



Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District

"Small Community ... HUGE Results"

October 2017

From the Desk of Tom Wood,
Superintendent

The School Board and Its Role in Governance

The recent school board elections state-wide brought about renewed interest in school board service. Without individuals who are willing to take this on, our schools would not be successful. While it is an often thankless job; the work they do is important to our students, staff, and the community as a whole. If you have never been to a meeting or researched exactly how school boards function, you may have some misconceptions about their role in the school system. Simply put, the school board's main job is governance. Governance of school operations are big picture items. This includes setting board policy, goals, and the general direction of the educational program. Board duties are geared toward the "ends" while management (administration) duties are focused on the "means." Building level and day-to-day operations are the responsibility of the administrative team working under the policies and goals set forth by the Board.

The following article comes from the Iowa Association of School Boards. This organization provides our board with resources to help serve our students in the best possible way. This outlines the legal authority vested in school boards. These responsibilities are carried out by the school board and the administration with input from appropriate resources such as legal counsel when needed.

The Legal Authority of School Boards

A school board operates as a corporate body. Individual members acting independently have no legal status or authority and cannot commit or bind the board by their actions. The courts have been called on many times to clarify the authority of local boards and have been consistent in determining that the powers and duties of the board must be exercised by the board as a whole. Both in theory and in practice, you are a member of a team.

As a corporate body, the board may conduct business only with a quorum present during a regular or special meeting.

Under Iowa law, the school board has the authority to:

- *Appoint a school improvement advisory committee (SIAC) to make recommendations to the board, which the board may utilize to, among others:*

- o *Determine major educational needs; and*

- o *Evaluate progress toward educational goals. (Iowa Code §280.12).*

- *Maintain adequate administration, school staffing, personnel assignment policies, teacher qualifications, licensing requirements, facilities, equipment, grounds, graduation requirements, instructional requirements, instructional materials, maintenance procedures and policies on extracurricular activities. (Iowa Code §280.14).*

- *Maintain attendance centers based upon the needs of the school-age pupils, and may include in the educational program additional courses, subjects or activities that fit the needs of the pupils. (Iowa Code §280.3; 297.1).*

- *Determine attendance centers for the district and the particular school each child will attend. (Iowa Code §279.11).*

- *Employ a superintendent (Iowa Code §279.20), teachers (Iowa Code §279.12), principals (Iowa Code §279.21), other licensed professional personnel and support personnel, and determine their salaries.*

- *Act on recommendations to terminate the contract or immediately discharge any employee subject to the provisions of any applicable law. (Iowa Code §279.15-19A; 279.23-25; 279.27).*

- *Appoint a secretary and a treasurer. (Iowa Code §279.3).*

- *Expel a student from school for violation of the rules established by the board or when the presence of a student is detrimental to the best interests of the school. (Iowa Code §282.4).*

- *Fix the time and place of regular and special meetings. (Iowa Code §279.1-2).*

- *Fill by appointment board vacancies occurring between elections. (Iowa Code §279.6).*
- *Develop and adopt board policy governing all school district operations. (Iowa Code §279.8).*
- *Become members of the Iowa Association of School Boards and pay dues to the association. (Iowa Code §279.38).*
- *Employ legal counsel. (Iowa Code §279.37).*
- *Allow all just claims against the corporation. (Iowa Code §279.29).*
- *Insure against loss of property. (Iowa Code §279.28).*
- *Provide transportation services. (Iowa Code §285).*
- *Acquire, hold, convey, lease, rent and manage property, real and personal. (Iowa Code §297).*
- *Incur indebtedness when authorized by the voters of the school corporation. (Iowa Code §296.1).*
- *Make rules for its own government. (Iowa Code §279.8).*
- *Comply with the with Open Meetings and Public Records laws. (Iowa Code §21; 22).*
- *Negotiate in good faith with representatives of local employee associations. (Iowa Code §20).*

Although the list is not comprehensive, it illustrates the authority vested in Iowa school boards.

Thank you for your continued support of MStM!

From the Desk of Josh Moser,
Secondary Principal

The 2017-2018 school year is in full swing, and there are great things happening in every corridor of our school. This month's column will be a hodgepodge of updates, reminders, and good news about what's happening in the middle school and high school.

Save-a-Life Tour

On September 18th, students in grades 7-12 were able to see and feel the perils and seriousness of distracted and impaired driving. Through the presentation and simulator experiences, they learned about the impacts of poor decision-making and impaired judgment. Students were able to take turns in the distracted driving or the impaired driving simulators. Both simulators showed, to both the participant and to the onlookers, how dangerous it can be to text while driving or to

drive while under the influence of alcohol. In speaking with the presenters at the end of the day, they said they were impressed with how seriously our students took the day's activities. They told me that students didn't treat the simulators as if they were video games they were trying to win, but rather to truly understand how their actions can impact themselves and others if they make poor decisions. It is important to continue to talk to our students about these safety issues on a regular basis; a single presentation or a standalone experience in a simulator isn't always enough to help students be reminded of the importance of making good decisions.

