A Message from the SUPERINTENDENT

March 21, 2019

Volume 7 • Issue 2

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AT A GLANCE

Parent Camp:
Don't Miss this Opportunity

Happy Spring Break

Thank You Kids Against Hunger Sponsors and Donors

Students Across the District Taking the Cardboard Challenge

Demolition of Main Street School Under Way

Bond Work Begins Soon at Amerman, NHS and Hillside

Successful Sale of 2019 School Building and Site Bonds, Series II

Silver Springs, Ridge Wood Students and Staff Share Why They Matter

Now Enrolling the Class of 2032

We Value Your Feedback: AdvancED Parent Survey

Points of Pride from Across the District

IMPORTANT DATES

Parent Camp
Saturday, March 23, 2019
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Northville High School

Drugs 101: What's Important to Know
Monday, March 25, 2019
6:00-7:30 p.m.
Northville High School

Spring Break
Friday, March 29 (End of Day) –
Friday April 5, 2019
(Classes Resume Monday, April 8, 2019)

Upcoming
Board of Education Meetings

Tuesday, March 26, 2019
7:00 p.m.
Amerman Elementary School

Tuesday, April 9, 2019
6:15 p.m. – Finance Subcommittee
7:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting
Old Village School (Globe)

DEAR NORTHVILLE SCHOOL FAMILIES, STAFF AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

It's hard to believe we are already deep into the second semester with Spring Break just around the corner! As we look forward to spring weather, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to our entire school community for your patience and understanding this winter as we traversed the unprecedented snow, ice and subzero temperatures and wind chills that caused us to close school a record seven days – one day over the allotted six days "forgiven" by the state.

Northville Public Schools has always had at least the state-required 180 days of school scheduled each school year, and our number of instructional minutes exceeds state requirement. The district has submitted and received a waiver from the Michigan Department of Education for the additional seventh day used thus far. We do not anticipate the need to add any days to our school calendar.

Across our schools, there is deep and thoughtful learning taking place in both our classrooms and beyond our school walls that is the result of the collective work of our students, teachers, staff and families. Our principals, teachers and school improvement teams continue to examine student work, look at multiple data points, implement strategies, and monitor progress as we strive to meet the needs of every learner. This work is affirmed in the many fine examples of learning, leadership, and points of pride highlighted in this edition.

I also want to encourage you to mark your calendars for some great opportunities and events that will be taking place across the district this spring including the upcoming Parent Camp this weekend that offers more than 20 break-out sessions on a wide array of topics of interest to parents. We also look forward to experiencing the amazing ingenuity of our students across the district at our fifth annual *STEAM Fair – The Cardboard Challenge*. (See item on pages 2-3.)The STEAM Fair will take place Wednesday, April 24, 2019, with a special Community Night from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Northville High School where school families and community members can tour the fair as students from elementary through high school demonstrate their projects.

MARCH 23RD PARENT CAMP FOCUSES ON ISSUES FACING KIDS TODAY—DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!

Whether you are the parent of a kindergartener or a high school senior, Northville Public Schools' Parent Camp 2019 has something for you. Parent Camp will take place this coming Saturday morning, March 23, 2019 at Northville High School, 45700 Six Mile Road, in Northville.

The morning kicks off at 8:30 a.m. with refreshments and resources. The more than 20 break-out sessions get under way at 9:00 a.m. and will be completed by 12:30 p.m. Click here for detailed descriptions of the break-out sessions.

Following a brief welcome, Parent Camp participants will have an opportunity to attend up to three break-out sessions on a wide array of topics of interest to them, led by Northville educators and experts from across the community. Topics include supporting your child's social and emotional wellbeing; helping your kids balance school and life; cyber safety; time management skills; building your child's reading and writing skills; kids and technology; helping your child transition from middle to high school and high school to college; and an opportunity to hear first-hand from a panel of high school students about the benefits and challenges of being a Northville High School student.

There will also be a session on vaping and opioid abuse – unfortunate realities in our world today. (For more in-depth information on substance abuse issues and teens, Northville Public Schools is hosting a separate educational opportunity, *Drugs 101: What's Important to Know*, on Monday, March 25, 2019, 6:00-7:30 p.m. at Northville High School. The session is sponsored by Saint Joseph Mercy Health System.) Drop-in registration is available Saturday morning for Parent Camp sessions, however, please note that registration for the Kids Empowered program for kindergarten through fifth graders has closed.

