



September 2016

# DASD News . . . .

# 2016-17

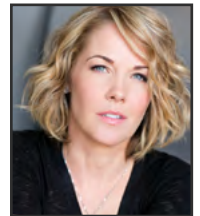
Engaging, challenging,  
and inspiring all students to pursue their full potential.

### In this issue

- Three of five construction projects complete..... 1
- Rothfuss, Anders, and Anders to be inducted into Alumni Hall of Fame..... 1
- STEM Open House, Oct. 12 ..... 1
- Construction updates ..... 2
- Thank you for school supplies ..... 3
- Welcome new DASD staff..... 3
- Schools busy throughout summer..... 3
- Kohl nominations due Sept. 25..... 3
- DASD News Blog..... 4
- School board updates..... 4
- Bergs and Kollasch headed to China ..... 4
- DASD Parent Resource Survey ..... 5
- DASD Parent Support Group ..... 4
- Middle school chair auction..... 5
- DASD in Brief (early release; data retreats; student assessments)..... 6
- Emergency communication ..... 6
- Upcoming events in DeForest & Madison area..... 7
- Stadium pavers..... 8

### DASD to honor three in Alumni Hall of Fame September 15, 2016

Please join us . . .



**Alumni Hall of Fame**  
celebrating 2016 inductees  
**Patrick Rothfuss, Sean Anders, & Andrea Anders**

Thursday, September 15 | 5:30 pm  
(reception and ceremony)  
DAHS Performing Arts Center

*More information*  
[www.deforestschoools.org](http://www.deforestschoools.org)

### Three of five projects complete!



The third of five building projects approved by DASD residents in April 2015 is now complete. The addition and remodeled space for the high school Agri-Science, Technology Education, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math) programs was ready for students and staff at the start of the school year.

*continued on p. 2*

Save the date!



### DeForest Area High School STEM Open House

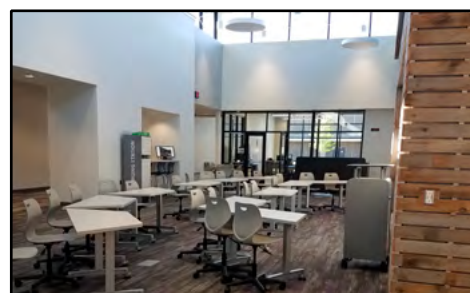
October 12, 2016  
5:30 pm

See the new and remodeled learning spaces for  
Agri-Science, Technology Education, and STEM.  
Watch for more information coming soon!

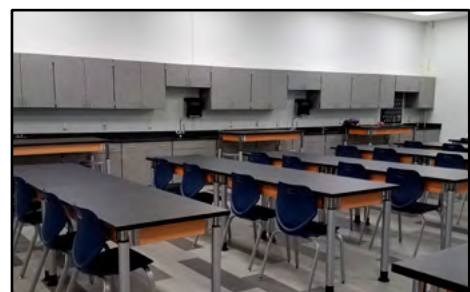
DASD



## Three projects complete!



Collaboration learning space



STEM classroom

[www.DASDconstruction.org](http://www.DASDconstruction.org)



Completed

### Yahara Elementary School

- Move office to better support a secured entrance
- Create safer separation of bus and parent traffic



Completed

### DeForest Area Middle School

- Remodel space for STEM and Technical Education



Completed

### DeForest Area High School

- Build addition and remodel space for STEM, Technical Education and Agri-Science

