

Danvers School Community:

The following are our updates for the week of May 16th:

Recent tragic events: This past weekend there were two tragic events in our country (Buffalo, NY and Laguna Woods, CA) that were racially motivated. We offer our sympathies to the families of the victims and condemn these acts of violence. We are aware that some of our students are trying to process these events and may need support to do so. As a district, our teachers are prepared to support students if discussions about these events arise. If these conversations are happening at home, here is a resource for [adults](#) and another resource for [supporting your child\(ren\)](#).

Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Heritage Month: This month, at the elementary level, we are reading culturally-responsive picture books that highlight and celebrate the culture of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. Here's a list of [children's books](#) that may help you to continue this work at home.

DHS Project Citizen Class: The [Salem News](#) featured Mr. White and the seniors in his Project Citizen class and their efforts to repurpose wood from the historic Danvers train station that is scheduled to be demolished. Today, WBZ Radio came to interview the class about their work. The station will be highlighting the train station project on upcoming broadcasts and on their website.

Grade 8 Survey: In June, the district will survey eighth grade families with students who have applied to attend a high school other than DHS. There will be two types of surveys: the first is an exit survey for families of students who will attend a high school other than DHS; and the second is a survey for families of students who, although they applied to another high school, decided to attend DHS instead. We are looking forward to analyzing the results of these surveys to help in our future planning for both DHS and HRMS.

End-of-Year Activities for the Arts: May and June are busy months for the Arts! We encourage families to attend the end-of-year activities that are happening in our schools.

- At the elementary level, we have art shows and end-of-year performances by the school chorus and band. Please continue to check your school calendar and principal updates for details about these events.

- On Thursday night, during the Art Show at Highlands School, families will have the opportunity to participate with their students in the **Kindness Rocks Mural Project** designed to spread awareness about cultivating important conversations about mental health. Thank you to Kris Smith for organizing this project!
- The Holten-Richmond Middle School's Theater Organization will present their spring show on May 31st and June 1st. The school's combined chorus and band concerts will take place during the first days of June. Please check the HRMS Caregiver Updates for specific details on the performances.
- At Danvers High School, the Danvers High School Academy Theatre Society is performing **Seussical, The Musical**. Seussical is a musical comedy based on the stories written by Dr. Seuss. The show is family-friendly and runs approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes with a 15-minute intermission. The shows are Thursday, May 26th at 7 pm; Friday, May 27th at 7 pm; and Saturday, May 28th at 2 pm and 7 pm. Tickets can be purchased either at the door or online at [TicketStage.com](https://www.ticketstage.com). General admission tickets are \$18 for adults and \$15 for students and seniors.

Healing & Unity Experience (HUE): DanversCARES and The Danvers Human Rights and Inclusion Committee are hosting this event on June 4th from 10 am to 2 pm at Danvers High School. The event is designed to bring our community together with activities, entertainment, and food. Learn more at www.DanversCARES.org/HUE. The first 300 people who register will get free food when they participate.

Danvers Recreation Summer Programs: Summer will be here soon! Don't miss out on the exciting [programs](#) that are being offered by Danvers Recreation! Danvers Public Schools is partnering with Danvers Recreation for 6 weeks of the Falcons program. We will enhance the program with morning project-based learning sessions for rising first through eighth graders. Take advantage of their Early Bird Registration special: \$10.00 discount per program if you register before June 1.

COVID: We have seen an increase in COVID cases since April vacation. Please know that students and staff are welcome to wear masks and that extra masks are available in all of our schools. It is important to continue to monitor your child for symptoms and to keep them home if they are not feeling well.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the principal of the school your child(ren) attends or contact the Central Office.

Best Wishes,

Keith Taverna and Mary Wermers
Acting Co-Superintendents

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