

Superintendent Report

School Board Meeting

March 15, 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 February 12, 19, 26 and March 5.

A. Information, Communication, and Correspondence

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

- [Will next school year start remotely?](#)

- [Rural Wis. districts find strength in co-op](#)

- [Why kindness is the most important gift you can offer](#)

- [4 big ways to help build back learning loss](#)

- [White House: Testing to go forward this year](#)

- [Biden administration requires testing, with flexibility for states](#)

- [Minnesota districts face unexpected financial hit](#)

- [Boost student engagement by making thinking "visible"](#)

- [How insights from remote teaching may change education](#)

- [Testing: Experts warn this year's state test results will be tough to make sense of](#)

- [Report considers future of education staffing](#)

- [Data shows teacher shortage may be getting worse](#)

- [Here's what a national tutoring system might look like](#)

- [How to pave computer science pathways in rural schools](#)

- **School Learning Model Update**

- **Superintendent Search Process Update**

- **National Honor Society Blood Drive**

3. *Board & Administrator for Board Members* Monthly Publication – February 2021 Reflection - I

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

- [Start off on the right foot as a new school board member](#) – The article offers a checklist of actions new board members should take as they learn their role as a board member.

- [Review nepotism policy](#) – The article encourages boards to review or adopt a nepotism policy that outlines district policy for employing, promoting, or appointing a family relative.

- Conduct a COVID-19 performance review for your district – The article suggests a school district evaluate its response to the COVID-19 pandemic including safety measures but also learning interventions and strategies.
- Two tips for better board meetings – The article offers the tips of “arriving early” and “start off on a positive note” as tips for beginning each meeting.

4. Elementary Principal Search Process - Due to Principal Doug Anderson’s announced retirement effective the end of this school year, I have started to move forward with the selection process for the next principal. Highlights of the process and timelines are below.

- Position posted March 12 – 31
- Staff and parent listening sessions held March 17 – 26
- First interviews tentatively planned for the week of April 12
- Finalist interviews tentatively planned for the week of April 19
- Tentative date to present recommendation to School Board the week of April 26
- Principal officially starts July 1, 2021

5. School Learning Model Update - As of March 2, 2021, all students Bridges/Kindergarten through Grade 12 were able to attend their school in-person at least four days a week. The Elementary School students have been attending Wednesday mornings as well. Grade 6-8 students started to attend on Wednesday mornings March 10. The Secondary School is planning to have grade 9-12 students start attending Wednesday mornings on March 24.

To make the *in-person learning* model successful and minimize the risk of virus spread, it is essential that students and staff follow all safety measures and mitigation strategies in place beginning with the wearing a properly fitting face-covering at all times while in the building. There are a few exceptions; for example, when one is actively eating or if one is alone in an office or room. While the six feet distancing standard is not in effect for most parts of each building, students and staff are expected to maintain as much distance as possible. Washing/sanitizing hands often and staying home when ill are additional measures all students and staff must follow.

In the past week, there has been an increase in schools having to temporarily move to full distance learning due to a virus outbreak. It is my hope that we can continue our in-person learning model, but will have to consider moving to distance learning in a very short period of time if needed.

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