Superintendent’s Reflections

I hit a low point emotionally in my career on May 2nd at 9:04pm when the final numbers were posted and I realized that the bond initiative did not pass. Our students wouldn’t be celebrating a future with buildings that were created to provide an environment where they could thrive, a place of which they could feel proud and know that the community valued their futures. I cried all the way home as I felt that I had failed the students for whom I care so deeply.

For months, many dedicated people made their way to various events to share information about the proposal and the positive impact it would have on students as well as the community at large in hopes of getting the bond passed. When it failed, I felt that our team wouldn’t have the energy to go at it again but quickly realized that through perseverance, grit, and working together, we CAN get this done. I am sharing a YouTube clip that touched me and that signifies the effort that we are willing to put forth to share facts, highlight values, and pray that the bond passes in November: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BNmvWd40Tii

Center Line is a precious gem. Our students are imaginative, kind, interested in being successful, and hopeful for a bright and rewarding future. Our staffs are dedicated and truly care about each and every student. We have implemented many innovative and creative programs, and our students are engaged and eager to participate in their own learning.

Please vote on November 7. Please agree to support this bond and ensure a bright and exciting future for our kids in Center Line Public Schools. They are our future, and I believe that it will be a bright one with them leading the way.

Editor’s Note:
In order to vote for this bond initiative, you must (1) be a CLPS resident living in Warren or Center Line, and (2) be registered to vote.

You can register up through Oct. 10 by completing a voter application form and returning it to you city clerk’s office or to any CLPS school - and we will mail it for you!
As many of you know, I have a younger brother who lives in the lower half of the Florida Keys. He is safe and secure in Pensacola, Florida, but he doesn't know when he will be able to return home, as there has been destruction of some of the structures on the island and there will be extensive cleanup, I am sure.

As I think about this last week, I think about watching the coverage of the storm approaching, while it hit, and the aftermath. Photo after photo and video after video showed shelters. In the Florida Keys the primary shelters are schools, as they are in so many places. You might think, well we don't have hurricanes here, and you're right. However, years ago I volunteered for the Red Cross in Highland Park after a tornado tore through that community. Again, the schools served as shelters.

At our principals' meeting this week, a point was raised that brought this even more into focus. Our schools aren't only shelters from physical emergencies, but for social and emotional emergencies as well. There are students everywhere that come to school to escape deplorable conditions. This is true with some of our students. Whether the emergencies be physical, social, or emotional, our buildings and our people are many times the shelter of last resort.

I then thought about the fact that some of our buildings have roofs that are beyond their useful lives, doors that are rusted at the bottom and let in water, and other structural issues that would probably not allow them to be used as shelters in other parts of the country. Can you imagine a school in Florida being used as a shelter and it having doors that allowed the rain water in?

Over the years that I have been here, we have done a lot of work on understanding that we are the last stop for so many of our kids. Thanks to that, I believe that our staff is more welcoming, empathetic, and receptive than when I arrived, myself included. Now it's time to help our buildings reflect the people inside them: warm, safe, welcome, and flexible to meet the incredibly varied needs of our students.
**First Day of School!**

The Center Line Student Leaders held team building events and talked about the transition to high school with the freshmen.

**Students Reaching Out**

The Community Outreach Club recognized September 11 (9-11 Day) and the International Day of Peace (September 21st) by decorating peace signs. The colored signs will be donated to the Veteran's Hospital to thank our soldiers. What a great way to start our year!

**Teachers in Training!**

Our new Teacher Cadet program has the students working collaboratively and in innovative ways to learn how to support ECC, Peck, Crothers, Roose, and Wolfe students. We cannot wait to see what these students have to offer the teaching profession!

**Varsity Boys’ Soccer Action**

Here are just a few of the great action shots taken and submitted by Susan Gabbard. View more on our Facebook page!

**Kudos to Female Swimmer**

Congratulations to Heather Winn, who qualified for County Swim Meet 100yd Butterfly with a time of 1:17!
Art Challenges

This week, art student faced two challenges. One was the paper bag challenge, where each group received a paper bag with the same objects and were required to create something related to "outer space." The other was a Styrofoam cup challenge. The group work was judged on height and aesthetics.

Inquiry-Based Learning in Action

Mrs. Cook's physics classes using inquiry thinking to decide, "What's in the box?" Students had to defend their hypotheses to the class, and then we revealed the object.

