

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sandwich Community Unit School District #430, DeKalb, Kendall, and LaSalle Counties, Illinois was held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at Sandwich Middle School.

President Miller welcomed the Board and audience to the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Present: President Miller, Vice-President Schroeder, Secretary Saitta, Englehart, Wilson, Scharenberg, and Morse

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Miller led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

HAPPY AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

This is American Education Week and a time to acknowledge the work and efforts of our staff, students and families along with recognizing this week the community service efforts of the Board of Education.

BOARD SALUTES

The Board saluted twelve SHS seniors who have been named Illinois State Scholars: Kathryn Alderman, Yuki Chen, William Davis, Lauren Fifield, Evan Fraser, Braedon Landers, Emalie Mosher, Elena Ortega, Melissa Pfaff, Molly Roberts, Kaylee Swickert and Lucia Towne; to Diego Gomez who completed an Honors English I assignment to address Homecoming and community spirit in a speech; and to Mr. Pajor and the fall play cast for their performance of a classic thriller based on a radio show called "Sorry, Wrong Number" and a comedy, "10 Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse".

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, EXPENDITURES, PAYROLL & INVESTMENTS

Mr. Schroeder moved, seconded by Mrs. Scharenberg to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2021 Regular board meeting and the current expenditures, payroll, and investment plans.

Ayes: Englehart, Saitta, Schroeder, Scharenberg, Wilson, Morse & Miller. Nays: None
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE SANDWICH/SOMONUAK/SYTF AGREEMENTS

Mr. Wilson moved, seconded by Dr. Englehart to approve the Sandwich/Somonauk/SYTF agreements as presented.

Ayes: Englehart, Saitta, Schroeder, Scharenberg, Wilson, Morse & Miller. Nays: None
MOTION CARRIED

SANDWICH 430 FRANKLIN MALL / LIONS CLUB COMMUNITY PROJECT

The Franklin Mall food drive is underway and all schools are participating. The School District has partnered with the Sandwich Lions Club over the years by helping collect non-perishable food items and monetary donations. Over 200 boxes of groceries and gift cards will be provided to families over the holidays.

SMS ART CLUB COMMUNITY PROJECT

The SMS art club has been busy sharing their talents by painting murals through the schools. They have now branched out into the community and are willing to paint murals for businesses and organizations as well.

WRITTEN SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT REPORTS

Dr. Darnell – Sandwich High School

Our students have taken the Cognia survey and the Student Engagement survey.

The student service dept. has begun identifying students at risk both academically and emotionally. We are beginning to track the effectiveness of current interventions.

SHS students had their first Habitudes lesson on Oct. 29, focusing on Character.

High School students will start receiving information regarding course selection November 12th Nov. 18th and 19th the students will be working College Career Readiness

Oct. 21 SHS recognized the new inductees for National Honor Society.

On Nov. 11 SHS will honor Veterans Day, having the VFW raise the flag in the morning. During the day SHS will honor “Voice of Democracy” as well as watch a tribute to local veterans. Marcos Gomez, Michael Goff, and Tony Lleshi were all participants in the “Voice of Democracy” contest.

The fall athletic season is officially over and overall we had some areas to celebrate. The Boys cross country team qualified for the state tournament and we had one female cross country runner that qualified for the state tournament.

The Boys team finished overall in 21st place

- Dayton Beatty finish 134th
- Josefh Hernandez finished 175th place
- Hudson Wills finished 226th place
- Travis Kellogg finished 252nd place
- Miles Corder finished 257th place

Joanna Rivera finished 123rd place

Mr. Heilemeier – Sandwich Middle School

The District Cognia Committee has been focused on getting the district aligned in E-strategies. We have learned a lot over the past couple of months about our upcoming visit. We are in the process of finalizing our SMS school plan, updating any activities and benchmarks while prioritizing what needs to be accomplished next year. Our staff is also starting to work towards our visit. Over the next month, SMS will be looking at the ELEOT tool. We will be using it to evaluate ourselves in preparation for the visit.

With the first round of FastBridge testing in the books, our staff is busy looking at all of the data. Grade level teams are meeting to pull apart the data and are in the process of setting up interventions where they are needed. The next round of testing will take place in January 2022.

Over the past year we have looked at the effectiveness of our environmental committees. Throughout this process, we continue to look at the strengths of our school and focus on areas we need to approve. Our committees have reviewed some major changes over the past couple of years. One of the committees that will be looked at this year is our MTSS committee. We are in the process of looking at an intervention period at SMS. This committee will be instrumental at suggesting the appropriate steps for this to occur.

