

Superintendent's Report January 2018

Kindergarten registration for next year commenced on January 10. Welcoming our newest Eagles is exciting. We are expecting to enroll over 470 new Eagles.

Milford High School has been recognized as one of only 447 districts in the nation to appear on CollegeBoard's National AP District Honor Roll.

It is the third time Milford High School has appeared on the AP Honor Roll in the eight years that it has been published. Milford is one of only 32 school districts in Ohio and one of only seven in the greater Cincinnati area to be recognized.

The AP District Honor Roll recognizes school districts committed to increasing access to AP for underrepresented students while simultaneously maintaining or increasing the percentage of students earning AP Exam scores of 3 or higher. AP District Honor Roll recipients are committed to expanding the availability of AP courses among prepared and motivated students of all backgrounds. We are proud of this award because it aligns with our philosophy about open access to AP courses. I want to thank assistant principal Tom Willson for his outstanding work as the district's AP Coordinator, and principal Josh Kauffman for his leadership. We offer 26 Advanced Placement courses with the newest course being AP Computer Science this year. Our AP offerings also include AP Capstone which is offered at only 28 high schools in Ohio.

We recently entered into an agreement with the University of Cincinnati School of Information Technology. This agreement gives Milford High School students the opportunity to complete the first year of the UC Bachelor of Science in Information Technology degree while still in high school.

Completion of the Information Technology high school program and the associated required college-level academic courses with a C or above would allow students to be automatically accepted as a sophomore into the UC School of Information Technology. Students would also be immediately eligible to participate in the UC co-op program, which is a paid work experience. Additionally, by freeing up the first year of college while in high school, these students have an opportunity to graduate with a Masters Degree in just 4 years after high school.

The Ohio Facilities Construction Commission contacted us in late December requesting that we complete the enrollment projection questionnaire. The information was completed the second week of January. I have also submitted documents supplied by Miami Township showing plans for new single-family homes. We are cautiously optimistic that the request for this information indicates that we may be

approved in July for the state share of funding for the completion of the Master Facilities Plan. Completing the Master Facilities Plan cannot happen soon enough with additional repairs needed on the junior high roof and frozen pipes in the Success Academy and junior high modulars.

Earlier this week, our Elementary Leadership Team and Secondary Leadership teams met. The ELT, led by Dr. Chin, and SLT, led by Paul Daniels, are made up of grade-level chairs and department leaders from each building and building administrators. These teams meet two times a year to provide input and share best practices about professional learning, curriculum, and instruction. The focus of the meetings this week was planning one of the two learning sessions for the upcoming in-service day on February 16.

One of Ohio's virtual schools, ECOT, has been in the news recently as possibly closing this month. In our commitment to the students and families of our community, we have reached out to them, letting them know we are here to support them. Mr. Daniels has talked to one parent who said he was incredibly worried about where to turn and what direction to take, and the parent was very thankful that we had reached out to provide support.

At 4:30 this afternoon, we held the second meeting of our Aspiring Leaders cohort led by John Spieser. John, along with Paul Daniels, Jill Chin, Stacy Smith, Jennie Berkley, and I, is holding monthly sessions with the 18 teachers who were nominated by their principal as aspiring leaders. This month we focused on three aspects of building-level leadership: the importance of principals being visible in their school and viewed as the school's lead learner; ideas to create a positive building culture; and the necessity for a principal to develop positive relationships with staff, students, and parents.

I also want to acknowledge the extra effort of the maintenance and custodial staff to clear the high school parking lot of snow on Saturday, Jan. 13 starting at 3 AM. Our natatorium was one of the sites for the Southwest Classic swimming and diving meet, and if we had to cancel at our site, our Milford athletes would not have been able to compete. I also want to publicly express my gratitude for Mr. Johnson and transportation director for checking road conditions starting as early as 3:30 a.m. I know Mr. Johnson had a harrowing drive on Cook Road one morning.