

## **Dansville Elementary School January Board Update**

- Students and Staff had a great time celebrating the holidays with class parties, visits from the Grinch (Thanks Rick Miller), and our all-school sing!
- FAST Bridge and Spring Math screening has been in full swing the past two weeks. This is an important time to get a quick check on student progress as we compare their results to their fall data. Decisions will then be made about additional interventions needed to support student growth such as Summer School, classroom interventions, and/or time with an Instructional Aide.
- Kindergarten Round-Up will be held on March 24, from 4:00-6:00 in the elementary school. This is a big event to give us an idea of how many students to plan for during the next school year. Please spread the word to anyone you know who may have a student turning 5 by September 1 (for Kindergarten) or turning 5 before Dec. 1 (for Beigndergarten or Kindergarten on a waiver). If they are not old enough for Kindergarten, they may be eligible for our GSRP program.
- We are excited for enrollment in our 2026-2027 GSRP program to begin in February. Charlotte Birmingham and Amy Popek have created a rubric to help guide our decisions as we fill our PreK slots.
- Dansville fourth-grade art students successfully completed a pen pal through art project with an elementary school in Frederick, Maryland. This cross-state collaboration allowed students to connect creatively while practicing both visual art and written communication skills. Our students designed and mailed original postcards highlighting their favorite places in Michigan. After the Frederick students received the postcards, we were told that the quality and creativity of the Dansville fourth graders' work inspired many of their students to revise and improve their own postcards before sending them in return—an encouraging example of peer inspiration through art. As part of the project, each student selected a favorite Michigan location, designed the front of their postcard to visually represent that place, and composed a thoughtful paragraph on the back. Their writing included a fun fact about the chosen location as well as personal details. This project not only strengthened artistic skills but also promoted creativity, pride in our state, and meaningful connections beyond our classroom. We are proud of our students' effort and the positive impact their work had on their peers in Maryland.

