

Our Path to First Choice No.12
2018/19

Everyone,

We are at the end of October, and the beginning of November. There's a nip in the air, and the Pilgrims are coming. Enjoy the rest of your week.

Our Path Topic

This week, as a change of pace, we will look at something going on in the district other than the Action Teams. One big initiative that is important to be aware of is WASD's look at redistricting its elementary school attendance zones.

Last year, the WASD School Board directed the administration to start exploring the balancing of elementary school attendance areas. The areas have been in place for some time, but have experienced some variations and exceptions due to many factors.

The district is exploring possible changes due to overflow of students in particular schools and grade levels. All the elementary schools are operating at a particular capacity. Hooverville and Fairview are in the high 80s%, Summitview is about 95%, and Mowrey about 65% capacity. With that in mind, balancing out our buildings is important. In addition, we know that our students who shuttle, transfer, etc. each day to and from school are exposed to possible transportation issues. Balancing and finding locations for students and specific classes cause the imbalance.

With all these issues in mind, WASD is looking at redefining, or redistricting, elementary school attendance zones. This would mean that some students will change schools, including some that only have a year or two left before going to the middle school. The Board may ask to grandfather or delay changes of students so they can finish out in a particular school. However, that may depend on different factors. This plan's purpose is to improve safety, clarity for understanding where students would attend elementary school, efficiency, and cost savings.

This process will take some time. The target date for redistricting is 2020/21 school year so students up to 4th grade may be impacted. Nevertheless, the Board may or may not approve the plan to move forward. Stay tuned for more information over the next few months. It is critical we all understand what is going on with the proposal for redistricting elementary school attendance zones.

Board Information and Policy Updates

- Attached are: **None this week.**
- The Board's next meeting is November 13 at 7 PM in the WASHS Auditorium.

***Important to Know**

- November 21st is an early dismissal for students. It will also be an early dismissal for staff. All staff may leave after students are gone and your duties are complete.
- WASHS Football Team has made the playoffs, and will be hosting the game. Your complimentary ticket cards will not be honored during the playoffs. Gold cards and other complimentary tickets are not accepted at playoff games.

Attached is our Employee Assistance Program Brochure. Please use this service. It is free, and very worthwhile.

Attached is November's Dollars & Common Sense.

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Piece of the Puzzle

This week's Piece of the Puzzle is Vicki Collum. Vicki will be retiring this month after 30 years of service to the WASD. Vicki has worked at Summitview, WASHS, and Fairview. In addition to the many responsibilities in her day to day job she has always found time to serve her community as well. She is a former member of Borough Council, a volunteer fire fighter, EMT, voluntary car seat inspector, juvenile fire counselor, and member of the Renfrew board of directors. She served as president of the support staff association for a number of years and served on the district safety committee just to name a few. Vicki has touched many lives in WASD and will be missed greatly. We will try hard to find a match but will never be able to replace her Piece of the Puzzle. We all wish her well with her retirement and hope to see her out and about with her three grandchildren. Congratulations, Vicki!

*Review for You

Why is WASD's Action Team trying to improve audit findings?

Events

- November 12th—No school for students. Professional Development for staff.
- November 21st is an early dismissal day. All staff may leave after the students have gone and one's duties are completed. No school November 22-27 (27th is a possible snow make-up day).

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*Review Answer (Important to Know)

WASD's Action Team is trying to improve audit findings in finance, safety, certification and other areas to demonstrate our commitment to excellence. It is also a way to build trust with our staff and community. Without findings, it shows that we are doing things as appropriately as expected by the State and the community. It is also a sign of quality.

Final Thoughts

- *Quality is not an act, it is a habit.*—Aristotle
- *"Quality"...is everyone's responsibility.*—W. Edward Deming
- *Be a yardstick of quality. Some people aren't used to an environment where excellence is expected.*—Steve Jobs
- *It's quality rather than quantity that matters.*—Lucius Annaeus Seneca
- *"Quality" is the most significant paradigm of this century.*—Stephen Covey
- *Quality is doing it right when no one is looking.*—Henry Ford
- *We are committed to making changes to our business that will restore the public's trust, enhance the quality and independence of our audit practice, and allow all of our practices to thrive.*—Patrick Dorton
- *Quality is never an accident: it is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent direction and skillful execution, It represents the wise choice of many alternatives.*—William A. Foster
- *I do not know much about Quality, but I am sure of one thing, if Quality is good, customers come back, else products come back.*—Margaret Thatcher

Have a great rest of the week!

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