

Exploring Career Pathways

Plans Underway For Interactive Job Fair at Danville High School

It's never too soon to talk with students about the types of careers that are available locally. Danville High School's Future Problem Solvers, led by Ms. Lori Woods, is working to do just that. Plans are in place for a career and trade exploration program that will span multiple days for up to 300 students in ninth through twelfth grades. It will be an orientation to the types of careers available in the Danville area as well as the education and training that would be required.

"We are dedicated to connecting and inspiring our young adults to return, rebuild, and thrive in our community"

- Lori Woods, Danville High School Teacher and Future Problem Solvers Coordinator

The career matching platform, Xello, will be utilized to help align students' career interests with the types of jobs available locally. They will then bring local professionals into Danville High School to host small group conversations about what it is like to work in that field. Ms. Woods wants this program to be interactive for students. Area professionals will work with students in 90 minute blocks during the extended 4th hour period to provide hands-on learning experiences, or "Career Shares". Some of the upcoming Career Shares include Kinesiology and Athletic Training with new Athletic Trainer, Jalae Parker and Culinary topics that will also include life skills and vocational students involved with the Viking Perks coffee truck. Career topics will be reflective of the local workforce including Healthcare, Business, Education, Engineering, Construction, Emergency Response and more.

Giving high school students an understanding of the types of careers available locally is a critical step in helping them establish goals early and plan for their future. It may also be the deciding factor on whether they remain in the area after high school.

The Danville Public School Foundation is honored to provide funding for this program to cover the costs of supplies and materials needed for these interactive learning experiences.



FPS students prepping, planning and getting everything organized for the Career Share sessions.





Foundation Feedback

Sharing the Impact of Your Gifts

“The Lu has helped our Physical Education class by adding technology to the classroom which the students enjoy and it is another tool to add inclusivity for certain students that have less interest in traditional PE games.

Most of the students are always excited for PE but I must say that the Lu system has been well received by the students during this school year. Some classroom teachers have also used the Lu for teaching math lessons and brain breaks. Thank You!”

Brian Cox

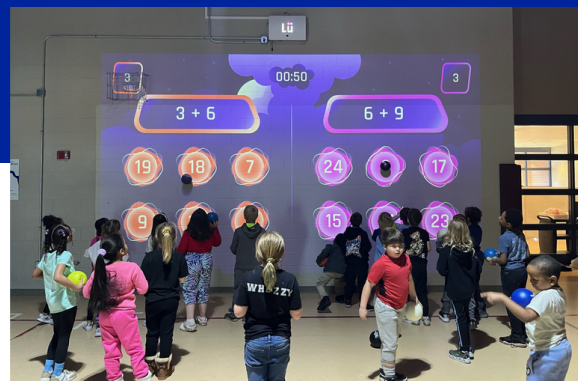
Southwest Physical Education Teacher

“Last semester we were able to implement the jump system testing 4 times throughout the 1st semester. Each time the jump mat came out, the class got excited about it and were competing against each other to see who could go the highest. This also allowed a shift in some of the things we were able to do throughout the semester because we changed the way we trained the kids. It wasn't just about how much weight you can push around anymore. We added more plyo's and plyo-based lifts, more body weight exercises, and some different daily dynamic warm ups to try and get their jump mat numbers to increase... and they did!

It is helping our students advance in the Weight Room because it isn't just about the weights anymore, so they are excited to come in and see what different things we are doing each day. The jump mat has added another motivation to work harder physically and mentally in the weight room. Getting them excited and motivated about lifting and exercising should be the priority because the goal is to have them want to exercise and stay fit the rest of their lives when they leave DHS”.

Tyler Arnholt

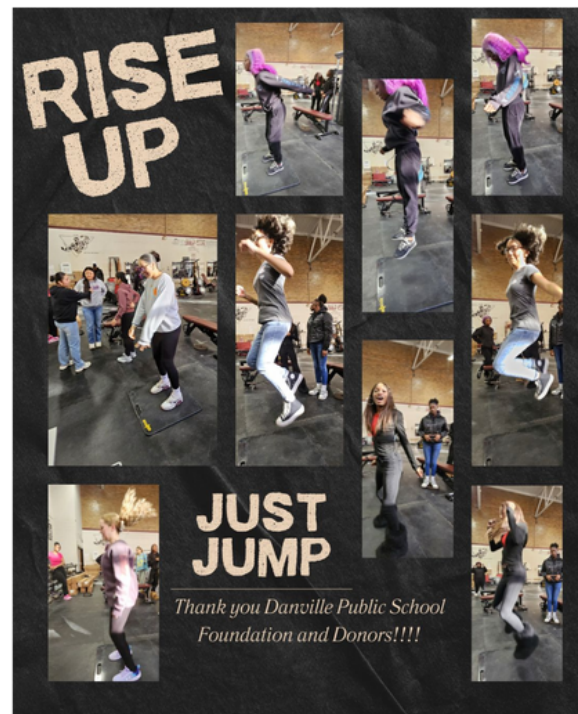
*Danville High School Health and Physical Education Teacher
Head Boys Track Coach/Assistant Varsity Football Coach*



Southwest Elementary students are active and engaged in their new digital PE classes.



