With spring just around the corner, I want to take this opportunity to share updates in a number of areas and draw your attention to some of the great things happening in our schools. In particular, I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities to provide input into the district’s facilities and programming for the future, and enjoy the plethora of school events and programs taking place over the next few months celebrating learning, growth and achievement across the district!

You may have noticed lately as you visit our schools or travel around town that Northville Public Schools is under construction. All thanks to the incredible support of our community in passing a $104.85 million bond proposal in November 2017. The bond funds are allowing the district to update aging facilities, enhance security, and provide modern learning facilities across the district. Thoughtful planning is taking place and construction has begun in earnest on this comprehensive, multi-year facilities upgrade and construction program that will touch every classroom and every school.

To help keep school families, students and community members apprised of the Bond 2017 Construction and Program Progress, we have created a special link on the district website – go to www.NorthvilleSchools.org and click on Bond 2017 Construction Updates – where you will find:

- The Multi-Year District Bond Program Schedule
- Regular Bond 2017 Progress Updates by building and district-wide

You have likely heard or read about the ALICE protocol, and annually provide training and conduct safety drills with our students and staff. ALICE (Alert, Lockdown,
Inform, Counter, Evacuate) empowers adults and students with strategies to keep themselves and each other safe through access to more information, a greater emphasis on evacuating when possible, enhancing lockdown protocols, and providing age-appropriate lessons and information.

We limit access to our buildings during the school-day by locking doors and monitoring who comes in and out. We also practice different kinds of drills to keep everyone safe, and we ask everyone to be watchful and to report anything that seems out of the ordinary. We have the support of our local police and fire departments, including police liaison officers from the Northville Township Police Department and the Novi Police Department, who work directly with our schools, students and families.

We also encourage our students to be observant and let an adult know if they see or hear something that makes them feel uncomfortable, nervous or frightened. There is a difference between reporting and tattling or gossiping. Our schools make sure students are aware of Michigan’s OK2SAY hotline, and offer the Department of Attorney General’s Michigan Cyber Safety Initiative program, with student safety content tailored specifically for each grade level. There are a number of resources available for students, teachers and parents readily available on the State of Michigan website at these links:

- State of Michigan OK2SAY Information and Resources webpage
- Mental Health Services Contacts
- Michigan Cyber Safety Initiative: Information and Resources
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

While we have varied perspectives, the desire for safe and secure schools is a common goal. We remain mindful of the importance of hearing our students’ voices as we continue to grow a culture of leadership and learning across our schools and classrooms. Thank you, as always, for partnering with Northville Public Schools to work together to keep our children safe, and able to focus on learning in a caring and supportive school environment.

WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK – ADVANCEd PARENT SURVEY

Northville Public Schools, and each of its schools, are engaged in an ongoing continuous improvement process, in which all of our stakeholders (students, parents and staff) play an important role. As part of this improvement process, we ask our parents, as well as students and staff, to participate in an annual AdvancED Stakeholder Survey, with the goal of engaging our school community in two-way communications. The results help district and school leaders gain a deeper understanding of our district’s areas of strength and effectiveness, along with opportunities for improvement.

Northville Public Schools is accredited district-wide by AdvancED, the largest nonprofit, nonpartisan accreditation agency in the world. The organization endorses school districts using a framework founded on five research-based standards encompassing quality, governance, best-practice instruction, student achievement, and access to instructional resources.

For more information about the survey, visit the Accreditation page on the district website and click on Answers to Frequently Asked Questions. The survey will remain open until Monday, April 16, 2018. All responses are completely anonymous. If you have children who attend more than one school, please complete a separate survey for each school. Students and staff from across the district will have an opportunity to complete similar surveys over the next several weeks.

Parents and guardians can complete the AdvancED Parent Survey for their children’s school(s) by clicking on the appropriate link below. Community members, parents of students enrolled in our Early Childhood Education program and/or those interested in providing overall Northville Public Schools feedback are invited to complete the Northville Public Schools Survey. Your support in completing the AdvancED Parent Survey is greatly appreciated. We look forward to your feedback.