Construction phase

### Eagle Point Elementary School

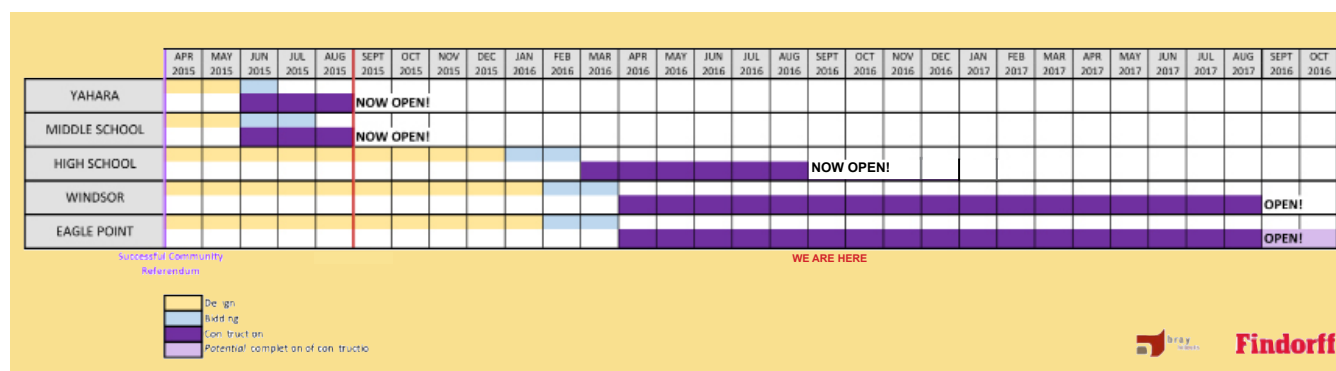
- Build new school on existing site
- Create safer separation of bus and parent traffic
- Demolish existing school after completion of new

Construction phase

### Windsor Elementary School

- Build major additions and remodel portions of school
- Create safer separation of bus and parent traffic
- Demolish oldest sections after completion of additions

## Construction schedule



Thank you to DMB Community Bank and the DeForest Lions Club for sponsoring the first **Stuff the Bus** event. DASD families and community members were very generous with donations of school supplies for students.



In addition, we would like to recognize **Vogel Bros Construction** for their support in helping to ensure students have the supplies they need to be successful in school. For several years, the company has sent pallets of supplies to each DASD school!



We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.

~ Winston Churchill

## Welcome new DASD staff!



Photo by Joe Pruski, DeForest Times-Tribune

DASD welcomes 30 new certified teaching staff, 14 new support staff, and four new leadership team members to our schools. Pictured above are new teachers who attended orientation on August 24.

## Schools are busy throughout the summer

Staff continue to collaborate and learn through a variety of ways during the school year and summer. Strong professional development opportunities ensure that staff are fully prepared to meet the ever challenging landscape of modern education.

In addition, our custodial and building/grounds staff are busy throughout the summer getting our facilities ready for the first day of school and several staff members prepare for district-wide registration.

The video image at right (or use <https://goo.gl/e71xMQ>) gives a quick illustration of just how much goes on at DASD during the summer months.



## Kohl nominations due Sept 23

The 28th annual Herb Kohl Fellowship program is now taking nominations to recognize teaching excellence and innovation in the State of Wisconsin. The Fellowship Foundation awards \$3,000 to 100 Wisconsin teachers and each Kohl Fellowship recipient's school receives a matching \$3,000 grant. Teachers can be nominated by parents, teachers, students, community members, or school district administrators. The applications of the public school Kohl fellowship recipients are automatically used as the applicants for the Wisconsin Teacher of the Year program.

More information and nomination form are available at [www.kohleducation.org](http://www.kohleducation.org). Completed nomination forms can be submitted directly to the Department of Public Education or to Sue Wilson, DASD Director of Instructional Services at the District Administrative Center. They are due to DPI by September 23.





## Check out the DASD e-News Blog

### Local Teacher Completes National Food Safety and Nutrition Training



*From Farm to Table, Teachers Explore the Science Behind Nation's Food Supply*

WASHINGTON, DC. August, 2016 – Brittany Vanderbilt, a teacher at DeForest Area High School in DeForest, WI was one of 32 teachers nationwide chosen to complete a food science training program developed and implemented in a partnership between the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), and Graduate School USA. [Read more at DASDNews.](#)

### DASD hosts first Girl's Go! STEM Camp



During the week of July 17th, 28 DAMS girls attended the District's first Girl's Go! STEM Camp. The camp was made possible through a grant written by Judi Walsh, School Counselor and Program Coordinator for College and Career Readiness, encouraging middle school girls to get involved in STEM

(Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) related courses and careers. [Read more at DASDNews.](#)

Subscribe to the DASD e-News blog and receive notifications of new posts by email - [www.dasdnews.org](http://www.dasdnews.org).

