



Deer Path Middle School APT Board Meeting

Jan. 15, 2019 Minutes

Attendees - Tom Cardamone, Megan Engelberg, Colene Hardy, Tish Houston, Beth Laufenberg, LFPD Officer Mark Long, Becky Nagel, Judi Olenick, Heike Regner, Kate Rother, Umang Singh, Vicki Stach, Leslie Walton, Laurie Whisler, Dez Witte

Administrator Reports:

DPM - Tom Cardamone, Principal

- Mr. Cardamone introduced Lake Forest Police Officer Mark Long, the new School Resource Officer (SRO). Officer Christenson is moving roles to be a full time detective. He is helping transition his SRO responsibilities to Offer Long. Office Long was on-hand for a successful, surprise lock-down drill held at DPM on January 14th.
- Parent-teacher conferences are coming up in early March. Look out for information in the Friday Flyer about when online sign up will begin.
- Students are completing their first Fine Arts rotation. Next week they will start their second rotation for the year.
- Some DPM students will take the MAP test on January 22nd and 23rd. The entire student body takes the MAP test twice a year - in the Spring and the Fall. Select students also take the test mid-way through the school year as a way for teachers to assess progress. Parents of students identified for the mid-year test will receive notice prior to the test from the administration.
- The administration continues to work on the Master Schedule Project. As part of this, things being looked include: the ideal amount of homework, the purpose of the homeroom period, among other topics. One idea being discussed is having an A and B day schedule. Each day the schedule would alternate between an A and B day. The difference in the days would be core classes flipping from morning to afternoon. For instance, on an A day a student might have math and LA in the morning, and social studies and science in the afternoon. These would flip on a B day - social studies and science in the morning, and math and L in the afternoon. More to come on this topic.
- Congratulations to Joe Remus, 6th grade, the winner of the DPM's competition of the National Geographic GeoBee. Joe was also DPM's school winner last year. The school GeoBee, at which students answered questions on geography, was the first round in the 31st annual National Geographic Bee. Congratulations also to Lili Sandor, 8th grade, who was the DPM runner-up, and all participants in the 2019 DPM Geography Bee.

5th – Emiko Chichester, Mike Hollingsworth, Matthew Kim, Brooks Rams, Thomas Curry

6th – Nishan Singh, Ryan Thorsen, Noel Demetrio

7th – Alejandro Orestano

8th – Sidharth Jindal, Aiden Meredith

- DPM had a great Play Learn Service (PLS; formerly ELO) afternoon on 12/21 during which each student rotated through three 40 minutes sessions including one each of: play, learn, and service. For instance, Mr. Cardamone led a group of students for a run to Starbuck's during one rotation. This was conducted across the school providing another opportunity for the four grades to integrate and for all the students to get to know each other. The administration received positive feedback about the event. Students overall seemed to have a super fun time.
- DPM recently had its first "TA (teacher assistant) Appreciation Week." DPM has about 20 TAs on staff and during this special week there was a slide show, breakfast, and other activities to show appreciation for the great work the TAs do.
- The Winter sports season is in full swing. The wrestling team has already had several matches, boys volleyball is off to a great start, and the Poms recently placed 6th at a state competition.
- The Culture and Climate survey will be coming soon. All students are asked to complete the survey and will be given time during the school day. The survey takes about 10-15 minutes. This is valuable information to our educators, who look closely at trends from this year's survey compared to prior years.

Officer Reports:

President - Beth Laufenberg

- Please remember to review the APT budget for your Committee's allocated funds. Any questions please contact Beth Laufenberg at beth60045@me.com.

Teacher Representative:

Colene Hardy

- Thank you from all of the DPM staff for the amazing Cookie Walk! The treats were delicious and the work that went into it was GREATLY appreciated by the entire staff.
- The DPM Garden Club sends a Thank You to the APT for helping to finance the plants the students used in the planters at each of DPM's entrances. The Garden Club took on the task of filling the planters this year and requested funding help from the APT. We all appreciate the beauty the Garden Club has created. It is extra special knowing that the students put the planters together.
- Note that the deadline has been extended to sign up for the 7th Grade Springfield Trip 2019. The dates of the trip are April 13-14, 2019. Trip highlights and all registration information are included in the DPM Friday Flyer email. This trip is not a school-sponsored event as it is coordinated by Brightspark Travel. Participants and teachers will be traveling as representatives of Brightspark Travel.
- Please send photos of students participating on the DPM sports teams to either Mr. or Mrs. Rahman: irahman@lfschools.net or srahman@lfschools.net.

