

Durand Area High School

9575 East Monroe Road · Durand, MI 48429
Phone: (989) 288-2684 · Fax: (989) 288-2966




Nicole Carpenter
Principal

May 11, 2026 Board Report - *Durand High School Class of 2026 Top Ten*

Brandon Watson

Durand High School
TOP TEN
Class of 2026

Brandon is the son of Jennifer Hilliman and Scott Watson. He is currently taking Literature-Based Movies, Personal Finance, Independent Art, Trigonometry and Physics. Brandon has participated in several blood drives at DHS and has helped with many events at his church. He has received academic awards throughout high school. He plans to study aerospace engineering at the University of Michigan.



BRANDON WATSON

Brock Randall

Durand High School **TOP TEN** *Class of 2026*

Brock is the son of Erik and Raechelle Randall. His current schedule includes Personal Finance, Anthropology, Public Speaking, and Physics, as well as AP Government and AP Microeconomics. Brock is the president of the National Honor Society and serves in the Blood Drive Club. He plays basketball, baseball, and soccer, and serves as a captain in soccer. He earned first team all-conference recognition in soccer as well as academic all-state, and has earned six varsity letters and his Block D Award. Brock plans to finish the early college program through U of M - Flint, and then transfer to Ann Arbor.



BROCK RANDALL

Madison Dennis

Durand High School TOP TEN *Class of 2026*

Madison is the daughter of John and Jennifer Dennis. She is currently enrolled in AP Chemistry, AP Physics I, AP English Language and Composition, and Publications. She is also taking Analytic Geometry, Calculus I, and General Chemistry Lecture I through dual enrollment. Madison has been a CollegeBoard/Schoolhouse SAT tutor, a youth volleyball coach, and the boys volleyball team manager. She has helped with the concession stands at DHS and has helped take tickets for athletic events. She is also a member of the Blood Drive Club. Madison serves as a City of Durand Student Ambassador and is secretary of the National Honor Society. She has been class president in the past, and currently serves as the Executive Board vice president. She is a MHSAA legacy volleyball official and is editor-in-chief of the yearbook. Madison is a National Merit Commended Scholar, a Shiawassee Scholar, and honored through CollegeBoard's Recognition Program. She is a 2026 winner of the MHSAA Scholar Athlete Award, and winner of the Bruce and Jacqueline Cook Scholarship for the Class of 2026. In bowling, Madison earned all-conference honors, and she earned academic all-state in volleyball and is a member of the tennis team. Madison plans to attend the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor on the Bruce and Jacqueline Cook scholarship to study neuroscience on a pre-med path.



