

Highlights from the 2016-2017 School Year

Academics and Student Achievement

North High sophomore Keishanique Moton Tyler was accepted into the Bucksbaum Early Entrance Academy at the University of Iowa. This Academy is a prestigious program for academically gifted and talented students who choose to start college early. Starting in the fall of 2017, Keishanique will live in the dorms and attend class at the University of Iowa as a full-time college student while finishing up her high school graduation requirements.

Four years ago, a cohort of freshmen entered North High as the first students accepted into the school's new Accelerated Associate Program. This year, 35 of those students finished their four-year journey by receiving their Associate Degree from Scott Community College while still seniors in high school, all at no extra cost to the student or family.

West High's Lexi Coiner, Mid City High's Jalen Crawford, North High's Mackenzie Curran, and Central High's Mickey Sloat and AJ Smith were recipients of 2017 Davenport Rotary Club Scholarships.

Central High's Mickey Sloat was selected as the 2016 Dooley Scholarship recipient. The Dooley Scholarship is awarded each year to a DCS senior in the upper 10% of his/her class, who has shown a continued interest in the field of medicine and plans to become a medical doctor. The scholarship is in the amount of \$20,000 over a four year period. Mickey has been accepted at both Yale and Johns Hopkins, and plans to major in biology with the goal of becoming a doctor and medical researcher.

West's Academic team "Je ne sais pa," consisting of students Katie Kealey, Robbie Greeve, Danny Reitz, and Andrew Lord, took the State Title the Destination Imagination Creative Problem Solving State Competition in Ames. With the win, team members qualified for the Global Finals Competition held at the University of Tennessee.

North High's Tyler Josund made the Iowa High School Golf Coaches Association's Academic All State Golf Team for having a minimum GPA of 3.75 with a minimum ACT score of 27.

Central High senior Joseph Shie was accepted to the Academic All-State Team for swimming. He also qualified for the Academic All-American Team.

Seventy-three West High students were enshrined in their school's AP Social Studies Wall of Fame, an honor given to those who score a 3 or higher on an AP Government, AP US History, or AP Human Geography exam. The following eleven students achieved the highest distinction by scoring a 5 on their exam: Max Abbott, Rebecca Casad, Connie Chu, Jacob Corman, Keenan Dolan, Pam Friede, Bailey Garnica, Kersten Kahley, Cassidy Kowley, Molly Kretschmer, and Jacen Petersen.

Central High's Hannah Mandell was named a Finalist in the 2017 Competition for National Merit Scholarships. Hannah is one of only 15,000 students to be awarded this distinction across the nation. In addition to Hannah's remarkable achievement, Central seniors Mickey Sloat and Ben Florence were named as Commended Students in the program.

The Central High freshman/sophomore Scholastic Bowl team competed at Moline High Schools' Invitational Tournament, finishing with two wins and two losses, with a tiebreaker win against Bettendorf.

Twenty-five Central High students earned AP Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on multiple AP exams, with 5 students qualifying for the AP Scholar with Honor Award (earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken) and 5 qualifying for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award (earning an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken).

West's Lexi Coiner and Carter Steele, along with Central's Jalynn Roberts and AJ Smith, were recognized by the Wendy's High School Heisman program as School Winners. These talented athletes and scholars were recognized for their hard work and dedication on the field and in the classroom.

The Davenport Schools Foundation (DSF) awarded and coordinated over \$80,000 in scholarships this year, which was presented to over 40 graduating seniors from Central, Mid City, North, and West High Schools. In addition, \$17,250 was given to previous winners who won multi-year awards. Below are the 2017 DSF scholarship winners:

- Betty Nelson Career Technical Scholarship – McKayla Forari
- Betty Nelson Career Technical Scholarship – Cameron Mayes-Butler
- Betty Nelson Career Technical Scholarship – Madlen McCabe
- Betty Nelson Career Technical Scholarship – Keshuna Miller
- Buttleman-Arbisser Scholarship – Yasmine Lopez
- Brad Peck Memorial Scholarship – Adam McKown
- Brain Keppy Memorial Scholarship – Madison Harland
- Caryl Haring Memorial Scholarship – Madison Harland
- Caryl Haring Memorial Scholarship – Nikolas LaMaack
- Caryl Haring Memorial Scholarship – Brian Dennis
- Caryl Haring Memorial Scholarship – Kayleigh Bolick
- Caryl Haring Memorial Scholarship – Cole Flack
- Caryl Haring Memorial Scholarship – Anna Arvanitis
- Caryl Haring Memorial Scholarship – Brittany Hildebrant
- CHS Hall of Honor Kneipp Scholarship – Joseph Shie
- CHS Hall of Honor Hester Scholarship – A.J. Smith
- CHS Hall of Honor – Hannah Mandell
- CHS Hall of Honor Jurgens Scholarship – Mickey Sloat
- CHS Hall of Honor Meyer Scholarship – Jasmine Kargbo
- Class of 59 Scholarship – Tyler Josund
- Class of 64 Future Educator Scholarship – Kayleigh Bolick
- Davenport Schools Foundation Scholarship- Destiny Ellingsworth
- DSF Future Educator Scholarship – Brittany Hildebrant
- DSF Future Educator Scholarship – Cole Flack
- DSF Future Educator Scholarship- Rachel Stewart
- Friends of West – Kalynn Burton
- George Weis Career Technical Scholarship – Dalton Townsley
- Hanae Fujiwara Weise Memorial Scholarship – Thomas Theiling
- Hanae Fujiwara Weise Memorial Scholarship – Cresa Wilson
- Helen Pholing Scholarship – A.J. Smith

- Helen Pholing Scholarship – Spencer Peachee
- Helen Pholing Scholarship – Anna Arvanitis
- Jack L. Hudson Scholarship – Kailey Fellner
- Jack King Music Scholarship – Cresa Wilson
- Jan Mutum Educator Opportunity Scholarship – Madison Harland
- Jane Grady Memorial Scholarship – Hannah Mandell
- Jerry Jurgens Memorial Scholarship – Hannah Rios
- Jerry Jurgens Memorial Scholarship – Sam Serrano
- Joan Kolberg Lowen Scholarship – Kailey Fellner
- Kathryn Tate Bell Scholarship – Mickey Sloat
- Lisa Arbisser Scholarship – Ryan Healey
- Marie Linke Powell Scholarship – Tabitha Zarazinski
- Mary Means Scholarship – Rachel Luong
- Michaela Rose Duvall Scholarship – Meredith Cox
- North High Music Scholarship – Destiny Ellingsworth
- West High Music Scholarship – Cole Flack

District, Teacher, and Staff Accolades

Central High teachers Gail Heninger, Joni Nelson, and Shifra Gassner received 2017 Education Eddy Awards from River Action. Ms. Heninger received her Eddy for her work with the Environmental Club, and Ms. Nelson and Ms. Gassner were recognized for their involvement in the Upper Mississippi River Conference and Student summit.

