



To: Board of Education
From: Lisa Nickel
Re: February Board Report
Date: 2/3/25

Special Education:

- The paraprofessionals have professional development Monday, February 10th along with the teaching staff. Topics included: working with children on the autism spectrum and challenging behaviors (led by our WISD teacher consultant Christina West), using AI to support students with disabilities (led by Michelle Hilla and someone from [Michigan Virtual](#)), using assistive technology for communication (led by Ashley Robinson from the WISD), addressing executive functioning skills in students with disabilities (led by Dr. Becky Thomson from [Thriving Minds](#)), and of course a bit of social emotional learning with Marie Larson. We will use feedback tickets to gather information for planning purposes for professional development for the April PD day.
- We will celebrate our **amazing paraprofessionals** February 10th-14th with each building doing something special each day of that week for this dedicated crew! We will kick off the week with principles providing lunch for the professional development day and Tuesday they will receive a small gift from me. This dedicated team deserves kudos for the hard work they do each day!
- A team of us will attend the K/Y5 information night at North Creek to ensure that all of our families will have support for this entrance to North Creek event. The preschool team will be identifying children that we think could benefit from added support and letting families know so that every child can meet success on their first experience at North Creek.

Early Childhood:

- We will have our annual Preschool Carnival Saturday, February 9th. This is our biggest fundraiser and the proceeds allow us to bring things to preschool that enhance learning such as Mother Goose Story time and Animal Ark Encounter where live animals visit the classroom. The carnival will feature fun games such as a book walk and a penny dig as well as a silent auction. All are welcome!
- We will host our annual spring Open House Thursday, February 27th for families to come check out our Early Childhood offerings. This event will kick off our fall enrollment process. Current families do have the opportunity to register prior to this as a loyalty reward for selecting us for their child's early learning experience.



CHELSEA
SCHOOL DISTRICT

SPECIAL EDUCATION

500 Washington Street
Chelsea, MI 48118
P: 734.433.2208
F: 734.433.2218
www.chelsea.k12.mi.us

Misc.:

- On February 20th, Marcus Kaemming, Matt Cunningham and I will be attending Thrun Law Firm's Comprehensive Title IX training based on the 2020 regulations.

Upcoming events:

February 8th, 10:30-12 - Preschool Carnival and silent auction

February 25th, 4:30-6:00 p.m. - K/Y5 family information night

February 27th, 5:30-6:30 p.m. - Preschool Open House

Respectfully,

Lisa Nickel, Director of Special Education and Early Childhood
Chelsea School District