

**Superintendent Report: October Board Meeting**  
**Submitted on November 16, 2022**

**ADMINISTRATIVE WORK:**

Since our last board meeting, our administrative staff, in collaboration with our teacher-leaders, have led the half-day of professional learning on 10/26 and a mentor-mentee meeting on 10/27. During these sessions, we focused on our district's school improvement plan as well as best practices for instruction, organization, and student engagement.

The Superintendent Student Advisory Council met on 10/26. The students shared what they loved about Dansville, and it was clear that our teachers mean the world to them. As we continue to meet, they will help me see the Dansville Schools' experience from the students' point of view.

I have attended two sessions from the New Superintendent's Leadership Academy. The October 27 session focused on human resources, labor relations & bargaining, and the use of Eidex to analyze data. The November 15 session was focused on all things related to school finance.

The principals and I continue to work our way through *Never Underestimate Your Teachers* by Robyn Jackson.

Dansville Schools was awarded a grant for 14 elementary teachers and administrators to receive training in Orton-Gillingham. The Orton-Gillingham approach is a research-based, direct, explicit, multisensory, structured, sequential, diagnostic, and prescriptive way to teach literacy and is particularly effective for students who struggle with learning to read.

**FACILITIES:**

Rick Miller continues to work on repairing the lights outside the gym. Electricity has been run for the electronic sign on Jackson Road. The new utility vehicle is fully equipped now with snow removal gear while the old gator is being prepped for sale. An invitation to bid on the HVAC project will be released to vendors on November 18 with a bid opening occurring on December 13. The ADA door to the elementary has been inoperable and is under repair. Additional signage across the district was in the works prior to me coming on board, and I will be seeing this project through completion. Lastly, I will be working with Carolyn Jones from the ISD to prepare bids for the parking lot projects this winter in hopes of lower-cost bids than we saw last spring.

**ATHLETICS:**

Congratulations to our cross-country athletes who competed in the Division 3 State Finals at MIS on November 5:

- Theo Davis, 10th place (out of 259 athletes)
- Sammy Schmidt, 39th place
- Calvin vanHartesvelt, 216th place
- Gavin Vidito, 253rd place
- Ethan Root, 256th place
  
- Rebekah Hallock, 188th place (out of 252 athletes)

Congratulations to our Varsity Volleyball team who were District Champions!

Mr. Andrews, Mr. Dassance, and I attended a CMAC meeting on November 7 in East Lansing. Our athletic conference has decided to expand by adding up to one district with an 11-man football team and one district without an 11-man football team. However, the expansion is not inevitable. Districts must apply and present their case for consideration. It will take a 75% vote from the current eight districts to add a team to the conference. More information will be forthcoming.

Our winter season has begun! Boys middle school basketball is well underway with other basketball teams soon to start. Dansville will not have a girls junior varsity basketball team this year.

Congratulations to Gracie Taylor who signed with Lansing Community College on a full-ride scholarship for softball.

**SAFETY:**

The packet includes a bid to re-key the district for safety reasons. Our current key structure does not allow for a grand master for first responders or for when key cards are inoperable. Our district's sinking fund will be used to complete this project. We are also moving forward with a grant-funded expert threat assessment. This analysis will help us identify low-hanging fruit to be addressed that enhances the safety for our staff and students and will ensure that we maximize our safety grant funds.

**UPCOMING DATES:**

November 19: PTO Craft Show

November 23-25:	NO SCHOOL: Thanksgiving Break
November 29:	Commitment to Graduate / NHS Induction Ceremonies, 6:00 pm
December 15:	Staff Holiday Breakfast, 7:00 am
December 19 - January 2:	WINTER BREAK
January 3:	School Resumes

### **ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE**

In an effort to model “orangeness” and an attitude of gratitude, I’d like to take a moment each month to highlight individuals and groups who support us along this journey:

- Kudos to our PTO for hosting a dinner for the elementary teachers during conferences! And, many thanks to our elementary office staff who provided pizza and desserts for the second night.
- Many thanks to our elementary teachers who survived the week of Halloween and Parent-Teacher Conferences. Your fortitude was astounding!
- DSEF’s 19th Annual Run for the Roses was a tremendous success raising over \$47K to support innovative ways to increase academic achievement in our district. Wow!
- We are grateful to NHS for organizing the annual Thanksgiving Food Drive.
- Mrs. Braman’s eleventh grade students organized a thoughtful tribute to our Veterans on November 11. The ceremony included selected readings from students regarding the sacrifices our men and women in uniform must make whether in peacetime or during war. The keynote was delivered by Richard Wicklund, former Marine Corps.
- November 16 is NEA’s Educational Support Professionals Day. We love and appreciate our DESPA members!
- Our official audited student count was 760. This number multiplied by our foundation allowance allows us to provide the 2% raise to our teachers as previously approved last spring.