

New students adjust to DCHS routine

by Elizabeth Hruska

We've all heard about how hard it can be to come to a new school, where you would have to make different friends, learn a new set of rules and adjust to a whole new schedule. For over ten new students at David City High School, this is reality.

But is it as bad as it sounds? Many of the new students transferring from Rising City Schools agree that, even though it was a little daunting at first, DCHS has turned out to be pretty good. "At first it was kind of scary, but now it's awesome," freshman Daniel Tresler said. Taking a similar view was senior Kacy Sutton. "When I visited, everyone was so nice, and everybody's been great since I started. They make me feel like I've always been here."

Size was also a big factor, both as something to adjust to, and something to look forward to. "My class used to have maybe twenty students in it. Now I have way more people in my class," Sutton said. Senior Kala Kovar agreed. "The number of students here is one of the biggest differences between here and my old school."

Providing better opportunities in both activities and education, DCHS became an easy choice for the new students. "I'm challenged more here because teachers here push us to be better,"



Looking over their notes in Earth Science, new DCHS seniors Kala Kovar and Kacy Sutton work with junior Gentry Dodson. Photo by Elizabeth Hruska

freshman Brandon Stange said. "Plus the sports are way better."

For the new seniors now enrolled at DCHS, preparing for college helped sway a few minds. According to Sutton, "I wanted to go to a school that would prepare me more for college, and still have plenty of activities and classes to choose from." Kovar transferred for a similar reason, and so far, she hasn't been too disappointed. "I am being challenged much more here compared to my other school, but, in a few classes, I am going over things I have already learned," she said.

Fast food brings variety of eating choices

by Carly Buskirk

From big, juicy burgers to freshly toasted subs and from greasy french fries to nice, cold ice cream, fast food has become a very convenient and very common meal for many today.

Students surveyed, on the average, said that they eat fast food 1-3 times a week and spent an average \$60 per month on those fast food meals. According to the website "Super Size Me," Americans spend approximately \$3 million on fast food per year and eat about 40 percent of their meals outside of the home.

David City has four choices for fast food: Amigos, Runza, Pizza Hut, and Subway. The students surveyed chose Subway as their favorite because it's quick and has a more healthy menu. "Subway is my favorite because it's fast, easy, and cheap, and not to mention it's

pretty healthy, too," junior Courtney Betzen said.

Outside of David City fast food possibilities are pretty much endless with the many varieties of places



Enjoying their meal at Subway are juniors Sam Phillips, Ashley Fendrich, Shayla Novak, and Hillary Sander. Photo by Carly Buskirk

to eat. Students chose places like McDonald's, Burger King, Arby's, Taco John's, and Wendy's as their favorites. "I like Wendy's, because the crispy chicken sandwiches are delicious and they are only a dollar. I usually get three sandwiches,"

junior Clint Brandenburgh said. Senior Aaron Schmid had a different opinion. "I'm always thinkin' Arby's. Their curly fries and cheese, and 5 for 5 meals...yummm."

Students surveyed were asked to choose the fast food place with the best hamburgers, the best fries, the best dessert, and the cheapest meals. McDonald's and Runza tied for having the best fries. "Runza's fries are to die for," junior Amanda Khank said. Burger King reigned for the best hamburger. "I like BK for their hamburger with their all natural flame broiled beef; not McDonald's, they import their beef," senior Brian Glock said. McDonald's was also voted as the cheapest meal for their dollar menu. Dairy Queen ranked first with the best dessert for all their delicious ice cream treats and of course, the Blizzard.

H1N1 virus concerns many teens, staff

by Danielle Divis

Illness has been a main concern lately with the recent H1N1 (referred to as "swine flu") outbreak.

Many students and staff members have been staying home as a result of contracting the flu. The highest percentage so far of absenteeism due to influenza symptoms in the elementary and high school is 11 percent of the student body home ill.

The virus was first detected in the United States in April 2009. This virus was referred to as "swine flu" because tests from laboratories showed that many of the genes in the virus were similar to influenza viruses that normally occur in pigs. Further studies have shown that the H1N1 virus is very different from what circulates in pigs.

The flu started spreading from person to person, which eventually led to there becoming a worldwide outbreak.

Coughing, sneezing, or touching a surface or object that an infected person touched are all ways the virus can spread.

School nurse Lori Robinson has some advice on how to prevent H1N1 from spreading. "Wash your hands. I can't stress this enough. Get vaccinated as soon as the vaccine is available, even if you have already been diagnosed this season. Cough and sneeze into your sleeve, not your hand or on your friend, and stay home when you are truly sick," she said.

There are some obvious signs if someone has the H1N1 virus. Fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills, and fatigue are all signs that he/she may have the virus.

Common ways to help stop the spread of the virus are to cover the nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, wash hands often, avoid touching the eyes, nose or mouth and avoid close contact with sick people.

For those who are sick with symptoms, the Center for Disease Control recommends that they stay home for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone.