

# Superintendent Report

School Board Meeting

June 17, 2019

## Our Mission

**Empowering students with knowledge and skills to succeed.**

## Our Vision

**To be the school district of choice, inspiring excellence in academics, arts, and activities.**

The Superintendent Report summarizes the communication with the Board of Education (BOE) throughout the month including the weekly District Status Report. In addition, the Report includes the building administrator reports as well as other information believed to be beneficial to the work of the BOE and school district. Detailed information for the items listed under the District Status Report Summary can be found within each weekly Status Report from the District's website. I appreciate feedback as to how we can improve the report. Thank you.

### **1. Principal and Curriculum & Instruction Director Reports**

### **2. Weekly District Status Report Summary from May 17, 24, 31 and June 7**

#### **A. Information, Communication, and Correspondence**

- **News from Around the State and Beyond**

Are teachers learning what motivates students?

Graduation: Minnesota attorney general says schools can't withhold diplomas because of unpaid lunch debt

Advocacy: 2019 legislative session ends flat

Funding: Education budget decision near the end after agreement

Politics: Special session today will finalize budget deal

Politics: Gov. Walz calls for special session

Funding: Signing \$20 billion education budget, Gov. Walz praises bipartisan compromise

Survey: Parents say bullying is widespread

Strategies schools can use to become more trauma-informed

District adopts independent learning days

Study shows benefits of universal school meals

3 questions to ask when seeking purposeful work

Discipline: How young is too young to be suspended from school?

Funding: Despite funding, achievement gap persists

- **Paraprofessional Association Negotiations**

- **Teacher Association Negotiations**

- **Baccalaureate and Graduation 2019**

- **Years of Service and Retirement Recognition**

- **Southwest Metro Intermediate District 288 Associate Membership Update**

- **Design and Build Update**

- **Quarterly Check ins**

- **Summer Board Work Sessions**

- **IEA Lead-in Water Testing**

- **Waseca County Trauma in Schools Forum Planning**

3. **Board & Administrator for Board Members Monthly Publication – May 2019 Reflection** - I have provided a brief reflection on a few of the articles from the May publication. I hope you have had an opportunity to read and reflect.

- More insight into the superintendent hiring process: The interview – The author shares his experience in applying and interviewing for a superintendent position.
- The board has four responsibilities to the district – The article reminds a board of its primary responsibility which is to be a policy-maker for the school district with four areas of responsibility within policy making including:
  1. Hire, supervise, evaluate one employee; the superintendent.
  2. Lead the development of a strategic plan. Monitor the progress the superintendent makes with the plan.
  3. Monitor and evaluate “bottom-line results” focusing on two areas: finance and strategic plan.
  4. Advocate for the school district!
- Checklist to ensure the board stays on top of school finance – The article offers a list to ensure the board stays on top of district finances including:
  - Policies in place which ensure efficient methods for purchasing supplies and equipment.
  - Policies in place which ensure proper bookkeeping procedures.
  - Policies in place which ensure adequate insurance coverage.
  - Policies in place which cover appropriate investment of school funds.
  - Board requires and encourages the superintendent to actively seek alternative funding sources, such as grants.
  - Community is kept aware of financial status of district.
  - Long-term financial planning considers building sites, functional use of school buildings and equipment, and furniture and plan maintenance.

4. **Budget work session** – Thank you for responding to the doodle poll regarding July dates for a budget work session. Unfortunately, there was not a date that all Board members could attend. I believe this is a time when all Board members need to be present and part of the conversation and decision making. The Board has important and critical decisions to make to address the 2019-2020 budget as well as a long-term financial strategy.

5. **Finance Committee Meeting Planned** – A Finance Committee Meeting is planned for Monday, July 15, beginning at 5:45 pm in the Elementary School Media Center. Agenda items may include:

- Review of annual Budget Development Calendar
- Review of adopted 2019-2020 budget
- Discuss agenda for Board budget work session

Members include Karen Flattness, Luke Routh, Travis Routh, Dale Carlson, and Karla Christopherson.

6. **Bond Sale Public Meeting** – Northland Securities will be holding a public meeting regarding the sale of our bonds on Tuesday, July 9, beginning at 6:00 pm in the Secondary School cafeteria.

7. **School Board Self-Evaluation and Goal Setting for 2019-2020** – In recent years, the Board has held a work session in July or early August to conduct a self-evaluation of the prior year just ending and then develop Board goals for the coming year. I will work with Chair Rick Schultz to identify some possible dates and then poll the Board.
8. **Building and Grounds Committee Meeting Planned** – The Building and Grounds Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, June 19, beginning at 7:00 am in the Board Room. The agenda will include a review of Construction Manager proposals. Committee members include: Travis Routh, Neil Schlaak, Rick Schultz, Dale Carlson and Karla Christopherson.
9. **Quarterly Check ins** – Thank you for taking time to check in with me this past week. Some of the topics discussed included:
  - Healthy Meals
  - Transition program from Grade 5 to Grade 6 and from Grade 6 to Grade 7
  - Response to Intervention at the Middle School level
  - Staffing Guidelines as a Board Policy
  - Behavior interventions for elementary students
  - School Board meetings
  - Facility Design and Build Update
  - Staffing
  - Budget
  - School Age Care
  - Social Media initiatives
  - Finance Committee
  - Individual Board member's role at Board meetings

Do not hesitate to call with questions on any of the topics listed.

10. **School Board Self-Evaluation and Goal Setting for 2019-2020** – In recent years, the Board has held a work session in July or early August to conduct a self-evaluation of the prior year just ending and then develop Board goals for the coming year. I will work with Chair Rick Schultz to identify some possible dates and then poll the Board.

Thank you for all you do!

Dale N. Carlson, Ph.D.