Silver Cord Hours

As of this writing, several hundred hours of varied community service have been performed by MStM secondary students. We are not even a full calendar year into the existence of MStM's Silver Cord chapter and more than two dozen students have grasped the opportunity to make others' lives better – and, in the process, feel more fulfilled in their own lives. I am so proud of them!

A reminder to Silver Cord participants: Be sure to get hours pre-approved to ensure the hours and the organization aligns with program requirements. Please ask questions!

Attendance Reminders

Believe it or not, a majority of our disciplinary referrals are for tardies and unexcused absences. The data shows these are our problem areas, and we are making a concerted effort to reduce chronic tardiness and absenteeism. Here are a few reminders of school policies and practices regarding attendance:

- **Excused Absences:** Excused absences include illness, family emergencies or funerals, doctor or dentist appointments verified by an appointment card or a doctor's note, court appearance, school-initiated absence, and religious observances. Students whose absences are approved shall make up the work missed and receive full credit for the missed schoolwork. Students who are excused from school for illness are expected to remain home and may not attend school activities, including contests and practices.
- **Unexcused Absences:** Students who are absent from school or a class period, without a reasonable excuse, shall be subject to disciplinary measures. Examples of unexcused absences include (but are not limited to) oversleeping, leaving building or school grounds during the day without parental excuse and authorization from the office, haircuts, tanning sessions, shopping, and other personal business

which should be handled outside the regular school day. The determination of an absence being excused or unexcused is at the discretion of the administration.

- **Unexcused Absence Remediation:** Upon the third unexcused absence for a class, the student, his/her advisor, his/her parent(s), and the At-Risk Coordinator will meet to determine a corrective plan for improvement. The At-Risk Coordinator will bring the plan to the BAT Committee for review and approval. Subsequent unexcused absences will follow similar procedures. Upon the seventh unexcused absence, the student will be removed from the class(es) missed and placed in credit recovery courses. Similar interventions may be implemented for students with excessive excused absences, and this can be done at the request of teachers, parents, or building administrators.
- **Doctors' Notes:** If your student needs to miss part of school for a doctor/dentist/specialist appointment, a note from the doctor's office must be submitted to the office within two (2) days or it may be marked as an unexcused absence. This is regardless of the day's schedule or the amount of time that was missed.
- **Excused Tardies:** If you know your student will be late to school, please take a few minutes to call or email Christy Henderson to verify the reason for being late. This is a helpful measure that can reduce the number of unexcused tardies throughout the school year.

From the Desk of Beth Happe,
Elementary Principal

Making STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Connections

Through legislative appropriation, the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council is able to offer exemplary STEM programs throughout the state. The STEM Scale-Up Program has demonstrated success in increasing student interest and achievement in STEM across all demographics. Here at MStM, we have received two awards from the Governor's Council, including kits, tools, teacher resources and lessons to inspire the "makers mentality" for our students ages 4-14. Students have a natural inclination to tinker, and the opportunity to have these resources empowers students to explore, design, create and make!

An additional opportunity has been presented to our school's 4th – 6th graders, by the Warren County Extension Office. The "4H STEM Afterschool Program" will begin on Tuesday, October 10th. The sessions will be held here at school in Ms. Higgins' 4th grade classroom. Warren County Extension provides a safe and fun learning environment twice a month, with volunteers and staff leading the program. Sessions will take place the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month and run from 3:15 – 4:30 p.m. If your student would like to participate, you must sign up ahead of time, by emailing Jennifer Miler at milerj@iastate.edu or calling Warren County Extension at 515-961-6237. The benefits of this program for your child include: engagement in STEM related activities twice a month in an afterschool program, opportunities to meet new friends, learn new skills and gain confidence! What great opportunities for our students!

October is here and we look forward to Parent-Teacher Conferences October 9th and 12th, with no school on October 13th. Fall parties will take place on Friday, October 27th. Classroom teachers will be communicating with details in the near future.

As the weather begins to change, please make sure your child is coming to school with a jacket or sweatshirt for outdoor recess.

Happy Fall!

From the Desk of Randy Folkerts,
Secondary Counselor

National ACT Testing Dates for 2017-2018

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
September 9, 2017	August 4, 2017	August 5 – 18, 2017
October 28, 2017	September 22, 2017	Sept 23 – Oct 6, 2017
December 9, 2017	November 3, 2017	November 4 – 17, 2017
February 10, 2018	January 12, 2018	January 13 – 19, 2018
April 14, 2018	March 9, 2018	March 10 – 23, 2018
June 9, 2018	May 4, 2018	May 5 – 18, 2018

COLLEGE BOUND PARENTS- IMPORTANT- FAFSA® Changes for 2017–18

On Sept. 14, 2015, President Obama announced significant changes to the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) process that will impact millions of students. Starting with the 2017–18 application cycle, the following changes will be put in place:

- **Students will be able to submit a FAFSA® earlier.** Students will be able to file a 2018–19 FAFSA as early as Oct. 1, 2017, rather than beginning on Jan. 1, 2018. The earlier submission date will be a permanent change, enabling students to complete and submit a FAFSA as early as October 1 every year.
- **Students will use earlier income information.** Beginning with the 2018–19 FAFSA, students will be required to report income information from an earlier tax year. For example, on the 2018–19 FAFSA, students (and parents, as appropriate) will report their 2016 income information, rather than their 2017 income information.

