

**Superintendent Report: September Board Meeting**  
**Submitted on October 27, 2019**

**Administrative work:**

Each of the principals have been meeting with all of our teachers to discuss their goals. They have also been getting into classrooms to start giving feedback. We have also been working with new staff and mentors to ensure a smooth start for all of our new employees as well. The second district mentor-mentee meeting took place last week.

As it is administrator appreciation month, our district continues to be blessed with the ongoing service and commitment of Andy, Erin and Tania in their principal roles. The research is very clear that leadership has a direct impact on student outcomes. They have all had a very positive impact on our students and families. I sincerely hope the Board, the staff members and this community realizes what a big deal it is to have the continuity of the same team for our seventh year. Each one of them is a world-changing member of our Aggie Family who regularly make unseen personal sacrifices to support our staff and students.

**Athletics:**

We hired Daniel Pepper to coach the 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys and long-time teacher and coach Jon Jolin to coach 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys. We are in the process of posting/hiring for 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls and freshman boys' basketball openings.

We are so excited about the historic season the soccer team is having, winning our first ever regional championship on Saturday! The cross country team has also experienced significant success this year, with the boys' team winning Regionals and the girls earning 5<sup>th</sup> out of 17 teams, with Maddie Mays earning a chance to compete at the State Competition! The football team ended their season last Friday with a win over Pittsford and we will be hosting Volleyball districts next week!

The district will be offering middle school wrestling starting this winter. Similar to the model for middle school cross country, the high school coaches are extending their programs to include middle school. The middle school wrestlers will ride the same bus as the high school team and be coached by the same coaches, which means the district will incur little expense to offer this additional opportunity for our students.

**Budget Info:**

Our anticipated count is approximately 737 after a few students have moved due primarily to domestic situations that took them out of the district. Raelynn and I have been working on Revision I of the 19-20 budget, but there are still several factors to be figured out before this will come before the Board, including the open negotiations with all groups.

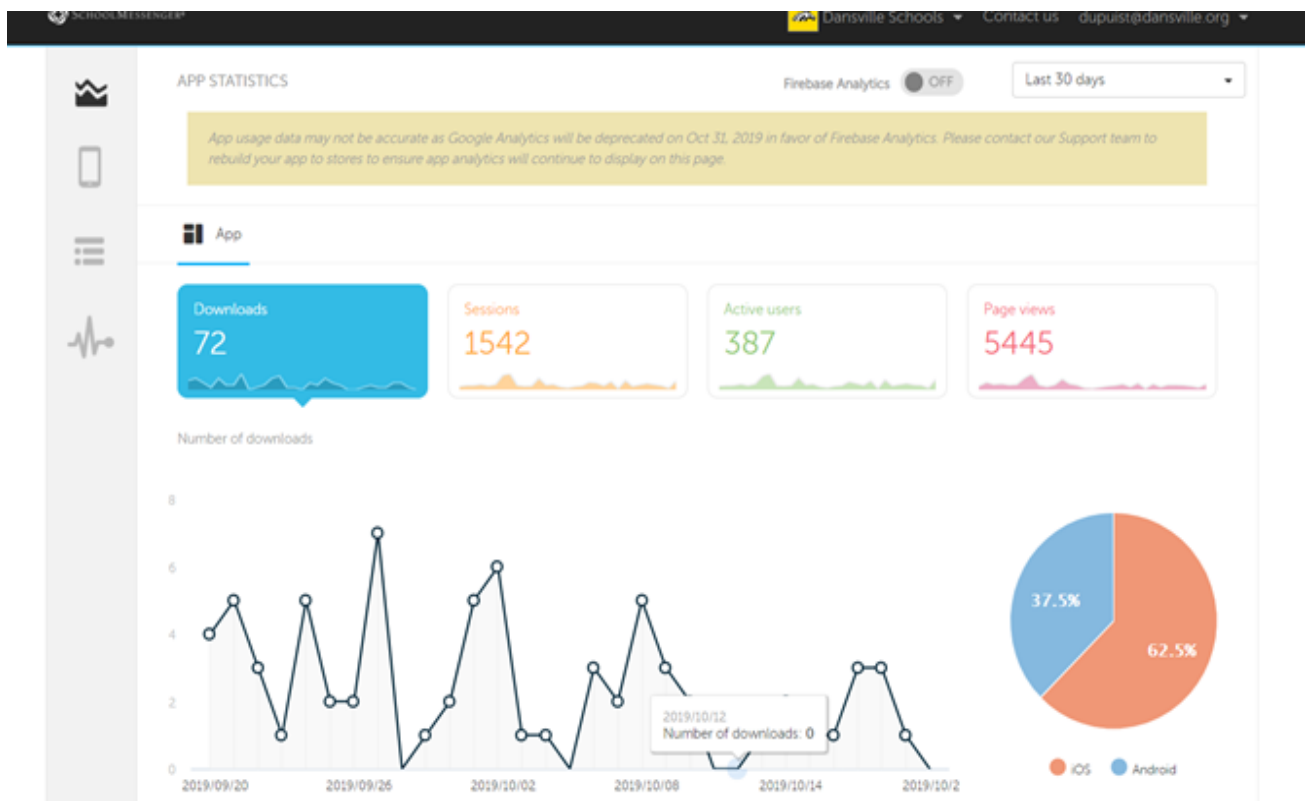
Our employees who receive insurance benefits have been in the process of learning about enrolling in brand new health and vision benefits. This has been a very smooth process as we begin to work with Mike Gorsline from Evergreen Financial Group in Williamston.

