



News & Notes

following the Board of Education Meeting of Dec. 5, 2023



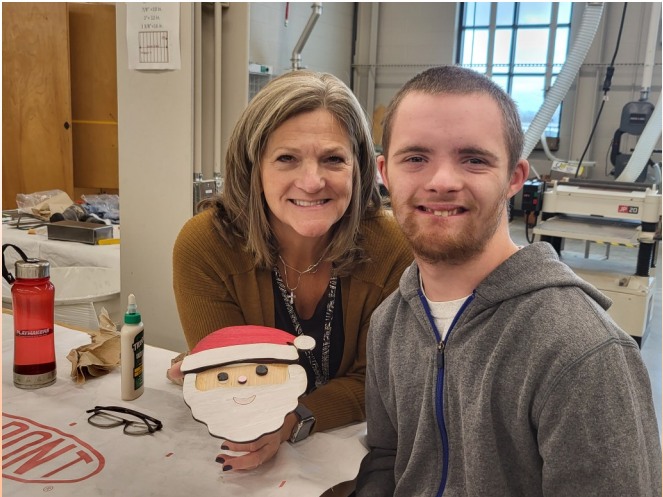
Intramurals and Beyond Involving our community in after-school adventures!

The Board of Education learned about after school enrichment opportunities Tuesday night when Highland Elementary School hosted its December Work Session. Principal Colleen Politowski said the intramurals, run by Lake Shore staff, vary in length, subject and skill areas. The school's 14 intramurals include WiFi Wednesdays, Bicycle Bonanza, American Sign language, Crocheting, and Boys on the Right Track.

Starting in January, parents and guardians also will be invited to share skills with students after school. "Our community is robust and connecting our students with the knowledge and skill base of our community is key to sustaining and building our future," she said. "Painting, crafts, woodworking, fishing, outdoor skills ... these all could be potential topics and give us an opportunity to engage our parents and community."

Eagle Elves

Students in Mike Seivert's Advanced CAD class created the holiday shapes and students from Life Skills classes helped cut them out in a joint project that helped spread some holiday cheer at the High School.



Instructional Space Priorities Review

The Board of Education on Tuesday night reviewed plans to address instructional space issues at the elementary level.

After a thorough study, the District will operate three (3) of the District's four UPK classrooms next year. We will release an RFP for an outside organization to partner with us to run a classroom. Postings for teachers will occur in February and postings for personal care aides will be in the summer with annual bidding.

Also completed is an extensive study on ways to create additional instructional spaces at the elementary level for next year and moving forward. Although studied intensely, the possibility of moving 5th grade classrooms to the Middle

School will not be pursued. To avoid disruption Districtwide, there will be no change in 5th grade classroom locations at this time.

Instead, as openings occur, class sections will be reduced where elementary grade levels have smaller class sizes. This will help better balance class sizes across the District and will free up classrooms for other uses. This process will begin when the bidding process for the UPK classrooms is complete (that process will free up 3 classrooms). Space needs are being prioritized to see where room is most needed.

The intent is to minimize teacher displacement via natural attrition through retirements and resignations.

Bandits are Back & LX Kids in Scholastic News

Some of our Seneca girls were featured in the *Scholastic News* Native American Heritage Month edition. “Scholastic is a national student newspaper, which is a HUGE deal,” says J.T. Waugh 5th grade teacher Michele Amoia-Hornberger. “The video clip is amazing and features many students from our school,” says J.T. Waugh 3rd grade teacher Elissa Genco. “They are seen playing girls lacrosse and part of the Seneca Girls lacrosse team.” 3rd graders Lorrinda Rojas and Aiyana Warrior are among the students featured.



Meanwhile, the Buffalo Bandits have been making the rounds of District schools, introducing students to lacrosse and helping them work on their LX skills in PE classes. They were at J.T. Waugh and the High School (pictured below) in November, and return Dec. 19 for a program at the Middle School. On Jan. 9 they will be at Highland Elementary.

