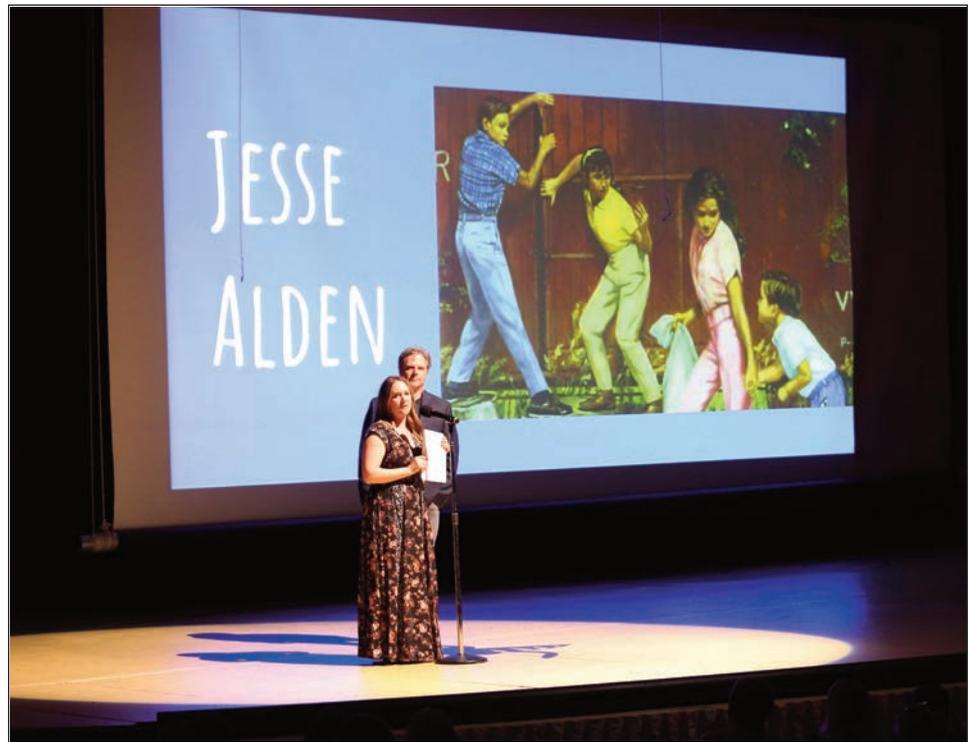


Uniquely Davis

March 2017



Richard Paul Evans and Jenna Evans Welch talk about their heroes in literacy. The father and daughter team were the keynote speakers for the Annual Family Literacy Night at Northridge High School. The evening included workshops with 18 authors and book signings as well as a coloring contest.

Grant supplies technology growth

Training, innovative grants expand district's digital future

Technology in a classroom without a teacher trained how to use it is just another piece of equipment like a desk or chair.

That's the feeling of the supervisors of Davis School District's Digital Teaching and Learning (DTL) Grant.

"We're changing practice," said Technology Services Administrator Duane Singleton. "We're trying to teach teachers how to use technology to enrich student learning."

The grant means nearly \$1.2 million of new money in

the technology budget this year, and up to \$2 million more over the next two years. However, DTL Administrator Don Beatty said parents won't suddenly see a computer on every desk because of this funding.

"If there's an expectation that we open a truck and unload a bunch of devices, that is a false expectation. That wasn't the intent of the Legislature," Beatty said. "It would be an irresponsible use of taxpayer money."

Singleton said the district intends to build up the district's infrastructure, which includes professional develop-

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Superintendent's message

Utah legislators care about the future of our students

Significant to March is the closing of the 2017 Utah Legislative Session. School funding and support, both financial and philosophical, are very much determinant on the



Newey

work that our great Utah legislators do on our behalf.

This session has been exceptional in terms of funding and philosophical support of educators by our legislators. The funding increase on the WPU (weighted pupil unit) is set at 4

percent with additional funding for growth. As we speculate and anticipate where we can apply that new money, we look forward to maximizing our improvement of as many components of the dis-

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District applauds employees, students for achievements

Spring not only brings a change in the weather, but it also is the time when our top leaders, scholars and educators are recognized for their efforts.



Peterson

- **Lori Peterson** was awarded the National Institute of Government Purchasing Utah Manager of the Year for providing quality leadership and service.

- **Derek Bitner from Northridge High School** received the Information Technology Teacher of the Year from the Utah Association for Career and Technical Education.

- **King Elementary teacher Tami Pandoff** was named the 2017-18 Utah Mathematics, Engineering, Science and Achievement Teacher of the Year for her innovative teaching methods and ability to engage students in hands-on activities.

- Three Davis School District elementary schools swept the 2017 Utah Math Cup competition. **Columbia Elementary** came in first place for the second year in a row. **Lakeside Elementary** took the second place spot with **Fremont Elementary** coming in third.

- The Governor's Office of Multicultural Affairs honored two of Davis' own: **Kassandra John, a senior at Clearfield High School**, received the "Multicultural Youth of the Year" award and **Antelope Elementary Principal Bernardo Villar** was awarded "Multicultural Educator of the Year."



Villar

- Two seniors were named Wasatch Front Region Sterling Scholars. **Sarah Hawkes from Viewmont High School** is the Visual Arts Sterling Scholar and **Keegan Masaalo from Clearfield High School** was named the World Language Sterling Scholar.

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ment, as well as the wiring and switches needed to run the technology. Both teachers and administrators will be trained how to use technology to better prepare students for a future that is constantly changing.

Gone are the days when a student who completes their assignment is allowed to play an educational game on the computer. Instead, Singleton said teachers will be trained to help those students use technology to dig deeper into the topic of study or move ahead at a faster pace. For students who are not understanding a concept, teachers can instruct them how to access additional help.

"It's not all about differentiation," he said. "It's about increasing your learning at a pace that you're ready to receive it."

The "fun" part of the grant lies in \$50,000 that was set aside for innovative projects. Beatty said the Davis Education Foundation matched the grant with another \$50,000, bringing it to a total of \$100,000 available for teachers or principals to have the opportunity to apply for funds. The application process is quite competitive, Beatty said. Each request is graded on its merits. Reviewers look at how it meets standards, how innovative it is and how outcomes will be measured.

Requests range from \$150 to thousands of dollars. Many are denied, he said, because the application doesn't adequately show the educational use.

Beatty said an example of a successful application was a request from a high poverty school for a Google Expeditions license. The program will permit students to go on virtual field trips all over the world. Another aspect would allow students to shadow people in their professions.

Singleton said the best part is that the district is ahead of the game when compared with other grant recipients. Davis School District already has School Technology Specialists and wifi access throughout the district was recently upgraded. Other districts are using their grants to begin with those basic items.

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trict that we possibly can with that amount of money.

It takes a full 2.5 percent increase on the WPU just to fund steps and lanes and maintain our level of delivery. We hope to be able to provide a cost of living increase, through the legislative funding, that will be doable this year and

sustainable for years to come.

When you have the opportunity, please thank our great Davis legislators. They have the best interest of the education of our children at heart and we appreciate them.

Thank you for all of your great work, it is evident every single day in the lives of our children!

Davis School District

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