Students at Danville High School weightlifting classes using the jump mats provided by DPSF.



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Thank you for your support!



Donor Spotlight

LOIS WISE

Right: Lois with her "Peeps"

Meet Lois Wise. Polished and professional with a spunky side, she contributes to the energy behind philanthropic support for so many charitable organizations in our community. Lois is in her nineteenth year serving as secretary for the Julius W. Hegeler II Foundation. The Foundation was established in 1992 to support disabled children, local hospitals, local schools, community events and preservation of local landmarks. The close relationship she shared with the late Julius W. Hegeler II is without question and it is in his honor that she continues her involvement to support projects that align with his wishes.

Born in Chicago Heights, Lois moved to Danville in 1965. She has lived here so long that she hardly remembers a time that Danville wasn't home. She is grateful to have her brother and his family nearby in Champaign. Lois used to work in accounting for Paxton Wholesale Grocery Company at the "Grab It Here" grocery store in Danville, as well as Second National Bank and Burnside Investment Company. She laughs that she detested math in school but every job she ever had involved accounting or bookkeeping.

Lois is a master of creating beautiful place settings at her dining table and meticulous with her holiday decorating. Her taste in fashion is exquisite. She shares a home with her cat, Sugar, and laughs that he even has his own bathroom. She and Julius enjoyed their involvement with the Danville Country Club over the years and she is a self-proclaimed "kind of" golfer but she has had some putts she was proud of. She and Julius enjoyed the Danville Symphony Orchestra, holding season tickets so they did not miss a performance.

Lois at one point served on seven different boards in the community. These included OSF Healthcare, Danville Symphony Orchestra, Danville Public Library, CRIS Senior Services, WorkSource Enterprises, the DACC Foundation Board and the Julius W. Hegeler II



Foundation Board. She continues to actively serve on three of them. Lois continues to be part of the Hegeler Foundation's support of local students. They are once again serving as title sponsor for the DPSF 365 Club Breakfast. She also contributes through her own personal gifts. Julius was a 1946 graduate of Danville High School and both he and Lois believed firmly in supporting education. She also feels it is important to fund scholarships to provide opportunities that may not be possible for some students. "Julius felt that Danville had done so much for him and it was time to give back," she stated. He would say to her, "we are two lucky people". She feels very fortunate.

Lois enjoys hosting dinner each week with a close group of friends (her peeps) who are good to watch out for her. At 95, she is sharp, witty, and enjoys her independence. Remaining part of the Hegeler Foundation gives her a sense of purpose and she is committed to continuing to give back in honor of someone who was, and still is, a guiding force in her life.

DPSF Executive Director, Bob Richard, pictured with Julius W. Hegeler II and Lois Wise





Our Donors Did It Again!



Gifts Top \$105,000.

The Foundation has recently found inspiration in the quote from basketball great Michael Jordan: ***"Some people want it to happen, Some wish it would happen, and others make it happen."*** This quote is a wonderful way to describe those of you who provided a gift during our **365 Club** campaign. **You are making it happen!** Because of you, we will continue to engage the teachers, staff and administrators to help bring their ideas of providing creative, inspiring, and fun learning experiences to their students.

Our **365 Club** campaign for 2025 has once again topped our goal of \$85,000. As of this writing, we have over \$105,000 pledged! Our many thanks to our **365 Club** members, as they are making a difference every day!

It is time to celebrate your generosity. Please make your reservation for the 365 Club Breakfast on April 17, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. at Turtle Run. There is no cost to attend.

Not a member? Maybe we missed calling you or you are just learning about the **365 Club**, **it is not too late.** Just [click here](#) or on our logo to provide your online gift.



If you would like more information before becoming a member, please accept this as your invitation to attend the **365 Club Breakfast**. Just RSVP to Stephanie Yates at yatess@danville118.org

The Foundation invites all of our donors to celebrate with us at our **365 Club Breakfast**



April 17, 2025 8:00 am

Turtle Run Banquet Center
332 East Liberty Lane, Danville IL
Please RSVP - 217-444-1038
yatess@danville118.org



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Remembering Dr. Ronald Lee Gillum

February 7, 1938 – September 23, 2024



Ron & Liz Gillum

The Board and Staff of the Danville Public School Foundation were saddened to hear of the passing of Dr. Ron Gillum, a very generous supporter of the the Foundation. Ron attended Danville schools graduating from Danville High School in 1956. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Illinois College of Medicine-Chicago. His obituary stated that "Ron's service to the community, the nation, and God included service as a Major in the United States Army, Director of Pathology at the Veterans Administration (VAMC), Professor at the University of Oklahoma Medical School and Chief of Clinical Pathology at the Oklahoma University hospitals. He also held various levels within his church congregation

including a service mission with his beloved wife." Ron and Liz were both wonderful supporters of the Foundation's mission. Ron spoke with then Danville School Superintendent Mark Denman and expressed his desire to give back to the school system that was instrumental in his success. As a result of that and subsequent conversations, Ron made a \$250,000 gift to the Foundation.

Ron was inducted into the Danville High School Wall of Fame in 2009.

We offer our condolences to his children and extended family and thank him and Liz once again for their gifts.