Superintendent’s Reflections

My daughter-in-law, Kristina received a heart breaking phone call from a parent of one of her third grade students. The mom told Kristina that her daughter went into cardiac arrest and passed away during the break. My daughter-in-law was absolutely broken.

This precious little 8-year-old had been born with a congenital heart defect and had successfully undergone open heart surgery. She looked and acted healthy, so it came as a devastating surprise when her little heart gave out.

The loss of a child is hard to understand and accept. I don’t even want to think about how life altering that would be, but I marveled at her family and how they were able to express their thankfulness and appreciation for the years that they were able to have their daughter with them. They spoke of her gifts and talents and her joy for life. They talked about all that she had taught to them in her short life and how they will hold these memories close.

Some people are so resilient, and I believe I know what gives them that strength. Life is so fragile, and it is critical to spend each day loving, forgiving, and building relationships.

Many of our students are fragile. They may not have a heart defect, but they may have experienced emotional pain and suffering. Empathy, compassion, and patience might save a child. Staff working directly with students have one of the most critical jobs in America. Thank you for giving your all to our kids.
I recently read an article about New Year’s Resolutions for HR professionals (exciting, I know!). Suggestions included focusing on recruitment, creating an environment to onboard FOR retention, remembering to bring joy to the workplace, and focusing on compliance issues. Needless to say, some “resolutions” were more exciting than others, some were more doable than others, and some seemed pretty challenging.

Then the article got me thinking about personal resolutions, and I started reading about different ways people make and keep (or don’t keep) their resolutions. I read that one woman picked 12 smaller, different resolutions (but she called them intentions) – one for each month. For example, take walks outside during the month of April, read one book during the month of July, intentionally practice gratitude during the month of November, etc. I like that way of thinking about resolutions/intentions. It’s an interesting way to view trying to do better or trying to be better. But how are you supposed to keep those resolutions when your daily life can get in the way so easily?

Researchers suggest the following ways to keep your resolutions:

- Create goals that are specific, measurable, achievable, time-bound, and realistic.
- Mark your progress by immediately acknowledging small victories.
- Identify what triggers the behavior you want to change.
- Create a new system to make your resolution into a habit.
- Make your resolution public.
- Remember that relapse is OK and normal. Don’t let a temporary setback sabotage your long-term goals.

I challenge you to pick a personal or a professional resolution/intention (or both). Tell a colleague or friend (make it public). I chose a personal and a professional resolution (ask me about mine, I’ll share).

No matter what you decide to do about New Year’s resolutions – pick one big one, pick 12 small ones, pick two small ones, not picking any at all – I wish you and yours a happy and successful new year.

Community Connections

Superintendent Kaltz Presents at Warren Rotary

This past Tuesday, Superintendent Kaltz was the scheduled speaker at the weekly Warren Rotary Club where she is an active member. She shared about the district’s progress toward becoming a Ford NGL Community and the philosophy behind why the district is willing to take innovative risks on behalf of our students. Her talk was not only well received but applauded and lauded.
Senator Wojno Visits
Michigan State Senator Paul Wojno, CLHS alum, spoke to students interested in government and civil rights at the December Employer Showcase. Read about it in The Warren Weekly!

Swimming Success
Last Saturday, the boys’ swim team was in action at the Hazel Park Relay Meet. The team took one 1st place, two 2nd places, and two 3rd place relays at the six-team competition. Pictured here is the winning 100 Backstroke Relay team of Gabe Ohngren, Jaden Miyamoto, Jeramiah Vega, and Andre Davis. Well done, guys!

Career Exploration
This week, freshmen were investigating the Digital Design and Communication pathway. Mrs. Giacoma's students brought their work to share and explained all the creative projects they get to do.

Bowling for a Cause
There is still time to sign up for the Moms’ & Dads’ Club Bowling Fundraiser later this month! There will be lots of fun, food, prizes, and friendship happening! The club uses the proceeds to support the high school (and the district!) with extra-budget needs of staff, sports, clubs, etc. The club also offers senior scholarships—see more details on our website at clhs.clps.org/apps/pages/scholarship
Roose Roundup

Goodbye and Good Luck, Mrs. Pearcy!
Ms. Chapman’s class provided a beautiful going away holiday wreath for Mrs. Pearcy. Mrs. Pearcy will be missed by the entire Roose community as she moves to the CLPS Human Resources department. From all of us at Roose we wish Mrs. Pearcy well on her promotion.

