



October 1, 2011

*From the Desk of Bob Newsum,*

Greetings:

The official student enrollment count day for all Iowa public school districts is October 1. Because October 1 falls on a Saturday this year, the official count day for the 2011-2012 school year will be Monday, October 3. A significant portion of the revenues that are provided for public school districts is based on the number of students who are enrolled on the 'count day' and the number of students enrolled in the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District for 2010-2011 was twelve fewer than the previous year. Thirty-eight high school seniors graduated last May and the number of kindergarten students in Mrs. Webster's and Mrs. Henson's classes this fall is forty-eight, for an increase of ten students. Several students who attended classes in our Martensdale-St. Marys classrooms last year have moved to other communities, but we have also welcomed many new students to our school this fall. The number of new students to our district outnumbers those who have moved from our district by approximately ten students. With these combined increased student enrollments, we expect our district enrollment to increase by approximately twenty students. Our increased student enrollment is good news for our district and indicates that our message of 'Small community ... HUGE results!' is bringing results.

On July 13, 2011, we received an official notification from Ms. Patti Harding, Administrative Consultant, with the Iowa Department of Education Bureau of Nutrition, Health, and Transportation Services regarding federally mandated hot lunch price increases. According to the calculator we were required to use, the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District is below the minimum federally mandated nutrition fee level. Unless the district increases our hot lunch food prices for elementary and secondary students by five cents per meal, we will lose the reimbursement we receive for the free and reduced-price meals we serve. Beginning on Thursday, January 12, 2012, the first day of the second semester, the price for an elementary student lunch will be \$1.65 and the price for a secondary student lunch will be \$1.85. We do appreciate your understanding with this mandated lunch meal increase, but the district cannot afford the potential loss of free and reduced-priced lunch federal reimbursement.

The tentative date for delivery of the fall quarterly newsletter to all district mailbox holders is set for late October/early November. One of the features in this

newsletter is to highlight another of our high school graduates with an 'Alumnus Spotlight'. If you know of someone who graduated from Martensdale-St. Marys and has brought honor and pride to our district, community, and family through special achievement, invention, discovery, philanthropic activity, or in some other noteworthy manner, please call Bob Newsum, superintendent, at the district office (641-764-2466), on his cell telephone (641-203-8893), or via email [bob\\_newsum@mstm.us](mailto:bob_newsum@mstm.us) with your nomination.

For the past four months, I have been encouraging you to help us improve our efforts to provide timely and meaningful information to you. As the **district communications survey campaign ends on Monday, October 10**, this will be my final request for those of you who have not already done so to complete the short communications survey that the district communications committee has developed. You will be able to access and complete the communications survey electronically as a **link** on the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District website [www.mstm.us](http://www.mstm.us). If you would rather complete a paper copy of the survey, they are available in any of the district administrative offices. Thank you, in advance, for supporting your school district and completing your survey.

*From the Desk of Mr. Crozier,*  
*Secondary Principal*

**Happy autumn to MStM parents and patrons!**

We are one month into the new school year and we are off to a great start. I have had the opportunity to meet with parents, the student council, and the 7<sup>th</sup> grade class already this year. These meetings have been informative and uplifting. One of my goals this year is to deepen lines of communication and increase parent and community involvement in our school. We will hold our first Parent Advisory Committee meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM in the ICN room. Remember, all parents are welcome to attend.

The 1:1 laptop program that was initiated last year continues to be successful. We have had a few problems starting off the year that have frustrated some parents and students. Please be assured that we are working on these issues and have most of them solved. If your child is having problems with their computer, have them report the problems to the office. Remember, your child is responsible for damages and use of the computer; continue to communicate with them about proper care and proper use. I attended a technology workshop at the Van Meter schools last month. Seeing what other 1:1 schools are doing gave me, and the teachers that attended,

several ideas of how we can continue to infuse technology to support our students' learning.

Des Moines Area Community College is putting in a career academy in the old JC Penney building at South Ridge Mall in Des Moines. This will provide opportunities for our students that we have not been able to offer before. These programs may include construction trades, mechanics and auto body, culinary arts, graphic design, and criminal justice, to name a few. Look for more information coming soon.

