

Superintendent's Report: December 2022

Highlight of the Month: I observed our kindergarten students engaged in some very exciting and engaging learning activities. 'Couch Potato' was the name of the game they were enthusiastically playing in Nick Cody's Physical Education class. Being the couch potato was not their option of choice! I also had the chance to watch them interact with their grade four reading buddies. Thanks to Jessica Garvie, grade K teacher, and Megan Dill, grade 4 teacher, for taking the initiative to provide this wonderful learning opportunity for both sets of students.

News and notes

Student Achievement:

- I need to acknowledge the efforts of our staff as they work together to provide the varied personalized learning experiences needed to meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of our students. Our staff has been diligent in differentiating their instructional strategies to meet the range of learning levels of our students, resulting from the COVID years, through a period of higher than usual absences by both staff and students.

Climate and Culture:

- Our upgraded heating system seems to be doing a great job of providing a consistent level of heat in our classrooms. Our new roof and insulation project is nearing completion. Scott Perry of Northeast Builders Roofing will be addressing the final punch list to complete the work on this project over the December vacation break.

Collaboration and Communication:

- Deb Richards and I met to discuss a tentative timeline for the 2023-24 budget process. The administrative team met to discuss the big ticket budget items, such as staffing, tuition and anticipated outplacements. Carole is working with her staff to gather all the information needed to provide for the continuation of quality instruction for all students in all of our classrooms.
- Deb Richards and I completed and submitted an application for the competitive HVAC grant program.

Comments on selected agenda items

Unfinished Business

- A. Policy 5144, Administration of Student Medications in the Schools
- B. Policy 5115, Student Attendance, Truancy, and Chronic Absenteeism
- C. Policy 5119, Physical Activity, Undirected Play, and Student Discipline
- D. Policy 5141.25, Management Plan and Guidelines for Students with Food Allergies, Glycogen Storage Disease and/or Diabetes
- E. New Policy 4119.3, Emergency Action Plan for Interscholastic and Intramural Athletic Events
- F. New Policy 4119.4, Exertional Heat Illness Awareness for Intramural and Interscholastic Athletics

These policies are on the agenda for a second reading and possible action.

New Business

- A. Resignation of Paraprofessional
Laurie Cydylo-Bousquet, kindergarten para, has resigned.
- B. Approval of HVAC Grant submission
Deb Richards and I submitted an application for the competitive HVAC grant program for our recent boiler conversion and replacement project. If we are successful this grant could provide up to 50+% of the costs (\$362,825.91) the Town incurred for the multi stage boiler project. Paul Torcellini, chair of the Town Boiler Committee, provided assistance with responding to some of the application questions.
- C. Approval of ARPA School Mental Health Workers Grant submission
Thanks to Carole for writing and submitting a grant proposal for the School Mental Health Workers Grant. Our current grants that support the services of our counselor and other social emotional services for our staff and students are ending this year. If successful, these grant dollars would continue to support and enhance these services.

Financial Reports

A. November 2022 Disbursements (sent via email)

B. Monthly Financial Summary, November 2022

C. Budget Transfers

At this time we are asking for the following transfer:

\$8,000 from 100.1200.3.112.00.5 (Salary, Para, SE) to 100.1200.3.121.03.5 (Substitutes, Non-Certified, SE)

We have had a high degree of paraprofessional absences which has impacted our substitute budget and is likely to continue.