

Superintendent Report: December Board Meeting
Submitted on December 12, 2023

ADMINISTRATIVE WORK:

The principals and I continue to work our way through *The Art & Science of Teaching* by Marzano. We also attended a professional development session with the creator of SpringMath, Amanda van der Heyden. Administratively, we are working hard to get caught up on the great initiatives that we inherited. On a side note, Dr. van der Heyden mentioned that our math data has already improved over last year.

I have met with the secondary math department on November 27 and plan to meet with a group of elementary math teachers on December 18. We are looking at data, interventions, and instructional practices to improve our students' outcomes.

We have assembled a small technology committee comprised of the IT Director, the building administrators, and four teachers that represent staff and students in grades K-12. We first met on Wednesday, December 6 where we spent the morning studying articles and researching opinions. We identified hopes and fears of technology integration. We looked at the technology standards (last published by MDE in 2016) and began drafting a collective vision for educational technology for our students. The end goal is to have a plan for leveraging technology to continue to close the learning gap and to select the right tools to accomplish that task. Look for more information to come!

The county has received bids on a new data warehouse program to replace Illuminate Ed. The desire of the local districts is to limp through one more year with Illuminate Ed and then revisit the request for proposals again next year. So, no changes are anticipated any time soon.

The district school improvement team on December 4 to debrief our half-day learning session from October. We read through feedback from the staff regarding our pacing guides and the direction of our school improvement teams. We'll meet once more next month to plan for the half-day of professional learning on 1/31/24.

FACILITIES:

We are beginning to have conversations about moving fifth grade back into the elementary building. For this to happen, that will likely mean moving our STEAM classrooms to the middle school. This move solves several issues:

- keeps 5th graders from having to travel outside to get to the elementary office, cafeteria, playground, etc.
- ensures the 5th grade team feels like they belong to a building and are not the "red-headed step child"
- keeps 5th graders from having to go to the middle school / high school office for band-aids, medication, etc.
- keeps middle schoolers from having to traverse through the entire elementary building for STEAM

Angie St. Amant is a team player, and is willing to help us redesign the space to ensure the longevity of the program. More information to come!

GSRP has received \$25K in start up grants. We are looking to add a walking / biking path to the elementary playground as well as tricycles and a storage shed to house the trikes.

Mr. Miller has also contacted a company to assist with catch basin vacuuming before the spring thaw / summer storm season. This may help alleviate the parking lot drainage issues we've seen. If that does not fully address the problem, the next step may be to dredge the pond.

It is time to revive the parking lot project. This project was put on hold back in 2022 when bids came in higher than expected. Putting the project on hold has allowed us to rework our budget to allow for the necessary repairs to occur. All of the engineering and leg work to get the project ready to bid has been completed, we just need to update with current timelines. For this to be a summer 2024 project, we will want to go to bid soon after the holidays.

SAFETY:

Ingham County superintendents met with local law enforcement and the sheriff's office on December 8 to continue to push for standardized emergency operation plans and language in the event of a crisis. The sheriff's office has agreed to complete a tabletop exercise with Dansville to walk through what a response to a crisis would look like.

The administration and director team reviewed a proposal on December 12th for updating and improving our camera system. More information will be forthcoming.

Thanks to the Ingham Township Fire Department, the district has received six doses of Narcan to help address any potential health emergencies related to opioids. We will be placing the units, along with other emergency supplies, next to our AEDs throughout the district.

Both Representative Brixie and Commissioner Ruest have given an update on the M-36 project:

- A. The traffic study did not support a 4-way stop at Jackson and M-36
- B. A flashing light for the pedestrian crossing looks promising, but a study needs to be done to determine the right device for the situation. Currently, the "Safety" division of MDOT is studying the issue.

UPCOMING DATES:

December 21:	Staff Holiday Breakfast, 7:00 am
December 23 - January 7:	WINTER BREAK
January 8:	School Resumes
January 15:	NO SCHOOL DAY - MLK Day

POSITIVE ENDINGS

- Many thanks to Clean Team who chose Shannon Johnson as one of their recipients to bless during their 12 Days of Christmas giveaways. She is so deserving of this recognition!
- We are grateful to Sydney Hammerstein and Michelle Redman and our Middle School Student Council who helped decorate downtown for the holidays.
- We are proud of Anna McDaniel who signed to play volleyball with Concordia next year.
- Dansville Schools and participating community members were able to assist 20 families with a Thanksgiving meal, and we plan to assist 23 families for Christmas.
- WLNS/WLAJ was here on Tuesday to film the Equestrian Team for their victory at the state championship. It will air under their "Extraordinary Student" feature sometime later this month. I'll let you know the date once it has been confirmed with me.