West High School, via West art teacher Chad Wolf, was the recipient of a nearly \$5000 grant from Century Link for the furnishing of a digital studio for students.

Central High Family and Consumer Science teacher Jenee Cross was awarded an Afterschool Champions Award from the Iowa Afterschool Alliance. Mrs. Cross worked with River Bend Food Bank Programs Director Dianne Erickson to create the Community Cafe program to teach students how to be proactive members of their environment and tackle community hunger issues.

Central High's band director, Alex Wilga, was awarded the Dr. Lewis A Schmidt Citation of Excellence Alumni Award from VanderCook College of Music. Mr. Wilga is one of the first recipients of this award and credits his success to his students, both past and present, saying, "Without them I would not be the teacher I am."

West High's Greg Smith, an Industrial Technology and Project Lead the Way teacher, was the recipient of this year's Southeast Iowa STEM Teacher of the Year Award from the Governor's STEM Advisory Council.

Superintendent Dr. Art Tate won the Lloyd Schoeneman Community Impact Award from Quad City Arts for his exceptional support of arts education in the Davenport Community Schools, including the Creative Arts Academy, artsBASICS, and the new Central High School Performing Arts Center.

Andy Tadlock, Wood Intermediate choral director and lead teacher, was selected to conduct the Bass Clef Honor Choir at the 31st Annual Iowa Opus All-State Choir, held on the campus of Iowa State University. Mr. Tadlock also conducted at the 2016 Iowa Choral Director's North Central District Honor Choir in Mason City, Iowa.

Garfield Elementary counselor Candy Reed received an award from the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) to celebrate Garfield as a Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP). RAMP designations are given at the culmination of a school's implementation of a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program.

North High business teacher Steve Verdon was named Iowa ACTE (Association for Career and Technical Education) Teacher of the Year. This incredible honor is given to only one Career and Technical Education instructor in Iowa per year. The award recognizes the finest career and technical teachers at the secondary school level who have demonstrated innovation in the classroom, commitment to their students, and dedication to the improvement of CTE in their institutions and communities.

For coaching awards, please see the Athletics section below.

Athletics

North High Boys Tennis Coach Chris Hall was named MAC Coach of the Year.

North High girls golf coach Jeff Dietz was named MAC Coach of the Year.

West High sophomore golfer Addison Flynn scored a round of 49 in the JV City Tournament, finishing tied for first overall.

Central High's Kevin Kurth won the State Long Jump Title with a jump of 23 feet and 3.5 inches. District-wide, here are the other top 10 finishers at the State Track and Field Finals:

- Boy's Long Jump: Kevin Kurth (CHS) 1st Place; Isaiah Gibbs (NHS) 10th Place
- Girl's Discus: Lea Grady (CHS) 5th Place
- Girl's Shot Put: Lea Grady (CHS) 7th Place
- Boys 4x200 Meter Relay: Team of Akendre Abbey, Collin Glazek, Zeke Hayslett, and Isaiah Gibbs (NHS) 5th Place
- Boys 100 Meter: Kevin Kurth (CHS) 5th Place
- Boys 200 Meter: Collin Glazek (NHS) 2nd Place; Zeke Hayslett (NHS) 6th Place
- Boys 4x100 Meter Relay: Team of Akendre Abbey, Collin Glazek, Zeke Hayslett, and Isaiah Gibbs (NHS) 3rd Place

Central High's Lauren Amato competed in the Open Crossfit Competition, finishing in 126th place worldwide and 12th in the North Central region. As a top 200 finisher, Lauren was invited to compete in the Teenage Online Qualifier.

The North High Wildcat Girls Golf Team won the Falcon Invitational Golf Tournament with a team score of 420. McKenzie O'Brien earned tournament medalist honors by shooting the low score for the day, and Hailey Fisher finished 3rd overall.

North High freshman Shelby Fick carded a hole-in-one in a Junior Varsity Golf Meet with West at Red Hawk Golf Course.

Central High's Cederick Thomas, Natasha Moore-Louis, and Mireya Mendoza all won in the Iowa State Golden Gloves Championship. Cederick advanced to the Men's National Golden Gloves Championship.

Central High Special Olympic athletes Claire Bloom, Jalyynn Nunnally, Jonathan Lorber, Nick Laster, and Hunter Songaila all received 1st place finishes at the regional track meet and advanced to the state track meet in Ames.

North High's Tateum Park won the Iowa Girls Wrestling Elite State Championship in Des Moines, and was invited to be part of the featured bout in the War at West Gym at the University of Northern Iowa. Tateum went on to compete in the Adidas Nationals Wrestling tournament, where she won a National Championship in her weight class and earned All-American status.

Sudlow Intermediate and Creative Arts Academy 7th grader Sydney Park competed in the Adidas Nationals Wrestling tournament, where she won a National Championship in her weight class and earned All-American status.

Sisters Tateum and Sydney Park combined to go 9-1 at the 2017 Viper Pit Wrestling Duals & Open in Wheeling, West Virginia, helping their team earn the Championship Title.

The North High girls basketball team started off their season ranked #1 in class 5A in the state of Iowa, finishing as MAC Champions for the 2nd year in a row with a share of this season's crown with Pleasant Valley. North's regular season record was 18-5 and their conference record was 14-2.

North High's Paige Bradford was named as the Mississippi Athletic Conference's player of the year. Paige was leading scorer and rebounder in the MAC this season.

North High's Jinaya Houston was named to the Iowa Newspaper Association's All-State Team for the third straight season.

Davenport had excellent representation on the girl's basketball All-MAC Team this year. North's Paige Bradford, Jinaya Houston, and Jacionna Stowers made 1st Team, West's Rachel Stewart made 2nd Team, and Honorable Mentions went to Central's Ania Jackson and Karlie Westmoreland, along with North's Coral Dillie, Mariah Mayfield, and McKenzie O'Brien.

Central High's boys basketball team finished as MAC runner up with an overall record of 17-4 and a conference record of 13-3, the best overall record since 2008.

Central High's Ray Miller was selected to play in the Iowa Basketball Coaches Association All-Star game. The Association selects only 10 players from throughout southeast Iowa to play. Ray was also selected by the Iowa Newspaper Association to be on the Second Team All-State in 4-A basketball.

Central High's Jordan Andrews was awarded a Team First certificate from the Iowa Boys Basketball Association. Jordan was only 1 of 50 young men across the state to receive the award, recognized for his commitment to lifting up his teammates and boosting overall team performance.

Davenport had excellent representation on the boy's basketball All-MAC Team this year. Central's Ray Miller made 1st Team; Central's Tyrique Vesey, West's Brett Erwin, and North's VJ Wilmington made 2nd Team; and Honorable Mentions went to Central's Tirique Randolph, Zach Taylor, and Nate Tyson, North's Max Taylor, and West's Kenny Clay and Trey Sampson.

Central High's girls bowling team qualified for State, where they placed 6th in their division. Individually, Maddi Smith finished in 2nd place overall, and Donna Diggs placed 8th.

