



# A Message from the SUPERINTENDENT

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## AT A GLANCE

Thank You Voters!

Honoring Our Northville  
Board of Education Members

Winter Break:  
December 23, 2017 – January 5, 2018

Now Enrolling the Class of 2031!

Parent Workshop:  
*Raising a Self, Not a Selfie*

Welcome Aaron Baughman  
and Steve Banchemo

Schools of Academic Distinction

NEF Awards Innovative Teacher Grants

Points of Pride from Across the District

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Winter Break**

December 23, 2017 – January 5, 2018

**Upcoming**

**Board of Education Meetings**

Tuesday, January 9, 2018  
7:00 p.m.

Hillside Middle School (Forum)

Tuesday, January 23, 2018  
7:00 p.m.

Winchester Elementary School

**No School for Students**

(Teacher Work Day)  
Monday, January 15, 2018

**End of First Semester**

Friday, January 26, 2018

**Parent Workshop Series:**

*Raising a Self, Not a Selfie*

Amerman

January 11, 9:30 a.m.

Silver Springs

January 16, 7:30 p.m.

Moraine

February 5, 7:30 p.m.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Parent Camp**

Saturday, March 24, 2018  
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

## DEAR NORTHVILLE SCHOOL FAMILIES, STAFF AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

On behalf of the entire Northville Public Schools community, I wish you all a safe and joyful holiday season filled with fun, laughter, shared traditions and time spent with family and close friends.

At Northville Public Schools we have much to be grateful for as we seek to advance our *Tradition of Excellence* and strive to truly open *A World of Possibilities* for and with our students. Thank you

to our teachers, students, staff, families and community members who are a part of this important work. Each of you are an integral part of the learning process, and to our ongoing growth and success as a community. As 2017 comes to a close, I'd like to take this opportunity to share some information, updates and some of the great things happening in our schools and classrooms.

## THANK YOU VOTERS! PLANNING CONTINUES FOR FACILITY UPGRADES, MODERN LEARNING

On behalf of Northville Public Schools and its Board of Education, students, families, and staff, I want to express our gratitude to the community for its tremendous support of our \$104.85 million bond in the November 7, 2017 election. The bond dollars will provide much-needed facility upgrades, enhance existing building security, and support modern learning environments across the district. The fact that this bond proposal was given such thoughtful consideration by voters is a reflection of a community that comes together in support of our children, our staff, families and schools.

Thoughtful planning is under way for this comprehensive facilities upgrade and construction program that will touch every classroom and school. District leaders are currently working with design and project management experts to finalize the sequence of the multi-year construction and renovation initiative. Work is underway in the restoration and renovation of Old Village School to house the district's Early Childhood Program classrooms and Administrative Offices. Planning for the initial phases of work at Amerman Elementary, Hillside Middle School and Northville High School are also in progress. Look for regular updates in the coming months regarding the bond's various construction projects on the district website at [www.NorthvilleSchools.org](http://www.NorthvilleSchools.org).



## HONORING OUR NORTHVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Please join me in recognizing the crucial role our Northville Board of Education members play in the lives of our children, our schools and our community during **School Board Recognition Month in January**. Public education is the backbone of American society and local school

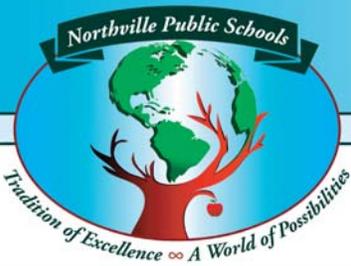


boards are deeply rooted in this tradition. Their job is to establish the district's vision, mission and goals and develop policies to achieve them; to strongly encourage continuous improvement in student learning; and to advocate at the local, state and national level in support of public education. This work includes an endless string of meetings and school functions to attend; reams of reports, agendas, proposals and other documents to read and study; and a never-ending commitment to thoughtful consideration of the issues, balancing perspectives, and making difficult decisions that are both fiscally responsible and focused on what is best for students. We are fortunate at Northville Public Schools to have a Board of Education that supports our quest to open *A World of Possibilities* for and with each and every student that will prepare them for work and life in the 21st century. Together with district leaders, the seven members of the Northville Board of Education develop policies and

make tough decisions that help shape the future of our school district, and in turn our community. They bear the responsibility and oversight for an annual general fund budget of approximately \$78 million, 7,470 students, 850 employees, and 11 buildings.