NORTHVILLE PARENT CAMP
learning and growing together

Following Parent Camp, at 12:30 p.m., there will be a showing of the documentary *Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope*. The movie is 60 minutes and is not recommended for viewers under the age of 16. (Please note for your planning purposes that the Kids Empowered program will conclude by 12:20 p.m. and parents will be asked to pick up their students at that time.)

Parent Camp is a partnership of Northville Public Schools and the Northville Educational Foundation. The presenting sponsor for Parent Camp is the Michigan Educational Credit Union. Other sponsors include Community Financial Credit Union and the Knickerbocker Group of Raymond James.

Many thanks to the many Parent Camp presenters – including principals, teachers, staff, students and community members – who are giving so willingly of their time, talents and expertise with the goal of helping parents better help and support their children! It truly takes a village!

Click Parent Camp to register and view break-out session descriptions and speakers.

HAPPY SPRING BREAK!

Please note that all Northville Public Schools' buildings are closed for **Spring Break beginning end of the day Friday, March 29, 2019, through Friday, April 5, 2019**, other than for specific Spring Break programs. **Classes will resume on Monday, April 8, 2019.** Our Board of Education offices, located at 405 West Main Street in Northville, will be very lightly staffed on Monday, April 1, 2019 through Friday, April 5, 2019 from 8:00 a.m.- 3:30 p.m., and available for phone calls and/or scheduled appointments. Regular business hours and staffing will resume on Monday, April 8, 2019. Whether you are traveling far away or staying close to home, best wishes to you and your family for a fun, relaxing and safe Spring Break!

THANK YOU KIDS AGAINST HUNGER SPONSORS AND DONORS

At Northville Public Schools, we believe strongly that the **Kids Against Hunger** (KAH) experience for our elementary school students is an integral part of what makes our schools and our community strong, as we strive to open a *World of Possibilities* for all students. Just as we value exemplary academics, athletics, the arts, and extra-curricular opportunities, the chance to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with students from inner-city communities in service to others empowers our students, strengthens relationships, builds awareness of our global society, and offers a service opportunity that our students can actively engage in beyond simply offering a contribution of food, supplies or money.

Through Kids Against Hunger students learn that hunger is a world problem and that we all have a responsibility to contribute to its solution. Building relationships between students and their community helps children understand that working together for a common purpose is an important way to make a difference. Ultimately, these children experience the joy of hands-on giving – a lesson we believe will influence a lifetime of thinking and behavior. In addition, building relationships between the city and suburbs helps children from both communities understand their similarities and celebrate their differences. The opportunity for our students to participate in these powerful experiences is made possible through the generous support of our business sponsors, together with contributions from our school families, and the fundraising efforts of our students. We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of our business and community sponsors who make this opportunity possible for elementary students across Northville and our partner schools. This year's sponsors include:

Community Financial (Platinum Sponsor)
GRBS, Inc. (Platinum Sponsor)
Rotary Club of Northville (Gold Sponsor)
Clark Hill PLC (Silver Sponsor)
Durham School Services (Silver Sponsor)
TMP Architecture, Inc. & **Peter Basso Associates** (Silver Sponsor)
George W. Auch Co. (Bronze Sponsor)
Stifel-Nicolaus & Company, Inc. (Bronze Sponsor)

In particular, I want to acknowledge long-time sponsors **GRBS, Inc.** and **Community Financial Credit Union** who increased their contributions to the **Platinum** level this year contributing **$5,000** each to support Kids Against Hunger programs for the 2018-19 school year. Sponsorship at the Platinum level represent a major donation, contributing to multiple food packings. **Aisin World Corp.** also supports Kids Against Hunger by handling the admission cost for those food packing events that take place at the Detroit Science Center. This year's packing events begin this week and will go through early-June.

