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Happy Holidays!

Dear Community,

I would like to begin this late fall update with wishing you and your loved ones a very happy and wonderful holiday season. The first few months of the school year have gone by so quickly and we have had some great moments thus far that I would like to highlight.

At the end of September, our student achievement scores were released by the Department of Education and we were extremely pleased with the results. We showed significant increases in several grade levels and adequate growth in all grade levels. The tremendous efforts from our administration, faculty, and staff, combined with the support from our families and hard work from our student body has led to our advancements.

We would like to congratulate all of our fall sports teams for being competitive and representing our district as fine scholar athletes. We would like to give a special congratulation to our football squad who played for the district championship. It has been over a decade since the last time our football team advanced this far into the playoff system and it was a fun experience watching these young men perform so well.

In November, two of our talented students were recognized and featured as the "Artist of the Week" on WVIA-TV. Salina Shock and Christina Carachilo, were awarded with the prestigious feature, with Selina being recognized for her visual talents and Christina for her vocal abilities.

Our PTA continues to flourish with activities that are family centered and a lot of fun. From limo rides, dances, movies, book fairs, and a ton of chocolate sales, this group of volunteers truly encompasses the spirit of Charger Pride. If you would like to join our PTA, please reach out to our elementary office at 570-282-5656 and leave your name and number and Tina McDonald, our PTA President, will return your call.

Our underground utilities construction project is in its final stages and the main parking lot is completed. At this time, those entering and exiting our campus should be able to do so without any inconvenience. I want to thank our parents, families, and visitors, for the cooperation and patience during the project period. I ask you to continue using caution whenever you are entering and exiting our campus as we have many students who are walkers.

We celebrated our First Senior Citizen Holiday Breakfast on December 10<sup>th</sup> and we were so pleased to be able to honor our area seniors and to thank them for their commitment and sacrifice to our district. We are hoping to do something similar to this each Christmas as a way of showing our appreciation.

Finally, on behalf of my wife Stacie and children Robert and Henry, as well as the entire Carbondale Area School District, we would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Thank you for your continued support of the Carbondale Area School District.

Bob