



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 4, 2018

Regular Board Meeting



ISD 917 Employee of the Fall Quarter

Congratulations to Jason Johnson on being awarded the employee of the Fall Quarter! Jason has been employed with ISD 917 since 2011 and just moved to Concord Education Center from Alliance in the fall of 2018. Jason has looked at the move to a classroom with older students as an opportunity for growth. His consistent and quiet tone help each of the students to feel safe and comfortable in processing feelings. Jason is an amazing role model for boys in their teen years. He is a quiet leader for the students and staff.

ISD 917 Teacher of the Fall Quarter

Congratulations to Kelsey Mlodozyniec on being awarded the Teacher of the Fall Quarter! Kelsey is only in her third year of teaching but has made an impact on the DHH program well beyond her years. Kelsey has been involved in creating DHH extracurricular activities, digital parent newsletters that she eagerly shares with her colleagues to use without credit, and a Youtube channel that features articles, videos and other DHH related information. She has helped to create staff t-shirts that celebrate access and diversity. She is an avid advocate for her students and has been a strong voice in the schools and districts in which she serves. She is eager to learn as much as possible. She spent a part of her summer at a Literacy camp that inspired her to start the Reading Certificate program at Hamline University. Her positive energy is contagious to all who are lucky enough to work with her. She is always looking for ways to contribute without seeking recognition. She has contributed so much in such a short period of time. Our DHH itinerant program recognizes her contributions. I believe that the district should as well. We want to encourage and honor young teachers who are on fire! Kelsey is that person.

Calendar Information

PERSONNEL

New Hires: Lauren Adelman, Classroom Assistant, effective December 3, 2018. Luke Carlson, Special Education Teacher, effective November 16, 2018 (from Classroom Assistant to Special Education Teacher). Mary Jean Korsmo, Teacher of the Visually Impaired, effective November 12, 2018. Alisha Ostenson, Classroom Assistant, effective November 19, 2018. Megan Petersen, Classroom Assistant, effective November 26, 2018. **Change in Status:** Joan Asmus, Nurse, medical leave request effective December 11, 2018, with an expected return date of January 14, 2019. Emily Mateo, English Teacher, request to extend general leave of absence effective January 22, 2019, through June 30, 2021. Danielle Rother, Classroom Assistant, maternity disability leave effective on or about April 15, 2019, with an expected return date of June 10, 2019 (or August 2019). Nichole Short, School Psychologist, parental leave effective January 2, 2019, with an expected return date of January 25, 2019. Anita Traynor, Health Associate, medical leave request effective December 21, 2018, with an expected return date of January 28, 2019. **Resignations & terminations:** Johnathan Harlin, Special Education Teacher, effective November 15, 2018. Teresa Kane, Classroom Assistant, effective August 21, 2018. Kelly Kennedy, Classroom Assistant, effective October 12, 2018. **Retirements:** Ann Kalgren, Teacher of DHH, effective June 7, 2019.

December 24-25, 2018 —Closed for Holiday break

January 1, 2019—Closed for New Year's Day

January 8, 2019—5:00 PM, School Board Meeting, 917 Board Room, DCTC

January 21, 2019—No School—917 Staff at DCTC Location closed for Martin Luther King Day



Reports and Motions

- Motion passed to accept donation of a Easy Stand Stander from Jody Streff of Hastings (Value: \$1,000).
- Motion passed to accept the 2017-2018 Audit.
- Motion passed to accept the revised Policy 506—Student Discipline