While we make a special effort in January to show appreciation to our school board members, we realize their many contributions reflect a year-round commitment. With this in mind, I invite all the members of our community to make a special effort during School Board Recognition Month to tell our Board of Education members that their hard work, dedication and commitment of time on behalf of our community's children has been noticed, and is truly appreciated and valued. It can be as simple as writing a note, sending an e-mail, making a phone call or simply saying "thank you" the next time you see a Board member out in the community. The individuals serving Northville Public Schools and their years of service are:

- Mr. James Mazurek, seven years
- Ms. Cynthia L. Jankowski, six years
- Mr. Matthew Wilk, five-and-a-half years
- Ms. Ann Kalass, four years
- Mr. Roland Hwang, three years
- Ms. Sarah Prescott, two years and four months
- Ms. Laurie Doner, one year



**WINTER BREAK: DECEMBER 23, 2017 – JANUARY 5, 2018**

Northville Public Schools will close for **Winter Break** at the end of the day, **Friday, December 22, 2017, with classes resuming on Monday January 8, 2018**, with the exception of scheduled school or athletic events communicated directly by schools or

coaches. The Board of Education Offices (Central Office) will also be closed during the same time period, other than for scheduled appointments during the first week of January (January 2-5, 2018), with regular business resuming on Monday, January 8, 2018.

**NOW ENROLLING THE 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 schedule an appointment to enroll your child in kindergarten by visiting [www.NorthvilleSchools.org](http://www.NorthvilleSchools.org) and clicking on the "Enroll" button. Staff from our Office of Student Data will be present at your child's school to review all necessary documentation and process his/her enrollment with you on the following dates:

Elementary School	Enrollment Dates
Winchester	February 6, 7 and 8
Thornton Creek	February 13, 14 and 15
Silver Springs	February 20, 21 and 22
Ridge Wood	February 27, 28 and March 1
Moraine	March 6, 7 and 8
Amerman	March 13, 14 and 15

Please follow Steps 1-5 on the website to complete the enrollment forms and get information regarding the documents you will need to bring with you to your appointment. If you are unable to schedule an enrollment appointment during the dates and times listed above for the school your child will attend, please feel free to make an appointment at another Northville elementary school. If you are unsure of which school your child will be attending, please view the [Attendance Boundary Map](#) on the district website. As part of the enrollment process, you will receive information regarding the dates and times for **Kindergarten Parent Orientation and Kindergarten Round-Up** gatherings that will take place in the spring at your child's school. 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. If you have any additional questions about your child's school, click on the link to the school's website on the district home page at [www.NorthvilleSchools.org](http://www.NorthvilleSchools.org).

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

The Northville Public Schools **Early Childhood Education and Extended Day Programs** offer a program called **Kids' Club** at each of its elementary schools. 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 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 children as young as 33 months old and toilet trained. A Parent/Child class is also available for children who have turned two by September 1, 2018. Early Childhood will host **Pre-K New Parent Open Houses on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, 6:30-7:30 p.m.** at each of the locations where preschool programs are offered including Main Street School, Thornton Creek Elementary School, Ridge Wood Elementary School and Winchester Elementary School. These Open Houses are intended for potential new families to our programs and are designed for parents and guardians. Webinars will also be provided for program overviews, curriculum information and the registration process. More detailed information will be forthcoming via the [Early Childhood website](#), the Early Childhood *Family Connection* newsletter, ListServ and *The Northville Record*.

**PARENT WORKSHOP SERIES: RAISING A SELF, NOT A SELFIE**

Northville school parents are invited to take part in the parent workshop **Raising a Self, Not a Selfie – Building Essential Capabilities Through the Mighty Me Project**, hosted by the Northville Public Schools Office of Instruction and facilitated by social worker **Cheryl Jones, LMSW**. Ever-increasing expectations and inescapable social media magnify the internal pressure that students experience every day. The development of self-awareness and emotional problem-solving skills are essential for children to successfully navigate their complex lives. Building these capabilities in childhood enhances lifelong identity and the opportunity for optimal academic achievement.

Children rely on their parents to help them interpret reality and develop perspective. This happens best through comfortable and honest discussions about life experiences. The *Mighty Me Project* provides parents with a series of specific interactions that are easily incorporated into daily life. These simple strategies strengthen the parent-child connection, expand self-awareness and create tools for emotional problem-solving.

The parent workshops are scheduled in conjunction with PTA meetings at each elementary school, with an open invitation for parents to attend the session of their choice. The Thornton Creek and Ridge Wood elementary schools hosted the workshop in November. Below are the dates, times and locations for the remaining workshops, with options for morning and evening sessions. We anticipate offering follow up sessions (Part 2) in spring 2018.

Date	Location	Time
Thursday, January 11, 2018	Amerman Elementary School 847 North Center Street Northville, 48167	PTA Meeting – 9:30 a.m. Workshop – 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, January 16, 2018	Silver Springs Elementary School 19801 Silver Springs Drive Northville, 48167	PTA Meeting – 7 p.m. Workshop – 7:30-8:30 p.m.
Monday, February 5, 2018	Moraine Elementary School 46811 West Eight Mile Road Northville, 48167	PTA Meeting – 7 p.m. Workshop – 7:30-8:30 p.m.
Wednesday March 14, 2018	Winchester Elementary School 16141 Winchester Drive Northville, 48168	PTA Meeting – 7 p.m. Workshop – 7:30-8:30 p.m.