A special thank you also goes out to **Winchester Elementary School fifth grader Hana Kaakaji** who recently took it upon herself to apply for and secure a **$7,500** grant to support Northville Public Schools' Kids Against Hunger initiative through the **10th Annual 100 Arab Women Who Care** fundraiser. At the event, each woman nominated a charity they would like the organization to support. The names of each of the nominated charities were then placed in a bowl, with three charities randomly selected from the bowl. Each of the women whose charities were selected from the bowl, then had an opportunity to say why they believed their charity should be selected for funding.

While it may have been luck that resulted in Hana's charity being selected from the bowl, it was Hana's thorough description and impassioned plea for the work Kids Against Hunger does every day to help feed the hungry around the world that made the difference. Hana was honored earlier today for this amazing contribution when she and her classmates – along with students from Winchester's partner school Holbrook Elementary School in Detroit – gathered for a food packaging event at the Arab American National Museum in Dearborn. Hana, you take our breath away!

CALLING ALL BICYCLISTS FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Bicyclists from novice to expert will enjoy the **Rotary Club of Northville's 2019 Tour de Ville Benefit Bike Ride on Saturday, June 15, 2019 at 7:00 a.m.** Now it its sixth year, the bike tour is the Northville Rotary's major fundraising event attracting move that 2,000 riders and raising more than $90,000 over the past five years. One-hundred percent of the proceeds from the Tour de Ville go to charities including the Rotary Foundation (which supports world eradication of polio and clean water projects in Developing Nations, along with other efforts) and the Rotary Club of Northville (which supports local food banks, provides scholarships, and supports local exchange student programs, among other initiatives. A portion of Tour de Ville proceeds also go each year to support the **Northville Public Schools Kids Against Hunger** initiative, (see story above), that brings Northville elementary school students together with inner-city students to help fight hunger around the world.

Tour de Ville festivities get under way with breakfast at 6:30 a.m. The courses open to riders beginning at 7:00 a.m. Riders can choose from three courses – the Community Partner Route (10 miles), the Northville Clock Route (10-34 miles), and the Paul Harris Route (53 miles). All routes begin and end in downtown Northville at the former Village Workshop facility, 455 East Cady Street. Lunch will be served for riders between 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Registration for Tour de Ville is $40 per rider in advance, and $50 the day of the event. Students under 21 pay $25 and children under 12 are $10. For more information or to register for Tour de Ville, visit http://www.tourdeville.org/

STUDENTS AND CLASSROOMS ACROSS THE DISTRICT TAKE *THE GREAT CARDBOARD CHALLENGE*

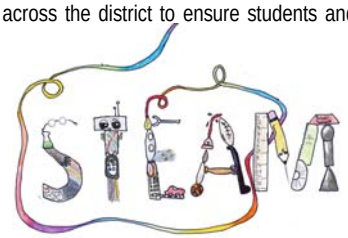
Northville students and classrooms of all ages and grades are currently immersed in The *Great Cardboard Challenge* as part of Northville Public Schools' **fifth annual STEAM Fair** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics), on **Wednesday, April 24, 2019, at Northville High School**, 45700 Six Mile Road, Northville.

One team of students in Nicole Wesley's fourth class at Thornton Creek Elementary School are building a functioning food truck, and another a rotating model of the solar system – all out of cardboard. Meanwhile, the Coding Team at Hillside Middle School is building an "Epic" Marble Run and Target and a Skee-Ball Machine. At Northville High School, students will

display handmade cardboard chair and the Robostangs robot is being programed to maneuver and stack boxes as part of an obstacle course challenge at the STEAM Fair.

Experiences like the STEAM Fair allow our students to connect their learning in the classroom with the real-world and encourages students to consider STEAM degrees and careers. On the morning of April 24th, fourth grade students from across the district will visit the STEAM Fair to explore dozens of activities, demonstrations and interactive exhibits developed by students of all ages and grades. Joining Northville students at the STEAM Fair will be fifth grade students from Thornton Creek Elementary School's partner school in Detroit – Neinas Dual Language Learning Academy.

In an effort to encourage students to take The Cardboard Challenge, STEAM Fair partner Advanced Disposal is generously offering to deliver cardboard to schools and classrooms across the district to ensure students and staff have the materials they need to make their dreams a reality. While the theme for the 2019 STEAM Fair is The Cardboard Challenge, any and all STEAM projects are welcome to display, including makers fairs and Project Lead the Way initiatives. The STEAM Fair will also be open for a **Community Night from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on April 24th** for school parents, students and community members to explore and interact with the student-created inventions.



