

# *Dale's School Board Meeting Recap*

*August 19, 2019 School Board Meeting*

## **Our Mission Together**

**Empowering students with  
knowledge and skills to succeed.**

## **Our Vision**

**To be the school district of choice, inspiring  
excellence in academics, arts, and activities.**

**NOTE:** This review is authored by the Superintendent, intended as information for the District employees, to keep them informed of the important decisions made by the School Board. This review includes selected items as determined by the Superintendent, and does not include all items of business conducted by the Board. This review is not intended to replace the official minutes of the School Board. Additional information can always be obtained from the official Board minutes or by contacting Dale.

## Student Achievement and Student Support

1:1 Mobile Device Handbook for 2019-2020: The Board approved the 1:1 Mobile Device Handbook for this school year. There were no changes from the previous handbook. Thank you Angie Aaseth for your work on this.

Student Handbooks for 2019-2020: The Board approved the student handbooks as presented by Principals Bunn and Anderson. Thank you Dave and Doug. Notable changes include:

### Elementary

- A parent welcome letter was included highlighting our school, our staff, and our commitment to education, learning, and student success. It also notified parents that the end of day release for all students (except the Ellendale-Geneva bus route students) would occur at 3:05 p.m.
- Information was included regarding the updated expectations/procedures for attendance on field trips and helping as a classroom volunteer. Forms and volunteering information are located at <https://www.nrheg.k12.mn.us/domain/678>
- Parent information defining Section 504 Plans for Students and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) was added.
- Attendance Emphasis-Seven or more **unexcused** absences from school are considered truant by Minnesota Law and will be reported to local County offices. At the elementary, we request appointment cards for medical, dental, orthodontic and counseling appointments, when they occur during the school day.
- Additional information regarding the behavior expectations at the elementary school was highlighted. *Above the Line*, *Below the Line*, and *Bottom Line* behaviors, with examples, were provided for families.
- Information and definitions of Abuse and Neglect were provided for families, along with our State-mandated procedures as a school district.
- Additional information on fire, emergency, and code lockdown drills were added.
- Information on the **Parent Teacher Organization** (PTO) and contact were provided.
- The Acceptable Use Policy and Agreement has now been added to the handbook. Item #10 is a new addition: *If I cause intentional, physical damage to the technology I am using at school, this may result in loss of privileges and payment of damages up to \$50.00.*
- The **NRHEG Community Resource Guide** was added for families. A copy of it may be viewed here:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dyUBb5iuPCavU8kmp1aot0UCgCUdnc5WSWNKIFiyeI4/edit?usp=sharing>

### Secondary

- Includes athletic procedures pertaining to the following: alcohol, drugs, tobacco, sexual harassment and sexual violence that were missed last year when we moved to the MSBA model (page 16).
- Redefined to Cheating/Plagiarism procedures/definitions to include academic dishonesty (page 12).
- We have made changes to our schedule to accommodate a 4 minute passing time for each hour. This change was born out of a request/presentation from middle school students that have struggled to get from one end to the other for classes in the high school wing. As far as we could find out, passing times were never changed or looked at when the middle school moved from Ellendale to the New Richland building (page 6).
- Aligned handbook with Board Policy #506. The policy committee reviewed the said changes.

2019-2020 School Year Calendar Revision: The Board approved the recommended revisions to the 2019-2020 school year calendar. A revised calendar is attached to this same e-mail. The two changes are:

- Increase number of Flexible Learning Days from three to five. This change comes from the principals' recommendation resulting from their assessment of the first two years of the implementation as presented to the Board at the June 17, 2019, School Board meeting. The number of flexible learning days is determined annually by the School Board.
- Reduce the number of student instructional days from 174 to 173 by identifying the last day for students to be Thursday, May 28, 2020, from the current date of Friday, May 29. This change to 173 days is a one-time change for 2019-2020 only and will return to 174 days for the 2020-2021 school year. The reason for the change is due to an interest in starting construction prep the weekend of May 30. Graduation 2020 scheduled for Sunday, May 31, will not be disrupted or changed. Specific plans along with staff expectations for May 29 and June 1 will be shared in the coming weeks.

## **Workforce**

Employment – The Board approved the following employment assignments.

- Megian Bell – Secondary Paraprofessional
- Cathy Breitbarth—Secondary Paraprofessional
- Paula Conklin – Elementary Paraprofessional
- Lyndsey Egge – Secondary Paraprofessional
- Lee Ann Hojberg--Elementary Paraprofessional
- Kara Kahle—4 & 5 Year Old Preschool Teacher—Community Education
- Jennelle Olson – Secondary Paraprofessional
- Rachel Powell-Elementary Paraprofessional
- Alyssa Richardson – Elementary Paraprofessional
- Ashley Tolzman—Secondary Paraprofessional

Fall Coaching Contracts: The Board approved the renewal of the following fall coaching contracts for the 2019-2020 school year.

