

**Superintendent Report: September Board Meeting**  
**Submitted on September 21, 2019**

**Administrative work:**

We have been working with our teachers during workdays and special meetings to help facilitate our transition to a standards-based report card. We are also going to be working on the development of an accompanying parent guide to ensure parents understand the shifts that are taking place in each building.

During our professional development (PD), we reviewed last year's goals, talked about our proficiency data and rolled out this year's goals with the staff. The district MSTEP and SAT data will be presented to the Board on Monday night.

We held a special orientation breakfast meeting for our bus drivers the first week of September. We shared the district's themes and had the drivers complete "pizzas" to display in their buses, reminding them of the sources of their joy.

I have also attached my goals and the merit pay document for this school year for your review, discussion and feedback.

**Athletics:**

We are in the process of posting/hiring coaches for middle school and freshman basketball openings. We held our Grand Opening for Volleyball on August 27<sup>th</sup>. We are preparing for our Homecoming this Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

All fall high school teams are in full swing as well as middle school cross country and volleyball. Next will be middle school boys' basketball followed by the start of the winter sports season in early November. We are so excited about the outstanding season the soccer team is having, earning a #5 ranking in the state and also about the improvement of our volleyball team. The cross country team has experienced significant success this year, lifted by their strong numbers for both the boys and girls teams. The football team has also returned to its winning ways the past few weeks.

We are continuing to explore options that would allow us to have a home cross country course.

We participated in the CMAC-wide Veterans/Active Military/First Responder Appreciation Event as part of the football game on Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. We also appreciated the generosity and spirit of the DCAA folks as they hosted a tailgate fundraiser at this game for the Lasby family from Saranac, who tragically lost their 7<sup>th</sup> grade son during a football practice in late August. Tania and Christy have been meeting with the Student Spirit Squad regularly and their presence has been strong and effective at our home sporting events!

We are very appreciative of the generosity of our wrestling coach, Glenn Adkins, for his donations of his labor and more in several concrete projects. He has also been serving as a substitute teacher for us and has been a huge asset for the district!

We held our first ever soccer invitational this past weekend, which was made possible because of the addition of our new soccer field. Our soccer team took first place after playing four games and improving their record to 15-2-1!

Another new opportunity for our district because of our new facilities is that we will be hosting the CMAC league meeting this year! Athletic directors and superintendents from each school in our league will travel to Dansville for this annual meeting on Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. We have not had a space to host this type of meeting that occurs during the school day in the past. We will be meeting in the Secondary Media Center.

### **Budget Info:**

We await the work of the Governor around the current approved House and Senate School Aid Fund budgets, but we are much closer to knowing what our funding will look like for this school year. While we are not yet at Count Day, we currently have more than 740 students enrolled in Grades K-12.

The focus will now turn to communicating with the community about the upcoming Sinking Fund vote. The outcome of this vote will be critical to the funding of our facilities projects such as parking lot resurfacing, elementary air conditioning, and roof replacement at the remaining two areas that will need it.

Due to the complexities of the audit because of the addition of the bond project, the audit report will again be shared with the Board in October. The first revision of the budget will be presented in November with final Board approval being sought in January.

### **Communication:**

We will be working on a plan to help the community understand the needs of the district as it relates to the upcoming sinking fund vote in November. There will be newsletter information, posts on our Aggie App, Facebook page and Twitter, staff talking points for networking and possibly a separate mailer.

The Aggie App allows us to check the analytics regarding impact. We have seen a steady increase in the number of followers each month. Please note: if you are not on Facebook and would like to see the district's posts, you can see them on the Aggie App under "news".

### **Community Outreach/Partnerships:**

We will be hosting an FFA Grand Opening as part of the Homecoming festivities on Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. In addition, the Art Department will be hosting a community art workshop event that will also serve as a fundraiser for their department.

The fire department captain and chief were invited to join the district's staff at our upcoming ALICE training to create a shared understanding regarding how the district will be handling intruders.

Please consider attending the upcoming Education Foundation dinner/auction event on November 9<sup>th</sup> at the English Inn. This wonderful event raises significant funds for programming at our school. We hope to be able to purchase Promethean Boards for the middle school as well as potentially purchase more Amplify kits if we decide to expand the pilot for next year. We currently pay for our Go Math curriculum and all of our Project Lead the Way supplies due to the generosity of the Education Foundation.

### **Curriculum/Training:**

We will be holding a training for our science teachers K-8 regarding the Amplify Science curriculum they are piloting this year. We were part of a grant last year that paid almost entirely for us to purchase one “kit” per grade level. The grant included this local training session for the teachers.

Our teachers are working on finalizing the clear learning targets they will submit for each class/subject to be used in our standards-based report card.

### **Data**

I will share our most current MSTEP, PSAT and SAT data with the Board on Monday night.

### **Facilities:**

We are continuing to meet with representatives from Kingscott and Miller-Davis to get closer to completion of the remainder of the unfinished portions of the project.

The district recently hired a part-time maintenance person to help handle facility needs. We welcomed Rick Miller, a Dansville resident, who had served previously as a facilities/maintenance staff person at Fowlerville Community Schools. We will also be posting for a maintenance subs to help fill in if/when needed.

### **Personnel Update:**

We are very excited to share we were able to hire Mike Sheridan as our MS science teacher. Mr. Sheridan is the father of two Aggie students and brings a lot of passion and enthusiasm to this position. He spent a day with Mr. Beck in the classroom before Mr. Beck’s departure, a day with Mr. Beck and other MS science folks to discuss curriculum and resources and then started teaching the next day. Mr. Sheridan will be introduced to the Board on Monday night.

### **Policy Update:**

A recent legal reminder went out about a mandated policy that has financial penalties if not adopted and it was very comforting to see that our Board had adopted that policy several months ago. This was a good reminder about the benefits of using NEOLA for our policy management. They update policies when there are state or federal changes in law but also when their districts go through audits, to ensure they are providing the most timely, compliant policies at each update. If a topic is particularly “hot”, they will send interim updates as well.

**Safety:**

We are closely monitoring the EEE virus to determine whether we will change the starting times for any of our evening events. We are also working on how we will communicate with parents about ALICE.

**Teaching and Learning:**

One of our Aggie Improvement Teams has started reading “Teach Like a Pirate” by Dave Burgess. Our administrative team has been reading “Lead Like a Pirate” by Shelly Burgess and Beth Houf. These books both provide resources and ideas to our staff that align with this year’s challenge to “Be Pizza” and bring joy into the classroom/each school.

**Technology:**

The Promethean boards for the elementary have arrived and will be installed over the next month or so. We will be providing support to the teachers as they learn how to leverage this new technology to increase the engagement and achievement of their students.

**Upcoming Dates of Note:**

- \*Half Day/PD on Wednesday, September 25
- \*Homecoming Festivities on Friday, September 27:
  - \*FFA Dinner starts at 4:30 pm
  - \*FFA Grand Opening 6-7 pm
  - \*Parade- 6 pm
  - \*Football Game- 7 pm
- \*Parent-Teacher Conferences for Grades 6-12: October 23 and 24
- \*Half Day/PD on Wednesday, October 30
- \*DSEF Event: Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>

Check out the Aggie App Calendar to find upcoming school events!