Superintendent’s Reflections

It takes a village to raise a child. This is a true statement but VERY difficult to do in today’s culture. Many parents do not want others to correct their children. Sometimes parents don’t even allow their adult siblings to guide their children or offer suggestions to aid behavioral changes.

This is unfortunate because we are not always with our children, and yet we want our kids to behave appropriately and make smart choices. Children need to know that there are many people who care about them and the choices that they make.

I have four children, and all of them were expected to make the right choices but of course, that did not always happen. When they made poor choices, I hoped that others were around who could remind them that they were not behaving in a way that would be acceptable to their father and me. That did not always happen, either.

Unfortunately people do not always redirect behavior in a gentle, calm, and quiet way, and no one likes to hear that their child was yelled at. My children would periodically come home and say that a teacher or staff member yelled at them or at everyone for no reason. It didn’t take long to get to the truth about what had been going on and how the situation was potentially dangerous to the students or had taken the focus off learning. I would ask my children to talk about what part they played and what they could have done to improve the situation.

No child should be criticized or humiliated because the parts of the brain that allow us to learn new behaviors shut down when that happens. According to Mindful Discipline: A Loving Approach to Setting Limits and Raising an Emotionally Intelligent Child, “Shame and self-judgment rob the brain of the energy it needs for changing, so the behaviors we want kids to change get stuck.” When you respond to bad behavior with negativity, a child will be more likely to act out again.

In Center Line Schools, we are a village. We want to partner with our families and help guide their children. We work hard to listen carefully, show respect, speak honestly, problem solve, and provide opportunities for our students to make better decisions. Together we can help all children feel safe and loved, and allow them to maximize their potential.
I would like to start this month’s update with shout outs to the Center Line Educational Foundation and Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Martines, and rest of the Wolfe staff involved with build out of the Wolfe Makerspace. The Educational Foundation has funded technology and updates for this program over the past two years, including this year’s Glowforge laser etcher and screen mirroring software that allows the 86” presenter display computer to cast down to the eight student group workstations, or to the classroom set of laptops. From concept to execution, Mr. Gauthier (shown here presenting to the Foundation) and Mr. Martines have helped develop a program that starts with prototyping and design and ends with a finished product. It has been fun to watch this STEAM* space grow and develop, and I look forward to watching the Makerspace and similar partner programs in our other schools evolve in the future.

With spring finally arriving, so have the bids and awards for our technology improvements! Pending approval, we will be awarding two infrastructure improvement bids at the next Board of Education meeting. The first award will be to bring our wired infrastructure up to current standards and beyond. We have spent that last several years implementing wireless throughout the district, so our wired network switches were due for a bump as well. This summer’s upgrade will involve a wired network backbone capable of supporting the faster wireless speeds expected over the next decade. The second infrastructure bid was for renewal of maintenance on our approximately 8.5 miles of fiber data cable.

Spring bond technology improvements have also started. At the end of February, we begin the first of a multi-part process for classroom improvements in Bond Phase 1 buildings, which include CLHS, Wolfe Middle School, and Peck Elementary. This first part began with a bid opening on February 21 for classroom audio-visual improvements affecting approximately 75 classrooms. Under this proposal, classrooms will receive large format screens, some with interactive features, with slot-in computers, classroom audio, document cameras, and additional features. Multiple bids and options were received, and we are currently in bid-review mode. Once a decision is made, we will go to the board for approval at the end of March, with implementation of this equipment expected throughout the spring semester.

The second part of the classroom improvement process will be for student and staff computing devices. Starting next month in April, we will seek to use remaining funds from the Bond Phase 1 technology funds to add Chromebook carts to many of our English language arts classrooms and upgrade some of teacher stations as well.

We are extremely grateful to the community to for giving us the opportunity for some much-needed updates to our classrooms, and we are looking forward to the arrival of these improvements.

*STEAM = Science Technology Engineering Art Mathematics
Sophomore year is a time of exploration. Students are getting a feel for who they are and where they are going. One of the best things schools can do is provide opportunities for students to explore, to walk down a path a ways and see where it leads. Is it a path I want to follow? Do I want to venture down a different path?

The Academies are the perfect place for that kind of exploration. We took 15 students to Macomb Community College last month for their Health Career Fair. Students were able to hear from professors about their programs and do some hands-on activities. Blood pressure, pulse-oxygen, temperature, medical laboratory testing, veterinary clinic, health information technology, and many more. They heard about about what students learn in the classes as well as the value of those skills in the job market. Macomb Community College is among the best in the country, providing students first rate career prep, and their graduates are highly recruited as a result.

Our students can now use this experience to see more clearly how their interests and skills fit with a career and what their future might be like. They can also better plan their class selection and pathway choice for next year. Exploration has great benefits!

**JROTC & Robotics**

Center Line High School’s JROTC just received their robotics kit from the Army Cadet Command and are preparing for future JROTC robotics competitions.

**Academic Bowl Champs**

JROTC Leadership Academic Bowl (JLAB) is an annual competition held to showcase the participants' vast knowledge by working as a team to answer questions in leadership and academics. Both of CLHS’s JROTC Academic and Leadership Teams have qualified to advance to the next round. The students are very excited and hope to proceed to the final round in Washington D.C.
Natural Selection Study
Mrs. Cook’s biology class measured sea urchins before and after a sea otter “hunt” to simulate natural selection and the affect on population traits.

Interact Community Outreach
The Interact Community Outreach helped fold Gleaner’s bags for use in an upcoming food drive. The project, organized by Mr. Hamilton, is in its third year.

