Superintendent’s Reflections

Watching children as they speak with Santa has been fun for me this year. The awe seen on the face of little ones reminds me that there is pure joy available to all of us. Life is so busy, especially this time of year that we have to force ourselves to slow down and intentionally recognize the joy in the many activities in which we are involved.

Hearing children sing and watching them as they proudly stood in front of an audience who were there to love on them brought me joy. Making cookies with my husband and laughing at the massive mess that we made when making simple cookies brought me joy. Wrapping presents that Marty and I were excited to give others brought me joy. Having breakfast with hard working principals and again with central office staff brought me joy. Listening to my 34-year-old son’s all-time favorite Christmas song and remembering when he was 4 and first heard the son dancing around the room brought me joy. Decorating our Christmas tree and hanging 14 stockings, knowing that 2 more will soon be added to our family, brought me unlimited joy. Listening to our talented minister share the story of the first Christmas over the past few weeks brought me joy. Speaking with our students about their plans for the holiday break and watching their excitement brought me joy.

I realized that it is up to me to seek the joy in all situations, and I have been doing just that. When I am having difficulty sleeping, I have started counting my blessings instead of sheep, and my sleep has been more peaceful. I know that it is my choice to see things as a hassle or change my lens to see the beauty and joy in every situation. I can honestly say that looking for the fun in every situation has made this season much more fun.

I hope that you have found joy in your preparations this season. I hope that you are blessed in mighty ways this holiday season and throughout 2018. I know that together we can make great things happen in CLPS and bring joy to each and every student. Thank you for the part you have played and will continue to be involved in. Be blessed.
Center Line Public Schools is already in the process of planning for our youngest learners to enter our doors in the fall of 2018! Children who will be five years of age on or before September 1, 2018 are eligible for school enrollment.

In January, a survey will be sent home to all of our families requesting information about eligible children in the home and provide details for our early registration event in February. Registration for Kindergarten will take place Monday, February 12, 2018 from 9:00am – 6:00pm at the Administration Building (26400 Arsenal, Center Line, MI 48015). Parents or guardians may also go on-line at www.clps.org and register early beginning February 1st. If you know of someone who has children, please share this information with them and ask them to call the school office, notifying the district of their intent to enroll.

Each spring, the district hosts an “Explore the World of Kindergarten” event to provide backpacks with supplies, transition resources, and the opportunity to attend a free summer school program. It is our goal to welcome each and every child into the Center Line family and ensure they have a strong start to their educational journey.

This month’s exciting article is on our annual financial audit. Our auditing company Plante Moran came to the board meeting last month and presented the results of the audit. The results included an unmodified opinion, which is the highest opinion you can get. The general fund gained fund balance for the first time in 5 years due to the employee give backs, which resulted in a $411,216 gain. The ending fund balance was $1,942,783, which is only 5.96% of expenditures. Putting into other terms, that amount would last us just over 3 weeks of operations if we did not receive any revenue. Although this is not great, it was better than the final expected budget, which was expected to be $1,660,798.

Clicking the picture below should open the presentation made to the Board of Education. You can also find the annual audit on our website under Budget and Salary/Compensation Transparency Reporting. One piece of great news is that we are 1 of only 3 school districts in Macomb County that gained students compared to the fall count in 2016.
Community Outreach!

Center Line High School collected 3 scarves, 8 pairs of gloves, and 18 hats for local homeless. Every warm hand and head thanks you! The Community Outreach team also collected monetary donations a number of different ways in order to provide for eight needy families. A summary of the project is below!

Thank you to all for the generous donations:

Community Outreach will give the donations to 8 families from our school. The families include displaced teens from our high school and families who are suffering hardships including medical issues. They will be able to purchase essentials in clothing and food. They will not be able to use funds to purchase tobacco or alcohol.

All funds can be spent as follows by the families:

- Personal Effects (coats, hats, clothes, socks, underwear, shoes, etc.)
- Household (dishes, silverware, glasses, storage containers, pots, etc.)
- Food (no alcohol or tobacco products can be purchased)

This will be a holiday to remember for our Center Line High School families.

