Superintendent’s Reflections

It seems that some people look at this busy time of year as one filled with joy and hustle and bustle while others cannot stand the crowds, lines, or all of the business that goes along with the holiday season. I am one who absolutely loves the sights, sounds, and craziness of the holidays.

I strike up conversations with people around me in long lines and learn about others’ lives. I encourage them if they are struggling and listen to their stories. It delights me to look for the right gift for each person on my list, and I can hardly wait to watch as my kids and their kids open their presents.

I love the gatherings and time spent with friends that I don’t get to see on a regular basis and certainly love seeing our family more frequently. I also truly enjoy the chance to share love with others who are struggling. This year I have the opportunity to work the “Christmas Store” at the Salvation Army and help little ones find their perfect gift. We have neighbors who are alone, and I like to grab grandchildren and take cookies and spend time with them listening to their stories.

It is a time that is precious to me and in spite of missing my parents and Marty’s parents each Christmas season, I am so thankful when I witness the evidence of love in compassion in those who are still here.

On Monday morning I stopped at the gas station on 11 and Schoenherr because I like gas station coffee. As I approached the cashier I said, “Happy rainy Monday morning.” She smiled at me and told me the story of her longtime battle with alcohol and event that led to her rethinking the choices she was making in her life. She smiled and said, “I am approaching my 4th year of sobriety!” She continued with, “Every morning I am thankful for a new day and serving Him another day and for my job.” She works through the night at the gas station and appreciates the opportunity. I reached out my hand and congratulated her on her strength and most importantly her choice to live life in a positive and loving way. I will always remember her story and strive to move others the way she moved me with my story.
Progress Update

Weather is beginning to set in on us as we continue to push for building enclosure of the Peck Elementary & Early Childhood Center project. Builders are continuing to push forward and adjust to what the weather predicts. Check out more specific task updates and information on the next round of projects (the “new” Roose building upgrades) on our clps.org under “Bond Information.”

Board of Education

Fall 2019 Sports Recognition

The Board of Education recognized Center Line High School fall varsity athletes for their outstanding accomplishments this past fall. Many of the honorees are involved in other sports, but those represented include the following:

- **Football:** Leviticus Walker - All Conference, Tier 3 All-County H. Mention; Stephon White - All Conference.
- **Boys’ Soccer:** Max Fahling - All Conference, All District; Michael Kraft - All Conference, All District; Youssou Samb - All District; JuanDiego Zainos - All Conference, All District, All Regional, All State Honorable Mention.
- **Girls’ Swim:** Amaya Napier - All Conference; Jessica Woolsey - All Conference, All County.
- **Boys’ Tennis:** Chase Crowton – All Conference.
- **Volleyball** -- MAC Silver Division Champs: Coach Kathym Martorana; Andrea Maizy; Emma Hastings - All Conference, Conference MVP; Autumn Kucharczyk - All Conference; Allison Zielinski - All Conference.
I asked my boys the other day what job they want to have when they are adults. My 9-year-old said something ridiculous that was related to sports, and my 7-year-old said he’d like to be a fashion designer. My other 7-year-old (who can’t make a decision about anything, ever) said that he has no idea what he wants to do. His twin brother said that he thinks Tommy should be a teacher because he’s really good at writing and reading and math. I was struck by this for many reasons.

My kids, who aren’t particularly “good” students and who do not particularly love school, have such high regard for their teachers. They do love their teachers. They think their teachers are SO smart. The parts of school they enjoy are because of their teachers. I want to tell my kids’ teachers this story—I want them to know that there are kids out there that love and respect them (and think they are the smartest people in the world). I haven’t done that (yet). So, I thought I’d tell you.

My friend sent me an article the other day: Teaching Your Heart Out: Emotional Labor and the Need for Systemic Change – Love for their students is what drives many teachers – but it’s also what makes the profession really, really hard. The title of the article says it all. The emotionality of teaching (the heart of the article) is so very difficult and complex. The article states that the system expects teachers to bring their humanity and vulnerability to their job, teach content, as well as help children manage their emotions (or their trauma or their issues or their problems). The article states that we (school districts) need to recognize (and honor) the very fact that these elements are part of the job. And, again, recognize that the profession so very difficult.

