Word from the Superintendent

A highlight of every school year for me is meeting the new teachers on their first day. Yesterday I met a group of enthusiastic teachers from a wide range of backgrounds. I am pleased to see many professionals from other fields who recently found their way to teaching. They bring a wealth of experiences to benefit our students.

We are welcoming one teacher from Scotland School for Veterans' Children, lots of football fans and golfers, two guys from North Carolina, another Michigan native for Faust, an Academic All-American, parents, and several CASHS grads. We are fortunate to have a diverse and interesting group of teachers joining our ranks.

One thing they all have in common is their desire to make a difference for our students. Several of them mentioned that they found their passion and are excited to begin a career they have worked toward for many years.

I was very proud to hear our long-term substitutes talk about how welcomed they felt by staff in our schools. Make an effort during the in-service days and hectic first week of school to introduce yourselves to our newest colleagues. Make them feel a part of our organization. They will need your support and assistance as they navigate through their first year.

- Joe

New Teachers Welcomed

New teacher induction is being held this week. Please join us in welcoming the following men and women to the CASD faculty! (See the complete list here.)
Follow CASDNews on Twitter

CASDNews is now available on Twitter. This microblog is a great way for the district to highlight news as it’s happening. If you’re already a Twitter member, follow CASDNews. To become a Twitter member, go to www.twitter.com and join today!

CASDNews: www.twitter.com/CASDNews

To learn more about Twitter, watch these entertaining and informative videos:
Countywide In-service Planned

An in-service program for all five Franklin County school districts will be held in the new CASHS gymnasium on Wednesday morning, August 26, with registration beginning at 7:45 a.m. More than 1,500 educators will be on hand to hear from former American Teacher of the Year and New York Times best-selling author Ron Clark. The comedy group Wavelength will also perform. To see the in-service brochure, click here.

School Bus Safety Reminders

As we get set for another school year, please remember that Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law requires motorists to stop at least 10 feet away from school buses that have their red lights flashing and stop arm extended. This applies to motorists driving behind a bus, alongside a bus, meeting a bus, or approaching an intersection where a bus is stopped.

If physical barriers such as grassy medians, guide rails, or concrete median barriers separate oncoming traffic from a bus, motorists in the opposing lanes may proceed without stopping.

School bus safety is a priority in the Chambersburg Area School District, and we all play a role in keeping students safe. Please take a moment to review these bus safety tips to help ensure our children travel to and from school safely each day.

H1N1 Influenza Update

In the coming days, CASD will be sending home a letter to parents advising them of the steps we're taking to prepare for a new school year and the H1N1 flu. We're continuing to review information from federal agencies and following the recommendations that have been laid out.

Good hygiene practices are the best way to prevent the spread of the flu, including washing hands frequently and coughing/sneezing into a tissue or sleeve. Students and staff who experience flu symptoms, such as fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headaches, chills, or fatigue, should stay home until they are fever-free for 24 hours.

Our number one priority is maintaining healthy and safe schools with the least amount of disruption to learning. For more about H1N1, visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu or www.flu.gov.

Administrator Receives Doctorate

CASD Director of Educational Structures, Programming, and Curriculum Implementation Tod Kline has received his doctorate of education (Ed.D.) from Widener University, completing his dissertation, “Teacher Perceptions of a Staff Development Model...
for Co-Teaching: A Case Study." Congratulations, Tod!

The dissertation was a two-year study of a staff development model and plan Tod designed to implement co-teaching at CAMS. The study showed that long-term commitment, on-going training, comprehensive evaluation, staff involvement, and a tie to district goals are essential to a successful staff development initiative.

Tod received his bachelor's degree in music from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, master's degree in education administration from Western Maryland College, and superintendent letter of eligibility from Shippensburg University. He's also the author of two books for music education: Classic Tunes & Tales (Prentice-Hall/Pearson) and Music Today & Every Day (Pearson).

CASD Partners with Camps to Beat Summer Slide

We're not talking about the slide on the playground! Summer slide is what happens when young minds sit idle for three months, and CASD partnered with three agencies this summer to prevent this slide for about 110 students.

**EAP (Educational Assistance Program)** reading tutoring was offered at three camps for students going into grades K-5 who scored non-proficient on DIBELS and 4Sight testing. "The tutors and I analyzed individual student needs by reviewing 2008-09 DIBELS and 4Sight data," explains Shannon Raines, CASD supplementary programs coordinator. "The tutors then planned their lesson per students' needs with research-based intervention materials in reading."

The camps included **BOPIC** (Building Our Pride in Chambersburg) at Stevens, **LIU Migrant Camp** at Falling Spring, and **Sam's Club** at the YMCA. Tutoring was provided by CASD teachers and aides, funded through an EAP grant. Each student received 45 hours of instruction and took a post-DIBELS or 4Sight assessment during the last week of tutoring.

Watt's Up by Connie Kelley

For electric/gas/oil consumption since September 2007, we've notched a 20% program savings, or $647,501. (Last year at this time, our program savings was 15.9%, or $226,201.) This reduction of more than 4,200 metric tons of CO₂ is equivalent to removing 766 cars from the road for one year or growing 109,194 tree seedlings for 10 years.

See the August 2009 Watt's Up for more information and a list of the top energy saving schools in our district.

July's energy coupon drawing winners—out of 255 slips received—were Jacky Collette (Stevens/Lurgan kitchen), Ann Angle (CAMS secretary), Larry Stouffer (CAMS custodial staff), and Jack Yohn (maintenance/HVAC).
Quest EAP Newsletters

The August 2009 Frontline Employee newsletter from Quest Employee Assistance Program includes information about avoiding heat stroke, disagreeing with your boss, teaching teens about debt, and overcoming compulsive buying.

Among the questions answered in August’s Frontline Supervisor newsletter are how you can know if you’re a micromanager and whether your high expectations have turned into bullying.

Web Wisdom: Curriculum Connections

In the last eNewsletter, you read about the progress being made in curriculum writing last year and this summer. Hundreds of CASD educators have collaborated to revise curriculum in all content areas. As the work is being completed, you can find the updated curriculum documents online.

The new literacy curriculum is available on the new English Language Arts (ELA) website, along with the CASD Literacy Vision, discussion boards, online resources, and more. Please visit this important site often for updates by your colleagues: www.chambersburg.k12.pa.us/literacy.

To view the ELA curriculum, select the K-12 Literacy Curriculum link from the main menu, and don’t forget to review the Vision for Literacy. 2009-2010 is a developmental year for this curriculum. As teachers use the curriculum in the classroom, adjustments, refinements, and revisions will be made based on teachers' expertise. The goal is to develop every CASD curriculum document as a living, practical guide for quality instruction.

District Calendar Review

CASHS new student orientation: 8/19
CAMs and Faust new student orientations: 8/20
School board meeting: 8/26
First day of school: 8/31

Complete district calendar

For information about school board business, including meeting agendas and documents, visit BoardDocs under the school board link on the district website.

Personnel actions for August 12

Do you have something to include in the CASD eNewsletters for employees and/or community members? If so, please e-mail your content to Sylvia Rockwood. The deadlines are the same days as school board meetings: the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.
Questions or comments about the CASD eNewsletter? E-mail casdnews@chambersburg.k12.pa.us.

Recent issues of eCASD News are available at www.chambersburg.k12.pa.us/communications.