



To: Board of Education
From: Sarah Bentley
RE: Board Report
Date: January 21, 2026

Community Engagement

- **Community Connections** – Winter programming was launched and courses have started. Super Saturdays are getting finalized to be released with additions of cheerleading and chess to its course offerings.
- **Arts Collaborative Advisory Board** - The advisory board came back from the winter break to tour spaces together on district grounds to collaborate on course offerings and usable spaces. Their next step is creating a name, firm plans, and lists of materials needed for each initiative to thrive.
- **Social Media Initiatives**- We have created a “Community Rec & Ed Corner” one-pager to go in weekly newsletters from each school in the district to highlight upcoming programming to get more eyes on the catalog.

Preschool and After Care

- **Preschool:** Preschool students continue to be actively engaged in hands-on, experiential learning. We have welcomed monthly visits from the local library for story time, fostering early literacy and a love of reading. Ms. Larson has joined us for social-emotional learning lessons, helping children identify and understand the signals their bodies send, such as hunger or feelings of sadness. In Spanish class with Ms. Nati, students are learning the names of body parts in Spanish, supporting early language development. We are also preparing for our upcoming Preschool Carnival and Silent Auction on February 7 at 10:30 a.m., which is open to preschool families and the greater Chelsea community.
- **Aftercare:** Aftercare has remained busy and engaging through our continued partnership with the local YMCA. Each week, children participate in a variety of sports, games, and physical activities led by YMCA staff. The aftercare program has also embraced themed activity days, including Plunger Day, Dragon Day, and Silly Sock Day, which promote creativity and community building. Students are especially excited for the upcoming “Alien Invasion” themed activities, adding to the fun and positive energy of the program.

Community Education

- **Adult Education & Enrichment** – New course offerings this winter include multiple ceramics classes due to high demand, yoga that is offered in person or virtual, and the return of cardio drumming.

- **Youth Programming** - We are extremely excited to help launch LeadHer, a sports program dedicated to raising the next generation of strong female athletes. Coached by Claire Taylor, a University of Michigan Field Hockey Alumni, this camp will focus on leadership skills through field hockey and lacrosse.
- **Facility Use** – An updated facility use guide has been going through final edits. This guide will include updated pricing, thorough explanations on how to create facility requests, and more streamlined approaches to the process.