MLK Speech Winners
Two of Ms. Schafer's 5th grade students, Avishek Chowdhury and Katie Gorges, won the 33rd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday Celebration Oratory Contest. Macomb County elementary students were invited to submit a video recording of their recitation of a passage adapted from a 1968 speech of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. titled, "Loving Your Enemies." Through Ms. Schafer's guidance, her students were able to rise to the top of Macomb County and be recognized for the quality of their work. We are proud of Avishek, Katie, and Ms. Schafer!

Fun with Math
Mr. Gasowski’s 5th grade students were tasked with creating a math based game. Each student combined creativity with Michigan’s fifty grade math standards to produce a fun learning based game.

Crothers’ Corner

Robotics Action
Students at Crothers are putting on their engineering and designing hats to create a Lego project in technology class. The goal is to take what they learned with the WeDo Lego kits to make their own Lego creation move. Their projects ranged from making birds to cars that moved.
Hall of Fame
Ja'hir E. is the very first student to have two items in our Hall of Fame. He is pictured here with his second piece, a report on bald eagles. Ja'hir is working hard on his writing, producing longer and more detailed work. Congratulations, Ja'hir! We are proud of you!

Layla J. wrote an outstanding essay on "My Adventures in Niagara Falls." Layla says she was learning "how to 'show, not tell' and how to "use a hook in the introduction, but not put too much in it, so you still have some [info] for your reasons." Next, Layla will be working on writing an opinion essay. She says, "I'm pretty sure I'm going to pick 'should people have to pay to go to college' [for a topic]." Keep up the great work, Layla!

Emma D. in grade 3 wrote a fascinating, detailed essay about her hamster, Midnight, entitled, "How Old Are You?" Emma says, "I love writing, but my hand hurts because I write so much! This [piece] was about a special time with a special person in your life." Emma's already a great writer but plans to work on "reading it to make sure it's all focused on one thing." Good idea, Emma! We wish you and Midnight lots more special adventures together!

Peck students enjoy climbing the rock wall during lunch.

Yummy Learning
In one of our GSRP classrooms, Ms. Amy and Mrs. Cilia's small groups made letters with Twizzler Pull 'n' Peel Licorice. They discovered they could make straight lines and curved lines to form their letters. They also discovered how sticky licorice could be! They enjoyed a sweet treat afterwards for all their hard work!

Lessons from Winter
Miss Jenifer and Miss Ajanae's GSRP class began their study of Winter this week. They transformed their dramatic play area into an ice skating rink and concession stand. Children made pretzels and cookies to sell at their concession stand. They even had a chance to try out the "slippery" ice skating rink. Hold on to a friend!

Fit for a New Year
Tristan Isabell in Mrs. Johnson's TBPS is ready to workout with friends. Just look at his shirt! His class is doing a Fitness and Health study to start out the year.
### Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/10/2020</td>
<td>Pint Sized Hero Blood Drive @ Peck</td>
<td>2:30-8:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/13/2020</td>
<td>Coffee Club Community Conversations @ Roose</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
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<td>Finance Committee Meeting @ Admin</td>
<td>6:00pm</td>
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<td>Roose PTC</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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<td>Board of Education Meeting @ Admin</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
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<td>Open Swim for Senior Citizens @ CLHS Pool</td>
<td>7:00-7:30pm</td>
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<td>Open Swim for All @ CLHS Pool</td>
<td>7:30-8:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/14/2020</td>
<td>6th Grade Camp Parent Meeting @ Wolfe</td>
<td>6:00pm</td>
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<td>Peck Parent Lighthouse Team/PTC Meetings</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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<td>1/16/2020</td>
<td>After School Dance @ Wolfe</td>
<td>4:00-4:15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/20/2020</td>
<td>Special Board Meeting - Vacancy Interviews @ Admin</td>
<td>5:30pm</td>
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<td>1/21/2020</td>
<td>Band Boosters @ CLHS</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/23/2020</td>
<td>Frozen Sing-a-Long Spectacular @ Roose</td>
<td>6:00-8:00pm</td>
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<td>1/25/2020</td>
<td>Moms’ &amp; Dads’ Club Bowling Fundraiser @ Sterling Lanes</td>
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<td>1/27/2020</td>
<td>Board of Education Meeting w/CL City Council @ CLHS Media Center</td>
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<td>1/28/2020</td>
<td>Wolfe PTC</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/31/2020</td>
<td>Preschool Family Dance @ CLHS</td>
<td>6:00-8:00pm</td>
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### Share Your News!

The **Week in Review** is published every Friday during the school year. Submissions are welcome and encouraged; email your pictures and news to Sue Pauling at paulings@clps.org by Thursday noon to guarantee inclusion in that week’s edition.