Parent Survey - Elementary Schools
Parent Survey - Middle Schools, Northville High School and Cooke School
Community- ECE Parent Survey - Northville Public Schools

FOURTH ANNUAL STEAM FAIR FEATURES THINKER AND TINKERS

Northville students of all ages and grades will take part in Northville Public Schools fourth annual STEAM Fair (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics), on Wednesday, April 25, 2018, at the Northville Recreation Center at Hillside Middle School, 700 East Base Line, Northville. The theme for this year’s fair is Thinkers and Tinkers!

Behind every innovation we enjoy today is a dreamer. Someone willing to fail, to make mistakes, to start over again and again, to think big, and to follow their passion. All with the goal of creating something that has never existed before. Experiences like the daylong STEAM Fair allows our students to connect their learning in the classroom with the real-world and encourages students to consider STEAM degrees and careers.

During the school day on April 25th, fourth and seventh grade students from across the district will visit the STEAM Fair to explore dozens of activities, demonstrations and interactive exhibits developed by students of all ages and grades that will bring to life what they are doing in the classroom. Joining Northville Public Schools’ fourth graders at the STEAM Fair will be students from Thornton Creek Elementary School’s partner school in Detroit – the Neinas Dual Language Learning Academy. The STEAM Fair will also be open for a Parent & Community Night from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on April 25th for school parents, students and community members to explore and interact with the student-created inventions.

The STEAM Fair is a collaboration of Northville Public Schools and the Northville Educational Foundation, along with presenting sponsor Community Choice Credit Union. Senior sponsors include Community Financial, The Knickerbocker Group of Raymond James, Advanced Disposal, and the Michigan Educational Credit Union. MOD Pizza will provide lunch for STEAM Fair participants and volunteers and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles will provide volunteers to help coordinate the event.

For more information, visit www.NorthvilleSTEAMfair.com. To learn more about the Northville Educational Foundation and the many ways it supports Northville Public Schools students and teachers, go to www.supportNEF.org
At Northville Public Schools, we believe strongly that the Kids Against Hunger (KAH) experience for our elementary school students are an integral part of what makes our schools and our community strong, as we strive to open A World of Possibilities for all students. Just as we value exemplary academics, athletics, the arts, and extra-curricular opportunities, the chance to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with students from inner-city communities in service to others empowers our students, strengthens relationships, builds awareness of our global society, and offers a service opportunity that our students can actively engage in beyond simply offering a contribution of food, supplies or money. Through Kids Against Hunger students learn that hunger is a world problem and that we all have a responsibility to contribute to its solution. Building relationships between students and their community helps children understand that working together for a common purpose is an important way to make a difference. Ultimately, these children experience the joy of hands-on giving – a lesson we believe will influence a lifetime of thinking and behavior. In addition, building relationships between the city and suburbs helps children from both communities understand their similarities and celebrate their differences. The opportunity for our students to participate in these powerful experiences is made possible through the generous support of our business sponsors, together with contributions from our school families, and the fundraising efforts of our students. We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of our business and community sponsors who make this opportunity possible for elementary students across Northville and our partner schools:

- **Rotary Club of Northville (Gold Sponsor)**
- **Community Financial (Gold Sponsor)**
- **Grand Rapids Building Supply, Inc. (Gold Sponsor)**
- **Clark Hill PLC (Silver Sponsor)**
- **Durham School Services (Silver Sponsor)**
- **TMP Architecture, Inc. (Silver Sponsor)**
- **Tom Holzer Ford (Bronze Sponsor)**
- **Stifel-Nicolaus & Company, Inc. (Bronze Sponsor)**
- **George W. Auch Co. (Bronze Sponsor)**

There are more sponsorship opportunities available to support this worthwhile program! If interested, contact Meghan Irving in the Office of the Superintendent, at IrvingMe@NorthvilleSchools.org or 248-344-3508. This year’s packing events begin in March and will go through early-June.

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**Thank You Kids Against Hunger Sponsors and Donors**

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**Welcome Class of 2031**

Northville Public Schools is now accepting kindergarten enrollment for fall 2018. If you have a child who will be five years of age on or before September 1, 2018, please go to the [2018-19 Enrollment](#) page on the district website to schedule an appointment with a member of the Office of Student Data.