Mrs. Ford – Herman E. Dummer School:

Progress reports have gone out and we are wrapping up our first trimester. Fifth-grade staff are working diligently on their standards-based grading and on their first standard-based report cards. Every year, another grade level has changed over to standards-based grading where parents/guardians and students are more aware of what they actually know and need more help in since the report cards aren't just an overall numerical grade in a subject but instead an indicator for standards within the subjects. This is an ever-evolving process but one where our staff have put in a lot of work and it is proving to be very beneficial.

Our Dummer Parent Group held its first fundraiser, which was a huge success! Students were able to purchase a lollipop ghost to send to another person with a personalized note for \$1. These special ghosts were delivered to their designated person the Friday before Halloween. Multiple Dummer Parent Group Zoom meetings have had consistent showings of people that participate and share ideas to help Dummer students and staff. Meetings are one time a month and breakout meetings occur when needed depending on activities or fundraisers that may need some extra work. Our parent group has been very active even with the difficulty of not meeting in person.

Ms. Greenacre - Lynn G. Haskin

FastBridge benchmarking was completed and data analyzed. We had a Data Day on October 22nd to discuss intervention groups and plans. We used benchmarking data, as well as classroom performance information to determine the groups/interventions. Classroom, Reading, Special Education, and Bilingual teachers are working closely to coordinate instruction for the students. Foundations has become the core intervention resource that we are using. The students in the groups will continue to be monitored every other week and we will meet again on December 14th to look at the data and make any necessary adjustments to the interventions. We are developing intervention groups for SEL and Math, along with the Reading groups that are in place.

For the month of November we are focusing on character trait of Fairness. Classroom teachers along with our Social Worker are providing lessons on the various character traits and social-emotional learning (Second Step). We are adding the "A Little SPOT" series of books by Diane Alber to our SEL collection. Teachers will use these books to help guide discussions and classroom/building activities focusing on the Character Traits. The students look forward to the gold slips and tokens, but more importantly are excited to share the recognition they receive for showing good character. This year we are adding a whole building incentive by filling a bucket with "SPOTS"-colored stones. The reward has yet to be determined. In December we will focus our discussions/activities on Responsibility.

The Building School Improvement Committee, which includes our members of the District Cognia Committee, is working with the staff on setting and monitoring the building and district level School Improvement goals. The district committees are working hard on the improvement priorities and providing direction for the future and our Cognia review.

Mr. Ryan - Prairie View

October has been a busy month! Students enjoyed a modified day of Halloween celebration within their classroom, including games, activities, and crafts. Prairie View also hosted its annual pumpkin decorating contest, where students have the opportunity to decorate a pumpkin based on one of their favorite books. This year we received over 40 entries which were on display for all to see in our LRC. Be on the lookout next month for our annual “Turkey in Disguise” competition.

Prairie View staff recently had an impactful day of collaboration around how to meet our students' needs best. Grade level teams sat down with our school psychologist, principal, and reading specialist to plan six weeks of focused student instruction during WIN (what I need) time. Each grade level is using their time a little bit differently based on what they think will be most impactful on their young learners. Prairie View recently revamped its daily staffing schedules to assist in these efforts to allow for added staff support in classrooms during WIN times. From a social-emotional standpoint, similar efforts are taking place to create small group SEL lessons with students identified through the SAEBRS screener. Thirteen groups have been established consisting of thirty-five students. Another five students will receive one-on-one time with our social worker due to the screener results, and another seven students who've been assigned an adult in the building will serve as a support/check-in point person. We are excited to meet again in early December to discuss student progress from an academic and social-emotional standpoint.

SIP Goals

- Develop and implement school-wide behavioral expectations for all common areas of the building.
 - The staff is currently working towards completing the verbiage for all common area expectation posters. The next step will be to design the posters with appropriate visuals (for our non-readers) and then work on an implementation plan.
 - Continue to foster and improve building-level committees and their impact on our school.
 - Building level committees continue to meet regularly and focus on yearlong initiatives and goals to help improve Prairie View in many facets. Next month (November), our student recognition committee will be starting a new Kindness program that will allow opportunities for students and staff to recognize each other for kind actions. This program will be tied to SEL discussions during our weekly Second Step lessons.
- Focus on the full implementation of ReadyGen and Foundations curriculums into ELA block.
 - Foundations curriculum has been a particular area of focus for grades K-2. Grade level teams are communicating regularly with their building peer and grade-level peers to improve upon the roll out of these curriculums. Focused SIP day agendas have helped teams through this process. The sharing of resources, ideas, successes, and failures has been vital towards implementation efforts.