North High's bowlers qualified for State, where the boys team placed 3rd in their division. Individually, boys team member CJ Bakoylis and girls team member Miranda Miller won Individual MAC Championships. In addition to these student awards, girls coach Jan Edwards was selected as MAC Girls Bowling Coach of the Year.

Two Davenport bowlers were selected for The Des Moines Register's All-Iowa Elite teams. North High's CJ Bakoylis placed third in the Class 3A state meet with a 468 series total (12 pins off the state championship pace), and he ranked fourth individually in the state with a 452 average. Central High's Maddi Smith finished as the state runner-up in Class 3A, bowling a 480 total in the meet, ending up 20 pins behind the winner, and averaging 365.9 per series over the season.

Central High's Sam Serrano qualified for the State Wrestling Tournament, where he took 8th place in his weight division, winning two of his 5 matches.

In the Iowa Elks Hoop Shoot Competition, McKinley Elementary's Stella Smith won the 8-9 Year-Old Girls District Division, and Washington Elementary's Navon Shabazz won the 8-9 Year-Old Boys District Division. Both students advanced to the State Competition, where Navon made 22 of 25 free throws and was crowned the 8-9 Year-Old Boys Division State Champion. He also won the John O'Conner Award for being the overall top male free throw shooter in the state of Iowa.

The Central High boys swim team qualified for State in 10 of 11 events, the most qualifiers in over 25 years. Joseph Shie, Charley Cummins, Andrew Shie, Seth Land, Devin Land, and Wyatt Land took 11th place overall, and the highest individual finisher was Andrew Shie, who took 3rd in the 100 meter breaststroke. In addition to these student highlights, Head Coach Duane Stahl and Assistant Coach Paul Eure were honored as District Coaching Staff of the Year.

Ten swimmers from Central and West High Schools qualified for the Girl's State Swim Meet:

West High

200 Medley Relay Team: Claire Straetker, Madison Cousins, Courtney Schaeffer, and Madison Harland

200 Freestyle Relay Team: Courtney Schaeffer, Madison Harland, Claire Straetker, and Anna Arvanitis

Central High

200 Medley Relay Team: Maria Eure, Abbey Klostermann, Meredith Cox, and Alexis Cummins

200 Freestyle Relay Team: Meredith Cox, Abbey Klostermann, Alexis Cummins, and Allison Fellner

Individual 100 Butterfly: Meredith Cox

Individual 100 Backstroke: Meredith Cox

Individual 100 Breaststroke: Abbey Klostermann

West High's Maddy Seago, Rachel McCullough, Sydney Heskett, Abbie Kolberg, and Xana Simpson were named All American cheerleaders. The students traveled to London, England over winter break to perform in the New Year's Eve Parade with other All Americans from all over the United States.

North High's Zeke Hayslett and Ryan Healey were named to the Iowa Academic All-State Football Team for the 2016 Season.

At this year's state competition, the West High Diamond Dancers finished 3rd in both the Lyrical and the Kick dances, earning a Division 1 rating with their Pom routine.

Central High's Special Olympics bowling team won gold medals at the state competition. Congratulations to team members Jonathan Lorber, Jalynn Nunnally, Nick Laster, and Hunter Songaila.

West High seniors Kyleigh Emery and Jamie Henderkott were selected to play in the 2nd Annual Iowa vs Illinois Girls Senior All Star Volleyball Match at Carver Center on the Augustana College Campus in Rock Island.

Central High's Blue Illusion dance team competed at the Stack The Stands dance competition at Cedar Rapids Prairie High School, earning 1st for Hoopla routine, 1st in Prop routine, and 4th in Pom.

The West High Co-Ed Cheerleading Squad placed 2nd in the Co-Ed division at the State competition in Des Moines.

West High cross country runner Andrew Wright qualified for State for his second year in a row.

North High golfer CJ Fisher won medals at three events during one week in September. CJ took 2nd place among juniors at the Clinton Invitational at Valley Oaks with a score of 81, he won the Davenport City Tournament at Emeis with a score of 76, and he tied for 2nd at the Muskie Invite at Geneva Country Club with a score of 76.

West High senior Aaron Willie was the overall winner of the Muskie Invitational held at Geneva Country Club, with a score of 74. Congratulations also go out to Zane Grell, who was the JV meet medalist with a score of 39 at Red Hawk.

North runner Zach Schocker was selected as Athlete of the Week by the Quad City Times after he collected his second victory of the season at the North Scott Invitational in September. He ran the 5,000 meter course at Scott County Park in 17 minutes, 12 seconds.

Music, Art, Theatre, and Dance

The following Central High students were selected to perform at the Outstanding Performers Showcase at Iowa State University: Sammie Lyle, Peyton Reese, Meredith Cox, Audrey Moon, Annie Callaway, Abbi Ivanic, and Jada McCullum.

Wood Intermediate choir members participated in the 2017 Music in the Parks music festival held in Gurnee, Illinois, earning a school record 9 awards while competing against schools from 11 states. The list of awards are as follows: Overall Best Elementary Choir and First Place in Class A (6th grade choir), Overall Best Junior High Choir and First Place in Class A (7-8 mixed choir), First Place Mixed Choir Class A (8th Grade Choir), First Place Women's Choir (Women's Choir), First Place Men's Choir (Men's Choir), Second Place Class A (7th Grade Choir), and 8th grader Casey Scott was recognized as Overall Outstanding Soloist out of all choir classes Elementary through High School.

Janiece Maddox, student at Central High and the Creative Arts Academy, was selected to the 2017 Art Educators of Iowa Visual Arts 1st Team/All State. Ninety-three students from across Iowa submitted portfolios to the All State competition, and Janiece was among the only nineteen students who were awarded Visual Arts 1st team recognition.

The Des Moines Performing Arts organization recognized North High's production of *In the Heights* with its top honors, listed below. As such, North was invited to perform on June 5 in the Des Moines Civic Center along with other schools state wide who were similarly honored. North was the only Quad City high school honored at the Iowa High School Musical Theatre Awards.

- Outstanding Musical Production
- Outstanding Student Orchestra
- Outstanding Performance in a Principal Role – Abigail Bastian as “Nina”
- Outstanding Performance in a Principal Role – Isaiah Gibbs as “Benny”
- Outstanding Performance in a Principal Role – Josh Reid as “Usnavi”
- Special Recognition for Ensemble
- Special Recognition for Performance in a Principal Role – Hannah DeFauw as “Vanessa”
- Special Recognition for Performance in a Principal Role – Zoe Purcell as “Daniela”
- Special Recognition for Performance as a Featured Dancer – Nik LaMaack

Andre Garcia, West High sophomore, was selected to represent Iowa's Second Congressional District in the 2017 Congressional Art Contest with his black and white photograph, “Duck Creek,” which will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year. In addition, West student Bailey Turner was second runner-up with her piece, “Autumn,” which will be displayed in Loeb sack's district offices in Davenport and Iowa City.

