

Superintendent Report

School Board Meeting

October 21, 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 September 13, 20, 27, and October 5 & 12

A. Information, Communication, and Correspondence

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

- Safety: When school safety become surveillance

- Health: School districts installing new "vape detectors" to combat youth e-cigarette use

- Health: From removing doors to checking sleeves, U.S. schools seek to snuff out vaping

- Students feel safe, but want more mental health services

- Teacher: Why it's OK for students to struggle

- Why school design matters

- New teacher housing under construction in W.Va.

- The importance of the school social worker

- Minnesota State High School League faces largest deficit ever

- Camouflaged vaping devices are hoodwinking parents and schools

- How a MAGA sign and a high school cheer squad ignited a debate about free speech

- Why career exploration must be a K-12 priority

- How to educate students about vaping risks

- Health: School nurses face growing overload

- More districts adopt 4-day school weeks

- Are you showing signs of burnout?

- **Washington DC Student Field Study**

- **East-West International Academy Update**

- **School Board "Talk and Tour"**

- **MSBA School Board Leadership Conference**

- **Quarterly Check ins**

- **Teacher Negotiations Meeting Planned**

- **Bus Evacuation Drill**

- **Solar Garden Update**

- **Paraprofessional Negotiations Update**

- **Washington DC Student Field Study Cancelled**

- **Finance Committee Meeting Planned**

- **Student Immunizations**

- **Teacher Negotiations Update**
- **Student Immunizations Update**
- **School Board Member Resignation**

3. Board & Administrator for Board Members Monthly Publication – September 2019 Reflection - I

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

- Developing a superintendent's entry plan: Part 2 – The author shares his experience starting as a superintendent in a new school district.
- Governance policy development strengthens a board – The article highlights the importance of board governance development in order to better understand its role and develop board policies that address primary responsibilities.
- Policy development leads to board job description – The article outlines specific duties and expectations of board members to assist in developing a board member job description including:
 - ✓ Specific duties and expectations
 - ✓ Educate oneself about the work of the district
 - ✓ Attend meetings and show commitment to board activities, values, and norms
 - ✓ Be well-informed on issues, agenda items, and back ground materials in advance of meetings
 - ✓ Work closely and cooperatively with other board members
 - ✓ Listen respectfully to differing points of view and participate in decision-making
 - ✓ Contribute insights, skills, knowledge, and experience
 - ✓ Elect officers; orient and train new trustees for continual leadership vitality
 - ✓ Act as a resource and sounding board for the board president and superintendent and, when appropriate, members of the management team
 - ✓ Be an advocate and serve as a liaison between the organization and the community; monitor and enhance its image and keep the president, administrator, and trustees informed about public opinion
 - ✓ Receive and consider regular evaluation on the effectiveness of the district's work
 - ✓ Assume leadership roles in board activities consistent with individual skills and interests

4. Design and Build Update – The Core Planning Group met on Wednesday, October 16, to review updated cost estimates for the design work performed up to this point. The majority of the time was spent reviewing mechanical improvements at each building. More work needs to be done before the group is comfortable in releasing cost estimates at this time. The group consists of representatives from ISG and Knutson along with District officials including Doug Anderson, Dave Bunn, Karla Christopherson, Rick Schultz and Dale Carlson. The purpose of the group is to provide direction to ISG and Knutson for moving forward with design decisions.

5. MSBA School Board Leadership Conference – If you have not already, please be sure you have put the annual leadership conference on your calendar for Thursday, January 16, and Friday, January 17, 2020, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Also, be sure you have let Sue Kulseth know your plans including number of nights at the hotel.

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