



Superintendent's Report

To: Board Members

From: Dr. Leah M. Christman

Date: September 28, 2015

- John McDonald, has been selected for the Middle School TEEAP/ITEEA Teacher of the Year Award. "The Teacher Excellence Award is one of the highest honors given to Technology and Engineering Education classroom teachers on the elementary, middle, and high school levels. It is presented in recognition of outstanding contributions to the profession and to students. Candidates for the Teacher Excellence Award must be characterized as providing technology and engineering education instruction of high quality, learner centered and relevant to a study of technological literacy. The Teacher Excellence Award provides public recognition on a local and state level through TEEAP (Technology & Engineering Education Association of Pennsylvania) and is presented at the Annual TEEAP Conference. In addition, the recipients name and application materials are forwarded to ITEEA (International Technology and Engineering Educators Association). The honoree is then also formally presented with an engraved plaque and other recognition at ITEEA's Annual National Conference."
- Congratulations to Mrs. McGinniss, our Health and Wellness Teacher, and the Southern Lehigh Middle School H.P.E.D. program for being recognized by Penn State Hershey Pro Wellness Center as a "Health Champion" program.
- The district has been tracking energy usage through the EPA's Energy Star program at some level since 2008. Committed tracking began in 2012-2013. Hopewell was the only building that could be energy star certified when tracking began. Today, every building with the exception of the IS meets Energy Star Standards and can be certified as an Energy Star Building. A rating of 75 is required for official recognition. While we have not taken steps to receive official recognition at this point, efforts are being share only to substantiate the CEI program.

Our Energy Star Ratings

- Liberty Bell's rating improved from 62 to **78**
- Middle School's rating improved from 68 to **82**
- High School's rating improved from 66 to **77**
- Hopewell's rating declined from 84 to **76** (open doors during outside activities seemed to be primary reason)
- Lower Milford's rating improved from 62 to **78**

Not making the Energy Star Certifications list is

- Intermediate School's rating improved from 52 to **65** (We are still working on this one. The building was designed with comfort driving design – windows, dehumidification)

- On September 17, representatives from the Partnership for 21st Century Learning, Washington DC, conducted a site-visit at the high school to evaluate our school for exemplar program status.. The team talked with administrators, visited classes throughout the day, and met with a panel of teachers, parents, and community partners. The [21st Century Learning Exemplar Program](#) highlights best practices in schools and districts across the country that are preparing students for college, career and citizenship by embedding critical 21st century competencies into the learning environment. There are currently 40 schools throughout the nation with this designation and only two others in Pennsylvania. (One charter school, and one private school) Criteria for selection includes:

1. Evidence of commitment to college, career, and life readiness
2. Educational support systems and sustainable design
3. Engaged learning approaches
4. Equitable student access to 21st century learning
5. Evidence of student acquisition of 21st century knowledge and skills
6. Partnerships for sustainable success

P21 and its partners use [this rubric](#) to guide the evaluation of schools for exemplar status during onsite visits. The rubric, which was developed in consultation with external advisers and evaluation design experts, provides a framework for considering the extent to which schools demonstrate successful implementation of key areas of the P21 Framework and the factors that may support that success. We will be notified in January or February of the results.

- Congratulations to the HS Newspaper – *the Spotlight* received **first-class** rating by the National Scholastic Press Association for the 2014-15 print volume, AND the second consecutive **gold** rating awarded to it by the PA School Press Association!
- Reminder- We are still in need of HOST FAMILIES for an overnight stay by the performers and tickets are still available for COLORFUL CHINA on October 7, 2015 from 7PM to 8:30PM for an exciting evening of ethnic Chinese dance and culture as we welcome the troupe of 28 visiting performers from China. This event is sponsored by World Artists Experience. Information is available on our Facebook page and website. Please contact Diana Millman for hosting our guests. (millmand@sbsd.org)

Colorful China will feature over twenty performers, including dancers, singers and instrumentalists from many of the fifty-six ethnic groups of China. Costumes of bright colors, unique and sophisticated styles, and deep cultural meanings will be vividly exhibited. Dances and music will exhibit the highly detailed beauty of each ethnic group. The program is derived from extensive research of the ethnic groups of China by the Chinese National Museum of Ethnology. The group has performed in major venues throughout Asia, Australia, Europe and the United States. Audiences leave with a better understanding and appreciation of China's deep heritage, large land, many ethnic groups, and diversified country.