

Superintendent Report

School Board Meeting

April 20, 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 March 13, 20, 27 and April 3 & 10.

A. Information, Communication, and Correspondence

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

- [School nurses are key during coronavirus spread](#)

- [Music can help you power through simple tasks](#)

- [Pediatricians: Don't forget downtime from screen time](#)

- [College Board moves AP exams online](#)

- [Ease pandemic anxiety with meditation, self-care](#)

- [New FFCRA Regulations Require Documentation of Paid Sick, Family Leave](#)

- [HR Q&A: How Does the Families First Coronavirus Response Act \(H.R. 6201\) Impact Employers?](#)

- [Band directors create virtual concert for students](#)

- [Is it legal to read a book to students online?](#)

- [New CDC Guidance for Employers Reflects Evolving Knowledge of Coronavirus](#)

- [Could coronavirus alter education long term?](#)

- [Shift to virtual school board meetings raises concerns](#)

- [Use this time to center yourself](#)

- [Pandemic Takes a Toll on Employees' Emotional Well-Being](#)

- **Board Budget Work Session #2 to be Planned**

- **MSBA Day at the Capitol**

- **Policy Committee Meeting Planned**

- **Activities Suspended at least through May 4**

- **Board Budget Work Session Continued**

- **Activities and Coaches Update**

- **Supporting our Students**

- **Construction Update**

- **Childcare, Meals, and Internet Access Update**

- **Bridges/Kindergarten Registration**

- **New Secondary School High School Gymnasium Sound System**

- **MSBA COVID-19 Information and Resources**

- **MDH Mask Recommendation Update**

3. **Board & Administrator for Board Members Monthly Publication – March 2020 Reflection - I** have provided a brief reflection on a few of the articles from the March publication. I hope you have had an opportunity to read and reflect.

- Does your board’s leadership affect student achievement – The article provides suggestions on how a board should spend its time to improve achievement including:
 - ✓ Keep district achievement and instructional goals at the top of the list of priorities.
 - ✓ Adopt 5-year, non-negotiable goals for achievement and instruction.
 - ✓ Adopt varied and diverse instructional styles that allow for a wide range of learning styles.

As the board and superintendent examine achievement data, they should continually ask:
What kind of assistance is needed, and where do we need to place more or less pressure?

- Weekly meeting with superintendent improves communication – The article shares a recommended practice of the superintendent meeting on a regular basis with the board chair that also includes questions submitted by other Board members.
 - Define how and where the board interacts with the superintendent – The article provides one method for helping board members “get its fingers out of the pie-making” which is through policy writing where the board interacts with the superintendent.
 - Board question: What does the vice president do? – The article highlights the important role of the vice-chair beginning with performing the duties of the chair in the chair’s absence.
 - Superintendent hiring decision affects students – The article reminds the board of the significance the hiring of the superintendent has on achievement.
4. **Construction Update** – The Knutson Construction operations trailer for the Secondary School was dropped off in the west parking lot on April 2 and fencing has been placed on the west side of the building. We continue to work on furniture selection for both school projects. Contractors have been working inside the buildings the past three weeks preparing for ordering materials and supplies. If we learn that students will not be returning to the school buildings this school year, we will likely begin to target areas inside for work to begin.
5. **School Board Budget Work Session Continued** – I encourage the Board to meet ASAP to continue discussion about future revenue sources.
6. **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. In addition, MSBA has updated its guidance for School Boards and can be found at <http://www.mnmsba.org/COVID-19>.
7. **Virtual Board Meetings** – We are piloting a live-stream YouTube recording of the April 20, 2020, School Board meeting. I would like to thank our Technology Coordinator, Angie Aaseth, as well as Dan Petsinger of Radio Link Internet, for assisting in making the broadcast available for public access to view the meeting. We will continue exploring potential options that would allow the opportunity for members of the public to participate in *Public Comments* remotely. Board members and essential staff will continue using *Google Meet* to facilitate the meeting.

8. Childcare, Meals, and Internet Access Update – School Districts are asked to submit data each day regarding the number of children served in our childcare, the number of meals served, and the number of students who are experiencing issues with internet accessibility. This past week, we served approximately 600 meals each day (includes both breakfast and lunch). We cared for anywhere from 9 to 15 students in our childcare between both school buildings. We currently have about 12 students reporting issues with internet accessibility.

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