Brooke Brown

Naoki Matsumoto

The STEAM Fair is a collaboration of **Northville Public Schools** and the **Northville Educational Foundation**, along with presenting sponsor **Community Financial**. Senior sponsors include ITC, **Advanced Disposal**, and **Michigan Educational Credit Union**. In addition, student volunteers from the **Northville High School National Honor Society** will provide tours and serve as presenters at the STEAM Fair. Students at the district's two middle schools had the opportunity to take part in a contest to design the poster artwork for the 2019 STEAM Fair. The winners are, from Meads Mill, sixth graders **Brooke Brown** and **Naoki Matsumoto** and from Hillside sixth graders, **Luluna Kanda** and **Juliana Lowery**. For more information about the STEAM Fair, visit www.NorthvilleSTEAMfair.com. To learn more about the Northville Educational Foundation and the many ways it supports Northville Public Schools students and teachers, go to www.SupportNEF.org.

Luluna Kanda

Juliana Lowery

Demolition of Main Street School Under Way

You may be aware as you travel around downtown Northville that work is under way in the demolition of the Main Street School building as the district prepares to finalize the sale of the property. Environmental abatement of the building and property is complete, utilities have been shut off, and the site has been mobilized with temporary fencing. Above ground demolition of the building's exterior is well underway, and will be followed by foundation demolition. There will be no implosion of the Main Street School building, instead the building is being taken down using heavy equipment following a methodical process. As you drive or walk around the area, keep in mind that construction vehicles will enter and exit the demolition site off Main Street and travel south on South Rogers Street to Seven Mile Road.

In keeping with the renovation and repurposing of the historic Old Village School, the Northville Board of Education in August 2018, approved a resolution to negotiate a purchase agreement with a developer for single-family homes to be built on the Main Street property. For answers to frequently asked questions or additional information about the Main Street School demolition, visit the district website at 2017 Bond Construction Updates; email NPS@NorthvilleSchools.org; or call 248-344-3540.

Bond Work Begins Soon at Amerman, NHS and Hillside

The Old Village School construction and renovation project was just the first project in a $104.85 million, multi-year bond initiative generously approved by voters in 2017 that will touch every school. The Northville Board of Education at its February 14, 2019 meeting awarded bids for the next phase of construction including more than $3 million in bond projects at Amerman Elementary School and more than $9 million in additions and improvements at Northville High School. Construction is expected to begin in earnest at these two sites in April.

At Amerman, this includes transforming learning spaces and classrooms throughout the school with flexible furniture; upgrading the media center; remodeling the main entrance vestibule for increased security; and upgrading mechanical/electrical infrastructure, among other projects. At NHS, bond projects include upgrades to support current and future enrollment such as a dining/multi-purpose space addition; a new student physical education, fitness and training center; renovation of STEM/STEAM labs; renovation of the book room for the music program; renovation of the Forum for large group instruction; upgrades to main entrance security; transforming learning spaces throughout the school with flexible furniture; upgrades to athletic fields and multi-purpose turf to replace the existing high school athletic field for physical education, athletics, band and community use.

Bids are expected to be awarded by the Board of Education next week for the Hillside renovation and major two-story academic wing addition on the west side of the existing school, which represents the most significant of the Bond 2017 projects. The result will be a nearly new, modern school building constructed at the current, popular near downtown site. Construction crews have begun mobilizing the site for construction, slated to begin in April, and last into the 2020-21 school year. Stay tuned for a detailed Site Logistics Plan for accessing the building during construction, including student drop-off and pick-up, bus loop locations, as well as staff, visitor, and Northville Parks and Recreation parking. For regular updates on Bond 2017 construction projects across the district visit the district website at Bond 2017 Construction Update.

