

Superintendent Report: October Board Meeting
Submitted on October 20, 2022

ADMINISTRATIVE WORK:

Just a reminder that October is National Principal Appreciation Month. This is an opportunity for district leaders, elected officials, parents, students, teachers, staff, and communities to celebrate and honor our incredible principals for their visionary leadership and tireless pursuit of success for each student. I cannot be prouder of the work Josh, Tania, and Amy do on a daily basis.

I was fortunate to attend an in-person meeting with State Superintendent, Dr. Michael Rice, on October 20, 2022. Dr. Rice and his staff welcomed 23 new superintendents across the state to learn more about Michigan's Top 10 in 10 initiatives as well as supports MDE can provide for educator and staff shortages.

The administrative team and I are conducting a book study titled, *Never Underestimate Your Teachers: Instructional Leadership for Excellence in Every Classroom* by Robyn Jackson. Next Tuesday, we will be working our way through Chapter 3, "Addressing Skill."

Next month, Tania and Josh will be attending a professional learning session with Thrun on Student Discipline while Amy and I attend one on Teacher Evaluation and the IDP process.

Administration met with our DSIT team on 10/12/22 to plan the half-day of professional learning for staff on Wednesday, 10/26/22. We will be focusing on school improvement and Aggie Problem-Solving Teams. For 2022-2023 we brought a finite focus on certain parts of our district improvement plan, specifically:

- supporting the work around standards and resources for the **social studies** department
- selecting and piloting curricula for elementary **reading**
- **relevance and relationship-building**, including: social-emotional learning, student engagement, Orange Frog, and positive behavior supports
- **rigor**, including: student work habits, student self-reflection, and assessment resources for teachers

Our support staff will be given 30 minutes on 10/26 to complete KnowB4 training to help assist with cybersecurity.

With the help of the principals, I have put together a student Superintendent Advisory Council that will meet for the first time on Thursday, October 27. The council is composed of two students each from the elementary, middle, and high school. The students will meet with me four times during the school year to advise, provide feedback, and present viable solutions on a variety of district topics.

PERSONNEL:

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

- Corey Austin, DESPA
- Samantha Nelson, Food Service
- Nada Cavallucci, Food Service

COMMUNICATION:

I have worked with Ingham Intermediate School District to produce three short videos to help “demystify” the role of the board of education. The videos are housed on the Board of Education page of the district’s website.

Many thanks to Mrs. Johnson for getting our fall newsletter published. We have already begun collecting submissions for our winter edition. If there is something you’d like to see in our community newsletter, just let me or Mrs. Johnson know.

FACILITIES:

Great news! Our electronic signs are on order. You may see some preliminary work happening on the entrance from Jackson Road. In the weeks ahead, we’ll have masons and electricians prepping the site. We expect a delivery date of January 12, 2023. However, it may be summer before the project is fully completed.

ATHLETICS:

Fall: We are nearing the end of the fall season with one more home football game on 10/21/22 against Stockbridge where band, football, and cheer will be celebrating Senior Night.

Wednesday, 10/19/22, was Senior Night for our volleyball players. Dansville is hosting the quarter finals for volleyball on November 15.

Soccer placed 3rd in the league, but lost in district semi-finals.

Cross-country has had a decent run this season (pun intended) with Rebekah Hallock earning 2nd Team all conference and 2nd overall on the record board. Theo Davis earned League Champion and Sam Schmidt 1st team all conference.

Mr. Dassance is in the process of surveying students and parents on their perceptions of the fall season and will share that information with his coaching staff.

Winter: Mr. Dassance is hosting his winter coaches meeting on Wednesday, 10/26/22. Boys’ middle school basketball begins their season on 10/24/22.

SAFETY:

There are several safety grants available this year through legislation (Section 97 of the State School Aid Act). I am working with Ms. Johns to explore funds for safety assessments, critical incident mapping, and upgrades to our security features.

UPCOMING DATES:

October 26: Half-Day Dismissal: Professional Development
October 31: Halloween Parade, Elementary
November 2-3: Elementary Conferences
November 19: PTO Craft Show
November 23-25: NO SCHOOL: Thanksgiving Break

ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

In an effort to model “orangeness” and an attitude of gratitude, I’d like to take a moment each month to highlight individuals and groups who support us along this journey:

- Congratulations to the Drama Club on the production of their “creepy” Halloween-themed play, “Trap.”
- Congratulations and best wishes to Ms. Heather Lloyd and Mr. Matt Hubinger who will be getting married this weekend, 10/22/22. We wish them years of happiness and health.
- We are incredibly proud of Angie St. Amant who will be featured along with the Dream Flight simulator in a “Proud Michigan Educator” video through the Michigan Department of Education. We look forward to seeing the final product and can’t wait to share!
- We are grateful for Kayden Keith’s prognosis and are astounded by the outpouring of love and support by our community. We plan to collect funds for one more week before handing over the donations to the family. As of today (Thursday), our office has received over \$3000 in financial support.
- We appreciate the families who attended conferences this past week. We love partnering with you in the education of your children!
- Many thanks to Janeen Tkaczyk for organizing dinner for teachers and staff during 6-12 conferences.