

**Superintendent Report: January Board Meeting**  
**Submitted on January 26, 2020**

**Administrative work:**

We have been meeting over the past month or so with all staff members for mid-year goal check meetings. This is an opportunity to check in with individual staff members and to both give and receive feedback. These are very valuable meetings that are documented and provide accountability for staff regarding their progress towards achieving their goals.

Students in grades K-8 have been taking winter benchmark assessments with a screening tool called FastBridge for literacy and with Spring Math for mathematics. The winter screening allows staff to assess student mid-year progress and use the data to make programmatic changes or instructional changes as dictated by the data. So far, the Spring Math data has come back with significant growth. FastBridge isn't completed yet for analysis.

The principals continue to visit classrooms to provide feedback in addition to visits by our math and literacy coaches and different ISD personnel who visit elementary classrooms to provide feedback regarding math instruction as well as small group instruction.

Early in January, all of the middle school and some high school ELA teachers met together to review clear learning targets, assessments and expectations. They addressed scaffolding as well as common assessments. This was a productive meeting that resulted in many of their practices being documented to ensure future teacher consistency.

**Athletics:**

The winter sports seasons are at approximately the halfway point. All teams are experiencing various levels of success as they strive to improve throughout their seasons. Of particular note is that our cheerleaders are participating in competitive cheer this season and have placed in some of their competitions. It is also noteworthy that Rachel Briggs is participating in gymnastics as part of a cooperative with Holt and she has performed very well, representing our Aggie Family with excellence.

Wrestling held "A Night to Remember" on Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> to honor and recognize coaches and wrestlers who have contributed to the establishment and success of our program since its inception. Much appreciation to Josh Tkaczyk for the great video he made honoring the program's history. Several former wrestlers were present for the event and the event was very well received.

On February 7<sup>th</sup>, the success of last year's baseball team will be recognized as part of the home basketball game that night. Spring Meet the Aggies will take place on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Budget Info:**

Raelynn and I have started working on the first run at the 2020-21 budget. The administrators and I have started working on the schedules for next year as well as projecting enrollment. Our next student count day is coming up in February.

As always, we rely heavily on our kindergarten numbers as we plan for next year.

Kindergarten/Begindergarten Round Up is going to be held on Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. To be eligible for Kindergarten your child must turn five by September 1, 2020. To be eligible for Begindergarten, a child must turn five before December 1, 2020. Please encourage anyone with eligible young children to consider enrolling or at least checking out Dansville Schools.

We have pursued a new lead to help create promotional videos. We have also been using the Scorevision boards to advertise: Begindergarten, Kindergarten and the fitness center memberships in addition to paid advertisements.

Ingham ISD has a Headlee Restoration for the countywide SE millage on the ballot on March 10. There is a memo regarding this vote in your board packets from IISD. These monies are used to support programs that help students in the county with special needs. Our district will be posting information on our website for voters.

We will be applying for the School Safety Grant that was recently released. We are seeking safety film for new and remodeled areas with new doors and windows to supplement the work we did with the first grant.

### **Communication:**

We are working on updating all New Families packet information as well as promotional materials in preparation for spring.

The winter newsletter material is due on February 14. It takes about three weeks from this date to get into the mailboxes of our families.

I met with the District Parent Advisory Committee last week and received some great feedback to share with the administrators to make some district improvements.

We will be using a new approach to secondary parent-teacher conferences this spring as a result of the suggestion from one of the parents on our District Parent Advisory Committee. Parents will have the chance to schedule appointments with teachers for the first few hours of the night to help alleviate waiting in lines and improve efficiency.

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

We continue to work closely with the Education Foundation as well as the Ladybugs as we work to do everything we can to meet the needs of our students in terms of providing the best curriculum and technology to ensure their future success.

### **Curriculum/Training:**

We have been invited to send a team to present to the State Board of Education about our Aggie STEAM Adventures program! We are waiting to hear more details about the exact meeting date. We are excited to showcase this amazing program and so proud of our teacher Angie St. Amant for all she has done to bring this to our school.

We were informed last week that we are the first school in our county to get our elementary teachers trained in the Literacy Essentials. We are excited that our teachers have committed to making this happen, as this training will help us continue to improve our students' literacy outcomes.

We have been working with the local library staff as well as county CADL staff to bring the Student Success Initiative to Dansville. We will be working with them to bring library cards to every student. This will allow students to have access to checking out hotspots as well as many other materials to supplement their learning at Dansville Schools.

### **Data**

We meet monthly to examine the Spring Math data and to problem solve. We have just hired another part-time elementary math interventionist to help meet the needs of students who need Tier 3 interventions. This means the students are pulled for approximately 15 minutes at least four days per week to get individual help on exactly what they need. We have four different people providing math interventions in Grades K-10.

### **Facilities:**

We continue to examine the data related our facilities personnel to determine the plan that will be best for our district moving forward.

We also continue to work with contractors to finish punch list work and close out the bond project. There is also ongoing work to be done related to the baseball and softball fields.

A maglock was added to the Superintendent's office this week to complete our security system work.

### **Personnel Update:**

Brad Chattaway has returned to serve as an assistant JV Boys Basketball coach. Stephanie Case will be the elementary math interventionist.

### **Safety:**

We held our first lockdown drill that incorporated the ALICE training protocols. We developed age-appropriate talking points and each classroom held a discussion about how they would handle an intruder. Parents have reported that students feel much more empowered by the ALICE approach and we will continue to utilize this classroom discussion approach with different scenarios as we continue integrating this new approach.

### **Teaching and Learning:**

We had another Mentor-Mentee meeting last week as part of our induction program for teachers in their first and second year of teaching at Dansville. We used several different protocols to help increase the amount of information our newest teachers received from our experienced teachers.

Two years' worth of calendars will be shared with the Board on Monday. These calendars are similar to this year's calendar, with a few improvements: we added a small Fall Break in October and we finish in both years on the Friday before Memorial Day. We received great feedback about finishing the first semester at Christmas break and we continue to strive to get more instructional time prior to spring testing in April. The second year also features the new countywide spring break period during the last week of March. This new break is even better with our new modified calendar. We are striving to have some kind of break every 5-6 weeks, which aligns with research. We also continue to reserve the month of June for intervention (summer school/enrichment, etc.).

Our staff requested a research summary from the ISD that has turned into a new ISD protocol that has been shared with the entire county. The ISD created research summaries about both the research questions we posed and then sent them to us, presented them to the rest of the county and then offered to do the same for their research questions. We were excited to be part of paving this new pathway. This was jumpstarted by the research support we had for the past few years from MSU and ISD personnel. We try hard to always consult research as part of our decision-making process. One of our stumbling blocks has always been carving out the time to do it. This solves that problem for us and for other districts as well.

### **Technology:**

We are hoping to add two display panels in the Middle school to enable Principal Graf to share information and announcement with students as we can now do in the other buildings.

We are hoping to add another security camera to the Middle School Reading Nook.

We are hoping to add Promethean Boards to the rest of the Middle School classrooms, which would mean all of our classrooms would be equipped with the latest instructional technology tool.

### **Upcoming Dates of Note:**

\*March 4- Round Up

\*April 17- Legislative Breakfast at Hawk Hollow

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