Sponsor: Mrs. Cook

To review elements the Chemistry students play "Element Battleship."
Auto Show Poster Winners!

Congratulations to Tlaloc Flores to Alissa Nault for their 2nd and 3rd place North American International Auto Show posters! Their artwork shows creativity, well thought out concepts and designs, and the execution of a computer program they have only been using for a few months in Mrs. Giacona’s class. We are very proud of their accomplishments!

Now On Sale!

Lottery raffle tickets for the Class of 2018 Senior All Night Party. Tickets cost $10 each for 20 days of chances to win. Your ticket number is three digits, and if it matches the Michigan Lottery evening 3-digit drawing, you win! Mondays through Thursdays pay out $100, and Fridays pay out $200. If you are interested in purchasing any, please email jakolp1498@gmail.com. They go pretty quickly and are good stocking stuffers or gifts for those hard-to-buy-for people in your life.

Band & Choir Holiday Concert

Our musicians really know how to put us in the holiday spirit! See more pictures on the CLHS Facebook page!
Wreathes across America

Last week, thanks to the efforts of Dave Watts who coordinates the wreath program, Center Line’s JROTC participated in the Wreaths across America National Wreath Laying Ceremony. Our students performed as color guard at Great Lakes National Cemetery located in Holly, Michigan. Band student Ashley Smiley played taps as well. One of the pictures features U.S. Congressman Mike Bishop with our students and SFC Pruitt. JROTC: Motivating young people to be better citizens. #ArmyStrong

What’s Up at Wolfe

Wolfe’s boys basketball teams played Lincoln at CLHS this week. Go, Warriors!

Holiday Shoppe

Wolfe Den workers delivered almost 250 holiday gifts to Wolfe students this week. Students were able to use Warrior Bucks or real money to purchase gifts for their friends and family. Proceeds from the Holiday Shoppe will continue to fund different fun activities for the students throughout the school year.
Giving Tree

This is a behind-the-scenes look at Wolfe’s giving tree. This is 3/4 of the gifts that will go out to families in need. This year Wolfe provided 10 families with food and 80 students with gifts from staff, and 40 ELL students received food and gifts for their annual Winter Blast. Warrior nation is proud to help out in any way possible.

Sequential Painting

Mrs. Mydlowski and Mrs. Panfalone’s class just finished up a "Sequential Painting" activity. They turn out beautiful and the kids were able to give them for gifts.

WEB in Action

8th Grade WEB leaders created activities to help build relationships with their 6th graders. Some groups did logic puzzles while others made ornaments and decorated cookies. The 8th graders did a great job planning and carrying out the activities. The 6th graders were fully engaged and had lots of fun!

Going for Green

Mr. Martines is leading the force to make Wolfe a Green School. Here he works with a student to keep items separated for recycling purposes during breakfast.
Wolfe students celebrated Spirit Week this week. Monday was Animation Day, Tuesday was Mustache Day, Wednesday was Holiday/Winter Wear, and Thursday was a Green Out in time for the Pep Assembly, where different student groups were recognized and students competed for the grade with the most spirit.

Kaitlynn Legree and Monalisa Maisha are two loving students who proved kids can and do make a difference in this world! Their impact project was called "Movies Make a Difference." These two students invited Wolfe Warriors to watch Boss Baby for a $3 donation. Two hundred and fifty Wolfe Warriors attended, raising $750 to donate to St. Jude Children’s Hospital. Two other Impact Project groups added to the movie activity and fundraising to make a positive impact in our own Wolfe community! Thank you to Tylen, Leah, Mark, Bryan, Damanni, and Lionel for concessions during the movie!

Teacher leaders lead Wolfe teachers in an early release!

