

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, February 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at Sandwich Middle School.

ROLL CALL

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

President Miller welcomed the audience to the meeting and led the pledge of allegiance.

BOARD SALUTES

The Board saluted members of the Sandwich High School I-8 Cheerleading Conference Champions: Head Coach Kris Mitchell, Asst. Coach Abby Mitchell, Cheerleaders - Judea Clark, Hailey Erickson, Skylar McGuane, Eliza Schiradelly, Prayer Sommers, Ashley Tindall, Ryleigh Gerali, Maddy Gruca, Mikayla Schiradelly and Maya Sommers; and to the Sandwich High School Wrestling team for winning the I-8 Conference Championship, Team Regional, Team Sectional and qualifying for the IHSA Team State Meet: Head Coach Derek Jones, Assistant Coaches Jeff Bewley and Kris Cassie and Wrestlers - Ashlyn Strenz, Anthony Sparti, Josefh Hernandez, Kadin Kern, Miles Corder, Sy Smith, Evan Fraser, Evan Reilly, Nolan Bobee, Gabe Galvan, Aidan Linden (3rd individual state meet), Bryce Decker, Samuel Dale, Alex Alfaro (5th individual state meet), Connor Holly, Kaiden Gustafson and Jaime Serrano.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Ms. Saitta moved, seconded by Mr. Wilson to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2022 board meeting and the current expenditures, payroll, and investment plans.

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

SANDWICH EDUCATION FOUNDATION REPORT

The Sandwich Education Foundation is making plans for their fundraiser that is tentatively scheduled for June 4, 2022 at Edgebrook Golf course.

In 1994, the Sandwich CUSD #430 Foundation for Educational Excellence was formed. The purpose of the Foundation has been to support, promote, supplement, and enrich the educational programs and activities of students; and to develop links with businesses and civic organizations. Since 1994, the Foundation has carried out its mission extremely well.

Due to the efforts of the Foundation and its many benefactors, programs have continued to be enhanced throughout the district. Teaching and learning opportunities have been strengthened while community support for our schools continues to be generated.

Foundation funds are obtained from individual and corporate tax deductible contributions, as well as through other planned fundraising activities. Over the years, over \$375,000 has been raised to help supplement positive programs and services for our students.

KENDALL COUNTY OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTER REPORT

The KCOEC continues to serve students preschool through high school for Sandwich, Plano and Yorkville School Districts.

The KCOEC has access to areas of prairie, hardwood forests, several streams, and the Fox River. The facility also has several outdoor teaching stations, a small indoor classroom, a teams challenge course, and a living history area.

The mission of the KCOEC is to provide students the opportunity for experiential learning, in an outdoor setting. While enhancing the standard school curriculum, the KCOEC offers the opportunity for student decision-making, self-confidence development, team building, risk taking, leadership development, and personal adventure. A common thread woven into all outdoor education activities is a strong stewardship responsibility, conservation ethic, and environmental harmony.

Lessons at the KCOEC are divided into four areas: Environmental Science, Living History, Map and Compass Skills (which include compass and GPS use), and Team Building.

Current number of students served for District #430 (total #: 621 students)

September	October	November	December	January
197	162	155	100	7

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT REPORTS

In written reports:

Dr. Darnell – Sandwich High School

Jen Docherty and Ashley Norton organized a six-district career fair at Sandwich High School on Feb. 3. We had over 20 careers represented and even a surgeon who zoomed in from Texas.

This year the music department is proud to announce that Katie Alderman was selected to represent Sandwich at the 2022 ILMEA Music Education Conference. Katie auditioned and was selected among the top vocal musicians in the state. She participated in the fall District 8 ILMEA event as well as the 2022 IMEC (Illinois Music Education Conference) held in Peoria, IL on January 27-29.

The SHS Cognia committee has continued to work on our Artifacts as we prepare for our spring audit.

SHS MTSS committee-continues to meet and working on developing a formal process for staff to submitting students who are struggling emotionally and/or academically to our problem-solving team.

8th Grade Transition-Counselors are currently meeting with 8th grade families to schedule their student for 9th grade and laying out the students four-year path to graduation. We currently have over 150 hits on our website that we sent to 8th grade families. We will start developing the 2022-2023 schedule March 1.

The English Department continue to build the curriculum for the Transitional English course that will be offered next school year.

The Wrestling Team is conference champions and regionals are Feb. 6th.

