A Message from the SUPERINTENDENT

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AT A GLANCE

Addressing Facility and Program Needs for 21st Century Learning

Community Engagement Session – May 10th

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IMPORTANT DATES

Community Lecture Series
Dr. Jay Marks
Impact of Race, Diversity in Our Schools
Monday, May 15, 2017
7:00 p.m.
Meads Mill Middle School "Fish Bowl"

Upcoming
Board of Education Meetings
Tuesday, May 23, 2017
7:00 p.m.
Cooke School

Tuesday, June 13, 2017
(Retirement Recognition)
6:30 p.m.
Hillside Middle School (Forum)

Class of 2017
Commencement Ceremony
Sunday, June 4, 2017
6:00 p.m.
USA Hockey Arena, Plymouth

Summer School Registration Deadline
Thursday, June 15, 2017
(Elementary, middle school students)

Monday, June 26, 2017
(High school online and onsite courses)

Last Day of School (Half Day)
Thursday, June 15, 2017

DEAR NORTHVILLE SCHOOL FAMILIES, STAFF AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

With spring in the air and the end of the school year just around the corner, I want to take this opportunity to share updates in a number of areas and draw your attention to some of the great things happening in our schools. In particular, I encourage you to take advantage of the many opportunities to provide input into the district's facilities and programming for the future, as well as enjoy the many school events and programs taking place over the next several weeks celebrating the many talents of our students and teachers.

ADDRESSING THE DISTRICT'S FACILITY AND PROGRAM NEEDS FOR 21ST CENTURY LEARNING

Northville Public Schools has been engaged over the past two years in a long-term facility and infrastructure planning initiative to upgrade the district's aging buildings to support learner-centered school communities that meet the vision and goals of the school district.

A Facility Condition Assessment completed on behalf of the district by TMP Architecture in February 2015, and updated in 2017, identified facility needs across the district's buildings. While the Sinking Fund millage – first approved by Northville voters in 2011 and renewed in 2015 – has been essential in addressing the district's most critical facility repairs, the district's aging buildings, shifting student enrollment, and the desire to modernize facilities to address the needs of today's and tomorrow's learners have made facility planning, beyond what the Sinking Fund dollars provide, a top priority for the district.

As part of this focus, Northville Public Schools formed a Facility Review/Bond Study Committee in March, comprised of a cross-section of 29 district stakeholders including students, teachers, principals, parents and community members. We appreciate the commitment of time, energy and expertise that each of these individuals brings to this thoughtful process of study.

The Study Committee's charge is to review, analyze, and provide input into a plan for upgrading the district's educational facilities and improving the learning environment for students and teachers, and to make a recommendation to the Board of Education regarding a potential bond proposal. In this work, the Study Committee is mindful of the district and the Board of Education's desire that any bond proposal brought before the community not result in an increase for taxpayers beyond the current millage rate. Instead, depending on the scope of the proposal, the existing term of debt millage would be extended by a period of time.

The committee is working through a number of critical issues as part of the study and review process, including:

- The significant and costly facility concerns impacting Hillside Middle School;
- The increasing enrollment at Northville High School, along with some elementary schools, that is straining capacity;
- Facility needs across the district's other aging school buildings; and
- Creating flexible, 21st century learning environments for students and teachers across all levels to support programs.

The Study Committee weighed three options to address critical facility needs and an improved learning environment for Hillside:

- The first is a renovation of the current facility, built in 1959 as Northville High School.
- The second is to build a new middle school on property owned by the district at Eight Mile and Garfield roads, allowing the district to tailor the building to meet the needs of today's and tomorrow's learners.
- The third is a combination of the first two and would include a partial renovation of the far west end of the current building that would connect to a two-story building where the parking lot is currently located, near the tennis courts. This hybrid option, as it is called, would provide a modern learning community tailored to the needs of our students and teachers, while also maintaining the desired location. You may be surprised to learn that option three is the most cost efficient of the proposals when taking into account long-term costs, *and is the option fully supported by the Study Committee following an in-depth analysis of the three options.*

At Northville High School, the Study Committee is identifying ways to redesign and/or add to dining, fitness/athletics, co-curricular and other shared spaces to support the current and projected student body, while improving the learning environment and addressing the facility needs of the now 16-year-old building.

