Superintendent’s Reflections

Constant love, an enthusiastic greeting, and pure devotion….these are showered on me every time I wake up or come home. Toby, our French Brittany Spaniel, is patient with me regardless of the time of day or night that I disturb his sleep, and his unwavering devotion lifts my spirits every day.

Both last Saturday and Monday nights I was restless and had trouble sleeping. Toby sleeps on the floor next to my side of the bed, so when I got up to pace, get a drink, use the bathroom, go downstairs, and work on my computer he jumped up and followed behind me to make sure all was well. When I came back to bed, he rested his chin on the side of our bed and watched me. I was touched by what seemed like his ability to understand and calm my stress.

I have had a dog all of my life. My friends from high school can tell stories of “Daisy” even showing up at Center Line High School looking for my sister and me. She would walk down Busch and find an open door and make her way in. I would be called to the office or one of our friends would find her and take her home, but it always impressed me that she was able to get to us and was so desperate to see us.

Dogs are very intuitive. My dad and mom both had major surgeries and recovered at our house. Our dog laid right next to them as if to protect them and encourage their healing. When our kids were babies, our dog slept under their cribs and growled when someone he didn’t recognize walked toward the cribs.

In the crazy busy times we live in, many people are not patient. Horns are honking, people are making unkind gestures to each other and yelling insults, and stress is high. Wouldn’t it change lives if we, like dogs, could express constant love and devotion, and greet everyone enthusiastically? This is a goal of mine, but I stumble every day and sometimes fall flat in my attempts to practice patience and kindness, especially if I feel attacked or criticized.

Our students are growing up during a time when criticism and hate are visible to so many, and I can’t imagine the damage that does to them. Social media is always abuzz with hurtful things, and I can see evidence of the negative impact on so many of our youth.

I was thinking about how we can help our kids beyond making extraordinary efforts to forge relationships with them, and it occurred to me that I hope they all have a dog!
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.

Assessment plays a major role in examining how students learn, their motivation to learn, and how teachers teach. It is tightly connected with curriculum and instruction. As teachers and students work towards the achievement of curriculum outcomes, assessment plays a constant role in informing instruction, guiding the student's next steps, and checking progress and achievement. Teachers use many different processes and strategies for classroom assessment and adapt them to suit the assessment purpose and needs of individual students. Assessments are valuable for the following purposes:

- **Assessment for learning**, where assessment helps teachers gain insight into what students understand in order to plan and guide instruction and provide helpful feedback to students. Examples include NWEA, reading inventories, or math surveys to help staff customize instruction for the individual or groups of students.

- **Assessment as learning**, where students develop an awareness of how they learn and use that awareness to adjust and advance their learning, taking an increased responsibility for their learning. Examples include rubrics used by students to assess projects or reflecting on a pre-test.

- **Assessment of learning**, where assessment informs students, teachers and parents, as well as the broader educational community, of achievement at a certain point in time in order to celebrate success, plan interventions, and support continued progress. Examples include state assessments or NWEA or other assessments given mid-year or at the end of the year to monitor progress.

After break, our students will be taking the state assessments. Michigan, along with all other states, is required by law to assess students' proficiency levels in various subject areas and grade levels. This year, the following state assessments will be administered:

- **Grades 3, 4, 6 and 7** – English Language Arts, Mathematics (Beginning week of April 29th)
- **Grade 5** - English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science (Beginning week of April 9th)
- **Grade 8** – PSAT (April 9th), Social Studies and Science (Beginning week of April 9th)
- **Grades 9 and 10** – PSAT (April 9th)
- **Grade 11** – SAT (April 9th), Work Keys (April 10th), Science and Social Studies (Week of April 15th)

Center Line is committed to preparing every child for his or her future, and assessing students provides us with the necessary information to create an instructional plan and a program for every student.

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**Seek (Shared Educational Experiences for Kids) program students finishing breakfast and discussing plans for Spring Break!**

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**Students first.**
This year, teamed with Fraser and Armada Schools, Center Line was one of very few districts in Michigan to be awarded a competitive Marshall Plan Innovation Grant. Our intent with the grant is to focus our schools on teaching valuable skills through project-based learning and the incorporation of 21st century skills, to challenge students and ensure they are college and career ready. The grant will help us by “introducing career mentors and experiences in the elementary grades, beginning career-focused courses in middle school, and programs at the high school level so that graduates will have earned an industry recognized certification and college credits upon completion.”

We are always endeavoring to support students, teachers, schools, and community solve the problem Michigan businesses are currently facing in the lack of skilled employees, and the grant will help. The money from the grant can be used for many things: curriculum creation, project-based certification programs, equipment, industry mentors, professional development, and many more. Center Line has partnered with Ford’s Next Generation Learning (NGL) to become a full NGL Community, and NGL is here to support all students in all grades.

The NGL team visited with all stakeholder groups last week over the course of two days to get feedback to create a clear picture of where we are. They met with business partners, students, parents, teachers, and administrators, all from around the district. Now they will take those results to help us create a plan to take us where we want to go. We are already well on the way to addressing the problems of the skilled-trades gap through our Academies. With Ford NGL’s assistance, we hope to take our student opportunities and student success to the next level.

NGL team members had lunch with some key community stakeholders in Wolfe’s Makerspace and got to see the kids in action using some of the equipment.
CLHS Happenings

Ford HSSTP

Twelve ITI Academy students took part in the Ford Motor Company High School Science and Technology Program (HSSTP). The 6-month program had students going to Ford once a month on Saturdays to learn about manufacturing, engineering, and information technology (IT). This Ford STEAM Academy experience allowed students to meet people in these careers and see the innovations in technology happening right here in Michigan. The students are currently applying for 4-6 week summer internships with Ford. Good luck, students! We hope to send 12 more juniors and seniors next year.

