



MARTENSDALE- ST. MARYS COMMUNITY SCHOOL

April 1, 2013

From the Desk of Bob Newsum,
Superintendent

Greetings:

As of the day my article for the March district newsletter was written, we have five missed days of school due to inclement weather. The last day of classes for seniors is Thursday, May 16th, with graduation set for Sunday afternoon, May 19th, beginning at 2:00 p.m. The last day for all other students will be Friday, May 31st.

As we enter the spring season, many families consider relocating to new homes. During my years as a building principal and a superintendent, I've seen a significant increase in the number of parents who have accepted new employment and are considering a move from their current home who 'shop around' to decide where to relocate. Perhaps the single most important consideration for those parents with students still in school, is the school district their children will be attending. I'm sure that Mr. Crozier and Mr. Wood will receive several calls between now and the end of the year asking whether the parents and students who are considering a move to the Des Moines metro area can come to our school for a tour and to have their questions answered. You are all ambassadors for the Martensdale St. Marys Community School District and my request to you is that when you hear of parents who are joining your place of business, you suggest that they call Tom Wood, elementary principal, (641-764-2621), Mike Crozier, secondary principal, (641-764-2486), or Bob Newsum, superintendent, at my office telephone (641-764-2466) or on my cell phone (641-203-8893). We would enjoy the opportunity to share the many good things associated with our school with those prospective new students and their parents.

Please join us for our next communications advisory committee meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, April 17th, beginning at 6:00 p.m., in the school media center. The committee screened original Blue Devil image contest entries in January and will be implementing procedures to allow you to vote for the image you believe best represents the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District and can be used on uniforms, other apparel, and district facilities and equipment.

Two years ago the Iowa Legislature made significant changes in the governance of all Iowa public school district

boards of education, including setting the normal term of office for an elected school board member at four years and reducing the frequency of school board elections to an every-other-year basis, with elections held on the second Tuesday of odd numbered years. This fall the regular terms of three current members of the Martensdale-St. Marys Board of Education (Mrs. Amy Harper, Mr. Dave Shutt, and Mr. Wade Gibson) expire. All MSTM board members are elected by geographic district. If you are interested in serving as a Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District board member and live in one of the three districts currently represented by Amy, Dave, or Wade, please contact Ms. Jill Gavin, district business manager, to learn what you need to do to get your name on the September 10, 2013, ballot.

From the Desk of Tom Wood,
Elementary Principal

Eliminating Bullying

The latest research shows that one in three children is directly involved in bullying as a perpetrator, victim, or both. Many of those who are not directly involved witness others being bullied on a regular basis. No child is immune—kids of every race, gender, grade, and socio-economic sector are impacted. But it doesn't have to be this way. Parents, as well as schools, have the power to help reduce bullying. Here are some tips on how you can help:

Talk with and listen to your kids.

Spend a few minutes every day asking open-ended questions about who they spend time with at school and in the neighborhood, what they do in between classes and at recess, who they have lunch with, or what happens on the way to and from school. If your children feel comfortable talking to you about their peers before they're involved in a bullying event, they'll be more likely to get you involved after.

Be an example of kindness and leadership.

When you get angry at a sales clerk, another driver on the road, or even your child, you have an opportunity to model effective communication techniques. Any time you speak to another person in a mean or abusive way, you're teaching your child that bullying is OK.

Learn the signs.

Most children don't tell anyone that they've been bullied. Learn to recognize possible signs of victimization, such as frequent loss of personal belongings, complaints of stomachaches, avoiding recess or school activities, and getting

to school very late or very early. Talk to your child and the teacher about what is going on at school and find ways to observe your child's interactions to determine whether your suspicions might be correct.

Create healthy anti-bullying habits early.

Help develop anti-bullying and anti-victimization habits in your child as early as preschool. Coach your child on what not to do—hitting, pushing, teasing, or being mean to others. Help your child to focus on how such actions might feel to the child on the receiving end. Equally important, teach your children what to do—kindness, empathy, fair play, and turn-taking are critical skills for good peer relations. Children also need to learn how to say “no” firmly if they experience or witness bullying behavior. Role play with your child about what to do if other kids are mean—get an adult right away, tell the child who is teasing or bullying to “stop,” ignore the perpetrator and find someone else to play with.

Establish household rules.