In addition to addressing infrastructure needs that are beyond the scope of the Sinking Fund at each of our elementary schools, Meads Mill Middle School and Cooke School, the Study Committee is reviewing proposed plans to update classrooms across the district, along with elementary media centers and other shared spaces. This includes the purchase of much-needed classroom furniture to replace existing worn and outdated items that, by law, cannot be purchased with Sinking Fund dollars, to create more flexible environments that support the wide variety of learning opportunities that are necessary for success, from individual and small group study, to labs and project-based units of study.

Many of you are also aware that in addition to the Study Committee's work, the district also is looking at renovating and restoring Old Village School, our most historic building, to house our Early Childhood Program, with space for Central Office. We are committed to working together with the City of Northville and the Historic District Commission as we preserve Old Village School and seek a solution for our aging Main Street property with the goal of finding a fiscally responsible solution that is in the best interest of both the school district and the community. Rather than rushing a decision regarding the use of the Main Street property, the district is in the process of conducting a parking/traffic flow study to ensure that the proposed use of Old Village has adequate parking and drop-off/pick-up areas.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSION 2: MAY 10, 2017, 6:30 P.M. AT MEADS MILL

As many of you are already aware, the Facility Review/Bond Study Committee is hosting the second of two **Community Engagement Sessions** for school families, staff and community members **tomorrow, Wednesday, May 10th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Meads Mill Middle School**, 16700 Franklin Road, Northville, to learn about the Committee's study process, and to provide input. The input from the Community Engagement Sessions will expand the analysis by the Study Committee and help clarify the priorities of our students, staff and community. The school environment, where teaching and learning take place, is a critical ingredient in providing a quality education. Your participation in these sessions provides an opportunity to help create a vision for the district's facilities and programs for the future. The session will be interactive, informative and structured to allow everyone to contribute.

During the latter part of May, the district will also conduct a **community survey**, with the assistance of Epic-MRA, to gather additional community input prior to the Board of Education's decision. The Facility Review/Bond Study Committee will make a recommendation to the Board of Education in June, regarding a potential bond proposal for consideration on the November 2017 ballot. There will be many opportunities to provide input, and understand what it being proposed should the Board go forward with a ballot question.

For more information about the Community Engagement Sessions or questions regarding the Facility Review/Bond Study Committee email NPS@NorthvilleSchools.org.

WINCHESTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ACHIEVES LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOL STATUS

I am excited to share with you that **Winchester Elementary School** has earned **"Lighthouse School"** status as part of the transformational *The Leader in Me* model for schools based on Stephen Covey's *7 Habits of Highly Effective People* and designed to teach leadership to students. Of the more than 2,800 *The Leader in Me* schools worldwide, Winchester is only the 289th to achieve Lighthouse School status. There are 249 Lighthouse Schools in the United States, and just 15 in Michigan, including four in Northville – Moraine, Silver Springs, Ridge Wood, and now Winchester.

The Leader in Me is a whole-school transformational framework – developed in partnership with educators – that empowers students with the leadership and life skills they need to thrive in the 21st century. It is based on the principles and practices of personal, interpersonal and organizational effectiveness. *The Leader in Me* starts with the powerful premise that every child possesses unique strengths, and has the ability to be a leader and have a voice in their learning. It integrates leadership development into existing school programs, curriculum, and traditions; and helps students to learn how to become self-reliant, take initiative and set goals, prioritize their time, present their viewpoint persuasively, value differences, resolve conflicts, and find creative solutions. The Lighthouse designation represents a significant benchmark in *The Leader in Me* journey that recognizes outstanding results in school and student outcomes across all areas.

The Winchester school community became a *The Leader in Me* school four years ago, and shortly after that began the Lighthouse School process of self-evaluation. This included putting together a Lighthouse Team of students, staff, parents and community members to over-see school-wide implementation; building a culture of leadership and learning throughout the school; teaching and reinforcing the *7 Habits*; working together collaboratively; having students in meaningful leadership roles; involving parents; creating and holding leadership events to share Winchester's leadership model with the community; using data through Leadership Notebooks and other leadership tools; and showing measureable results.

On March 22, 2017, a Lighthouse Review Team from FranklinCovey Education, a component of the global consulting and training leader FranklinCovey, spent the day interviewing Winchester students, teachers, staff and parents; toured the school; visited classrooms; and reviewed data with students. Just, 19 days later, Principal Kelly Lindsay got the call that Winchester is a *The Leader in Me* Lighthouse School.

