

**MISD Board Communicator**  
**October 21, 2014**

***Manistee ISD will provide services that will improve teaching and learning.***

I will continue to discuss it all year, but I think that we are really making a difference with our arrangement of having Kay Salyer in the buildings. Not only is she seeing the positives that happen in our districts' classrooms, she is seeing some of the negative things that principals and school improvement leaders are dealing with in their buildings. However, she is strong and I see her "winning" these battles. Some of the staff members that she deals with may continue to be negative, but if they are doing what she tells them, their students should see improvement.

***Manistee ISD will provide services to assist local districts to comply with local, state and federal mandates.***

Dave Ladd, our NMSLA Lobbyist, was at WMISD on Oct. 13 and these are the items that he discussed:

**Election Update Predictions** - Per "Margin of Error" categories, he believes that Snyder, Peters, Schuette, and Johnson are all safe in their elections and that the Chambers will remain controlled by the Republicans.

**Lame Duck Predictions** – There are three main topics that will be addressed in Lame Duck: 1) Road Funding; 2) Term Limits – ballot proposal that will allow future legislators to get "x" signatures to be on the ballot for a third term; and 3) Civil Right Act changes to add "Sexual Orientation". He says that this impacts education because we aren't on the radar which can be both a good and bad thing.

**Teacher Evaluation** – Dave sat down with Sen. Pavlov to find out why he is fighting this issue. You may remember his name because he is also the Senator who has been fighting curriculum changes to allow more students to attend vocational programs. Anyway, he is in a contested race and he needs to carry Port Huron. Port Huron piloted the "Danielson" model of Teacher Evaluation and said that it was a "disaster"; to get votes, he needs to take a stand against this topic. This situation bothers me, not only because it is being "kicked down the road", but we want/need these answers to help our local districts.

**Sinking Fund Expansion/Early Warning/EAA** – Not very important items compared to the others, so nothing will probably happen with these items until next term.

**Detroit Public Schools** – Dave says that there is momentum to move DPS back to the Mayor of Detroit. Mayor Duggan is perceived to be a "Miracle Worker" and he has been a team player with the Governor's office through the bankruptcy bit. The problem is that he may be allowed to turn DPS into a "Charter School" and this will ultimately affect the MSPERS rate if not the entire MSPERS system.

***Manistee ISD will provide services to improve the quality, enhance efficiency, and foster cooperation and collaboration in our Educational service area.***

As you know, we were part of a 3 ISD consortium that received the Consolidation of Services grant of \$760,000. The Business Managers, Supts. and Techies of MISD, WMISD, and West Shore ESD are meeting on Oct. 14 to create a Business Model that works as we explore the concept of a Tech Co-op that would include all 3 ISDs. All of us have Co-ops working right now, but there are a lot of nuances within our ISDs, so we need to get things “ironed out” before putting the plan into action.

As always, feel free to call or email me with any questions or concerns. Jeff  
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