Make sure your child knows that if he or she is bullied physically, verbally, or socially, it's safe and important to tell you about it—and that you will help. Kids also need to know what bullying is (many children do not know that they are bullying others), and that such behavior is harmful to others and unacceptable.

Teach your child how to be a positive bystander.

Although it's never children's responsibility to put themselves in danger, kids can often effectively diffuse a bullying situation by yelling “Stop! You're bullying” or “Hey, that's not cool.” Kids can also help each other by providing support to the victim, not giving extra attention to the bullying behavior, and/or reporting what they witnessed to an adult.

Teach your child about cyber-bullying.

Cyber-bullying includes sending mean, rude, vulgar, or threatening messages or images; posting sensitive, private information about another person; pretending to be someone else in order to make that person look bad; and intentionally excluding someone from an online group. These acts are as harmful as physical violence. You can teach your children a simple litmus test about online posting: If you wouldn't say it to someone's face or you would not feel comfortable having your parents see it—don't post it (or take it down now).

Efforts to effectively address bullying require the collaboration of school, home, and community. Bullying is a serious problem, but if we all work together, it's one we can impact.

From the Desk of Mike Crozier,
Secondary School Principal

Welcome to spring time. I would like to congratulate Mr. Randy Olson, MSTM band director, for his students' performance in the Pride of Iowa Honor Band. The following students participated: Josh Belieu, Katlyn Belieu, Dallas Newman, Alex Behounek, Kelsey DePauw, Erin Deming, Troy Harding, Courtney Scovel, and Abby Wetzler. Mr. Olson

continues to do an outstanding job with our band program and these students are proof of that.

The spring is full of opportunities to help out at the school. We will be hosting four track meets this spring. This is a huge undertaking that we will not be able to do without the help of the MSTM community. If you are interested in helping out, please call or email Mr. Huegel.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month; here are some resources available in Warren County.

Child Abuse Prevention Council of Warren County
PO Box 417, Indianola IA 50125
515-962-9171
c.reisener@mchsi.com

The Council administers the Wee Care Respite Nursery, the Young Parents Program and a Sexual Abuse Prevention Program in Warren County and coordinates community awareness about child abuse and the importance of prevention.

WEE CARE RESPITE NURSERY **(515) 961-4716**

Wee Care is a free respite nursery for Warren County families with children 6 weeks thru kindergarten age, regardless of family income. Parents can bring their children to the state-licensed nursery for 2 hours while they run errands, go to medical appointments or just take a break from the demands of parenting young children. The program also links families with other community resources and provides parent support and education. Services are located at the First United Methodist Church in Indianola.

YOUNG PARENTS PROGRAM **(515) 249-1947 OR (515) 360-0864**

Young Parents is a free, weekly information and support program for current and expectant Warren County parents up to 24 years of age. The program meets every Tuesday at the First United Methodist Church in Indianola from 6-8P.M. Local restaurants donate meals for the parents. Onsite childcare is provided for children up to six years of age and dinner is provided for the children. Male and female facilitators work with the moms and dads to provide parent education, information and support.

SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM **(515) 961-1488**

The program offers FREE evidence-based sexual abuse prevention education to parents and professionals working with young children. The *Stewards of Children* curriculum teaches adults how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. The *Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development* curriculum teaches adults how to recognize normal sexual behavior in young children, and how to respond to children's sexual behaviors and questions. The program also offers training and support for early childhood professionals on the *Care for Kids* sexual abuse prevention curriculum that can be used in classrooms with young children to provide age appropriate instruction.

SHAKEN BABY PREVENTION EDUCATION **(515) 962-9171**

This project, in partnership with Warren County Public Health, Child Care Resource and Referral and Simpson College, provides informational workshops throughout the community on Shaken Baby Syndrome. Goals of this project are to increase awareness about Shaken Baby Syndrome, provide education and prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome by teaching participants coping skills to handle a crying baby and the challenges of parenting.



www.cap.warren.ia.us

Have a wonderful spring.

From the Desk of Mr. Craig Huegel,
Activities Director

Our winter seasons ended well, and we go right into the spring. Our track teams are practicing, and we are proud to announce that golf has returned to Martensdale-St. Marys! At this time, we have 22 young men and women playing golf. They will be competing at Deer Run golf course in Indianola.

