

District Status Report

17 March 2017

2016-17 Report# 34

The purpose for the weekly Status Report is to communicate to members of the School Board important and meaningful information relevant to the business of the school district. The Report is available to the public on the school district's website. Please contact me at 417-2602 if you have any questions regarding information contained in the Status Report. I would also appreciate hearing from you on ways I can improve the Report and make it more meaningful and informative for you.

Dale

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.**

Information – Communication -- Correspondence

1. News From Around the State and Beyond

Safety: Legislators move toward consensus on school-discipline rules

Column: Mandatory seat belts in school buses is not a good idea, research shows

Politics: Bill would limit seniority when it comes to teacher layoffs

Attendance: Chronic absence rates by district

2. 3-20-17 School Board Meeting – A few items to bring attention to . . .

a. Teaching and Learning Feature – Teri Engel and Sue Nelson will present information on the Elementary School's Minnesota Reading Corps Program.

b. Workforce Items

- **Hiring Recommendations and Retirement Notice** – We are excited about having Family and Consumer Science teacher Riley Holmes join us next year as she replaces retiring LaDona Flowers!
- **Job Share Requests for 2017-2018:** The Board will be asked to approve the paraprofessional job share teams for 2017-2018 of Karen Nafe/Donna Olson at the Secondary School, and Judith Tweeten/Lori Tomsche also at the Secondary School.

c. Student Achievement Items

- **Cancelled School Days and Make-up Plans** – The Board will be asked to determine if the cancelled school days on February 24 (inclement weather) and/or March 15 (Girls Basketball State Tournament) are to be reschedule for students. I have listed four options below for the Board's consideration. I share more information on each option in my Agenda Letter to the Board included in the Board packet.

Option A: Extend the student day seven (7) minutes in response to February 24 and not reschedule the March 15 cancelled day.

Option B: Reschedule the February 24 cancelled day to June 7, and not reschedule the March 15 cancelled day

Option C: Reschedule the February 24 cancelled day to June 7, and reschedule the March 15 cancelled day to June 8

Option D: Extend the student day 14 minutes in response to both cancelled days on February 24 and March 15

- **Flexible Learning Day** -- Mr. Bunn and Mr. Anderson will present information supporting an administrative recommendation for the Board to consider approving a plan to schedule up to three (3) Flexible Learning Days for the 2017-2018 school year to be used in the event students and staff are unable to report to their building due to inclement weather or some other unplanned event.
- **2017-2018 School Year Calendar** -- The Board will be asked to consider approval of the 2017-2018 school year calendar as recommended. I have relied again on the involvement of a staff committee to advise me on the development of the calendar. As part of my presentation, I will share highlights of the calendar including a change in parent-teacher conferences at the Elementary School, the scheduling of teacher professional development days within the school year, and plans for up to five (5) cancelled school days for students.

