

Toward Tomorrow



Dansville Central School
284 Main Street
Dansville, NY 14437

January / February 2010
www.dansvillecsd.org

www.dansvillecsd.org

Message from the Superintendent

By Matthew McGarrity
Superintendent of Schools

We have arrived at winter – and with that comes the excitement of the holidays, time with family and friends and the promise of the new year. The schools have been busy with performances, activities and athletic contests as well as a number of community events. I continue to encourage the community to take part in these activities and enjoy the facilities and programs its members so generously support. Walk the halls or swim to stay fit, watch the games for some fun and excitement or volunteer in a school building or through the PTOs. The Dansville community has so many opportunities for our families and community members.

Along with these wonderful activities comes the day-to-day operations of the district and it is no secret that financial concerns at the state level are of a huge impact to all school districts. We are carefully watching our spending, being as deliberate as we are in our own homes and safeguarding our funds for those items that will most benefit children. In the meantime, we wait to hear the impact of the legislative and executive decisions as they continue talk of withholding aid payments to schools, making mid-year cuts and other reductions. While nobody in the state will come through these economic and political struggles unscathed, we are constantly working to maximize those opportunities available to us and to encourage our students' growth and development.

We will continue to communicate with residents as we know more about the impact of the state's decisions and ramifications they will have on our school district.

I would like to say "Thank you" to all of the individuals, organizations and businesses that have helped in the recent months with the spirit of giving. Whether it is food drives, fund drives or special events, I am proud to be part of a district that hears a need and answers the call. In tough times it would be easy to turn our heads away, but instead Dansville embraces these challenges and forges on with such programs as The Back Pack Food Drive and dress down days for our students and staff in need. It is this generous spirit and willingness to tackle problems that reassures me we will come through other challenges stronger and better than we were before.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions about school programs or news items as I'm always glad to share my thoughts on these subjects. I wish the Dansville Central School communities, its members, students, families and friends a wonderful and safe holiday season. May the new year bring you much to celebrate and enjoy.

Sincerely,
Matthew McGarrity

A Tuba Christmas On the Cover

Gregory Henderson and Nicholas Vogler, both Dansville sixth grade students, attended the annual TubaChristmas at Hochstein School of Music in Rochester. They were joined on stage by over two hundred fifty tuba and euphonium players. The musicians came from all over the area and ranged in age from eight to eighty years old. Many of the instruments were decorated with tinsel, ornaments and Christmas lights.

Greg and Nicholas participated in a two-hour rehearsal at Hochstein and then performed in a concert for a standing room only audience. Traditional Christmas carols were performed such as *Adeste Fideles*, *Deck the Halls*, and *Good King Wenceslas* among others. Every year these musicians gather to pay respect to their heritage. The warm, rich organ-like sound of the mass tuba-euphonium choirs has won the ears and hearts of audiences across the country.

Bus Vote slated January 13

The Dansville School District will be putting forward a proposition to purchase new buses for the 2010-2011 school year. This vote will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2010 from noon to 8 pm in the North Dansville Town Hall. The purchase will include four 66-passenger school buses, one wheelchair bus, one three-quarter-ton 4x4 pickup, and one four-door passenger car. The following Q&A format addresses topics of interest that pertain to this purchase:

Q: Why are we spending so much money on buses and vehicles when the economy is so poor?

A: The District has always attempted to maintain a bus fleet purchase schedule that keeps our students safe and our buses in very good working order, while maximizing trade-in value for our used buses. If we do not pay attention to these factors, not only will safety and the quality of the fleet diminish, about our bus costs in the future may rise to an unmanageable level.

Q: How much harm would be done if we waited a while to purchase these buses?

A: New bus emissions regulations for 2010 have substantially increased the cost of busses. By purchasing these 2009 models now, the cost to the district is considerably less.

Q: Why don't we use this money to decrease taxes or improve services for students?

A: The money being used for this purchase is from a bus reserve account that the District has allocated over time. This money cannot be used for purposes other than bus purchases for the District. Also, by using the reserve account, we will not be incurring more debt that contains finance charges.

Q: Why do buses cost so much?

A: Buses are designed and built to withstand major crashes with minimal damage to insure the safety of our students.

Q: Why are we getting other vehicles along with the buses?

A: Smaller vehicles are used for the maintenance department (three-quarter-ton 4x4 pick-up) to maintain parking lots in the winter and other grounds upkeep as well as providing a vehicle for student driver education in the summer.

The Dansville community has been very supportive of District bus purchases in the past and we want to make sure you have accurate information as we proceed with this proposition. Please don't hesitate to contact the District Office (335-4000) with any questions.