We applaud the entire Winchester community for achieving the distinction as a Lighthouse School. This is powerful work that brings students, teachers, parents and families together with a collective focus on learning in a way that unleashes the leadership capacity and potential within every learner. This work aligns with our district goals to foster a culture of learning and leadership in every school that empowers learners, develops leaders and fosters intellectual curiosity. We are pleased that each of our elementary schools is using this powerful framework to help guide their work.

A schoolwide celebration is planned for Friday, May 16, 2017. Congratulations, Winchester Dragons!!

STEAM FAIR – DREAM IT. CREATE IT. PLAY IT. BEHIND THE FUN!

More than 1,000 fourth and seventh graders from across Northville Public Schools recently took part in the third annual, daylong Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) Fair at Hillside Middle School. The theme for this year's fair – **Dream It. Create It. Play It. Behind the Fun!** – featured game-themed activities and demonstrations developed by more than 100 teams of Northville students of all schools, grades and ages. Games included new twists on classic games such as *KerPlunk*, *Yahtzee*, *Jenga* and *Twister*, as well as totally new concepts, like *Creative Coloring the Robot Way*, *Puzzling Abstract Math*, and *Space Walk*, just to name a few.

Partnering on the event, **Northville Public Schools** and the **Northville Educational Foundation** are committed to encouraging and inspiring Northville students to become interested in pursuing STEAM degrees and careers. During the daylong event, students were led through numerous game-themed activities and demonstrations that brought to life what our fourth and seventh graders are learning in the classroom.

That evening, from 6-8 p.m., parents and students from across the district, as well as community members, were invited to participate and check out the games the student teams had created.

These projects provide students with independent learning experiences, allowing them to start from scratch with an idea and end with an activity that they can explain to others and of which they can be proud. The STEAM Fair is entirely supported by the community through the Northville Educational Foundation, sponsorships and volunteers.

For more information about the fair and how you or your company can support this event next year, go to: www.northvillesteamfair.com. Sponsors for this year's STEAM Fair included presenting sponsor Community Choice Credit Union; Senior Level Sponsors Aisin Group, Community Financial, Michigan Educational Credit Union, the Knickerbocker Group of Raymond James and Associates, and Advanced Disposal; Junior Level Sponsors Patti Mullen & Associates and ESG; and Sophomore Level Sponsors St. John Providence and MOD Pizza – Northville. We are grateful for the support of each of our sponsors, along with our ongoing partnership with the Northville Educational Foundation, whose tremendous support truly gives Northville students an E.D.G.E. (Educate, Develop, Grow, Enrich)!

NOW ENROLLING THE CLASS OF 2030

Northville Public Schools is accepting **kindergarten enrollment for the 2017-18 school year**. If you have a child who will be five years of age on or before September 1, 2017, we want your student and family to become part of the culture of learning and leadership that exemplifies Northville Public Schools. To enroll your child for Fall 2017, please schedule an appointment with the staff from the **Office of Student Data** by visiting www.northvilleschools.org and clicking on the "Enroll" button. The Pre-Enrollment Process will walk you through the steps for enrolling your kindergartner and provide you with the forms you will need to complete before your appointment. Those unsure about which elementary school their child will attend, can view the **Attendance Boundary Map** on the district website by clicking on the "Schools" button. For more information, contact your child's school or the Office of Instruction at 248-344-3520.

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 Education 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 have turned two by September 1, 2017.

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

A reminder to Northville Public Schools families that **registration is now open for the district's Summer School Programs** through June 15, 2017, for elementary and middle school students, and June 26, 2017 for high school students taking online and/or onsite classes. Summer School Programs offer students the opportunity to review skills, explore areas of interest, recover credits and/or earn additional credits during the summer months. All in-class high school and middle school courses will take place at Hillside Middle School and elementary classes will be at Ridge Wood Elementary School. Onsite high school courses begin Monday, June 26, 2017 and elementary and middle school classes will take place July 17-20, 2017. High School online courses begin on June 5, 2017. English as a second language classes will take place June 26-29, July 3-7 and July 10-13 for elementary and secondary students at Hillside. For more information or to register your student visit Summer School on the district website.

HAPPY 50TH BIRTHDAY MORAINE!