CROYA:

Leslie Walton

- CROYA is hosting a Boot Scootin' Barn Dance on Sunday, February 10th. All families are welcome! (<https://croya.com/wp2015/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/11x17-poster.pdf>.)

Committee Reports:

Art Fair - Vicki Stach, Ellen Camoletto; Nicole Korczak, Laura Remus

- The kick-off of the Art Fair starts with the collection of the art the week of January 22- after the MLK holiday weekend. Art for 5th/6th grade students is being collected in the Cube 7:45-9 on Tuesday January 22 and Wednesday January 23. Collection of the 7th/8th graders is in the Haskins Center 7:45-9 on Thursday January 24 and Friday January 25.
- Judging of the artwork will occur the following week.

Board of Ed Liaison - Dez Witte

- See Exhibit A for a summary of the recent Board of Education meeting.

Class of 2018 Activities - Lydia Conopeotis, Kristen Lee, Kirsten Maxwell, Kristin Ryan, Martha Zeeman

- The Committee's representative met with Mr. Cardamone to determine the best approach to garner student involvement for the 8th grade end-of-year Dance Party. It was decided to have a table in the cafeteria at lunch on January 31st to generate excitement and ideas for the theme, decorations, etc. for the Dance Party. The Committee believes it is best to have the students as involved as possible to ensure a successful event.
- Information relating to the Class of 2019 activities can be found at <https://dpmapt.weebly.com/class-of-2019.html>.

Community Service - Kate Rother

- District 67 participated in the Thanksgiving Food Drive, which provides Thanksgiving meals to food pantries in Lake County. Donations were collected at each school Thursday, November 1st - Friday, November 9th. Volunteer opportunities were promoted to all student to add a service option to the drive.
- Historically Lake County Cares (LCC) ran this event, but this year LCC was going through some changes and was not present. Despite the absence of an active partner in LCC, the Thanksgiving food drive was a huge success. Following are some highlights:
 - Food was collected for 250 Thanksgiving meal bags plus 450 pounds of additional food.
 - 50 pounds of candy for dessert was donated from the Girl Scouts.
 - 15 district families sorted food & made meal bags & 15 more families delivered food to 6 different food pantries.
 - Student volunteers made 75 Happy Thanksgiving cards - all to make Thanksgiving special for families in Lake County.

- The Community Service Committee will meet this spring to re-evaluate & plan activities for the future.

Fine Arts - Maureen Fitzgerald

- Following are upcoming performances at DPM:
 - On Thursday 3/7 GreatWorks will present “Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry” to the 7th graders at 9 am.
 - On Thursday 3/21 American Eagle Productions will present “Diary of Anne Frank” to the 8th graders at 9 am.

