Superintendent’s Reflections

Have you ever known someone who did nice things for people just because it was the right thing to do? I am willing to help anyone at any time, but I to be honest: I sometimes feel like they should help me when I need them.

On the other hand, my husband helps others simply because he wants to. He has helped build decks, renovate rooms, add closets, redo bathrooms, build garages, replace moldings, and on and on and on. I have suggested that he request help from those he helped when we added decks and did all of the other construction projects we have done, but he would never do so. He said that doing something for someone else should never come with strings or expectations attached. I love his mindset, but it is really hard to practice.

Everyone needs help at different times in their lives and need a friend to stand by their sides. Our kids really need us. Every day they need us to interact with them so that we can learn more about them--to get to know them well enough to know when they are sad, scared, or really need us to see beyond their anger. This is when we can step in and really make a difference in their lives.

Sometimes when students really need our help, they show us in angry and aggressive ways. This comes across as disrespectful, ungrateful, and mean, and it is very difficult to see beyond all of that into the heart of a hurting child.

Help comes in many forms. Helping with construction projects, helping load groceries for someone in need, or helping a disillusioned and angry child will certainly change their day and likely will impact their entire future.

Thank you for all that you do to help others, especially our kids. Your commitment and dedication to Center Line’s students, whether you are actively working with them, supporting them through the purchase of Educational Foundation tickets, substitute teaching, or praying for them, you are making a difference.
Ascension Health Rocks!

Ascension Macomb Hospital’s Mission Team led a 2019 School Supply Drive for students living in Ascension’s service area. Center Line Public Schools was the happy beneficiary of those donations! Many, many backpacks were filled with supplies along with boxes and bags of extras! The doctors also took up a monetary collection, and coordinators Jeff Harris and Jodi Zych presented CLPS with a check for $1000, which will be used to help fund the construction of the Ascension Health Clinic to be located in Center Line High School!

The Friends of the Center Line Library also did a drive for supplies, and their donation was added to Ascension’s, and then the bounty was divided between Crothers and Roose Elementaries since Peck had been “adopted” by Villa at City Center for its donation drive.

We are very grateful for our community partners who, like CLPS, have the best interests of our students at heart!

Bond Progress

Isn’t it exciting seeing the progress being made on the new elementary school? The weather has thrown a few curve balls lately, but plumbing, water main work, and internal walls have moved forward last week. Stay up to date on the latest goings-on in bond work on our website at https://www.clps.org/apps/pages/newPeck
This has been a tough year for school business people across the state since there are two parts to the formula that determines how much revenue is received from the state. The first part is foundation allowance, which is how much a district is given per student. The second part of the formula is the number of students in school on count day in October (worth 90%) and the number of students in school the previous February count day (worth 10%).

Despite us already being two and half months into the fiscal year, this is what my formula looks like:

$$?,??? \times #?,??? = $??,????,???$$

Normally, I know at least one half of the formula to make better estimates. This year we know neither half of the equation.

Well finally this week, the House and Senate finally came together with a school budget proposal that is being sent to the Governor to sign. Below is the budget’s effect on our district.

- The proposals include a $120 per student increase for our district, which is only a 1.2% increase, nowhere near the cost of inflation. The additional funding would amount to $306,000.

- The proposal eliminates the High School Pupil Support of $25 per student, which means a loss of just over $19,000.

- The proposal would increase the special education reimbursement rate by about 2.0 percentage points, which would be an increase of approximately $46,000.

- The plan would increase CTE incentive payments by approximately $15,000.

- Next year Center Line’s foundation allowance will be $9,863, which is still $171 less than we received in 2008-09.

All of the details have not been finalized, but I will update the district once it is. This could happen in late September. Since this proposal still has to go through the Governor, it is not final, but there is a good chance Governor Whitmer will sign it.

The other side of the revenue equation is student count. As of today we know these numbers are lower this year due to the changes in our home school program. We will have a firm number once the October 2nd count happens, so I will be able to update you again next month.
The Center Line Moms’ & Dads’ Club is an organization supporting our students, made up of parents, coaches, staff, and community members. We provide financial assistance to a variety of clubs, teams, programs, and organizations within the district. The group has made many awesome purchases for the district (a full list can be seen on the Moms’ & Dads’ Club webpages) including equipment for the concession stands, spirit and yearbook ads, athletic team equipment, donations to sports banquets and academic events, etc.

The goals for the club this year are to increase membership, build friendships within the group, and support the requests and needs of Center Line High School. The group also awards four $500 scholarships per year to graduating seniors who apply and whose parents have met the qualifications set by the group. Major fundraisers for the group include the annual Bowling Fundraiser (this year at Sterling Lanes on 1/25/20) and Spaghetti Dinner at the high school on 3/7/20 as well as selling concessions at football, volleyball, basketball, and robotics events (September through March).

MAD (Moms’ and Dads’) meetings are held usually on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm in the high school media center. To join the MAD, you simply need to attend the October 2019 meeting, read the bylaws, and pay the $5 membership fee. There are perks of being in MAD besides the senior scholarship: Members who attend 5 meetings per year and volunteer at the Spaghetti Dinner, bowling fundraiser, and four times for concession help will receive a yearly sports pass for the member and one guest.

2019-2020 Moms’ and Dads’ Club Officers

President: Michelle Jones
Vice President: Ann Crippen
Secretary: Nicole Cano-Michael
Treasurer: Lisa Zielinski
Sergeant at Arms: Steve Jones
Trustees: Tracey Pearson, Danielle Sncerski, Ted Szczepaniak

You can contact the group via email at madclub@clps.org.

Find more information on meetings, fundraisers, etc. on the Moms’ & Dads’ Club pages on the Center Line High School website. Also, follow them on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/Center-Line-Moms-Dads-Club-125743071472/

Bowling Fundraiser — Saturday January 25, 2020 — 8:30pm

$20 will get you two games of bowling, pizza, salad, and shoes
$10 if you just want to join the food and fun — no bowling.

The group is looking for lane sponsors and raffle prizes.
Congratulations to our boys’ and girls’ soccer teams and Coaches Mike and Liz for winning $1,000 for Relay 4 Life walk/run last weekend. Our school had the most participants!
Wolfe Warriors had their first “family meeting.” Mr. Roper and Mrs. Berry explained the purpose of the meeting, highlighted some of the celebrations of our students, and reminded students about behavior expectations. Before closing, students were invited to apply to be on the Wolfe leadership team.

Wolfe Underwater R.O.V.
Students disassembling and inventorying their kits for their future build challenge.
#Alldaywarriorway
#StudentLeaders
#WMSMakerspace

Wolfe students learning about waves with Slinkies.
Family Rock Garden
Every year the new students of Crothers paint a rock to add to the growing rock garden in the school’s entrance. Every school family member adds a rock, even Mr. Provost!

Hands-On Learning
Students in Mrs. Karam's Tuition Based Preschool classroom discovered that learning can be entertaining and messy at the same time with *Shaving Cream Letters*. This fun sensory small group activity allowed students an opportunity to practice forming the letters in their name. What a great way to learn!

A special thank you to Mrs. Lodovisi for recognizing the ECC staff by providing us with tickets to the Tiger game Friday night. It was a great way for staff to socialize and start off the year outside of the classroom. The fireworks were awesome and a perfect end to the evening!
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.