Principal’s Report
to the
School Board

The month of November may have been gray and dreary outside but inside Lafayette Regional School, the proverbial lights were burning brightly! Teachers were working hard in designing creative and engaging lesson plans and students were very busy in trying to meet the high expectations of that planning. The Common Core State Standards are driving our instructional practices. It is inspiring when walking through our classrooms to see such great learning taking place!

Teachers always meet weekly during lunch in teams (Professional Learning Communities or PLC’s) to discuss students, instructional strategies, curriculum items, assessments, and/or any other educationally relevant topic. This past month we have been concentrating on writing competencies for math that correlate to the Common Core State Standards. This work will continue for the rest of the year and beyond. The goal is to have all schools in our SAU to produce competencies that will meet the above-mentioned standards. By identifying those standards that students must be able to know and do, we can better meet the needs of all students. This work is long and tiresome but essential in having even more of our students become proficient or proficient with distinction in meeting these standards.

Since our last School Board Meeting, we gained seven new students and lost one student. Total student population is now 116 students. These new students have been absorbed into each classroom with open arms and welcoming smiles from our school community. It is wonderful to see how our students extend themselves in making new friends. Our annual Thanksgiving Luncheon went smoothly with many parents, grandparents, and friends, coming to visit our students during lunchtime. It was quite clear to the students what they were thankful for…. their families! We had 20 students absent on the day before Thanksgiving which was due to a combination of traveling and the bad weather. On the bright side, we had 91 students who were in attendance for the whole day and made the most of that opportunity!

The Lafayette Budget Committee completed its assigned work in reviewing every line item of our budget this month. We owe a huge thank you to these members who volunteered their time and efforts on our behalf. They include School Board members, Tom Eyman and Mary Jo Greene, community members, Sue Ford and David McPhaul, parent members, Jason Tors and Trevor Hamilton, and staff member, Beverly Frenkiewich. Toni Butterfield took meeting
minutes and helped out extensively “behind the scenes”. The principal chaired this committee. The projected increases to the Committee’s proposed budget will be presented and explained to the School Board at this month’s meeting.

Our Building and Grounds Committee has put in quite a few hours researching and developing a plan for updating and renovating the school’s heating system. With professional engineering help, a presentation will be made this month to outline the recommended plan for heating our building for the foreseeable future.

Thank you for your efforts and continued support of our students and school. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time regarding this report or the school in general.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordie Johnk
Principal