

**To: Dansville School Board Members**

**From: Andy Cox**

**Date: August 20, 2017**

**Re: DES update**

- Changes in the elementary for 2016-2017 include:
  - Jenny Service is joining the elementary team in 5<sup>th</sup> grade
  - Katie Theurer is moving to Special Ed. Resource Room
  - Jessica Guss is teaching STEAM special for K-2 and MS Science
  - Kat Blackwood is teaching elem/MS art.
  - Courtney Dufort is our new Playground Paraprofessionals
  - Emily Lewis is our new Kindergarten teacher.
  - Nancy Gatesy is our new Speech teacher as Andrea Loomis takes a leave.
- Aggie Academy (summer school) wrapped up recently. Thank you to Lynn Main, Leanne Barnett, Kelly Ryder and Julie Odom for all of their hard work in making this a quality educational experience. We couldn't service so many students (nearly 45) without willing teachers!
- Several trainings are scheduled to take place in the days leading up to the new school year. FAST Bridge training will be held on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- The Arts Integration program is in full swing for its sixth year. Karen Henderson and Mary Hekman attended training at the Wharton Center Aug. 8-10 to prepare for continued implementation of new ideas into the core curriculum this year. Additional artists will be visiting the schools this year as a crucial part of this partnership with the Wharton and Kennedy Center for the Arts.
- Trainings have been attended during the summer to be prepared for the implementation of practices to put us in compliance with both the K-3 Reading Law and the updated Seclusion and Restraint Law.
- Back-To-School Bash is all set for Tuesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5:00-6:30. Teachers will be greeting their new students during this annual community event.
- Sadly, we have had to close our Behavior Intervention Services room for this year. Due to Candyce Rogers retirement and the lack of certified applicants, there were no viable options to keep this center-based program in place. It is my hope that we could reinstate the program in future years.