### NORTHVILLE BOARD SIGNS RESOLUTION OPPOSING GUN-RELATED LEGISLATION

The Northville Board of Education at its Tuesday, December 12, 2017 meeting joined school districts across Michigan in approving a resolution opposing gun-related legislation passed by the Michigan Senate in early November. The resolution urges Michigan lawmakers and Gov. Rick Snyder to allow local school boards to enact their own policies regarding weapons on school grounds. Copies of the resolution, which outlines our district's concerns for the safety of our students, have been sent to the

offices of the governor and the district's state representatives and senators. **Senate Bills 584-586** would allow concealed pistol license holders, with extended training, to carry in areas that are currently off limits for concealed weapons, such as schools. **Senate Bill 366** would allow 18- to 20-year-old individuals in Michigan to obtain a provisional license to carry a concealed weapon. The current age for getting a Concealed Pistol License in the state is 21. As a school district, we feel strongly that weapons have no place in schools unless they are carried by law enforcement officers.

### OLD VILLAGE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND CLOSED DURING CONSTRUCTION

As construction begins in earnest at the district-owned **Old Village School**, 405 West Main Street, the playground on the east side of the building, adjacent the Northville Community Center, has been closed for school and community use. Given the proximity of the playground to the construction area, the project's construction management team has recommended the playground be closed to avoid safety hazards. The playground has been cordoned off and signs have been placed noting the playground is closed. It is

expected that the playground will reopen in mid- to late-spring 2018. The school district is currently in the process of restoring and renovating Old Village School to house the district's Early Childhood Program classrooms and Administrative Offices beginning in the 2018-19 school year. For more information, please contact Steve Banchemo, Director of Operations at 248-344-3540.

### POINTS OF PRIDE FROM ACROSS THE DISTRICT

Every day in our classrooms, through the arts, on our fields of play, and through extracurricular endeavors, our students and teachers from across Northville Public Schools give us much to celebrate. Here are just a few recent highlights.

- **Thornton Creek Elementary Principal Jennifer Bennett** recently took one for the team when she was slimed in front of the entire school. The sliming was the result of a contest among the school's grade levels to raise money to help the victims of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. The friendly "Penny War" competition, organized by the Thornton Creek Student Lighthouse Team, took place during Spirit Week, in keeping with the school's theme for this year – T.C. Gators C.A.R.E. (which stands for C-Cooperate, A-Appreciate, R-Responsible and E-Empathize). During the Penny Wars, students were encouraged to bring change to school to place in the various grade level buckets. Silver coins and dollar bills earned positive points, while putting pennies in another grade-level's bucket counted as negative points. The grade level with the most points – the fourth graders in this case – got to select a Thornton Creek staff member to be slimed. And Ms. Bennett was the lucky one. The results were amazing with Thornton Creek students and staff raising more than \$1,200 in just one week. A win-win for everyone!



- Also at Thornton Creek, our congratulations to **kindergarten teacher Elizabeth Marczewski** who was selected as the 100.3 WNIC Radio "Teacher of the Week" in November. Ms. Marczewski was nominated for this honor by the parent of one of her students, who wrote, "Ms. Marczewski is an exceptional teacher! Her classroom is one of encouragement, love and learning."
- What can I say, the Gators are on a roll – our thanks also goes out to the 17 **Thornton Creek students** who gave up part of their day off from school on

November 7, 2017 to participate in a presentation by Thornton Creek fifth grade teachers Sonya Kalasho and Katie Healy entitled: **Meaningful Conversations**. The presentation aligned with 5D and our district school improvement goals of "student talk." The students demonstrated student-led conversations about their mathematical thinking for district professional staff.

- **Silver Springs** and **Winchester** elementary schools recently hosted **Leadership Days** at their schools. At **Silver Springs**, new families were invited to learn about each of the *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. Guests visited each classroom to learn about and participate in activities taught by student leaders. Families left with an understanding of the *7 Habits* and how they can use them at home, at school, and in their everyday lives. At **Winchester**, students created displays and demonstrations sharing something they are passionate about. Parents and families were invited to tour the displays, which lined the hallways, and talk with students about their passions. From soccer, to dance, to yo-yos, to mythology, to guitars, to horses, to frogs, to helping others – it is amazing what our young students can accomplish.



