

Intermediate
School
District 917

Intermediate School District 917

1300 145th Street East

Rosemount, MN 55068

Telephone: 651-423-8000; FAX: 651-423-8781

ISD 917 BOARD NOTES

December 3, 2019

Regular Board Meeting

ISD 917 Employee of the Fall Quarter Ashley Platz

Ashley is a paraprofessional at Concord Education Center. She is incredibly receptive to the needs of her students. She is brilliant at coming up with redirections and teaching replacement behaviors on the spot. She is kind but firm. Another strength of Ashley's is her ability to work as a team member. She communicates effectively and with compassion. She openly demonstrates respect for other staff members and teachers and support staff alike seek her out for her knowledge. Intermediate School District 917 students and staff benefit greatly from having Ashley on their team.



ISD 917 Teacher of the Fall Quarter Angie Fleming

Angie is a phenomenal Speech Language Pathologist for the SUN and TEA programs. She is always working to create fun and exciting lessons to engage students in their speech sessions. She patiently and professionally answers staff questions regarding students, procedures, and assistive technology devices. She tirelessly goes above and beyond to help everyone. 917 is very blessed to have this diligent, efficient, and caring employee. Angie is the reason coming to work is a joy for the staff she works with. Thank you Angie, for all you do for our students & staff!



Calendar Information

PERSONNEL

New Hires: Danielle Donkers, Classroom Assistant, effective December 2, 2019. Mark Gogala, Classroom Assistant, effective November 6, 2019. Bevin Kilpatrick, Classroom Assistant, effective November 25, 2019. **Change in Status:** Michelle Huberty, went from 7 hours FTE to 7.5 Hours FTE, for the 2019-2020 school year. Gretchen Toay, Interpreter Addition, +\$1,500.00 stipend, for the 2019-2020 school year. **Leaves of absence:** Amanda Burr, effective October 28, 2019 – January 19, 2020. **Resignations and Terminations:** Alyssa Bailey, Classroom Assistant, effective November 29, 2019. Catherine Benson, Classroom Assistant, effective November 8, 2019. Amanda Burr, Program Assistant, effective December 3, 2019. David Diaz, Program Assistant, effective October 31, 2019. Sawyer Helgeson, Sign Language Interpreter, effective November 27, 2019. Mary Korsmo, Sped Teacher Vision, effective December 20, 2019. Shanetta Mitchell, Classroom Assistant, effective November 13, 2019. Rhiannon Stromberg, School Mental Health Practitioner, effective September 3, 2019. **Retirements:** Susan Fox, Classroom Assistant, effective January 10, 2020. Ann Wengeler, Administrative Assistant, effective November 25, 2019.

December 24-25, 2019 —Closed for Holiday break

January 1, 2020—Closed for New Year's Day

January 7, 2020—5:00 PM, School Board Meeting, 917 Board Room, DCTC



Reports and Motions

- Motion passed approving the audit report from MMKR for the 2018-2019 school year.
- Motion passed approving the 403b IRS Plan Document.
- Motion passed approving the 2019-2021 Teachers' Contract.

Baby Congratulations

Congratulations to **Caroline Peterson, Sign Language Interpreter,** and her husband **Brian** and we can't forget **big sister, Lena,** on the birth of **Margaret (Maggie) Jane Peterson!** Maggie was born at 7:30 a.m. on November 2, 2019, and weighed 8 pounds, 15 oz, and was 21.5 inches long.



GOOD NEWS—Medical Careers

On November 18, 2019 we completed our Cultural Diversity unit and celebrated with a variety of food items from the student's culture and family traditions. Each student brought in a food item or dish made by them and shared the story of the dish, what the ingredients are, and the importance of this within their own families. Needless to say, it was fun, delicious, entertaining, and also eye-opening. Carol and Becky also shared their family dishes.