All of North High's music ensembles received either Superior or Excellent ratings this year. Concert Band, Orchestra and Women's Chorus all received Division 1 Superior ratings, and Concert Chorale, Varsity Singers, and Men's Ensemble received Division 2 Excellent ratings.

Davenport Community Schools students won medals at this year's Career Development Conference in Des Moines. West High iJAG students Alicia Long, Brenna Bedwell, Halle Store, Chris Cash, Ryne Schroeder, Amanda Menchaca, and Israel Yzaguirre won the Newspaper Shelter Challenge and brought home three medals - one for the best product in the Junk Game, one for our career banner, and one for the cover design competition. Central High students Aysia Thomas, Zach Taylor, Da'Shae Parker, Hevyn Barnes, Arthur Bell, Treshawn Milton and Drevyn Barnes competed, also bringing home three medals - Aysia Thomas placed 3rd in public speaking and 2nd in the Junk Game, and Zach Taylor placed 1st in Critical Thinking.

Four Central High/Creative Arts Academy students were honored by the Brand Boeshaar scholarship program this year. This scholarship is offered to seniors in eastern Iowa and western Illinois, and in the entire region only 4 students are selected for the \$12000 award, two of which are CHS/CAA students. Emily Beck and Janiece Maddox each received a \$12,000 Brand Boeshaar scholarship. In addition, Karlie Westmoreland and Tiago Marquez earned honorable mention scholarships of \$500.

At the Title I Multicultural Night, the following students were honored for their submissions to the “We're All in This Together – Cultures Around the World” drawing contest:

K-2nd Grade: Audriana Guldner, 1st Place (2nd grader at Hayes Elementary) and Lily Bayer, Honorable Mention (1st grader at Garfield Elementary)

3rd-5th Grade: Shatava Cagle, 1st Place (4th grader at Hayes Elementary) and Stoyota Nguyen, Honorable Mention (5th grader at Buchanan Elementary)

6th-8th Grade: Keelon Leake, 1st Place (7th grader at Smart Intermediate) and JLYnn Beason, Honorable Mention (8th grader at Wood Intermediate)

West High junior Courtney Schaeffer and senior Katelyn Cox both won 1st place in the Iowa Junior Duck Stamp competition with their paintings of ducks.

Creative Arts Academy and Central High students earned a total of forty-seven 2017 Scholastic Art and Writing awards. Gold key winners (the top 5-7% of all entries) were: Emily Beck (2 Golds), Andrea Misner, Janiece Maddox, Brenna Dreyer-Mahr, Johnny Garrett (2 Golds), Karlie Westmoreland, Aaron Fischer, Tyssa Humburd, and Olivia Kramer.

Central High/Creative Arts Academy student Karlie Westmoreland received a gold medal at the national level of the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Her photograph titled *Just Say Cheese* was one of only four pieces from the state of Iowa to be awarded the Gold Medal. Karlie will travel to New York City to attend the National Ceremony and accept her award in person at Carnegie Hall. Art teacher Mr. Balsar will also be in attendance and recognized at the National Ceremony and awarded a National Medal as her educator.

Numerous DCS students and staff received awards at the 40th Annual Quad City Arts High School Invitational awards ceremony, including:

Locascio Award for Artistic Excellence – Mikayla Farrington, North High

Juror's Choice Award for Artistic Excellence – Nicole Meyers, Central High / Creative Arts Academy

Rock Island Art Guild Award – Ian Brown, North High

Heggen Award for Excellence in Watercolor – Janiece Maddox, Central High

Living Lands and Waters Award for Use of Recycled Materials – Nick Cato, North High

Quad City Arts' Staff Award – Pierce Howard, North High

White Award for Most Whimsical – Hunter Bell, North High

Franken Award for Most Creative Concept – Haley Petz, Central High / Creative Arts Academy

Davis Award for Excellence in Clay – Gwen Johnson, Central High

Wilhoit Award for Excellence in Photography – Makayla Covey, West High

Heath Award for Artistic Merit – Isabelle Kern, Central High

Zimmerman Award for Artistic Excellence – Miles Roelle, Central High

Rathje Award for Artist Merit – Faith Anderson, North High

Mississippi Valley Woodcarvers Award – Oliviana Kramer, Central High

People's Choice Award: Karlenia Hildebrant, North High

1st Place Teacher Award: David Schaeffer, North High

2nd Place Teacher Award: Renee Ott, Central High

Davenport Community Schools is one of only two districts in the state of Iowa to receive a 2017 Best Community for Music Education Award from the NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants) Foundation. This designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students.

West High's Jazz I band, under the direction of Maggie Oates, was the only 4A jazz band at their site to receive a Division I Superior Rating.

The following Central High students made the Kennedy Honor Orchestra: Maddison Smith, Grace Nelson, Isabel Buchanan, Karlee Davis, Zeke Wynsma, Aliza Oxyer, Heaven Jones, Elise Dorrance, Laura Sitz, and Jenny Mahl.

West High hosted a 10-Minute Play Festival, where over 40 students worked together and produced plays written by sophomore Caitlin Bauer, freshman Maesi Geigle, junior Alexander Hamilton, senior Ben Heirigs, sophomore Preston Jackson, and staff members Kristin Koski and Jordan Strickland.

Creative Arts Academy 7th graders Soli Augspurger and Sydney Park had their artwork selected for the 2017 Youth Art Month Show. Their work was exhibited at Grandview University along with other students throughout the state of Iowa. 7th grader Brighton Hall was not only selected for Youth Art Month, but her photo "Spokes and Spires" was also on display at the Governor's office for a month.

Central High's "Central Singers, Incorporated" show choir finished 2nd runner-up in an Orlando, Florida event, qualifying for the National Championship. Pierre Young was named Best Male Performer and Ajay Williams was named Best Male Soloist. Ajay received a \$10,000 scholarship with his award.

North High's Melanie Anderson won her 5th Best Female Soloist award of the show choir season at the Fort Madison Invitational, and was awarded a Scholarship to Central College in Pella. Also at the event, North's JV show choir "Center Stage" was awarded 1st Place in the prep division and varsity choir "Northside Establishment" was awarded 1st place in the 4A division and 1st runner-up in the finals.

West's show choirs competed in their final competition of the year at Marion High School's Marion Masquerade. "This Just In!," West's prep group, won first place in the Prep Division, and "West Connection," West's varsity choir, placed 3rd in the 4A Division.

West High student Sam Petri and his band, yBblu, performed at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, Tennessee.

