



Memo from Superintendent,  
John Stratton

# In The Loop

## Staff Appreciation Week 2023

May is the time for Staff Appreciation recognitions. For five days, school and district teams plan a festive celebration for staff that turns a spotlight on how important each staff member is to the success of their school, the district and the community. It is a well deserved recognition!

The achievement of our students is a group effort! Whether you are an educator, bus driver, counselor, custodian, paraprofessional, secretary, maintenance staff, food service, or any number of specialized staff who work in a variety of other departments throughout the district, you form the foundation of our work and you represent our mission. Your hard work does not go without notice and I wish to express my sincere appreciation for you all.

As this school year winds down, many of you are working on a variety of events, programs and activities to make the end of year special for students and their families. And, as our 2023 graduates prepare to turn the tassel, I hope you take pride in having contributed to their success. On behalf of the school board and district leadership team, I would like to thank all you for those contributions. Thank you for being part of our team and enjoy your week!

*Well done!*

## *Loving it!* Plan to upgrade laptops begins!



The Technology Information Services (TIS) team has begun the process of upgrading teacher and administrator computers. Using millage funds, the district will now be able to provide a much needed upgrade of laptop devices that will help teachers match the quality and speed of the devices recently provided for all students through the 1-to-1 device initiative. By the end of May, these fully-imaged laptops will be distributed to teachers and administrators. This is the latest phase of the school district's plan to improve instructional technology and provide teachers with high quality tools.

## *Living it!* Board Recognition of Military Service

The school board recognized DSPMS math teacher, Dustin Thomas, as our April staff veteran. Dustin served 11 years in the U.S. Army completing 3 tours in Iraq and 1 tour in Afghanistan. He is a graduate of the University of South Florida and has taught at DSPMS since 2019. Thank you for your service, sir!



Big Shout Out to the 30 students who'll have their original art adorn signs posted in county parks. Winners were selected from Challenger K-8, Fox Chapel Middle, D.S. Parrott Middle, Spring Hill Elementary, and Endeavor Academy. Congratulations to these artists and their teachers!