Please follow Steps 1-5 on the website to complete the enrollment forms and gather information regarding which documents you will need to bring with you to your scheduled appointment. If you are unsure about which school your child will be attending, please view the [Attendance Boundary Map](#) on the district website.

All six of our elementary schools are fully-engaged in The Leader in Me framework, which emphasizes a culture of student empowerment that helps unleash each child’s full potential. For more information about your child’s school, visit the district website at [www.NorthvilleSchools.org](http://www.NorthvilleSchools.org) and click on the link to your child’s school.

Parent Orientation and Student Round-Up meetings for incoming 2018-19 kindergarteners will take place at each school in the spring. The following are the dates for each Kindergarten Parent Orientation and Round-Up. Please inform the school ahead of time if you plan for your child to attend Round-Up.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Parent Orientation Date, Time</th>
<th>Round-Up Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amerman</td>
<td>May 2, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>May 4, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moraine</td>
<td>May 1, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>May 4, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridge Wood</td>
<td>May 9, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>May 11, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver Springs</td>
<td>May 9, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>May 11, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thornton Creek</td>
<td>May 17, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>May 18, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winchester</td>
<td>May 17, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>May 18, 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our [Early Childhood Education and Extended Day Programs](#) also offer Kids’ Club at each elementary school. This tuition-based program allows parents the option to have their child participate in a before- and/or after-school childcare program. [Kids' Club](#) is offered as an option on school days from as early as 7:00 a.m. to the start of school and from school dismissal until 6:00 p.m. Early Childhood also offers [Half-Day, Pre-K PLUS](#), [School-Day and Full-Day](#) programs for preschool-aged children who are toilet trained. A [Parent/Child](#) class is also available for children who have turned two by September 1, 2018. For more detailed information visit the [Early Childhood](#) website.

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**Northville Achieves Perfect Munetrix Score for Fifth Consecutive Year**

Northville Public Schools is one of 36 school districts in Michigan recognized for receiving a perfect Munetrix fiscal indicator score of zero for three consecutive years –indicating strong fiscal stewardship among district leaders. The perfect Munetrix scores are for the 2016-17, 2015-16 and 2014-15 school years and are based on the audited school district data provided by the Michigan Department of Education. **Northville Public Schools achieved the perfect rating of “0” in 2012-13 and has maintained this rating for five consecutive years.** The Munetrix Score range is zero to 10 with zero being a perfect score. Munetrix’s algorithms mash 12 critical data points over three years while looking for chronic or high magnitude problems such as a tenuous fund balance and large enrollment swings. Michigan-based Munetrix is among the nation’s largest aggregators of municipal and school district data.
Schools give us much to celebrate. Here are just a few recent highlights.

- Congratulations to Northville High School Mandarin 1 students Robert Kuphal and Charlotte Beaudoin, both seniors, who recently took first place in the division 1 competition at the 10th annual China Quiz Bowl at Schoolcraft College. The Michigan China Quiz Bowl, sponsored by the Wayne State University Confucius Institute, is a competition in which teams of middle and high school across Michigan test their knowledge of the Chinese language and geography.

- Hillside Middle School seventh grader Natasha Kobelsky placed an impressive third runner-up at the Regional Spelling Bee competition in February at the Charles H. Wright Museum in Detroit. Sponsored by WXYZ Channel 7, more than 70 spellers participated in the regional competition. Natasha was selected to represent Hillside at the Regional Spelling Bee after she emerged as the winner in an exciting school-wide competition of 13 students that stretched 35 rounds, with more than 140 words spelled. Natasha’s words at the regional competition in order were: worrisome, flotilla, apostrophe, regime, gourami, oratorio, maelstrom, pentathlon, lederhosen, furlough, dichotomy, and kovsh. Amazing Natasha!

- Great news from our winter sports teams, with the NHS Girls Basketball Team making the podium as state runner-up and the Boys Swim Team placing an amazing fifth in the state. Our Girls Basketball Team had a great season, hitting their peak as district champions, and the Competitive Cheer Team earned regional qualifier honors while also racking up the highest GPA in the state among Division 1 schools and taking Academic All-State Team honors for the second straight year.