Dansville Bus Purchase Vote

Wednesday, January 13, Noon to 8 pm, North Dansville Town Hall

Voters are being asked to authorize the District to expend \$560,000, less trade-in value, if any, from the existing School Bus Reserve Fund for the acquisition of four (4) 66-passenger school buses, at an estimated maximum cost of \$99,000 each; one (1) wheelchair bus, at an estimated cost of \$122,000; plus one (1) three-quarter-ton 4x4 pickup, and one (1) four-door passenger car, at a combined cost not exceed \$42,000. All funds will come from the transportation reserve, set aside for the purchase of vehicles. If you have any questions regarding this information, or the vote, do not hesitate to contact the District Office at 335-4000.



Dec & Jan HS Students of the Month

Dansville High School is pleased to announce **Rachel Doe** and **Garrett Hoag** have been named December Students of the Month. **Alice Smith** and **Andrew DellaVilla** have been named January Students of the Month.

Rachel Doe is the daughter of Rodney and Lorilyn Doe. Rachel has been very active during her years at DHS. She is secretary of the National Honor Society and holds both her Script and Varsity D. She is a member of the National Art Honor Society and the Student Council. Rachel is a member of the Marching Mustangs and the Jazz and Concert Bands. She has participated in All-County Band for three years and Solo Festival for two years. Rachel is a senior class officer and a four year veteran of the Drama Club. She has played two years of softball, run track for two years as well as swimming for two years. Rachel is a peer mediator and a member of the Danua staff.



Outside of school, Rachel is a member of 4-H (teen council) and participated in Bridge to Employment. She has been a camp worker, youth group member, volunteered with Angel Food Ministries, toured with Young Continentals and is a Compassion Child sponsor. Rachel has been a Student Ambassador and is currently planning Hoopsters for Hope. She has worked as a cleaner, dishwasher, babysitter and lifeguard.

Next fall, Rachel plans to attend Roberts Wesleyan College and plans to pursue studies in the medical field.

Garrett Hoag is the son of John and Kelly Hoag. Garrett has been quite busy during his years at Dansville Senior High. He is a member of the Future Business Leaders of America and holds a Script and Varsity D. He has been a member of the Rotary Interact Club and has been a peer mediator for three years. He has also volunteered as a peer tutor his senior year. Garrett is a three sport varsity athlete. He has played four years of football and served as team captain his junior and senior years.



Garrett has volunteered at the NYS Festival of Balloons, the Poag's Hole Hill Climb and with the Dansville Rotary Club. He has been involved in road clean-ups and helped deliver Thanksgiving Dinners.

Next year, Garrett plans to attend Alfred State College and plans to study sports management.

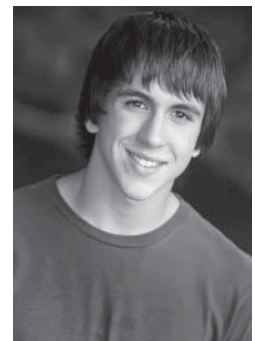
Alice Smith is the daughter of Terry Smith. Alice has been active during her years at DHS. She is a member of the National Honor Society and holds her Script D. She is a member of the National Art Honor Society and a former member of the National Junior Honor Society. Alice is a member of the Dansville Equestrian Society and is a 4-H leader. She has volunteered at the Hornell Animal Shelter for two years and has helped with the Red Cross Blood Drives.



Outside of school, Alice has worked for Mehlenbacher Farms her junior and senior years and has spent endless hours dedicated to her hobby of horseback riding. She is a competitor in Equestrian Eventing.

Next fall, Alice plans to attend Morrisville State College and plans to pursue a degree Equine Science and Management.

Andrew DellaVilla is the son of Matt and Sandy DellaVilla. Andrew has been quite busy during his years at Dansville Senior High. He holds a Script and Varsity D. Andrew played soccer for two years and is a four year veteran of both the swim and track teams. He has been a member of the Mercury Aquatics Swim Team for more than two years and has been on an educational tour of Italy and Greece through EF Tours.



Andrew has volunteered at car washes for Mercury Aquatics and has volunteered through the Ellis B. Hyde chess club. Next year, Andrew plans to attend SUNY Cortland and plans to study conservation biology.

Four receive NYS Academic Scholarships

Four Dansville High School students are being recognized as recipients of the 2010 New York State Scholarships for Academic Excellence.

Congratulations to Thomas Wittig, son of Dr. Geoffrey and Rita Wittig, who earned a \$1,500 scholarship; Jonathan Pierce, son of Brian and Cynthia Pierce; Zachariah Hale, son of Dr. Kenneth and Dr. Kathleen Hale; and Alyssa Stevens, daughter of Reveend James and Katherine Stevens, all of whom earned \$500 scholarships.

These students earned the highest Regents exam averages in specified subjects during their junior year of high school. Pending the appropriation of funds during the 2010 session of the New York State Legislature, these awards will be given out and are renewable for four years if a student attends a college in New York. Certainly, these awards are a reflection of a lifelong commitment to their academics.



NYS Scholars: from left: Zachariah Hale, Thomas Wittig, Jonathan Pierce and Alyssa Stevens.

