

Holiday Activities for All!



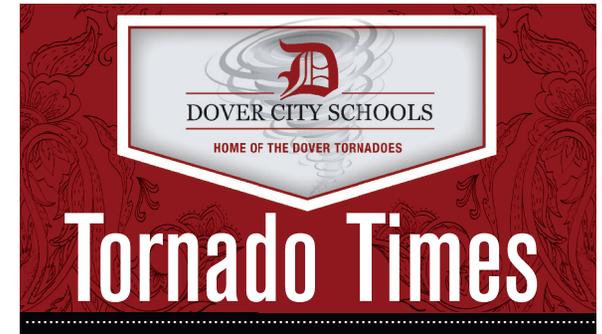
Mrs. Maybaugh and students show donations collected by Dover Avenue students for The Humane Society.



South School's 4th and 5th Grade Choir performed at the High School Holiday Concert. Here they are with former South School students who are part of the Arts Nova group. Students thank the DHS choirs for allowing them to be part of their concert ... what a treat for these young performers!



East Kindergarten students enjoyed some stories and songs about "Holidays Around the World" from Miss Claire from the Dover Public Library



Dover Holiday Giving

Winter brings many opportunities for our students and staff to give back to our local community. Whether it is helping those in need with physical items or by doing a service, it is this spirit of giving that makes Dover City Schools such a special place.

"I think it's always good for our students to understand that there is need in our community," said Dover Middle School Principal Jack Edwards, "and that by reaching out and helping, we can ensure that we have a good, caring community. It's always important to give back."

The middle school adopts families during the holidays. Led by the student council, money is raised by sending elf-a-grams throughout the school. The guidance staff helps the student council use the money raised to provide gifts for families in the area.

There is also a canned food drive, as well as a Secret Santa program that provides school supplies to students in the district.

The DOCK program recently finished its leaf raking program – students gather together and help elderly citizens with their yards – and hosted the DOCK breakfast for senior citizens in our community.



Dover Holiday Giving *(continued from front panel)*



Mrs. McGarry and students at the Giving Tree for the Homeless Shelter

"They were gone and they wanted to donate more than was asked. Kids are anxious to share and help out."

Also planned for South is a gently used coat collection, and an activity in conjunction with the school's teacher/student buddy program. In December, students will work with their teacher buddies to make ornaments. The head of the program, Valerie Maxwell, will deliver the ornaments to senior homes in the area.

Dover High School is running a coin drive for the food pantry. Volunteer clubs have signed up with Salvation Army to ring bells and the school works with Share-a-Christmas to donate items of need. The student council also collects items for local needy families.

Dover Avenue Elementary students raised money through dress-up days to pool together funds for Share-A-Christmas. The student council is making crafts to take to an area nursing home.

Several classes have plans for the holidays including; a class is donating pet food, pet toys, cleaning products and cash to the Tuscarawas Humane Society, another is making holiday placemats to take to an area nursing home, one is doing a giving tree – an artificial tree is set up in the hallway and students bring hats, gloves and other items to tack on the tree and eventually be taken to the homeless shelter – while another is

taking nonperishable food items to the homeless shelter.

Each class at Dover Avenue is making holiday cards to be delivered to local fire departments, the police department, the sheriff's department and local EMTs on Christmas Day.

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"It's not just about what they get, it's about what they're doing for someone else," said Dover Avenue Principal Renee Sattler. "This idea of giving back

to the community that does so much for us – and now it's our turn to give back and do some things – we're hoping it will catch on."



Students from South Elementary Student Council purchased gifts for "Share a Christmas."

East Elementary held a food collection for the Tuscarawas County Share-a-Christmas program December 3-6. The school collected canned food items. Students who brought in items had special dress up days throughout the week.

The school will also collect \$1 donations from December 19-21 to go toward the Greater Dover-New Philadelphia Food Pantry.

"On announcements I often talk about why we're collecting canned food items or \$1," said East Principal Zach Zesiger. "Helping others during the holiday season kind of brightens their outlook. Volunteering early in life lends itself to continuing to do that throughout adulthood."

Students at South Elementary got into the giving spirit early, this year. The school takes part in Share a Christmas by setting up a Christmas tree in the lobby and placing paper ornaments with a toy or gift listed on the back.

Students and families take an ornament and purchase the gift listed. The ornaments were all taken before December 1.

"We had a couple of kids ask if there were any more," said Principal Tracie Murphy.



Students volunteered at the Rotary Breakfast with Santa event held Saturday, December 1, 2018 at the First United Methodist Church on Wooster.