## School Board Updates

### New board member

The DASD Board of Education welcomes Linda Leonhart, who was appointed as a Director on July 11, 2016. Leonhart fills the Town of Burke school board seat made vacant by the resignation of Dan Choi, who left due to a job relocation.

### Budget hearing and annual meeting

The DASD budget hearing and annual meeting was held on July 25, 2016. Residents of the school district approved the tentative budget and tax levy for 2016-17. More information is available in the Annual Meeting Report, which can be found on the [DASD website](#).

The final levy will be determined after enrollment, equalized aid, and property values are known in October.

**School board meetings are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6 pm.**

**Agendas and minutes are posted on the District website.**

## DASD Parent Resource Survey

Share your knowledge and experience with DASD students

You may be the perfect person to help a student or group of students explore a career option and better prepare for college and career success.



If you are willing to volunteer your time to be a resource to students in the DeForest Area School District, please take a couple of minutes to complete a survey (link below). This survey is done each year, so please complete it even if you did so last year or you didn't receive a phone call.

**Why?** One of the keys to improving student achievement is providing students with relevant contexts for studying and learning. Many times a personal connection, or real life example, helps students link school-based learning with the knowledge and skills required for success in school and the future workplace.

If you have questions, please contact: Debbie Brewster, [dbrewster@deforestschoools.org](mailto:dbrewster@deforestschoools.org).

### [PARENT RESOURCE SURVEY](#)

<https://goo.gl/forms/nwHfbsBi1mSYvAL12>

## DASD Parent Support Group

Barbara Buffington, Director of Pupil Services for DASD, is again facilitating a discussion group for parents/guardians of students with disabilities or students with 504 plans within the DeForest Area School District.

This group of parents provide support to each other in areas of special education, collaboration with school, mental health, behavior, autism, severe disability areas, as well as technical assistance in special education issues. The meetings are confidential and are held on the third Wednesday of the month, 6-8 pm, at the Holum Education Center (Board Room)

**July 20**  
**August 17**  
**September 21**  
**October 19**  
**November 16**  
**December 21**

**January 18**  
**February 15**  
**March 15**  
**April 19**  
**May 17**

Information is available on the [e-Flyers webpage](#). Or, contact Julie Hartman at [jhartman@deforestschoools.org](mailto:jhartman@deforestschoools.org) for more information.

## Middle school chair auction in full swing

The DeForest Area Middle School 7/8 Library Chair Auction began on August 29, and will run through September 11. This exciting fundraiser will support renovation of the library that serves 7th and 8th grade students. According to librarian and auction organizer Laura Shucha, "the renovation project will bring student resources, access, and library furnishing up-to-date." As part of this renovation, the current wood library chairs were retired. "It was decided that offering them for sale to the public would be a good idea, but offering them for sale as works of art would be an even better idea," said Shucha. "Over 20 local and regional artists have beautifully redesigned 29 former library chairs. Each chair is available for purchase through a silent auction." All funds raised will be put toward the purchase of furnishings for the 7/8 Library.



The redesigned chairs were on display on August 29 during the middle school's Backpack Night. The online auction began at 4 pm on the 29th and will be open until 4 pm on Sunday, September 11. Online auction services have been generously provided by Sunrise Auction Company. Chairs can be viewed and bid on at any time between the opening and closing at [www.sunriseauctioncompany.com](http://www.sunriseauctioncompany.com).

Individual chairs were on display at several local businesses throughout the community before the auction began (see list below). In addition, all chairs will be on display at the 7th annual Yahara Riverfest at Conservancy Commons Park on Saturday, September 10.

Thank you to the following businesses who displayed one or more chairs:!

