I hope everyone had an enjoyable, relaxing Thanksgiving break. This time of year, we reflect on all we have to be thankful for. I am thankful to be part of a wonderful school community.

It’s hard to believe it is already December and we are nearing the end of the semester. Please keep focused on school in spite of all the distractions and excitement.

As the holidays approach, I’d like to thank the students in the Cosmetology, Business Technology, and Welding programs for adopting the Salvation Army Angels. The students are purchasing presents for needy children and those presents will be distributed by the Salvation Army prior to Christmas.

The new Cosmetology program is well under way at the Career Academy. The students are practicing their skills on the mannequins and will be ready to open the salon to the public on February 2. You may call the instructor, Ms. Mindy Montello, at 440-283-2185, for an appointment.

The Welding students have been busy with their community service projects. It was exciting to see Cinderella, the Fairy Godmother, the pumpkin coach and the castle
come to life in the welding shop as the students created the shapes to be used at the Lake Farmpark Country Lights display.

Our new Health Information Management program is utilizing the Project Based Learning approach. This allows the students to research topics and create a project to represent their learning and to present it to professionals. Just ask one of the students and they will share their excitement about this new way of learning.

As I visit the classrooms throughout the day, I am thrilled to see the students engaged in their learning and so engrossed in their projects. The instructors are sharing their passion for their trade with the students and the excitement is contagious. Students are happy to share what they are learning.

We are currently accepting applications from sophomores for next year’s programs. Any interested student should see their guidance counselor for an application. We will be holding an Open House for interested sophomores on December 3 for the health-related programs at our Eastlake campus at Kennedy School, 34050 Glen Drive, and on December 10 for all other programs at our Willoughby campus at 25 Public Square. The open houses will be held from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

I would like to wish everyone a peaceful and safe holiday break and a happy 2015. Remember, the break for Willoughby-Eastlake Schools will begin on December 22nd and classes will resume on January 5th.