GOOD NEWS—DCALS

Home of Career and Technical Education

Medical Careers – Fun Updates

- On November 12, 2018, we completed our Cultural Diversity section and celebrated with a variety of food items from the student's culture and family traditions. Each student brought in a food item made by them and explained the name of the dish, what are the ingredients, and the importance of this in their own families. Needless to say, it was amazing fun, delicious, and informational. Recipes were shared also. Becky and I also participated in this with our own food dishes.
- On December 3rd, the two Medical Careers and one Med-Science class will begin BLS Healthcare Provider CPR training. We expect this to last about two weeks. Each student has to perform complete CPR with AED on adult and baby. We also address conscious choking (Heimlich) and address unconscious choking for adult/child/infant. We are excited because we have eight new mannequins, with built in assistive devices which give instant feedback on compression rate and depth. We are thankful for Perkins funding on this mandatory purchase. All classes taught have to use these beginning January 2019.
- Medical Careers also completed an assignment on "STRESSORS", which is quite timely because of the holidays, traveling, final exams, and learning that we are all different with different feelings. We also talk about the positive and the negative stressors, along with learning different coping mechanisms. I got this idea from a Park Nicollet newsletter years ago, and have designed it use in the classroom. We have an outline of a head, and students go through magazines and find words, sayings, and pictures they can use to share what their individual stress items are. The students love doing it, because it is clearer when they can look at it and see it, also promotes learning how to deal with these before they come up. No 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).

Carol Lundquist-Instructor and Becky Rachuy-Tech Tutor

GOOD NEWS—DCALS

- **Hosanna Emergency Action Response Team (HEART)** donated many, many food items to the DCALS Food Shelf. We can now offer kids a variety of break-fast and lunch sandwiches as well as many baked goods. They would like to continue helping out with regular donations. We are also continuing to receive donations from our Amazon wish list. Staff and students are extremely grateful for the help.



DCALS Wish List

Link: <http://www.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/3NPKQCK9OZKVC>

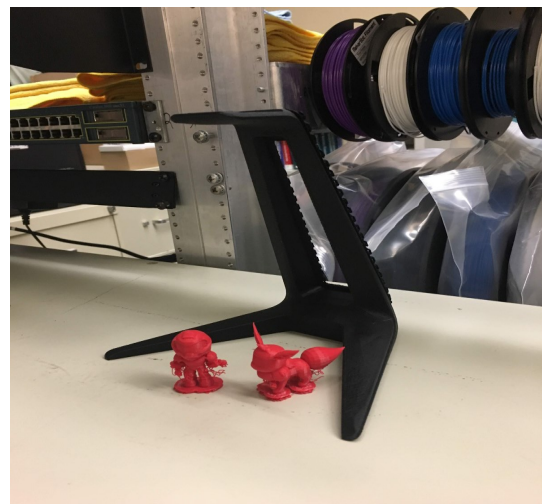
Erin Mahnke




- Students in the Repair, Networking, and Game Design classes have been busy learning about 3D printing and printing 3D items on our Makerbots. Students have been using Tinkercad to design 3D objects and then printing them. Others have started by finding popular items on 3D Printing sites to learn about Modeling items. Below are a few example photos.

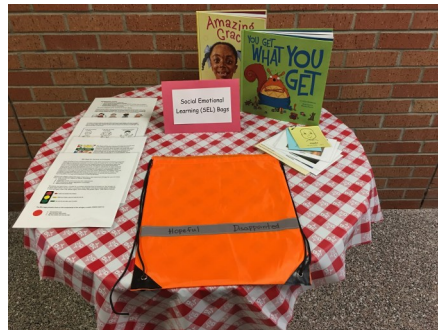
The Black pieces on the left are supposed to be a Bat-mobile, and a 67 Impala. They have learned that printing cars is not the best idea. Smaller items tend to produce the better results, but the large Headphone stands turned out excellent!