Martensdale-St. Marys School continues to set the pace in student achievement. Once again, we have met our Adequate Yearly Progress for No Child Left Behind for the 2010-2011 school year. More and more MStM students are choosing to engage in rigorous curriculum and the results are showing!

Remember, Parent/Teacher conferences are on November 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. This year's format will be the traditional format. Parents will have the opportunity to talk with all of their child's teachers in the teacher's classroom.

- November 1<sup>st</sup> 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- November 3<sup>rd</sup> 3:30 PM – 7:30 PM

It is great to be a Blue Devil!

Michael R. Crozier  
Secondary Principal

**From the Desk of Mrs. Clark,**  
**Music Dept.**

This fall, vocal music is everywhere. The High School Chorus recently performed the National Anthem for the Homecoming football game. Junior Taylar Furness and seniors Michaela McIlravy and Tayler Schad have also been singing the National Anthem at other sporting events.

Several students in the High School Chorus are preparing to audition for the Iowa High School Music Association's All-State Chorus. The audition is at Indianola High School on Saturday, October 22. These same students are attending the Simpson Honor Choir Festival on Tuesday, October 11. They will have the opportunity to sing three of their All-State songs in concert that night at 7:00pm. This performance is free to the public. Good luck, singers!

Junior High Chorus is preparing for the Norwalk Festival on Monday, October 17. Students will rehearse in the afternoon, and perform a concert at 7:00 that evening in the new Norwalk auditorium. There will be a small admission fee. This should be a fun experience to perform in their new facilities!

Thursday, October 20 is the fall concert for the Junior High and High School Choruses, as well as the Junior High and High School bands. The concert is at 7:00, and singers need to be at the school by 6:30 for warm-ups. Please bring a dozen cookies/bars for the reception after the concert.

Three students that need to be recognized are juniors Abby Wetzler and Taylar Furness, and senior Tayler Schad.

Abby Wetzler, junior at MStM auditioned and had the honor of being awarded a scholarship to the Simpson Orpheus Music Camp. Abby spent a week enjoying the atmosphere of Simpson College while attending music classes, practicing music, and preparing for the performances at the end of the week. Students from all over Iowa were selected to attend this camp, as well as from other states. Abby felt this was a like-changing event, because it was at this camp she decided to major in music at college. She enjoyed the experience, and made many special friends that she hopes will stay in her life for a long time.

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Taylor Schad, as well as Taylor Furness attended the Iowa State All-State Camp this summer during the first week in August. Almost 200 students spent two days learning this year's All-State music and then spent time in a recording session at the end of the camp. Dr. Rhodde, the chair of the music department at Iowa State, prepared students to audition in October. The singers worked hard, but also spent some time having snacks and making friends with teenagers from around the state. This is the second time that Taylor Schad has attended the Iowa State All-State camp, and enjoyed it very much. Her previous camp was in August of 2009 when she was a sophomore.

Please plan on attending the Fall concert here at MStM on Thursday, October 20, at 7:00pm. There is a free-will donation basket, with all proceeds going to support activities in the music department, both band and vocal.

Our younger students in grades 2, 3, and 4 are beginning to prepare music for their concert on November 17<sup>th</sup>. This concert will feature patriotic songs of America and should be very enjoyable!

**From the Desk of Mr. Huegel,**  
**Athletic Director / At-Risk**

Fall weather has arrived, and our fall sports seasons are in full swing. A lot of fun was had during Homecoming, and we celebrated it right with a big district win for the football team. If you have not seen our volleyball or football teams in action yet, you have a few chances left:

October 4<sup>th</sup>, 9/JV/V VB vs. Wayne, 6 pm  
October 7<sup>th</sup>, V FB vs. Van Meter, 7 pm

Both of these events are Senior Night. More information about them is posted on our website, along with activity schedules ([www.mstm.us](http://www.mstm.us)), under the Sports & Activities link. Also, activity passes for families, students and senior citizens

are still available at the HS office. Several reminders as we finish our fall seasons strong, and get prepared for the winter:

**Sportsmanship Reminders**

1. Be Loud!
2. Be Positive!!
3. Cheer **for your team** only... (not at officials, opponents, etc.).

**Upcoming Fine Arts Events**

October 20: JH/HS Band & Choir Concert, HS Gym, 7 pm  
 November 11 & 12: Fall Play, "Homefront", Elementary Gym, 7 pm

**Athletic Training Services**

As you will read below, Sarah Banwarth is our athletic trainer. She is at the HS, usually based in the HS gym, from 3:15 to 4:15 Tuesday after school. She is available to see any 7-12 student with an injury.



