

**Superintendent Report: November Board Meeting**  
**Submitted on November 21, 2024**

**ADMINISTRATIVE WORK:**

Since our last board meeting, our administrative team, in partnership with teacher-leaders, has facilitated key professional development opportunities. On October 30, we held a half-day session dedicated to our district's School Improvement Plan, with a focus on instructional best practices and student engagement strategies. Additionally, a mentor-mentee meeting took place on November 13 to foster best instructional and assessment practices.

On November 12, Jerrod Braman and Ashley Townsend attended a combined workshop hosted by the Michigan Council for Exceptional Children (MCEC) and the Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics (MCTM) at Washtenaw ISD. This event emphasized the collaboration between general and special education math teachers, providing valuable insights into strategies and tools for supporting students with IEPs in mathematics.

Further strengthening our focus on math education, I took a team of five 5th-12th grade math teachers to the "Science of Mathematics" workshop in Stockbridge on November 19. Dr. Amanda vanDerHayden, the keynote speaker, shared groundbreaking research on how students learn mathematics and how to teach for mastery.

We are nearing the completion of our K-12 enVision Math pilot and are preparing for a second-semester pilot. In grades K-5, selected teachers will implement Eureka<sup>2</sup>, while grades 6-12 will pilot IntoMath. We plan to debrief with math teachers on December 18 to discuss outcomes and next steps.

In line with our ongoing commitment to promote a positive math mindset, we have developed and distributed math mindset posters to classrooms. Portions of staff meetings have been dedicated to discussing strategies for building a K-12 math culture that supports student success.

A reminder: the Dansville Schools Education Foundation's annual auction has been rescheduled for February 8. An invitation is included at the end of this report.

Ingham ISD continues to explore more equitable special education funding models that reduce reliance on special education eligibility criteria. We are currently evaluating two potential options, and I will update you once a finalized formula is presented to the Ingham ISD Board of Education.

## **OPTION 1:**

### **Proposed Special Education Funding Formula Phase II Weighted Distribution Model for Special Education Funding:**

	<b>Proposed Formula Presented Sept 27</b>	<b>Proposed Formula as Revised</b>	<b>Net Change</b>
SE Costs - adjusted	30.0%	40.0%	+10.0%
SE FTE	15.0% *	5.0%	-10.0%
SE Headcount	15.0% *	15.0%	-
LRE 4096 costs	15.0%	15.0%	-
HC of .5 or greater SE FTE	15.0%	15.0%	-
HC of students placed at ISD	4.5%	4.5%	-
HC of 3-5 year olds	4.5%	4.5%	-
Size Factor based on SE HC	1.0%	1.0%	-
Gross Allocation	100.0%	100.0%	

## **OPTION 2:**

### **Proposed Special Education Funding Formula Phase II Weighted Distribution Model for Special Education Funding:**

	<b>Proposed Formula Presented Sept 27</b>	<b>Proposed Formula as Revised</b>	<b>Net Change</b>
SE Costs - adjusted	30.0%	40.0%	+10.0%
SE FTE	15.0% *	10.0%	-5.0%
SE Headcount	15.0% *	10.0%	-5.0%
LRE 4096 costs	15.0%	15.0%	-
HC of .5 or greater SE FTE	15.0%	15.0%	-
HC of students placed at ISD	4.5%	4.5%	-
HC of 3-5 year olds	4.5%	4.5%	-
Size Factor based on SE HC	1.0%	1.0%	-
Gross Allocation	100.0%	100.0%	

On October 29, our principals and I participated in a professional development session with Debbie McFalone, focusing on enhancing our leadership skills and refining our ability to provide effective feedback to staff.

Our technology team convened on November 18 for their first meeting of the year. They reviewed last year's achievements, analyzed spring survey results, and began drafting goals for technology integration across grade spans (K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12) that align with our technology vision for the district:

*Our students will gain the experience and skills needed to integrate technology into their learning with intentionality. They will use different tools and be able to transfer their skills in new situations safely and ethically. The technology use needs to be relevant to the goal of equipping students to affect global change.*

In collaboration with DESPA leadership, the administrative team continues to refine job descriptions for each position within the bargaining unit. Our most recent meeting occurred on November 20.

On November 4, Mr. Dassance, Mr. Andrews, and I attended the annual CMAC joint meeting with superintendents, principals, and athletic directors. We discussed strategies for addressing the rising costs of officiating games and explored alternative scheduling models for basketball. Some districts also shared their consideration of transitioning to eight-man football due to declining enrollment.

#### **SAFETY INITIATIVES:**

We have made significant progress on school safety enhancements. Safety film has been installed at the high school entrance, and perforated film is being applied to strategic locations throughout the district. At our recent administrator and director meeting, we discussed reallocating grant funds to further bolster our school safety efforts. The community has been supportive of our plan to relocate the buzzer system to the exterior of our buildings.

Additionally, the Ingham Township Fire Department has proposed a partnership with Dansville Schools to earn the HeartSafe designation from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. We expect to receive more information on this initiative in January.

On November 14, we conducted our first lockdown/safety drill of the year. By law, three such drills are required annually.

#### **UPCOMING DATES:**

November 23:	PTO Craft Show
November 27-29:	NO SCHOOL: Thanksgiving Break
December 19:	Staff Holiday Breakfast, 7:00 am
December 21 - January 5:	WINTER BREAK
January 6:	School Resumes

## ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE:

- We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to the PTO for hosting a dinner for elementary teachers during conferences, and to the elementary office staff for providing pizza and desserts on the second night.
- A special thank you to the National Honor Society for organizing the annual Thanksgiving Food Drive.
- We also commend Mrs. Braman's 11th-grade language arts students for their thoughtful tribute to Veterans on November 11. The ceremony included poignant readings reflecting on the sacrifices made by our service members, both in times of peace and war.
- Congratulations to Carter Tkaczyk, who was named the Narda Murphy Award recipient on November 12. This award, given quarterly by the Williamston Sunrise Rotary, recognizes outstanding students for their academic achievements and contributions to the school community.
- The Dansville LadyBugs recently concluded their live auction and annual fundraiser, raising a record-breaking \$4,300. Their efforts support various community initiatives, including contributions to the band, drama program, and the 8th-grade Washington D.C. trip.

