

Superintendent Report

School Board Meeting

July 15, 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 June 14, 21, 28 and July 5

A. Information, Communication, and Correspondence

- **News from Around the State and Beyond**
 - Generation Z Says They Work the Hardest, But Only When They Want To
 - Researchers question summer learning loss
- **Design and Build Update**
- **Quarterly Check ins**
- **Building and Grounds Committee Meeting Planned**
- **Summer Board Budget Work Sessions**
- **Bond Sale Public Meeting**
- **School Age Care**
- **School Board Self-Evaluation and Goal Setting for 2019-2020**
- **Paraprofessional Association Negotiations**
- **Teacher Association Negotiations**
- **Data Request Regarding School Lunch Accounts**
- **Bond Rating**

3. Board & Administrator for Board Members Monthly Publication – June 2019 Reflection - I have provided a brief reflection on a few of the articles from the June publication. I hope you have had an opportunity to read and reflect.

- More insight into the superintendent hiring process: The interview – The author shares his experience in applying and interviewing for a superintendent position.
- Advisory committees: Direct them with guidelines and rules – The article provides guidelines for a board when appointing an “advisory” committee. Perhaps most important is for the board and committee to understand the committee is only “advisory” and cannot make final decisions but can only make recommendations as requested by the board.

- Disruptive board members: What are the board's options? – The article offers a list of recommendations a board may do (or not do) when addressing disruptive board members. I'm grateful we have in place values and beliefs embraced by our Board so that conflict as addressed in the article does not occur to the level a Board believes a member is being disruptive.

4. Budget work session – August 5 and 6 do not work where all Board members are available so we are looking at additional dates. It is important for all Board members to be present. Objectives for the work session include:

- 2019-2020 Budget expectations and directives
- Budget reduction process – parameters
- Long-range financial strategy including operational revenue and expenditures. Adopt a district philosophy that maintains any fluctuation in the property tax within a defined range. This would assist the District in managing a “smoothing” effect on property taxes and develop a long-range strategy in responding to decreasing debt and opportunities to increase revenue.

Board members:

August 5 and 6 do not work to get the full Board together. In visiting with Rick Schultz, we would like to make one more attempt at getting 100% of the Board to attend.

This means that we now need to look to early September after the school year starts which can be a little bit more challenging for some. Please let me know if the following dates work for you. We would start at 5:30 pm if possible. If that is an issue, please let me know.

As I have shared previously, I believe it is best to engage the full Board in this discussion and planning as developing, adopting and monitoring a budget is one of the primary responsibilities of a school board. It is especially important to have the full Board involved in discussions of budget reductions and providing direction for administration to follow in developing a recommendation on reductions. If the Board is not engaged on the front end and leaves it to administration to present a recommended budget reduction plan without some level of direction and priorities, this can lead to added confusion after a plan is presented and can slow the process further.

Objectives for the work session include:

- 2019-2020 Budget adjustment expectations and directives
- Budget reduction process including priorities and parameters to apply for 2020-2021 budget development
- Long-range financial strategy including operational revenue and expenditures. Adopt a district philosophy that maintains any fluctuation in the property tax within a defined range. This would assist the District in managing a "smoothing" effect on property taxes and develop a long-range strategy in responding to decreasing debt and opportunities to increase revenue.

I'm hoping one of the dates will work for everyone! Please let me know all dates that work.

Thanks.
Dale

Wednesday, September 4
Monday, September 9
Tuesday, September 10
Wednesday, September 11

5. **School Board Self-Evaluation and Goal Setting for 2019-2020** – In recent years, the Board has held a work session in July or early August to conduct a self-evaluation of the prior year just ending and then develop Board goals for the coming year. I will work with Chair Rick Schultz to identify some possible dates and then poll the Board.
6. **Design and Build Update** – ISG and Knutson Construction are meeting with staff user groups on July 15 to continue with the preliminary design work.

Thank you for all you do!

Dale N. Carlson, Ph.D.