Superintendent’s Reflections

Crying cleanses the soul. Sometimes a memory of one of my parents or grandparents hits me so hard that tears flow, which somehow seems to soothe me. At work, sometimes my frustration builds and it is difficult to share my worries in a meaningful and intelligent way, so I think it through on my own and sometimes work through it with some tears. Suffering, struggling, angry, disillusioned, or sick children always make me feel sorrow and sadness.

Tears alone will not make a difference, so actions must follow the sorrow. When things feel difficult, it is sometimes necessary to cleanse your soul and weep, but the very next action should be to think about the next best solution to the struggle. Children count on adults to do just that, and there never seems to be one right solution. It takes perseverance and determination to continuously seek the next best solution, but it is critical to do so when an issue involves children.

Everyone involved in education plays a part of the health and success of the future. We have the ability to change the mindset of students, to show kids that we are dedicated to their success, and to truly touch the future.

Weep when memories wash over you; it is a way to express the love you felt and the depth of your sorrow for your separation. Work through your frustration with tears and thought and give yourself time to process. Notice the hurting children and grieve for a moment, but take the next best step to help them.

Thank you for your passion to help all students in Center Line achieve their potentials.
Making Learning Visible

When speaking with staff about needs for improvement, the topics of time and communication always seem to be highlighted. Just as it is important to focus on if the students learned the concept versus if it was taught, it is necessary for us to reflect on whether there is a common understanding of our goal and plan for implementation, and then communicate, re-address misconceptions, and provide additional support as needed. Learning becomes visible through clear communication.

To reach our goal of having 100% of our students performing at grade level, we are focusing on establishing a uniform system of assessing learning and growth at all levels and closing academic gaps through competency-based learning, also referred to as personalized learning. This fall, the secondary math and ELA departments and all of the elementary teachers met over multiple days, collaborating and using consensus to begin developing K-12 learning continuums in math and ELA. Next week, our first draft for math will be completed and more work will be done on the ELA continuum. The conversations around instruction have been powerful, providing clarity of the power standards, which impacts classroom instruction.

Making learning visible to the students involves selecting a power standard, taking it apart or “unpacking” the concepts and skills that a student needs to learn, and then planning a progression of learning targets. Various authors may use different language such as teaching objectives, learning targets or learning intentions. The name is not what is important; providing the students a clear and visible target to master is what matters. Each day, the learning targets should build on the learning and complexity, so that ultimately, the students will be able to demonstrate competency in the power standard based on clearly communicated success criteria.

We are all learners. Every moment we spend working together, develops a stronger team, strengthens communication and creates a place, where all learners are valued and successful.

FCA Foundation Invests to Prepare Center Line High School Students for Careers in Manufacturing

We're very pleased to announce that we've partnered with the SME Education Foundation to implement its SME PRIME® initiative at Center Line High School. With support from the FCA Foundation, the charitable arm of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, and Kar’s Nuts, SME PRIME® will equip Center Line students with manufacturing skills that are desperately needed in Southeast Michigan.

SME PRIME® directly address manufacturing and engineering talent shortages by collaborating with industry to inform and provide modern equipment, tailored curriculum, and hands-on training to high schools across the country. The national program provides students with practical experience, knowledge and skills using state-of-the-art technology and equipment.

Since 2011, SME PRIME schools have reached tens of thousands of students in 50 communities across 22 states; 84% of graduating SME PRIME students pursue careers in manufacturing by entering the workforce or through post-secondary education in a field directly related to manufacturing.

This important collaboration with the FCA Foundation, Kar’s Nuts, and the SME Education Foundation will build on and expand our continuing commitment to providing Center Line school students with the education and preparation necessary for their future development, growth and unlimited opportunity.

“The FCA Foundation believes that education and developing the workforce of tomorrow are essential to building strong and sustainable communities,” said Christine Estereicher, Director - FCA Foundation, Civic Engagement & State Affairs. “Our support of SME PRIME and other educational initiatives is helping create a path to success that enables students to advance in school, their careers and life.”
CLHS Happenings

14th Annual William Stirrett Drill Competition

The JROTC Panther Battalion hosted the 14th Annual William Stirrett Drill Competition on Saturday, November 23rd. The Panthers won 1st Place for our Let1 drill, 1st Place for Knockout by Ryan Serefin, and 2nd Place for our Armed Squad. Well done!

Career Exploration

This week, freshmen explored the Health and Wellness career pathway and got a demonstration of how various medical equipment works. Many thanks to Mr. Watts for sharing his students and supplies.

Holiday Giving

The Interact Community Outreach club decorated a holiday tree with handmade ornaments for the CLHS lobby. The tree will soon be decorated with hats, mittens, scarves for needy students. If you have a donation, feel free to bring in donations as well.