A major point of emphasis this year in athletics has been concussion recognition and treatment. It is important to know that concussions and any kind of head injury can happen at any time, and in any sport, not just football. If you suspect your son/daughter may have suffered a concussion, please

inform your coach. We have an athletic trainer who can help us diagnose and treat these kinds of injuries. Also, below are some resources:

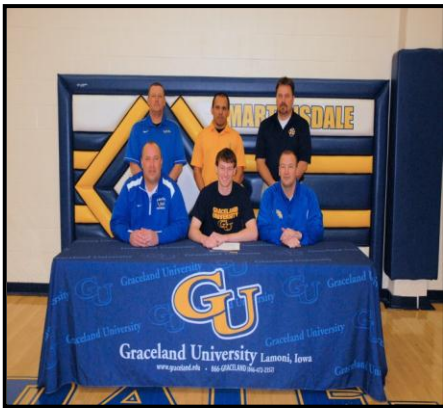
http://www.iahsaa.org/Sports_Medicine_Wellness/Concussion/s/concussions.html
<http://www.nfhslearn.com/electiveDetail.aspx?courseID=15000>

Sportsmanship Reminders

1. Be Loud!
2. Be Positive!!
3. Cheer **for your team** only... (not at officials, opponents, etc.).

Upcoming Fine Arts Events....

4/4/2013		ICDA 5/6 Honor Choir	Grinnell High School
4/8/2013	6-8 p.m.	HS Pre Solo/Ensemble Festival Recital	
4/13/2013		IHSMA Solo/Ensemble Festival	
4/26/2013	7p.m.	HS Concert	MSTM HS Gym
5/3/2013		IHSMA Band/Chorus Large Group Festival	
5/7/2013	7p.m.	JH Concert	MSTM HS Gym
5/24/2013		Adventureland Trip	



**Congratulations to Trent Verwers and Liz DeLong for continuing their careers in activities at Graceland Univ. Liz will participate in cheer, while Trent will play football and run track. Best wishes to you both!!



Track HELP!

Track season is here! We are hosting four meets this year. MSTM is known for running a quality, efficient track meet. That is because of you! If you are interested in helping, please contact me. Below are the meet dates and the help we need:

Timers: Time each race with a stop watch (watches are furnished). Each timer times one runner. 8 people needed.

Pickers: Each timer is assigned a picker whose job is to keep track of which runner was timed. 8 people needed.

Field Event Judges: Measure and record each throw or jump. Four people per event. (High jump, long jump, Discus, and Shot Putt) 16 people needed

Inspectors/Curve Judges: Check to see that runners do not violate lane or exchange zone regulations. 4 people needed

Concession Stand: We need volunteers for all home meets. Each of the above jobs as well as several not listed can use assistants and relief help. As you can see, many workers are required to put on a track meet.

Please contact me if interested, phone (641-764-2385) or email at craig_huegel@mstm.us

I would like to volunteer to help with the track meets

Name _____
 Phone _____
 Address _____

High School Meets I would like to help with:

- _____ MSTM Boys Invitational, April 18th, 5:00 p.m.
- _____ MSTM Girls Invitational, May 6th, 5:00 p.m.

Junior High Meets I would like to help with:

- _____ MSTM Junior High Track Meet, April 22nd, 4:15 p.m.
- _____ MSTM JH Invitational, May 2nd, 4:15 p.m.

If you have a preference of jobs, please list them:

1st Choice: _____
 2nd Choice: _____
 3rd Choice: _____
 Concession Stand: _____

With Blue Devil Pride,
 Craig Huegel, A.D.
 Twitter: @MSTM_BlueDevils

From the Desk of Mr. Folkerts,
Secondary Guidance

Happy Spring to everyone! Here are a couple of things you should be aware of:

Seniors: By now you should have submitted your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) If you haven't, complete it as soon as possible. You should also check with your college(s) to determine if there are other financial aid applications required. Many colleges have priority deadlines as to when the FAFSA should be submitted.

Juniors- Start talking to college reps. Sign-ups are in the guidance office. You can also start scheduling college visits to colleges you are interested in attending next year. Contact me for more information. Also, if you are planning on going to college next year AND have not taken the ACT's or COMPASS test, you might want to get that out of the way as soon as possible. The COMPASS test is an entrance assessment for two year schools. See Mr. Folkerts to schedule your exam.