The following students were nominated to the 2017 5th-6th Southeastern Iowa Elementary Honor Choir:

Smart Intermediate: Brayden Kerschner, Kelsey Graham, Kaydence Kitzmiller, Isabelle Shipley, and Emily Hauschild

Sudlow Intermediate: Jacob Fee, MiaJoy Newmyer, Ella Hickenbottom, Ian Hopkins, Kate Ebeling, Merin Crowder, Anna Burke, Delany Graves, and Katie Mahl

Walcott K-8: Hailey McClure, Alexandria Petersen, Alaina Lake, Paige Sinksen, Isabel Sinksen, Anna Dennis, Isabel Martinez, Clare Lotspeich, and Halee Clare

Wood Intermediate: Adam Reed, Wyatt Weipert, Sully Mayer, Marissa Pedersen, Ella McMahon, Maliyah Carter, Olivia Heller, and Vivian Bonde

The following students were nominated to the 2017 7th-8th Southeastern Iowa Middle Honor Choir:

Smart Intermediate: Heaven McDaniels, Savannah Richards, Victoria Gillen, Aleigha Roe, Symantha Conger, Michael Nguyen, Trevor Gomez, and Helyna Matthews

Sudlow Intermediate: Emma Swesey, Anna Thompson, Julia Houghton, Jackson Richter, Ellie Matthews, Madeline Sottos, Brice Carpenter, and Meghan Brewster

Walcott K-8: Gabriella Johnson, Sarah Bernick, Eli Benson, Matthew Reis, Peyton Flynn, Joseph Chalupa, Cory Howard, and Lindsey McNeff

Williams Intermediate: Aubrie Schlotfeldt, Aubrey Beazley, Tony Nguyen, Kory Mafnas, Lyric Mason, Makayla Waldbusser, Darrius Stoglin Ragsdale, and Ethan Jakubsen

Wood Intermediate: Meredith Sloat, Rebekah Riewerts, Cale Woodman, Luke Haugen, Jordan Snarr, Andrew Savely, Trevor Milne, and Jordan Colton

SEIBA (Southeast Iowa Bandmasters Association) Honor Band Selectees:

Central High: Audrey Killip (oboe), Jenny Mahl (oboe), Laura Sitz (bassoon), Ian Meisch (clarinet), Emma Berger (clarinet), Katie Swesey (bass clarinet), Hannah Coonfare (contra bass clarinet), Ellis Carlson (trumpet), Sarah Howell (French horn), and Mike Rockstroh (tuba)

North High: Kameron Reed (flute), and Aerianna Trowers (bassoon)

West High: Caitlin Bauer (flute), Michaela Sperry (French horn), and Carson Kahley (percussion)

Wood Intermediate: Makayla Revels (bass clarinet), and Hagen Walker (clarinet)

Walcott Intermediate: Matt Reis (euphonium), Kylie Leming (trombone), Chase Bruns (percussion), Leighla Hebel (trumpet), and Kamrin Varela (flute)

Sudlow Intermediate: Jessica Hankes (flute), Bella Guy (flute), Jasmine Maxwell (flute), Martha Fey (flute), Hayley Gordon (clarinet), Kylan Phillips (clarinet), Danielle Frahm (clarinet), Julia Houghton (bassoon), Emma Swesey (tenor saxophone), John Zaines (trumpet), Ella Durbin (French horn), Alex Lester (French horn), Eli Schrader (tuba), Mackenna Jens (percussion), and Anna Maxwell (percussion)

The North High chamber singers sang at various events around the Quad Cities during the holiday season, and were recorded on KWQC's *Choirs for Christmas*.

The North High dance team participated in the Iowa State Dance Championship, receiving three Division 1 rankings from the judges for their performance.

Central High's Logan Myers collaborated with other area musicians on a song, "Freedom," that will be the title track for a film about Hero Street in Silvis, Illinois.

The following students won awards at the Quad City Arts 2016 Festival of Trees Annual High School Art Show:

North High

Hunter Bell won Best of Show. With this award, Hunter was given a solo show in the front window of Quad City Arts for an entire month.

West High

Kelly Snawerdt: 2nd place in photography

Katie Melville: Honorable Mention in painting

Central High and Creative Arts Academy

Aaron Fischer: 2nd place in sculpture

Emily Beck: 3rd place in sculpture

Janiece Maddox: 1st place in painting

Andrea Misner: 2nd place in painting

Central High's Marching Blue Devils finished their season as the school, city, and state representative at the Bands of America Grand National Championships in Indianapolis, Indiana, where they received their highest score to date at Nationals since returning in 2014. The Marching Blue Devils competed in five contests this year and placed in four, bringing home 8 individual caption awards. The Marching Blue Devils continued their streak of straight division 1 ratings at State Contest which now spans over six decades.

Accolades from the State Thespian Festival:

Central High

Hunter IntVeld, 1st Place Scenic Design; Hannah King, 2nd Place Stage Management; Branden Leon, 3rd Place Scenic Design; Jeremy Weinstein, 2nd Place Monologue; Temyia Holcomb, 3rd Place Monologue; and Hunter IntVeld, Jeremy Weinstein, and Hannah King qualified for the International Thespian Festival.

North High

Abby Bastian qualified for the International Thespian Festival; Nik LaMaack finished up his year on the Iowa Thespian Board by helping to run the festival and by emceeing many festival events.

The North High art department won the 2nd Annual Graffiti for Good Contest, their 2nd year in a row of winning 1st place. Team members were Sabrina Sprout, Karlenia Hildebrant, and Stephanie VanRycke.

The following 24 students were accepted into the 2016 Iowa All-State Choir, Band, and Orchestra:

Central: Meredith Cox, Sammie Lyle, Audrey Moon, Peyton Reese, John Vander Wal, Adam Borders, Pierre Young, CJ Parker, Jeremy Weinstein, Nate Trasoweck, Tyler Browne, Justin Christoffersen, Cresa Wilson, and Tommy Hathaway

North: Holden Conner, Josh Reid, Will Snowball, Logan Waller, and Shelby Fick

West: Sophie Buckley, Chane Eckhardt, and Kersten Kahley

Central High's Mickey Sloat was named a 2016 Herbert Hoover Uncommon Student Award recipient for her creation of the Don't Upstage Yourself program. The mission of the program is "Using theatre as a tool to encourage in students a love of the arts, public speaking, and, most importantly, themselves." Mickey was 1 of only 3 students to receive top honors and take home the \$5000 scholarship.

Central High's "Blue Illusion" junior varsity and varsity dance teams competed at the Iowa Spirit Spectacular at Carver Hawkeye Arena and brought home top honors. JV took 1st place in the Junior Varsity Pom Division, and varsity placed 1st in the Varsity Hoopla Division and 3rd in the Varsity Pom Division.

The following students were accepted into the 2016 Iowa Junior Honors Orchestra Festival:

Smart: Destiny Jones (violin), Aliyha Morgan (violin), Logan Decklar (viola), and Caleb K. Matthews (viola)

Sudlow: Julia Houghton (violin), Madeline Sottos (violin), and Jason Bordine (cello)

Central: Isabel Buchanan (violin), Karlee Davis (violin), Heaven Jones (cello), Jenny Mahl (cello), Grace Nelson (violin), Laura Sit (cello), and Maddison Smith (violin)

Williams: McKenzie Alderson (violin), Lauren Hayman (viola), and Nolan Ware (bass)

The following students were accepted into the 2016 Iowa OPUS Honor Choir that took place on November 17th at Iowa State University:

Wood: Samantha L. Wingate, Casey Scott, John Glasgow IV, and Devonte Westley

Central: Sam Fahrenkrug, Sam Saveraid, Jack Bevans, Nick Vazquez, Maddi Smith, Jennifer Mahl, and Anna Winn

Williams: Luke Heinrichs

North: Abigail Edlemon, Tommy Le, and Mallory Owens

Sudlow: John Zaines

Walcott: Matthew Reis and Isabel Sinksen

West: Gillian Collins and Michael Hill

Artworks by Mid City High art students were exhibited in a group show at Seven Orchids Gallery in the Bucktown Center for the Arts.

