

## Special Community Update

3-17-17

Greetings! I hope this special update finds you doing well and looking forward to the weekend! As chilly as it is in March (and when isn't it in Ohio?) we'll soon see our baseball, softball, and track and field teams take to the field and put their off-season preparations to the test. Good luck this spring season Hornets!

I specifically wanted to provide a special update to our community because last night the Board of Education approved a contract for Mrs. Becky Rosenbauer to become our K-6 principal for next year. If you remember, our current structure came about due to a less than enviable situation two years ago when we were without a high school principal after having hired one who resigned before he started to take the same position at his home district. I have always firmly believed that things happen for a reason and, in this case, Mr. Heath Huffman and Mrs. Rosenbauer responded to the challenges that faced them and have worked side-by-side to provide a better education to our students. I believe they have helped make our district more unified than ever in a time when it could have gone the opposite direction. However, in order to build upon their success and the positive culture they have helped to create, a restructuring of their roles has become necessary.

While Mrs. Rosenbauer will assume the K-6 role, Mr. Huffman will take on the 7-12 responsibilities. They have already built upon a strong foundation and we will look to build upon that growth with the forthcoming selection and implementation of an ELA curriculum at the K-6 level. At the 7-12 level I am particularly excited about the doors that the EMPIRE initiative has opened and look forward to seeing the continued growth of this staff under Heath's focused leadership.

So what does this mean for the remainder of this school year and moving forward? One of the reasons we wanted to announce this move in March is to allow both of them to begin to acclimate to their new roles. For the time being, though, should you have any questions or concerns please continue to communicate with them as you have throughout this year. Throughout this transition (and beyond) communication will be the key to success. If you aren't sure, just ask!

While Mr. Huffman and Mrs. Rosenbauer have played a significant role in our growth as a district we cannot overlook the critical roles that all of us have in continuing to grow. Our staff has worked hard to make the previous transition work and I know they will with this one as well, all the while keeping their focus on priority one – providing the best possible education for all of our students. We've enjoyed the parent communication and engagement with teachers and our administration – it cannot be overstated how vitally important your engagement is to your child's education. A school alone cannot make a community successful, but a community together can drive a school to reach the highest goals.

### **Your voices were heard (ESSA) – Thank you!**

Since I have your attention in this special update, I thought I'd also share a success story thanks to your efforts. Earlier this week the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) announced that they would be postponing the submission of the ESSA plan to the federal government from April until September. This is a huge success! While some have indicated that it was due to changes at the federal level, I firmly believe that the ODE would not have relented without strong pressure from all stakeholder groups. Thank you to all who contacted your representatives to make your voice heard! I would encourage you to read the full release from ODE (linked below) and continue to make your voice heard and to hold ODE accountable for their promises.

<http://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act-ESSA/Paolo-Message-ESSA.pdf.aspx>

### **Kudos!**

Congrats to Mason Warnimont who competed in the New Balance Indoor Championships in New York last week. Mason competed against the best runners from across North America and he represented our school well! He finished 13th in the 60m with a time of 7.01s and 35th in the 200m with a time of 22.98s.

Congrats, also, to our additional outstanding BVC representatives! Last week I noted our boys' basketball reps. This week we recognize our all-BVC wrestlers Owen Karcher (1st team), Isaiah Colvin (2nd team), Blaine Peterson (2nd team), and Dylon Stoops (2nd team). In all-BVC Girls' Basketball we were represented by Brittney Roth (Honorable Mention) and Sarah Curth (Honorable Mention). Great job!

Kudos to our JH Quiz Bowl team! After defeating Riverdale and St. Mike's in a tournament earlier this week the Cory-Rawson Jr. High Quiz bowl team came up against Liberty-Benton. They were defeated by only 2 points. After entering a double elimination bracket and defeating Arlington, they again went head-to-head with Liberty-Benton with regular play ended in a tie. It was only after 4 rounds of tie-breaker questions (a total of 20 additional questions) that the Hornets lost by 1 point and were awarded a second place plaque as the runners-up of the Hancock County Jr. High Quiz Bowl Tournament!