The last ACT test date is June 8th. May 3rd is the regular registration postmark deadline. The late registration deadline is extended to May 17th for this test. You can register online at www.actstudent.org or pick up a registration packet in the guidance office.

All students have been registered and all parents should have signed off on next year's schedules. We hope to have the initial schedules done before the 1st of May. Keep in mind, changes can be made up until the first week of school next year.

Students can start registering for Fall DMACC classes starting April 17th for returning students and April 24th for new students. There is no guarantee that you can get into a certain class so the earlier you sign up the better you are. **IMPORTANT:** DMACC's policy states no students can sign-up for a college class after July 20th ...no exceptions! So if you want to take a DMACC class you need to register before the deadline. Please contact Mr. Folkerts if you have any questions.

Let's try to make the last quarter of the year our best and most enjoyable!!!

From the Desk of Mr. Amfahr,
HS Social Studies

United States History 8 – the students just completed a unit over the causes and the first half of the Civil War. After Spring Break we will move onto the last two years of the War and then progress to the Westward Movement of the late 1800's. We will complete our study of U.S. History this year by looking at the two World Wars that dominated the early 1900's.

World History 10 – We are about to complete our study of the Ancient Romans prior to break and now will begin looking into the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.

Government – The students just finished a unit about the Constitution and now will turn learning about how they can play a more active role in our democratic system.

Psychology – We have just finished our background study of the fundamentals of Psychology and the role of biology in our behavior. The students gained an understanding about the persistent question of nature vs. nurture in human behavior. We are currently studying the role that our senses play in how we perceive the world around us.

Western Civilization – the students have just created a board game over the Age of Discovery and the Renaissance in small groups. We just began our study of wars throughout history. They will make comparisons between conflicts of different eras as well as learning about how technology has changed through the years. The focus of their studies will be directed at how the different wars have affected the average soldier and citizen that is often caught in the middle of a conflict.

From the Desk of Mr. Goodale,
HS Social Studies

This has been an interesting year for the Social Studies department. American History class is now studying the industrial development of our nation. Seventh grade Geography has concluded the development physical and human geography. Students have studied the western hemisphere nations and are ready to begin the study of the eastern hemisphere. The Modern World Culture class concluded the study of the Middle East and is progressing into South West Asia. Sociology is concluding the study of deviance and has created and ran a deviance survey in grades 7-12. Contemporary Issues class has and continues to look at the various political, economic and cultural events occurring throughout the world today.

In each of the classes students are exposed to political, economic and cultural problems as they exist throughout the world today and examine the domestic and political impact they are having both domestically and internationally.

From the Desk of Mrs. Sowder,
Talented and Gifted/Yearbook

\$150 Gold Package

DLH GraFX
Gib's A&W
Reynold's Feed Service
R&R Contracting
Fareway Stores of Indianola & Norwalk
City State Bank of Martensdale, Indianola, and Norwalk
Bussanmus Towing & Repair

Walmart of Indianola
Blanchard Family Dentistry
Wiegert Disposal, Inc. Septic Service & Kybo Rentals
Miller Auto Body & Paint

BUY YOUR YEARBOOK NOW! There are only six weeks left to order your 2013 yearbook with Josten's online or through Mrs. Sowder. It's a great deal that lasts a lifetime. If you need to set up a payment plan with Mrs. Sowder, please see her ASAP.

From the Desk of Mrs. Clark,
Vocal Music

Dear parents of PK-Kindergarten-1st grade students,

Your child's spring concert is coming quickly. It is Tuesday, April 2nd, in the high school gym at 7:00 p.m. Students will meet with their classroom teachers in the cafeteria by 6:45 p.m. Concert attire is nice clothes. Please, no blue jeans if possible.

Our youngest students have been working hard on their music. They are looking forward to performing for you!

Please remember to bring a dozen cookies or bars for the Music Booster reception after the concert. If you are able to help with this, please let them know. You may contact the Music Booster president, Vicki Hornback at:
Vickihornback@wellsfargo.com

I am looking forward to a fun night of music with our youngest students!

