

Ann Simpson Davis Middle School PTO

December 2020 Newsletter

Home of the IRISH!



Welcome to December!

Hello Davis family, I am Asch Mikhail, Co-Treasurer of the PTO. My wife, Kate, and I are proud parents of a wonderful daughter, Ava, who is an 8th grader here at Davis Middle School.

*This year of 2020 has been unprecedented to say the least! As we close the calendar year and we look forward to a brighter 2021, we should be thankful of our amazing staff at Davis and how they have supported our children through the Spring and the Fall. **I challenge each of you to reach out to at least one member of Davis...**an administrator, a teacher, a custodian, a bus driver, our support officer, front office staff...you get the picture :) **Let them know how much you appreciate them!** Everyone that takes a part in our kids' lives is shaping their future. And now more than ever it is a challenge for our Davis staff to pivot everything they have known to help educate our kiddos.*

The PTO is here to support EVERY student and our Davis staff as best we can. We are always looking for fresh ideas, volunteers, and welcome any of you to be part of the Executive team!

Happy holidays to everyone and let's ring in a much needed new year!

Asch Mikhail





“Our traditions: Going to Granville to walk the town and cut down a tree - Heading out in our car in PJs to get hot chocolate and look at Christmas lights - Making surf and turf for Christmas Eve dinner - Going to Christmas Eve Church service and then enjoying our surf and turf.”

– Ginger Kochentiet

“We enjoy all the traditional festivities of celebrating Christmas, but have added taking guesses which day the holiday music will begin on the radio, and finding the Christmas pickle in the tree.”

– Elaine Spielberg

“Every year we go to my parents’ farm in the Hocking Hills and cut down the biggest and ugliest Charlie Brown tree we can find. We bring it home, decorate it and it becomes the centerpiece of our home. Our family loves Charlie Brown trees! 🎄

– Melinda Norfleet

“My favorite holiday tradition is a weekend in December spent with all the women in my family (Aunts, cousins, sister-in-laws, nieces and my Mom). We normally spend a Saturday shopping, eating and laughing. We do a sleepover at my house and then brunch on Sunday. We then bake cookies, candy and Buckeyes on Sunday afternoon. I hope we can revive this tradition in 2021.”

– Jennifer Talley

“My family and I are “those people” who pull out the Christmas decorations EARLY. I think I heard “early decorators” make up 6% of the population - LOL! The last child to trick-or-treat at our door on Halloween signifies that Christmas is ON! Yes, we love Thanksgiving, but we kinda sorta mix the two Holidays. We pull out our small artificial tree at 8:00pm on Halloween night, add batteries, adjust the branches, fiddle with the tiny ornaments, and blast the Christmas carols. Our boys are nonchalant, while my husband and I are geeked, but when we hear them humming in the next room, we know that they know...OUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY IS HERE...even if we’re the only ones on the street who feel that way! Suffice it to say, this is one of many Holiday traditions we enjoy over the course of two fun-filled months!” 😊

– Tiffany Marr

Message from [Jennifer Talley](#) – Give Back Week/Adopt-A-Family Chair

Davis PTO is sponsoring Welcome Warehouse families for the 2020 holiday season.



This year we are adopting 3 families (with a total of 6 children) for the holidays.

- Each family will receive \$50 in grocery gift cards.
- Each child will receive approximately \$100 worth of gifts.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS
DONATIONS!**

Message from [Melanie Gamez](#) – Spirit Wear Chair

FALL SPIRIT WEAR ORDERING ENDED ON CYBER MONDAY, 11/30/20!



**Keep an eye on your inbox for information
regarding your recent order.**

Thank you for supporting DAVIS!

November PTO General Assembly Meeting
Cancelled due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

DECEMBER Events include:

- Wednesday, 12/16 – PERC Meeting
- Friday, 12/18 – PTO Exec Board *Spring Planning* Meeting
- Monday, 12/21 – Monday, 1/4 – **NO SCHOOL** due to Holiday Break
- Wednesday, 12/23 – PTO General Assembly Meeting **CANCELLED** due to Holidays

We have several avenues to locate Davis PTO information, starting here:

Website: www.dmspto.org (Sign up to receive blog posts in real time! Enter your email address and click “Follow” on any tab.)

