

Superintendent Report

School Board Meeting

September 21, 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 Reports

2. Weekly District Status Report Summary from August 14, 21, 28 and September 4 & 11

A. Information, Communication, and Correspondence

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

- **Construction Update**
- **Start of School Year for Staff**
- **Board Member Quarterly Check in**
- **Waseca County Positive Test Case Rate Check-in**
- **New Teacher Orientation**
- **District Breakfast and Welcome**
- **Waseca County Positive Test Case Watch**
- **September 21 School Board Meeting to be Held at Secondary School**
- **School Learning Model**
- **2020-2021 School Year Calendar Adjustment for Teachers**
- **Speech and Language Pathologist (SLP) Resignation and Position Status**
- **MSHSL Fee Increase**

3. Board & Administrator for Board Members Monthly Publication – August 2020 Reflection - I

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

- Stay focused on board's mission even during pandemic – The article encourages boards to stay focused on the district's mission and vision even during a very challenging time such as a pandemic.

- Inform stakeholders when superintendent exits post – The article reminds a school board to communicate effectively at the time a superintendent announces he/she is leaving the district. A specific sequence should be followed if possible beginning with the superintendent sharing his/her intention with the board chair. The superintendent and board chair then should determine a communication plan.

- Public picks up on board's dissension – The article reminds board members that while each needs to vote his/her “conscience on a tough issue,” it is most important for all the board members to support the majority decision.
- Exit interview gathers insight from departing board members – The article encourages boards to administer an “exit interview” for out-going board members. I have done this at times but not consistently. The board may want to establish a consistent practice.
- 3 steps to cool down a heated school board meeting – The article offers helpful steps for when a board meeting might become “contentious,” including:
 - ✓ Let the board chair do his/her job and intervene
 - ✓ Play the role of peacekeeper
 - ✓ Ask the superintendent to speak frankly

4. Construction Update – Knutson Construction will be providing a report as part of the September 21 School Board meeting.

Board members are welcome to visit both buildings to see the progress being made. Please contact the building principal or me in advance so that someone can meet you to escort you around. Keep up with some of the progress including photos by going to <https://www.nrheg.k12.mn.us/Page/3294>.

5. School Board Candidate Forum – I am working with the Teacher Association leadership to plan for the School Board Candidate Forum to be held in October on a date to be determined. We are exploring a virtual forum but no final decisions yet.

6. November 3 Referendum – We are working on developing a brochure to mail to residents in the coming weeks. We are finalizing the required public notice that will be mailed to all eligible voters within the next two weeks. We are also continually trying to offer more information on the District website. Finally, we are examining the possibility of holding information sessions virtually in the coming weeks, but no final decision. Please contact me with questions and ideas.

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