

Monthly Report
Superintendent of Schools
September 2009

- On September 9, I participated in a conference call with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, regarding the preparation for the H1N1 virus. Also present for the call were Uxbridge Public School nurses, administrators, and Susan Smith from the Uxbridge Board of Health. We continue to plan for the inoculation of students and ways to prevent the spread of the virus in our schools.
- Beginning on October 1, Officers Dan Deveau and Brian MacDonald will serve as Resource Officers for our schools on a part-time basis. Their primary focus will be to develop relationships with our students that are supporting, caring, and trusting. Their presence in our schools will have a positive impact in supporting non-risk behaviors of our students in the schools and community. This is being provided by Chief Freitas as part of the officers' regularly scheduled duties and does not have an impact on our budget.
- I met with Gene Raymond, Architect, on September 5 to discuss the building project relative to the configuration of our existing schools if a new high school was built.
- On September 15, John Higgins, Ernie Esposito, Don Sawyer, and I met with Joslin, Lesser and Associates to discuss the project options and work on the preparation of documents to be submitted to the MSBA.
- I have participated in the Building Committees two Community Forums, on September 9 and 21, regarding the various building project options and their ultimate vote on the preferred project that was held on September 23. At the September 23 meeting, the Building Committee voted unanimously for the construction of a new high school on the Quaker Highway site as the preferred option.
- The Uxbridge Public School's Administrative Team Meetings were held on September 8 and 22. Topics included:
 - School Openings, Community Forums, H1N1, Budget, Curriculum, Busing Issues, Professional Development, MCAS, Evaluations, and DOE reporting.
- On September 23, Mrs. Bennett, Mr. Farrar, Dr. Boyaj and I attended a workshop on Professional Learning Communities (PLC). Part of our Strategic Plan is to review and evaluate the merits of PLC for possible implementation into our school system's culture. The basic guiding principals of PLC are:
 - To see that all students learn at high levels
 - To build a collaborative culture and engage in collective efforts to achieve our purpose
 - To focus on results and use evidence of student learning as part of a continuous improvement process.

I will provide you with more information in the future as we proceed with our evaluation and possible implementation of this concept.

- I participated as a member of the Town Safety Committee during our monthly meeting on October 1. Issues discussed relative to our schools were snow removal and school cancellation decisions and the November 15 Town Loop Challenge which is sponsored by the Taft PTO.
- On October 5, I held a meeting with Dr. Boyaj, Don Sawyer, and Mike Legendre to implement a plan to address the concerns I have over the uncleanliness of the Taft Elementary School.
- I am happy to report that since the change to the Taft schedule and the new bus routes, transportation is now running smoothly and buses are on time. Also, Chief Freitas and I drove to many bus stops in the community that parents expressed concern about the safety of the location of the stop. Chief Freitas did not find any of the stops that we visited to have a significant safety concern that would warrant moving the stop to a different location.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Zini". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

George Zini
Superintendent of Schools