

Superintendents Report September 2017

The school year is moving quickly. In fact, interim grades for the first nine week grading period will be posted next Friday and Lunch with the Superintendent for the seniors has begun. The state released the district report card last week. Leetonia continues to have many highlights on the report card, but we also know this does not tell the whole story about what is going on in the district on a daily basis. Last year board member Larry Duko wrote an outstanding guest column in the Salem News about the inherent problems with state testing including yearly changes in the testing as well as the validity of a score based on a one day performance.

With the recent report card released for the 2016-2017 school year, please be reassured that the administration and staff continues to review the test data and use the vast amount of released information to increase student achievement. According to the state's report card, 80% of the students must be proficient for a school district to obtain any of the 24 academic indicators. That percentage number increased from the 2015-2016 school report card. Smaller schools such as Leetonia and Wellsville who have approximately 50 students per class know that each student's assessment results are a significant percentage for the proficiency-based academic indicator measure. Although the proficiency-based measure may be a small percentage of the school report card, the performance index (PI) and Value Added (progress and growth) scores are significant for Leetonia and Wellsville in showing how our students are progressing in the classroom. In fact, our elementary building will receive the Momentum Award from the Executive Committee of the Northeast Region of the Ohio School Boards Association on Wednesday, October 4, 2017. This award is for exceeding expectations of student growth by earning A's on all Value-Added measures on the state report card. Our staff does an excellent job with monitoring student growth, increasing student achievement and being a positive influence in the lives of the students in the Leetonia Schools. We want to thank the staff for what they do each day for our students, school district and our community, it is greatly appreciated!!

The Tax Incentive Review Council met last month and the agreement with Pennex Aluminum from August 8, 2014 was discussed. This was a 15 year agreement with a 100% abatement for Pennex Aluminum. Pennex pledged to create 65 new permanent full-time jobs, with a new payroll amount of \$2.3 million. They also pledged a \$10,000,000 investment in real estate improvement. As of December 31, 2016, Pennex indicated 78 new permanent full-time jobs had been created with an annual payroll of

\$3.0 million. Pennex also indicated an \$11,000,000 investment in real estate for the project.

Alexis Carrig from the Nutrition Group is with us tonight to discuss the district's compliance with the nutrition standards as well as the types of food and beverages available for sale on our school premises.