Scholarships

Scholarship information is available on the School Web site under **Guidance Counselor** and in the Counseling office in the Scholarship Blue Book. Talk to the guidance secretary, Kerry or the counselor for more information.

Senior Timeline

SEPTEMBER:

1. Register for fall ACT test, if you are planning to go to a four year university in the fall of 2018.
2. Make sure you meet the admissions requirements of the colleges that you are interested in. Change your schedule in the counseling office if you need to take extra courses.
3. Double check college admissions deadlines.
4. Start the process of getting recommendation letters from teachers and/or people who know you.
5. Most early decision and applications are happen between October 1 and November 1.
6. Search for scholarships online and review the scholarship notebook.
7. If planning on playing sports in college, be sure you register ASAP with the NCAA Clearinghouse at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net.

OCTOBER:

1. Make final decisions on possible colleges.
2. Complete college applications, paying close attention to early admission deadlines.
3. Request teacher and/or counselor recommendations if needed.
4. Request transcripts from the counseling office as needed.

5. Attend college sponsored campus visit programs.
6. Search for scholarships online and through the scholarship notebook.
6. Be aware of admissions deadlines, housing deadlines, scholarship deadlines, etc.
7. Take ACT or ACT tests. Make sure that the official scores are sent by the testing company to the colleges or universities that have made your final list of schools.
8. Register with the Selective Service if you are a male and 18 years old.

Junior Year Responsibilities

1. Take the PSAT/NMSQT on October 14th.
2. Register for spring SAT or ACT.
3. Take Advance Placement exams (if eligible) in May.
4. Review college options, requirements, and deadlines for admission, housing, financial aid, and scholarships to begin preparing to narrow college choices. Pay close attention to admission deadlines.
5. Visit college campuses of interest, if possible.
6. Register with NCAA Clearinghouse if you plan on being a college athlete for Division I or II schools. Registration can be completed online at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net.

From the Desk of Max Seeman, Activity Director & PE Instructor

Sportsmanship and Spectator Expectations

We have had a great start to the school year as far as our fall activities are concerned. With that being said, I thought this would be a good time to remind and educate everyone about sportsmanship and what is expected of you as a spectator. The following list was pulled directly from the Iowa High School Athletic Association's website (<http://www.iahxaa.org>) and focuses on spectator sportsmanship expectations:

- School sports are about kids learning to play and have fun. They have worked hard for their school and team. As a fan you can help them perform at their best by modeling positive behavior and encouraging all the players to be their best. This is their time. This is their place. This is their game.
- Good Sportsmanship Starts With Respect . . . for yourself, your team, the opponent and the decisions of the officials. Thanks for being a Good Sport!
- Great Fans are Enthusiastic for their Team and Sportsmanlike with their behavior toward their opponent and the decisions of the officials. The Iowa High School Athletic Association and the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union asks your cooperation in

making this game a memorable experience for these young athletes.

- Pride for Teams is playing the game to the best of their abilities. Pride for Fans is practicing the principles of Good Sportsmanship.
- Don't confuse supporting your team with negative cheers directed to the opponent or booing the decisions of the officials. Those actions only cause your team and school to be seen in a negative light.
- Pride – Respect – Fair Play governs what happens in competition. The same three qualities should govern the behavior of all fans.
- Spectators are reminded to show respect for your school and your community while attending interscholastic events. Be positive in your actions at any contest.
- We remind all fans that interscholastic events are extensions of the classroom. All lessons are best learned when the proper respect is accorded to all. Let your good sportsmanship show at all times.
- Fans are reminded that admission to an interscholastic event is a privilege. With that privilege is the responsibility for fans to conduct themselves in a manner so the contest is enjoyable for other fans and the participants.
- Unruly behavior is always unacceptable in a classroom. Interscholastic events are an extension of that classroom. Remember to “be a good sport” while attending events.
- Whether you're at home or on the road, make your school and your community proud by displaying good citizenship and positive sportsmanship at contests.
- Parents, students, and fans – you're setting an example with your presence at any contest. In the spirit of good citizenship, always display positive sportsmanship at interscholastic activities.

These are very reasonable expectations. We want everyone to do their part to make sure the Martinsdale-St. Marys Blue Devils are looked at in a positive light.

I would also like to point out that these expectations go for all events and all ages of spectators. We are at the event to watch and support our groups. If you are at an event, please find a place for you and your family to sit/stand and cheer on the Blue Devils.