GOOD NEWS—DCALS

- On December 2, 2019 the two Medical Careers and Medical-Science class will begin BLS Healthcare Provider CPR training. We expect this to last about two weeks to get through all the students. We are also excited because we have eight of the new manikins with built in assistive devices which give instant feedback on compression rate and depth, to assure the students they are performing it correctly.
 - Medical Careers also just completed an assignment on “STRESSORS”, which is quite timely because of the upcoming holidays, final exams, and traveling. We also discuss the positive and the negative stressors, along with learning about “coping mechanisms”. I discovered this idea from a Park Nicollet Newsletter years ago, and have designed it use in the classroom. It truly is eye-opening to see the results from the students, and to be invited into their “secret place” in their head! We start with a big outline of a blank head, and students go through magazines to find words, pictures and sayings to use to showcase their individuality. No two student’s posters are identical.
- ⇒ According to data collected by the “American Psychological Association” for the Stress in America Survey, teen stress rivals that of adults. Results of the survey show that not only do teens identify that their stress levels are not healthy, but they also underestimate the impact stress has on their mental and physical health.
- ⇒ For teens, the most commonly reported sources of stress are school (83 percent), getting into a good college or deciding what to do after high school (69 percent), and financial concerns for their family (65 percent).



The entire Medical Careers class would like to wish the ISD 917 staff a Holiday season filled with gratitude and thankfulness for our families, loved ones, and our soldiers who are away from their homes during this time of year.

GOOD NEWS—DCALS

- On Wednesday, November 13th students from the DCALS North site volunteered at Feed My Starving Children in Eagan. The students and staff had a great time helping a great cause.



- Don Williams** and a group of students from our DCALS North site volunteered at Sharing and Caring Hands in Minneapolis on November 26th. This has been an annual tradition for Mr. Williams and the students.



GOOD NEWS—DCALS

- On Friday, November 22nd the Dakota County Perkins Consortium Leadership team met at Extreme Sandbox in Hastings. This location was made possible through the support of North Dakota State College of Science/**James Johnson**-Enrollment Coordinator, RMS-Komatsu of Savage, MN/**Pete Anderson**, and **Randy Stenger**-Owner of Extreme Sandbox. The group held their monthly meeting at this site and then had the opportunity to learn more about NDSCS and RMS-Komatsu's partnership program. A highlight of the day was the presentation by **Tyler Dubbels** who is a 2017 Farmington HS Grad and a 2 year participant in ISD 917 Heavy Duty Truck Technology program taught by **Tom LeDoux**. Tyler attended NDSCS as a sponsored student of RMS-Komatsu. He is currently employed by RMS-Komatsu of Savage, MN. We were also very fortunate to have Dr. John Richman, President of NDSCS, on site to make a brief statement to the participants.

Pictured(L-R): **Dr. John Richman**-Pres. NDSCS, **Jim Johnson**-NDSCS, and **Pete Anderson**-RMS



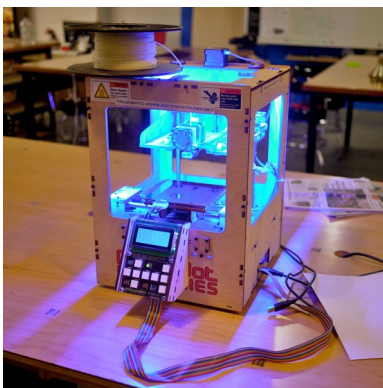
Pictured: **Pete Anderson**-RMS/Komatsu and **Tyler Dubbels**-FHS Grad/ISD 917 HDT

GOOD NEWS—DCALS

- The Construction Trades House was shingled the week of Nov. 25th just ahead of the snow storm. The windows and mechanicals are slated to be done in the first week of December.



