

# **Elementary School Board Report**

December 13 – January 3

## **Events**

December 15<sup>th</sup>. Ten teachers, Mrs. Boeke, Mr. Lee, and I received training in the classroom walkthrough process. The training was meaningful and well received. I see this process as a potentially powerful way to renew awareness and increase implementation of best instructional practices.

December 19<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Kris Prenger visited several of our classrooms to present information about the culture and customs of people who live in Bangladesh. She has been working in this culture for several years, and had a wealth of information to share. Her presentation was engaging and interactive, and our students gained much information from a direct source. We appreciate Dr. Prenger's willingness to spend her day with our elementary students.

## **Special Education**

The Ohio Department of Education monitors local education agencies on a rotational basis to ensure that correct procedures are being used in identifying and serving students with special needs. Minster has not yet been monitored, but we expect our turn to come within the next two to three years. At this point, we are taking advantage of lessons learned by a neighboring district in the process of correcting compliance concerns. Based on this information, the board should anticipate two items for the February board meeting:

1. You will be asked to adopt changes in the requirements for when Prior Written Notice is given to parents. This change is based on Revisions in Procedures and Guidance for Ohio's Educational Agencies Serving Children with Disabilities (October 2011). We have been implementing this change since October, but it is a requirement that the school board adopt it. Prior written notice informs parents of action proposed or refused by the school district.
2. Parents must be allowed input at a public meeting regarding how federal funds received under IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) are spent. Due to this requirement, Mrs. Boeke will be requesting that a brief public meeting be held prior to the February school board meeting for this purpose. At this meeting, Mrs. Klosterman will give a brief overview of our funding sources and expenditures for special education, and we will give parents the opportunity to ask questions and/or provide input. We will send an invitation to parents of students with disabilities, so they are aware of the meeting date and time.