



DANVERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING: January 13, 2020

The following is a summary of the School Committee Meeting, which took place on January 13, 2020. To watch the full meeting, please visit [Danvers Community Access TV](#).

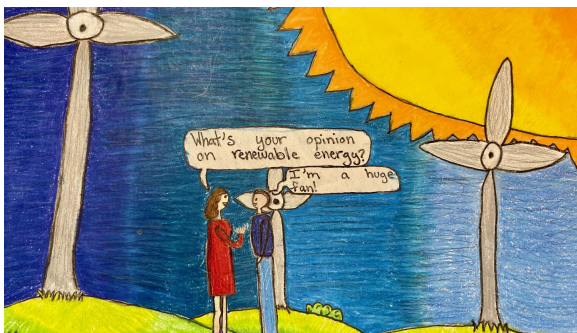
ITEMS OF INTEREST



Danvers Honors MLK 2020



Off to a Great Start: DPS Teacher Mentor Program



Pick up your copy of the HRMS / DPW calendar today!

1. Danvers Honors MLK 2020
 - On 1/20/20 Danvers Public Schools hosted a Martin Luther King Jr Day Celebration in partnership with Danvers Human Rights and Inclusion Committee.
 - We welcomed a large crowd of local families to enjoy student artwork, speeches from community members, and [musical performances](#).
2. Off to a Great Start: DPS Teacher Mentor Program
 - The mentor program provides new teachers with resources and support, as described in their [video](#).
 - Monthly meetings start with social emotional learning activities to improve SEL competencies such as self awareness and relationship skills, which the teachers then bring back to the classroom.
 - The program embraces the district technology, such as the use of google classroom and online surveys.
3. The 2020 DPW calendar is now available!
 - Thank you to the Danvers DPW for sponsoring this annual project! The DPW engages Holten Richmond students by asking art classes to submit custom work.
 - Grade 6 students were tasked with choosing a theme for this year's calendar, and they selected Renewable Energy. This was an impressive undertaking where students studied various types of renewable resources, such as wind and water. Students hope the images will inspire the community to consider sustainable alternatives.
 - Featured student artists include: Ashley T., Addie L., Kira V., Sienna P., Bella V., Alex R., Claudia D., Skylar D., Anthony G., Mia W., Gyovanna B., Benjamin W., and Josie V.

SMITH SCHOOL PROJECT UPDATE



- Stay up to date with the [progress](#) at the new Smith School!
- 2/14 8 am School Building Meeting, Town Hall - All are welcome
- Have more questions? [Please see the town hall website here](#)



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DPS Strategic Plan Update

The following are highlights from the Program of Studies for Holten Richmond Middle School and the Danvers High School.

Safe and Supportive Learning Environments

→ HRMS learning goals include Social-Emotional Competencies, such as self-awareness, social awareness, responsible decision-making, self-management, and relationship skills.

→ HRMS has replaced the S.S.R. (Sustained Silent Reading) block with a 25 minute R.I.S.E. block before or after lunch. R.I.S.E. stands for Re-teach and Review, Intervention, Silent Reading, and Extension. Faculty and students make decisions on how best to use this time according to academic needs and goals.

→ DHS Wellness courses are comprised of physical and health education to provide students with the knowledge and skills to develop personal habits and encourage healthy lifestyle choices.

Coherent Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

→ HRMS has updated the Social Studies course descriptions for Grades 7 and 8. Grade 7 focuses its curriculum on geography and ancient history and Grade 8 focuses on civics.

→ DHS is offering new courses such as “Amazon Z: Next Generation Environmental Advocacy”, “Rhetoric in the 21st Century”, and “3D Printing”. These courses further meet our students needs and help to reinvent our examination of sustainability, celebrate culture and the arts, and leverage new technology we were able to purchase through grant funding.

→ DHS World Language courses will begin to be taught using a proficiency-based approach where the instructor delivers a majority of instruction in the target language. The Social Studies courses of World History and United States History will focus on newly adjusted time periods.

Student Engagement

→ HRMS’ exploratory program offers students new and exciting opportunities to engage in skill development and project-based learning. Project Lead the Way has enhanced Technology Education courses by integrating CAD software into all STEM courses.

→ The DHS Innovation Pathways scope and sequence offers a rigorous course of study that includes specific courses, community service hours, and a capstone project to immerse students in a focused subject area.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 2/3 9 am-10 am [DanversCARES](#) Meeting
- 2/12 [DEEP](#) meeting, First Ipswich Bank, 7:45am-8:45am
- 2/15 - 2/23 NO SCHOOL: February Break
- 2/24 7pm February [School Committee](#) Meeting - FY21 Budget Hearing

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