From the Desk of Amy Kaven,
English, Yearbook, Jr/Sr TAG

YEARBOOK CLASS: The yearbook staff delivered the 2017 yearbooks this week to their customers, and the staff is receiving compliments every day. They have also been open

to feedback on what can be done differently to improve the yearbook.

Photography skills, ad sales, and theme selection are the current projects and lessons in the yearbook class. Kudos to Alisha Reynolds for her continual marketing efforts with business ad sales. As of October 3rd, the staff will have selected a theme after each staff member gives a story board presentation as to how he or she would implement the theme throughout the book: cover, end pages, folio, color palette, font styles, photography rules, and modular design.

TALENTED AND GIFTED PROGRAM: The participants in have all met with me multiple times to design their goal areas and Personalized Education Plans. Half of the plans have been finalized and distributed to the students, parents, and the collaborating teachers. Cassie Rose and Shelby McCasland are taking the lead on the TAG program's community outreach events, one of which will be to a Des Moines homeless shelter.

The academic bowl tryouts continue into late October. A record number of students are trying out for the 8-person team. The team will be determined by scores in the four tryout sessions. Our group is headed to Pleasantville in November for the prelims for the Pride of Iowa conference.

My colleague, Amanda Skellenger, and I will be attending a full day of ITAG professional development on October 17th. It's such an amazing learning opportunity, and one that we look forward to every year. We encourage all educators to attend it once, and they will be hooked!

From the Desk of Beth Grafft,
English, Drama, Speech

We are wrapping up our fairy tale unit after critical readings of various versions of Cinderella, which we will compare with a modern adaptation called *Ever After*. Next, we will be moving on to *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* and writing our own spooky tales to share at the end of October.

English 9 is finishing up the time travel unit with a persuasive writing about whether or not time travel is a future possibility. We will kick off October with an "Intro to Poe," and end the unit with a comparison/contrast paper about two gothic masterminds: Edgar Allan Poe and Tim Burton.

Students have been reading the daily announcements over the PA system during seminar in Public Speaking and we're leading up to the next, big speech, which will be an informative speech about a topic of their choice. I will be helping them practice the skills necessary to locate relevant

and useful information on the internet using various search techniques and website evaluation.

From the Desk of Brooke Safley,
HS English

Hello! My name is Brooke Safley and I am the new high school English teacher. My classes include English 10, English 11, and Composition. I have a BA in English Education from the University of Northern Iowa and that also includes a Reading minor. I have previous teaching experiences at Aplington-Parkersburg Middle School and Grundy Center High School. I am a loyal Panther fan but look forward to cheering on my new school team!

In English 10 this semester we will be reading one of my favorite novels, To Kill a Mockingbird. This novel has so many great lessons embedded into the text and I am eager to share it with the students. After the novel, we will be working on a research paper in conjunction with Ms. Crowe's Biology class. She will be teaching the content of the papers and then I will take their research and we will harness them into a research paper. I look forward to collaborating with Ms. Crowe and giving the students a project across curriculum! This year, I implemented an Independent Reading Project with the 10th graders. They will read four novels in a semester and after each novel completion will hold a book conference with me. I am looking forward to growing this program throughout the next few years.

The first semester of English 11 has been a whirlwind. We started off with reading Ernest Hemingway's short story, "Hills Like White Elephants", and the kids had the opportunity to write an analysis of the short story and Ernest Hemingway as an author. We then delved into some Native American myths and the students now have the opportunity to create their own Native American myth! This is completely up to their creative minds to develop and I am very eager to see where their creativity can go. Into November and December, we will be exploring The Scarlet Letter in our classes and that will take us to the end of our semester.

The Composition classes have been exciting to plan and teach for. We started off the year with 6 Word Memoirs and they are all proudly hanging on a bulletin board within my classroom. Staying with the theme of memoirs, each student has selected their own memoir to read and will be writing one for themselves as well. We set aside class time in each period so that students have time to read and write their memoirs. I'm excited to start the year off with this project because it allows me to get to know these students and their classmates.

I am looking forward to getting to know these students and this school and am excited by the work ethic and commitment these students put into their work!

From the Desks of Amy De Waard &
Tacy Vogel, Preschool

We are off to a really great start! We have finished our study of colors and are moving on to our letters. Each week, we will be studying different letters and practice writing them and finding the sounds in words.

We are looking forward to our field trip to the pumpkin patch on October 10th. We will be learning about pumpkins before we go, so we are excited to see how a pumpkin grows from a seed to a pumpkin!

We are working on finishing up IGDI's and FAST testing for our students this week. We will be sending results home soon!

Some things that preschoolers could be working on at home: number recognition, letter recognition, writing their names, rhyming words, and getting books read to them and retelling the story using pictures.

Thank you for your continued support in the education of your children☺

A Scary Month in the Library

October will be Scary Books Month in the high school library, culminating with Halloween on Monday, October 31st. Get in the mood with books about ghosts, witches, vampires, and werewolves, with authors such as Stephen King, Stephanie Meyer, Edgar Allan Poe (pictured), R. L. Stine, and more. Discover new authors and heightened frights in the book display!



