



December 5, 2022

Davison Community Schools

Building Beat

Early Release this Wednesday

This Wednesday, December 7, is an Early Release Day for all DCS students. Students will be dismissed two hours earlier than normal. There is no Delayed Start for students in grades 9-12. Dismissal times are as follows:

**Davison High School/
Davison Alternative Ed.:**

12:36 p.m.

Students begin at 7:25 a.m.

Davison Middle School:

12:19 p.m.

Hahn Intermediate School:

12:19 p.m.

Central Elementary:

1:28 p.m.

Gates Elementary:

1:43 p.m.

Hill Elementary:

1:28 p.m.

Siple Elementary:

1:43 p.m.

Thomson Elementary:

1:28 p.m.

GSRP and Cardinal's Nest:

AM Classes attend as normal; No PM Classes. Full Day classes are released with AM students. Students who ride buses will be dismissed at 11:15 a.m. and Parent Pickup students will be released at 11:40 a.m.



The Positivity Project and 12 Days of Positivity

If you are a parent of a student in grades K-8, you may have heard your student talking about the Positivity Project. Or perhaps you read about it in your child's school newsletter.

This is the second full school year that Davison Community Schools has been using the Positivity Project, a daily, 15-minute curriculum for students to help them build positive relationships. Developed by Mike Erwin and Jeff Bryan, the Positivity Project is based on 24 character strengths and the mindset that "[other people matter](#)."

In a recent survey of staff at Hahn Intermediate, 100 percent of respondents said they agree that the implementation of the Positivity Project has had a considerable impact on students.

"The slide presentations per each character strength are the most ideal resource that is being utilized in the classroom," said sixth grade teacher Jason Leach, one of the school's [Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process \(MICIP\)](#) Climate Chairs and Positivity Project leader. "More importantly, the conversations, personal stories and examples that are stemming from the videos and provided questions are what are being valued the most."

Leach said a similar survey was given to students and 90 percent of students indicated they believe the Positivity Project is a significant program they enjoy and appreciate.

Mr. Leach also received a response from a parent that read: "We read the handouts at family dinner, have constructive discussions about the qualities and characteristics... it's my hope that the kids take something away from

REALLY, IT IS ALL ABOUT BEING A GOOD HUMAN AND TREATING OTHERS THE WAYS IN WHICH YOU WANT TO BE TREATED. ONE OF MY FAVORITE THINGS TO HEAR IS STUDENTS HAVING CONVERSATIONS AROUND WHAT THEY HAVE LEARNED THROUGH THEIR POSITIVITY PROJECT LESSONS.

NATALIE MILLER
PRINCIPAL, GATES ELEMENTARY



Davison Community Schools
Where Kids Come First and Futures Begin
Connections • Curriculum • Opportunities



Where kids come first

A Fully Accredited District

it.... In summary, we find the handouts helpful."

"All things considered, I'd say the Positivity Project is essential, appreciated, and effective," Mr. Leach said. "I'm grateful to have the opportunity to be a champion of its purpose for our young scholars and staff alike."

Gates Elementary Principal Natalie Miller said the Positivity Project has been a wonderful addition to the work staff already does with students with programs such as the Cardinal Code.

"Each week highlights a different character trait through age-appropriate slide shows and class discussions with the goal being that students develop a deeper sense of who they are and how to participate in the world," she said. "Really, it is all about being a good human and treating others the ways in which you want to be treated. One of my favorite things to hear is students having conversations around what they have learned through their Positivity Project lessons."

The Positivity Project helps schools and districts develop a common vocabulary and self-aware, empathetic students.

According to its founders, the idea behind the Positivity Project is simple and profound: When kids understand what character is—what words like integrity, humility, fairness, perspective, and gratitude really mean and look like in action—they begin to see those traits in themselves.

They begin to believe that they are good and worthy, not because of what they can do in the classroom or on the soccer field, but because of who they are as a classmate or a teammate.

When they can recognize and understand these traits in themselves, they have a better understanding of who they are as a person, as a friend. Perhaps they are creative, optimistic, and brave. Or maybe they are curious, open-minded, and kind. With The Positivity Project, kids learn to recognize, appreciate, and articulate such traits in others.

Beginning tomorrow, the District is kicking off 12 Days of Positivity to highlight some of the character traits that students are learning about. We invite the community to join in by sharing an example of how to model that trait or sharing a personal story about how they may have experienced that specific character trait. Here are the traits we will be celebrating:



Tuesday, December 6: Gratitude

You are aware of and thankful for good things that happen.

Wednesday, December 7: Integrity

You are honest and speak the truth. You present yourself genuinely and sincerely.

Thursday, December 8: Kindness

You are generous to others and you are never too busy to help out. You enjoy doing good deeds for other people.

Friday, December 9: Humility

You do not seek the spotlight. You let your actions speak for themselves.

Monday, December 12: Humor

You like to laugh and bring smiles to other people.

Tuesday, December 13: Forgiveness

You forgive those who have done wrong. You accept that people make mistakes.

Wednesday, December 14: Fairness

You believe that all people have value. You approach situations with an unbiased mindset and treat everyone with respect.

Thursday, December 15: Enthusiasm

You approach life with excitement and energy. You energize people around you.

Friday, December 16: Love

You value close relationships with others and being close to people.

Monday, December 19: Optimism

You expect the best from the future and work to achieve it.

Tuesday, December 20: Purpose

You have beliefs about the meaning of life and your life's purpose. You seek to be part of something greater than yourself.

Wednesday, December 21: Appreciation of Beauty & Excellence

You notice and value the world's beauty and people's skills. You don't take things for granted.