History, Geography, Social, and Literary Studies

West Junior Michael Davis was accepted into the University of Iowa's prestigious International Writing Program for the summer residency *Between the Lines: Identity & Belonging*.

Central High's yearbook staff members Mariana Chavez and Sophie Lamantia were inducted into Quill and Scroll, an international journalism honor society.

West High journalism students Michael Davis, ShaRonjuante Edwards, Kate Kealey, and Andrew Lord were invited to the Lloyd-Jones Residency for Versatile Writing at the University of Iowa in Iowa City for a residency on a variety of nonfiction writing techniques.

Two West High "Battle of the Books" teams placed 2nd and 3rd in the Regional competition held at the Bettendorf Public Library. Team members were Skylar Hintze, Maesi Geigle, Allyssa Dawson, Ressa Alzahrani, and Anton Kordick.

Two Central students received awards in the Iowa Letters About Literature writing competition: junior Olivia Tobin won 3rd place in Iowa and foreign exchange student Fares Habboub was chosen as an Honorable Mention in the contest. In addition, Sam O'Boyle, Alina Kobal, and Allison Fellner were recognized as finalists.

Sudlow Intermediate's Maitreyi Shrikhande and Kaya Baca qualified for the State-level contest in the National History Day program. Maitreyi created a website on Elizabeth Cady Stanton, titled "Women's Rights." Kaya created a website on Adolf Hitler, titled "Fight for the Universal Race."

Central High sent both its varsity team and its freshman team to the 2017 State Mock Trial Competition - the first time in Central's history two teams had been selected. The freshmen Mock Trial team beat both PV and Assumption to earn their bid to State. At State, Drew Thompson was recognized as a Top Ten Witness in the entire state of Iowa.

Central High students Grace Hipple and Noor Ain were winners in the 2017 Ida Kramer "Children and the Holocaust" Essay Contest. Grace was awarded 1st place for her essay, "Fighting for Freedom: Simone Segouin's Brave Resistance to Nazi Persecution." Noor won 2nd place with her essay "Marion- The Lady Who Inspired Me."

West High's Wylie Halferty, Alleyah Melendez, and Madison Cousins will represent West at the National Speech and Debate Tournament in Birmingham, Alabama. In addition, Wylie and Alleyah have been selected to join two Bettendorf students as the eastern Iowa 4-person team competing in the World Schools Debate.

Eisenhower Elementary won the district Battle of the Books competition, earning them the right to represent Davenport Community Schools at the regional competition.

At Garfield Elementary, Mrs. Snyder's kindergartners participated in the Lexia Usage Challenge and placed in the top ten of the large school category throughout all of the Midwest.

The following West High students won individual awards at this year's Iowa City Speech and Debate event:

Spencer Fillman - 2nd place in Spontaneous Speaking
Madison Cousins - 2nd place in Informative Speaking
Andrew Lord - 3rd place in Dramatic Interpretation
Wylie Halferty - 4th place in Extemporaneous Speaking

Central High's freshman History Bowl team took 2nd place in the Eastern Iowa Regional History Bowl and Bee tournament, qualifying the team for Nationals. Freshman Rafe Sullivan was the overall champion of the JV History Bee and qualified for the individual State competition.

Mid City High students created a mobile app for a historical walking tour of Davenport. The app works by scanning a barcode with your phone to learn about a particular landmark or location.

Central High's 2016 *Blackhawk* yearbook received a "First Place with Special Merit" award and a "Most Outstanding High School Yearbook" award from the American Scholastic Press Association critique. The yearbook also received an "Award of Achievement" from the Iowa High School Press Association and a "First Class" honor rating from the National Scholastic Press Association's critique. The 2016 edition of *Blackhawk* was also chosen to appear in the 2016 publication of the *Walsworth Possibilities*, a book that showcases the best in yearbook publications from across the country. In addition to this award, the 2017 *Blackhawk* yearbook was selected to be one of 65 yearbooks from across the country to be sent out as a "sample book" by Walsworth.

North High's 2016 *Norwica* yearbook earned the Award of Distinguished Merit from the State Jostens Whole Yearbook Contest. The award goes to yearbooks that receive a rating of Excellence from the judges.

The Sudlow Intermediate Yearbook staff received an honorable mention in the 2016 LifeTouch Yearbook Showcase Contest for their work on the 2015-2016 Year in Review.

Harrison Elementary student Henry Akers won an iPad Mini in a contest put on by myON™ Reading. Students in the Midwest who read over 10 books using myON™ over the summer were automatically entered in the contest, and Henry's name was randomly selected from over a million entries.

At the Iowa High School Press Association's Fall Conference, individual students and student groups from our high schools won the following awards in the yearbook contest:

Central High (Class C Division)

1st place in Design: summer to December events; 2nd place in Design: Opening-closing or division spread; 2nd place in Reader Services; 3rd place in Theme

West High (Class C Division)

3rd place in Design: January to June events; 3rd place and an Honorable Mention in Design: summer to December events; 1st place, 2nd place, and an Honorable Mention in Infograph: Mod

North High (Class B Division)

2nd place in Reader services; Honorable Mention in Feature photo with caption: student life-school related

Members of Central High's *Latinos Unidos* participated in the University of Iowa's annual Latino Youth Summit, where they attended workshops on college preparedness, entrepreneurship, cultural identity, and creative writing in Spanish.

117 Hayes Elementary students participated in the Davenport Public Library Summer Reading program, by far the largest participation in years. Mrs. Gott and Mrs. Couch were recognized with a trophy at the September 13th Davenport City Council meeting.

Students and Staff as Civic Leaders

Mrs. Snarr's 5th Grade class from Harrison Elementary received a grant from the Realtor Foundation of Iowa in memory of Jack Lindaman. Students used the money for a "Pay It Forward" project, making fleece blankets to give to Harrison's elderly neighbors who reside in the Lutheran Home Care Center.

West High now has a full service food pantry thanks to Riverbend Food Bank and local volunteers. During Student Senate's Charity Week, Zeglin's donated a washer and dryer, and Student Senate raised money to help assist with plumbing costs.

During Davenport's iJAG (Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates) day of volunteering with Living Lands and Waters, students participated in the I-80 Restoration Project. This is the largest restoration project in IDOT history (totaling 28 acres) and the project restores the area back to native landscape, with a hope to eventually feature a small herd of native buffalo.

