

## Superintendent's Report: December Board Meeting

Submitted on December 12, 2024

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### ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

#### **Leadership Development:**

The principals and I continue to engage in leadership development with Debbie McFalone. Our most recent session, held on December 10, focused on leveraging individual strengths to enhance student outcomes and effectively address potential challenges.

#### **Mentor/Mentee Program:**

On December 4, we conducted our monthly mentor/mentee meeting. This session, facilitated by Andrew Hodgson, centered on designing and implementing effective independent practice. Our next session, scheduled for January 8, will emphasize positive behavior supports and classroom management strategies.

#### **School Improvement:**

Last week, the school improvement team reviewed and discussed the EdWeek article [What Is Standards-Based Grading, and How Does It Work?](#) This provided an opportunity for reflective dialogue on our practices, including spirited debates about the content. The discussion yielded actionable insights for improving proficiency-based grading and clarifying assessments and reporting for parents.

#### **Data Warehouse Update:**

Last year, I reported on the county's efforts to replace the Illuminate Ed data warehouse. While the initiative lacked sufficient support at the time, discussions have progressed. During the recent instructional leaders meeting, curriculum directors narrowed options to Renaissance and Instructure. Further updates will follow.

#### **Congressional Leadership Call:**

I participated in Representative Slotkin's final leadership call on December 4 as she transitions to the U.S. Senate. Her personalized approach to constituent engagement will be missed. While she aims to maintain her accessibility, representing the entire state presents new challenges for direct communication.

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### FACILITIES

#### **Facilities Use Policies:**

The Facilities Committee has approved the updated facilities use policies. With input from the business office, we recommend removing the \$50 deposit requirement, as it is resource-intensive to manage and process refunds.

**Elementary Gym Ramps:**

The ramps in the elementary gym sustained damage from prior paint projects, which left visible marks. Rick Miller and the CleanTeam are addressing this issue, and preventative measures have been implemented to avoid future occurrences.

**Playground Fence:**

The barbed wire fence between the elementary playground and the neighboring field has deteriorated, with parts of the barbed wire falling onto the playground and getting partially buried. This has become a safety issue. Mike Sykes has removed the parts of the fence that were on our property, and we are exploring the possibility of adding a chain linked fence on the west side of the playground to provide a safe boundary for our students.

**Village Partnership:**

We are pleased to partner with the village by hosting their monthly meetings while the Village Hall undergoes renovations.

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**SAFETY****Emergency Operations Plan:**

The state has provided a new emergency operations plan template based on recommendations from the I Love You Guys Foundation: [www.iloveugys.org](http://www.iloveugys.org) We are systematically incorporating these updates into our plans.

**Security Enhancements:**

We now are keeping the doors closed (but unlocked) between the performing arts center and the elementary school. In the case of a lockdown, the doors will automatically lock, preventing an intruder from traveling from one building to another. ADA-compliant door openers will be installed to ensure accessibility.

**HeartSafe Initiative:**

The Ingham Township Fire Department is assisting us in becoming a HeartSafe school district by developing a cardiac response plan and conducting cardiac drills.

**Safety Film Installation:**

The installation of safety and perforated films is nearly complete, with a few areas requiring follow-up. We are working with United Image Group to resolve these issues.

**Clean Water Grant:**

We have been awarded \$55,000 through a clean water grant, thanks to the efforts of Rick Miller and David Stibich. This funding will ensure safe drinking water across the district, including the athletic complex, with a project completion deadline of October 2025.

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## OTHER UPDATES

### **Budget Presentation:**

David and/or Raelynn will present Revision I of the budget during the January BOE meeting.

### **Internet Service Interruption:**

A recent internet outage, which also disrupted our phone system, highlighted vulnerabilities in our communication infrastructure. We are collaborating with the ISD's technology department to address these issues.

### **Sportsmanship Concerns:**

Reports of unsportsmanlike conduct from parents and students at athletic events, including DCAA competitions, are increasing. Both Dansville Schools and DCAA address incidents individually, but broader action may be necessary. We will continue monitoring the situation.

### **Media Engagement:**

I was recently interviewed by the *Lansing State Journal* regarding our partnership with Ingham ISD for business and technology services, likely in response to ongoing developments in Potterville.

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## UPCOMING DATES

- **December 19:** Staff Holiday Breakfast, 7:00 AM
  - **December 21 - January 5:** Winter Break
  - **January 6:** School Resumes
  - **January 20:** No School - MLK Day
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## POSITIVE HIGHLIGHTS

**Athletic Achievements:** Congratulations to Wyatt Mosley and Faith Careon for signing to play collegiate sports! Wyatt will play baseball for West Virginia, and Faith will play soccer for Jackson College.

**Community Support:** The Dansville community's support for the Prevo family during their time of loss has been truly heartwarming. Losing an eleven-year-old is a profound tragedy, and the community's kindness has been a beacon of hope.

**Holiday Assistance:** This year, NHS provided Thanksgiving meals to six families, and Dansville Schools helped connect four families with holiday gift-giving resources.