

Superintendent Report: October Board Meeting
Submitted on October 9, 2017

Administrative work:

Community Day was a great success again this year, in spite of the hot weather. The kids and staff were all troopers and carried out various acts of kindness and service throughout the school, our community and beyond to other local communities. Donations were received that will ensure the ongoing purchase of food and backpacks for the Weekend Survival program. Thank you to Erin, who spearheads the day and to everyone else who made it so successful!

Principals have been meeting with teachers to discuss their goals and getting into classrooms to start giving feedback. We have been working with new staff and mentors to ensure a smooth start for all of our new employees as well.

The administrative team is reading the book Becoming Brilliant, which was recommended by Mike Kapp. It has already spurred great reflection and conversation and helped inspire some ideas as we begin working on the development of a new Mission Statement. I am also working directly with Nancy Colflesh to learn from her experience and gain insight about process before formally beginning this work.

Athletics:

We hired Kyle Bergeron to be our Varsity Wrestling Coach. He will be assisted by Johnny Stid. We were particularly impressed with Kyle's extensive wrestling background and his desire to make a positive impact on student-athletes. We are also very pleased that Kyle chose to add Aggie wrestler Johnny Stid to his staff.

Budget Info:

We reached a tentative agreement with DESPA that will be shared in closed session.

I have been working with Raelynn to discuss the amendments to Revision I of the 2017-18 budget. We are waiting on final numbers for the fall count as well as final staffing numbers along with other variables that begin to solidify at this time of year. Due to the uncertainty of the at-risk definitions and their implication on the general fund, we will delay our discussion of Revision I until November with final approval in January.

Communication:

The Back to School edition of the District Newsletter was recently mailed and should be arriving in homes this next week. The district has continued to use the School Messenger system, Facebook and Twitter to communicate as well.

The District Advisory Committee is back in full swing this month, with our first meeting on the 17th. We added three new members this year and the parents represent students in grades K-12. We meet three times each year and discuss a number of school topics and then we seek feedback.

Community Outreach/Partnerships:

We are excited to celebrate Sue Provencal, our elementary literacy specialist, as the DSEF Teacher of the Year this year. She is an amazing teacher for our students who need a boost in literacy and a consummate learner who is always bringing back the latest research and best practices to the rest of the staff. We are also excited about Harriet Chesley receiving the Service Award this year. Harriet has always been a good friend of Dansville Schools- volunteering, supporting and encouraging however she can for many many years!

The community once again took advantage of the scrap metal drive as a way to unload unwanted metal on Community Day. A small net profit is donated to the Many Hands account as a result of this, but it is primarily done as a service to the community. We are also excited to have sent \$3000 to the American Red Cross to be used for hurricane relief as a result of these fundraising efforts.

We are also working with a community member to bring a prescription pill drop-off event to Dansville. This will take place during Parent-Teacher Conferences in November.

Curriculum/Training:

Andy, Tania and I met recently with ISD Science consultant Rob Stephenson to discuss how teachers should create effective science assessments in light of the new science curriculum, the new state assessment for science and standards-based grading. He will be leading a district-wide day with teachers on October 20 to share resources and then to help facilitate their work as they begin working on assessments.

We are also hoping to hold a district math curricular review meeting in the next few months to give all of our math folks a chance to talk about how they are teaching Go Math and to talk about alignment, etc.

Facilities:

The foundations and footings should we well underway by the time the Board meets in October. We are in the process of securing partner districts to hold our spring baseball and softball games this spring.

The district asset management plan was updated over the last month or so. We are working on getting this roof project underway and hope to get the maintenance building started next as it relates to use of the sinking funds.

We are hoping to get information from Mike Kapp as part of his participation with the ISOA board to learn more about how other districts handle the naming of facilities/rooms, etc.

Personnel Update:

We hired Don Hamilton as the JV Girls' Basketball Coach and are currently looking for a 7th grade girls' basketball coach, a position previously held by Don.

Safety:

We are working on getting our Go-Bags updated, have updated our Crisis Plan and have updated several protocols based on best practice exemplars we received as part of my participation on a county safety committee.

Technology:

We have rolled out an updated technology request protocol in light of the changes in ISD personnel and are hoping for improved communication and efficiency.

Upcoming Dates of Note:

- Halloween Parade- October 31 at 2 PM
- DSEF event- November 11th