- Fundamental Chef Training students and staff sold approximately **440** pies for their Thanksgiving pie sale. The students were able to plan, sell, prepare, package and distribute these pies. Thanks for your continued support. **Chef Patty LaBeau**



- **Computer Repair, Networking, and Gaming** will be 3D printing projects that students started designing this past mod. Look for some photos in the near future. Also students in the Repair program were fortunate to be walked through a brand new computer build thanks to a student that asked for our help in building it from Chef Patty's class. **Dale Engman-ISD 917 Teacher**

GOOD NEWS—Special Education

- On Wednesday, November 20, 2019 the ECSE TEA program at Pine Bend Elementary School hosted family day. It was well attended and families were able to participate in part of the day and join their children for a Thanksgiving style school family lunch. The students and parents participated in a group activity and played outside prior to the feast. It was fun to watch and listen to the kids explain their day and how the classroom works to their parents. The students used Conscious Discipline language and explained to their parents how it's okay to make mistakes and then we can practice a new way. All in all a successful day!



- The New Chance Program hosted their annual Thanksgiving Family Fest on Friday, November 22nd. The students each presented on a different North American indigenous tribe. Families and staff were able to watch the presentation and then participate in a Thanksgiving dinner with the students.



GOOD NEWS—Special Education

- The vision team celebrated their inaugural night of goalball on Thursday, November 21st. Students, friends, and family learned the basics of goalball and played several games. Hastings High School staff and students demonstrated a fierce game of students versus staff, and a student from Inver Grove Heights filled the whole goalball court with a team of family and friends. We'll be playing again on December 12th, contact your friendly neighborhood 917 vision teacher if you want to play!
- In an effort to create and strengthen a community of social learning, students in TESA recently participated in the will be 8th annual fall festival. The recurring adaptive game "Minute to Win It" theme was in full swing at 16 different stations. Students and staff from DCTC and BTC organized the event to celebrate a successful beginning of the school year and the induction of the new student council members.
- Recently the middle and high school DASH classes played adapted Wheel of Fortune during DAPE. Students and staff from both classrooms had fun playing the game together. The students worked on utilizing switches, letter recognition, math and money concepts, and team building by cheering on their peers.



GOOD NEWS—Special Education

- The month of October meant studying Harry Potter in **Henry Sibley High School's DASH program**. Throughout the month, students worked hard to decorate the classroom with different Harry Potter crafts and decorations in time for their Halloween party. They enjoyed making different treats for the party such as: broomsticks, polyjuice potion, chocolate wands and troll bogies. The students enjoyed getting ready for the party and celebrating everything they worked hard to learn all month.



- The Reptile and Amphibian Discovery Zoo visited Cedar School on Oct.30th. The **RAD Zoo** is located in Owatonna and has one of the world's largest reptile displays. It has over 150 kinds of snakes, turtles, lizards, crocodilians, toads, frogs, and salamanders from all over the world. Cedar students, staff, and parents enjoyed learning about and seeing 10 different reptiles and amphibians. The 45-minute show focused on animals of the rainforest as well as a few critters that make their home here in MN. The highlight of the unique show was when students and staff had the opportunity to not only see but touch the shell of a tortoise but hold one of the zoo's huge snakes. While the animals caused a few to feel uncomfortable most of the group squealed with excitement and said they loved the show.



GOOD NEWS—Special Education

- Students in **Becky Hague's elementary Cedar SUN** classroom built catapults as part of their study of forces and motion. Once completed, the students tried them out to see how far their catapults would throw a styrofoam ball.
- Lebanon Education Center held a masquerade dance on Halloween. Students came "dressed" in their masks that they made. The dance was the monthly school wide activity.
- High school students from the **TEA** program took a field trip to **Vertical Endeavors**. For most, it was their first time rock climbing and bouldering. Everyone challenged themselves to attempt something new and to go higher than they thought they could. From the picture you can see some made it to the top!
- The DAPE team at CEC has been busy! **Kristin Goeser** brought in a guest yoga instructor to work on yoga poses with the students. Yoga has a calming, centering effect on our students and this is one of their favorite physical education units. The students are also enjoying their Adaptive Fitness class, in partnership with Anytime Fitness in Inver Grove Heights. The students are working in personalized fitness programs that they can carry over as a post-secondary activity. We are so grateful for this partnership and program!

