

District Status Report

15 April 2016

2015-16 Report# 36

The purpose for the weekly Status Report is to communicate to members of the School Board important and meaningful information relevant to the business of the school district. The Report is available to the public on the school district's website. Please contact me at 417-2602 if you have any questions regarding information contained in the Status Report. I would also appreciate hearing from you on ways I can improve the Report and make it more meaningful and informative for you.

Dale

Providing students with knowledge, skills, and attitudes which enable them to succeed in a globally competitive society.

Empower, Learn, Succeed

Be Positive, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe

Information – Communication -- Correspondence

1. News From Around the State and Beyond

Politics: Legislators and families takes sides as Minnesota, nation debate transgender issues

Politics: House education finance bill is long on policy but short on funding

Teaching: States turn to loan forgiveness to attract teachers

Politics: Minnesota Senate includes additional money for education in its supplemental budget target

Politics: House committee adds a little extra funding, three surprise policy provisions to omnibus education bill

Every Student Succeeds Act: Minnesota Department of Education's Every Student Succeeds Act topic meeting covers school improvement

Politics: New education bills introduced

2. 4-18-16 School Board Meeting Preview – A few items to bring attention to . . .

- a. Teaching and Learning Feature – The Board will hear about the recent student trip to Washington DC. Staff and students will be in attendance to share their experiences.
- b. 2015-17 School Year Calendar Modification –The Board will be asked to consider approval of the administration's recommendation pertaining to modifying the 2015-2016 School Year Calendar to reflect the following:
 1. Changes to Student Calendar for 2015-2016 School Year including:
 - a) Student last day of school will be June 3, 2016 with a 2 hour early dismissal.
 - b) March 24 weather related make-up day is waived for students.
 2. Changes to the Staff Calendar for 2015-2016 School Year including:
 - a) Teachers will choose between two options including:
 - i. Staff will work two of the following three days: June 4, 6, or 7.
 - ii. Staff will work one of the following three days: June 4, 6, or 7 AND a second date between June 7 and July 31 to be approved by the supervisor. The second date may include specific work objectives agreed to by the teacher and supervisor i.e. data retreat, goal action planning, grade/department level planning, etc
 - b) Hourly staff who did not work on March 24, and who are not already scheduled to work on Monday, June 6, will be given the option of working on that day under the direction and supervision of the administrative supervisor. For those hourly staff already scheduled to work on June 6, they are to work with their administrative supervisor to mutually agree on a day to work.
- c. Elementary School Playground -- Representatives from the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) will present information pertaining to the purchase and installation of one of two planned playgrounds for the Elementary School. The PTO will plan to present an updated donation total for the Board to accept. We plan to have a separate motion accepting the Playground donation funds. The Board will also be asked to consider approval of the administration's recommendation to approve the purchase of the playground system from Play & Park Structures for a cost of \$37,739.63. Included in the same motion will be a landscaping cost of \$4,140.00 with Sequoia Landscape Company as it is part of the same project. Motions will include:
 1. To approve a donation from PTO in the amount of \$41,879.63 for the purpose of purchasing and installing the first of two planned playground systems at the Elementary School.

2. To approve the purchase of a playground system from Play & Park Structures for a cost of \$37,739.63, and contracting with Sequoia Landscape Company for \$4,140.00 for required landscaping associated with the installation of the new playground system.

3. **Strategic Planning Next Steps** –Thank you for your continued leadership with the Strategic Planning process. We have averaged attendance at the three Advisory Committee meetings between 25 and 30 members which is outstanding. Your presence has been noticed and appreciated by many throughout the group. As our consultants shared with the committee on April 12, next steps include:
 - Consultants review meeting #3 work results with superintendent and administrative team to make necessary edits
 - Revised work results sent to committee members for feedback
 - Belief, Vision, and Mission Statements along with Focus Areas, Goals and Objectives presented to School Board for approval at the May 16 School Board meeting
 - Staff develop action plans within each objective to describe how each objective and goal will be achieved including measures, targets, and timelines.

If the Board believed it would be helpful, a special work session could be planned prior to the May 16 Board Meeting so that approval can be considered on May 16.

4. **Graduation Plans** – Board members are to let me know if interested in presenting diplomas to graduates. Rick Schultz has indicated he would like to help present. The planning committee would like two Board members if possible. Commencement is planned for Sunday, June 5, at 2:00 pm.
5. **Concurrent Enrollment** – Attached is a letter from the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) updating participating schools on its response and plans to address concurrent enrollment and the Higher Learning Commission’s minimum faculty qualifications. The document also includes an outline of the MnSCU systemwide response to support concurrent enrollment programs. MnSCU is encouraging all MnSCU colleges and universities to continue to work with participating school districts to take the necessary steps to meet the concurrent enrollment instructor credentialing standards. Colleges and universities have the option of request extensions beyond the September 1, 2017 implementation timeline, for up to five years (2022) by which to meet the qualification standards.
6. **Secondary School Fire Alarms** – We experienced false alarms at the secondary building last weekend causing the fire department to respond late at night. We were unable to determine the cause, and hope it will not repeat.
7. **Special Education Assistant Director Position Update**– I had the opportunity to participate in interviews for the Assistant Director Position on April 11. Sue Stieglbauer and Dave Bunn participated as well. The superintendents are examining the input from the staff interview committee and conducting references to determine a potential list of finalists. We are hopeful to have a candidate selected in the next few weeks.

Celebrations & Recognitions

(Taken from School and Department Announcements and Communications)

Coach Wendy Schultz and #200: Congratulations to Coach Wendy Schultz on her 200th win with a 9-2 win over Blooming Prairie on April 12!

School Board Calendar of Events

April 18, 2016	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting – Secondary School Media Center
May 16, 2016	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting – Elementary School Media Center
June 3, 2016		Last Day of School for Students
June 5, 2016	2:00 pm	Commencement – High School Gymnasium
June 20, 2016	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting – Secondary School Media Center

Dale's Calendar for April 18 – 22 (As of 4-15-16)

Monday	9:00 am	Check in with Doug
	10:00 am	Check in with Terri
	10:45 am	Insurance Meeting
	11:45 am	Superintendent Lunch Meeting
	1:00 pm	Check in with Dave
	1:30 pm	Check in with Karla
	2:00 pm	Check in with Sue
	3:30 pm	Staff Development Committee Meeting
	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting
Tuesday	9:00 am	Check in with Dave, Doug, Terri
	10:00 am	Check in with Dave and Doug
	2:00 pm	Food Service Meeting
	3:30 pm	Meeting with Dave and staff member
Wednesday	1:00 pm	Staff Development Planning Meeting
	2:00 pm	Strategic Planning Phone Conference
	3:00 pm	Staff Development Planning Meeting
	4:30 pm	Meeting with Sheila P (AFSME)
	5:15 pm	AFSME Negotiations
Thursday		In the District
Friday	7:30 am	Board Meeting Agenda Planning with Board Chair

Thank you for all you do!