Mrs. Kern - W.W. Woodbury

Collaborating with parents is the focus for November! Parent Teacher Conferences will be coming up on November 22nd and 23rd and we are looking forward to our time reflecting together on student progress and partnering with parents and guardians to best support their academic and social emotional growth. This year we are offering parents/guardians the option of meeting in-person or through a video conference using Zoom. The partnership between home and school is so critical in supporting our students.

It has been magnificent to have a full time social worker in our building. We are so thankful for have partners in support of our students social emotional needs. Here is this month's social work update from Miss Rogowski:

It has been a great start to the school year! Classroom social work lessons are under way utilizing our social-emotional curriculum, Second Step. We are about halfway through the first unit. The theme for Unit One is having a growth mindset and goal setting. Kindergarten has been learning about how and why we pay attention. First grade has been introduced to how to handle distractions and having positive thoughts. Second grade has been learning about what mistakes tell us and how to use mistakes in our everyday learning. Third grade has been focusing on the brain and how it changes with our mistakes to help us learn. We will be able to start Unit 2 towards the end of November.

At the end of Woodbury's Fall benchmarking period, a social-emotional screener was completed by 2nd and 3rd grade students as well as Kindergarten through 3rd grade teachers. The screener is used to identify students who may need additional social work support and interventions. Based upon the social-emotional screener, small groups are being formed and will begin working with me starting in November. There are several small groups being formed with various topics such as emotion regulation, creating and maintaining friendships, expected and unexpected behaviors, impulse control and social skills. Similar to students who need additional support in reading and math, I am here to work with students who need extra help with social-emotional skills and development. We believe that it is extremely important to provide interventions to ensure the greatest possible results. I appreciate your support and cooperation in doing what is necessary for your child's success in school!

The following are the updates on school improvement goals for the 2021-2022 school year and are shared with Woodbury families. Our goals are concentrated on school climate and social emotional learning, providing intervention to students, and implementation of new systematic phonics, spelling and handwriting program, Foundations. It is important to us that the targeted work done behind the scenes in our little school is shared with our stakeholders.

Begin CHAMPS Implementation in every classroom:

GOALS:

- COMPLETE: All classrooms display CHAMPS definitions. (Conversation, Help, Activity, Movement, Participation, SUCCESS)
- COMPLETE: All classrooms utilize and implement voice level recognition (0-silent, 1-whisper, 2-talking voice, 3-strong speaker/teacher voice, 4- Recess Voice).
- IN PROGRESS: Once students become familiar begin to implement in common areas (bathrooms/hallways/lunch/recess)
- IN PROGRESS: Implement School Wide Recognition.
- CONTINUOUS REVIEW: Follow up on progress in ongoing staff meetings to make determinations about next steps and student recognition and determine targeted goals and areas of need.

Implementation of WIN TIME: WIN stands for "What I Need", and refers to interventions and/or enrichment. During WIN time, some students receive intervention to work on specific math or reading skills and others might work on other learning tasks that appropriate for their individual level. Students might work with their classroom teacher, a paraprofessional, with a small group of other students, or a reading teacher during this time. This work and information is monitored over time should students need more support and services determined through our (MTSS) Multi-Tiered System of Supports review process.

GOALS:

- **COMPLETE:** Define 30 minutes of WIN time in classroom schedule.
- **IN PROGRESS:** Exploration and learning what works this year. Teachers and other staff or grade level teams collaborate and meet regularly to discuss intervention implementation. Use of interventions/enrichment may include Lexia or other web-based programs, individual or small group reteaching, classroom centers and more and are determined based on needs of students in each classroom.
- **CONTINUOUS REVIEW:** Grade level teams meet every 4 weeks to discuss WIN time implementation, define challenges and collaborating on ideas and what is working. Ongoing review of data and progress monitoring student performance for individual students as needed. Review progress at monthly whole staff meetings.

Implement Foundations at Grades K-2

Please click the link above to read more about Foundations.

GOALS:

- **IN PROGRESS** for the 2021-2022 school year: Full Implementation of Foundations at Grades K-1 2021-2022 school year. Modified Implementation at Grade 2 while monitoring progress and need of students.
- Collaboration with reading teachers to share progress, identify individual needs for reteaching and support.

Mr. Bloemker – Technology Director

Technology regular updates – Over the past month, from August 1st through November 8th, we have closed over 1045 tickets which is about 35 more than last year during the same period. As of this writing, we have 20 open issues ranging from system issues such as Tyler and Papercut; a few printing issues; chromebooks repairs, a few computer issues and a few project requests.