While you are in the library, take a look at the weekly brain teasers. Some are pretty hard, requiring logic and/or creative thinking, while some are a bit simpler. Here are a few:

1. What is put on a table, cut, and never eaten?
2. You are my brother, but I am not your brother. Who am I?
3. What is wrong with this statement?

Answers: 1.) Playing cards. 2.) Your sister. 3.) It is a question, not a statement.

Post Prom Fundraiser

The junior class is holding a post prom fundraiser selling Younkers Community Days Coupon books. The coupons are good at any area Younkers 11/8/17 – 11/11/17.

The books are \$5.00 each and 100% of the sale goes back to the kids for post prom. The books contains over \$500 in exclusive coupon savings, including \$10 off a regular or sale price item of \$10 or more and 30% savings passes. The junior class is selling the books until October 18th, and we have some upcoming sale events to make it easy to get in on this great opportunity to support post prom and to get a jump on Christmas shopping.

Upcoming Younkers Community Days coupon book sale events:

- Tuesday October 3rd at the JV/Varsity volleyball game
- Monday October 9th at school conferences - outside the elementary and high school offices
- Thursday October 12th at school conferences – outside the elementary office
- Friday October 13th at the home Football game

If you can't make it to one of these events but are interested in purchasing some coupons books, please contact a junior student.

Thanks for your support.



Here's a chance to show your school spirit
and support the Fine Arts!
\$10.00 each



Order online or see Mrs. Grafft,
Mr. Olson, or Mrs. Clark to get one!

Scrapin' to the Music
Brought to you by the MSTM Music Boosters

Saturday, October 28th
9:00 am to 10:00 pm
Martensdale - St. Marys High School Gym

Registration is \$25 non refundable
Free Will Offering for lunch and dinner

Raffle Prizes
\$1 per ticket/\$5 for 7 tickets/\$10 for 20 tickets

Please reserve your seat by October 11th
(Cash or Check payable to MSTM Music Boosters due at the time of registration)

Name: _____ Email: _____

Please list name(s) of anyone you would like to sit with:

Are you bringing a Cricut or a laptop? Yes _____ No _____

Vendors: Creative Memories and Maple Street Memories

Please mail your registration form and payment to:
Ginny Darr * 1699 Warren Ave * Norwalk IA 50211-8501 * ginginery@aol.com

All proceeds will go to the MSTM Music program

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING AUGUST 14, 2017

The Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District met in regular session, pursuant to law on August 14, 2017.

Members Present: President, Nicole Bunch; Ralph DiCesare, and John Ralls together with Superintendent, Tom Wood and Business Manager, Jill Gavin.

Members Absent: Vice President, Dean Furness and Dawn Reeves

I. Welcome – Board President

Mrs. Bunch called meeting to order at 4:08 p.m. and welcomed all guests.

II. Consent Items

- A. Approval of Minutes – Board President
- B. Approval of Agenda – Board President
- C. Approval of Bills and Secretary's Report – Board President
- D. Approval of Hot Lunch and Activity Reports – Board President

Mr. Ralls motioned to approve the consent items, seconded by Mr. DiCesare. Roll call: 3 ayes.

III. Celebrations

Mr. Wood informed the Board that the building will be ready for the 1st day of school. The new swings on the playground are almost ready. There are new floors in the preschool and Kindergarten bathrooms and teacher's lounge, and the camera system is fully functional.

Mr. Moser is very impressed with the work Max Seeman, our new Activities Director, has done so far. In the few short weeks he has been here he already has a good handle on the system and is finding ways to be more efficient and streamline activities.

Mr. Moser commended Elizabeth Townsend and Jake Catron for attending an SAI Conference and worked in the FCLA Booth for Mrs. Gladson. They presented to Iowa principals and superintendents on what they have learned in FCLA and did a great job!

Mr. Moser announced the Silver Cord program is going very well. This program is for students to reach so many service hours before they graduate.

Congratulations to the MStM Baseball team and Coach Jon Fitzpatrick for finishing 2nd at the State Tournament. They worked very hard this season and we are proud of their achievements. Mr. Moser thanked all the parents and volunteers during the softball and baseball seasons in help run the concession stand and press box and helping things run smooth.

Mr. Wood attended the Warren County Fair one day and was very impressed with seeing all the MStM students families at the fair showing animals and participating in many of the events. Congratulations to Haley Hart for being crowned the Warren County Fair Queen, Oliva Johnson for being the Warren County Fair Princess. We also had several MStM students attending, showing, and competing at the Madison County Fair and Iowa State Fair as well. Congratulations!

Ms. Happe updated the Board on the movement of some of our classrooms. Teachers are already getting their rooms ready. The teachers are excited about the new science materials, and training will take place on September 13th. A new proposal for 9-12 science textbooks will likely be brought to the board soon.

