Superintendent’s Reflections

Life isn't easy, but it truly is what you make it. Some people have witnessed and experienced painful events, such as the suffering and passing of someone they love, a critically ill child, or a painful, chronic illness, but it is not evident in the joy the person feels and shares with others. Some have experienced more of the typical trials in life but dwell on these and strive to make everyone around them miserable.

I often wonder what makes some so strong, loving, kind, and generous in spite of disappointments and loss. I have had the blessed opportunity to become friends of these type of people, and they tell me that they choose to look outward and focus on making the world a better place for others.

I also know some people that feel the need to dominate every conversation, one up anyone who shares a blessing or success, complain about others, and refuse to be a part of silliness and fun with groups of people. My heart breaks for these folks. I make a point to going to dinner or checking in with them mostly because I can’t imagine living life in perpetual misery and hope that the attention will help change their outlook.

I was the annoying parent who said, “It is selfish to waste food because children are starving in Africa” or “You don’t know how lucky you are with all that we give you and do for you.” Of course, my kids had no point of reference to understand starvation or what life would be like if they didn’t get what we gave them.

With my grandchildren I have learned that comparing to others’ situations doesn't work, but teaching them to be appreciative, thankful, and generous with others teaches them that noticing their blessings, expressing appreciation, and sharing and giving of themselves FAR outweighs the pleasure of getting.

Mean and crabby people who are long suffering wear others out, but they too need love. It is easy to spend time with joy-filled people but necessary and loving to include those who aren't easy to have around.

I feel sad for my grandbabies because I see so much hate, unhappiness, and fear in society. Faith has carried our family through horrible trials, and I pray that my children see and practice what they have learned so that they can continue to help their children navigate difficulties in life.
The mission of Center Line Public Schools is to provide all students relevant and challenging learning experiences to inspire success and empower them to be leaders of tomorrow.

Karen Pietrzyk

Board of Education Vice President Karen Pietrzyk was first elected in May 2008; her current term ends December 31, 2020.

Karen has been a lifelong resident of Center Line, residing with her husband John over 35 years on the same street where she grew up. All four of their children graduated from Center Line, and two of the four now reside in the school district with their families. Six of their nine grandchildren attend Center Line Public Schools. One daughter has been a teacher in the district for 17 years. The school district and the community have always been of great importance to Karen.

Karen is retired from the family business and holds a part-time job with the city. She is grateful for the chance to serve on the Board of Education for Center Line Public Schools and will continue to promote a positive vision for the district. Being a part of the Strategic Planning Team and the passing of the 2017 Bond have been some of the highlights of her tenure. However, she feels the most important highlights are those displayed by the students, teachers, and staff, who are the backbone of our district.

Bond Updates

New Peck Elementary

Lots of progress has been made inside the new Peck Elementary/Early Childhood Center! Be sure to check our website for updates on all of our bond work—clps.org under “Bond Information.”
Have you heard the good news? CLPS, in partnership with Ascension Southeast Michigan Community Health, received a federal grant to create a **school-based health clinic** in Center Line High School due to the increased need for physical and social-emotional support for this generation of students. In this space, grant-funded staff from Ascension will provide **free** direct mental health and medical services to all students living in the district, whether or not they attend our schools. All children who have paperwork on file will have access to the nurse practitioner and the behavioral health counselor, who will complete an intake assessment and then have the ability to call in any medical/psychological expert who may be needed to meet the needs of each child. All children, regardless of whether or not the family has insurance, will be served. If a family has insurance, it will be used, but no deductible will ever be collected. This will be a huge victory for many of our families, as the clinic will not only cover mental health services but also physical health needs including dental issues.

The federal grant covers staffing and equipment, but it does **not** cover the renovation costs (approx. $175,000) needed to create the clinic itself, which includes the following: two private exam rooms, a restroom, a clean and a dirty lab, a storage room, a reception area, office space, and a private entrance for students and the children of the community as they seek assistance for their various needs.

This is where **we need your help!** Please consider becoming a sponsor for this awesome, life-changing project. We welcome any and all donations, and all donations are tax deductible. Donations over $25 will be recognized on our website and in our weekly newsletter, *The Week in Review*.