From the Desk of Ms. Brinkman,
Elementary Guidance Counselor

In the Elementary Guidance classes, we have started our Career Development Unit. The lower elementary grades are learning about different types of jobs, what their strengths and interests are, and how to set goals and achieve them. The upper elementary grades are learning about the many career clusters, guest speakers will be coming in to talk about their jobs, learning how to write a resume, and discovering new things about MSTM teachers and staff as they go on a Resume Scavenger Hunt! In our Kindergarten classes this week,

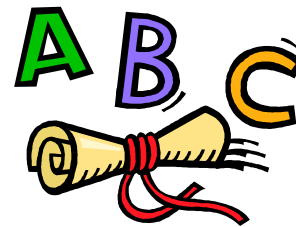


Happy Bear came to visit us to teach us about good touches, bad touches, and mixed up touches. The kids were very excited to see Happy Bear and give him a big hug!

Preschool Parent Meeting –

There will be a parent meeting for all incoming preschoolers of the 2013-2014 school year on April 23rd at 6:30 p.m. in the HS media center. Parents will be able to visit the classrooms after the meeting.

If you have not yet signed your student up for preschool please call the elementary office at 641-764-2621 as soon as possible. Spots are filling up fast. Students must be 4 on or before September 15, 2013.



Kindergarten Round Up –

There will be a parent meeting for all incoming kindergarten students of the 2013-2014 school year on April 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the HS media center. If you will have a child in kindergarten next year, please plan to attend.

Kindergarten round up will be held on April 12th from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in the kindergarten classrooms for those students who will be 5 by September 15, 2013 and plan to attend kindergarten.

If you have, or know of a child that will be 5 by the Sept. 15th cut off, please contact the elementary office at [641-764-2621](tel:641-764-2621) so that we can get their name and address on our mailing list.

From the Desk of Mrs. Burns and Mr. Spanhut,
5th Grade Reading and Science

The fifth graders were surprised to see that writing snowflake poetry invited lots of snow to the playground. The students wrote poems, and placed them on the windows only to see snow fall that same day! We have been busy writing, reading, speaking and listening during our Daily 5 work each day. Currently we have been busy typing the amazing writing we do in class! Students are also busy working in their assigned book clubs, performing in Reader's Theater groups, and working with Non-fiction. Thanks to the PTO for our new I Pad, and all of the technology that helps to enhance our

lessons. In science, 5th graders have been doing some research on space and our solar system. They presented the planets to the classes and have learned a lot about research and computers. We will spend the rest of the year with a great deal of hands on real world learning. They will be exploring how the forces of earth help shape our land. They will be building bridges using toothpicks and learning to use resources and to follow their own plans. Then students will also be building cars that have to complete certain tasks. Sail cars will be one that they build.

Then we end the year with a health unit. They will need to come up with fitness plans and help others to become healthy. This has been a great year with the 5th graders. They have grown so much and worked very hard. I look forward to seeing them meet these new challenges!

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 7, 2013

The Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District met in regular session, pursuant to law, on Thursday, February 7, 2013.

Members Present: Nicole Bunch, President; Dave Shutt, Vice President; Amy Harper, Dean Furness, and Wade Gibson, together with Superintendent Robert Newsum and Business Manager Jill Gavin.

The President called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Supt. Newsum reviewed the agenda items for the February 11, 2013 Board Meeting. Mr. Furness and Mr. Gibson updated the board members on the facility projects that they will be recommending. Mrs. Gavin requested direction on the tax rate for 2013-2014 and the proposed to over-levy the 2012 General Obligation bond.

Mrs. Harper moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 5 ayes.

Time: 6:10 p.m.

APPROVED



Board President



Business Manager

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2013 BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District met in regular session, pursuant to law, on February 11, 2013.

Members Present: Vice President, Dave Shutt, Amy Harper, and Wade Gibson; together with Superintendent Bob Newsum and Business Manager Jill Gavin.

Members Present by Phone: President, Nicole Bunch and Dean Furness.

I. Welcome – Board President
Vice President David Shutt called the meeting to order. Time: 4:00 p.m.

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. Gibson motioned to approve all consent items, seconded by Mrs. Harper. Roll call: 5 ayes.

III. Celebrations
Mr. Wood announced the Elementary Math Night was held on January 17th with around 150-175 parents in attendance. The 5th/6th grade band and choir concert was held on February 4th and the students did a very nice job. The district's new Elementary Special Ed/Reading teacher, Jenny Schwery, started February 1st and is doing a great job.

