

TO: Board of School Directors
FR: Bernie Kepler, Superintendent
RE: August Board Report
DT: August 22, 2019

Student Activities:

Rotary Youth Leadership Conference – Seniors, Erin Williams and Danny Leach, attended the Rotary Youth Leadership Conference this summer. They will each present to the Rotary on August 26, 2019.

Immunizations Update – As of August 5, 2019 we had 49 7th graders and 45 incoming 12th graders that needed updated immunization records submitted to the school nurses. An additional 14 kindergarten students were still needing to submit immunization records.

Other Activities:

Inservice Activities – The district opening inservice was held yesterday with our annual breakfast and opening. Thank you to Mr. Kreiser for welcoming the staff back for 2019-2020. Following breakfast, a team of staff members from each building raced their cardboard boat in the Palmyra Cardboard Boat Regatta. STEM teams were given the task in mid-July and prepared their racing vessels. Today's second day of inservice included building meetings and the annual open house.

Curriculum Work – Dr. Spagnolo, Abbie Mahaffey and elementary principals have been working with a group of K-2 teacher volunteers who are piloting the Journey's reading program during 2019-20. Multiple meetings and trainings have been conducted and will continue throughout the school-year.

Buck Swank Stadium served as host to the community's National Night Out event on August 6th. More than 100 "vendors" set up for the well attended event and brought hundreds of community members together.

Meet the Cougars Night / Cougar Foundation Glow Run - The annual "Meet the Cougars Night" and Cougar Foundation "Glow Run" are scheduled for this Saturday evening beginning at 7:15 p.m. at Buck Swank Stadium.

District Calendar - Opening day for students is scheduled for Monday, August 26, 2019. Custodians/Maintenance personnel have done a fantastic job of preparing our schools for the start of school. No school on Friday, August 30th and Monday, September 2nd in recognition of the Labor Day weekend.

Back to School Nights -

High School: Monday, September 9th at 6:00 p.m.
Middle School: Tuesday, September 10th at 6:00 p.m.
Forge, Northside & Pine: Wednesday, September 11th at 6:00 p.m.
Lingle: Thursday, September 12th at 6:00 p.m.

Friday Morning Lights, ABC27's, early morning show will be broadcast live from Buck Swank Stadium on Friday, September 6, 2019. The event has been held at "The Buck" a few times over the years and draws a nice crowd of students and families in the early morning hours!

ASBO Awards Scholarship to Rising Leaders: The Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) announced the recipients of the 2019 Emerging Leaders Scholarship. The scholarship awards school business managers who have fewer than five years' experience with \$2,000 to attend ASBO International's Annual Conference & Expo. The 2019 conference will be held in October in National Harbor, MD. I am pleased to share that our very own, Noelle Brossman, MBA, PCSBA, Director of Human Resources, is a recipient.

Niche.com recently released their 2019-2020 Pennsylvania school rankings and lists Palmyra Area School District as #71 out of 500 school districts in the Commonwealth. Schools 1-38 received an “A+” rating, while schools 39-75 received an “A” rating.

Educator in the Workplace Grant – In 2018-19 Palmyra Area School District had 6 middle school educators participate in the first Educator in the Workplace initiative through IU#13. A second year of grant money is allowing the Intermediate Unit to continue this program in 2019-20. Palmyra Area Middle School has four additional staff members participating this year.

Literacy Assessment Plan – Dr. Spagnolo and Abbie Mahaffey have begun the work of assessing and revamping our primary elementary literacy assessment plan. With the aide of many primary teachers, the work commenced on July 15, 2019 and will continue throughout 2019-20 with piloting of new assessments.

Congratulations:

*Rotary Student-of-the-Month – September TBD

Upcoming Events:

*Annual Staff Tailgate – Friday, September 6th at 5:30 p.m.