



September 11, 2009

Word from the Superintendent



A friend reminded me today to pause in the midst of a growing list of concerns we all face, such as health care, the budget, the continual push for improvements, data analysis, growing needs of our students, and the increased poverty in our community, and remember where we all were eight years ago on this date. My friend asked me to remember those who died on September 11th and the families and friends they left behind. I'm thinking of our soldiers overseas, and our students who are waiting for mom or dad to return home from Iraq or Afghanistan.

[These images were a powerful reminder for me](#), so I'm sharing them with you today as well. I wish you all a safe and happy weekend with friends and loved ones.

- Joe

Seasonal Flu Shots Available



Flu shots for school employees, spouses, and dependents are being made available by the Lincoln Intermediate Unit for \$30 per shot. Please note these shots are for seasonal flu, not the H1N1 influenza, and will be administered from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Thursday, October 8 at the Franklin Learning Center. For information about registering and for additional times/locations, see the LIU's [flu shot announcement](#).

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Salary Payout Election Form



If you are an employee who works less than 248 days per year, please see the [attached form](#) from the business office. This form is for individuals who have the option of electing to take their pay over 12 months or in a lump sum pay-out and who want to change their election for 2009-2010.

High School Construction Update



"Punch list" items will continue to be addressed in the new gym throughout September. The new hallway and area outside the old gym will receive underground electric and plumbing work; painting, ceiling grid, and sprinkler work is also taking place throughout that area and the locker room section.

The kitchen and cafeteria areas are receiving block, paint, ceiling grid, and tile work. The walk-in freezer and cooler will be installed in the kitchen starting later this month, and the curtain wall/store front glass should be completed on the Tolbert Avenue side of the cafeteria and science wing by the first week of October. Fencing work will continue through the next two weeks on McKinley and Stanley Court.

Ceramic quarry tile is being installed in the science wing, kitchen, and cafeteria areas; the classroom wing continues to have brick and window work. As you may have noticed, the greenhouse has been started as well.

The music wing continues with block work to grade. The new library, student services, and administration wing is seeing footer excavation, concrete piers, and block work. Steel work for part of that section should be starting in October.

Volunteers Sought from CASD Employees



Under the direction of Brett Hill, CASD is collaborating with Franklin County Emergency Management and the South Central Task Force to support regional efforts to prepare for potential public health emergencies, such as an outbreak of the H1N1 virus, by establishing a Point of Dispensing (or POD) at CAMS and Scotland Elementary School. These PODs would dispense prophylactic medication to the "well" public. If these PODs were activated, they would be in operation in the evenings and on weekends to avoid disrupting the school day.

We are currently recruiting volunteers from within the ranks of all district employees to staff these PODs. Please read the [attached letter](#) from Brett, as this service cannot be provided

without your help. If you would like to volunteer, or if you need more information, please contact Brett at 709-4090 or hillbre@chambersburg.k12.pa.us.

Coaches' Corner: Carole Kirkpatrick



This new column in eCASP Employee News features a special tip, story, resource, nugget of wisdom, good experience, or tale from the frontline from one of our coaches. This week's corner is shared by Carole Kirkpatrick, K-5 Literacy Coach:

Feeling safe enough to take risks is an important part of writer's workshop. This is important for the teacher as well as the student. In living my own writerly life, I have experienced both the safety net of a community and the risk-taking where the stakes were just too high.

As you live the writerly life next week in your classroom or plan to begin it if you haven't already, remember the importance of building your classroom's safety net. The gathering spot that you choose should be a familiar safe place where you begin the routines. Maybe it has a carpet and a rocking chair. Or maybe you have pillows and some carpet squares.

Begin sharing those mentor texts or well-loved books you have collected. Maybe you are trying El Paso or continuing with 6 + 1 Writing with the Traits (contact me to learn more about El Paso or 6 + 1). Maybe have kids share with a partner or a small group rather than begin with the AUTHOR'S CHAIR. That seat may be hot for some kids to face right away!

Changes in Workman's Comp



As of this past July 1, the district no longer uses PMA Insurance as our workman's comp carrier. It is now Penn National Insurance. There are no changes as far as employees are concerned, except for the reporting of incidents for the following departments:

Buildings and Grounds should report their incidents to Jeff Rosenberry, assistant supervisor of facilities.

Food Services should report their incidents to Ann Ziobrowski, director of food services.

Transportation should report their incidents to Pat Shives, assistant supervisor of transportation.

All other employees still report their incidents to Sonnie Bender.

[Workman's Compensation Information](#)

Redistricting, Transportation Plans Discussed

At Wednesday's board meeting, Dr. Padasak presented a [progress report on first week of our new transportation system](#).

He also presented an [overview of current redistricting consideration and administrative recommendations](#).



Parents, students and community members spoke after the redistricting presentation for over one hour. The large majority voiced strong opposition to the closing of Coldbrook and Marion and urged the school board to consider all options carefully.

The board also approved the administrative recommendation to shift the elementary teacher day by 10 minutes. This will change the elementary teacher day from 8:20 -- 3:50 to 8:30 -- 4:00.

Health Care Deductible Changes



As of July 1, 2009, there was a change to the health care benefits for all employees covered under the CAEA bargaining unit, all Act 93 personnel, department chairs, head teachers, and administrators. In the past there was no deductible for single or family coverage; however, there is now a \$200 deductible for singles and a \$600 deductible for families. Coverage for all other employee groups remains the same. For a complete overview of your health care benefits, please visit the CASD Human Resources website at www.chambersburg.k12.pa.us/hr

Watt's Up by Connie Kelley



All of the electric account bills are in for August, so here are the [top performing buildings](#) for electric usage by percentage of savings for the month. Districtwide, our August electric savings was 42.54% or \$46,954—a 5% increase over last August.

Our electric savings equates to removing 759 vehicles from the road for one year or planting and growing 108,181 tree seedlings for 10 years. Our conservation has the cumulative greenhouse gas reduction of 20,456 MMBTU's and 4,229 equivalent metric tons of CO2. By conserving, we are becoming much more environmentally friendly.

Featured Web Page



Take a look at the new information now available on the [Academic Departments](#) website. Here you will find updated curriculum documents for all core content areas, information on walk-throughs, reading apprenticeship, differentiated instruction, forums to share ideas with colleagues and links to individual department pages. Stay tuned for continual improvements on this site!

District Calendar Review

CAMS 6th grade parents' night: 9/15
College information night for seniors: 9/16
CAMS 7th grade parents' night: 9/17

[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 September 9](#)

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.



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