

**DAMASCUS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL  
CHALKMARKS  
HOME OF THE EAGLES**



**The Heart Of Education is Education of the Heart**

*Head for the Summit?*

June 4<sup>th</sup> is almost here and with that date comes our Damascus Christian School Commencement Celebration, 7 PM, in the Damascus Community Church auditorium. High school graduation marks a turning point for young people – another step in the maturing and moving-on process. Between 93% - 100% of our grads go on to college. That is when issues may and sometimes do, arise.

According to Dr. Jeff Meyers, president of *Passing the Baton*, "A recent study confirms what many parents have long suspected; going to college can make kids forget what's important and embrace values that are counter to what they learned growing up." According to Meyers, liberal universities know precisely what they are doing. And the reality is that about four out of five students walk away from their Christian faith by the time they are in their twenties. And the price tag is more than just a loss of faith; the average student leaves college with \$23,186 in debt!

What are students learning in college these days? According to the Intercollegiate Studies Institute in its annual report entitled, *The Shaping of the American Mind*, college graduates are significantly MORE likely to believe in abortion on demand, and same sex marriage, and significantly LESS likely to believe that the Bible is the Word of God, and that anyone can succeed in America with hard work and perseverance.

Obviously, not all colleges are destructive. There are some great Christian colleges out there, but even some "Christian" colleges are actually better at convincing young people to walk away from their faith than some secular colleges! So what are parents (and students) to do? Be prepared! Know where the college or university you are considering stands on various issues. Check with our Academic Advisor, **Jan Dauntless**; she has some wonderful resources that will help you through this sometimes confusing and scary process of selecting a suitable school for your child.



We have a further suggestion – consider having your son or daughter

attend a two-week Summit Ministries summer course. While there, students ages 16-21 will gain the confidence they need to understand and defend an intelligent Biblical worldview. It is a perfect supplement to what they have learned at DCS. This 12-day course help students "own" what they learn. It helps them think through issues as adults. It will assist in breaking the stranglehold on negative peer pressure. They will form positive relationship with expert mentors while affirming and supporting parents' roles and Christian values.

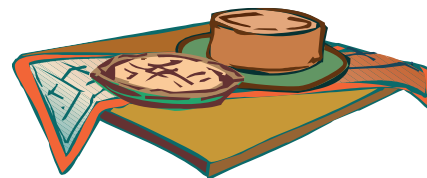
Summit is not a miracle cure. But for 47 years, it has been a trusted source for preparing students to be the kind of leaders who shape culture rather than being "squeezed in to the mold of the world" (Rom 12:1-2). James Dobson and Josh McDowell enthusiastically endorse Summit. Enrollment is limited by space. For more information or to download an application, go to [www.summit.org](http://www.summit.org). Scholarships are available for those in financial need. Our recommendation: before college, Summit.

*Junior-Senior Dessert Next Week*

Each year, time is set aside to honor our seniors at the Junior-Senior Dessert. This is an opportunity for our juniors and their parents to acknowledge the accomplishment of the graduating class, and for the parents of our seniors to express their love and appreciation to their sons and daughters.

Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, the above parties will gather in the auditorium to pay tribute to the Class of 2010. Following the parent presentations, all will gather downstairs for refreshments and fellowship.

Please pray for our seniors as they prepare for their next step in life's adventure.



**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST ON NEXT PAGE**

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## April Elementary Award Recipients

Last month's elementary character awards recipients are selected for the *David Award* – having a heart after God, the *Solomon Award* – showing wisdom in their choices, and the *Paul Award* – demonstrating a fruit of the Spirit (self-control).

### David Award

Kindergarten—Raegen F.

1<sup>st</sup> – Beckett I.

2<sup>nd</sup> – Caleb C.

3<sup>rd</sup> – Shane A.

4<sup>th</sup> – Michael U.

5<sup>th</sup> – Seth M.

6<sup>th</sup> – Michael W.

### Solomon Award

1<sup>st</sup> – Jacob W.

2<sup>nd</sup> – Megan R.

3<sup>rd</sup> – Noah T.

4<sup>th</sup> – Rachel S.

5<sup>th</sup> – Luke DeW.

6<sup>th</sup> – Luke P.

### Paul Award

Kindergarten-Andrea B.

1<sup>st</sup> – Noelle W.

2<sup>nd</sup> – AJ S.

3<sup>rd</sup> – Luke N.

4<sup>th</sup> – Hope W.

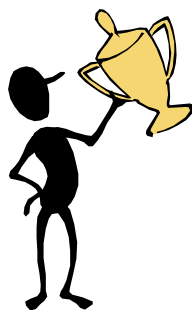
5<sup>th</sup> – Silas M.

6<sup>th</sup> – Hanna B.

### Congratulations!

### Energizer Bunny Set For Another DC Trip Next Year

For nine months, our teachers give their all – planning, teaching, tutoring, re-teaching, training, mentoring, coaching, and sacrificing. By the completion of each school year, our teachers are exhausted and look forward to the summer months to recharge their batteries and prepare for another year. However, every other year, one of our teachers gathers our sophomores and juniors, along with a



gaggle of parents and alumni, and heads for Washington, DC, and surrounding locales.

**Mrs. Urbanowski**, DCS history teacher *extraordinaire* is making preparations for her eleventh! Washington, DC, trip the summer of 2011. Why does she do this when she is already exhausted? Because she believes the experience encourages our students to become world changers for Christ and fulfill God's purpose for their lives. In the process, she has become known as the Energizer Bunny – this activity actually re-charges her depleted batteries. As she says, "My prayer is that all of us on this trip would catch the vision that one person committed to **JESUS CHRIST** can change history. Look at the Pilgrims (one congregation) and Martin Luther (one person)." Please pray for Mrs. Urbanowski and our students as they prepare to embark on this great adventure the summer of 2011, and as she is once again transformed into the Energized Bunny.



### Manners Matter

Each month, our elementary teachers select students from their class that have consistently demonstrated good manner during the previous month. For April, those receiving this award are: 1<sup>st</sup> grade – **Jacob C.** and **Isaac L.**, 2<sup>nd</sup> – **Megan G.** and **AJ S.**, 3<sup>rd</sup> – **Ashtin G.** and **Noah T.**, 4<sup>th</sup> – **Kaitlyn B.** and **Jackson H.**, 5<sup>th</sup> grade – **Silas M.** and **Moses W.**, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade - **Josh G.** and **Grace M.** Well done!

### Varsity Track District and State Meets

Friday and Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, our varsity track team will be competing at Portland Christian High School track to see who qualifies to move on to the OSAA State Track Championship Meet at Western Oregon University, May 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Both meets begin at noon. According to **Coach Holding**, our team is ready to make their mark. Get set. *Go Eagles!*

### Toot Toots and Bam Bams Make State!

We are familiar with State Tournaments for volleyball, basketball, and track, but for... band?! Yep! This Thursday, DCS band director **Mr. Bolton** and his **Advanced Band students** will be boarding a chartered bus (along with excited and proud parents) and heading south for Corvallis and the OSU campus, where they will perform in their first-ever State Championship contest.



Congratulations to this group of talented musicians and their visionary, steadfast, optimistic, and gifted director. *Go Eagles!*

### Financial Assistance Application Deadline – May 31<sup>st</sup>

There are limited funds available for financial assistance. To apply, go to [www.factstuitionaid.com](http://www.factstuitionaid.com) or stop by the school office and pick up an application packet.