**Sponsorship Levels:**
- ★ Bronze Sponsor ($100+)
- ★ Silver Sponsor ($500+)
- ★ Gold Sponsor ($1,000+)
- ★ Platinum Sponsor ($5,000+)

**Bronze Sponsors** (over $100) will be recognized on an engraved plaque located inside the clinic and be invited to participate in the grand opening/ribbon-cutting that we are arranging with the help of the Macomb County Chamber of Commerce (and included in pictures, media coverage, press releases, etc.).

**Silver Sponsors** include Bronze Sponsor recognition and listing on a group sponsorship banner on display at the high school gymnasium.

**Gold Sponsors** include Bronze and Silver recognition as well as a personalized banner to display at Memorial Field.

**Platinum Sponsors** include Bronze, Silver, and Gold recognition as well as a personalized banner to display at the high school gymnasium.

See the clinic plans and costs on our website at [http://www.clps.org/apps/pages/Clinic](http://www.clps.org/apps/pages/Clinic). Questions should be directed to Sue Pauling, 586-510-2004 or paulings@clps.org.

*You can make a difference in the lives of our students—now and for the long term!*

---

We’d like to give a HUGE shout out to Binson’s for becoming our first Gold Sponsor!
Michigan’s Education Budget

Earlier this month Governor Whitmer presented her budget proposal, which includes the education budget. I thought I would share it so you have more information on what could become reality for next year. This budget proposal has some details that would great for our district with no known negatives. Included are the following provisions:

- $150 per student increase in the foundation allowance for our district, which would give our district an estimated additional $379,500.
- An estimated additional $37 per student for state reimbursement for special education services, which equates to an approximate additional $93,000 to our district.
- An additional $140 per student in at-risk funding, which is funding restricted to increasing test scores for impoverished students and other high risk students. It would allow additional $354,000 in at-risk funds for the district.
- An estimated $6 per pupil for English Language Learners, which equates to an additional $15,000.
- Additional funding for Great Start Readiness Program, which is for 4 year olds who are lower income. Under this proposal the amount of allocation to $8,336 per pupil.

The overall impact if everything is approved as is would be an additional revenue of approximately $928,000, of which almost 50% would be restricted on targeted spending, but equates to a 4.2% increase in state funding. Governor Whitmer used the School Finance Research Collaborative, which studied what it costs to educate all students, as her basis for her budget proposal. Last February, our Board of Education passed a resolution supporting the study in its entirety. I am pleased that the Governor is using research in determining the budget for education.

While this budget is still nowhere close to the amount the research states is required, it is certainly a step in the right direction. Since this proposal still has to go through the Senate and House, it could look drastically different. I always recommend you call your legislators to encourage them to add the needed funding for education based on research and without strings, which has happened in the recent past.

Alumni Band Concert

Save the Date: June 13, 2020
Alumni Band Concert!
Tickets now on sale.
Download the order form from https://clhs.clps.org/apps/pages/alumniconcert
A few pics from last week’s band concert—music from all levels!

Wrestlers Qualify for Regional Competition

Congrats to our varsity wrestlers who did well at districts last weekend. We had two who qualified for Regionals! Fred Salem finished 4th at districts in the 160lb. weight class, and Adam Grelecki was the 2nd place finisher in the 103 lb. weight class. Great job, Panthers, and good luck this weekend!

Mrs. Elwood has Earth Day shirts available for sale for $8/each ($3 extra for 2XL and $4 extra for 3X/4X sizes). Four designs are available; if enough orders are received, we can have CLHS added to them. Send your name, size, design choice, and money to her at the high school by March 3rd. Questions? Email her at ElwoodL@clps.org.
Building Bridges

The ITI physics classes focused on learning innovative bridge designs. They used computer models to test efficiency and then made architectural scale drawings before making their bridges out of balsa wood. The winning bridges held over 400 times the mass of the bridge. Great job!

Center Line Moms’ & Dads’ Club

invites you to the
47th Annual Spaghetti Dinner

“All You Can Eat”
(gluten free & meatless options available)

Sunday
March 8, 2020
12:00pm to 6:00pm
Center Line High School Cafeteria
28300 Arsenal Avenue
5 & Under = Free
6-11 & Senior Citizens = $5.00
12 & over = $8.00

Plus bake sale featuring treats made by students & parents, 50/50 raffle, Instant Lottery Board Raffle, music from our Jazz Band, and great food!

