
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

**Current Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): April 24, 2024

DAVE & BUSTER'S ENTERTAINMENT, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State of
incorporation)

001-35664
(Commission File
Number)

35-2382255
(IRS Employer
Identification Number)

1221 S. Belt Line Rd., Suite 500
Coppell, TX 75019
(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(214) 357-9588**

Check the appropriate box if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the reporting obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 of the Exchange Act
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) Exchange Act
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) Exchange Act

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock \$0.01 par value	PLAY	NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Section 2 – Financial Information

Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers

On April 24, 2024, Dave & Buster's Entertainment, Inc. (the "Company") announced that Darin E. Harper, 49, was appointed as Chief Financial Officer of the Company effective June 17, 2024.

Mr. Harper previously served as CFO of World Choice Investments, LLC, a leading operator of large, themed family entertainment attractions from May 2023 to present. He was previously with the Company from June 2022 through December 2022 in an executive role following the acquisition of Main Event Entertainment, Inc. ("Main Event") by the Company in June 2022. Prior to that, he was EVP, Chief Financial Officer of Main Event from March 2017 until June 2022, and Group CFO for Ardent Leisure (ASX:CEH), Main Event's parent company, from June 2018 until June 2022; Chief Financial Officer for On The Border (2011-2017), Principal Accounting Officer & Vice President, Controller for CEC Entertainment (2007-2011). He began his career at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Mr. Harper will receive an initial annual base salary of \$475,000 and will be eligible to receive an annual bonus which is set at 80% of base salary at target level. He will also be eligible to participate in the Company's long-term incentive plan including a prorated award for the annual grant for fiscal 2024, the terms and conditions of which shall be the same as made to other executive officers. Mr. Harper will also enter into an employment agreement with the Company setting forth these terms as well as customary restrictive covenants, including non-solicit and not-hire and confidentiality covenants. The foregoing description of Mr. Harper's employment agreement does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the agreement, which will be filed as an exhibit to a subsequent periodic report filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). Mr. Harper will also receive a one-time 5-year long-term and performance grant of \$1,000,000 in stock options, \$1,000,000 in restricted stock units, \$2,000,000 in performance share units, and \$525,000 in stock options conditioned upon a purchase of company stock by Mr. Harper; the terms and conditions of the foregoing shall be similar to the Officer 5-Year Grants described in the Company's proxy for 2023 filed on Form DEF14A on May 3, 2023.

The Company's existing Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Michael Quartieri, will continue to serve as Chief Financial Officer until June 16, 2024 to ensure a smooth transition to Mr. Harper and extending his previously announced retirement date to June 16, 2024.

On April 24, 2024, the Company issued a press release announcing this development. A copy of this Press Release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits.

[99.1](#) [Press release dated April 24, 2024.](#)

104 Cover Page Interactive Data File (the Cover Page Interactive Data File is embedded within the Inline XBRL document).

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: April 24, 2024

DAVE & BUSTER'S ENTERTAINMENT, INC.

By: /s/ Bryan McCrory
Bryan McCrory
Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary



Dave & Buster's Appoints New Chief Financial Officer

DALLAS, April 24, 2024 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Dave & Buster's Entertainment, Inc., (NASDAQ: PLAY), ("Dave & Buster's" or "the Company"), an owner and operator of entertainment and dining venues, today announced that it has appointed a new Chief Financial Officer, Darin Harper, who will join the Company on June 17, 2024. The Company's existing Chief Financial Officer, Michael Quartieri, will continue to serve as Chief Financial Officer until June 16, 2024 to ensure a smooth transition to his successor prior to his previously announced retirement.

"I am thrilled to announce the appointment of Darin Harper as our next Chief Financial Officer," said Chris Morris, Chief Executive Officer of Dave & Buster's. "Darin was the obvious choice after an extensive national search for our next CFO. He is an exceptional finance leader and having had the pleasure of working alongside him at various points in my career, I am extremely confident he is the perfect individual to drive our Company's finance team to new heights. His strategic insights, superior track record of execution, and in-depth knowledge of the out-of-home entertainment space will be a huge asset to our Company and allow him to hit the ground running as we accelerate our growth journey in 2024 and beyond."

"Dave & Buster's is an iconic brand and the leader in scaled out-of-home entertainment, with a lot of room for growth," said Darin Harper. "The Company's strategic plan presents a tremendous amount of tangible upside that I look forward to achieving and made for an easy decision to accept the opportunity. I am excited to rejoin Chris and the rest of the talented management team at this important juncture in the Company's trajectory as we work together to deliver meaningful shareholder value."

About Darin Harper

Mr. Harper was previously EVP, Chief Financial Officer for Main Event Entertainment, Inc. from March 2017 through its acquisition by Dave & Buster's in June 2022, overseeing all finance, accounting, legal, risk and audit functions. During his time there, Mr. Harper helped lead the company through significant growth, scaling efficiently while positioning the company for more data-driven analytics, focused on enhancing the guest experience and improving profitability. Contemporaneous with this role, Mr. Harper also served as Group CFO for Main Event's parent company, Ardent Leisure (ASX: CEH), based in Sydney, Australia, from June 2018 through June 2022. Mr. Harper has spent most of his 25+ year finance career in public and private sector multisite consumer, retail, and entertainment brands, including CFO at On the Border Mexican Grill & Cantina and Principal Accounting Officer at Chuck E. Cheese's. Most recently, Mr. Harper was CFO of World Choice Investments, LLC, a leading operator of large, themed family entertainment attractions. Mr. Harper began his career with PricewaterhouseCoopers.

About Dave & Buster's Entertainment, Inc.

Founded in 1982 and headquartered in Coppell, Texas, Dave & Buster's Entertainment, Inc., is the owner and operator of 223 venues in North America that offer premier entertainment and dining experiences to guests through two distinct brands: Dave & Buster's and Main Event. The Company has 164 Dave & Buster's branded stores in 42 states, Puerto Rico, and Canada and offers guests the opportunity to "Eat Drink Play and Watch," all in one location. Each store offers a full menu of entrées and appetizers, a complete selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, and an extensive assortment of entertainment attractions centered around playing games and watching live sports and other televised events. The Company also operates 59 Main Event branded

stores in 20 states across the country, and offers state-of-the-art bowling, laser tag, hundreds of arcade games and virtual reality, making it the perfect place for families to connect and make memories. For more information about each brand, visit daveandbusters.com and mainevent.com.

For Investor Relations Inquiries:

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