

# Superintendent Report

School Board Meeting

March 16, 2020

## 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 February 14, 21, 28 and March 6.**
  - A. Information, Communication, and Correspondence**
    - **News from Around the State and Beyond**
      - [Safety: Unions call for rethinking student involvement in lockdown drills](#)
      - [Sedentary behavior may boost depression risk in teens](#)
      - [Does limiting choices help students succeed?](#)
      - [Educators see value in coaching, survey shows](#)
      - [How concurrent enrollment boosts graduation rates](#)
      - [More US youths identify as sexual minorities](#)
      - [Does testing have a negative effect on teachers?](#)
      - [Study: Sitting tied to depression in teens](#)
      - [Proposals could curb access to free school meals](#)
      - [How mindfulness is used to support learning](#)
      - [How one school addresses crippling text anxiety](#)
      - [Teachers say no-cell policy improves student attitudes](#)
      - [How virus-related closures could affect learning](#)
      - [Study: Sleep improves teens' ability to cope](#)
      - [Soft skills more important than test scores, study finds](#)
    - **Quarterly Check ins**
    - **Building & Grounds Committee Meeting Planned**
    - **Ash Avenue House Property Update**
    - **Finance Committee Met**
    - **Board Budget Work Session Planned**
    - **Policy Committee Meeting Planned**
    - **Cooperative Activity Transportation**
    - **Audit Request for Proposal (RFP)**
    - **Special Board Meeting Planned to Consider Construction Bids**
    - **Staff Budget Presentations**
    - **MSBA Day at the Capitol**

**3. Board & Administrator for Board Members Monthly Publication – February 2020 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.

- Avoid superintendent evaluation pitfalls – The article offers some superintendent evaluation pitfalls to avoid including:
  - ✓ Focusing too much on “good or bad” incidents
  - ✓ Basing evaluation only on recent performance
  - ✓ Allowing board members’ personal agendas into the process
  - ✓ Including issues outside the superintendent’s purview
  - ✓ “Springing” the evaluation on the superintendent
  - ✓ Using the evaluation as the single communication vehicle with the superintendent
- Case study: Choosing the graduation speaker – The article provides an interesting case involving the selection of a graduation speaker and asks the question: *What would your board do?*
- Board responsibilities for public relations – The article provides a checklist of key board responsibilities in the policy area of public relations and also provides the superintendent’s corresponding areas of responsibility for implementing board policy. The article encourages boards to be engaged in the area of public relations to include promoting the school district and advancing the district’s position on legislation affecting schools. Perhaps the Board would be interesting in taking time to review the checklist as well as the *Self-Assessment* included.

**4. Design and Build Update** – We are waiting for Knutson to schedule a planning meeting to begin the process of preparing for breaking ground hopefully in April for the shop addition.

**5. School Board Budget Work Session** – A second budget work session is being planned for either Monday, March 30, or Tuesday, March 31. The focus will be to explore the possibility of an operational referendum in November 2020.

**6. Policy Committee Meeting** – A meeting is planned for Tuesday, March 24, 2020, beginning at 5:30 pm in the Board Room.

**7. Coronavirus Communication and Information** – Please refer to the District Website for communication and information related to the Coronavirus impacting states and communities throughout the country including Minnesota.

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