Accelerated Rehabilitation Centers is proud to announce Sarah Banwarth as the Athletic Trainer for Martensdale-St.Marys High School! Sarah is a graduate of Iowa State and William Penn Universities and was previously the Athletic Trainer for the Iowa Barnstormers Arena Football team, where she was named Arena Football Athletic Trainer of the Year!

Sarah is available to assist with injury prevention, concussion diagnosis and education, and injury management for all high school athletes, coaches, and staff, as well as, all members of the Martensdale-St.Marys community. She will be in the Athletic Training room or on the field Tuesdays from 3:30pm – 4:30pm. Athletic Training coverage will be provided by Accelerated Rehabilitation Centers for all home football, wrestling, and track events, as well! Feel free to stop in to see Sarah if you ever have a question about your health, an injury, or just to introduce yourself!

Accelerated Rehabilitation Centers looks forward to partnering with Martensdale-St.Marys High School to provide the best possible health care to all of its community members! Please contact Sarah to make an appointment, if you are unable to attend the above times: sbanwarth@acceleratedrehab.com 563.543.3505 – Sarah Banwarth.

**Twitter**

I will be tweeting live from home contests/events at MSTM\_BlueDevils. Of course, we want you at the game, but, this is a great way to stay informed if you cannot make it. I have to close with a sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone who has helped me in the early months of the 2011-

12 school year. The administration, teaching and coaching staff have been great. The parents who have volunteered to assist at home events, either in the concession stand or at the ticket gate, THANK YOU!

I must thank the Booster Club as a group, and its officers individually: Don Hatcher, Wade Gibson, Sandy Kordick, Susan Matlage-Simms, and Lesley Sweet. They do so much to create a better athletic program that most people do not even realize. They are an integral part of why MSTM is a small community, with big accomplishments! If you would like to get involved, please contact a Booster officer or me. Thanks, and let's support the Blue Devils!

With Blue Devil Pride,  
 Craig Huegel, A.D.

**From the Desk of Mr. Folkerts,  
 Guidance Counselor**

| Test Date          | Registration Deadline | (Late Fee Required)               |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| September 10, 2011 | August 12, 2011       | August 13 – 26, 2011              |
| October 22, 2011   | September 16, 2011    | September 17 – September 30, 2011 |
| December 10, 2011  | November 4, 2011      | November 5 – 18, 2011             |
| February 11, 2012  | January 13, 2012      | January 14 – 20, 2012             |
| April 14, 2012     | March 9, 2012         | March 10 – 23, 2012               |
| June 9, 2012       | May 4, 2012           | May 5 – 18, 2012                  |

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

Scholarship information is available on the School Web site under **Guidance Counselor** and in the Counseling office in the Scholarship Blue Book. Talk to the guidance secretary, Mrs. Gegner or the counselor, Mr. Folkerts for more information. They can be reached at 641-764-2486.

**ACT / SAT Prep Materials**

We have purchased some new materials for students to use when prepping for the ACT or SAT exams. Feel free to stop by and check one out. We ask that you only have it checked out no longer than 3 days.