Dale Engman-Instructor



GOOD NEWS—Special Education

- Three elementary students in Hastings are celebrating Captions month with their **itinerant teacher of deaf/hard of hearing, Gubby Kubik**. For Captions month, the students are learning about the purpose of closed captions, how to use them, and what happens behind the scenes to make them. The students created a video of their own with questions about captions by using the Clips app. After editing their own captions, they sent their video **to Dan Linden, a Production Scheduler** at , one of North America's largest closed captioning and media accessibility companies with headquarters in Minneapolis. Closed captions and subtitles make media accessible to many people who are deaf or hard of hearing and increase literacy in children.
- Minnesota teachers partnered with the University of Massachusetts - Boston to offer a distance education program for Orientation and Mobility (O & M) specialists who teach travel skills to students with visual impairments. Minnesota, along with many other states, has a shortage of O & M specialists. **Lori Klein, ISD 917 Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist**, and Julie Kochevar, Anoka School District, were the instructors for the PRAXIS class held from May - August 2018, for a total of 22 - six-hour class sessions. Four licensed teachers in the area of blind/visually impaired from different parts of Minnesota participated in the class which took place indoors and outdoors, in all weather conditions. The students are continuing on with hopes to complete the program in August 2019.
- **Licensed staff (Karen Doenges and Linda Lacher Goddard, speech-language pathologists; Valerie Enfiejian, school psychologist; Cindy Jacobs, occupational therapist)** serving students in our preschool and elementary D/HH programs have created a unique Social Emotional Learning (SEL) program for parents and families of deaf/deafblind/hard of hearing learners to help their children understand emotions and support self-regulation and social problem-solving. Each week, families receive a "SEL Bag" that targets an emotion(s) and includes: emotion cards and pictures, sensory regulation activities, children's books, and links to parent resources, including a video that shows families how to sign and cue emotions. Before/after parent surveys are also being collected to measure impact. Because of the unique communication challenges children who are deaf/deafblind/hard of hearing face, the team hopes that the bags will provide a comfortable means for parents to talk about feelings, self-control, solving problems, and most importantly, to learn about each other.



GOOD NEWS—DCALS

- On Friday, December 7th at 1:00 p.m. the DCALS Main Campus will recognize the following Students of the Quarter in the Dakota Room at DCTC: **Lydia Johnson, Garrett Zimmer, Jackson Berens, Parker Hansen, Justin Dean, Berenice Flores, Dominic Altobelli, Zach Neary, Ashly Viveros Rosas, Calli Gonzales, Ben Nelson, Brady Wallace Samson Keomanyvong, Joey Campeon, Logan Wenzel**
- On Wednesday, Nov. 7th students from ISD 917 Heavy Duty Technology Program, Total Auto Care, and DCALS were offered the opportunity to attend a morning session at Extreme Sandbox in Hastings to learn more about Diesel Careers. This event was sponsored by **Extreme Sandbox, North Dakota State College of Science, and RMS/Komatsu of Savage, MN**. Special thanks to **Randy Stenger-Owner of Extreme Sandbox, James Johnson-Admissions Rep for NDSCS, and Pete Anderson-RMS/Komatsu.**



Alex Dahl-Burnsville HS graduate talks to students about his experience at NDSCS and now working for RMS in Savage.



GOOD NEWS—Special Education

- Alliance Education Center hosted a “Thankful for You” lunch on Tuesday November 20, 2018. We had 50 families show up for this event, making it the most successful parent engagement event at AEC. Food for families was provided by Cub through a donation by the Rosemount Legion of \$500.00. Our high school math classes used mathematical equations to create origami table decorations. After the meal parents/guardians/families were invited back to their students’ classrooms to participate in an activities. Classrooms had bingo, crafts, student work showcases, and cooking. We are excited to host this event again next year.



- At Alliance Education Center our transition age students have been exploring job expectations and careers. The rest of the year they will be putting these skills to use through volunteer experiences. We are excited to see the impact they can make.

