

**Superintendent Report: November Board Meeting**  
**Submitted on November 16, 2023**

**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 10/25 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 and student engagement.

Mr. Andrews, Ms. Dupuis, and I met with a data analysis team on October 30 to help us understand and disaggregate our PSAT and SAT data. From this meeting we learned protocols to take back to our staff. We have a math department meeting scheduled for November 27 to dive deeper into our data.

On November 1, I attended the ISOA meeting with Jason Mellema and representatives from school boards around the county. We toured the newly constructed NorthStar School and recently updated Heartwood School on the IISD campus. Immediately after this meeting, I slid into the county-wide instructional leaders meeting to preview and discuss *The Reading Brain*, a documentary produced by WKAR about how children learn to read. You can watch the video here:

<https://www.pbs.org/video/building-the-reading-brain-fpkzlp/#:~:text=Reading%20is%20essential%20for%20daily,skill%20development%2C%20and%20school%20readiness.>

The principals and I continue to work our way through *The Art & Science of Teaching* by Robert Marzano.

The administrative team and I met with our technology coaches and director on November 7. We debriefed tech challenges and technology wins for the first marking period and began planning for the future. As a result of this meeting, we have assembled a slightly larger K-12 technology committee that will meet on an ad hoc basis.

I was excited to see that we have some staff members taking advantage of the coaching services provided by Opportunity Thrive. On November 8, OT Founder Rebekah Schipper and I discussed the results of the personal wellness inventory taken by our staff members, and there is a definite need for this type of support for our beloved teachers.

**FACILITIES:**

Rick Miller is working closely with our students who attend the Wilson Talent Center's welding program to design a three-dimensional Dansville "D" to be displayed in the high school commons. We can't wait to see the results! Mr. Miller has also been adding warmth throughout the buildings via the use of color. Nearly everyday, I discover a nice change to our building atmosphere.

A small group of staff members and administrators as well as one board member met on November 13 to discuss potential projects in the district, including:

- Enhancing the pole vault pit
- Adding a sidewalk at the soccer field
- Addressing drainage issues on the soccer field
- Elements of the conservation project for agriscience
- Netting to protect spectators from foul balls
- The likelihood of upgrading lighting on the football field and/or adding lighting to the soccer, softball, and baseball fields (not likely any time soon)

### **ATHLETICS:**

Mr. Dassance will have the entire athletic report; however, congratulations are in order as we wrap up our fall athletic season!

- Theo Davis, 9th place State Championships, Cross-Country
- Varsity Volleyball, District Champions, and Regional Finalists
- Megan Zeitz, signed to play basketball with Spring Arbor University

Mr. Andrews, Mr. Dassance, and I attended a CMAC meeting on November 6 in Perry. The rising cost of officiating games may eventually lead to increased ticket pricing at the varsity level. All schools in CMAC chose to increase the price of middle school tickets this year and will make a decision on high school events for the following year. Potterville debriefed their decision on playing a JV-only football program this past season. It is not recommended that schools take this route moving forward—even with young, developing teams.

### **SAFETY:**

We continue to focus on safety for our staff and students. The directors and building administrators met with Jason Russell on November 14 to review best practices for handling a violent intruder in the building. All three buildings reviewed ALICE protocols and scenarios in an age appropriate manner during our safety drill on November 16. Window hammers have recently been purchased for classrooms that needed a secondary escape route.

### **UPCOMING DATES:**

November 18:	PTO Craft Show
November 22-24:	NO SCHOOL: Thanksgiving Break
December 21:	Staff Holiday Breakfast, 7:00 am
December 23 - January 7:	WINTER BREAK
January 8:	School Resumes

## **ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE**

- At the time of this report, we are wrapping up World Kindness Week. Mrs. Kaylee Hodgson's leadership class was very thoughtful in showing care and compassion by sprucing up CADL's landscaping on November 14. The class also wrote letters of gratitude to many staff members throughout the district.
- 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.
- DSEF's 20th Annual Fundraising Auction was great fun and a tremendous success! We are grateful for their continued vision and support for innovative programming.
- We are grateful to NHS for organizing the annual Thanksgiving Food Drive.
- Mrs. Braman's eleventh grade language arts students organized a thoughtful tribute to our Veterans on November 10. 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 Bill Krieger, retired Army Captain and father of Makenna Krieger.
- Congratulations to Calvin vanHertesvelt who will be the Narda Murphy Award recipient for Dansville Schools on November 21. This award is given quarterly through the Williamston Sunrise Rotary to outstanding students for their academic achievements and contributions to the school.
- This week we rolled out our Snag-A-Tag holiday program to help 24 families during the holiday season.
- Dansville LadyBugs just completed their online auction and annual fundraiser. They had a record year raising over \$2800. The LadyBugs give back to the community in so many ways, including our schools. Most recently, they have helped with band, drama, and the 8th grade Washington DC trip.
- Many thanks to Andrea Hartman, Clean Team, Missy Kadluboski, Shannon Johnson, and the Middle School Student Council who assisted in hosting the IISD Superintendent Roundtable on November 15.