IV. Public Comments -none

V. Old Business

A. Presentations

1) Facilities Report

Mr. Christensen

The Administration will have a walkthrough of the building at the September board meeting.

2) Principal's Report

Ms. Happe

Ms. Happe is continuing to work on the elementary science curriculum to align to the NGSS standards. It is being closely monitored and receiving support and improvements from last year. We have teachers doing additional training, building leadership conversations and creating non-negotiables for math and science. We will be updating our social studies materials as the new standards just came out.

3) Principal's Report

Mr. Moser

Mr. Moser introduced Max Seeman, our new PE teacher and Activities Director. Mr. Seeman just finished up coaching baseball at CMB and then started in the district in late July. Previously he has taught PE, coached, and been a mentor teacher which has allowed him to build his leadership skills. Mr. Seeman has been in contact with our coaches quite often already, has been following up on physicals and concussions forms and preparing for the first football scrimmage on August 18th. He is very appreciative of all the support he has been given. He is looking forward to meeting everyone when they return on the 21st.

Mr. Moser has been working with Mr. Hatcher in solidifying the professional development days which will be require deep levels of collaboration, critical thinking, problem solving and will help bridge gaps in instruction and increase the level of engagement.

Mr. Moser updated the Board on the Wellness program. The committee recently met on August 10th and he will be presenting to the staff next week the Wellness Program Plan. There will be an assembly on September 18th with the Save a Life Tour which includes distracting driving simulators which will be geared toward JH and HS students

4) Superintendent's Report

Supt. Wood

Mr. Moser, Ms. Happe, and Mr. Wood attended the School Administrators of Iowa Annual conference two weeks ago. The sessions were valuable and one that we will continue to use resources from was led by the BOEE. They have produced curriculum and materials based on scenarios surrounding the Code of Ethics for Educators. Ms. Happe and Mr. Moser will be leading staff members through the first installment of this curriculum this month with follow-ups to occur throughout the year.

Mr. Wood has been reading *School Culture Rewired* throughout the summer and will be re-reading it for a book study with both principals. There are activities outlined in it that they will work through to identify specific needs related to our culture and exercises that should help us make necessary changes. Staff members will be involved from surveys at the beginning to implementation of new practices that can immediately impact climate.

Mr. Wood is in the middle of *Fierce Conversations* which is a course based on the Susan Scott book by the same name. Although this book was initially written toward an audience in the business world, it has been used widely in education. The course itself is dedicated to implementing the concepts from the book in an educational setting. Most of the participants are area administrators, and he has already used and has seen the benefits of methods outlined in the book and course.

VI. New Business

A. Discuss/Approve 2017-2018 Elementary Student Handbook

Supt. Wood

Minor changes were made to the elementary student handbook regarding editorial changes with new staff members, additional information about early dismissals and directions for activities. It was noted that the Level I Investigator needed to be updated. Mr. DiCesare motioned to approve the 2017-2018 Elementary Student Handbook, seconded by Mr. Ralls. Roll call: 3 ayes.

B. Discuss/Approve 2017-2018 Elementary Faculty Handbook

Supt. Wood

Discussion was made regarding the discipline of students with inappropriate behavior listed on the PBIS chart in the handbook. Mr. Ralls wanted to make sure this discipline was not harmful to those students who are more introverted than others. He also wanted to make sure that adults were held to certain expectations as well. The administration noted that the teachers have guidelines of expectations toward children and it is also covered in the Master Contract and in Iowa Code. Mr. DiCesare motioned to approve the 2017-2018 Elementary Faculty Handbook, seconded by Mr. Ralls. Roll call: 3 ayes.

C. Discuss/Approve 2017-2018 Secondary Student Handbook

Supt. Wood

Discussion was made regarding eligibility and excused absences for illness. Mr. Ralls motioned to approve the 2017-2018 Secondary Student Handbook, seconded by Mr. DiCesare. Roll call: 3 ayes.

D. Discuss/Approve 2017-2018 Secondary Faculty Handbook Supt. Wood
Mr. DiCesare motioned to approve the 2017-2018 Secondary Faculty Handbook, seconded by Mr. Ralls. Roll call: 3 ayes.

E. Discuss/Approve 2017-2018 Coaches Handbook Supt. Wood
Mr. DiCesare motioned to approve the 2017-2018 Coaches Handbook, seconded by Mr. Ralls. Roll call: 3 ayes.

F. Discuss/Approve 2017-2018 Preschool Handbook Supt. Wood
Mr. Ralls motioned to approve the 2017-2018 Preschool Handbook, seconded by Mr. DiCesare. Roll call: 3 ayes.

G. Discuss/Approve 2017-2018 Daycare Handbook Supt. Wood
Mr. DiCesare motioned to approve the 2017-2018 Daycare Handbook, seconded by Mr. Ralls. Roll call: 3 ayes.