GOOD NEWS—DCALS

- On Friday, November 9th the Dakota County Perkins Consortium held its monthly meeting at Extreme Sandbox in Hastings. This location was generously offered by **Randy Stenger-Owner of Extreme Sandbox, James Johnson-North Dakota State College of Science, and Pete Anderson-RMS/Komatsu**. The consortium held its meeting at the regular time. Following the meeting members of the consortium schools CTE teaching staff, administrators, and counselors were given a presentation on the partnership between NDSCS and RMS for students interested in Diesel Mechanics Careers. Following the presentation a lunch was provided by NDSCS/RMS, then the chance to partake in operating the Heavy Duty Equipment was offered. This opportunity was greatly appreciated by all staff involved.
- On Thursday, November 15th **Eric Van Brocklin and Mark Zuzek** had the opportunity to meet with ISD 917 members High School Principals to discuss the overall programming offered for their students in our CTE programs and ALC sites. Five Districts were represented. We had good discussions on what is working well, what we can adjust, and what future options would best serve the students. We will be following up with our CTE Registration Guide information for them to place in their student registration materials for next school year.
- On Monday, November 19th, **Mark Zuzek and Eric Van Brocklin of ISD 917 met with Jason Berg, Jay Haugen, and Dan Miller of Farmington Schools** to continue planning for an 8th-10th grade Alternative Learning Center in Farmington. Plans will continue with the building location, remodel, and program logistics. Next steps will be to begin identifying cost to operate, proper staffing, transportation needs, and daily schedule options that best fit this program design. The plan is to have this program available for the 2019-20 school year.
- On Wednesday, November 28th, **Eric Van Brocklin, Paul Landwehr, Jeremy LaBeau-Owner/Branch Manager of Installed Building Solutions** attended the BATC-Housing First Workforce Development Committee meeting at BATC. Jeremy is providing the materials for our Construction Trades program to build him a home this school year. With this groups support we are hoping to find even more ways to develop workforce in the Construction Trades industry. We began a brainstorm of how to offer a summer construction experience for Middle School kids from within Dakota County. We will follow up when we have more information.

BATC wrote, "We would love to have you come talk about your partnership and the program, and see how BATC can help you grow, or replicate your program around the metro. Feel free to invite anyone you think should be at the meeting. Let me know if you have questions and if this date will work for you! We are really looking forward to hearing more about what you're doing."

Thanks, Sunny

Sunny Bowman

Vice President, General Manager, Dakota County Lumber Company

GOOD NEWS—Special Education

- **Kristin Baker's** class at Concord Education Center put on a play for staff! **Pearl Devenow, teacher of the deaf/hard of hearing**, facilitated the play. She read the book, *The Old Lady Who Wasn't Afraid of Anything*. Each student in the classroom played a character and was supported visually to participate. The students enjoyed Pearl's reading of the book. The staff in attendance had wonderful time!



- Both Early Childhood Special Education TEA sites through ISD 917 (Riverview Elementary in Farmington and Pine Bend Elementary in Inver Grove Heights) are hosting monthly parent sessions. This is a time when parents of the students who are being served in the program come in for the session and participate in activities with their children. This is a wonderful way for a wrap-around approach to better serve the students.
- TESA is excited to announce a partnership with VSA Minnesota (a state organization on arts and disabilities) through an artists-in-residence grant program. VSA believes that all Minnesota students should have access to a high-quality arts learning experience! The goal of the artists-in-residence program is to enhance creative expression and personal development through arts experiences for students with disabilities and their peers who would otherwise have limited access. VSA is in the process of hiring a performing artist to provide instruction to students here at the TESA program this school year!
- TESA's **School Psychologist, Shanna Knutson, and TESA's School Social Worker, Becky Zuehlke** have partnered to provide a weekly friendship group for TESA students. Each group will run for 8 weeks during the student's lunch period. The first group of the year is working on developing the following skills: how to approach peers, starting a conversation, maintaining a conversation, maintaining friendships, and navigating social media. Shanna and Becky plan to provide friendship group for the remainder of the school year targeting different skills based on student needs. The student feedback has been positive thus far!
- On Friday, November 16 students in TESA participated in a Veterans' Day related event at DCTC. This year TESA students welcomed **Chad Pemble** back and speak to them in recognition of Veterans' Day. Chad, a member of the Air Force Reserves, provided his insights and information about the time he has spent in the Armed Services. The presentation led to many questions and was well received by staff and students in TESA.