Central High TAG (Talented and Gifted) students participated in this year's Youth Uplift Challenge. For every paper craft hand made by students, the Bezos Family Foundation donated \$1.90 to Save the Children's programs. Central students created 1,120 hands, resulting in \$2,128 being donated to Save The Children.

North High's student ambassadors visited the River Bend Food Bank to package 1,620 backpacks for the community. These backpacks provided food for students to take home to sustain themselves over the weekend.

North High's paws classes and JOOI Club (Junior Octagon Optimist International) helped make over 60 Red Cross comfort bags for local families affected by house fires. The JOOI Club also held a blood drive and had over 100 students participate, collecting 72 units of blood to help save 216 lives.

Central High's Imani Gaines was selected to the American Legion Auxiliary Iowa 2017 Girls State program. During this program, Imani learned about the political system on the local and state level.

West High raised \$1523 in the Pennies for Patients fundraiser for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Truman Elementary raised \$2,345.75 for the Jump Rope for Heart initiative of the American Heart Association. This amount surpasses Truman's goal of raising \$2000 for cardiovascular research and education.

West High's Falcon Friends Club, led by Ms. Iavarone, held a bench press competition as a fundraiser for the ARC of Southeast Iowa Bill Reagan Scholarship Fund. The fund supports students intending to major in special education or social work, and individuals with disabilities pursuing post-secondary education.

At West High, Ms. Hosch's Advanced Clothing students chose to engage in a giving project for the charity "Dress a Girl Around the World." Students sewed dresses to send to the organization to help impoverished girls own a dress.

North High's National Honor Society Chapter hosted a "Green Out" to raise awareness for organ donation. The chapter also held a bake sale and half-court shot contest to raise money for the Iowa Donors Network.

North High's JOOI Club (Junior Octagon Optimist International) hosted their Annual Dance Marathon and raised nearly \$1800 for the University of Iowa Children's Hospital.

West High's Economics class, taught by Mr. Achs, wanted to make a difference and help those in need, so they made 80 sandwiches and donated them to St. Anthony's Care and Share Program in downtown Davenport.

Isabelle Brown, Kristal Thomas, and Hannah Price (North High), along with Kaylin Buckley, D'Shae Parker, and Hevyn Barnes (Central High) were selected to attend "The Next Step" Girls Leadership Conference at Western Illinois University, Quad Cities.

West High's "Falcons for Families," with the help of business partners such as the YMCA, Ruhl & Ruhl, RE/MAX, Total Solutions, Mandela Integrative Medicine, Terracon, and River Bend Food Bank, provided gifts to 30 students and food baskets to 24 families this year.

Central High's Leadership Team hosted its 5th Annual Holiday Dinner Box Drive, collecting enough to assemble a record-shattering 113 boxes to help Central families in need.

North High's JOOI Club (Junior Optimist Octagon International) volunteered to ring bells for Salvation Army at NorthPark Mall during the first three Fridays in December.

North High Student Ambassadors helped out at the annual Happy Joe's Holiday Party, and event for Davenport Community School students with special needs.

West High's robotics teams hosted a Kids Against Hunger Meal Packing event during the holiday season.

The West High School WINGs girls, sponsored by Junior League of the Quad Cities and led by Mrs. Iavarone, volunteered their time after school to organize winter clothes for Closets 2 Closets, a non-profit organization dedicated to help foster children find clothes they need and want to wear.

Wood Intermediate 6th, 7th, and 8th grade select choirs visited the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics on December 9th to perform holiday-themed music selections for the patients, families, and staff. This was the 3rd consecutive year that Wood's choirs were invited to perform.

Central High had 33 students participate in the Environmental Club all year, the highest number of active members in Central's history. The club recycled an estimated 42,000 cans and bottles for the 2016/2017 school year, and every week, they removed at least 8 full bags of cans and bottles from our building. Club members also teamed up with Central's Student Council to participate in the City of Davenport's "Garbage Gobble," where they picked up trash along Goose Creek.

West High's Wylie Halferty was named a 2017 Legislative Page. Through this program at our state capitol, Wylie sat in on legislative committee meetings and debate, learning first-hand about the workings of the Iowa Legislature.

At the 11th General Assembly of the Iowa Youth Congress (IYC), the Mid City delegation passed its bills on Restriction of Hand Held Cellular Phone Use While Driving and Funding Equalization. IYC students also participated in a local Legislative Forum and held an informational meeting with local legislators.

Garfield Student Council officers Bella Robinson, Nate Hartje, Blake Bush and Rueben Leveridge accepted a photograph and artifacts from the White House in exchange for a book of student art and writing that will be archived in the White House library.

Central High's Maddie Gowey participated in Girls State, a week-long civics program at Drake University. There, Maddie learned about local and state governments, the Iowa Caucus, and the pivotal roles of our elected officials.

Several Central High TAG students attended the "Shakespeare & Justice" workshop presented by St. Ambrose University Women for Social Justice and the Quad Cities Junior League Club. Students were challenged to be articulate, engaged, and committed to their convictions on several poignant issues surrounding social injustice and media trends.

Four of the ten Iowa students chosen to attend the iJAG National Student Leadership Academy in Washington, D.C. were from Davenport Community Schools. Central's Kyla Blackhawk competed in the Math Skills competition, North's Malcolm Desvignes was 1st in the state of Iowa in the Public Speaking competition, West's Amber Sheridan competed in the Employability Skills competition, and West's Kameron Houston was chosen as the student Keynote Speaker at the dignitary luncheon. Kameron was selected out of all JAG students from across 35 states, and he shared his story with over 700 young people, governors, corporate CEOs, foundations, national agency heads, and distinguished guests, including President Barack Obama.

S.T.E.M., Business, and Vocational Accomplishments

The "Combustible Lemons," West High's robotics team that competes in FIRST Tech Challenge events, was this year's FTC **WORLD CHAMPION** student robotics team. The Lemons accomplished this amazing feat at the FTC World Championships in Saint Louis, winning this year's competition in which students and their robot competed in a game called "Velocity Vortex." The Combustible lemons were named the INSPIRE Award winner at the competition. It was a successful season of robotics contests that lead up to their World Championship win, including FTC events such as the Nebraska and Iowa State Championships and many events closer to home. Huge congratulations go out to all the students, teachers, coaches, and volunteers on this amazing accomplishment.

"Disruptive Innovation," West High's INSPIRE capstone student robotics team that competes in FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) events, was this year's Rookie All-Star team at the FRC World Championships in Saint Louis. This is the highest award attainable for any rookie team from around the world, and a huge title to be held here in Davenport.

Central High's AJ Smith was named as Iowa's State Champion on the Microsoft Office Specialist PowerPoint exam. Because of his results, AJ has qualified to travel to Orlando, Florida, to compete in Certiport's 2017 Microsoft Office Specialist U.S. National Championship.

Students in Mr. Hatfield's Advanced Welding Class at Central High created a custom bike rack for Wide River Winery, a local business.