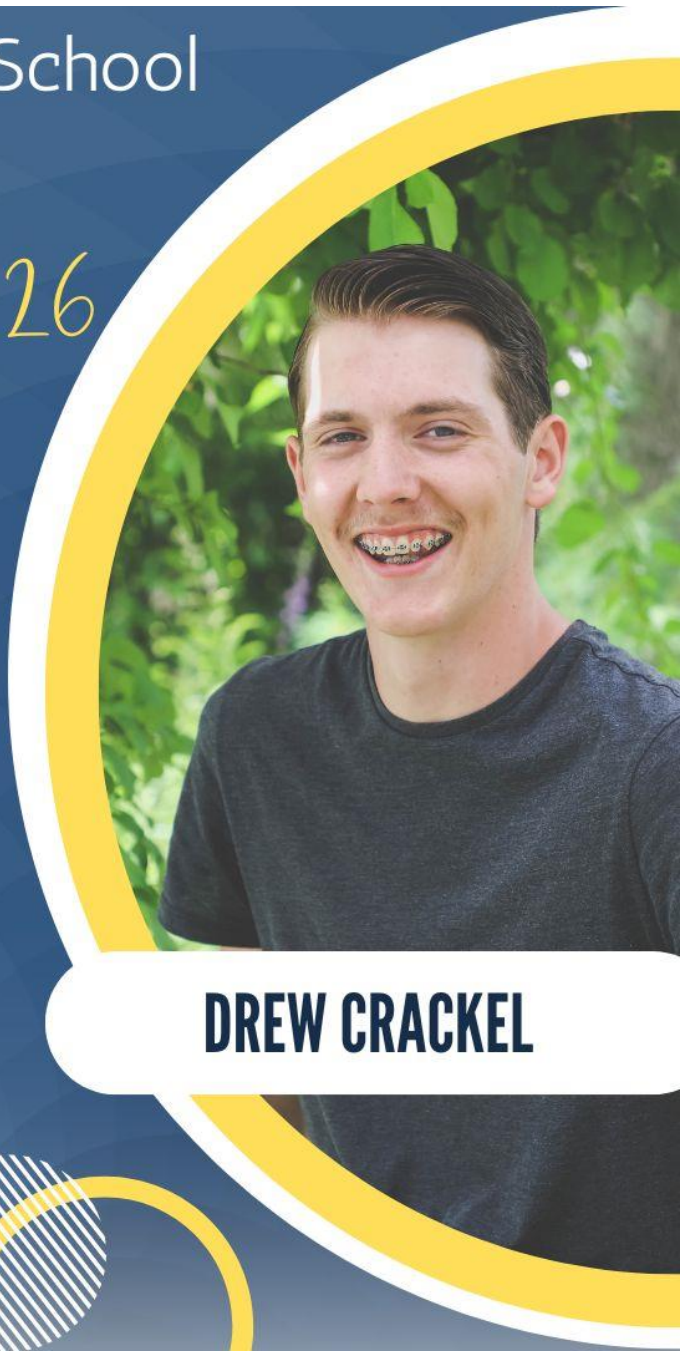
MADISON DENNIS

Drew Crackel



Durand High School
TOP TEN
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Drew is the son of Kristin McLavy and Aaron Crackel. He is currently taking AP Microeconomics, Introduction to Ethics, Physical Geography, Madrigals, and is a senior leader in choir. Drew is the treasurer of the National Honor Society and helps with tutoring younger students. He also owns and operates his own spray foam insulation business. Drew currently holds a 4.05 GPA and has earned academic awards throughout high school. He has also been a choir member for all four years of high school. After graduation, Drew plans to continue operating his business.



DREW CRACKEL

Avery Taylor

Durand High School TOP TEN *Class of 2026*

Avery is the daughter of Nick and Heather Taylor. Her current courses include Agri-Business, Medical Terminology, Arts and Crafts, Publications, and Dynamics of Communications through dual enrollment. Avery has helped with blood drives, concession stands, and youth volleyball and youth tennis camps. She has participated in volleyball and tennis and has served as captain of both teams. She is a member of the student government and National Honor Society. Avery earned first team all-conference in tennis, qualified for state finals in tennis, and earned the coach's award. She also earned academic all-state honors in both tennis and volleyball. Avery plans to finish her early college program through LCC and pursue a career in radiology.



AVERY TAYLOR

Solana Parker

Durand High School
TOP TEN
Class of 2026

Solana is the daughter of Chad Parker and Sonya Navarro-Parker. Her current classes include Economics, Madrigals, Chemistry, and Dramatic Literature, and she is also in the CTE Health Science Academy. Solana has spent time tutoring younger students, visiting and helping at the senior center, and supporting the local animal shelter. She is section leader for madrigals and serves as the captain of the girls varsity bowling team. Solana has earned academic honors for three years and is a member of the National Honor Society. Thanks to her completion of the Health Science Academy, Solana will be graduating with her CNA license and wants to work at Pleasantview or Owosso Memorial. She plans to attend SVSU to study nursing.

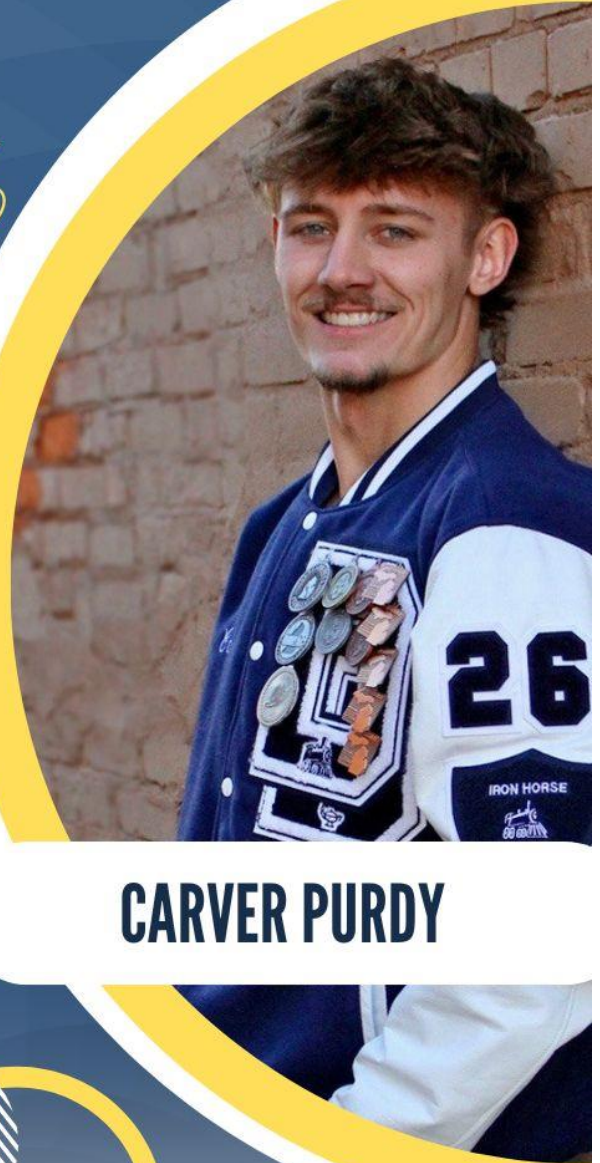


SOLANA PARKER

Carver Purdy

Durand High School TOP TEN *Class of 2026*

Carver is the son of Catherine and Brett Purdy. He is currently enrolled in AP Environmental Science, Personal Finance, Physics, Publications, and is taking Psychology and English Composition as dual enrollment classes. Carver has been a key member of the varsity football team, serving as captain and receiving all-regional honors twice. He also earned first team all-conference in football and first team all-district in baseball. Carver was also the first recipient of the football program's Tim Krupp Award, and he is a member of the varsity basketball team. Not only is Carver a Shiawassee Scholar, but he also serves in many service roles. He has been a referee for flag football, an umpire for youth baseball, an announcer for youth football, and has helped read to elementary students. He has also helped the VFW by setting up for events, and has participated in our local food drive. Carver plans to attend either U of M or MSU for mechanical or aerospace engineering.



