

Superintendent's Report - November 2018

Good Evening Everyone.

November is a month marked with a number of nationally important events and celebrations - including Election Day, Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving. Locally, schools celebrate the end of the first marking period for secondary students and a few days off for everyone to catch their breath before we head into the very busy month of December.

In addition to Election Day on Tuesday, November 6, we held a full day of professional development and learning for staff. Our second "Teachers Helping Teachers" event allowed each staff member to select four sessions of their choosing to direct his/her own personal growth. We were thrilled to feature 47 different sessions on topics that ranged from better using technology in the classroom, to engaging instructional strategies, to mindfulness and stress relieving strategies. Many thanks to the 70 individuals who shared their expertise and passion with their colleagues. With another round of incredibly positive feedback, we look forward to the third annual menu day next November.

Parent-teacher conferences were held last week at all schools on Tuesday, November 20, in the evening, and Wednesday, November 21, in the morning. Principals reported high participation rates at all levels. We look forward to our next round of conferences in April.

Tis the season for winter concerts, shows, and opportunities for parents, guardians, families, friends, and community members to visit our schools and ushering in the holidays. Please check with your individual schools for dates and times of these wonderful events.

I am inviting students, staff, parents, guardians, community members, alumni, and anyone who is interested in participating on a committee on district branding. I want to hear from all stakeholders as we look to achieve a consistent brand, with colors, seals, and logos that are recognizable and displayed proudly. We hope to incorporate this brand into a new website to be launched after the first of the year. The committee will meet Tuesday, December 11, at 6 pm in the Board Room in the Administration Building. This information will be posted advertised through the website, social media, and ConnectEd this week.

Please mark your calendars for the following dates in December:

- Reorganization Meeting of Board of School Directors - Monday, December 3
- End of Trimester 1 and Early Dismissal for Grades K-4 - Tuesday, December 4
- Trimester 1 Report Cards for Grades K-4 - Wednesday, December 12
- Early Dismissal for Grades K-12 - Friday, December 21
- Schools and Offices closed December 24-January 1

As we enter the holiday season, please take a moment to share thanks with those around you. I want to thank everyone in the Norristown Area School District for allowing me to serve as

Superintendent of Schools and, more importantly, making this a great place to work and impact the lives of children.

This concludes the Superintendent's Report for the month of November.