- Art students from Northville High School and second graders from Winchester Elementary School recently joined forces on an Empty Bowls project benefiting Northville Civic Concern. Students from the two schools partnered to create beautiful ceramic bowls, complete with ceramic glaze. School families and community members were invited to Winchester to enjoy a delicious meal (provided by Genitti’s) and had the opportunity to select one of the handmade ceramic bowls, all while helping those in need in our own community. Special thanks to art teachers Jennifer Rohrhoff (Winchester) and Judy Cavanaugh (NHS) for coordinating this event, Genitti’s for providing the food, our talented art students for providing these incredible works of art, and all the donors who made the event such a success.

- I also want to take this opportunity to share that the school-based enterprise at NHS (The N Den) is among 391 school-based enterprises in the United States achieving Gold Level certification this year. The Northville High School (NHS) for coordinating this event, Genitti’s for providing the food, our talented art students for providing these incredible works of art, and all the donors who made the event such a success.

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- Congratulations to the following NHS students who have placed in the top 100 in the state in the Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition: Allen Ho, Pranav Meka, Daniel Tian, Timothy Wu, and Jeffrey Zhang. They have been invited to a banquet on Saturday, March 10 where they will receive their final scores and possible scholarship awards. Well done!!
The Northville High School Bands had stellar performances at the District Band Festival in Ypsilanti earlier this month. Symphonic Band 10 earned First Divisions from all 4 judges and was awarded an overall First Division in Class B. The Symphonic Band 11/12 earned First Divisions from all 4 judges and was awarded an overall First Division in Class AA. Both bands will be performing at the MSBOA State Band Festival in May. The Symphonic Band 9 performed very well and earned a Second Division in class D. Congratulations to all of our NHS Band students!!!

KUDOS

Thank You to all who participated in the 3rd Annual NPS Parent Camp on Saturday, March 24, 2018! We had over 150 in attendance for this annual learning opportunity! A special note of gratitude goes out to our teachers/staff members who came out on a Saturday to contribute their time and talent to facilitate workshops on a wide array of topics, including Amy Baditio, Katie Booth, Sarah Hanes, Nadine Harris, Alexa Heimburger, Beth Hutton, Bill Jones, Trish Krebs, Jennifer Lauria, Rose McDougall, Tonya Nugent, Megan Palmer, Jen Reader, Lisa Sadikiot, Billy Shellenbarger, Stephanie Smyth, Melissa Stendardo, Stacy Sutter, Amanda Tiba, Shannon Torres, Julie Warum, and Mike Zopt. We also thank NPS Parents, Community Members and our Community Partners who likewise shared their time and expertise, including Angela Ackman, Officer Carolyn Czelada, Cheryl Jones, Jim Mazurek, Natalie Molnar, Lisa Nemitz, Cheryl Phillips, Mike Robinson, Tracey Stevenson, and University of Michigan Dept. of Psychiatry TRAILS Program. Last, but not least, a huge note of appreciation goes out to the Office of Instruction, including Dr. Sandra Brock, Teresa Osterhoff, and Aaron Baughmann for their leadership, organization and attention to detail, and to the Northville Educational Foundation for sponsoring this fantastic learning opportunity for all who participated!

SAVE THE DATE …as the Northville High School Drama Club presents Bullets Over Broadway April 19-21, 2018. The play is the musical adaption of the acclaimed 1994 by Woody Allen and Douglas McGrath. The show combines gangsters with show business at the height of the Roaring Twenties and is loaded with big laughs and colorful characters and great music. (Note: The live production is rated PG-13 and parental discretion is always advised.)

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT

I would like to invite Northville school parents, guardians, and community members to my next Superintendent Community Coffee on Monday, April 30, 2018, 6:30-7:45 p.m., at the Northville Public Schools Board of Education Office, 501 West Main Street in Northville. These informal coffees offer school families and community members the opportunity to ask questions, offer input and learn more about the school district in a small group setting. Those attending are welcome to come and go at any time during the specified timeframe.

We have much to be proud of, and grateful for, as we seek to advance our Tradition of Excellence and open A World of Possibilities for each and every student. Thank you to our teachers, students, staff, families and community members who make this possible.

Sincerely,

Mary K. Gallagher
Superintendent