

# Blazer Bulletin

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**MISSION** - Developing productive and civic minded lifelong learners.

**VISION** - Kalkaska Public Schools will be a model of excellence in education and a source of community pride.

Greetings members of our Blazer Nation! It has now been nearly 120 days for me as the district's leader. The essence of being and feeling very welcomed has not changed. Your desire to warmly accept new folks into your school community is very special. THANK YOU to all I have met for embracing me as you have as Superintendent. The entire KPS team - across the board - endeavors to provide our children and families the best educational services possible.

**NEW DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS SERVICES**- The person who guides and counsels a district's superintendent on all matters of business and finances is more critically important than ever. We said goodbye recently to Mrs. Nadia Hoover. She accepted a new position with our local intermediate school district. We have now welcomed to this position Mr. Jeff Scroggins. Jeff has been in charge of a similar position with Elk Rapids Schools for the past sixteen (16) years. He has fit in very nicely with our team. Welcome to KPS Mr. Jeff Scroggins!

**NOVEMBER BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**- Our once-monthly Board of Education meeting will take a little different twist. In an effort to be "dazzled" by one of our performing groups, we are going to meet at a different location. Please note that on Monday, November 12th @ 7:00 p.m. we will hold our regular meeting in the Kalkaska High School auditorium. In addition to our regular business the meeting will start with the KHS Jazz band playing a few tunes for us. Come join if you would like to!

**PINK OUT EVENT**- Being new to a district that does an annual event like what took place on Monday, October 23rd, I just want to report how utterly and thoroughly impressed it was - and I was! To be part of a community - that on ONE evening - raised \$11,240.75 for the sake of the former KPS student by the name of Scott Patterson I found to be tremendously heartwarming. Can you believe that folks? That was not a typing error! On one night of watching our finest female and male athletes in the district partake in friendly competition while also auctioning off silently and out loud a number of items the good-good people of Kalkaska raised that kind of financial support for young Mr. Patterson. I cannot express to you in words how good it feels to be in this giving and loving community right now. I am SO PROUD to be a Blazer!!

**STRATEGIC PLANNING**- The school district developed this past year a Strategic Plan. This work serves as a template for growth and student success for the next five years. As recent as October 15th most of the original planning group for with initiative came together. The objective was to review the process and continue working on objectives for the next year. THANK YOU to all who make up this ongoing group! If you have desire to join us for a meeting simply call Central Office and my assistant Cari Jo Berlin will let you know when the next meeting will be.

**TOWNSHIP TOURS**- It has been such a pleasure having officials and membership from the various townships that make up our school district touring our buildings. A special thanks to transportation director Eric Stowers for leading these groups and to all building principals for taking their precious time to meet and greet these folks. **If you desire to tour our district, please note that there is one more evening touring event scheduled for Tuesday, October 30th. The tour will begin at 6:00 p.m. at our Central Office location (315 S. Coral St.) and will involve Cherry Street, Birch Street, Kalkaska High School and Kalkaska Middle School. Simply call our office at (231) 258-9109 to get your seat on the bus reserved.**

Thank you for your attention to this update. Please know we at Kalkaska Public Schools aim to "Keep Blazing a Trail to Excellence!"

Terry J. Starr, Superintendent