## Senior Timelines

### SEPTEMBER:

1. Register for fall ACT test, if you are planning to go to a four year university in the fall of 2012.
2. Make sure you meet the admissions requirements of the colleges that you are interested in. Change your schedule in the counseling office if you need to take extra courses.
3. Double check college admissions deadlines.
4. Start the process of getting recommendation letters from teachers and/or people who know you.
5. Most early decision and applications are happen between October 1 and November 1.
6. Search for scholarship online and review the scholarship notebook.
7. If planning on playing sports in college, be sure you register ASAP with the NCAA Clearinghouse at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)

### OCTOBER:

1. Make final decisions on possible colleges
2. Complete college applications, paying close attention to early admission deadlines.
3. Request teacher and/or counselor recommendations if needed.
4. Request transcripts from the counseling office as needed.
5. Attend college sponsored campus visit programs.
6. Search for scholarships online and through the scholarship notebook.
7. Be aware of admissions deadlines, housing deadlines, scholarship deadlines, etc..
8. Take ACT or SAT tests. Make sure that the official scores are sent by the testing company to the colleges or universities that have made your final list of schools.
9. Register with the Selective Service if you are a male and 18 years old.

### Junior year Responsibilities:

1. Attend College Night...October 5, 2011 at 6:30pm in the Media Center.
2. Take PSAT/NMSQT on October 12, 2011.
3. Register for Spring SAT/ACT.
4. Take Advance Placement exams (if eligible) in May.
5. Review college options, requirements, and deadlines for admission, housing, financial aid, and scholarships to begin preparing to narrow college choices. Pay close attention to admission deadlines.
6. Visit college campuses of interest, if possible.
7. Register with NCAA Clearinghouse if you plan on being a college athlete for Division I or II schools. Registration can be completed online at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)

## From the Desk of Mrs. Sowder, Yearbook Advisor

### YEARBOOK NEWS:

There are a few extra 2011 yearbooks available for purchase at \$47. Contact Amy Sowder at [amy\\_sowder@mstm.us](mailto:amy_sowder@mstm.us) to purchase one.

Seniors and Parents of Seniors: Schedule your senior portrait session with a professional photographer as soon as possible. All yearbook photos (2 vertical senior portraits and one childhood photo) are due by December 21, 2011. E-mails were sent out the week of September 12 contacting parents about senior ads, photo sessions, and deadlines. If you did not get an e-mail, please contact Amy Sowder at the school.

### TAG NEWS:

TAG plans have been set for the school year now, with 52% of academically gifted students in grades 7-12 enrolled in advanced classes and 32% enrolled in college classes.

Contests offered to talented and gifted students include a variety of music/vocal contests, Josten's Photo, Knowledge Master Open (grades 7-8), Pride of Iowa Academic Bowl (grades 9-12), Visions of Inventiveness, NaNoWriMo, and National History Day.

Sophomore Anthony Rudich, freshman Alex Kim, freshman Connor Dunn, eighth grader Magen Andrasko, and seventh grader Anthony Dahmen will be representing MStM in Pella for National History Day in March 2012. They recently met to go over the contest theme, rules, and project options. The group will meet once a week to conduct research and craft their projects and will be mentored by Amy Sowder and Jodi Noga. Two trips to the Dunn Library at Simpson are planned to enhance research options.

NaNoWriMo is a new contest that some of our gifted youth will try this fall. From November 1 to November 30, sophomore Madison Hall, sophomore Elizabeth Gerdes, freshman Emma Johanson, freshman Emily Murphy, freshman Nicole Shutt, and seventh graders Dakota Gibson and Andrew Niklawski will write a novel of at least 50,000 words. They may not use any material that is already started prior to November 1 but write a brand new story in just 30 days. Once complete, they receive a certificate of accomplishment and are entered in the contest to be judged by literary experts.

The TAG music students will be headed off to a matinee of The Sound of Music at the Des Moines Playhouse this winter. Hopefully, they will have front row seats again, just like they did at Annie two years ago.

And the spring Enrichment Cluster is far off in the distance but much anticipated. Students who signed up to partake will create intricate and historic paper gliders that replicate the oversized counterparts from countries around the world like England and Germany. The group will end up at the city park in April to fly their gliders to see who created the best design.

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT:

Seventh graders in English are currently embedded in their mystery unit by reading aloud a play and now are writing their own TV scripts styled after the class 60's TV series entitled The Twilight Zone by Rod Serling. These young writers have created sleuths who will solve a mystery and then they will act out their scripts on stage later in the month.