LFHS Liasons - Kristen Chun and Anna McEvoy

- CROYA was open over break and had many kids visit. In December, CROYA held an open mic music show that served as a kickoff for Super Jam 12, which will be on Saturday 1/12/19. These events are precursors to the Battle of the Bands, which will be held in a couple of months. CROYA graduated 7 classes of peer trainees this semester. The Peer Advance program is gaining interest and the peer training class is a prerequisite. On 1/22/19 at the Lake Forest Library, one CROYA’s counselors will present a program called “Supporting Adolescent Mental Health.” On Sunday 2/10/19, CROYA is hosting a “Boot, Scoot and Line Dance” party at from 2-4:30pm. This is a family-oriented fundraiser and there will be a live auction. CROYA sold over \$10,000 in holiday plants. CROYA retains about half of these funds.
- Director of Educational Services (Patrick Sassen) - Registration Process. Course registration is coming up - dates on websites, students getting emails, can sign up for 15 min meeting with counselor. Placement recommendation process: Core teachers make formal recommendation (1/25/19 deadline) Counselors share this with students during registration meeting. Override process - if student wishes to override course recommendations. Deadline for final course selection is 3/2/19. Staffing process takes place based on 3/2/19 registration results. Trying to limit movement between classes/levels after school begins. After April, can make changes based on space available only because staffing will have been completed. The goal is to make this process transparent so know that students and parents know there are limitations. Scout Experience - Thurs 1/24/19 from 6:30-8:30pm The evening will start in competition gym at 6:30. At 7pm send off to Field House or tours or student performances in Competition Gym. Curriculum videos were shared this week.
- LFHS Communications (Anne Whipple) - The Culture and Climate survey will be coming soon. All staff and students complete the survey every year. Parents are asked to complete the survey every other year. The survey takes about 10-15 min and we hope to get 80-90% parent participation. This is valuable information to our educators, who look for trends, so please take the time to complete the survey when it’s sent out. Lake Forest is launching “Smart 911” - this service allows you to register your family so that if 911 is called the responders will already have information you shared about your family members (e.g. allergies, health conditions). You may share a lot or a little and, of course, if you choose not to participate, 911 services will still be available to you

LF-LB LDA - Vicki Stach and Tracey Barrett

- The LF-LB LDA grant season is almost over. Grants plan to be awarded the last week of January.

- On January 15th at Gorton Center they will be showing the Dan Habib film “Intelligent Lives” starting at 7pm, which stars three young adults with intellectual disabilities. The movie shows the challenges they face in the world. Following the movie there will be a discussion panel with Ingrid Wiemer, Jenny Sterpin (from District 115) and a developmental therapist Barb Walti. The panel will discuss the movie’s theme of what it means to be intelligent and intelligence testing in the US. \$5 at door.

School Supplies - Julie Sakici and Cynthia Tobin

- It has been decided by the Executive APT that the APT will no longer provide a formal school supply program. In the spring, an informational letter will be linked to the Friday Flyer explaining the changes in the school supply program and providing families with suggestions for alternative ways to obtain their school supplies. As in the past, the school supply lists will be published online. There will be links for the lists in the Friday Flyers and on the APT website.
- Parents wishing to learn about the rationale behind the decision to discontinue the program can view the January 2019 Executive APT meeting minutes to see a detailed list of the reasons why continuing the program is no longer desirable. The minutes can be found at <https://lfapt67.weebly.com/meeting-minutes.html>.

Social Emotional Learning (formerly EWC and SPA) - Umang Singh, Heike Regner

- The SPA Committee changed its name for the final time to Social Emotional Learning (SEL) to best reflect its purpose and goals.
- The Committee's work over the next few weeks will be focused on:
 - Organizing the parent panel for the annual Jumpstart to Fifth Grade event for incoming D67 middle schoolers [pls save the date: Tues., 5/7/19 at 9am
 - Organizing a Speaker Series event - in collaboration with Emilie Correa and the DPM EWC
- More information can be found at <https://dpmapt.weebly.com/sel.html>.

Spirit of 67 Liaison – Deborah Bradley

- The Spirit is having a Spring Event on April 26th. More info to come!
- Spirit of 67 donations from DPM families is at 58.4% family participation. Please consider any size donation and help get DPM to 100%!
 - Cherokee is at 82%
 - Sheridan is at 82.5%
 - Everett is at 75.1%
- Thank you to all Spirit donor families. This support makes a lasting impact on every student, in every school, every day. Please visit Spirit’s website at <http://www.spiritof67foundation.org> to learn more about becoming an annual donor.
- Information can also be found at <http://www.dpmapt.weebly.com/spirit-of-67.html>.