The Lexia issues have been resolved. After working with Lexia support to fix several issues, the remaining issues were found to be student-induced errors when they were noticed to be pressing some keys when there was no need. By doing this, it had the Lexia system take them back to the sign-in screen. After noticing this and guiding the students for proper hand positioning on the keyboard, the issues were resolved.

Chromebook Repairs and Support – At this time, chromebook repairs are being resolved in a very timely manner. Team members make daily visits to buildings to retrieve any devices with issues and to return devices that have been repaired. Since August 1st, there have been 189 chromebook repairs where 69 have been worked in the past month. Chromebook repairs consist of replacing screens and/or other internal parts, reseating of internal cables, power-washing devices are among the resolutions being performed. While repairs are being made, students have a loaner device to continue their learning and studies.

Applications Updates – ISBE Fall enrollment counts and demographic information has been verified both locally and on the ISBE website. Bilingual information has been certified and ISBE has pulled reports for the ACCESS testing that will begin in January. All ISBE reporting continues to be completed on time and verified for integrity and accuracy on a weekly basis.

ERATE: The FY22 Form 470 for all district internet access has been filed. We are now in the 28-day waiting period before the Form 471 can be filed. All FY21 form 471's and Form 486's have been approved by USAC/ERATE. We are considering whether to use some ERATE category 2 funds to purchase a replacement UPS unit for the server room at the High School.

The district's new MetroNet internet connection has been having some lingering issues getting turned up to us for usage. It was due to be fully operational back in mid-August. Since then, they have been getting the correct equipment in place to make the connection. Most recently, we have been stress testing it before making it live on the district network and noticed the speeds were not what we had requested. Apparently, the fiber optic light signal being received was too "bright" causing the connection to be much degraded. MetroNet has been ordering different attenuators in attempts to lower the brightness of the signal being received. This morning, 11/9, MetroNet has replaced the latest attenuator in hopes to finally get the connection fully operational. We will be stress testing it the remainder of the week to see how it operates.

Other items –Security cameras at PV, SHS, SMS and Bus parking area have been mounted and activated. We plan to mount 4 additional cameras at Woodbury. We did not get the maintenance department converted over to the new ticketing system last month. So we will do our very best to make this happen in November. We continue to do our best to keep the district fully operational at all times.

Mrs. Swan-Gravatt – Student Services

Our district school nurse team continues to provide stellar school health services to individual students on a daily basis all the while working to mitigate the virus infection rate with daily BINAX (nose swab) screenings for applicable students and staff. It takes an inordinate amount of time to process even just one student that is symptomatic but our nurses have been doing this work and performing their other very important school health tasks at the same time.

One of the school health service tasks other than BINAX screenings our nurses have been busy with is assisting families with ensuring their children have the appropriate physicals, immunizations, and vision tests (according to state guidelines). It has been difficult for some of our families to obtain needed physicals, immunizations, and vision tests due to the pandemic. Our nurses have been a vital resource to those families and have gone beyond the call of duty to assist families with obtaining those needed physicals, immunizations and vision tests. The school district is required to report to the state the total numbers of (applicable) immunized students and total numbers of (applicable) students that obtained a school physical and total numbers of (applicable) students that received a vision test each school year. The deadline for the district to submit district wide health data is November 15th.

Another very important school health service our school nurses provide each school year to our students are hearing and vision screenings. This task is very important to the "child find" responsibilities of the district. It is quite the endeavor to screen applicable students each year. It takes all hands on deck to get the job done!

Recently, the district completed the process of onboarding with SHIELD. SHIELD is a rapid rtPCR spit test, which was developed at the University of Illinois. Our weekly screening for unvaccinated staff that is mandated by the Governor will now occur using an outside health provider (Zebra Health) to perform weekly covid screening. Zebra Health will manage all aspects of SHIELD with our school nurses just offering up support for the outside provider on screening day at the designated school buildings. There are no costs for our district whatsoever for SHIELD and the district receives no income whatsoever for partnering with SHIELD. If a parent gives their written consent, their unvaccinated student can participate in the weekly rtPCR – SHIELD screening as well. Our nurses will continue to perform any needed daily (nose swab) BINAX screenings for symptomatic - non-vaccinated students of which the district has obtained written parental consent.

The service to our students and staff by our school nurse team is truly commendable and we are thankful to have them in our district doing this very important school health service work.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Citizens provided their opinions and remarks regarding masking, SEL, exclusion guidelines, and the dress Code.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Schroeder moved, seconded by Mrs. Scharenberg to adjourn the November 16, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.

Ayes: Englehart, Saitta, Schroeder, Scharenberg, Wilson, Morse & Miller. Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

President

Secretary