Naturalization Ceremony
On Friday, March 1, Mrs. Tyrrell attended a Naturalization Ceremony at the MISD with a group of ELD and Government students. Although we are invited back each year, this Naturalization Ceremony brought with it special meaning. The students were able to witness a CLHS class of 2018 student, Loc Ngo, become a citizen of the United States.

Chinese Zodiac Animal Art Contest
Congratulations to Amelia Kostrubiec, who won Third Place in the 2019 Chinese Zodiac Animal Art Contest held by Confucius Institute of Wayne State University. Her artwork really stood out among all the competing school districts in the metro Detroit area. The awards ceremony will take place this Saturday at 2:30pm at Wayne State; if you are nearby, please join us to witness her trophy moment.

JROTC Red Cross Blood Drive
What is it?
A JROTC hosted American Red Cross Blood Drive

When is it going to be?
Monday, March 11th from 7:30 am - 1:30 pm

Where is it going to be?
In the CHS choir room

Who can give blood?
- 16 year old people can give blood with parental consent. (parental consent form can be found online or will be given at sign up)
- 17+ year old people may give blood if they wish.
- This is not limited to CHS Students! We encourage the community to also come in and donate as well.

How do I sign up?
Sign ups will begin on Monday, March 4th and end on Friday, March 8th. Sign ups will be conducted by JROTC cadets during 1st and 2nd lunch. The public may sign up online on the American Red Cross website.

Who should I give blood?
Giving blood is a great way to help the community, the injured, and the sick. We encourage that if you are 16 or older that you give blood to help others!

For questions email the Panther Battalion’s Training and Operations Officer…
C/1LT Syeda Hussain → SyedaHussain.23@gmail.com
Congratulations to the Wolfe 8th Grade Band! The performed this week at the MSBOA Band Festival held at Warren Woods Tower, and earned an overall Division II rating, including a Division I in sight reading. We’re very proud of these students for their effort and progress over the past few weeks!

Wolfe girls’ basketball celebrated Coach Smith’s last home game this week. Thanks, Coach Smith, for your 18 years of service to the Center Line community.

Ms. Mydlowski’s class is always finding creative ways to improve their spelling skills!

Save the dates!

Upcoming Parent Workshops with Terri Mial at Wolfe Middle School

March 14, 2019 (11:00 am-12:30 pm)  Goal Setting for Parents and Kids
April 16, 2019 (5:00-6:30pm)      Getting Your Child College Ready
May 8, 2019 (9:30-11:00am)        Building Positive Self-Esteem
May 29, 2019 (6:00-7:30pm)        Learning to Deal with Problematic Behaviors

Please RSVP to the Wolfe office at 586-510-2300.

Light refreshments will be served.
We hope you will join us for the Title One Initiative!
100th Day!
To celebrate the 100th Day of School, Mrs. Kendra's Kindergarteners completed a 100 number hunt around the classroom on the 100th day of school. Students had a 100 chart, hunted for numbers posted on stickers, and colored in their 100 charts to match the color of each sticker.

Helping Hands
Hard-working art assistants Khang N. and Nathaniel D. with art teacher Ms. Blackstone. These two fantastic leaders take time to help the art room stay spic and span.

“Motown”
Peck’s theme for March Is Reading Month is Motown. Staff performed a fun musical number at the kick-off assembly, led by Brenda Tippery and Rosie Parker! Check out the video on the CLPS Facebook page!
March Is Reading Month

The ECC kicked off the month of March with Reading Night. The theme was Pete the Cat, and children had a great time with activities such as Lacing Up Pete's Shoes, making a Pete the Cat headband, and even Pinning the Buttons on Pete's shirt (while being blindfolded, of course). Children went home with a gift bag, a book, a sweet treat, and some even won raffle prizes. It was a fun way to begin a month of remarkable reading!

We would like to thank a couple members of our community for their contributions to our Reading Night. Sharon of Sharon's Sensational Sweets donated cookies decorated as the many colorful buttons of Pete the Cat. A local attorney, Christopher Alayan, donated generously to supply books, bookmarks, gift bags, and raffle prizes. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity.

It has already been a great week of reading at the ECC. Tuesday was Read a Hat Day, and Ms. Clynick and Mrs. Darga’s GSRP students loved wearing and reading hats that day!

School Board Member Wendy Watters visited the ECC to be a special reader this week. She visited five classrooms and read the students a great story, *The Horse in Harry's Room*!
Upcoming Events

3/11  JROTC Blood Drive @ CLHS Choir Room  7:30am-1:30pm
       Board of Education Meeting @ Admin  7:00pm

3/12  CLHS Conferences  4:00-7:00pm
       Peck PTC  6:30pm

3/14  Reading Night @ Crothers  5:30-7:30pm
       Math/Science Family Night @ Wolfe  5:30-7:00pm

3/15-16  FIRST Robotics Competition @ CLHS  all day

3/18  Roose PTC  6:30pm

3/19  Band Boosters  7:00pm

3/20  Preschool Open House  4:00-7:00pm

3/20-21  Elementary Conferences  4:30-7:30pm

3/21  Wolfe Roundtable  6:00pm

3/22  Wolfe After School Dance  3:00-4:15pm
       Quartermania @ CLHS Cafeteria  5:30-9:00pm

3/25  Coffee Club Community Conversations @ Hometown Heroes  9:00am, 5:00pm
       Board of Education Meeting  7:00pm

If Your Child Has Special Needs,
So Do Your Finances

Saturday, March 9 at 1 PM
Presentation with Doug Trocino
on helping families raising
children with special needs
maximize usable income, get out
of debt, retire with dignity, and
properly protect their income.

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.