the location. There would be elections in March, April, August, and November of 2020. After discussion for safety etc the board told Weeks they were on board with the move. He would proceed with printing of new voter ID cards with the new voting location.

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Greaser of the Week: Seth Teel

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Greaser of the Week: Seth Teel

Seth, a freshman, is another first-timer to DHS musicals, and he will be performing as "Roger" as a member of the Red Cast on Wednesday and Friday nights.

Seth joined the cast because he wanted to experience what it was like to be in a high school musical.

He is a talented singer, and he has represented middle school during Junior Beta Special Talent.

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Middle School Librarian Helps Students Create Online Portfolios

OCTOBER 02ND 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

Middle School Librarian Helps Students Create Online Portfolios

Poplar Bluff Middle School students are creating eBinders, or online portfolios, designed to preserve their best work so they can reflect on what they have learned throughout their educational careers and ultimately utilize on college applications.

The project is being spearheaded by Media Specialist Michele Carmode, who has served in the repurposed librarian position for grades 4-6 since the 2017/18 school year. She has made arrangements to collaborate with instructional coaches at Junior and Senior High so students can continue submitting their learning artifacts in participating classes.

“It is a way to organize a collection of work, a place to reflect on the learning processes, and finally it is a recollection of what students learned for purposes of sharing or studying,” explained Carmode, upon helping a test group of students create templates and personalize their digital Trapper Keepers on Google Chromebooks last week.

In order to make the knowledge visible and be considered an artifact, an object must be lasting, durable and materially present, for example: a photo taken during an activity, a Google Slide presentation, video, essay or work from another application such as Booksnaps or Flipgrip, Carmode continued. “The creation and display of these artifacts allow students opportunities for engagement, revision and feedback, all hallmarks of quality learning design,” she said.

For sixth grade teacher Krissey Whitlock, her favorite aspect about signing up her class is that the internal websites can be used to track progress during student-led parent-teacher conferences. “Students will be able to take ownership of their own growth much faster,” she said. Artifacts uploaded, guided by instructors, will include a reflection piece either written out, as an infographic, or in video format.

Carmode recently became the first Google for Education Certified Trainer in Poplar Bluff among only a few in the region, she reported. With a tenure that spans over two decades

in public education, Carmode earned her master’s degree in technology and education from the University of Missouri at Columbia.

She is the “real deal” and an asset to the entire district, according to Middle School Principal Dr. Brad Ownings, who led the effort to evolve his librarian post to meet the needs of Generation Z. “There are tons of articles about how librarians have turned into curators of books, and we need to move on to digital literacy, technology integration and makerspaces,” Owings stated.

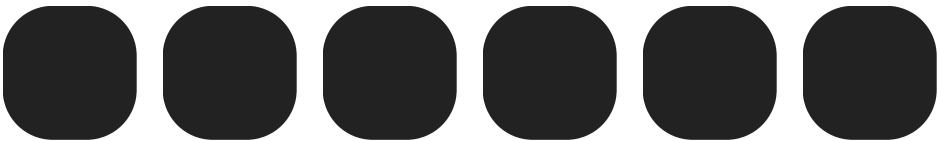
Media Specialist Michele Carmode helps a group of students create eBinder templates to collect educational artifact submissions on Tuesday, Sept. 24, in the Middle School Media Center.

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

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Free Dinner Service Offered Across PB School

District

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Free Dinner Service Offered Across PB School District

Chartwells began offering dinner services for free last week at five additional school sites where after school enrichment programs and services such as tutoring, club activities and latch-key are available to all students.

Approved sites under Missouri's At-Risk Afterschool Program include the Kindergarten Center from 3:55-4:30 p.m., Oak Grove and O'Neal Elementary from 3:50-4:30 p.m., Junior High from 4-4:30 p.m., and Poplar Bluff High School from 5-5:30 p.m.

Students participating in athletics or band can receive meals to go, which "is going to touch a lot of lives," Assistant Superintendent of Business Dr. Amy Jackson reported Thursday, Sept. 19, during the school board meeting. Superintendent Dr. Scott Dill added that the meals would be "nutritionally balanced," as opposed to vending machine snacks.

Chartwells, a long-standing partner of the R-I school district, received a total of \$15,000 in grant funding through No Kid Hungry Missouri in order to purchase backup ovens, as well as warmers and coolers to create the storage space necessary to serve the additional meals.

So far 260 dinners are being served daily by kitchen personnel, officials have recorded. Dinner is already available at Eugene Field, Lake Road and the Middle School for students who participate in 'power hour' through the Boys and Girls Club on campus.

"Mom or dad may have to work until 5 or 6," explained Dixie Harden, food services director. "Now you know your child has had something to eat and you're not in rush mode when you get home to feed them, because you no longer have to worry about your child being hungry."

Dinner through Missouri's At-Risk Afterschool Program, administered by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, is federally-reimbursable under the United States Department of Agriculture since the approved schools serve at least 50 percent of children eligible for free and reduced-price meals.

Following summer school, Chartwells provided children a total of 8,500 meals for lunch and breakfast at Poplar Bluff Head Start and Wheatley School with help from a near \$5,000 grant under the same initiative, in cooperation with Family and Community Trust.

Meals served throughout July exceeded 10,000 counting those offered through the BGC, Harden reported. Chartwells also sponsors the district Mule Packs program, distributing around 150 bags of nonperishables bimonthly to students in need.

“When you’re in the cafeteria, you can tell when kids are hungry, and to know some kids may not get a meal when they go home [drives] me,” said Harden, noting that dinner is optional if students have arrangements afterward. “I love challenges and am blessed to have the team I have and be able to help in these ways.”

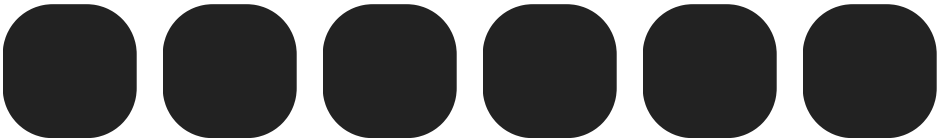
Janice Vincent (forefront) and Angie Kearbey of Chartwells serve hot ravioli to elementary students on Thursday, Sept. 26, at O’Neal.

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

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