CARVER PURDY

Hailey Betts

Durand High School
TOP TEN
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Hailey is the daughter of Brett Betts. She is currently enrolled in Medical Terminology, Bioethics, Independent Art, Trigonometry, and AP US History. Hailey is a member of the National Honor Society. She has helped her class with concessions and lock-ins, and has worked several blood drives. She also participated in cross country and was the team captain during the 2024 season. Hailey has been recognized for academic excellence throughout all four years of high school. She has won awards from both staff and popular vote results in our school Art Show. Hailey plans to pursue a career in dentistry.



HAILEY BETTS

Rachel McPherson

Durand High School

TOP TEN

Class of 2026

Rachel is the daughter of Nicole and Chris Amey and John and Leslie McPherson. She currently participates in the Fire Academy through the Genesee Intermediate School District. She is also enrolled in Debating Social Issues, Independent Botany, Trigonometry, and AP European History. Rachel is a member of the National Honor Society, serving as the vice president this year, and has been the FFA Sentinel for two years. She competes in cross country and served as the captain for two years, and was also captain of the girls powerlifting club this year. Rachel has received academic excellence awards throughout high school. She has earned her Greenhand Degree, Chapter Degree, Outstanding Junior Award, and State Degree in FFA. Rachel is undecided on her future plans.



RACHEL MCPHERSON

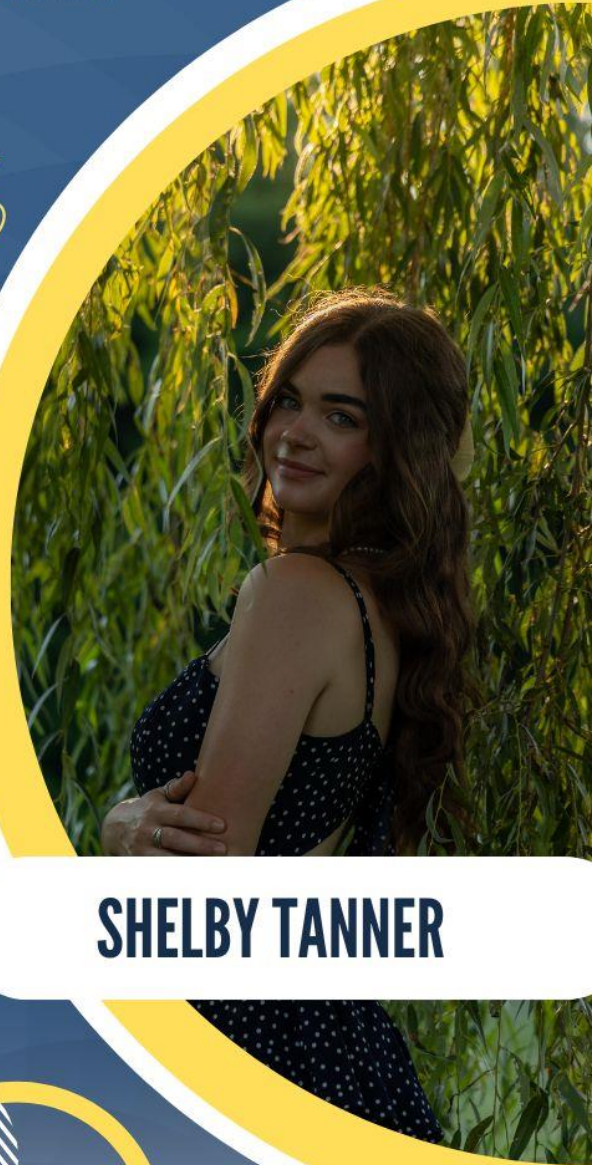
Shelby Tanner

Durand High School

TOP TEN

Class of 2026

Shelby is the daughter of Nina Tanner and Michael Tanner. She is currently taking college courses as part of the Early College program through the University of Michigan - Flint. She is also in her second year of American Sign Language. Shelby has helped her class with concession stands and lock-ins, and has volunteered to take tickets for the athletic department. She has provided babysitting services for the elementary PTAC and has participated in several blood drives at DHS. She has also been a 4-H member and has worked the food stand for the 4-H group. She is president of Spitfire Spurs 4-H group, treasurer of Rural Ventures 4-H group, and teen representative on 4-H council. Shelby has also served as a volunteer coach for middle school bowling and equestrian teams. She has been MVP of the high school girls bowling team as well as second team all-conference, and she earned the Iron Horse Award. Shelby plans to attend U of M - Flint to finish her early college program and then transfer to the University of Tennessee for genetics engineering.



SHELBY TANNER