

DSABC Announces New Executive Director Alexis Koukos

Danbury local brings experience in non-profit work, business administration, and educational programming to the organization

Danbury, CT (October 26, 2023) – Danbury Student and Business Connection (DSABC), the non-profit driving mentorship programming between students of Danbury Public Schools and employees of local businesses, is thrilled to announce the hiring of Alexis Koukos, to lead DSABC in the role of Executive Director.

Koukos joins DSABC with a decade of experience in student programming and business operations, most recently with the Western Connecticut State University Foundation. Previously, she held the role of Chief Operating Officer at the Jesse Lewis Choose Love Movement, advancing their mission of increasing access to social and emotional learning. Koukos also held a management role for the Charles Ives Authority for the Performing Arts. She brings valuable leadership experience in fiscal management, program development, event management, and grant research to DSABC.

DSABC Board President Jen Tomaino shared: "Alexis' history of leadership in the local business community and her depth of experience in student-based programming will be invaluable to our mission of serving the Danbury Public Schools. The board is confident that her ideas and energy will enable our current programs to flourish and bring more business and community interest to DSABC. We're excited to have her."

Executive Director Alexis Koukos shared: "I'm thrilled to lead DSABC and drive impactful mentorship programming in the Danbury Public Schools. This role has been on my radar for a number of years as I have always felt my career focus thus far aligns strongly with DSABC's mission. I look forward to working with our mentors and the Danbury students, engaging further with the greater Danbury business community, and continuing to expand our presence in western Connecticut."

Danbury Superintendent of Schools Kevin Walston shared: "We're excited to see Alexis, a product of the Danbury Public Schools, hired to lead such impactful programming for our students. I look forward to continuing our work with DSABC and further increasing access to mentorship opportunities for the Danbury students."

Koukos is also an adjunct professor at WCSU, where she holds a Bachelor of Business Administration. She obtained a Master of Science in Education Entrepreneurship from the



University of Pennsylvania in 2022. Koukos is filling the role of Susan Queenan who resigned due to relocation. Queenan remains an active partner to ensure continuation of existing student programs including two she founded, *Foundations for Your Future* and *Seeds of STEM*.

About DSABC

DSABC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, founded in 1990, that fosters collaboration among Danbury Public Schools, local businesses and the community to promote lifelong learning and the successful transition of youth into society and the workforce. Through business and community partnerships, DSABC programs build the character and confidence of Danbury Students to achieve personal and academic success. DSABC's primary programs are the school-based mentoring programs, providing approximately 200 mentors to students in the Danbury Public Schools as well as Henry Abbott Regional Technical School. Mentors are primarily volunteers from area corporations/businesses and the community at large. To learn more, visit <u>DSABCMentors.org</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, and <u>Twitter</u>.

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