Successful Sale of 2019 School Building and Site Bonds, Series II

The Northville Public Schools Board of Education is proud to announce the successful sale of its 2019 School Building and Site Bonds, Series II, in the amount of $52.74 million as authorized by voters on November 7, 2017. The 2019 School Building and Site Bonds, Series II, representing the second series of bonds under the 2017 authorization, are being issued for the purpose of upgrading school facilities, enhancing existing school security and providing students across the school district with modern learning environments. In preparing to sell the 2019 School Building and Site Bonds, Series II, the school district, working with its municipal advisor, PFM Financial Advisors LLC, requested that S&P Global Ratings, acting through Standard and Poor's Financial Services LLC ("S&P") evaluate the school district's credit quality. S&P assigned the school district the rating of "AA-" with a stable outlook. The rating agency cited the school district's very-strong-to-extremely strong economy, consistently very strong general fund balance and good management practices and policies in their rationale for rating of the school district at this level. The positive financial rating for the district's bond issue contributed to the opportunity to sell the bonds at a favorable rate, maximizing the dollars available for bond projects. The 2019 School Building and Site Bonds, Series II, were sold at a true interest rate of 3.50 percent -- among the lowest interest rates achieved by any Michigan K-12 issuer this year – with a final maturity of 2043 (a repayment term of approximately 24 years). The lower interest rate will result in bond payments for the district that are $3.7 million lower for this series compared to the projection from mid-November.

Silver Springs, Ridge Wood STudents and Staff Take on *#WhyYouMatter* Campaign

On two different days in January and February students and staff from Silver Springs and Ridge Wood elementary schools gathered in their respective schools for the unveiling of an innovative initiative aimed at building a positive school environment. For the experience, students and staff at each of the schools were asked to reflect on themselves by answering the question, *why do I matter?* Pictures were taken of each student and staff member holding their statement. Those pictures were then blown up poster size and hung throughout each schools hallways by a team of community volunteers, in preparation for a "reveal" events where students and staff saw not only their faces and meaningful statements displayed for the world to see, but also had the opportunity to see and appreciate the many ways their peers, teachers and staff members believe they matter. With nearly 500 individuals at each school – the responses were as diverse as they were inspiring. Here are just a few examples.

I Matter Because…
…I hug my brother and sister
…I fix what is wrong and make it right
…I stand up for my friends when they can't stand up for themselves
…I am an artist and I draw beautiful pictures
…I make people laugh
…I care about the world

The Ridge Wood Why You Matter project was made possible through an Innovative Teaching Grant generously provided by the **Northville Educational Foundation**. Many thanks also go out to **LifeTouch Photography**, **the 5 Mile UPS Store** (Livonia), the **Northville High School National Honor Society** (who hung all the posters), and the **Ridge Wood** and **Silver Springs PTAs** and **Dad's Club** (Silver Springs) for supporting these events for our students aimed at building positive school environments where our students feel valued and respected.

Kindergarten Registration – Now Enrolling the Class of 2032

Northville Public Schools is now accepting kindergarten enrollment for fall 2019. If you have a child who will be five years of age on or before September 1, 2019, please go to the 2019-20 Enrollment page on the district website to schedule an appointment with a member of the Office of Student Data. Follow Steps 1-6 on the website to complete the enrollment forms and gather information regarding which documents you will need to bring to your scheduled appointment. If you are unsure of which school your child will be attending, please view the Attendance Boundary Map on the district website.

All six of our elementary schools are *The Leader in Me* Lighthouse Schools, which emphasizes a culture of student empowerment that helps unleash each child's full potential. If you have any additional questions about your child's school, click on the link to the school's website on the district home page at www.NorthvilleSchools.org.

In addition, the Northville Public Schools **Early Childhood Education and Extended Day Programs** offers **Kids' Club** at each elementary school. This tuition-based program allows parents the option to have their child participate in a before and/or after school childcare program. Kids' Club is offered as an option on school days from as early as 7:00 a.m. to the start of school and from school dismissal until 6:00 p.m. Our Nationally Accredited Early Childhood program also offers **Half-Day, Pre-K PLUS, School-Day and Full-Day** programs for children as young as 33 months old and toilet trained. A **Parent/Child** class is also available for children who will turn two by September 1, 2019. For more information, visit the Early Childhood website.

