December 1, 2017

Dear DCS Parents,

November was a busy month at DCS. Earlier in the month, we sold the bonds that voters approved in August.

- When we prepared our bond proposal, the Department of Treasury application included financial analysis alongside the construction plans, including conservative interest assumptions. These financial assumptions guided the ballot language. Dexter voters approved the bond proposal in August, 2018 and the first bond sale happened in November. Based on the actual bond sale results, we’re happy to share that we were able to save Dexter taxpayers $54 million in interest payments through the bond sale!!! This doesn’t give us more money to work on projects, but reduces the actual amount of tax dollars needed to pay off the bond proposal.

- Earlier in November, the Board approved the initial bid packages for construction of the new elementary school. If you’ve driven on Dan Hoey lately, you’ve seen the work on the new elementary has begun. We’re still targeting completion a year from now. Work on new fields will likely begin later this winter. At the end of this letter are several groundbreaking photos that include board members, students, administrators, and families. You’ll also see an aerial photo of all Bates and Cornerstone students at the construction site.

- Several weeks ago, a team from DCS was asked to present at the State Board of Education meeting regarding personalized learning pilot programs within the district. Our student representative, Alex, was the highlight of the entire presentation. Alex clearly articulated his learning experiences with the State Board, fielded their questions, and represented our incredible DCS students well.

- Many of our buildings and classrooms are fairly active on twitter. Here’s a quick summary of some of the happenings around DCS in the month of November: https://storify.com/TimmisChris/november-at-dcs

- In January, the Community Education and Athletic Departments are hosting presentations on the evening of Thursday, January 18th and the evening of Sunday, January 21st. Each presentation is a one-hour session facilitated by an outside expert in the field. Two of the topics will be held on Thursday, January 18th and one of Sunday, January 21st. We’ll send more details over the next few weeks. The topics we’re planning on are:
  - Raising a Confident Athlete
  - The Role of Parents in Athletics
  - The Myths and Realities of Specialization

Thank you for your continued support and Go Dreads!

Sincerely,

Christopher Timmis, Ed.D.
Superintendent