

# *District Status Report*

*12 May 2017*

*2016-17 Report# 42*

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

Compassion restores the humanity in your work

The 4 things employees want

Community: New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva students plant garden for food shelf

3 ways to help build success in rural schools

### 2. 4-17-17 School Board Meeting – A few items to bring attention to . . .

- a. Teaching and Learning Feature – Elementary teacher Jessica Williams and students will share information about the Prairie Fire Children’s Theatre.
- b. Visitors – Gail Schmidt will be in attendance to present New Richland Foundation Grants
- c. Student Achievement Item
  - **Summer Workout Program** – Activities Director Dan Stork will be in attendance at the Board meeting Monday night to present a proposal to offer a summer workout program for students who will be in grades 7-12 next school year. The Board is being asked to take action on the summer program due to a fee being charged to students to participate in the program. Students participating in the program will be charged a \$50 participation fee. For those participants who will eventually be participating in a school activity for the 2017-2018 school year, their \$50 fee will be applied to their required activity fee. For participants in the summer program who do not participate in a school activity in which an activity fee is required, the \$50 fee will go towards fitness room and equipment maintenance and upgrades. Mr. Stork will provide further details and be able to respond to questions.
- d. Student Support Item
  - **Board Policy 533: Wellness First Reading** – The Board will be asked to approve the first reading of our revised Wellness policy. The Wellness Policy Committee has been working for the past several months to revise the policy to reflect mandated requirement changes to take effect July 1, 2017. Waseca and Steele County Public Health has provided guidance for us in combination with MSBA. This policy has not gone through the Board’s Policy Committee due to the involvement of the Wellness Policy Committee which includes staff, parent, student, and Board member representation. School Nurse Carrie Petsinger will be present at the Board meeting to share specific changes as well as respond to questions the Board may have.
- e. Finance Items
  - **2017-2018 Budget** – A preliminary 2017-2018 budget presentation will be made at Monday’s Board meeting. At this time, we are planning to present a deficit budget of approximately \$73,000 due in part to expenses we believe are critical to our efforts in achieving goals and objectives in our Strategic Plan. Our fund balance is favorable, which should allow the Board to invest in one-time expenses that are not recurring on an annual basis. Examples include investing in curriculum resources that are past due as well as our ongoing commitment as a district to instructional technology. We will continue to work towards a balanced budget for the June Board meeting, but the potential exists that the adopted budget recommendation will include a planned deficit budget. As we approach the 2017-2018 school year, we will be monitoring key variables such as our projected student enrollment which is a significant resource for revenue.

- **School Finance and Financial Planning Model** - Business Manager, Ms. Christopherson, and I have been researching potential models and tools available to best assist us in achieving the goals and objectives set by the board specific to the development of a three-year budget forecast. We will be presenting a recommendation to purchase the Financial Planning Model and related support services from School Finances. Benefits of the Financial Planning model:
  1. Brings together all components of financial planning (budget, staffing, audit info) in one system
  2. Allows the analysis of future implications of current decisions – referendum changes, budget reductions, state funding changes, etc
  3. Annual updates to insure compliance with legislative funding changes
  4. Includes a 5 year enrollment and revenue projection
  5. Currently used by 82 districts in the state – from enrollments of 500-37,000+

A proposal from School Finances is in your packet. You will see an annual cost of \$3,349 over three years for the program and services. You will not be asked to take action on this recommendation Monday night. However, the Board will be asked to consider approval at the June Board meeting.

- **Waste Management Renewal** – I will be recommending the District renews its agreement with Waste Management for our trash removal and recycling services. The agreement is for three years. The quote from Waste Management for 2017-2018 is less than the cost for services for 2016-2017. The Waste Management agreement is included in your Board packet. We only had one other quote submitted from Thompson Sanitation which was higher than the Waste Management quote.
- **2017-2018 Health Insurance Plan** – At the April 17 School Board meeting, the Board approved to renew the South Central Service Cooperative (SCSC) 2017-2018 Health Insurance Plan. Since April 17, the District received additional information from Blue Cross Blue Shield that included lower rates for plans with minimal changes. Representatives of the Teacher Association attended a presentation on the updated plans and quotes. I will be recommending the Board approve the revised 2017-2018 Health Insurance Plan.

f. Workforce Items

- **Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Wage and Benefits** – I plan to present recommended changes to the LPN wage and benefits that increases the maximum per hour wage from \$16.87 to \$17.50, and to add a District monthly contribution of up to \$300 to the employee’s health insurance premium cost. The recommended changes are due to the District’s ability to attract and retain qualified LPN candidates.
- **2017-2018 Staffing Plan** -- I will present to the Board a staffing plan reflecting staffing level changes from 2016-2017 to 2017-2018. I will highlight changes to the plan since the presentation of the preliminary plan at the April 17 School Board meeting. Very little has changed since the April 17 presentation. Perhaps the most significant change is that I have removed the request to include contingency staffing due to budget limitations at this time. The recommended plan reflects a projected budget increase in staffing of about \$20,000.

2. **ISG in the District** – ISG completed its site assessment of the Elementary School on May 1. Now we wait for ISG to put together their report to present to the Board.

3. **Paraprofessional Negotiations** –The negotiation teams held its third session on May 8. The next session is planned for Monday, May 23, beginning at 6:00 pm in the Secondary School Board Room.
4. **Teacher Negotiations** – The negotiation teams held its third session on May 3. The next session is planned for Wednesday, May 17 beginning at 5:30 pm in the Secondary School Media Center.
5. **Years of Service and Retirement Recognition** – Please save the date of June 6 at 2:30 pm in the Secondary School Commons where all staff will gather to celebrate those achieving significant milestones in their service to the school district and to education. We will also be recognizing staff members who are retiring from the school district.
6. **Graduation Plans** – Rick Schultz and Karen Flatness will be assisting with diplomas at commencement on Sunday, June 4, at 2:00 pm.

### **School Board Calendar of Events**

May 15, 2017	5:45 pm 6:30 pm	Building and Grounds Committee Meeting – Elementary School Regular School Board Meeting – Elementary School Media Center
May 17, 2017	5:30 pm	Teacher Association Negotiations – Secondary School Media Center
May 21, 2017	7:00 pm	Baccalaureate – Secondary School Gymnasium
May 23, 2017	6:00 pm	Paraprofessional Association Negotiations – Sec. School Board Room
June 4, 2017	2:00 pm	Graduation – Secondary School Gymnasium
June 19, 2017	6:30 pm	Regular School Board Meeting – Secondary School Media Center

### **Dale's Calendar for May 15 - 19 (As of 5-12-17)**

Monday	9:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 1:30 pm 2:00 pm 2:30 pm 5:45 pm 6:30 pm	Check in with Doug Check in with Terri Monthly Superintendent Lunch Meeting Check in with Dave Check in with Karla Check in with Sue Building and Grounds Committee Meeting School Board Meeting
Tuesday	8:30 am 1:00 pm	Administrative Team Meeting Meeting with Karla
Wednesday	8:30 am 9:00 am 12:30 pm 5:30 pm	Reality Store LPN Interviews Nancy R. Teacher Negotiations
Thursday	7:30 am 1:00 pm	School Board Meeting Agenda Planning with Board Chair Meeting with Corrine on Employee Retention
Friday		Out of District

**Thank you for all you do!**