Ally (CLHS Teacher Cadet) and Leah Beracki help sell "Sweet Treats to do Good Deeds" and "Pop for a Cause," two career pathways impact projects that raised $800 on concession sales that went toward Wolfe’s Giving Tree this holiday season! Thank you to all Wolfe Warrior staff who generously donated many cases of pop and many other sweet treats for our movie watchers to purchase! Thank you to Wolfe PTC for your generous donation of all the popcorn and water for our students during the movie! What a hit!
Panda Pals Projects

All school-wide monthly Panda Pal groups are focused on community service projects this year. GREAT things are happening here at Crothers with our Panda Pals & Student Council!

Here are a few samples of TurkeyGrams sold/sent in our November initiative of "Kids Caring for Kids." Student Council sold the Twizzler/Thankful Message for $1.00 and brought MANY students/staff smiles just before Thanksgiving Break. Student Council plans on using money raised to provide students with more indoor recess games, math games, and/or recess equipment. They are also brainstorming other possibilities! They plan on doing another "Candygram" for St. Patrick's Day ("I'm so lucky to have you as a ______________ because __________________.") We are excited!

These are our 2017-2018 Student Council Leaders. Their first school project was to help the PTC run stations at our Fall Festival. Their second was helping PTC with stations at our Cookies With Santa Night.
Cookies with Santa

It was another big year for “Cookies with Santa.” It was great time for the crowd that attended! The high school volunteers were awesome, and we couldn’t have done it without them.

Operation: Stuff a Stocking

Mrs. Smith’s Panda Pals group decided to reach out to the community by taking in donations for troops. We called it "Operation: Stuff a Stocking." With the help of parent and military veteran Jay Joseph (who came to talk to the Panda Leaders about cooperation, respect and perseverance in the military, in school, etc.), students sorted the donations into boxes of hygiene, pasttimes, and food. Mr. Hamilton’s Panda Pals group joined in this effort and together the classes created 9 LARGE boxes, to send off to men/women who cannot make it home for the holidays this year because they are serving our country!
Sharing Holiday Cheer

The 5th graders in Mrs. Davis's and Mr. Landoski's classes sang Christmas carols to the kindergartners in Mrs. Snyder's, Mrs. Barsh's, and Mrs. Klinefelter's classes.

Caring for Sick Kids

The Student Council at Crothers has been working on school and community outreach. For the month of December, we decided to ask our families to donate coloring materials, such as coloring books, crayons, and markers for kids at Children's Hospital. Our Crothers families were able to donate 543 items this month! Pictured are some members of the 4th and 5th grade Student Council members organizing the items. Mrs. Smith and Mr. Landowski are delivering the gifts today!
Just Breathe!

In the spirit of Conscious Discipline breathing, Roose held an innovative breathing competition. Each class was asked to come up with their own unique breathing exercise together. We had such awesome, creative submissions and over 80% participation! It was hard to choose just one winner, so we selected winners from the upper grades and one from the lower grades:

- Ms. Bopp’s 5th Grade Classroom: Breathe-laxing
- Mrs. Herrick’s Kindergarten Classroom: Friendship Rainbow Breathing

Mrs. Herrick and Ms. Bopp’s classes enjoyed a pizza party this week as their prizes.

Oratory Champ!

Veronica Simson (5th grader in Mrs. Schafer’s class) won the county-wide 2018 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Elementary School Oratory Contest sponsored by the Interfaith Center for Racial Justice. The theme was The Beloved Community. The students had to submit a video recording on You Tube of their recitation of a passage adapted from speeches of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1957 about "The Beloved Community." They had two minutes to deliver the speech and were graded on accuracy, composure, voice quality, posture and physical dynamics. Veronica will attend the 2018 MLK Holiday Celebration at Dakota High School on January 15th, where she will perform the recitation live.

Winter Blast!

Despite having to reschedule due to the snow day, Roose’s Winter Blast was a blast! Many thanks to the PTC for all of their hard efforts!
Visit from Ronald McD

Last Friday, Peck had an assembly with Ronald McDonald with the theme “How to Be an Everyday Leader.” The students were able to successfully show the following: **Listen to Others ... Set a Good Example ... Are Responsible for Their Actions ... and Do Their Best!**

Ronald shared many of the leadership qualities through songs. Several teachers stated their students were able to relate the lessons learned to the 7 Habits of Leader in Me!