GOOD NEWS—Special Education

- **Brian Moga's** high school class from Lebanon Education Center took a field trip to the Minnesota State Capitol as part their civics class. They learned about the history of the building during a guided tour. The students were particularly interested in seeing the chambers for the Senate and House as they are currently studying the legislative branch. At the end of the tour, they had the opportunity to meet **Senator Greg Clausen** from Apple Valley and ask him questions about his job. Afterwards they took a group photo with him on the steps of the Capital.



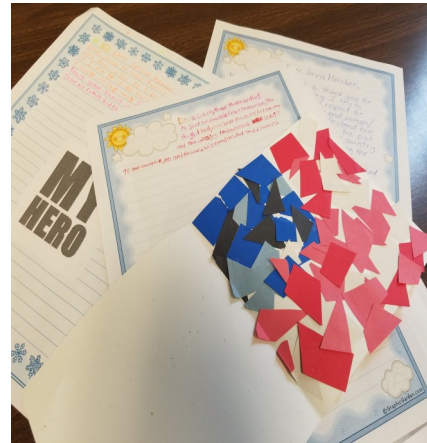
- **Megan Rittenger**, a high school student at Lebanon Education Center, had the opportunity to visit a dog training and daycare facility in Minneapolis. It's called The Dog Wellness Center, and they use the roles dogs have within the pack to incorporate each dog's training. Some roles that were observed were the leader, counselors, alerters, and the dogs that tend to bring the party. Megan enjoyed seeing a number of dogs that attend the dog daycare and saw how each of these roles are present with the dogs when they are in the group. Every dog had a role and all interact without aggression or conflict. It was pretty awesome to experience!



- The CASE program celebrated its second annual CASE-giving celebration. Students helped prepare and cook all of the food. Staff and students shared a meal together and celebrated the things they are thankful for this year.

GOOD NEWS—Special Education

- The TESA Student Council will be hosting the “7th Annual TESA Holiday Showcase” December 14 in the Dakota Room from 12:30-2:00. As the name infers, the TESA Holiday Showcase will give students the opportunity to display a variety of classroom projects, accomplishments, and community service projects, as well as group and individual talents. Families, alumni, district faculty, and board members are all welcome to attend this event.
- The residents of Zumbrota-Mazeppa (ZM) have elected **Amanda Peters, Intermediate School District 917 lead teacher** to the ZM school board. Her term will begin January 2019 and run for four years. Congratulations Amanda!
- The students at Options program participated in mock voting for the 2018 midterm elections in class! Students went through the process of registering to vote, researching which candidates they wanted to vote for, and actually casting their ballot during class. Students became informed about how important midterm elections are to our country.
- On Monday, November 11, the students at Options program wrote letters to veterans and service members to thank them for their service. Letters were sent to amillionthanks.org.



- Students from Cedar have participated in several volunteer experiences this past month. **Nate Steller's** freshmen and sophomores went on their second volunteer outing to Feed My Starving Children. Their efforts combined with the rest of the volunteers resulted in 53,376 meals being packed. That is enough to feed 146 children for a year. Students in **Brenda Szoka's** class took their first trip to Books for Africa in St. Paul. Students worked in the warehouse sorting through donated books. Students were instructed on which materials cannot be sent. They placed books that can and can't be sent into different containers. The books that can't be sent are recycled. They also volunteered at The Open Door Mobile Pantry site in Apple Valley. Students worked on

GOOD NEWS—Special Education

- The Dodge Nature Center visited the Lebanon Education Center on November 8th. Thirty-five students participated in the reptiles and amphibians program. They learned about amazing lives of snakes, turtles and salamanders. The students were able to touch and hold them.



- The Student of the Week winners at Lebanon Education Center for the month of November are **Emma Waxlax (ISD 192) (pictured)**, **Jonathan Rojo (ISD 191)**, **Aliyah Hegg (ISD 199)**, and **Connor Pahlman (ISD 192) (pictured)**.