Happy 50th Birthday to the students, teachers, staff and families at **Moraine Elementary School!** Moraine was built in 1966 to serve the children and families in the neighborhood across the street and north of Eight Mile Road. Believe it or not, the neighborhood surrounding Moraine had not yet been built. Here are a few other fun facts about Moraine. The first name proposed for the school was "Moraine Ridge." The school's first mascot was a "Bulldog." Moraine has had two major renovations over the years. In 1970, the north centrum was added to address a growing student enrollment. In 2004, the entire northwest centrum was added including fourth and fifth grade classroom and the gymnasium. I had the honor of serving as the principal of Moraine from 1994-2006, and am proud to say that I had the opportunity to know and learn from and with every one of the fine educators who have served as principal of Moraine throughout its 50 years. Moraine was named a 2002 National School of Character and in 2013 became the third school in Michigan and the 46th worldwide to achieve the Lighthouse School status in its *The Leader in Me* journey.

In honor of this milestone birthday, Moraine's Student Lighthouse Team has worked with teacher Karen Stuard to research and write a book entitled Moraine's Great Moments, sharing the school's amazing history and dedicated to Moraine's future students and staff. In addition, the Lighthouse Teams, working with teachers Amy Devlin and Holly McManamon, is planning a week of special events during its Leadership Week that will begin June 5, 2017 and culminate with a birthday celebration for Moraine. The Moraine PTA also has provided funding for the purchase of a number of wonderful tools to be used for an upcoming Maker's Fair. (Teachers had a chance to try out some of these new tools during a recent Extended Time.)

Best wishes to the students, staff and families of Moraine Elementary School -- including those who came before and those who will come after. You are what makes Moraine, and Northville Public Schools, great!

NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS EARNS 'AA-' RATING FROM S&P GLOBAL, AFFIRMING STABLE FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

I am pleased to share that S&P Global Ratings has raised the underlying rating for Northville Public Schools' unlimited-tax general obligation bonds by two notches from "A" to "AA-", while also affirming a stable outlook for the school district. S&P Global is one of the world's leading providers of independent credit ratings for corporations, as well as state and local governments and school districts.

A combination of new housing developments, and a strong resale market for homes, along with the district being recognized as a high achieving school district has buoyed student enrollment. According to the school district summary released by S&P Global Ratings, "The district's available fund balance of $18.2 million is very strong at 25 percent of operating expenditures at fiscal year-end (June 30) 2016. The district ended 2016 in a strong position with general fund revenue outpacing expenditures, resulting in an ending fund balance of 25 percent of operating expenses." The summary added, "We view this alignment between revenue and expenditures as much improved since 2012. The district's unassigned or unreserved general fund balance has been more than 15 percent for the past four years. Additionally, the district achieved general fund surpluses in the past five consecutive years."

As a school district, we are pleased to receive this ratings upgrade from S&P Global that is a testament to the district's commitment to focus our attention and resources on the learning our students do in the classroom. Having the funds necessary to support programs and teachers is key in the success of any school system. But, it's also about how you use the resources you have to impact student learning.

THE IMPACT OF RACE AND DIVERSITY IN OUR SCHOOLS, DR. JAY MARKS – JOIN US ON MONDAY, MAY 15, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.

Please join us for a conversation with **Jay B. Marks, Ph.D.**, a consultant from Oakland Schools, on **Monday, May 15, 2017, 7 p.m., at Meads Mill Middle School**, 16700 Franklin Road, Northville. The presentation entitled "Cultural Competence: A Concept for Pursuing Diversity, Academic Equity and Race Relations in Our Schools and Community," will explore how perceptions and issues of race and diversity impact our schools and our community.

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 some of the highlights.

- For an incredible sixth straight year, the **Meads Mill Middle School Science Olympiad Team is the State Champion** in the Michigan Science Olympiad Tournament which took place April 29, 2017 in Lansing. The team now advances to the National Tournament, which will take place May 19-20, 2017 at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. Team members include Akshaya Kannikeswaran, Amanda Zhang, Ankith Alluri, Arthur Zhao, Arya Gowda, Dana Clafton, Dharshini Senthilkumar, Keerthana Danasekaran, Matthew Wang, Michelle Tong, Raama Katragadda, Ria Ellendula, Riya Gone, Rohan Dhulipalla, Rohit Chadalavada, Sreja Vallem, and Tanmai Nimmagadda.
- Not to be outdone, the **Northville High School Science Olympiad Team** also took **State Champion** honors at the Michigan Science Olympiad State Tournament, placing first out of 60 teams, earning more than 60 event medals and five event championships! This will mark the fourth straight year the NHS team will represent Michigan in the National Tournament.