We Welcome Your Feedback – AdvancED Parent Survey

Northville Public Schools, and each of its schools, are engaged in an ongoing continuous improvement process, in which all of our stakeholders (students, parents and staff) play an important role. As part of this improvement process, we ask our parents, as well as students and staff, to participate in an annual **AdvancED Stakeholder Survey**, with the goal of engaging our school community in two-way communications. The results help district and school leaders gain a deeper understanding of our district's areas of strength and effectiveness, along with opportunities for improvement.

For more information about the survey, visit the Accreditation page on the district website and click on **Answers to Frequently Asked Questions**. **The survey will remain open until Monday, April 15, 2019**. All responses are anonymous. If you have children who attend more than one school, please complete a separate survey for **each** school. Students and staff from across the district will have an opportunity to complete similar surveys over the next several weeks.

Your support in completing the AdvancED Parent Survey is greatly appreciated. We look forward to your feedback, and as always, we thank you for your ongoing support of Northville Public Schools.

Parents and guardians can complete the **AdvancED Parent Survey** for their children's school(s) by clicking on the appropriate link below. Community members, parents of students enrolled in our Early Childhood Education program and/or those interested in providing overall Northville Public Schools feedback are invited to complete the Northville Public Schools Survey.

Parent Survey - Elementary Schools

Parent Survey - Middle Schools, Northville High School and Cooke School

Community- ECE Parent Survey - Northville Public Schools

Points of Pride from Across the District

Every day in our classrooms, through the arts, on our fields of play and through extracurricular activities our students and teachers from across Northville Public Schools give us much to celebrate. Here are just a few recent highlights:

- An impressive **90 percent** of graduates in the **Northville Public Schools Class of 2018** were enrolled in college last fall ranking our district eighth in the state among public high schools – first in the state among traditional front-line high schools – with the highest percentage of graduates going on to earn two-year and four-year degrees. The data for the report was collected by *MLive.com* through the state's Center for Educational Performance and Information.
- The Northville High School student-led club **Smiles for Students** is one of 10 programs in schools across the state selected to receive a 2019 **Education Excellence Award** from the **SET SEG Foundation** in partnership with the **Michigan Association of School Boards**, for its work in building friendships among the special education students at the high school and at Cooke School and peer mentors. The goal of the club, which has grown to more than 200 members, is to foster relationships and provide opportunities for students with special needs to feel more connected to their school and their fellow students and likewise offers peer mentors the opportunity to learn from and with their fellow Smiles members. The club meets every two weeks after school to facilitate activities, take part in fundraisers and go on outings in the community. Each spring, Smiles for Students sponsors an all-inclusive, epilepsy safe,

sound-sensitive Spring Dance, open to all Northville students. Smiles for Students also takes part in the Unified Sports League, created by the Kensington Lakes Activities Association and comprised of general and special education athletes from across the league. Smiles for Students was selected for this award from more than 200 entries. As an Education for Excellence winner, the school district will also receive $2,500, a trophy and an "Education Excellence Winner" road sign. Way to go Smiles for Students Club…keep up the good work! Smiles for Students will be honored by the Northville Board of Education at its Tuesday, May 14, 2019 meeting at Old Village School.

- Four Northville sixth graders were honored recently in the **Lions Club International Peace Poster Contest**. The winners were first selected at the club level and then at the district and state levels, before the final judging at the international level. This year's theme was, *Kindness Matters*. An award ceremony took place in January to recognize individual school winners. At **Hillside Middle School** the winners were **Ishaan Kundapur**, first place, and **Evelynn Havristiuc**, second place. At **Meads Mill Middle School**, the winners were **Julia Jin**, first place and **Valencia Zhang**, second place. Winners from both schools went on to compete at the district level where Ishaan placed first and Julia placed third. Ishaan's poster was sent to the state competition where he received honorable mention honors.