CLHS 2019 Adopt-a-Family Collection

For the last 24 years our Center Line High School staff and students have donated generously to the Community Outreach Adopt-a-Family program. The Community Outreach organization works with the Center Line High School counseling to adopt families from our school in need of essential items for the Holidays. Last year we helped 17 families from our school. The families include displaced homes from our high school and families who are suffering hardships including medical issues. The money collected for families in need will be used to buy them Major gift cards to purchase household items, clothing, and food to start their next year. Gift cards and food cards are delivered to the families by the sponsors to respect the families privacy.

If you would like to make a donation, please make a check out to Center Line High School (Adopt-a-Family on the memo line) by December 16.

Please be generous!
Food Drive

Wolfe Student Council held a food drive and collected 1,111 nonperishable food items for a local food bank! Mr. Fournier's class led the donations with 249 nonperishable food items. Well done!

Staff vs. Student Volleyball Game

Students played hard in four games, but the staff team maintained its winning streak as champs! See more pictures on the Wolfe Middle School website.
Roose Roundup

Roose’s English Language Division hosted a Thanksgiving Family Night that included games, crafts, and delicious Thanksgiving dishes. It was very exciting to celebrate with so many families!

First Published Book

Each month, Roose students create a book made up of one student writing sample from each classroom. First, the writings are displayed on our Roose Authors’ Board, and then they are bound and sent to senior centers. The books will be sent to Father Murray and Warren Woods Health and Rehab today.

Student Expression

Students filled out a card with a single word to express who they were. We displayed some of the responses in our hallway.
Panda Family Time
Once a month we have “Panda Family Time.” During these sessions, classes are paired together, share students, and learn about the newest leadership trait for the month. Each month Crothers students participate in making a video that demonstrates or explains that leadership trait.

Lansing Trip
Our 5th graders went on their annual trip to Lansing. They got to see the Capitol building and museums.

DK/K Engineers
Students connected literature with science by building a structure (bridge and chair).
Peck Points

Service above Self

Peck’s Leaders participated in a Habit Huddle that included a special service project to help the homeless in our community. Students assembled care packages and decorated placements with the message, "You matter!" We ended with an assembly on Habit 2: Begin With the End in Mind.

Love Our Library!

During our Building Study, ECSE and Tuition Based Preschool (TBPS) students visited a very special building, the Center Line Library. This building has great history and is a wonderful place for children to discover the love of reading at an early age.

Our students participated in story time activities, which included listening to two stories, The Scarecrow’s Hat by Ken Brown, and Clifford’s Thanksgiving Visit by Norman Bridwell. They then created a scarecrow project to go along with the story they heard. Many children even received their very first library card! The library offers many programs and activities for our young learners.
Hello, Everyone! I am the Dollars for Scholars Adviser for Center Line High School. I have been working with Detroit Regional Dollars for Scholars for the past 2 years, and I have never been part of an organization that so adamantly and fiercely advocates for high school students and their post-secondary goals! They are doing amazing work, not just with my students, but with students all over the Southeast Michigan, and they do this with the most amazing organization, personal touches, and care for the students. To date they have awarded my students alone, almost $40,000 in scholarship money at no cost to them and this will only continue to increase as we partner together to provide quality access to post-secondary education to our kids. They take them all on field trips to colleges and universities to provide them with admissions presentations and campus tours, they give them SAT tutoring, they assist them with etiquette training and with building connections to business people who want to help them as well as FAFSA assistance, essay writing workshops and financial literacy. Please consider donating to this amazing organization so they can continue to do their amazing work! Thank you in advance for your support!

Sincerely, Ms. Audrey Kary
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.

Upcoming Events

12/6/2019  Cookies with Santa @ Crothers  6:00-8:00pm
12/9/2019  Board of Education Meeting  7:00pm
Open Swim for Senior Citizens @ CLHS Pool  7:00-7:30pm
Open Swim for All @ CLHS Pool  7:30-8:30pm
12/10/2019  Peck Parent Lighthouse Team/PTC Meetings  6:00pm, 6:30pm
ECC Gingerbread Night  6:00-7:00pm
12/11/2019  Crothers PTC  5:15pm
12/12/2019  Math & Science Family Fun Night @ Wolfe  5:30-7:00pm
Roose Winter Blast  6:00-8:00pm
Band and Choir Holiday Concert @ CLHS  7:00pm
12/14/2019  Center Line Tree Lighting @ Memorial Park  6:00pm
12/16/2019  Roose PTC  6:30pm
Open Swim for Senior Citizens @ CLHS Pool  7:00-7:30pm
Open Swim for All @ CLHS Pool  7:30-8:30pm
12/17/2019  Band Boosters @ CLHS  7:00pm
12/19/2019  Wolfe After School Dance  3:00-4:15pm
Mingle & Jingle @ Peck  6:00-8:00pm
12/23/2019  Christmas Break Begins
1/6/2020  Welcome Back to School!