Literature Workshop I, a combined 7th and 8th grade reading class, wrapped up the autobiography Soul Surfer during Homecoming Week. Readers are now being offered differentiated instruction with each teacher, Ms. Lund, Mrs. Holloway, and Mrs. Sowder, leading a group of students in various activities from our new software program and the Signature Series reading booklets.

**HAT WEEK  
OCTOBER 10-14**

**PK-12th grade and STAFF  
\$2.00 per week/\$.50 per day  
Pay in the commons daily  
Sponsored by the Yearbook Class**

**From the Desk of Mrs. Davidson,  
Art Instructor**

Our school is a member of Artsonia.com ([www.artsonia.com](http://www.artsonia.com)), the largest online student art museum. Artsonia showcases artwork from thousands of schools around the world. I posted over 1000 pieces of art last year.

In the art room, your students will be creating some beautiful art work that we would like to showcase on Artsonia. This opportunity allows parents and out-of-town relatives to see the work that your student is creating. Artsonia only uses a child's first name to ensure privacy. The program also allows you or family members to purchase merchandise with your child's artwork on it. The proceeds from the program will benefit our art department.

We will continue to use the accounts that we set up previously for the website. I will be sending home permission slips to those students not already enrolled. Please contact me if you need an additional permission slip or if you have any changes in your information. A second parent email can be added to the account. Please contact me if you would like another email address added to your account. The Artsonia website can be accessed from the school website on the Blue Devil Space under Angela Davidson. Please feel free to view Artsonia's website or contact me if you have any questions.

### Art Supply Donations Needed

I am looking forward to another great year in the art room at MStM. I want to thank everyone who has generously given supplies to the art room. We have put the items to good use.

If you have something that you would like to donate to the art room, please feel free to contact me at [angela\\_davidson@m-stm.edu](mailto:angela_davidson@m-stm.edu)

[stmarys.k12.ia.us](http://stmarys.k12.ia.us). The following is my list of things that I would like to collect for art projects this year. Many of the items would be your recycled items or things you have and do not need any longer.

|                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Paper Towel Rolls         | Yarn                  |
| Brown Paper Grocery Sacks | Glitter               |
| Brown paper lunch sacks   | Styrofoam egg cartons |

Calenders with nice photography of landscapes, animals, flowers, etc.

Any craft items such as beads, buttons, ribbon, etc.  
Ceramic wall tile in colors for mosaic projects.

The Des Moines Art Festival's Nurturing Student Vision Exhibit.

Eight Martensdale-St. Marys Students had the honor of exhibiting their artwork at the Des Moines Art Festivals Nurturing Student Vision Exhibit this June. Their work is currently on display at the Des Moines Art Public Library and there will be an end of display reception in August. The Honored Art Students received a membership to the Des Moines Art Festival and a Participation Certificate. Katelyn Amfahr, Angel Castro, Caitlyn Pote, Jena Wenck, Claire Snyder, Laura Lacquement, Bill Frondle and Kate Cook all participated in the exhibit with their art work.

\*\*A special honor was bestowed on Kate Cook, whose painting was chosen to be one of the 5 display posters for the Art Festival Exhibit. Congratulations, Kate! It is on display at the Des Moines Art Center through November. We will acquire the poster for display in the school.\*\*



**From the Desk of Mr. Olson,**  
**Band Department**

The year is off to a great start in the band department. The High School band has been working diligently to perform all new music for the half time shows. This year, our shows consist of more current music including selections from a group named “Green Day” and the “Black Eyed Peas”.

The final field presentation will be October 7. This will include all band students from grades 6-12. This will be our All District Marching Band show. Students will need to be in the music room at 6 pm to be in the bleachers by 6:30 pm. I hope to see you all there!

The Junior High band was featured at Log Cabin Days at Indianola on Saturday, September 24. The group did a marvelous job and we received many compliments for our performance. Thank you to all of the High School students who mentored our Junior High performers that day!

Fifth grade band registration is Tuesday, September 27, at 7 pm in the music room. I am so excited this year to start a new group of fifth graders. They are enthusiastic and ready to begin to master their instruments.