Students helped Mrs. Beckner set up a periodic table of Black history.
Yoga Time

Stacey Cronin, retired CLPS teacher and former Macomb County Teacher of the Year, still comes to Roose to provide yoga classes to students. Mrs. McCarver’s DK uses yoga both to understand how their body works and to explore the connection to the world around them. Yoga has been shown to increase focus, concentration, and promote communication skills in a non-competitive atmosphere.

Second grade engineers first built walls; now they are building houses!

Another goodie from the Peck yearbook archive!
Valentines for Senior Citizens

Second through fifth graders at Crothers and Peck showed kindness and caring for their neighbors by making valentines for residents of Joe Coach, Stillwell, and Center Line Park Tower Apartments. The students were able to make 445 valentines in art class with Ms. Blackstone. The valentines said things like, “You make the sun shine brighter!” and “You are the cherry on my cake!” We are hoping that some of the recipients will write back.

Panda Pride

February Panda Family Time was focused on Pride. As a school, we talk about showing our Panda Pride by doing best on academics, keeping the school clean, and following school expectations.

Check out the fun video of students and staff on the topic of Panda Pride! Be sure to visit and like the new Crothers Elementary Facebook and Instagram pages, too!
Ms. Clynick and her students were happy to welcome Mrs. Afrin to their class as the Associate GSRP Teacher. Mrs. Afrin started in January and has been a wonderful addition to the ECC Staff, always engaging the students and promoting a positive attitude.

Students enjoyed making glitter slime by following the steps in a recipe.

Math is fun and tasty! The children sorted and graphed skittles to determine more, less and the same. Graphing is so much more fun when you get to sample the results!
## Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
<th>Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/24/2020</td>
<td>Coffee Club Community Conversations @ Crothers</td>
<td>9:15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ECC Conferences</td>
<td>4:00-7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staff Snacks and Chat @ Crothers</td>
<td>4:15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ESL Family Literacy Night @ Roose</td>
<td>4:45-6:15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Board of Education Meeting @ Admin</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Open Swim for Senior Citizens @ CLHS Pool</td>
<td>7:00-7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Open Swim for All @ CLHS Pool</td>
<td>7:30-8:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/25/2020</td>
<td>Wolfe PTC</td>
<td>6:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/26/2020</td>
<td>Family Math &amp; Science Night @ Roose</td>
<td>5:30-7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/27/2020</td>
<td>Family Game Night @ Wolfe</td>
<td>5:00-7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reading Night @ ECC</td>
<td>6:00-7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/2/2020</td>
<td>Open Swim for Senior Citizens @ CLHS Pool</td>
<td>7:00-7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Open Swim for All @ CLHS Pool</td>
<td>7:30-8:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4/2020</td>
<td>Moms' &amp; Dads' Club Meeting CLHS</td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4/2020</td>
<td>Wolfe Parent-Teacher Conferences</td>
<td>4:00-7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/6/2020</td>
<td>Glowcoming @ CLHS</td>
<td>6-9pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/8/2020</td>
<td>Moms' &amp; Dads' Club Spaghetti Dinner @ CLHS Cafeteria</td>
<td>12-6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/9/2020</td>
<td>Superintendent Search: Parent/Community Stakeholder Input Session @ Admin</td>
<td>6:00-7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/9/2020</td>
<td>Open Swim for Senior Citizens @ CLHS Pool</td>
<td>7:00-7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Open Swim for All @ CLHS Pool</td>
<td>7:30-8:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/10/2020</td>
<td>Superintendent Search: Parent/Community Stakeholder Input Session @ Admin</td>
<td>2:00-3:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/10/2020</td>
<td>Peck Parent Lighthouse Team/PTC Meetings</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Join us Monday, Feb. 24th at 9:15am at Crothers Elementary for
**Coffee Club Community Conversations!**

**Topic:** Public Relations and Communication

**Next dates:**
- March 23—Peck
- April 27—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.