Mr. Crozier announced Cassidy Phillips is a finalist for the Discus Award. The Discus Awards represents the next generation of high school recognition, honoring the all-around high school student in the pursuit of their passions. To check out more about Cassidy's nomination, click here <http://www.discusawards.com/winner.php?id=11490>

1. Congratulations Cassidy!

Congratulations to Dylan Gibson for qualifying for the State Wrestling Tournament on Thursday, February 14. Good Luck Dylan!

IV. Public Comments - none

IV. Old Business

A. Reports Supt. Newsum

- 1) MSTM Music Booster Minutes – January 14, 2013 minutes.
- 2) MSTM Athletic Booster Minutes – January 9, 2013 minutes.
- 3) MSTM PTO Minutes – January 8, 2013
- 4) Facilities Committee Report – items were discussed during New Business.

B. Presentations

1) Principal's Report Mr. Wood

Mr. Wood informed the Board that the I-STAR Audit was on January 9th for the

district's special education program went really well. They have a few areas that need to be corrected but there were no serious citations. The Quality Preschool Program Standards Verification Visit, on January 23rd-24th, also went very well and all the assurances were met, exemplary practices were recognized and they specifically noted that they do not see too many districts that have preschool in the same building as K-12.

Mr. Wood visited with the Board about staffing for next year. They will be posting the 6th grade teaching position within the next couple of weeks. He will post within first and will follow with posting it to the IA REAP website.

Mr. Wood provided a proposal for a Director of Preschool for next year. This position would alleviate some of the duties on his plate when he officially becomes the Superintendent/Elementary Principal. This position would exist as an added duty to one of the preschool teacher's contracts. A yearly stipend would be given in order to account for the extra time and work involved. Mr. Shutt stated that it made sense to have this position. The Board agreed for Mr. Wood to move forward on the research of the position and to bring a recommendation to the March board meeting if there is an interest.

2) Principal's Report Mr. Crozier

Mr. Crozier announced that as of the night of the board meeting, the girls' basketball team is 13-9 and will be playing the Earlham Cardinals in the first round of Regionals on February 12th. Currently the boys' basketball team is 11-9 and will be playing in Lenox on February 14th for first round of Regionals.

Good Luck Blue Devils!

Congratulations to Dylan Gibson for being the 2013 1A District Champion and State Qualifier for the State Wrestling Tournament at Wells Fargo. Good Luck Dylan!

Mr. Crozier presented the 1st Semester Honor Roll. He informed the Board about that the Technology Committee met on February 6th where they discussed the 1:1 laptop program, what the purpose of the program is, and where do we want the program to go in the future. A

recommendation will be brought to the Board in March or April on the purchase of new hardware.

Mr. Crozier presented the students involved in the Leadership Conference at Simpson, Drake Honor Band, JH Honor Band, Simpson honor Wind Ensemble, POI Honor Band, and the Central College Choir Festival. The Variety Show will be held on February 22nd at 7:00 p.m. in the Elementary Gym.

January Students of the Month:

- 7th grade – Haley Hart
- 8th grade – Jake Catron
- 9th grade – Anna Wetzler
- 10th grade – Zach DeLong
- 11th grade – Dallas Newman
- 12th grade – Carli Kenyon

3) Curriculum Director's Report

Mr. Moser

Mr. Moser presented to the Board the Professional Development Agenda for February 20, 2013. Presentations will be made by the guidance counselors on recent workshops they have attended, students will be presenting information on their student learning communities, and a film will be shown to help teachers and others what it is like to be in a school with a disability. Mr. Moser will be attending a Professional Development Day in Urbandale on February 18th and a small group of teachers will be attending a workshop in April with Rick Wormeli for standards-based grading. Mr. Moser received several questions at the Elementary Math Night on how Every Day Math will convert once students enter the secondary level. He stated that there are several text book reviews and pilots for upper level math classes that they have already been researching. Mr. Moser will be presenting to his class at Drake the tentative schedule for the Professional Development calendar for 2013-2014.

4) Superintendent's Report

Supt. Newsum

Mr. Newsum informed the Board that the district will be purchasing a new ice cream machine to serve yogurt, in August of 2014; which will be funded out of the Hot Lunch Fund. He announced that the Hot Lunch program was recently certified to receive additional federal funding of \$0.06 per serving.