H. Discuss/Approve 2017-2018 Title I documents Supt. Wood
Mr. DiCesare motioned to approve the 2017-2018 Title I, seconded by Mr. Ralls. Roll call: 3 ayes.

I. Discuss/Approve Personnel Resignations Supt. Wood
Mr. DiCesare motioned to approve the resignation of Don Hatcher for JH Boys' Basketball, seconded by Mr. Ralls. Roll call: 3 ayes.

J. Discuss/Approve Personnel Recommendations Supt. Wood
Mr. DiCesare motioned to approve Wade Gibson; 1 year contract for Assistant JV/V Volleyball, Tacy Vogel; Volunteer Assistant JV/V Volleyball, and Trent Verwers; Assistant JV/V Football Coach, seconded by Mr. Ralls. Roll call: 3 ayes.

K. Confirm – Next Meeting Dates Supt. Wood
The School Board Election will be September 12, 2017. The next board meeting will be held on September 18, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Ralls motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. DiCesare. Roll call: 3 ayes. Time: 5:21 p.m.


Board President

APPROVED


Business Manager

It is the policy of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices.

There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the district's Equity Coordinator.

MStM's Equity Coordinator is Josh Moser, secondary principal. His address is MStM Community School, 390 Burlington, Martensdale, Iowa 50160. His phone number is 641-764-2686 and his email address is: josh_moser@MStM.us

The Martensdale-St. Marys District Newsletter is published by the last day of the preceding month.

The newsletter is available for pickup in the Superintendent's office, Post Office and the Jiffy station, all are located in Martensdale.

You may also view it on the <http://www.MStM.us> website. Questions or concerns may be addressed to:

**Mrs. DePauw
Martensdale-St. Marys
Elementary Office
390 Burlington Ave.
Martensdale, Iowa 50160
or by email
brenda_depauw@MStM.us
Office: 641-764-2470
Fax: 641-764-2100**



Martensdale-St Marys

October, 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	<p>4:30pm Cross Country-Varsity Nodaway Valley vs. Multiple Schools @ Greenfield Golf Course 6:00pm Football-JV Grand View Christian@ Martensdale-St. Marys Jr Sr High School, Blue Devil Stadium 7:00pm-8:00pm Mat Club @ Commons</p>	<p>7:00am-8:00am FCA Meeting @ Room 216 4:30pm-5:30pm Little League Basketball @ Commons 6:00pm Volleyball-9th Wayne @ Martensdale-St. Marys 6:00pm Volleyball-JV Wayne @ Martensdale-St. Marys 7:30pm Volleyball-Varsity Wayne @ Martensdale-St. Marys</p>	<p>1:00 Dismissal 12:35pm NHS Meeting @ Mr. Hansens Room</p>	<p>4:00pm Football-JH Melcher-Dallas @ Martensdale-St. Marys 4:00pm Volleyball-JH Norwalk @ Martensdale-St. Marys, Elementary Gym</p>	<p>7:00pm Football-Varsity Riverside @ RHS Football Field</p>	<p>9:00am Volleyball-Varsity Martensdale-St Marys vs. Multiple Schools @ Martensdale-St. Marys, HS Gym</p>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	<p>7:30am PTO Book Fair @ JH-HS Media Center 4:00pm Football-JH Mormon Trail Junior-Senior @ Mormon Trail Junior-Senior High School School Board Meeting (-) -(Cancelled)-@ Supt. Office 4:00pm-8:00pm Parent-Teacher Conferences 6:00pm Football-JV Interstate 35 @ Martensdale-St. Marys Jr Sr High School, Blue Devil Stadium 6:00pm Music Booster Meeting @ Music Room 6:00pm Volleyball-Varsity TBA vs. Multiple Schools @ TBD 6:00pm Volleyball-Varsity TBA vs. Multiple Schools @ TBD 6:00pm Volleyball-Varsity TBA vs. Multiple Schools @ TBD 6:00pm Volleyball-Varsity TBA vs. Multiple Schools @ TBD</p>	<p>7:00am-8:00am FCA Meeting @ Room 216 7:30am PTO Book Fair @ JH-HS Media Center 5:00pm Cross Country-JV Nodaway Valley vs. Multiple Schools @ Nodaway Valley 5:00pm Cross Country-Varsity Nodaway Valley vs. Multiple Schools @ Nodaway Valley 6:00pm Volleyball-Varsity Central Decatur vs. Multiple Schools @ Central Decatur</p>	<p>7:30am PTO Book Fair @ JH-HS Media Center 8:30am-12:00pm PSAT Testing @ Room 211 4:00pm School Board Meeting @ Central Office 6:30pm Athletic Booster Club Meeting @ Mr. Hatchers Room</p>	<p>1:00 Dismissal 7:30am PTO Book Fair @ JH-HS Media Center 3:30pm-7:30pm Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:30pm Cross Country-Varsity Mount Ayr @ Mount Ayr High School</p>	<p>No School 7:00pm Football-Varsity Griswold @ Martensdale-St. Marys Jr Sr High School, Blue Devil Stadium</p>	<p>7:00am-7:00pm Lil Devil FB @ Blue Devil Stadium</p>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<p>7:00am-7:00pm Lil Devil FB @ Blue Devil Stadium 8:00am-5:00pm Norwalk Superstars @ HS Gym</p>	<p>3:00pm-7:00pm Blood Drive @ Room 211 4:00pm Football-JH East Union @ East Union High School 6:00pm PTO Meeting @ media center 6:00pm Football-JV Central Decatur @ Central Decatur High School 6:30pm-8:00pm Little League Basketball @ Cafeteria</p>	<p>7:00am-8:00am FCA Meeting @ Room 216</p>		<p>TBD Cross Country-Varsity TBA @ TBA</p>	<p>7:00pm Football-Varsity Nodaway Valley @ Nodaway Valley High School</p>	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	<p>7:00pm JH-HS Band & Choir Concert @ HS Gym</p>	<p>7:00am-8:00am FCA Meeting @ Room 216</p>		<p>End of 1st Quarter</p>		<p>7:00am-11:00pm Music Booster Fundraiser @ HS Gym 11:00am Cross Country-Varsity IGHSAU @ Lakeside Municipal Golf Course 11:00am Cross Country-Varsity IHSAA @ Lakeside Municipal Golf Course</p>

