

Superintendent Report

School Board Meeting

January 19, 2021

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 Reports

2. Weekly District Status Report Summary from December 18 and January 1 & 8.

A. Information, Communication, and Correspondence

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

- Survey: Remote learning will keep a strong foothold even after the pandemic

- Analysis: COVID-19 is having a devastating impact on children

- Analysis: Comparing several learning-loss studies

- Assessments: States move to suspend school report cards, create accountability flexibilities

- Why tutoring is gaining momentum as a learning loss fix

- Why online learning will only grow post-COVID, despite challenges

- Survey: 25% of parents will not vaccinate children

- **School Learning Model Update**

- **Winter Activity Start Date Update**

- **2021-2022 Budget Work Session Planned**

- **2021 MSBA Leadership Conference**

- **Building and Grounds Committee to Meet**

- **January 4 School Board Organizational Meeting Agenda**

3. Board & Administrator for Board Members Monthly Publication – December 2020 Reflection - I

have provided a brief reflection on a few of the articles from the December publication. I hope you have had an opportunity to read and reflect.

- Don't let split votes cause division on your board – The article acknowledges the challenges some school boards face with issues and decisions that may be somewhat controversial throughout the community resulting in split board votes. With “emotional” or strong opinioned issues, the author provides suggestions for a board chair and board to consider including:

- If there is time, discuss the issue(s) at one meeting and then table the issue until the next meeting for action to provide board members to reflect on their position.
- Generate solutions by having individual board members submit potential solutions to the superintendent to chart and prioritize.
- Send issue to committee for more discussion, research and recommendation.

- Hold virtual stakeholder meetings to foster public trust – The article encourages a board to hold “virtual stakeholder meetings” to foster public trust; especially during times like the pandemic that has resulted in unprecedented challenges and decisions for school districts. Three steps to make the virtual meetings successful include:
 1. Identify and invite leaders (community, business, parent, etc.) to meeting
 2. Host meeting by greeting and facilitating
 3. Actively participate in meeting.
- Use self-evaluation to assess our performance as a board member – The article encourages school boards to conduct a self-evaluation and offers a brief board member self-evaluation that individual board members may use to reflect on their board member performance.

4. **January 25 Budget Work Session Planned** – The Board is scheduled to meet on January 25 beginning at 5:30 pm in the Secondary School Media Center. The purpose of the work session will be to begin development of the 2021-2022 budget. Administration is in the process of developing a preliminary budget based on initial revenue and expenditure assumptions.
5. **MSBA Leadership Conference** – The 2021 MSBA Leadership Conference is being held virtually this year on three different Thursday mornings. As it is free, Sue Kulseth went ahead and registered each Board member. The first session was held last week on Thursday, January 14. See the communication below from MSBA

The **2021 MSBA Leadership Conference** will be presented to you in a **virtual format**. Save the dates on your calendar for these Thursday mornings — **January 14, January 21, and January 28, 2021**.

The conference will include a number of top-notch workshops, roundtable sessions, and much more. Some sessions will be available via recording at a later time. Watch the [MSBA website](#) for more details.

This year’s conference will feature two keynote speakers: **Phyllis Braxton-Frierson** and **Dr. Phil Gore**.

- **Braxton-Frierson** is the CEO and Founder of PINK Consulting, LLC, and has worked in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) field for nearly 25 years.
- **Gore** is in his sixth year as Division Director for Board Development Services with the Texas Association of School Boards and is a nationally recognized researcher on school governance.

6. **MSBA Negotiations Seminar** -- Board members who are negotiating in the coming year are encouraged to participate in the MSBA Negotiations Seminar being offered over two 3-hour sessions. Please contact Sue Kulseth prior to Wednesday, January 20, to let her know the dates to register you. Below is from MSBA.

After the Leadership Conference wraps up at the end of this month, we invite you to continue learning by attending **MSBA’s Negotiations Seminars** and **Officers’ Workshops**.

Please scroll below to access workshop schedules and registration information. Board members, if you opt to attend these sessions, please ask your school district office to register you through the [MSBA website](#).

Preparation is the key to successful bargaining. [MSBA's Negotiations Seminars](#) help school leaders prepare for negotiations.

Note: The Negotiations Seminars will be presented in two parts. Participants must attend both parts in order to receive credit.

Negotiations Seminar Agenda:

- **Part 1** will include a “Negotiations Overview,” “Legal Issues,” and “Hot Topics.”
- **Part 2** will feature “ULA, Layoffs, and Nonrenewals,” “Words Matter,” “Costing Overview,” and “Costing Analytics.”

[Click here to access the full agenda.](#)

Negotiations Seminars Schedule — THESE TIMES HAVE BEEN CORRECTED:

Choose from ONE of the following dates for PART 1:

- 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 3, 2021
- 9:00 a.m. to noon Thursday, February 11, 2021
- 9:00 a.m. to noon Saturday, February 13, 2021

Choose from ONE of the following dates for PART 2:

- 9:00 a.m. to noon Thursday, February 25, 2021
 - 9:00 a.m. to noon Saturday, February 27, 2021
 - 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 3, 2021
-

Negotiations Seminar Registration:

Seminar Fees (includes both Part 1 and Part 2):

- Advance registration — \$195
- Late registration — \$215
- **Registration closes one week before the Part 1 date you choose to attend.**

Registration: [Access MSBA Event Registration](#)

IMPORTANT: Board members, please coordinate your registration through your school district office.

7. **MSBA School Board Officers Workshop** -- Board officers wishing to participate in MSBA's Officers' Workshop are to contact Sue Kulseth to inform her of the dates and times you want to participate. I am happy to join those wishing to participate. Information from MSBA is below.

The [MSBA Officers' Workshop](#) is focused on school board officers' responsibilities and basics/fundamentals of laws affecting school boards. Elected school board officers, superintendents, staff who support the board, and all interested school board members are encouraged to attend.

Note: The Officers' Workshop will be presented in two parts. Participants must attend both parts in order to receive credit.

Officers' Workshop Agenda:

- **Part 1** will focus on **the Statutory Duties of School Board Officers and the Open Meeting Law.**
- **Part 2** will be dedicated to **your specific officer role** (chair/vice chair, clerk, or treasurer).

Officers' Workshop Schedule — THESE TIMES HAVE BEEN CORRECTED:

Choose from ONE of the following dates for PART 1:

- 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 10, 2021
- 9:00 a.m. to noon Thursday, February 18, 2021
- 9:00 a.m. to noon Saturday, February 20, 2021

Choose from ONE of the following dates for PART 2:

- 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 24, 2021
- 9:00 a.m. to noon Thursday, March 4, 2021
- 9:00 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 6, 2021

Officers' Workshop Registration:

Workshop Fees (includes both Part 1 and Part 2):

- Advance registration — \$195
- Late registration — \$215
- **Registration closes on January 29 for the February 10 workshop. For all other workshop dates, registration will close on February 5.**

Registration: [Access MSBA Event Registration](#)

IMPORTANT: Board members, please coordinate your registration through your school district office.

Thank you for all you do!
Dale N. Carlson, Ph.D.