d. Finance Items

- **Budget Development Calendar** – Karla Christopherson and I will present a calendar that identifies the different events throughout the year required in developing the annual budget of the school district. After presenting to the Finance Committee, it was suggested not to have the Board approve the calendar; rather, have administration share as information and provide the Board to ask any questions.
 - **Fund Balance Policy (714) Revision** – The Board will be asked to approve the first reading of the Fund Balance Policy to included revisions. The Finance Committee reviewed the revisions and approved forwarding to the Board for a first reading.
 - **Uniform Grant Guidance Policy (721) adoption** – The Board will also be asked to approve the first reading of the Uniform Grant Guidance Policy. School districts are required to have policies which establish uniform administrative requirements, cost principles, and audit requirements for federal awards to school districts. The Finance Committee reviewed the policy draft and approved forwarding to the Board for a first reading.
2. **Policy Committee** – The Policy Committee plans to meet on Monday, March 20 beginning at 5:30 pm in advance of the regular School Board meeting. The tentative agenda will include review of policy revisions for Consent Agenda (203.6) and Public Comment (206).
 3. **Paraprofessional Negotiations** – The first negotiations meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 21, beginning at 5:30 pm in the Secondary School Board Room.
 4. **Teacher Negotiations** – The first negotiations meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 4, beginning at 5:30 pm in the Secondary School Media Center.
 5. **Community Night Out** -- The annual Community Night Out Live and Silent Auction sponsored by the NRHEG Parent Teacher Organization is scheduled for Saturday, April 1, 2017, to be held at Wedgewood Cove in Albert Lea. The Community Night Out event fundraises for the purpose of contributing to the life of the School District in various ways with a primary focus on students. Participation at the event as well as donations are appreciated.
 6. **Facility Assessment Update** – ISG plans to be in the district on March 30 & 31. I have had the question when will Board members have the opportunity to meet with ISG? The response from ISG has been that typically the Board is the final group to receive the assessment information after ISG has conducted its assessment of the physical and mechanical condition of the facilities as well as staff input pertaining to programming. The Board receives the information and then has the opportunity to share thoughts with ISG. Following Board input and discussion, the Board will then determine next step which may involved putting together a community task force to study the findings and come back to the Board with a recommendation on how to move forward. Let me know if you have questions.
 7. **MSBA Phase III Board Member Training** – MSBA is offering Phase III Trainings for board members at six different locations on six different dates in April. The objective of the training is to build a high-performing school board with a focus on leadership styles and consensus building. The closest location is Rochester on Wednesday, April 19. All trainings are from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm. Please let Sue Kulseth know by April 1 if you are interested in attending. The six locations and dates are:

Wednesday, April 5, 2017 — FERGUS FALLS

Lakes Country Service Cooperative, 1001 East Mount Faith Avenue

Registration deadline: March 29

Thursday, April 6, 2017 — THIEF RIVER FALLS
Quality Inn, 1060 Highway 32 South, Thief River Falls
Registration deadline: March 29

Friday, April 7, 2017 — MOUNTAIN IRON
Northeast Service Cooperative, 5525 Emerald Avenue, Mountain Iron
Registration deadline: March 29

Tuesday, April 11, 2017 — MARSHALL
Southwest/West Central Service Cooperative, 1420 East College Drive, Marshall
Registration deadline: April 4

Tuesday, April 18, 2017 — MAPLE GROVE (Note: This workshop was originally scheduled for April 20)
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, 11801 Fountains Way North, Maple Grove
Registration deadline: April 11

Wednesday, April 19, 2017 — ROCHESTER
210 Wood Lake Meeting Center, 210 Wood Lake Drive SE, Rochester
Registration deadline: April 11

School Board Calendar of Events

March 20, 2017	5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Policy Committee Meeting – Elementary School Media Center Regular School Board Meeting – Elementary School Media Center
March 21, 2017	5:30 pm	Paraprofessional Negotiations Meeting – Board Room
March 29, 2017	5:00 pm	Building and Grounds Committee Meeting – Board Room
April 4, 2017	5:30 pm	Teacher Association Negotiations – Secondary School Media Center
April 17, 2017	6:30 pm	Regular School Board Meeting – Secondary School Media Center
May 15, 2017	6:30 pm	Regular School Board Meeting – Elementary School Media Center

Dale's Calendar for March 20 - 24 (As of 3-17-17)

Monday	10:00 am 11:30 pm 1:30 pm 2:00 pm 2:30 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Meeting with Staff Member Monthly Superintendent Lunch Meeting Check in with Dave Check in with Karla Check in with Sue Policy Committee Meeting School Board Meeting
Tuesday	8:00 am 8:30 am	MASA Day at the Capitol Administrative Team Meeting

	3:30 pm	Wellness Committee Meeting
	5:30 pm	Paraprofessional Negotiations Meeting
Wednesday	9:00 am	Elementary Staffing
	2:00 pm	Secondary Staffing
Thursday		In the District
Friday	7:30 am	School Board Meeting Agenda Planning with Board Chair
	10:00 am	Meeting with Karla – Food Service Audit
	1:00 pm	March 30 Inservice Planning with Doug, Dave, and Terri

Thank you for all you do!