

Prepared Notes for Board Meeting

June 9, 2014

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The last month of the school year is a time to celebrate accomplishments, plan for next year and open our buildings to numerous events. School Board Members get invited to lots of things and it's easy to forget that for each event one attends, tons of work had to go into the logistics of the event to make sure it all goes off without a hitch.

Since last we met, I attended the Senior Night recognition at Worthington Kilbourne along with hundreds of other people and listened with awe at the athletic and academic accomplishments of dozens of seniors.

Along with Dr. Tucker and Jennifer Best, I attended and participated in judging the Penny Harvest projects down at Vets Memorial and listened to teams from Wilson Hill, Evening Street and Brookside. They all took different approaches to figuring out how to raise and disburse money and which causes to support, but most interviewed representatives from charities, created videos or powerpoints and let students across the entire school vote. The kids at Evening Street were careful to make sure that all of the contribution went to the cause, showing little toleration for administration. The kids at Wilson Hill made the point of prioritizing people over animals in their selection process. Kudos to WSD resident Bill Grindle, who started "See Kids Dream" locally and watched it grow in a few short years to something pretty special.

I visited with several WKHS students during the Senior Project Display day. These were like mini-walkabouts and the displays painted a compelling picture of students actively engaged in their learning. Every one of them described an experience that was far more meaningful than sitting in the classroom for the last few months of the year would have been.

Speaking of walkabouts, thanks to Chris Hasbrouck for the annual invitation to Walkabout day at Linworth. This year, I listened to a student who discovered a latent talent for the Java programming language, another student who discovered she absolutely hates office work and a third student who got to take care of the Ben Franklin house in London.

Finally, the highlight of the year is graduation day and both schools did a stellar job, as did President Keegan with her speech and Dr. Tucker with his. I can't even imagine the work and coordination that goes into these events and from an outsiders perspective, they always seem to go so smoothly that it is amazing.

Finally, I attended what was supposed to be the final meeting of the district's technology committee and got an early glimpse of the long awaited tech plan which I assume will be along any day now and I'm sure we're all looking forward to that.