- Drum roll please…Congratulations to longtime **Northville High School Band Director Michael Rumbell** who was recently named the **Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association** (MSBOA) **Band Teacher of the Year!** In his more than 40 years with Northville Public Schools, Mr. Rumbell has built an award-winning high school instrumental music program, starting with just 48 students, that now includes a 300-member marching band, a 137-member class AA symphonic band 11/12, a 75-member class B symphonic band (10), an 88-member class D symphonic band (9), a 25-member Jazz Ensemble and an 80-member class A middle school eighth grade band. Each year the high school bands perform at many civic and community functions under his direction, including the Heritage Parade, NHS Homecoming Parade, the Santa Parade, Memorial Day Parade and the July 4th Parade, along with marching at all home football games and pep assemblies. The NHS Jazz Ensemble has performed at more Detroit Jazz Festivals than any other scholastic or professional ensemble with an amazing 35 times out of 37 years. Impressive! Mr. Rumbell will also be honored at the May 14th Board of Education meeting at Old Village School.

- Kudos also to **Northville Public Schools Athletic Director Bryan Masi** on being named the **Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Regional Athletic Director of the Year**. Mr. Masi's career spans nearly 28 years beginning as a physical education teacher at Meads Mill Middle School. He assumed his current role as athletic director for Northville High School and the district's two middle schools in 2003. He currently oversees 34 high school and 10 middle school sports and is involved in numerous local, regional and state-wide organizations.

Also congratulations to **Coach Tim Dalton** on being selected as one of **three finalists for the 2018 Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Association, Track Coach of the Year** as well as **Coach Lorri Kingsbury** who has been selected as **Middle School Regional Coach of the Year** by the **Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association** (MIVCA). Also, congratulations to our winter athletic teams on another great season. The **Boys Swim and Dive** team placed **eighth in the State Finals** highlighted by senior **Travis Nitkiewicz** winning the **State Championship in the 100-yard breaststroke**. **Gymnastics** placed **sixth the State Finals** highlighted by **Katelyn O'Brien** taking **Runner-Up in the All-Around**. The **Girls Bowling Team** qualified for the State Finals for only the second time in school history. The **Boys Basketball Team** finished 18-5 for the season and made it to the District Championship game for the 5th year in a row. **Mr. Masi, Coach Dalton and Coach Kingsbury**, will be honored, along with our winter athletes and the NHS Dance Team, at the March 26, 2019 Board of Education meeting at Amerman Elementary School.

- **Northville High School Junior Isha Gupta** was honored recently as part of the **WDIV Channel 4 Rhonda's Brag Book** feature honoring local student for their excellence in academics, sports and community service. Isha is member of the National Honor Society, with a 3.6 grade point average. She also has been a member of the girls basketball team, the cross country and track teams, and the Northville High School band. Isha volunteers with the Make a Wish Foundation, and she and her brother and several friends recently founded the **Daughters of Our Veterans** club to provide financial support and scholarships for the children of veterans. To date, they have raised more than $3,000. A well-deserved honor!

- Fifteen students recently competed in the **2018-19 Hillside Middle School Spelling Bee**. After 46 intense rounds of 140 words, the winner was **seventh grader Nila Muthusamy**. Nila went on to compete in the Regional Spelling Bee sponsored by WXYZ Channel 7 at the Charles H. Wright Museum in Detroit a few weeks ago where she placed eighth overall out of more than 80 participants. How do you spell "Awesome…A-W-E-S-O-M-E, awesome!

- Congratulations to **Seniors Nicholas Bhandari** and **Medha Sripada** for representing Northville High School at the **Michigan School Vocal Music Association** (MSVMA) **High School State Honors Choir** at the 14th Annual Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids in January. Nicholas and Medha were selected individually as one of the top 300 high school singers in the state! Also, congratulations to Medha for being selected to represent Northville High School at the **MSVMA High School ALL-State Honors Choir at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival** at Western Michigan University in May. Medha will be one of the top 120 honored high school singers in Michigan!

- Outstanding job to the Northville High School artists who participated in the 2019 **Southeastern Michigan Region Scholastic Art Show** recently. All together NHS students earned four Gold Keys, two Silver Keys, and two Bronze Keys. Congratulations to Senior **Margaret Bennett** (Gold & Bronze) Junior **June Bhattarai** (2 Gold), Junior **Laine Brotherton** (Silver), Junior **Geon Park** (Gold & Silver), and Sophomore **Charla Tang** (Bronze).

- Congratulations to the following Northville High School students that have placed in the top 100 in the state on the **Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition** (MMPC): **Chris Bernitsas**, **Arya Gowda**, **Allen Ho**, **Shriya Reddy**, **Daniel Tian**, **Timothy Wu**.

