

Schools:

Junior/Senior High:

The Peer Jury was held at Burgettstown High School on November 3rd.

Southwest Training presented their new Oculus Career Exploration activity to 9th grade students on November 2nd.

The Jr./Sr. High School has held several Ranger Rallies in support of the Football team throughout the WPIAL and PIAA playoff run.

Resilience Assembly was held for student in grades 9-12 by Sr. High Student Council.

Donkey Basketball fundraiser was held at the Jr./Sr. high School on November 22nd.

A community Bond Fire was held to support the Football Team on November 23rd.

Congratulations to our WPIAL Champion Football Team! We are so proud of our team!

Elementary Center:

The Varsity Football and Cheerleading Pep Assembly was held on November 21st.

Helping Hands Homeroom Food Drive was a huge success with Mrs. Megan Kelley's Homeroom winning for most donated items.

The Holiday Concert will be held on December 5th and 6th. The doors will open at 6:00pm. The dates were changed due to the Ranger Football Team playoff success.

Athletics:

Varsity Football – Crowned WPIAL champions for the 1st time in school history. Will play Redbank Valley in the State semifinals on Friday December 1st, 7pm at Farrell. The winner will advance to the State championship and play on Thursday, Dec 7th at Cumberland Valley. The PIAA Championship Start Time is 1:00 PM. Several post-season individual accolades will be awarded soon.

Winter Sports – officially started practice on Nov 17th.

Boys' Basketball – participated in the Fort Cherry tip off tourney this past weekend.

Girls' Basketball – participated in the Fort Cherry tip off tourney this past weekend.

Varsity Boys' and Girls' Wrestling – will start their match and tournament seasons soon.

Hockey co-op with Trinity – we have one player currently participating. Their season is underway.

Jr. High sports - Jr. high wrestling and Boys' 7/8 basketball will start their seasons soon. 7/8 volleyball will start in February.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Elementary Life Skills: Consultation with Watson Institute is ongoing. Monthly team meetings are being held with the classroom staff, related service providers, and administration to provide a forum for discussion. There has been impressive progress with all students in the classroom, and the last meeting was overwhelmingly positive. The District is investigating the possibility of relocating the sensory room at FCEC due to sound overstimulation caused by the current location (near elementary band room).

Monitoring: I am continuing the process of gathering documents for the Facilitated Self Assessment (FSA) for the upcoming monitoring. A team of teachers completed the Educational Benefit Review in November. There are 3 files that need to be revised before the monitoring to be in compliance. All relevant case managers are working on revisions.

Paraprofessionals: We still have 1 opening at FCEC. The posting is open until filled.

GUIDANCE

Naviance: Tonight, we are recommending the purchase of training from Naviance to address the counselors' requests for additional training in specific functions of the tool. We believe the training will help them further usage of the tool for career and college readiness.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Monitoring: The District is scheduled for its cyclical monitoring in federal programs this year. Dr. Lauer is still waiting for the approved monitoring tool from the PDE Office of Federal Programs. Document collection is ongoing.

Facilities and Grounds

The last month or so has been a busy time in the Facilities Department. We have spent time outside working to keep up with the last of the leaves falling. We also prepped the Football field for the last two games. One of which extended the home season with the playoff opener. The week following the playoff game we were able to rent an air-rater and prep all of our fields for the winter season.

We also have begun to work and prep for snow and cold weather, we have had two days that we have had to use salt to prep the school campus for staff and students. Once the football season is over we will install the salt spreader into the pickup truck and install the plows. The truck is still being used for the marching band to pull the band trailer each week.

I also with the help of members of the administration been working through the interview process for the replacement of a retiring district cleaner. We had a wonderful 12 applicants both internal and external. I am excited to have the recommendation for approval on this evening's agenda.

We also were able to rectify a problem that was brought to our attention through a semi annual boiler inspection. We had a pressure relief valve replaced to meet the request from the state inspector. We also had the Elementary gym floor refinished after defects from the summer work became apparent.

As a department we have implemented a new accountability program through the FMX system. Each of our staff has a daily assignment and checks through a list of daily tasks. This also has a loud staff to enter work orders daily and view the events calendar. Employees were given the choice to use a district issued

I-pad. Some have chosen to use their own phone devices. This program has been a great success and has help keep our team accountable for their expected tasks.

We have worked to improve our response time throughout the day with making sure all daylight employees have a radio to respond to problems quickly as they arise. This has helped overall with response already. We also have worked to improve the implementation of the equipment logs in FMX. This will help us look back at how our purchases have held up over time. Work orders have also improved as more of the staff has more access to technology. We have been able to almost always begin to address problems the day they are brought to our attention. This is thanks to the great effort and attention to detail of the entire facilities staff.

As we begin the month of December the facilities team is focused on the health and safety of our staff and students. More focus is on the disinfecting of desks, touch points and general cleaning. Projects begin to shift inside during the cold weather months. We are looking forward to some major projects in the New Year. Planning for these will be of the utmost importance over the coming months. I will continue to work with the entire campus community to make this a safe, and welcoming place for our staff, students and visitors. Please reach out to Zach with any thoughts and concerns on how we can continue to improve our facilities.

State Funding Applications, Mandates and Updates:

PA Ready Index Presentation---reviewed District scores.

Frontline Five Review for projecting budgetary costs.

Laser engraver Training held at the Elementary School to increase STEAM learning resources at both schools. The training was not well attended.

Held several parent and teacher meetings regarding AP student performance.

PARSS grant application submitted for STEAM Elementary Center reconfiguration.

Attended IU1 Leadership Conference.

McKinney-Vento audit was completed. Mrs. Cowden did great work and the District received a 69/70 (98.6%) evaluation. It is a very high score and enforces the District's commitment to meeting the needs of our homeless student population.

The Jr./Sr. High School Life Skills Thanksgiving Dinner was held on November 16th. Ms. Gasbarro has established a "Fort Friends" club in conjunction with her classes. The Friendsgiving was well attended and the food was excellent.

AP potential letters were created from the PSAT student results. The AP potential letters will be sent to parents in early January.