Thank you to all for your support of the Music Department. Music Booster meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm. Please feel free to drop in and keep up to date on all current music events.

**From the Desk of Mrs. Clark,**  
**Vocal Music Department**

This fall, vocal music is everywhere. The High School Chorus recently performed the National Anthem for the Homecoming football game. Junior Taylar Furness and seniors Michaela McIlravy and Tayler Schad have also been singing the National Anthem at other sporting events.

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**From the Desk of Mr. Wood,**  
**Elementary Principal**

**Writing Is a Life Skill**

The three R’s—reading, ‘riting and ‘rithmetic—have not always gotten equal attention in school, but that’s changing. New programs and tests, like the revised writing oriented SAT, stress that children need to know how to express themselves clearly and creatively. While your children will learn *how* to write well in school, the best place for them to practice their skills and develop a love for writing is at home. Here are some ways to make writing part of their home lives, both during the school year and in the summertime:

**Add writing to your list.**

Making time for your children to write is as important as making time for reading.

**Have the tools on hand.**

While it's important to always have school supplies available at home, sometimes all it takes to get children interested in putting pen to paper is letting them choose a fun pen and a special notebook, or giving them their own special time on library or home computer word processing programs.

**Write in front of them.**

Children learn what they experience. Make sure they see you writing—whether it's a letter to a friend, a thank you note, a journal entry, or a letter to the editor. Ask them to add a few lines or even write their own.

**Praise their work.**

Make a big deal of their writing successes. When they've written something creative, fun, or thought-provoking, send copies to their grandparents and put the original on the refrigerator or bulletin board for everyone to admire.

**Make a book.**

If your children enjoy photography, have them collect some favorite pictures and write captions for them, or have them write short stories that tie them together. Help them make title pages (featuring their name in big letters as the authors), add a few staples, and they've made a book.

**E-mails are OK; IMs aren't really writing.**

This technologically-savvy generation writes more than ever, thanks to computer instant messages (IMs) and e-mails. In fact, the accepted use of symbols and lack of proper grammar may not help children's efforts at creative writing. While IMs are quick and fun, they do nothing to help children become better writers. E-mails are better because they allow time and space for children to express themselves. Encourage them to send e-mails to you or to other relatives.

**Pay attention to song lyrics.**

If your children enjoy music, look up the lyrics of their favorite songs. Talk about what the songwriter was saying, and encourage them to try writing their own lyrics about things that are meaningful to them.

**Use the Web.**

Google sites geared towards children that offer games and writing activities.

Another suggestion is that when you're reading a story or watching a movie together, pause and ask your child a "what if" question— *i.e.*, "What if the Mom came home while the Cat in the Hat was still in the house? Tell me everything you think would happen then." Then ask your child to write about it.

Writing is much more than a school subject; it's an essential life skill. People who know how to clearly express their opinions, ideas, creativity, and knowledge have a real edge. With your help, your children will be among them.

*From the Desk of Mrs. Pribil,*  
**Counselor's Corner**



We have had a great start to the school year! Homecoming Week was a lot of fun for the kids and it was neat to see them participate in the dress-up days. We have a couple of things coming up in October to keep in mind. Our first Character Counts assembly will be held on Friday, October 7 at 8:40 in the small gym. One student from each classroom will be recognized for demonstrating the character counts pillar Trustworthiness. Red Ribbon Week is October 24-28. I will be doing drug-awareness activities with each class and we will have dress-up days. Each child will receive a red ribbon and they are encouraged to wear it every day that week.

I am in the process of starting small group counseling sessions for students in grades PK-6. I am looking for kids who could benefit from a friendship, anger management, or school success group. If you would like your child to be a part of a small group, please call or email me at [jen\\_pribil@mstm.us](mailto:jen_pribil@mstm.us) or let their teacher know.

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**  
**AUGUST 8, 2011**

The Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District met in regular session, pursuant to law, on August 8, 2011.

Members Present: President, Nicole Bunch; Vice President, Dave Shutt, Scott Anderson, Wade Gibson, and Amy Harper; together with Superintendent Bob Newsum and Business Manager Jill Gavin.

