

# INFORMER

DUNCANVILLE Independent School District

January | 09 | 2017

## **Dr. Smith: A-F Ratings System Doesn't Make the Grade**

Duncanville ISD Families and Community Members: Recently, there have been many conversations regarding the state's new A-F accountability rating system for Texas public schools. The students, teachers and our community in Duncanville Independent School District are much more than an over-simplified letter grade. Last week, the Texas Education Agency released what it is calling provisional ratings. By the state's own admission, these letter grades are not complete and do not include data that will later be used for this new system.

Whatever letter rating is assigned to our schools and district is not a true reflection of us. This rating system fails to take into account the high quality of our teachers, the strength of our community and, most importantly, the boundless potential of our students.



*Duncanville ISD Superintendent, Dr. Marc Smith*

## **DHS Student to Serve at State Student Council Workshop**



Duncanville High School junior Madison Cooper is one of 13 students from across the state selected to serve as a junior counselor at the Texas Association of Student Councils (TASC) Advanced Leadership Workshop January 20 – 22. Madison serves as the Junior Class Vice-

Every day our teachers and administrators are preparing our student to succeed in college, a professional vocation or a military career. Below are examples of our continuing efforts.

- Duncanville ISD and each of our schools received the highest rating in the current accountability system utilized by the state. This 'Met Standard' rating shows that our students are meeting and, in some instances, exceeding the achievement standards previously established.
- Duncanville ISD is bolstering our emphasis on early education. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, we will introduce all-day pre-kindergarten classes at two of our elementary schools – Hastings and Acton. The remaining elementary schools currently providing pre-kindergarten will continue with half-day classes.
- The Duncanville High School Collegiate Academy will begin accepting applications next month from current 8th grade students who will be high school freshmen in the 2017-2018 school year. The DHS Collegiate Academy is an intense, dual credit process that gives participating students an opportunity to graduate with an Associate's Degree in addition to their high school diploma.
- We have started the application process to welcome a Junior ROTC program back to Duncanville High School.

None of these accomplishments is possible without the partnership of our parents and the dedication of our teachers and administrators. In the coming months, we will talk more about how the district will respond to the upcoming accountability system, and we'll share more details on the new programs we are implementing. Thank you for trusting us with your children. I want you to know that I am dedicated to "Writing Success Stories, One Student at a Time." Sincerely,



**President Obama Honors Duncanville Alumna with 'Champion of Change' Award**

President and Scrapbook Chair for the DHS Student Council.

### **Upcoming Events:**

**Carter BloodCare - DHS Student Council Blood Drive**, TODAY until 4:00 p.m., Duncanville High School Shine Performance Hall

**Duncanville ISD Board of Trustees Board Meeting**, Monday, January 9, 7:00 p.m. at Duncanville ISD Education Plaza, 710 S. Cedar Ridge Dr.

**Cancer Survivor Dinner**, Thursday, January 12, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the DHS East Cafeteria. RSVP: Rocio Griffin  
[rogriffin@duncanvilleisd.org](mailto:rogriffin@duncanvilleisd.org)  
or x3707

**Martin Luther King Holiday**, Monday, January 16

**District Spelling Bee**, Wednesday, January 18 at DHS Shine Performance Hall, 900 W. Camp Wisdom Rd.

**District Science Fair**, Tuesday, January 31, Reed Middle School Auditorium, 530 E. Freeman St., Public Viewing: 4:00 - 6:00 p.m., Awards Ceremony: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.



# Bridgette King

Duncanville High School  
Class of 1990

Received "Champions of Change" Award  
from President Obama

Dun·CAN·ville  
*alumni success stories*



Bridgette King has always had a passion for basketball. "I would get up as a kid on Saturdays and watch basketball all day long," King said. King played a variety of sports growing up. In high school, she was a band kid, graduating from Duncanville High School in 1990. King's day job is teaching online college courses, but for the past six years, her passion has been teaching basketball to girls in southern Dallas County. Her commitment to the young women in the community was recently recognized by the President of the United States and included an invitation to the White House. Read [more](#).



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