Staff Appreciation – Amanda Lamberti, Rachel Baker, Megan Engleburg, Susan Weninger, Emily Savage, Natasha Schnack, Missy Walsh

- Teacher’s Appreciation week will be here in the Spring. Please send any and all ideas to the Committee!
- Information can also be found at <http://www.dpmapt.weebly.com/staff-appreciation.html>.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, Feb. 19th at 9am in DPM’s Haskins Center

REMAINING 2019 MEETINGS:

Wed., March 13th Annual APT meeting 9am CROYA

Tues. April 16th 9am Haskins Center

Tues. May 14th Old Board / New Board meeting at Beth Laufenberg’s house (info to come)

<http://www.dpmapt.weebly.com>

Exhibit A

Board of Education Report:

President's Report

Mike Borkowski shared his comments from a recent staff gathering. Mike noted his view of District 67 as both a Board member and parent and commented that he has witnessed a complete transformation of how education is delivered. He reported that inclusion rates have risen dramatically over the past five years, co-taught classrooms have been introduced, and there has been a reduction in the use of the traditional pull-out model. Mike reported that teachers are literally creating brand new classes with new curriculum, in order to deliver instruction to students who have non-traditional learning styles.

Mike commented that at Board meetings it is regularly discussed how the District's Vision is to meet every student where he or she is, and to provide individualized education - that is exactly what our teachers are doing: providing individualized and differentiated teaching to our 1,600 students every day.

Mike noted that the transformation requires money and the Board is committed to providing the financial resources to make this transformation a reality. The Board has provided resources for professional development, additional staff and coaches, and upgrading District facilities. The Board is currently reviewing plans for new science labs that many educators had a hand in designing.

Mike thanked the "incredibly awesome team," who is living and breathing the District Vision that revolves around the central theme that every single student matters, and working incredibly hard to implement it every day. Mike noted he is grateful for many things this year, including working with six fantastic Board members, a great Superintendent, and a truly outstanding staff! [View video for complete report](#)

Superintendent's Report

Mike Simeck congratulated the Deer Path Robotics Varsity and JV LEGO Robotics Teams that recently competed in the regional qualifier. The DPM Varsity Team received the first place project award and also won second place overall. The Varsity Team will be competing in the State Championship in January. Mike also recognized Alexandra Makowiecki, Shalini Krishnaswamy, Alix Anderson, Taylor Ross, and Alia Attar who were all accepted into the American Choral Directors Association National Choir. These five singers will be representing our District at the ACDA National Conference in Kansas City and will perform in front of 2,000 choir directors.

Mike discussed the TASH Conference that was attended by teams of educators from both District 67 and LFHS. TASH advocates for the inclusion of students with significant learning differences. The findings from the conference included the data that no studies indicate

that separation of students is beneficial and that there is a positive impact on all students when there is inclusion. [View video for complete report](#)

Assessment Report – Milestone 3

Susan Milsk, Director of Teaching and Learning, noted that the Assessment Report focuses on growth and proficiency. She commented that District 67 students continue to demonstrate a higher growth rate than both the state and nation and that math growth on the PARCC tests is on par with our peer districts. Susan noted that PARCC data provides actionable information for curricular alignment.

[View written report](#) [View video](#)

Strategic Plan Update

Kate Cavanaugh, Special Education Coordinator, overviewed the Foundations and CHAMPS programs and highlighted the continuum of student behavior supports. Kate commented that this is a proactive and systemic method of providing preventative measures of support to students. [View written report](#) [View video](#)

Education Committee

Jeff Folker reported that the Committee reviewed and provided feedback on the Academic Assessment Report. Susan Milsk will coordinate a field trip for Committee members to visit a classroom to observe co-teaching to gain a better understanding of how a co-taught classroom functions. [View written report](#) [View video](#)

North Suburban Special Education District (NSSED)

Alice LeVert reported that NSSED is looking for a new Chief School Business Officer. She commented that each month Dr. Schneider is providing professional development for the Leadership Council. Alice noted that the TASH Conference brings together the “best of the best” and looks for solutions, not barriers. NSSED enrollment is 365.7 students, 10.6 less than budgeted, but the current deficit should be eliminated by the end of the year. Alice provided information on IDEA Grants, the Assessment Schedule, office support professional development and a Policy Committee update.

[View written report](#) [View video](#)

Spirit of 67 Foundation

Suzanne Sands reported family participation district-wide is just over 62%. The Sheridan and Cherokee School communities have each reached participation rates of 80% or greater and as such have earned a \$1,000 Founder’s Grant. Everett is approaching 70% and DPM 62% participation. Grant applications are due January 31, 2019. Visit the Spirit of 67 website at www.spiritof67foundation.org for more information.

[View written report](#) [View video](#)