POINTS OF PRIDE ... CONTINUED!

- Kudos to three of our teachers who were honored recently. Hillside Middle School science teacher **Ann Marie Sadler** has been named a state finalist for the **Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching**. District Media Specialist **Shannon Torres** has been selected as one of 22 new **Lilead Fellows**, a program of the Institute of Museum and Library Services that provides an intensive 18-month professional development program focused on growing leadership skills, integrating information literacy instruction, technology use and advocacy for library programs. Ridge Wood Elementary School teacher **Sean Kiebler** was honored recently as a **WNIC/Dunkin Donuts Teacher of the Week** based on letters sent to the radio station by current and former students and parents. To hear feedback directly from students, families and colleagues whose lives are touched by their teacher is truly and honor!

- Two Northville elementary school students took first and second place in the **Community Financial Presidents' Day Essay Contest**. Winchester Elementary School fifth-grader **Elizabeth Risch** earned the first place award and Thornton Creek Elementary School fourth-grader **Ashley Reberg** received second place. Elizabeth and her teacher Mr. Jeff Clark attended a reception at the Plymouth Historical Museum, where Mr. Clark shared Elizabeth's essay. Way to go Elizabeth and Ashley!

- Congratulations to **Meads Mill Middle School** students and staff on being selected as one of 23 schools from across the state to receive new water fountains/bottle filling stations thank to the **Delta Dental Foundation**. The initiative is part of its **Rethink Your Drink: Water's Cool at School** program designed to encourage children to drink more water during the school day. Along with the water fountain/bottle filling stations, Meads Mill also received reusable water bottles for students and staff, as well as funding to design and implement a campaign to encourage students to drink more water.

- **Winchester Elementary School** and **Northville High School** each recently received a **$500 Educational Alliance Grant from Michigan Fuels, Inc.**, which operates the Michigan Fuels Mobil 5 station at 39425 Six Mile Road, in Northville. In awarding the grants, Michigan Fuels noted that it is important to encourage the next generation to pursue studies and careers in fields involving math and science. Thank you to Michigan Fuels and the local Mobil 5 station for this generous support!

- Please join the **Northville High School Baseball Program** on **Saturday, May 20, 2017**, to celebrate the 8th **Annual Armed Forces Day**, honoring active military and veterans. The day's events include a 5K Armed Forces Run at 8 a.m.; the opportunity to learn about and get a photo taken with a live Bald Eagle; a Military Vehicles Showcase; Armed Forces Booths; a Donation Station & Sponsor-A-Box booth; an Obstacle Course and Games; the opportunity to meet Active Service Men and Women; and much, much more. There also will be a double-header featuring the Northville High School Varsity Baseball team, with the first game beginning at 11 a.m., as well as free hamburgers, hotdogs, pizza, pop and ice cream. The event is an opportunity to donate food, personal hygiene and entertainment items for care packages that will be sent to Michigan troops currently overseas. Kudos to the Northville High School Baseball team, coaches, parents, families and the entire Northville community for offering their support to the honorable men and women serving in our military.

- The **Northville High School Boys Lacrosse team** recently hosted its third annual **NHS Victory Day** at Tom Holzer Ford Field. An inclusive and transformative event, Victory Days is an opportunity for members of the high school Lacrosse team and students with special needs from Northville High School and Cooke School to play a game alongside each other. Proceeds and donations from Victory Day benefit special education. What an incredible experience for all involved! To capture a glimpse of this special day, go to: NHS Lacrosse Victory Day - Fox 2 Detroit Sports

- A number of our high school students have been honored over the past several months for their accomplishments both in the classroom and out in the community. Senior **Austin Xie** has been selected into the **2017 STEM Premier Top 100**! This year, more than 200,000 STEM Premier students from some 16,000 high schools competed for a spot in the STEM Premier 100. Sophomore **Maddi Cadaret** was selected to participate in **the Michigan Youth Arts Festival Creative Writing Scholars Program**. Freshman **Marinos Bernitsas** received a first place award for is project, "Do Fish Hold the Secret to Hydrokinetic Energy Harness?" in the **Science and Engineering Fair of Metro Detroit**. NHS Student Congress Vice President **Brianna Drummond** has been recognized by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Michigan as one of 12 **Student of the Year finalists**. She coordinated a number of fundraising activities to raise more than $11,000 for the fight against cancer. Junior **Simrin Kapoor** has been selected to receive the 2017 Michigan Affiliate **National Center for Women and Information Technology Award for Aspirations in Computing**. Is this AWESOME or what?

