

To: Dansville School Board Members

From: Andy Cox

Date: August 21, 2019

Re: DES update

- Changes in the elementary for 2019-2020 include:
 - Jennifer Dowdy is joining the elementary team in 1st grade
 - Kait Bujaki has joined the Kindergarten team
 - Kelli Pfiester has joined the team as our Speech teacher

- Aggie Academy (summer school) wrapped up at the beginning of August. Thank you to Lynn Main, Leanne Barnett, Emily Lewis, and Stephanie Heraux for all of their hard work in making this a quality educational experience. We couldn't service so many students (nearly 40) without willing teachers and staff! Some success stories include:
 - In the 4th & 5th grade ELA group all students (8) improved their words per minute fluency rate. The minimum amount of improvement was +14 wpm while the maximum was +29 wpm. All 4th & 5th grade students showed improvement in their math fact fluency improving within a range of 21-40 additional math facts within a 3-minute time period. 3 Spring Math skills were passed during this 4-week period for 4th grade. 5th grade remained on the first skill set throughout the 4-week period.
 - In the 2nd & 3rd grade ELA group about half of the students made significant improvements in their words per minute fluency score ranging from 8-62 words. Basic addition, subtraction and multiplication facts were practiced with this group. Again, nearly half of the students demonstrated growth. Attendance rates with this particular group played a major role in their outcomes.
 - In the K-1 group, students' needs were mainly addressed individually. 1st grade students focused mainly on words per minute fluency demonstrating growth. K students worked on letter names/sounds as well as sight words. Each student showed improvement as it related to their individual goal. K students did an amazing job with Spring Math passing 6 skills in the 4 week time period of Aggie Academy.

- The Kindergarten team hosted a Parent Informational Night this week to allow parents the opportunity to ask questions and develop a better understanding of the routines and policies of the school. This was very well attended especially by families who have just placed their first child into school.

- The Arts Integration program is in full swing for its 8th year. Karen Henderson attended training at the Wharton Center in August to prepare for continued implementation of new ideas into the core curriculum this year.

- A couple of elementary staff members attended a Mental Health First Aid training with me that our own Heather Lloyd facilitated last week. This was an informative day that helped provide educators with tools to use to help be the "first responders" of students who may be experiencing a mental health crisis.

- Our annual Back-To-School Bash took place this week so new families to the district could become familiar with our school and meet the staff.

- Elementary enrollment has noticeably increased this year allowing us to hire an additional kindergarten teacher and 1st grade teacher.