



Education Matters

Summer Edition

July 2015

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Dear Jill,

More than 900 Dayton Public Schools students have participated in extended-year programs this summer to strengthen academic skills, challenge creative thinking and fend off summer slide. Our teachers attended a week of professional development at the end of the school year, as we prepared to welcome new staff, hold our Principals Institute and get ready for our 2015 Opening Day Convocation. Summer is a busy time, but not too busy to look at some of our student successes in the 2014-15 year. There is more to come in the year ahead, and we will keep you informed through many channels, including this newsletter.

[Register now for the 2015-16 year](#)



Dayton Public Schools welcomes families to the district's new Student Enrollment Center to register for everything from preschool to high school. Early registration will allow students and their families to learn about and select the schools best suited to their needs and enroll before lines grow long, limiting some school options.

"When families **enroll** their children in Dayton Public Schools to begin their education, partner with us, and **commit** to sending their children to school every day to be taught by effective classroom teachers, their children **succeed**," Superintendent Lori Ward said.

Congratulations Class of 2015



Gates Scholars

Khayln Miller (L) (Thurgood Marshall STEM High School) and **Ja'Laquan Mitchell (R)** (Dunbar Early College High School) were two of just 1,000 students nationwide to become Gates Millennium Scholars. As part of this select group, they receive full college tuition,

covering undergraduate and graduate studies. Now in its 16th year, the Gates Millennium Scholars program was established by Bill and Melinda Gates to provide outstanding minority students with the financial backing to complete an undergraduate college education as well as attain advanced degrees.

Dunbar Early College High School senior Ja'Laquan Mitchell has made DPS history, as the **first student to earn prestigious honors both as a Coca-Cola Scholar winner and a Gates Millennium Scholar.**

Scholarships

The DPS Class of 2015 earned more than **\$23 million in scholarships** to attend colleges and universities in Ohio and across the nation.

Stivers School for the Arts had the **highest completion percentage** in Montgomery County for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), ensuring that DPS graduates would be college and career ready.

Senior Signing Day 2015



More than 260 high school seniors from six DPS high schools declared their plans for college or other post-secondary pursuits and signed a banner in celebration of the next phase of their formal education. Plans ranged from attending Ivy League universities to enlisting in military service or completing industry recognized certification.

DPS intends to make the celebration an annual event to inspire other students, increase the number of graduates who develop plans for education beyond high school, and develop and strengthen a college-going culture throughout the district. Schools represented were Belmont High School, Dunbar Early College High School, David H. Ponitz Career Technology Center, Meadowdale High School, Stivers School for the Arts, and Thurgood Marshall STEM High School.

District Digest

U.S. News & World Report

Stivers School for the Arts was once again ranked among America's best public high schools, in both Ohio and the nation, according to *U.S. News & World Report*, earning a silver medal.

Reading beats "summer slide"



DPS Superintendent Lori Ward and Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley celebrated early literacy at a Westwood PreK-8 School book giveaway to help students in grades pre-kindergarten to three keep their reading skills sharp through the summer. The event capped off three weeks of distributing more than 24,000 books to primary students at 10 DPS schools and recognized community partners who made the Read On! book drive possible. Each student was able to select 10 books of his or her own to enjoy over the summer. The books were donated through the generosity of community partners to help keep students' reading skills sharp. The program is a collaboration between Dayton Public Schools and Project READ, United Way

of the Greater Dayton Area, Dayton Metro Library, and ReadySetSoar.

Looking Ahead



...AT DAYTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Everything you need for back-to-school, and more.

- **Third-grade guarantee**
- **Neighborhood School Centers**
- **High school graduation requirements**
- **Parent involvement opportunities**
- **Student registration**
- **Transportation**
- **New textbook adoption**

You **MUST** sign up for free haircuts from BJ Kids 91 Aug. 7, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. at Ponitz

FREE REFRESHMENTS AND GIVEAWAYS, COMMUNITY DISPLAYS AND INFORMATION

Sunday, August 9, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Ponitz Career Technology Center
741 Washington Street
With BJ Kids 91 Foundation
(offering free haircuts for kids, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

DAYTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
www.dps.k12.oh.us

Family & Community Engagement
DAYTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Thanks to our community partners for their support of this event:

CareSource
DRAGONS
LEVIN FAMILY FOUNDATION
Miami Valley Hospital
Premier Health Partners
Office DEPOT

Mark Your Calendar

Aug. 10	Opening Day Convocation (all staff)
Aug. 10-11	Professional Development Days
Aug. 12	Teacher Work Day
Aug. 13	First Day for Students
Sept. 7	Labor Day Holiday/District Closed
Sept. 23	Professional Development Day/ No Students
Oct. 15	End of First Quarter/Students Report

Our Mission

To equip our students to achieve success in a global society by implementing an effective and rigorous curriculum with fidelity.

Our Academic Non-negotiables

(1) kindergarten readiness, (2) third-graders reading on grade level, (3) closing the achievement gap, and (4) high school graduates ready for college and careers.

Lori L. Ward, Superintendent

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