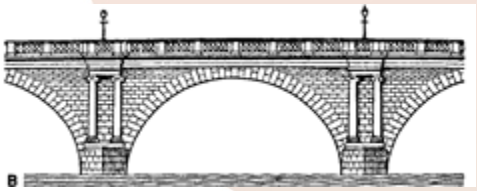
- Not to be outdone, five Northville High School students have placed in the Top 100 in the state in this year's **Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition**. This includes **Sai Anantapantula**, **Allen Ho**, **Shachi Salvi**, **Timothy Wu**, and **Jeffrey Zhang**.

- In February, 12 Northville High School students participated in the **USA Biology Olympiad** competition. The Open Exam consists of 50 multiple-choice biology questions to be completed in 50 minutes and encompassing all major fields of biology. Participating from NHS were **Rohith Kesamneni**, **Sanjana Kannikeswaran**, **Saaz Malhotra**, **Yongwei Che**, **Matthew Xiao**, **Soumya Kulkarni**, **Shreya Basu**, **Allen Ho**, **Shreya Chadalavada**, **Sahil Tolia**, and **Vineet Raju**. Sahil qualified for the Semifinal Exam, which is taken by the top 500 scorers nationally on the Open Exam.

- The Northville High School **Robostangs** had a tremendous showing and a great time at the World Championships in St. Louis. The robotics season ended in a 2/3 match game against the #2 alliance. The team progressed from 61st to seventh place in two days in order to be alliance captain during selection. **Chairman's Award** honorees presented for the first time ever at Worlds and the NHS team had a great response from the group. The Robostangs Dean's List candidate, junior **Alex Steinig** was recognized as a finalist. Overall the Robostangs ended the season in the top 100 teams in the world!! Great season Robostangs!

- I'm also pleased to share that the **Northville High School Competitive Cheer Team** earned the top spot this year as an **Academic All-State team** (non-weighted) in Division 1, with a team GPA of 3.58. This is the first time a Northville team has taken the top honor. In addition to this team honor, five Competitive Cheer team athletes were also recognized with individual Academic All-State honors including **Maggie O'Meara**, **Abigail Flynn**, **Rachel Marquardt**, **Lauren Had**, and **Danielle Maraffino**. Well done and congratulations to the Competitive Cheer Team!

- Four teams from **Meads Mill Middle School** and **Northville High School** took part recently in the 2017 **Michigan Design & Building Bridge Challenge**, with two of those teams qualifying to compete at the national level. The program is sponsored by the Michigan Department of Transportation State Highway Transportation Officials TRAC (Transportation and Civil Engineering) program for Michigan schools. TRAC is a hands-on education program designed for integration into science, math and social science classes. The two teams moving on to the national competition are the Meads Mill team of **Amanda Zhang**, **Rohan Dhulipalla** and **Arthur Zhao**, who took first place in the Truss Bridge Competition, and the Northville High School Team of **Disha Satapathy**, **Pranav Rakkappan** and **Rishab Lanka**, who took second in the Cantilever Bridge Competition. The NHS team of **Sanjana Dhulipalla**, **Rohith Kesamneni**, and **Addison Zhang** took fourth in the state in the Cantilever Competition. And to top it off, Gov. Rich Snyder stopped by for a visit! Outstanding!



There's More ....Our Inspiring Vocal and Instrumental Music Programs!