Lake Windsor Golf Club, Parkside Village 55+ Community, Village of Windsor, Windsor Family Dental, Tricor Insurance, DeForest Area Public Library, UnityPoint Health – Meriter DeForest-Windsor, Bakke Chiropractic Clinic, DeForest Area Middle School, DeForest Area School District Administrative Office, Essential Family Vision Care, Settlers bank, and DMB Community Bank.

## Bergs and Kollasch to represent DASD at symposium in China

High school teachers Jenny Bergs and Colleen Kollasch have been selected to represent the DeForest Area School District at the 3rd Annual Global K-12 Educational Research Symposium in China, to be held October 13-20, 2016.

The symposium is hosted by the district's Chinese sister school in Shijiazhuang. The theme of this year's conference is "Cultivation of Students as Literate Citizens in a Global Context". Bergs and Kollasch will prepare a 15-20 minute presentation on how, as teachers, they cultivate students' comprehension abilities. Both have received a scholarship from the symposium organizers that covers their round trip airfare, hotel, and meals.



Jenny Bergs



Colleen Kollasch



## DASD Updates In Brief

Below are updates on district initiatives that are contributing to the continuous improvement of instructional programs and services that will benefit students, families, employees and community.

### Early Release Days

Student achievement continues to be dependent on educational professionals collaborating and assessing student progress. Early release days are scheduled throughout the school year to provide teachers with blocks of time to work together in their Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). During the two hours that students are released, teachers work in their PLCs on the following tasks:

- Aligning curriculum
- Developing common assessments
- Analyzing data to inform instruction
- Developing and/or analyzing SMART Goals
- Consensus grading
- Analyzing RtI data
- Sharing instructional strategies
- Vertical alignment
- Professional development as a PLC group

### Data Retreats

As part of the district's efforts to continually improve, each summer staff from all the buildings participate in what is referred to as a data retreat. A data retreat is a day-long process to examine a number of student achievement and school climate indicators.

Throughout the first quarter of the school year each individual

building also conducts a building specific data retreat. These retreats help guide building goals around student achievement and school climate.

### Student assessments

As part of the Wisconsin Student Assessment System, all students in Wisconsin take the Forward Exam, which is a large-scale, standardized achievement test designed to assess what students know in relation to the Wisconsin Academic Standards.

The Forward Exam was administered to DASD students during the spring of 2016 in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics for students in grades 3-8, science for grades 4 and 8, and social studies for grades 4, 8, and 10.

Results of this exam are sent to schools in the fall. Parents/Guardians will be sent their child's Individual Student Report (ISR) on Sept. 15. The ISR provides information about the child's performance on the Wisconsin Forward Exam.

Our school district also uses assessment tools that help teachers see if students, and the district, are making progress with their individual achievement goals.

Students in kindergarten through fourth grade are administered various assessments designed to determine their literacy skills and independent reading levels. Additionally, all students in K-10th grade take a standards-based assessment called STAR at several points during the school year to monitor their progress in English/ Language Arts and Math.

Additional information and a list of testing dates for 2016-17 will be available on the DASD website soon (home page, under Current Topics).

Parents may also review some of their child's assessment results through Skyward Family Access.



### Emergency Communication

In the event of an emergency or immediate safety notice, including a school closing, delay or early release due to inclement weather, DASD will communicate with staff, students, parents and the community through text messages\*, email, the DASD website, and automated phone calls.

*\*Parents and staff must opt in for text messages. (No need to opt in again, unless the phone number has changed.)*

Information will be communicated when appropriate, at the direction of the Superintendent, and as immediately as possible in the following ways:



District website  
[www.deforestschools.org](http://www.deforestschools.org)  
*Special DASD Alert at top of page*



Automated phone message  
*Uses phone contact(s) provided in Skyward Family Access*



Email message  
*Uses email address(es) provided in Skyward Family Access*



Text message  
*Opt-in required. Text **optin** to 68453. You will receive a confirmation reply message.*



Like us on Facebook  
[deforestareaschools](https://www.facebook.com/deforestareaschools)



Follow us on Twitter  
[DeForestSchools](https://twitter.com/DeForestSchools) & [DASDAlerts](https://twitter.com/DASDAlerts)



Local television and radio stations  
*Complete list on DASD website*

Mark your calendar!