- Onika Peterson—Varsity Volleyball Coach

Resignations: The Board approved the following resignations with gratitude.

- Karina Gaona – Secondary Paraprofessional who joined the School District at the start of the 2018-2019 school year.
- Miriam Hanna – Secondary Paraprofessional who has been with the School District for 2 years.
- Heidi Thomas – Elementary Paraprofessional who has been with the School District for 15 years.

Contract / Letter of Assignment Renewals: The Board renewed the following contracts and letter of assignments.

- Sue Kulseth—Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
- Matt Groskreutz – Transportation Maintenance Worker
- Nate Jensen—Technology Assistant / Bus Trip Driver Scheduler
- Terri Engel—C & I Coordinator (0.5 FTE)

Rescinding of 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Probation: The Board approved the rescinding of a 3<sup>rd</sup> year probation for Amy Johns.

## Finance

Donations -- We are fortunate to have community members, organizations, and businesses who make donations to the school district. Often the donations are designated toward specific programs or activities. The Board approved the following donations.

Olson Excavating	Panther Power-Up	\$200
Dobberstein Backhoe	Clay Target	\$100
Sportsman's Stop	Clay Target	\$100
Xcel Energy	Clay Target	\$1,000
Darrol & Pauline Sponberg Fund	General Fund	\$1,000
Amy Louks/Allina Health	Elementary Fund	\$100
NRHEG Football Boosters	Transportation	\$382.95
Randy & Sherry Schott	Reach Program	\$50
<u>NRHEG PTO</u>	<u>Leveled Readers</u>	<u>\$5,002.41</u>
	Total	\$7,935.36
	Total to Date	\$14,184.80

Catastrophic Insurance for 2019-2020: The Board approved offering the opportunity for families to purchase catastrophic insurance coverage for 2019-2020. This coverage is for students in grades 6-8 participating in co-curricular programs. The total cost for the coverage will be \$600. This is the same amount as the 2018-2019 school year.

2019-2021 Driver Wage Schedule: The Board approved the 2019-2021 Wage Schedule for drivers. The recommendation included a 2% increase in all categories for each year. A new category for "Van with Lift" was added as we have added the van to our fleet.

2019-2021 Community Education Wage Schedule: The Board approved the 2019-2021 Wage Schedule for teachers in our Community Education preschool program. The Board last increased wages for the 2017-2018 school year. The recommendation included a 5% increase for 2019-2020 and a 2% increase for 2020-2021.

Handicap Lift Van Purchase: The Board approved the purchase of a 2019 van with lift for a total amount of \$43,046.55.

## Board Governance

2019-2020 Resolution for Membership to the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL): The Board approved renewing our membership with MSHSL. Thanks Dan for presenting.

School Board Policies – 1<sup>st</sup> Readings: The Board approved the 1<sup>st</sup> readings for the following policies. The Board will consider 2<sup>nd</sup> and final readings of the policies at the September 16 School Board meeting.

- NRHEG Policy 630—Class Size
- NRHEG Policy 635 – Independent Educational Evaluation
- MSBA Revised Policies

### Legislative and Recommended Changes to Policies

- i. Tobacco-Free Environment—419
- ii. Use of Peace Officers—532
- iii. Curriculum Development—603
- iv. Home Schooling—611
- v. School District Accountability—616
- vi. Assessment of Achievement—618
- vii. On-Line Learning—624
- viii. Student Activity Accounting—713

Non-substantive Changes to Policies

- ix. Open Meeting & Closed Meeting—205
- x. Disability Nondiscrimination—402
- xi. Employee-Student Relations—423
- xii. Student Discipline—506
- xiii. Policies Incorporated—523

Policies that must be reviewed annually by the School Board

- xiv. Family & Medical Leave Policy-410
- xv. Harassment & Violence-413
- xvi. Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse-414
- xvii. Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults-415
- xviii. Student Discipline-506
- xix. Bullying Prohibition Policy-514
- xx. Student Sex Nondiscrimination-522
- xxi. Internet Acceptable Use & Safety Policy-524
- xxii. School District System Accountability-616
- xxiii. Crisis Management Policy-806

School Board 2018-2029 Self-Evaluation: The Board discussed the governance and effectiveness of the Board as well as evaluating its progress in achieving 2018-2019 goals.

School Board 2019-2020 Goal Development: The Board worked on developing goals for 2019-2020 and will continue the development and possible approval at the September 16 meeting.

Superintendent 2019-2020 Work Goal Development: The Board and Superintendent worked on developing goals for 2019-2020 and will continue the development and possible approval at the September 16 meeting.

**Miscellaneous**

Statewide Enrollment Options: Three (3) students, from two families living in another district and choosing our District to attend school.