Winchester



Silver Springs



- At the December 12, 2017 Northville Board of Education meeting, the Board had the opportunity to honor an exceptional young man who in a moments of crisis, stepped up to help his brother. **Amerman Elementary School fifth grader Jasper Wang** was at home with his mother (Karen Wang) and brother, Malcolm Wang, a junior at Northville High School, when Malcolm suffered an epileptic seizure. While Karen Wang gently moved Malcolm to the floor to prevent injury, Jasper quickly retrieved the phone and a towel, moved furniture to further prevent injury and grabbed the medicine and water to help keep Malcolm comfortable. Jasper's quick actions won praise from the **Boy Scouts of America National Court of Honor**, which awarded him a **Certificate of Merit**. Now that's a Hero!



- Congratulations to Northville High School Senior Em SeGraves for being selected to perform with the 2018 Michigan School Vocal Music Association (MSVMA) High School State Honors Choir in Grand Rapids, at the Michigan Music Conference taking place January 25-27, 2018!



- Also, kudos to the NHS Chamber, BackBeat, and TrebleMakers choirs for being selected as the *in-residence* choir for the 2018 MSVMA Conducting Symposium, also part of the January 25<sup>th</sup> Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids, under the direction of Dr. Jerry Blackstone, at the University of Michigan!
- Thank you to our incredible Northville High School Competitive Cheer Team, which once again sponsored "Operation Holiday Cheer." The team is working with Holy Cross Children's Services to provide a cheer clinic and holiday party. This is an awesome event!
- Congratulations to all our fall sports teams on another incredible season. Our Girls Cross Country Team finished Runner-Up in the state competition, while the Girls Golf Team finished 4<sup>th</sup>; the Boys Tennis Team finished 6<sup>th</sup>, and the Girls Swim and Dive Team finished 7<sup>th</sup>. Even more impressive, four of our fall

sports teams were named All State Academic Teams including Boys Soccer, Girls Golf, Volleyball and Football (honorable mention). In addition, Girls Golf Team Head Coach **Chris Cronin**, and Girls Cross Country Head Coach **Nancy Smith** were named **Regional Coaches of the Year** in their sports. Also, the Mustangs' performance in the fall sports season, puts Northville in a respectable 9<sup>th</sup> place in the MLive Ultimate State Champion Competition for the 2017-18 school year.



- As part of their work in Mr. Ken Turner's seventh grade social studies class – along with their own learning about the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – Hillside Middle School seventh graders **Tessa Croteau**, **Olivia Harris**, and **Claire Aylor** developed a project to impact the world outside of their local community; specifically, "life under water." They started a friendly "Penny War" fundraiser with their fellow Hillside students and **raised more than \$1,700 for the Clearwater Marine Aquarium**, in Clearwater, Florida.

- The Hillside Drama Club has wrapped up another successful season, which began back in early-September with its popular **Theater Boot Camp**. For the third straight year **Northville High School Drama Club** mentors led an eight-week training course for more than 60 Hillside Middle School sixth, seventh and eighth graders. The middle school students worked on costuming, acting, stage craft, and even lighting and sound. After the audition process in November the season culminated on Wednesday, December 20, 2017, with the Hillside Drama Club presentation of *Two Minutes Or Less Sketch Fest*. The show was unique, as it was



written, performed, and crewed entirely by the middle school students participating! Family and friends were invited to attend on the performance as a "studio audience" for the taping of the show!

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of the Board of Education and the School District not to unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, religion, height, weight, marital status, handicap or disability. The District reaffirms its long-standing policy of compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination including, but not limited to, Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC SS2000d et seq. and 42 USC SS2000e et seq.; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 USC SS1681 et seq.; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC S794; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 USC SS12101 et seq.; Michigan's Handicappers' Civil Rights Act, MCL SS37.1101 et seq.; and, the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, MCL SS37.2101 et seq. Any questions concerning Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, or Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin, should be directed to:

- Title VI: **Mr. Aaron Baughman**, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services,
- Title IX: **Mr. David Rodgers**, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and/or **Ms. Nadine Harris**, Director for Special Services
- Inquiries related to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap, should be directed to **Ms. Nadine Harris**, Director for Special Services.

For additional information regarding Discrimination and Harassment Procedures, which includes definitions of discrimination and harassment, and the procedure for any person, teacher, student, administrator or non-employee to file alleged discrimination/harassment complaints with the District, go to the district's website at [www.NorthvilleSchools.org](http://www.NorthvilleSchools.org), click on "Our District" and go to "Procedural Notifications."



- Way to go Moraine Elementary School students, staff and families on their recent Penguin Pride Drive to benefit Northville Civic Concern. Many Civic Concern families need so much more than food, so the Moraine community decided to focus its drive around household items such as toilet paper tissue, paper towel, laundry detergent, soap and shampoo, as well as underwear, socks and diapers.

As always, I thank you for your continued support of Northville Public Schools.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2018!

*Mary K. Gallagher*

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Superintendent