Saturday, September 10

### Yahara Riverfest

12:00-5:00 pm, Conservancy Commons Park, DeForest  
Come out for a fun-filled day of family-friendly activities for all ages that celebrates our community's largest natural asset. [www.yaharariverfest.com](http://www.yaharariverfest.com)



Saturday, September 24

### Heritage Fest

11:00 am to 10:00 pm, Windsor Fireman's Park, Windsor  
Celebrate the heritage of our area with food, activities and live music for all. [www.deforestarea.com](http://www.deforestarea.com)



September 26 - October 1

### Homecoming 2016

Monday, Sept 26, 7 pm ..... Community Pep Rally  
Friday, Sept 30, 5 pm ..... Homecoming Parade  
Saturday, Oct 1 ..... High School Dance, 8-11 pm  
..... Grand March, 9:30 pm  
Students, alumni, and community - show your Norski Pride.



### Scholastic Book Fairs

October 6 - Yahara Elementary School  
October 6 - Eagle Point Elementary School  
October 18-20 - Windsor Elementary School  
October 31-November 7 - DeForest Area Middle School



Wednesday, October 12

### DAHS Agri-Science, Technology Ed., STEM Open House

5:30-7:00 pm  
Celebrate the completion of the construction project.  
Take a tour of the new facilities and learn about the programs taught in this new learning space.



Thursday, October 29

### Community Trick or Treat

5:00-7:00 pm  
Hosted by DAHS National Honor Society



### Holiday Gift Giving for families in need

DeForest Area Clergy Association in conjunction with the DeForest Area Needs Network (DANN), Joining Forces for Families (JFF), and DeForest Area School District will be sponsoring this annual program, which responds to needs in the community. Eligible families will receive information in the mail in late September. Community members may donate gifts in November and December.



### 3rd Annual Community Choir

The Community Choir is back! This is a chance for singers from the DeForest area of all ages and backgrounds to join together with students from the DeForest Area High School Choral Department and make some truly beautiful music. Visit <https://goo.gl/sQGPMm> for more information.



### Community Job Fair

Tuesday, October 18  
3:00-6:00 pm, DeForest Area High School  
Job seekers, meet and greet with local companies looking to fill quality positions. You will also be able to attend workshops on Resume Writing and Work Place Readiness. Open to the public.

Upcoming events in the Madison area



<https://goo.gl/xRVLXd>



DeForest Area School District  
520 E. Holum Street  
DeForest, WI 53532  
[www.deforestareaschools.org](http://www.deforestareaschools.org)

## Show your Norski Pride at stadium

Show your Norski Pride with a personalized engraved paver for you, your family, business or organization at DMB Stadium!

8x8, 8x16, and 16x16

To be placed in the "D" in the Central Plaza

As part of the DASD school-community partnership campaign to continue raising funds for enhancement of the high school stadium renovation, local businesses and organizations, as well as individuals and families, may consider one of the various sponsorship or donation opportunities.

[More information and order forms](#)



## DO YOU FOLLOW DASD?



**FACEBOOK**  
[facebook.com/deforestareaschools](https://facebook.com/deforestareaschools)



**TWITTER**  
[twitter.com/DeForestSchools](https://twitter.com/DeForestSchools)



**DASD e-News**  
[dasdnews.org](http://dasdnews.org)



**DASD e-News**  
[youtube.com/deforestareaschools](https://youtube.com/deforestareaschools)



**Superintendent Blog**  
[dasdsuperintendent.blogspot.com](http://dasdsuperintendent.blogspot.com)



**Pinterest**  
[pinterest.com/deforestschoools](https://pinterest.com/deforestschoools)

*The DeForest Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or handicap in employment and its educational programs and activities.*