DIA Field Trip

C2 Pipeline students attended a field trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts in downtown Detroit on 3-15-2019. During this field trip the students participated in a self-group led tour of the DIA, where they learned about different types of art and culture. The students had a blast exploring the museum and experiencing the different eras of art that the DIA has to offer.

Attaboy Assembly

Attaboy is a nationally-recognized musical band that travels the country performing motivational performances for high school students. CLHS’s C2 Pipeline entered a drawing and won a free assembly for the school. The students had a ton of fun participating in the assembly, and so did the staff! A big shout out to Tim Ossman, Mike Evans, Ben Torres, Jessica Yeakel, Laura Phy-Daly, and Dave Falconer for being such good sports and dancing in the dance-off for the students!
Blue’s Warriors are at it again! Wolfe Middle School girls are participating for their second year in the Girls Solve It challenge, a competition powered by Ford and open to teams of 3-5 girls in 4th through 8th grades. Teams are given three technology challenges in order to qualify for a state-wide competition. Wolfe girls just finished their first quest in which they had to program Blue, the Wonder Robot, to search an island to find his friends. During this challenge the girls had to use teamwork, perseverance, and strategy in order to move Blue around the map and complete this first mission!

Mrs. Krolewski runs a leadership group that works on being proactive instead of reactive.

You Be the Chemist

After weeks of chemistry club after school with Mrs. Baaso, eight students were picked to compete against other students from around Macomb County in the You Be the Chemist Competition: Ayesha Ahmed, Jack Berndt, Albert Crocker, Jaiden Fizia, Afsharah Jaigirdar, Steven Mosey, Zakera Noshin, and Angelina Peterson. All of our students did great and had fun. Afsharah even made it as an alternate for the state competition in April!

Congratulations to Wolfe 7th and 8th grade band members Lillian Padilla, Jordan Fizia, Samantha Santos, Alissa Maizy, and Alyvia Lashbrook. They performed as selected members of the MSBOA district honors bands, held last night at Lakeview High School. Both ensembles performed exciting and demanding music, after only two rehearsals with the guest conductors. We’re very proud of these band students for accepting this challenge and for representing our school and community!
Peck Points

Green Goes Blue

Second grade students learned about water conservation with a visiting expert from Michigan State University. A Sparty helping us save the Blue? Now that’s some synergy!

Globally Aware

Third grade leaders at Peck are making their own globes. Max J. reports they are learning “about the continents and how there is a lot more water on the earth.”

A very special truck came to visit Peck!

VIP at Peck

Michigan State Senator Paul Wojno spent time reading to various classes at Peck this week. The kindergartners got to hear about a duck who got elected president! See the video on the CLPS Facebook page.
The early bird gets the knowledge....and the worm!

Reading Buddies from Mrs. Pelczarski’s first grade and Mrs. McIntosh's fifth grade classes worked for the common good and practiced being proactive by making fleece blankets, writing letters, and making cards for patients at Children’s Hospital of Michigan.

Blanket Buddy Project

Reading Buddies from Mrs. Pelczarski’s first grade and Mrs. McIntosh's fifth grade classes worked for the common good and practiced being proactive by making fleece blankets, writing letters, and making cards for patients at Children’s Hospital of Michigan.
Reading Month Fun

Crothers celebrated Reading Month with lots of fun! We had guests readers including Representative Lori Stone, Superintendent Eve Kaltz, a fireman, and several members from the community come in to our classes to read. The high school emergency response students came in and did a presentation for our DK, K, 1st, and 2nd grade students. Students were wowed by the firetruck and tools, excited to bounce in the bounce house, and amazed at how fast they could crawl under the ropes. Reading month was a great success for us all.

Crothers Reading Night

Our Reading Night was filled with games, raffles, books to read, free books, and a wax museum. Mrs. Kaltz was the guest reader for the evening.

Crothers’ students using the giant Michigan Map as they learned about Michigan geography and how maps work.
Ms. Fouts’s class has accumulated 20,888 minutes of reading. They are in a close completion as Mr. Haney’s class is working hard to overtake them. Roose’s goal is to read 150,000 minutes. We will achieve this before the month ends. Individual student reading accomplishments are expressed in LEGO blocks.

CITW

Roose teachers display their use of Classroom Instruction that Works (CITW) strategies. This round teachers demonstrated cooperative learning. Learning is a social endeavor and at Roose; we learn together!

The Great Outdoors

Our GSRP students and their families took a field trip to the Outdoor Adventure Center. The Outdoor Adventure Center, located in the heart of Detroit, gave our preschoolers a taste of the great outdoors by bringing it inside. GSRP students were able to see and feel a fox pelt, an owl wing, and even pet a live snake. Ms. Tina was very brave and allowed them to place the snake around her neck! Children explored the inside of a tree, and experienced the thrill of riding a snowmobile and flying like an eagle using the Outdoor Adventure Center’s simulators. The students loved having the “up north” experience without traveling far! See more pictures on our ECC Facebook page!
Hands-On Fun

Ms. Jenifer and Mrs. Cilia's GSRP class work on their literacy skills by writing letters and words in shaving cream. Learning is fun!

More Readers!

Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Oleski, visited the ECC and read *Bear's New Friend* to several of our classes. Mrs. Oleski was very thoughtful and brought rhyming cards and ABC puzzles for the classrooms she visited. Thank you, Mrs. Oleski!

Mr. Roddis, the district's Chief Financial Officer, read two of his favorite stories to students at the ECC, *Don't Push the Button* and *Daddy Snores*. The children were excited and engaged, especially when he allowed them to push the button!
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.