- Also of note is the inspiring, ongoing success of our vocal and instrumental music programs:
  - The Northville High School *Concert Choir, Bel Canto, and Girls Ensemble* all received Division 1 "Excellent" ratings in the Michigan School Vocal Music Association (MSVMA) State Choral Festival.
  - Three Northville High School Jazz Ensemble members have received honorable mention honors for the Michigan State Band and Orchestra Association (MSBOA) State Jazz Ensemble. This includes Nicole Damron (trumpet), Anna Pilarz (trumpet) and Mariko Kiyono (trombone).
  - Nicholas Bhandari, Em SeGraves and Medha Sripada have been selected to the MSVMA High School All-State Honors Choir, comprised of the top 120 singers in the state. The All-State Choir rehearses and performs in conjunction with the prestigious Michigan Youth Arts Festival in May at Western Michigan University.
  - In March, NHS instrumental music students participated in the MSBOA Solo Ensemble Festival, earning 19 First Division, eight Second Divisions and one Third Division. The following students, based on their performance, were also nominated for the Michigan Youth Arts Festival: Band – Ann-Marie Zheng (flute), Pavana Karanth (Flute) and Raymond Jiang (Bb Clarinet); Soloists – Ann-Marie Zheng (flute), Claire Wan (piano) d Heidi Huang (flute).
  - At the MSVMA State Solo and Ensemble Festival in April, seven Northville High School soloists and three ensembles received Division 1 "Excellent" ratings. In addition all three ensembles, Chamber Choir, BackBeat and TrebleMakers, were nominated for the top 12 ensembles in the state by the prestigious Michigan Youth Arts Fair (MYAF). Also, soprano Maddie Green was selected as one of the top 12 soloists in the state for MYAF. This is the second time Maddie has received this rare honor.
- And to top off our Points of Pride with some fun news, Northville High School student Ivy Sanders (second from the left) and her family will make an appearance on the TV game show *Family Feud*. The show is scheduled to air on Thursday, May 18, 2017, at 7 p.m. and again on Friday, May 19, at 7:30 p.m. on CBS Detroit Channel 62. Good luck to the Sanders family!

Thank You Teachers, Staff and School Nurses!

On behalf of the Northville Board of Education and this great community, I want to take this opportunity, following Teacher Appreciation Week and School Nurses Day, to recognize our incredible educators and health care providers for all they do each and every day to ensure our schools and our classrooms are challenging, inspiring and healthy places for our students to learn and grow.

We are reminded every single day that Northville's teachers, ancillary professionals, paraprofessionals, para-educators, administrative assistants, nurses, coaches, principals, and staff are dedicated to the success of each and every child in our school district – from our youngest learners in our Early Childhood program to the young adults in our high school and special education center program. Our educators and staff members know the importance of empowering students of every age and ability, giving them voice and creating opportunities for them to seek their passion and to shine – in our classrooms, in the arts, on our fields of play, in club/extracurricular opportunities and in service to others.

Thanks also goes out to our PTA/PTSAs, parents and families at each of our schools for all the special celebrations honoring our teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week and School Nurses Day. Although we encourage students, parents and community members to show appreciation for our teachers and staff throughout the school year, these special events, treats, flowers, and especially the heartfelt notes of appreciation, are truly cherished. It is true that education and nursing are more than professions, they are callings, and we are honored that our teacher, nurses and staff have chosen Northville Public Schools as the place they want to make a difference in the lives of others.

Non-Discrimination Policy

It is the policy of the Board of Education and the School District not to unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, religion, height, weight, marital status, handicap or disability. The District reaffirms its long-standing policy of compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination including, but not limited to, Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC SS2000d et seq. and 42 USC SS2000e et seq.; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 USC SS1681 et seq.; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC S794; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 USC SS12101 et seq.; Michigan's Handicappers' Civil Rights Act, MCL SS37.1101 et seq.; and, the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, MCL SS37.2101 et seq.

Any questions concerning Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, or Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin, should be directed to:

Title VI: Ms. Deanna Barash, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services
Title IX: Mr. David Rodgers, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and/or
Ms, Nadine Harris, Director for Special Services

Inquiries related to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap, should be directed to: Ms. Nadine Harris, Director for Special Services

For additional information regarding Discrimination and Harassment Procedures, which include definitions of discrimination and harassment, and the procedure for any person, teacher, student, administrator or non-employee to file alleged discrimination/harassment complaints with the District, click here or go to the district's website at www.northvilleschools.org and click on "Annual Notifications.

Coffee and Conversation with the Superintendent

I would like to invite Northville school parents, guardians, and community members to my next Superintendent Community Coffee on Wednesday, May 17, 2017, 6:30-7:45 p.m., at the Northville Public Schools Board of Education Office, 501 W. Main Street, Northville. These informal coffees offer school families and community members the opportunity to ask questions, offer input and learn more about the school district in a small group setting. Those attending are welcome to come and go at any time during the specified timeframe.

We have much to be both proud of, and grateful for, as we seek to advance our *Tradition of Excellence* and open *A World of Possibilities* for each and every student. Thank you to our teachers, students, staff, families and community members who make this possible.

Sincerely,

Mary K. Gallagher

Mary K. Gallagher
Superintendent