Box Top Winners

Mr. Brandon’s, Mrs. Watterson’s, and Mrs. Pelczarski’s, and Mrs. William’s classes enjoyed hot chocolate bar and pajama day for winning the Box Top competition for November. Mrs. Flanigan’s class won cider and donuts in October for bringing in almost 800 Box Tops.

Peck’s Box Tops collections have already tripled last year’s totals. Way to go! Kudos to Rochelle Holloway for being an awesome Box Top Coordinator!
ECC Notes

Gingerbread Night at the ECC was filled with families, yummy sweets, and even a visit from Santa! With their families, the children created a gingerbread house out of graham crackers, icing, and candy and treats! Many of the adults were focused on building a structurally sound house while the children’s focus was eating as many treats as possible! The children delighted in sitting on Santa’s lap and sharing their Christmas wishes! It was a fun night for all! See more pictures on our Facebook page!

ECC has its very own Santa’s Elf: Ms. Mazzara!
The Center Line Public Schools 2017 Bond Projects will be funded through three bond sales, which are tentatively planned as follows:

**Series #1** – Funded Feb. 2018  
**Series #2** – Funded May 2020  
**Series #3** – Funded May 2023

Design, planning, and engineering of Series #1 projects will begin in December 2017. The projects included in this series are as follows:

- **New Peck Elementary School** (constructed on the high school campus)
- **High School Improvements including:**
  - Mechanical system upgrades in the natatorium  
  - Lighting and sound system improvements in the auditorium  
  - Partial roof replacement  
  - Technology infrastructure  
  - Relocation of running track  
  - Sitework improvements to accommodate new running track
- **Technology Equipment**
  - Center Line High School
  - Wolfe Middle School

Prior to the initiation of construction, the architects, engineers and construction manager need time to design, plan and engineer the projects. This complex process involves in depth collaboration with multiple stakeholder groups to ensure that overall District goals and objectives are met and needs are incorporated. Project programmatic information will be gathered and defined, existing site and building conditions will be evaluated and surveyed, and initial design solutions will be developed. These design solutions will progressively develop and become more detailed and refined, incorporating District input along the way.

Eventually a final design solution will be reached and approval will be received from the District. Once the final design solution approval is granted, detailed construction documents will be developed, which will be used to obtain construction approval from the State of Michigan, competitive bids as well as for constructing the project.

The tentative schedule for the Series #1 projects is as follows:

- **New Peck Elementary School**
  - Design/Planning Phases: 12/17 – 10/18  
  - Bidding: 11/18 – 12/18  
  - Construction: 5/19 – 7/20
- **High School – Natatorium Mechanical, Auditorium Lighting, Partial Roofing**
  - Design/Planning Phases: 12/17 – 3/18  
  - Bidding: 4/18 – 5/18  
  - Construction: 6/18 – 10/18
- **High School – Relocate Running Track**
  - Design/Planning Phases: 12/17 – 3/18  
  - Bidding: 4/18 – 5/18  
  - Construction: 6/18 – 10/18
- **Technology Equipment**
  - Design/Planning Phases: 2/18 – 4/18  
  - Bidding: 5/18 – 6/18  
  - Procurement: 7/18 – 10/18
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

1/3/2018  School Resumes  Mom's & Dad's Club Meeting  7:30pm
1/8/2018  Board of Education Meeting @ Admin  7pm
1/9/2018  Gleaners' Community Food Bank at Peck  11am-1pm
            Peck PTC Meeting  6:30pm
            Roose PTC Meeting  6:30pm
1/10/2018 Crothers' Benefit Night @ American Pie  4-9pm
1/15/2018 MLK Day - No School

Crest Ford Employees Bless Blessings in a Backpack!

Crest Ford employees once again stepped up and collected $3207 that they donated to our Blessings in a Backpack program! Superintendent Kaltz is pictured here with Vice President Bill Chopes and General Sales Manager Sam Haynes. We love our partnership with the community! Thank you all so much for helping provide for our families in need!