VI. New Business

A. Consider/Approve Calendar for 2013-2014
Supt. Newsum

Mr. Furness arrived in person for the meeting and disconnected himself from the conference call. The Board was presented two versions of the school calendar for 2013-2014. The only difference between the two is how long the winter break would be. The Board discussed the fact that parents of elementary children would have to find daycare for extra days of break, how it would affect semester tests, and that the longer you are out of school the longer it takes to transition back into school.

Mr. Gibson motioned to approve version 5A of the school calendar that had the shorter winter break for 2013-2014, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll call: 5 ayes.

B. Consider/Approve Recommendations from Facilities Committee
Supt. Newsum

Further discussion was made regarding what facility projects would be funded from PPEL and Capital Projects for FY13 and FY14. It was stated the baseball lights; which are over thirty years old, are in need of replacing and it would be best to replace them now and not when it is necessary. The softball field is in need of a better irrigation system to fix the outfield. The lack of rain has made it very hard to maintain.

Mr. Furness motioned to approve purchasing new lights for the baseball field that will be funded out of the Capital Projects Fund in both FY13 and FY14, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 5 ayes.

Mrs. Harper motioned to approve the purchase of a utility vehicle out of the Capital Projects Fund in FY13, for the maintenance crew to be used at the baseball field, athletic complex and at the school, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll call: 5 ayes.

Mr. Furness motioned to approve added an irrigation system to the softball field to be paid out of the PPEL Fund in FY13, seconded by Mr. Gibson. Roll call: 5 ayes.

The Board will continue to discuss the improvements of technology for the district and which fund the purchase of new hardware will be taken out of and when.

C. Discuss/Approve Budget Setting Options
Supt. Newsum

The Board was asked to consider choosing to over-levy the 2012 General Obligation Bond in order to maintain or slightly reduce the property tax rate for 2013-2014. The over-levy would save taxpayers money in that it lowers the amount of interest they would have to pay. It is possible to save approximately \$30,000 in future interest expense. The Board requested to proceed with the over-levy resolution to be approved at the March board meeting.

D. Consider/Approve Contract for Madison County Career Academy
Supt. Newsum

Mrs. Harper motioned to approve the agreement for participation in the Vocational/Career Program at Winterset Community School District in the 2013-2014 school year, seconded by Mr. Furness. Roll call: 5 ayes.

E. Confirm – Next Meeting Dates
Supt. Newsum

03/06/13	Agenda subcommittee by e-mail
03/07/13	5:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting
03/11/13	5:00 p.m. Board Meeting

The Board requested to have the agenda meeting on

APPROVED


Board President

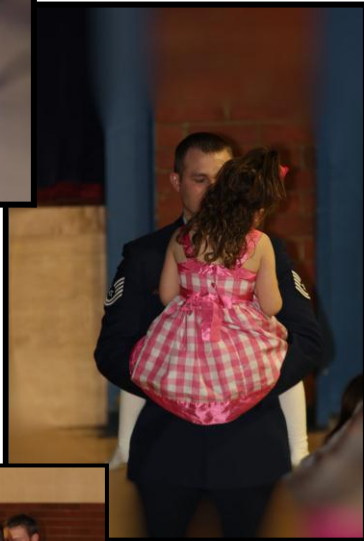
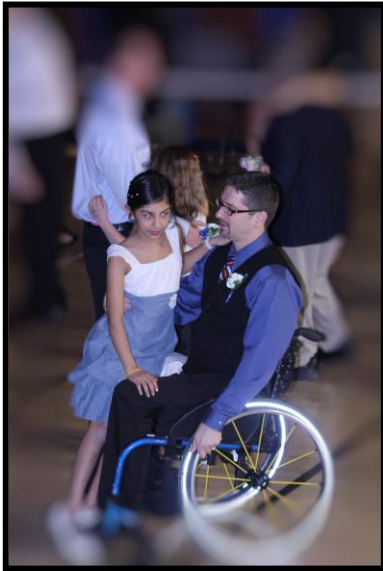

Business Manager

March 7th at 5:00 p.m. instead of 5:30 p.m. and the board meeting at 5:00 p.m. instead of 6:30 p.m. The Board will update board policy at the March board meeting.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Gibson motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Harper. Roll call: 5 ayes. Time: 4:46 p.m.

Daddy/Daughter Dance 2013



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 Mike Crozier, 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: mike_crozier@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 and the Jiffy station, both are located in Martensdale.

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

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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*