In addition to the breakfast items listed, yogurt, breakfast bars and fresh fruit are offered daily!!

OCTOBER

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		
10/2	Day 3A	10/3	Day 4B	10/4	Day 5A	10/5	Day 6B	10/6	Day 1A	
Cereal or Toast Milk & Juice		Egg & Cheese Biscuit Milk & Juice		French Toast/Sausage Milk & Juice		Cinnabon Donut Milk & Juice		Breakfast Pizza Milk & Juice		
Tator Tot Casserole Broccoli Mandarin Oranges Bread Milk		Chicken Pattie w/g Bun Corn Baked Beans Peaches Milk		Spaghetti Lettuce Green Beans Pineapple/Bread Milk		Crispitos Carrots Cheese Sauce Veggie Milk		Pulled Pork w/g Bun Potato Wedges Broccoli Normandy Applesauce Milk		
10/9	Day 2B	10/10	Day 3A	10/11	Day 4B	10/12	Day 5A	10/13		
Cereal or Toast Milk & Juice		Egg Omelet/Toast Milk & Juice		Sausage/Pancakes Milk & Juice		Bagel Milk & Juice				
Meat/Bread Green Beans Carrots Mixed Fruit Milk		Chicken Gravy Mashed Potatoes Broccoli Normandy Pears/Bread Milk		Orange Chicken Mixed Vegetables Broccoli Peaches/Rice Milk		Z-Rib Sandwich w/g Bun Baked Beans Carrots Pineapple Milk				
10/16	Day 6B	10/17	Day 1A	10/18	Day 2B	10/19	Day 3A	10/20		Day 4B
Cereal or Toast Milk & Juice		Egg /Toast Milk & Juice		Cheese/Sausage Biscuit Milk & Juice		Chocolate Donut Milk & Juice		Breakfast Pizza Milk & Juice		
Cheeseburger w/g Bun French Fries Baked Beans Mixed Fruit Milk		Pizza Bread Lettuce Broccoli Pears Milk		Breaded Pork Pattie Mashed Potatoes Carrots Mandarin Oranges/Bread Milk		Chicken Nuggets Green Beans Broccoli Normandy Peaches/HS Bread Milk		Cold Ham/Turkey Sand. Cheese-Whole Grain Bun Carrots/Celery Applesauce Milk		
10/23	Day 5A	10/24	Day 6B	10/25	Day 1A	10/26	Day 2B	10/27		Day 3A
Cereal or Toast Milk & Juice		Egg Omelet/Toast Milk & Juice		Sausage/Gravy Biscuit Milk & Juice		Cinnabon Donut Milk & Juice		Breakfast Pizza Milk & Juice		
Popcorn Chicken Green Beans Carrots Peaches/HS Bread Milk		Hot Dog/Whole Grain Bun Broccoli Corn Pears Milk		Chili Carrots/Celery/Ranch Crackers Applesauce Milk		BBQ Pork w/g Bun Baked Beans French Fries Mixed Fruit Milk		Chicken Alfredo Lettuce Broccoli Normandy Pineapple/HS Bread Milk		
10/30	Day 4B	10/31	Day 5A							
Cereal or Toast Milk & Juice		Egg & Toast Milk & Juice						<p>Grades 4-12 have a fruit and vegetable bar available to them.</p>		
Fish Shapes Baked Beans Carrots Peaches/HS Bread Milk		Potato Bar Ham & Cheese Broccoli Mixed Fruit/Bread Milk								

**** THIS MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE ****

Non-discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. "In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-10410, or call toll free (866)632-1010102 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800)877-83310; or (800)845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."