

**Superintendent Report: June Board Meeting**  
**Submitted on June 23, 2022**

**ADMINISTRATIVE WORK:**

June is our intervention month. While very quiet compared to May, it was nice to have students in and around the building to reinforce necessary skills and to recover required credits.

Just a friendly reminder that the superintendent's office will be closed each Friday in July.

I have a joint meeting with the Ingham Township Fire Department and the Ingham County Sheriff's Department on Friday, June 24, to review emergency response and access to the buildings during critical situations.

**PERSONNEL:**

Chris Salmon has tendered her resignation effective June 30, 2022. At the time of this report, I am in conversations with Superintendent Friddle at Stockbridge to determine whether or not a shared Food Service Director would be viable for our two districts. We would like to continue the shared model as a cost-savings measure.

We are pleased to welcome the following new staff members to the Aggie Family:

- Makenna Krieger, MS/HS Social Studies (replacing Joe Rudelic)
- Stephanie Case, 4th Grade Teacher (through attrition replacing Amy Convey who is moving to the Title I / Reading Interventionist position vacated by Sue Provencal)
- Kaylee Hodgson, 6th Grade Teacher (added due to enrollment sizes at that grade level)
- Ryan Masters, Varsity Basketball Coach
- Joshua Andrews, HS Principal

At this time, we still have the following teaching positions open:

- GSRP Associate Teacher
- MS / HS Physical Education & Health (pending - It has not been announced, but Ethan will be hired at Mason)

**BUDGET DEVELOPMENT:**

Our audited spring count is in: 758.82

As predicted, we are still trending toward a 13% fund balance for the 2021-2022 school year. When our audit is complete, we will have our final numbers.

For the 2022-23 school year, we have taken a conservative budgeting approach as you will hear from Ms. Johns. We are banking on a \$300 per pupil increase in funding, although it is likely going to be more like \$435. However, as with so many things at the legislative level, it is best to "count your chickens after they hatch."

**COMMUNICATION:**

Our Summer 2022 newsletter is about ready to launch. Many thanks to Ms. Ames for putting together this last project before she completely transitions away from her duties.

The website development continues to be underway. We will let you know when the update is finished.

**FACILITIES:**

Parking lot bids came in and were a bit higher than we initially anticipated.

	Elem	HS	Athletic
Rieth - Riley	136,221.20	243,262.26	271,587.46
Tomco Asphalt	124,598.00	270,227.00	274,426.00
Capital Asphalt	123,940.00	245,269.00	264,270.00

I met with Mike Kapp, Chris Schmidt, Steve Rusnok, Rick Miller, Steve Moran, and Mike Sykes to review the bids compared to our current sinking fund allocations. At this time, it is my recommendation to pause the parking lot project and focus on the following:

- Re-keying the district in a manner that is conducive to institutional organization (ie - grand master keys, building-level masters, common area masters, and classroom level keys) and conducive to the safety and security of our students and staff
- Repairing the softball field so that it is of the same playing condition as the baseball field
- Making necessary asphalt repairs to the parking lots until a total resurfacing can be finished.

Furthermore, I continue to work with Jon Harpst on the public address system as we continue to resolve issues that affect the safety of our students and staff, including: bells inconsistently working, lockdown warnings randomly sounding, the lack of integration between the PA, doors, emergency notifications, and phones. I will keep you updated as we move forward.

We are having a new freezer installed at the elementary school. With the extra food service funding the school has received through pandemic dollars, we are able to invest into equipment. Putting funds back into the general fund or even toward a new food service director are not allowable expenses.

**ATHLETICS:**

We are incredibly proud of our spring athletes in soccer, baseball, softball, track and field, and golf! The month of June saw exciting action with two particular programs:

- Baseball:** 29 wins, CMAC runner-up and a district championship
- Softball:** 22-14 overall record and a district championship

I know that some in the community are questioning why homeschooled students cannot participate in our middle school athletic programs. I have answered that the district has chosen to be members of MHSAA at both the middle school and high school level. **MHSAA requires that athletes be enrolled in the school they are playing for and pass 66% of a full day schedule to participate.**

This prompted several following questions, which I've outlined below:

**Why move MS football from DCAA to Dansville Schools?**

- The conversation originated with CMAC. There is a concerted effort in our conference to move all the MS football programs from community organizations to the local districts.
- Parents are extremely supportive of the move as students will be playing clubs that are more evenly matched, and DCAA was on board from the get-go.

**What are the benefits of moving the program to the local school?**

- Students play 6 games, not 8
- Games are on Wednesday nights, not Saturdays
- The district can better control coaching, scheduling, and ensure better officiating
- The school will not incur start-up costs as DCAA will donate all uniforms and equipment. Helmets will be inspected.
- Transportation will be available for athletes
- Again, students are better matched athletically with teams of the same caliber and teams they will play in high school

**Are there negatives to moving it to the school?**

- As long as we are members of MHSAA, homeschooled students cannot participate
- There are no other negatives per se. Conversely, participation will likely increase as practices will be on campus after school, and a greater pool of potential players will have better access.
- There may not be a cost savings to families. Our policies require new programs to be run as club sports for the first three years. The cost of the program will be divided among the players and their families and could exceed the \$50 pay to play fees we charge for non-club athletics.
- The program would likely not draw funds for the schools. Any money raised through ticket sales or concessions would be immediately absorbed by the costs of the program not covered by club fees.

**Are there any Title IX concerns with moving MS Football?**

- Football is not a "male" sport -- any gender can play.
- But, if anyone asks, MS cheerleading (which is also open to any gender) will be moving from DCAA to Dansville Schools the following year.

**Are there benefits to our middle school being a part of MHSAA?**

- There is a HUGE benefit: the schools and officials have liability protection -and- our athletes have catastrophic and concussion insurance provided to them at no cost: <https://www.mhsaa.com/Schools/Administrators/Catastrophic-Insurance-Plan>

**If Dansville Middle School withdraws from MHSAA what are the consequences?**

- Our athletes lose the protection that we just mentioned.
- We probably would not lose opportunities to play other CMAC schools especially if we kept following MHSAA guidelines as non-members, but we could. Schools *could* choose not to play against us if we drop this membership.

- We would likely lose schools if we dropped our MHSAA membership **and** decided to follow different guidelines and eligibility rules.

**Why are we not moving other MS-aged DCAA programs to the Dansville Schools' purview?**

- We already have a MS boys' and girls' basketball program run by the school. Its season runs prior to the holiday break. Kids could play for the school and then play for DCAA whose season begins after the holiday break.
- MS soccer, softball, and baseball are not often found in middle school athletic programs. (Dundee didn't offer these either.) If we moved them to our athletic program, there wouldn't be any schools in CMAC for them to play.

*July is where we approve our resolution to renew our MHSAA membership. My recommendation remains that we stay members of MHSAA at both the middle school and high school levels.*

**UPCOMING DATES:**

July 1, 8, 15, 22: Superintendent's Office Closed  
July 16: Aggie Athletics Golf Outing