Wittig named Commended Scholar

Senior Thomas Wittig, son of Dr. Geoffrey and Rita Wittig, has been named a *Commended Student* in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program.

About 34,000 *Commended Students* throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2010 competition for National Merit Scholarships, *Commended Students* placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2010 competition by taking the 2008 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

As demonstrated by their outstanding performance in our highly competitive program, the young men and women named *Commended Students* represent some of the most academically talented students in our country," said a NMSC spokesperson.

Quibell earns AU Teacher Award

Matt Quibell, Dansville High School Math Teacher, has been awarded the Alfred University Kazuo Inamori High School Science/Math Teacher Award sponsored by the Kazuo Inamori School of Engineering and the NYS College of Ceramics at Alfred University. This teaching honor is the result of a nomination made by former student Stephen Barton.

"You have left a lasting impression upon your students and allowed them to walk away with a positive learning experience," wrote William LaCourse,



Interim Associate Provost for Statutory Affairs, "You should be proud of your accomplishments as an educator.

Quibell will receive a plaque from the university to display at Dansville High School along with \$200 to be spent on classroom supplies and materials. Mr. Quibell was also nominated for this

January



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 WELCOME 2010!	2
3	4 EBH & PS PTO Meets, 6 pm, EBH Lib.	5 Board of Education Meets, 7 pm, PS cafe <i>*Change in date.</i>	6	7 Making Financial Aid Count Seminar, 7 pm, HS Aud	8	9 7-12 Music Festival in Warsaw
10 Circus: 2:30 pm HS Gymnasium	11	12	13 SCHOOL BUS VOTE Noon to 8 pm N. Dansville Town Hall	14	15 DFE Rollerskating	16 SPIRIT CHALLENGE Cheer Competit. 11 am, \$5 per person
17	18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day: NO SCHOOL	19 HS PTO meets, 7 pm	20	21	22	23
24	25 MS PTO meets, 6:30 pm	26 Board of Education Meets, 7 pm, PS cafe REGENTS	27 REGENTS	28 REGENTS	29 REGENTS 11:30 am Dismissal for Grades K-12 (No PreK)	30
31						

Don't Miss The
Dansville Central School Bus Vote
 January 13, 2010
 North Dansville Town Hall
 Noon to 8 pm



February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 No School: Professional Development Day EBH/PS PTO meets, 6 pm	2	3	4	5 5th & 6th Grade All County Band/ Chorus, HS Jazz in Avon	6 5th & 6th Grade All County Band/ Chorus, HS Jazz in Avon Valentine's Day Family Dance PreK-5 Grade Families. 6 pm
7	8	9 Board of Education Meets, 7 pm, PS cafe	10	11	12 DFE Rollerskating, 2:30 pm	13
14 Valentine's Day	15 No School Presidents' Recess PRESIDENTS' DAY	16 No School Presidents' Recess	17 No School Presidents' Recess	18 No School Presidents' Recess	19 No School Presidents' Recess	20
21	22	23 Board of Education Meets, 7 pm, PS cafe	24	25	26 DMS PTO Movie Night, 7 pm HS Dance, 7 pm All County Festival 10-12 Band, 7-9 Chorus in Mt. Morris	27
28						

www.dansvillecsd.org

Click on District Calendar to see everything happening on campus!

Stay Healthy During the Winter at DCS!

Adult Lap Swim

6:20 to 7:20 am, \$3

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays

* Contact Nancy Hussey or Emily Wolf
with questions (wolfe@dansvillecsd.org).

Hall Walking

Mondays - Fridays,

6:30 to 7:30 am, 7 to 8 pm

Register for FREE at the District Office

* No walking when school is closed.



Questions about this
newsletter?

Contact Melonie Coley
coleym@dansvillecsd.org
or at 335-4000 ext 2306

Dansville Central School
284 Main Street
Dansville, NY 14437

PRE-SORT
Nonprofit Org.
US Postage Paid
Dansville, NY
Permit #22

DCS District Resident



Board of Education

Mary Ann Holden
President

Peter Bacon
Vice President

Brian Applin
Susan DeMuth
Phyllis Greene
John Leuzzi
Dave Mapes

Matthew McGarrity
Superintendent

Bus Vote January 13, 2010 Noon to 8 pm

Absentee Ballot applications are available at the District Office
284 Main Street, Dansville

**BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DISTRICT CLERK NO
LATER THAN 3 pm on JANUARY 12, 2010**

The PROPOSITION

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dansville Central School District is hereby authorized to expend \$560,000, less trade-in value, if any, from the existing School Bus Reserve Fund for the acquisition of four (4) 66-passenger school buses, at an estimated maximum cost of \$122,000; plus one (1) three-quarter ton 4x4 pickup, and one (1) four-door passenger car, at a combined cost not to exceed \$42,000.