Members Absent: None

I. Welcome Board President

Bunch called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. and welcomed all guests.

II. Consent Items

- A. Approval of Minutes Board President
- B. Approval of Agenda Board President
- C. Approval of Bills and Secretary's Report Board President
- D. Approval of Hot Lunch and Activity Reports Board President

Shutt motioned to approve the consent items, seconded by Gibson. Roll call: 5 ayes.

III. Celebrations

Mr. Wood announced that numbers for preschool are increasing and it is possible that we could have up to 54 for Kindergarten. This is a great problem to have. Mr. Crozier reviewed with the Board the softball and baseball season. The softball team finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the State Tournament with a final record of 38-1. The baseball season ended with a back to back State Championship and a winning streak of 87-0. Congratulations on a great season!! Mr. Crozier will have final end-of-the-season conference winners for the September meeting.

IV. Public Comments - None

V. Old Business

A. Presentations

1) Principal's Report Tom Wood

Mr. Wood reviewed the Special Education Service Delivery Plan and the members on the committee responsible for reviewing the plan. A list of questions will also be reviewed and addressed by the committee. This is a new business item for tonight's meeting. Mr. Wood also reviewed the 2011 Title I documents that included the Parent Involvement Policy and the Title I Student-Parent-Teacher Compact.

2) Principal's Report Mike Crozier

Mr. Crozier introduced the new staff members for 2011-2012. Adam Hansen will be our new Math teacher, Marcy Roff will be our new Science teacher, Beth Lund will be the new English/LA teacher and Craig Huegel will be our new At-Risk/Activities Director. Mr. Huegel was in attendance at the board meeting and was introduced by Mr. Crozier. Mr. Crozier announced that approximately 40 players for the football program and about 34 players for the volleyball program. Mr. Crozier discussed the opportunity to share cross country with Winterset.

3) Curriculum Director's Report Josh Moser

Mr. Moser provided to the Board the draft of the 2011-2012 pre-service calendar. August 18<sup>th</sup> will be new teacher orientation. The teachers will return on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Moser discussed the curriculum alignment processes and the textbook purchases. He also provided notes from his attendance at the Iowa Education Summit July 26-27. More information from the Iowa Education Summit can be found on twitter and the Iowa Education Summit website.

4) Superintendent's Report Supt. Newsum

Mr. Newsum announced that the summer quarterly newsletter is complete and will be mailed out to all box holders later this week. He shared a copy with the Board members. Highlighted in the newsletter

are an alumni spotlight and a sports calendar for football and volleyball. He announced that we have two districts for the School Board Election on September 13. Nicole Bunch will be running again for District 5 and Dean Furness will be running for District 3. Mr. Newsum requested the Board members to bring their calendars to the September board meeting to set workshop dates to revisit district goals.

VI. New Business

A. Discuss/Approve Shared Transportation Agreement with I-35 Supt. Newsum

Mr. Newsum discussed that we had a sharing agreement with I-35 for transporting one of our special needs student to and from a special program in Woodward. The one-on-one paraeducator for this student will not be returning for the upcoming school year. Mrs. Gavin provided numbers of hiring someone in our district to drive a school van and also provided costs for hiring a one-on-one paraeducator to ride with this student, but did not consider the costs of fuel and mileage on the vehicle. The Board compared the costs and did not see much of a savings. Gibson motioned to keep the sharing agreement with I-35, seconded by Shutt. Roll Call: Ayes – Gibson, Harper, Shutt, Bunn. Abstained – Anderson.

B. Approve Personnel Recommendation Supt. Newsum

The district is in need of hiring a full-time and part-time custodian for the new school year to replace positions that have been left vacant. Shutt motioned to approve Jeff Clark as full-time custodian and David Danielson as part-time custodian, seconded by Anderson. Roll Call: 5 Ayes.