On Jan. 25, a very cold day, SLIP students met at Hoover Forest Preserve with their peers from Yorkville High School. The students participated in a service learning day, where they went out in the forest and cleared invasive species, such as honeysuckle. These students braved the cold and donated their time so that others can

enjoy the Forest Preserve. The goal of the day was for the students to further develop their concept of service learning, as well as see the fruits of their labor by engaging in a woodland preservation project.

Mr. Heilemeier – Sandwich Middle School

We are now well into the 3rd quarter. The grade level teams are finishing up FastBridge testing make ups and will be looking at the data to help determine where many of our students are at. Grade level teams are working out the IAR testing schedules and are preparing our students for the testing that will take place in March.

The SMS Cognia team is starting to put the finishing touches on our building plan. Our building team is working to collect the necessary artifacts for the final review. SMS is also starting our ELEOT tool data collection this month. Staff members will be visiting classrooms to fill out the ELEOT form. The SMS Cognia team is also working through our building self-evaluation and completing the narratives necessary for the review

Mrs. Ford – Herman E. Dummer School

FastBridge testing is now complete and we will be looking at this testing data at our February MTSS/Data Days from the math and reading tests and the SEL screener, MySabrs. This data helps us to know what is working and what we may need to do to meet the needs of our students. At times, students have interventions added, changed, or dismissed but it all relies on our data and information from the teachers that work with them and the information we have.

Teacher and staff evaluations will be completed this month.

Sandwich schools will be sending some staff and admin to the Teach to Lead Summit where we will work with other districts and experts to help in areas we submitted for our particular need. Sandwich will be working on standards based grading and assessments again this year. A group attended this summit right before Covid hit and we were incredibly impressed with how the whole process was run and how much we accomplished, but unfortunately, we were unable to complete our full plan due to unforeseen circumstances. We intend to continue and improve our plan so we can continue to move forward.

Ms. Greenacre - Lynn G. Haskin

We have finished Winter benchmarking and have had an MTSS/Data Day to meet and discuss student progress and intervention groups. The team works together to target skills, make group adjustments based on data, and coordinate instruction. The students in intervention groups will continue to be progress monitored.

Our building Character Counts/SEL committee has coordinated our monthly activities. For February, we are focusing on the pillar of Caring. The students will do various activities throughout the month to help develop an understanding of this trait. Our March trait is Trustworthiness/Honesty. We are using a combination of Character Counts, Bucket filling, Little Spot books, Zones of Regulation, and Second Step to help address the SEL needs of our students.

With the decision to move to a virtual Cognia review, we are ready to assist in the preparation of artifacts and documents to add to the district collection. We look forward to meeting virtually with the team to show all that our district has done and to get feedback on areas to focus on.

The Illinois Assessment of Readiness testing is coming up again for our 3rd graders! The students and teachers have been busy preparing for this assessment. We continue to monitor the ISBE website for information and resources. The tests, ELA and Math, are administered online during multiple test sessions in each area. Our hope is that, since we have been back in school fulltime, our students will do well with the assessments.

Mr. Ryan – Prairie View

For the last month, Prairie View students have completed the academic portion of Fastbridge benchmarking. Students across four grade levels are administered various assessments to measure growth in reading and math. Mrs. McGregory and Ms. VanKampen did a great job collaborating with grade-level teachers to help with the test administration process efficiently and effectively. Teachers will use this valuable data to gain insight into their students' progression and best proceed from an instructional planning standpoint. Coming up later this month, our students and staff will complete their second social-emotional screener of the year.

Students and staff are focusing on maintaining a healthy balance of screen time, especially during the cold winter months. It is a challenge for our students to find healthy after-school/evening habits due to the inability to spend time outside interacting and playing physically. While we have a significant amount of control over how much screen time students receive here at school, the same cannot be said for their time outside the building. In an ongoing effort to help our students, Mrs. Martin, our PE teacher, is not only assisting students towards increasing their heart rates during PE. This month, Mrs. Martin has challenged our students and their families to participate in a winter fitness challenge while at home. We hope that the Prairie View community will rock the fitness challenge and, at the same time, rock the winter blues.

- Develop and implement school-wide behavioral expectations for all common areas of the building.
 - As a staff we are on pace to roll out this initiative for the SY 22-23. In some areas of the building, we are beginning to utilize verbiage that will be part of this process such as voice level 0,1,2 or 3.
- Continue to foster and improve building-level committees and their impact on our school.
 - Building level committees continue to have a positive impact at Prairie View. The building recognition committee recently worked with certified staff, students and stakeholders to recognize our dedicated paraprofessionals. (see pictures below)
- 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 rollout of these curriculums. Focused SIP day agendas have helped teams through this process. Sharing resources, ideas, successes, and failures have been vital towards implementation efforts.

