

## Superintendent's Corner

Well I am half way through my first year at Washington Island School and I find myself asking, "Where did the time go?" I am reminded of the old saying, "Time flies when you are having fun." There has been a ton of enjoyable moments here at the school each and every day. Whether it is being involved with the students, working with the staff or the board, or talking with parents and the community, almost every experience has been a good one. Not that we don't have our challenges, but there seems to be a "can do" attitude by everybody when facing them. I am extremely grateful for everybody's support in making the first six months go smoothly.

In the past six months so much has happened. We started the year with the Rock Island Voyage, which produced a culminating presentation to the public that was very impressive. Students are actively engaged in learning and growing. We have a new district webpage, from which we have received many wonderful comments. We hope to continue building on the webpage to serve as a working communication tool with parents and community members. There has been the collaboration with the Observer to create a increased commitment with the Bucks Bulletin. Our student Basketball teams have matured and truly embodied our Buck's Pride to include a number of victories. (Our Boys with an 8-2 Season!) Then there was the breakfast for our community seniors bringing school and community together. Our holiday program was an inspiring event of talent and heart. This is only a partial list of the many wonderful things our students and staff have accomplished this year, and there are plenty more reasons to take pride in our school.

But that is the start. Our first semester is soon ending and the second semester will mean many more things to come. Our high school class is working collaboratively with a local artist in the creation of a mural in our commons. Student Council is working to create a functional Constitution. Teachers are busy preparing for our next experiential learning voyage with a theme, "Makers". As our basketball season comes to an end in February, students are looking toward our spring season. (Then again I think we all will be looking toward spring.) In March all our art students will be sharing their hard work in our student Art Show. Our Madison/Chicago fieldtrip student will be hosting a spaghetti dinner to raise money. The list goes on and on. There are days when my mind is in a whirlwind of all the good things

happening. Every day I find something happening to quietly smile and take pride. You know taking pride is fun and I suspect the second semester might fly faster than the first.

Sincerely  
Mati Palm-Leis