- Northville students had another outstanding year in the nationally sponsored **PTA Reflections Program** with 13 entries placing at the state level and three of those going on to the national competition. The theme for this year's contest was *Everyday Heroes*. Northville students placing at the state level include, **Dance Choreography – Nidhi Narendra Kumer**, Amerman Elementary School, Award of Excellence. **Film Production – Saamaja Krishnan**, Amerman; Honorable Mention. **Literature – Sydney Shanahan**, Northville High School, Award of Merit; **Music Composition – Jasper Gustafson**, NHS, Honorable Mention; **Rishi Narendra Kumar**, Hillside Middle School, Outstanding Interpretation Award; **Malik Hadjit**, Amerman, Outstanding Interpretation; and **Sami Hadjit**, Moranie Elementary School, Award of Excellence. **Photography – Phillip Zhavoronkov**, Meads Mill Middle School, Outstanding Interpretation; **Grace Robinson**, Moraine, Award of Merit and **Malcolm Wang**, Northville High School Special Artist, Outstanding Interpretation. **Visual Arts – Emilia Jin**,

Meads Mill, Honorable Mention; Alison Fleck, Moraine, Award of Excellence; and Cecilia Obrecht, Thornton Creek Elementary School, Award of Merit. Rishi Narendra Kumar, Malik Hadjit, Phillip Zhavoronkov and Malcom Wang had their works move forward to the national competition. All Norhhville Public Schools Reflections participants whose entries won on the state level will be honored at the Northville Art House in May, where their work will be on display for the community to view. Thank you to all these talented students for sharing their incredible artistic ingenuity with us! The theme for next year's Reflections program is, *Look Within*.

- Awesome job goes out to Hillside Middle School eighth grader Gabe Clark who was recognized recently for his extraordinary leadership and participation in this year's Junior Achievement Business Hall of Fame at the historic Lovett Hall at the Henry Ford. Gabe is pictured right with Hillside Teacher Lorri Kingsbury who helped him prepare for the event. Junior Achievement Interim President and CEO Leigh Schultenover had the following to say in the letter she wrote thanking Gabe: "*You came extremely prepared as an interviewer for our Laureates, Mitch Albom, the world-renowned journalist and philanthropist, and Marcy Klevon, Executive Vice President for Ford Motor Company and President of Ford Mobility. These distinguished guests of honor and all the attendees were truly impressed with not only the confidence you exhibited but also with your unique, interesting and insightful questioning. You really did your background work!...Northville's Hillside Middle School should be very proud about how you represented them!*" Way to go Gabe…We couldn't agree more!

- Be sure to stop by the Northville Art House, between March 26 and April 17, 2019 for the Northville High School International Baccalaureate Art Exhibition. This exhibition is the culmination of the Northville High School's International Baccalaureate (IB) visual art program. Led by Monika Miller of Northville High School's Art Department, 23 students developed problem-solving skills and proficiency as artists by exploring and experimenting in a variety of contemporary practices and media. As part of the experience, the students present a selection of their best work in the form of this curated exhibition. On view will be more than 140 works in a variety of media and styles

- Northville High Schools' 87 DECA members recently competed at the State Career Development Conference in Detroit. Ninety-five medals were awarded to Northville students for the competition, with 47 students earning finalist medals, and 32 of the finalists moving on to the International Career Development Conference in Orlando, Florida at the end of April. Awesome job and good luck at Internationals!

- Northville High School graduate, turn musical play write Joe Tracz recently had his name up in lights at Detroit's Fisher Theater, for his play, "The Lighting Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical." Joe wrote the stage book for the adaption of Rick Riordan's best-selling 2005 young adult novel. The play ran at the Fisher from February 26 through March 9, 2019. Joe is currently in New York City preparing for the Broadway premier of another production, "Be More Chill." Congratulations Joe!

At Northville Public Schools, we have so much to be proud of, and grateful for, as we strive every day to create a *World of Possibilities* for and with each and every student. Thank you to our teachers, students, staff, families and community members for making this possible. Best wishes for a wonderful Spring Break!

Sincerely,

Mary K. Gallagher

Mary K. Gallagher
Superintendent