Mrs. Kern – WW Woodbury

January has come and gone and we are in the thick of winter. It can feel like the slowest time of the year for many and may keep us holed up inside more than usual. Sometimes it may even be dangerous to play outside due to extreme temperatures, it gets dark early in the evening, and many of our families have hectic after-work/school schedules. All of these factors often lead to an uptick in screen time.

Research shows that the more time children engage with screens, the more challenging time they have turning them off as they become older children. In addition, screen time has been linked to eating more, having trouble sleeping, and poorer performance in school. Additionally, as technology has evolved, the world has been changing too. It is incredibly easy to stumble upon inappropriate content on the internet, YouTube, and through several types of gaming. Moreover, as our kids get older social media, cyberbullying, and exposure to sexually explicit content is presented to them even more.

Below are a few suggestions provided by a great resource (actionforhealthykids.org) to help reduce screen time, while at the same time increasing healthy habits for both your student(s) and your household. [Click Here](#) to access the entire list.

- Make bedrooms “no screen zones.” Kids who have TVs in their rooms tend to watch about 1.5 hours more TV per day than those who don’t.
- Designate one or more days per week as “screen-free” days, where physical activity, reading, and spending quality time together are prioritized. **see Mrs. Martin's fitness challenge below!**
- Turn off electronic devices during dinner. Make use of the time together to talk about the day. Ask about your student's favorite part of their day, a challenge they faced, something kind they did while at school.
- Try new hobbies. Replace screen time with something more active, join a club, discover a unique talent, or sign up for a hands-on class at your local community center. Perhaps assign chores/responsibilities for each of your students to complete to help the household.
- Avoid using electronic devices as a reward or punishment. This makes screens seem even more important. Check out Healthy & Active Non-Food Rewards for other ideas.

I hope you find the information above and below helpful as we try to do the right work together- preserving the innocence of our children, helping to shape and protect their brains and their mental health. There are many wonderful parts of technology that build curiosity and imagination so looking at quality of content rather than quantity is important too.

SEL Corner:

We are currently wrapping up unit two of Second Step. Unit two has had a huge focus on emotion management. Kindergarten through 3rd grade have come up with tons of awesome different coping strategies! I love their creativity! I have really enjoyed this unit!! Pretty soon we will be moving on to unit three which looks at the power of kindness.

For Kindergarteners moving into unit three, the goal of this unit is to have students learn examples of kind acts and talk about why being kind to others is so important. First graders will be learning about the power of kindness that helps let others know we care about them. We will discuss ways to be kind to people, including asking “are you okay” or “would you like some company” when they notice someone is upset. Towards the end of the unit, they will practice offering to help and inviting someone to join them in play. Second grade is learning what empathy is and how it's connected to kindness. Students will learn that having empathy means feeling or understanding what someone else is feeling. We will practice using empathy to think of acts of kindness they can do for others. Third graders will be learning how empathy and kindness can help them strengthen friendships as well as making new friends. Students will practice empathy in action by asking questions to learn more about what someone might want or need and then follow up with an act of kindness.

This lesson is so important!! Research shows that children who learn the skills in this unit are more likely to:

- -build stronger relationships
- -resolve conflicts more effectively
- -exhibit positive behaviors
- -develop increase empathy
- -avoid aggressive behaviors
- -be more connected and compassionate

We encourage all families to ask their students what kind act did they do today? What were some kind acts others did for them? If you are reading a book or watching a movie together, help your child practice having empathy for the characters. You can ask “how do you think that person feels” or “what is a kind act that would help them feel good?”

SIP / Educational Goals / Cogna Progress:

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 be 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 – Director of Technology

Technology regular updates – Over the past month, from August 1st through February 1st, we have closed over 1441 tickets which is about the same last year during the same period. As of this writing, we have 44 open issues ranging from a few printing issues, chromebooks repairs (9/28), a few computer issues and a few project requests.

Chromebook Repairs and Support –Team members continue to 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 317 chromebook repairs where 51 have been worked since the last report. 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.

Application Updates – All applications seem to be operating normally, at this time. We continue entering data into the CRDC website for their data collection requirements for the 2020-2021 school year. This project is due for completion by Feb. 28th. Preparations are being made for sending IAR testing accommodations to ISBE and Pearson. This should be completed by March 1st.