Investigative Learning

Firefighting students witnessed backdraft situations. Students were not instructed about what to observe, just asked to watch. After witnessing changing of color, velocity, and density of smoke, the task was to team up and discover what happened and "why." Using computers, they investigated, learned, and shared what they learned. Please don't tell them learning is fun; they are figuring that out for themselves!

From: eva marie <eva.marie0012@yahoo.com>
Date: Wed, Aug 30, 2017 at 4:19 PM
Subject: 
To: <plotzker@clps.org>

Hi, this is Eva Martin, I was in your CTE class first hour last year. I just wanted to say thank you for your class and how much extra effort you put into it. It has by far been my most influential class I've taken in high school, and it has helped dictate what I want to do after high school. Just last month I enlisted in the Navy as a military police officer (MA), I ship out in July after I graduate. Thinking back on why I chose MA as a job, it was mainly because of the things I learned and did in your class. So again thank you for everything because I learned some things in that class that will carry on with me for the rest of my life. I hope you had a great summer a great upcoming school year!
The Warrior Way is Wolfe Middle School’s mantra that embodies the most respected virtues present in each of us. The Warrior Way symbolizes strength, courage, integrity, perseverance, and pride in self as well as community. As a school community, we are dedicated to fostering these important attributes in each student while providing all students the requisite space to discover and improve. The Warrior Way is a way of being that showcases the best in all of us. It demands the very best in all situations and suggests that one always does the right thing.

WEB leaders show leadership by helping out 6th grade students as they make the transition into middle school. This is student leadership at its finest!

Students Helping Students

Mrs. McIntosh’s fifth grade reading leaders visited Mrs. Pelczarski’s first graders to help them with their reading strategies.

STEM Fun!

Students at both Peck and Crothers are working on STEM curriculum in technology with Mr. Flanigan. This week’s focus is engineering and math as the students make a variety of shapes and learn vertices and sides of two-dimensional shapes.
Golfing for a Cause

It’s not too late to sign up for our annual Golf Outing, which will be held Sunday, October 1st at Sycamore Hills Golf Club. It’s not too late to sign up to sponsor a hole, golf, or just come out for fun, dinner, and a raffle/silent auction! Prizes include Lions tickets, a signed Zetterberg Red Wings jersey, U-M tickets, raffle baskets of cheer, and more!

Contact Irene Papais (586-263-3812) or Bob McQuiston (586-306-0164) with questions or to reserve your spot!

In the District

The Ellis gym is full of furniture donated to us by the We Are Here Foundation! We are very grateful to them and the foundation manager Tom Cleaver!

Read more about the donation in the Warren Weekly!

Mark your calendars! for September 21st!

Let’s Walk the Path to Our Future Together!

Grand Opening: Thursday, September 21st at 5:00 PM

Gather at the Administration Building Parking Lot—Look for Balloons!
Get Out and Get Healthy on Our New Mile Walking Path
All Walkers Will Receive a CLPS Bracelet and Adults will be entered into a Raffle

If you are unable to attend, stop by anytime to walk the path to a healthy future!
Upcoming Events

9/19/2017  Band Boosters at CLHS  7:00pm - 8:30pm
9/21/2017  CLHS Drive One for Ford  10:00am - 8:00pm
9/21/2017  Walking Path to the Future - Grand Opening  5:00pm
9/21/2017  CLHS Back to School Night  6:00pm - 8:00pm
9/22/2017  CLHS Breakfast Bingo for Seniors  8:00am - 10:00 am
9/25/2017  Board of Education Meeting (Admin building)  7:00pm - 8:30pm
9/26/2017  Gleaners’ Community Food Bank at Peck  11:00am - 1:00pm
9/26/2017  Wolfe PTC Meeting  6:30pm - 7:30pm
9/28/2017  Crothers’ Fall Festival  6:00pm - 7:30pm
10/1/2017  CLPSEF Golf Outing at Sycamore Hills  1:00pm shotgun
10/4/2017  Crothers’ PTC Meeting  4:30pm - 5:30pm
10/4/2017  Wolfe Conferences  5:00pm - 8:00pm
10/4/2017  Academy 21 Open House and Picnic  5:00 pm - 7:00pm
10/4/2017  Moms’ & Dads’ Club Meeting @ CLHS  7:30pm - 8:30pm
10/5/2017  Wolfe Conferences  5:00pm - 7:00pm
10/7/2017  Homecoming Parade  10:00am
10/7/2017  Homecoming Football Game  12:00 Noon

Need more information on the November 7th bond initiative? Visit www.clps.org and click on “Bond Information” or contact any principal or administrator!

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

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.