The Board tabled the recommendation at the July Board meeting for approving a volunteer football coach and requested more background information. Mrs. Gavin informed the Board that the coach's background check came back good and his family has moved into our district. Based on the number of football players participating in the program this year and the Master Contract, it was recommended that the program be allowed another paid assistant coach. Harper motioned to approve Chris Reindel as a paid assistant for the 2011-2012 football season, seconded by Shutt. Roll Call: 5 Ayes.

C. Discuss/Approve Open Enrollment Supt. Newsum

Mr. Newsum informed the Board that we received an informal request that the Board consider a late open enrollment request to allow her daughter to attend I-35. This open enrollment request is similar to a previous request at the July Board meeting where the

Board denied that request as well. Mr. Newsum recommended denying the request and notify the parent that if her daughter wants to attend classes at I-35, the family would be responsible for paying the tuition. Anderson motioned to deny the open enrollment request, seconded by Shutt. Roll Call: 5 Ayes.

D. Approve Senior Citizen Admission

Supt. Newsum

Mr. Newsum was asked about the possibility of offering a senior citizen pass to allow free admission for district patrons of age 60 and older to attend MStM home events. It was suggested to offer free admission for home and visitor patrons. It was commented that the district would lose a lot of income from the other teams but agreed to provide the free admission to district patrons. It was mentioned that there was no written policy. It was asked of Mr. Crozier to ask what other districts do for their senior citizens. Anderson motioned to allow free admission for district patrons of age 60 and older, seconded by Shutt. Roll Call: 5 Ayes.

E. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Policy Series 200

Supt. Newsum

Mr. Newsum led the Board through the Series 200 policies regarding the *Organization of the Board of Directors*. The second reading will be held in September.

F. Approve Title I Documents 2011-2012 School Year

Supt. Newsum

Shutt motioned to approve the Title I documents that include the Parent Involvement Policy and the Title I Student-Parent-Teacher Compact, seconded by Anderson. Roll Call: 5 Ayes.

G. Approve Special Education Service Delivery Plan

Supt. Newsum

Anderson motioned to approve the Special Education Service Delivery Plan for 2011-2012, the committee who will be responsible for reviewing the plan and the questions that will be addressed and reviewed by the committee, seconded by Gibson. Roll Call: 5 Ayes.

H. Discuss/Approve Sharing Agreement for Building Trades & Engineering

Supt. Newsum

Mr. Newsum informed the Board that because of our scheduling conflicts with required single section courses, MStM students have not been able to participate in the cooperative vocational educational program offered at Winterset High School. An informal agreement has been made with Winterset that for any student who is interested in enrolling in a

vocational program, but unable to do so, our students would be allowed to enroll at the equivalent course at Winterset. Gibson motioned to approve the sharing agreement for Building Trades and Engineering with Winterset, seconded by Shutt. Roll Call: 5 Ayes.

I. Confirm – Next Meeting Dates

Supt. Newsum

09/14/11 – Agenda subcommittee by e-mail  
09/15/11 – Agenda Meeting  
09/19/10 – 6:30 p.m. Board Meeting

The Facilities Committee informed the Board that they approved the grading and tube necessary to increase the parking lot at the athletic complex. The road behind the school is now finished and signs will be put up to inform students and the public that it is an exit only road. Additional signs at the athletic complex will be put up for hours of operation. The Transportation Committee has approved for the district to purchase a new truck for Jim Lynch and the Maintenance Department. Lynch has been currently using his personal vehicle for work and the committee has been concerned about the liability that this has over the district.

VII. Adjournment

Harper motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Anderson. Roll Call: 5 Ayes. Time: 7:50 p.m.

It is the policy of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices.

There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the district's Equity Coordinator.

MStM's Equity Coordinator is Mike Crozier, secondary principal. His address is MStM Community School, 390 Burlington, Martensdale, Iowa 50160. His phone number is 641-764-2686 and his email address is: [mike\\_crozier@mstm.us](mailto:mike_crozier@mstm.us)

*The Martensdale-St.Marys District Newsletter is published by the end of the preceding month.*

*The newsletter is available for pickup in the Superintendent's office and the Jiffy station, both are located in Martensdale.*

*You may also view it on the <http://www.mstm.us> website. Questions or concerns may be addressed to:*

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