SOPPA compliance is an ongoing process for the district. I continue working through the list obtained from late last school year as time permits and seeking approval for new requests that are received through the ticketing system. To date, the district has over 80 approved vendors with signed agreements.

Registration – Registration for the 2022-2023 school year has begun. All of the forms were updated for the current year and approved by the administration. Parents were able to begin this process on January 25th. To date, we have had 137 student registrations submitted from parents for approval. This number of submissions is about the same number as last year at this time.

ERATE: A new Form 470 has been filed to match a contract from Syndeo fiber optics for the fiber connectivity links already being used in the district. We will file the Form 471 on March 1st. We filing a Form 470 to use ERATE category 2 funds to purchase a replacement UPS unit for the server room at the High School. This should be filed before the end of the week.

Mrs. Swan Gravatt – Director of Special Education

Planning for next school year has already been occurring in the office of Student Services for our services for our low incidence populations. Our low incidence population needs will continue to be met via district resources and services provided to Sandwich from the NIA (Northwestern Illinois Association). This month, I will be meeting with NIA representatives to conduct our needs assessment for school year 2022-2023.

According to the low incident population needs it is evident that Sandwich will maintain our level of assistance and services for Autism, Occupational Therapy, Vision Teaching, Hearing Teaching, Audiology, BCBA (Board Certified Behavioral Analyst), and Physical Therapy needs.

Our official district special education profile for the 2021-2022 school year was released this past month by ISBE. District Special Education Profiles are created for each public school district in Illinois. Local data are displayed along with statewide numbers for comparison purposes.

Special Education Profiles are comprised of five sections:

1. Background Information
2. Student Performance
3. Educational Environment
4. School Completion
5. State Performance Plan

These profiles also help districts identify trends that are occurring within a district regarding their special education population. The following trends are evident when you compare our profile from year to year.

1. Continued upward trend of students enrolled with behavior intervention plans
2. Continued upward trend of students enrolled with a diagnoses of Autism

3. Continued upward trend of early childhood and elementary students enrolled and are prescribed occupational therapy
4. Continued upward trend at a disproportionate rate of students age groups 6-18 that require social work services
5. Specific Learning Disabilities continues to be our largest category of eligibility for special education services
6. Other Health Impairment Disabilities (primarily students with diagnoses of ADHD and/or Anxiety) is our second largest category of eligibility for special education services
7. Continued trend of increasing year to year of total numbers of enrolled students with disabilities.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Citizens provided their opinions and remarks regarding masks and cell phone use in schools.

ENTER CLOSED SESSION

Dr. Englehart moved, seconded by Mr. Schroeder to enter closed session to discuss matters related to the appointment, employment, dismissal, compensation or performance of specific employees; collective bargaining, litigation, and the setting of price for sale or lease of property or whether a particular parcel should be acquired.

Ayes: Saitta, Englehart, Schroeder, Wilson and Miller. Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED Time: 7:30 pm

Mrs. Scharenberg entered the meeting via cell at 7:35 pm.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Ayes: Saitta, Englehart, Schroeder, Scharenberg (via cell), Wilson and Miller. Time: 8:35 pm

APPROVE CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Dr. Englehart moved, seconded by Mr. Wilson to approve the closed session minutes of the meeting of January 18, 2022.

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

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE EMPLOYMENT

Dr. Englehart moved, seconded by Ms. Saitta to approve the employment of Chad Hicks – Head Girls' Track Coach for the 2021-2022 school year.

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

MOTION CARRIED

RE-APPOINT ADMINISTRATION 2022-2023

Mr. Wilson moved, seconded by Ms. Saitta to approve the re-appointment of Shane Darnell – Sandwich High School Principal, Micky Herzog – Sandwich High School Assistant Principal, Tim Gipe – Sandwich High School Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, Andrew Heilemeier - Sandwich Middle School Principal, Tim Ballard – Sandwich Middle School Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, Lynette Ford - Herman E. Dummer Principal, Jennifer Kern - WW Woodbury Principal, Garrett Ryan – Prairie View Principal, Crystal Swan-Gravatt - State Approved Director of Special Education and Glen Bloemker - Technology Director for the 2022-2023 school year.

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

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Schroeder moved, seconded by Mr. Wilson to adjourn the February 8, 2022 Board meeting.

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

MOTION CARRIED Meeting Adjourned at 8:40 pm

President

Secretary