Facebook (public): @DavisMSPTO

Twitter: @PTODavis

Instagram: davismspto

Reach out to us:

Email: ptodavis@gmail.com

Join our rewards programs. When you make everyday purchases, the PTO benefits!

Amazon: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-1246476>

Kroger: <http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards> Organization Number = VJ441

Spirit Wear:

Fall Spirit Wear ordering ended November 30, 2020. Sign up at our website to receive the latest Spirit Wear updates.

Open Volunteer Roles:

If you would like to get involved, connect with us! **We will begin posting open leadership roles for the 2021-2022 school year in January 2021.**

2020-2021

The PTO will be **fully virtual** for all general assembly meetings and **100% electronic** for all donations, due to COVID-19. Zoom information will be provided the week of each meeting. Current donation methods include 99pledges and Square.



INFORMATION FROM PRIOR NEWSLETTERS

BELOW



Message from [Elaine Spielberg](#) - UNFundraiser Chair

The PTO would like to give a shout out to those families who made last minute donations, which helped us reach a grand total of over \$12,000.

Way to go, Davis, on your amazing support and generosity!

GO IRISH!



Message from Amy Starnes – Fall Festival Chair



CANCELLED THIS YEAR

HERE'S A LITTLE SOMETHING TO ANTICIPATE THE NEXT TIME WE GATHER!

Kiddos are settling into school, there is a chill in the air and in years past, planning is underway for FALL FESTIVAL. Davis student council diligently works on preparing activities for our Davis families to enjoy during this community event. They transform the football field into an area to enjoy the music of Taiko drummers, our band students and tunes played by DJ _____. Friends can enjoy challenging each other at Gaga ball, pumpkin carving and carnival games. Parents, no need to make dinner, the concession stand sells pizza, sandwiches, hot chocolate and candy galore. Best of all Davis can spend time together enjoying our Irish community.

A few quotes for our students about Fall Festival memoires.....

"I like the music and hanging out with my friends"

"I like the decorations and running around with my friends and eating bundt cakes."

"I really like how all the groups of students came together to create something for the community and how everyone at Davis was really a part of it. "



Message from Katie Welsh – Library Partnership Chair

Greetings Davis Parents,

As the new school year begins we are facing challenges like no other; nevertheless, Davis PTO is here to help and assist families and students make this year both successful, fun, and engaging. As the PTO Volunteer for the Davis Library I wanted to reach out and let you I'm bummed, I will not be able to engage with the Davis families and students in a traditional way. I wanted to utilize our newsletter to provide some awesome ideas on how you and your student can stay engaged and continue to foster a love for books! Below are my top three recommendations for you and your student to explore;

1. **Open Library**- A nonprofit which offers a free account that connects readers with over a million eBooks for all ages, including more than 30,000 titles for children through young adult. To sign up click; <https://openlibrary.org/>
2. **Hoopla**- Do you have a library membership? This site links your membership and you can digitally borrow thousands of free eBooks, comics, movies, and more. Our family likes to choose an age appropriate book and compare it to the movie! This site can also be downloaded as an app on any handheld device. To learn more start here: <https://openlibrary.org/>
3. **Book Club**- Connecting our students may look different this year. Beginning a book club with some friends is a great way for our kids to connect, foster peer accountability, and even learn different perspectives. This video can help parents kick start a small book club for their student and friends- as we try to provide creative ideas to continue to engage and foster peer to peer learning. Interested? Watch; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzptilzodwA>

I hope you have read something which can spark a great place for you and your student to explore. Thank you for supporting Davis PTO and know we are here to assist you in making this new normal fun and successful. We are in this together!

Katie Welsh



Message from Robyn Shay – School Store Chair

Dear Davis Families,

This year is unlike any other, it all seems so crazy!

I wish I was at school opening up the School Store and seeing the kids laughing and hanging out with friends during lunch! Looking forward to getting back to it once we get the green light! Until then, hang in there Davis families, we've got this!!!

Robyn Shay