Student-Built Home Program students from North, West, and Central once again built a quality home from the foundation up. Students were responsible for the rough framing, siding, shingling, and setting the windows and doors. They also worked alongside professionals in the trades, learning skills with concrete, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, drywall, painting, and landscaping.

West High students Glenn Nosa, Kayla Clayton, and Chase Thompson competed at the University of Iowa in the Hawkeye Challenge Programming Competition, taking 3rd place out of 22 teams.

North High's Katie Sturmer presented at the 2017 World Food Prize Iowa Youth Institute held at Iowa State University, a conference about the challenges and research related to world food security issues. Katie presented on water scarcity and sanitation in Haiti. Keynote speakers at the event included Governor Terry Branstad and Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds.

West high students, along with teacher Mr. Strunk and counselor Mrs. Iavarone, prepared and wrapped 2500 white oak trees for the Living Lands and Waters Million Trees Project. West's Ecology Club, led by Ms. Zimmerman, finished up the preparation part of the project by giving up weekend time to bag the trees for distribution.

During Sudlow's annual Pi Day Contest on 3/14, 8th grader Jason Weng broke the previous school record of 82 digits by reciting 150 digits of Pi.

Central High's Family and Consumer Science department was selected for the 2017 *Spicing up the Garden Initiative* as part of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. Under the supervision of Ms. Jenee Cross, students selected various plants, seeds, and supplies to cultivate, nurture, and harvest their own herb garden.

ProStart students competed in the 2017 Iowa ProStart Invitational in Des Moines, and the management team of NaStasha Fouse, Markeya Steele, Gabrielle Houk, and Gabrielle Baysinger won 2nd place.

North High's Katie Sturmer placed 2nd in the Putnam Museum Science Fair with her project of how effective different farming practices are on preventing water and sediment runoff.

ProStart students, under the supervision of Central High teacher Mrs. Cross, served bacon jam-filled corn muffins with tomato mousse at Bacon Fest at the RiverCenter. Students used the real-life experience working with industry leaders to learn how to serve fast and with a smile.

West High's INSPIRE Program for Advanced Manufacturing was the recipient of \$10,000 from the Gene Haas Foundation. Two thousand dollars will be used to support FIRST Robotics at West, and eight thousand dollars will be given as scholarships to students enrolling in a machining-based training and/or engineering program at the post-secondary level.

Science Bowl Teams from North High and Central High competed in Ames at the Iowa State Science Bowl competition. North's team, with members Jacob Wells, Anthony DeSalvo, Brady Connell, Brik Ridenhour, and Jacob Hansen, placed 5th out of 40 teams. Central's team, with members Evan Balk, Hannah Mandell, Mickey Sloat, Rafe Sullivan, and Zeke Wynsma, placed in the top 12.

Fillmore Elementary was the first school to be selected for the Putnam Museum's Immersion Grant. Through the grant, Fillmore's 5th graders spent a week learning through hands-on activities at the Putnam.

Nine Eisenhower Elementary students participated in the FIRST LEGO League competition at the Putnam Museum. Out of 32 teams from across Eastern Iowa, the team won the Judges Award. In the competition, students researched a topic, worked as a cooperative team, and built a robot to accomplish specific missions set forth by the judges.

Through a Junior Achievement program called “Our Region,” Truman Elementary students worked with Mayor Frank Klipsch and Tiphonie Cannon, owner of Oh So Sweet Bakery, to create business plans, learn about profit and loss, and play a game where students owned a fictional hot dog stand.

Buchanan Elementary 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders joined volunteers from John Deere to participate in the “Hour of Code” on December 6th. The event is a global movement by Computer Science Education Week and Code.org, reaching tens of millions of students in 180+ countries through a one-hour introduction to computer science and computer programming.

Three Central High Honors Biology students were selected to have their proposed projects funded through the River Action Student Grant Program. Congratulations to Nia Walker for her electronics recycling project, and Sam O’Boyle and Alea Beecher with their combined project to plant a pollinator garden.

West High Environmental Science students Corbin Soenke, Brenden McHugh, and Callie Peterson attended the River Action Summit and used their ideas to write a grant to receive an award of \$250.00.

West High INSPIRE capstone students from Mr. Brosius’s computer science class and Mr. Schlichting’s business class attended BYTE JAM at Indian Hills Community College, where they placed 5th out of 17 high school teams. The presentation included a game they called “NAVAR, The Great Unknown,” which uses a programming language called Visual Basic.

Central High’s Rachel Eckert, Madisen Ford, Nick Vazquez, Logan Van Italie, Zeke Wynsma, Fares Habboub, Eunesheah Sanders, and Kane MacDonald, members of their school’s robotics team the “Outlaws,” won 3rd place at their first ever robotics competition.

West High’s Tyler Rhoades, Erika Kuriger, and Alexys Monty participated in the Junior Achievement Titan Challenge, where they finished 1st in logo design and 6th in the industry simulation.

The ProStart team competed at Hogtoberfest, a benefit that raises funds for the Friendly House. Under the direction of Mrs. Cross, students entered their pork and black bean chili with chipotle sour cream and won People’s Choice “Best of Pork” Award.

Central High’s Mickey Sloat was chosen for the prestigious Secondary Student Training Program (SSTP), an extension of the Belin-Blank program through the University of Iowa. For six weeks, Mickey worked with her research mentor, Dr. Manak of the University of Iowa, dissecting fruit flies in order to conduct MRIs and brain map them in an attempt to understand how brain structure is linked to Epilepsy. Dr. Manak and Mickey also researched proto-oncology and designed a genetic fruit fly cross to render a mutation that would allow her to see its genetic effects on cancer.

The following West and Central students were chosen to attend the 9th Annual Upper Mississippi River Conference due to their winning essays on the importance of the Mississippi River: Taylor Bayers, Brendan McHugh, Corbin Soenke, Aubrey Evans, Alexis Hall, Ellis Carlson, Megan Fellner, Brooke Nelson, Nia Walker, Aliana Howell, Alissa Dyer, Eunesheah Sanders, Samuel O’Boyle, Amaya Jackson, and Valicia Williams.

Junior ROTC

The Army JROTC program received a financial award from the American Legion. Mr. George Reyes made a special visit to Central High and presented Battalion Commander Matt Gonzales a \$1000.00 check as an investment in the program.

The Marine Corps JROTC program won 1st place / Overall Grand Champion at the Waterloo West Drill and Physical Fitness Meet.

The Army JROTC Program won the Best Youth Group Trophy at the 32nd annual St. Patrick's Day parade. This year's trophy marks the 7th year in a row that the Blue Devil Battalion was recognized for their efforts. Roughly 80 cadets marched in company-by-company formation through downtown Rock Island, across the Centennial Bridge and through all of downtown Davenport.

The Marines Corps JROTC program was named 1st Place Grand Champion at a Des Moines area competitive meet consisting of Armed and Unarmed Basic Drill, Armed Exhibition Drill, Unarmed Exhibition Drill, Color Guard, Inspection, a 3x20 Shooting Match, and Physical Fitness Team Events.