We have been sending multiple communications out to the community about the upcoming Sinking Fund vote. The outcome of this vote is 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. We sent a postcard per the Board's request, the newsletter and have posted multiple informational pieces via social media and the website.

The audit report will be shared with the Board this month. The ISD provides oversight and has helped set up accountability systems for all of our budgets. The first revision of the budget will most likely be presented in November with final Board approval being sought in January. It is possible this will be delayed by negotiations.

### **Communication:**

The Aggie App allows us to check the analytics regarding impact (see below). 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."



The District Parent Advisory Committee met on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Six parents are on this committee who represent students throughout the district. One new parent joined the committee this year due to the departure of a parent due to time constraints with another new commitment. We talked about a number of items and their feedback was very valuable related to parent-teacher conferences, parking lot lines and more.

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

Our Education Foundation has selected Kristen Ream as the Teacher of the Year and Beth Chattaway as the Distinguished Service recipient for this year. These amazing women have both made our school a better place for kids. It will be wonderful to honor them at the Dinner/Auction on November 9th at the English Inn. We look forward to partnering with this amazing group and so appreciate their hard work to support our programs! I hope you'll join us!

The Lady Bugs are hard at work for their auction event on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Several of us from the school attend annually to support this wonderful group of women who have contributed so much to our school and community!

The Elementary PTO is also hard at work to put the final touches on the Annual Craft Show that will take place on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. The event will return to the middle school this year after being received so well in its new space last year.

### **Curriculum/Training:**

A Spring Math district team meeting and participation in a coaches training took place over the past few weeks as we've looked at our data and worked with the Spring Math author to continue to improve our outcomes.

It has been wonderful to finally find some Spring Math Interventionists for the secondary schools. Sara Oesterle is the head interventionist and she will work with Tonya Richey to provide Tier 3 individual intervention for students in Grades 6-12.

After Mark Slabaugh had the initial idea to use the land between the soccer field and the neighbors, many conversations have taken place and the FFA is planning to use that space as an "FFA Land Lab" where they will initially plan to grow pumpkins that they will sell in the fall.

MDE let us know that they will be coming onsite to conduct an audit of our Title programs and compliance documents. Schools cycle through this process on a rotation. We also received notification that an MDE employee will be onsite in December for a general school visit, as we've had in the past from other MDE folks.

### **Data**

Our students are making good progress in Spring Math in Grades 2-12. Kindergarten and first grade will be starting next week.

Our graduation rate for last year was 89.2%. The students who didn't graduate were generally either students who came back to our school missing significant credits or they transferred/moved to another school district, but didn't enroll.

### **Facilities:**

We are continuing to meet with representatives from Kingscott and Miller-Davis as we continue to creep closer to the finish line for the construction and remodeling project. Trades have been coming back to complete punchlist work and warranty work over the past few months.

Larger projects such as resurfacing the parking lots and track as well as putting new roofs on the bus garage and elementary multipurpose room will be tackled as part of the district's long-term asset management plan. This plan was derived several years ago to proactively anticipate facility needs and efficiently use the sinking funds.

We developed protocols for The Aggie Store to open it up to any group doing a fundraiser. Groups used this last year during the basketball season.

### **Policy Update:**

We need to schedule a policy committee meeting, as the Fall Update is ready for the committee to review.

### **Safety:**

The Board will be receiving the district's Emergency Operations Plan in the board packets this month. The Board can receive public comment about the plan, but please note that the plan is not intended nor is it required to be made public, as the district needs to prioritize safety. This plan was shared over the past few years with the local fire department, local law enforcement, athletic personnel and district staff. We received an endorsement of our plan from the emergency management officials as part of our safety grant submission last year. The plan includes most all of the FEMA recommendations. Thank you to Tania Dupuis for extensive work on this plan. The Board is allowed to go into closed session to discuss the EOP in detail, if desired.

### **Teaching and Learning:**

We have been working on the rollout of the new standards-based report card, which we hope to have ready for December/January report cards throughout the district.

### **Technology:**

The Promethean boards for the elementary have arrived and most have been installed.

We will be exploring new student/staff devices for purchase in the spring, as we are at the end of the life of the current iPads. Chromebook tablets as well as iPads will be explored. Students and staff have already been surveyed to start the process.

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

- \*Half Day/PD on Wednesday, October 30
- \*Soccer Semifinals on Wednesday, October 30
- \*Cross Country State Meet on Saturday, November 2
- \*DSEF Event: Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>

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