What you do matters. If I’ve said it once, I’ve said it 1000 times. There are people that know you teach with your heart and your emotions. And, there are people that recognize that your job is multilayered with all of the obligations you must fulfill daily. But, please keep in mind that it’s possible that some of your quietest students, the ones you’d never think, actually enjoy school because of you. And, there are for sure students that love you because they know you give them everything you can.

**Winner, Winner!**

Did you hear? Crothers’ teacher Laurenne McDougal won the Caribbean Cruise in this month’s raffle, valued at $1300! You KNOW you are jealous!

Don’t be—Get your OWN ticket now! The 2020 Vacation Raffle begins SOON, and January’s drawing is for a trip to Hawaii! We only have about 20 tickets left, so now is the time! The office is closed Dec. 21-Jan. 5, and the drawing is Jan. 8!

Tickets cost $100 each and are entered into monthly drawings, where there are four winners each month! Tickets go back into the barrel, so you have 48 chances to win on each ticket! January’s vacation is a trip to Hawaii—so you don’t want to miss out! Buy your tickets now! See our Vacation Raffle page for more information. Staff can purchase tickets through payroll deduction! Send your $100 check payable to CLPSEF to the administration building to the attention of Sue Pauling.
National Honor Society partnered with Giving Pack, an organization based out of St. Clair Shores, to create over 100 encouraging cards. NHS sponsored the service project, but any student in the school could participate. We had 15 students help create the cards over the course of four days after school. These cards will be included in the supply packs that Giving Pack will be distributing to a women's and children's homeless shelter in Detroit on December 16th.

**HOSA Champs**

Five of our students - Janaesia Alston, Bella Marsh, Devlin Measel, Emma Meeks and Ryan Serafin - qualified for States at the HOSA Regional Competition this past weekend! Excellent work by all of these future health professionals! Thanks Mr. Watts and Ms. Gardner for starting the HOSA chapter this year and working with these students!

**Cross-Curricular Fun**

Many thanks to Mrs Patra's English students who were presented rough drafts of the Physics' comic books explaining forces. They gave feedback, and their ideas will help drive the next step in the project. The also gave us a trial run on how an authentic audience might react to our stories.

Check out this year's Auto Show poster submissions by the Graphic Design class on Mrs. Giacona’s website [https://giaconad.wixsite.com/mysite](https://giaconad.wixsite.com/mysite)
Charity Week is officially underway! Penny Wars, Bake Sale, Candy Grams, Winter Gear, and Cereal collections have all started and will continue this week (and some into next week). Check out the video Wolfe students made on the subject: https://youtu.be/TRCvSX0_Q-k

Career Exploration
This week the freshmen learned about JROTC and were treated to a presentation and a drill demonstration. It was very informative and cool to watch!

What’s Up at Wolfe
Charity Begins at School
Charity Week is officially underway! Penny Wars, Bake Sale, Candy Grams, Winter Gear, and Cereal collections have all started and will continue this week (and some into next week). Check out the video Wolfe students made on the subject: https://youtu.be/TRCvSX0_Q-k

Hands-On Science
In Mrs. Retman's 8th grade science classes, students demonstrate their knowledge of plate boundary types by building physical models.
Where Everyone Belongs

Wolfe WEB leaders planned fun, winter-themed activities for their 6th grade WEB groups. Everyone had a great time bonding, crafting, and snacking! They can’t wait until they are back together for more fun and connecting. See more pictures on the Wolfe Facebook page!

Crothers’ Corner

Movember

Crothers’ male staff grew their mustaches all the month of November to help raise awareness for Men’s Health. Students who donated were given fake mustaches. Many people donated to a great cause, and we raised a total of $539! Thank you to everyone who participated!
Roose Roundup

‘Tis the Season

Roose staff stepped up and provided the first round of presents for students in need. At Roose we believe in the well being of our school family and take every step to make students feel loved and connected.

Lunchtime fun! Hungry, hungry hippos are the only hungry creatures in the Peck lunch room!

ECC Notes

Gingerbread Night

The ECC hosted its annual Gingerbread Night for fun family festivities featuring the creation of a gingerbread house and a visit with Santa! It was a wonderful evening for our families and a great opportunity for some one on one time for parent and child during the Holidays! Children built their own gingerbread house with graham crackers and frosting, then added their own unique touches with candy and more frosting!! The results were awesome and so were the smiles and laughter of both the children and parents! See more pictures on the ECC Facebook page. Happy Holidays from the ECC!
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.