

# *District Status Report*

*15 February 2019*

*2018-2019 Report #29*

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. **2-19-19 School Board Meeting** – A few items to bring attention to . . .
  - a. Teaching and Learning Feature – Reach Program Update by Robin Eder and Brooke Krohn
  - b. Within the Consent Agenda . . .
    - 1) Resignation/Retirement
    - 2) Statewide Enrollment Options
    - 3) 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Board Policy 503 (Student Attendance)
  - c. Under Reports,
    - 1) Reading of Superintendent Mid-year Performance Review
  - d. Under Recommended Actions, the Board will be asked to take action on the following item(s):
    - 1) Intermediate District 288 Resolution
    - 2) Resolution for Reduction of Programs and Positions
    - 3) Student Handbook Revisions regarding Student Attendance Procedures
    - 4) Resolution Appointing Election Judges for the April 9, 2019 School District Special Election
2. **MSBA Negotiations Seminar** – Karla Christopherson and I will be attending the February 27 seminar in Mankato. There is still time to join us. Please let Sue Kulseth know if you are interested. If the 27<sup>th</sup> does not work for you, you could attend on the 28<sup>th</sup> in Rochester.
3. **Referendum Information Sessions Sign-up** – Please continue to update the sheet on information sessions that we reviewed at the Board work session. If you have confirmed with a group, please put the date and time down in the appropriate column and highlight it yellow. I would appreciate a call or e-mail so that I could get it on my calendar and possibly attend with you. Call with questions.
4. **School Cancellation Policy** – A Board member had contacted me this past week sharing a question about delaying, canceling, or dismissing early due to weather and if we had a Board policy we follow? We do not have a Board policy. The long-time practice of the school district is for the Superintendent to have sole responsibility in deciding when and if schools should be closed due to inclement weather. It was mentioned that Albert Lea School District has a policy which is Board Policy 707.2 titled “Inclement Weather School Closings.” (see below)

*District 241 consists of a large rural student population. Therefore, many students spend a long time and travel considerable distances to and from school. Recognizing that very young as well as older students are being transported, a decision to close schools must on occasion be made with the safety of students the uppermost consideration.*

*The Superintendent and Director of Facilities and Transportation have sole responsibility for deciding when and if schools should be closed due to inclement weather. Agencies such as the National Weather Service, Freeborn County Sheriff, MDT Road Information and the District 241 contracted bus company, are contacted before a decision is made. School officials also review no less than two (2) computerized weather service agencies when making their decision.*

*Other Emergency Closings: If an emergency is deemed to exist, school may be closed at the discretion of the Superintendent or his designee. Other such emergencies include mechanical failure of essential equipment affecting the comfort and safety of pupils and teachers, failure of public utilities, epidemics, or damage to buildings by fire or weather.*

*Emergency Openings: The Board or their designee will open schools for emergencies (blizzards, etc.) only when requested by Civil Defense or other appropriate authorities and when proper supervision is provided.*

*The Senior High School shall be designated as an "Emergency Housing Relief Center" in cooperation with the County Red Cross. The Red Cross also may use the same facilities as a Blood Collecting Station. All arrangements, other than severe emergencies, must be made through the Community Education Office.*

While we do not have a policy, our procedures are very similar. I work closely with our lead bus driver and the principals. We often are out in our vehicles surveying the conditions either early in the morning or late at night. I utilize the National Weather Service mostly beginning with monitoring the NWS Hourly Forecast Graph. This tool has served me well over the years. As needed, we are in contact with local, county, and state officials. I am also in close communication with area superintendents. If the Board is interested, I will draft a policy for consideration, but I would not recommend specifics such as differentiating between advisories, watches, and warnings. Don't hesitate to call me at any time regarding a decision to delay, close, or dismiss early.

- 5. **Quarterly Check ins** – Sue Kulseth will be in touch with you in the next week to schedule your quarterly check-in with me. Dates are targeted for March 19 (3 – 8 pm), 20 (8 am – 8 pm), and 21 (8 am – 8 pm).

## School Board Calendar of Events

February 19, 2019 (Tuesday)	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting – Secondary School Media Center
February 27, 2019	8:30 am	MSBA Negotiations Seminar – Mankato
February 28, 2019	8:30 am	MSBA Negotiations Seminar – Rochester
March 11, 2019	6:00 pm	Elementary School Open House (April 9 Special Election)
March 14, 2019	6:00 pm	Secondary School Open House (April 9 Special Election)
March 18, 2019	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting – Elementary School Media Center
<b>April 9, 2019</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>SPECIAL ELECTION</b></span>		
April 16, 2019 (Tuesday)	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting – Secondary School Media Center

## Dale's Calendar for February 18 – 22 (As of 2-8-19)

Monday		Buildings Closed – Presidents Day
	6:30 pm	Ellendale Lions – Referendum Presentation
Tuesday	10:00 am	Administrative Team Meeting
	2:00 pm	Meeting with Dave and Richard
	3:15 pm	Monthly Check in with Teacher President
	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting
Wednesday	7:30 am	Insurance Meeting – Secondary School

9:00 am Secondary Staffing Planning Meeting  
10:00 am Evaluation Conference  
1:00 pm Elementary Staffing Planning Meeting  
3:30 pm Insurance Meeting – Elementary School

Thursday 8:30 am Administrative Team Meeting  
12:30 pm Everyday Communications Class  
3:30 pm Continuing Education Committee Meeting  
6:30 pm City of Ellendale Referendum Presentation

Friday 8:00 am School Board meeting agenda planning with Board Chair  
Out of District in PM

Thank you for all you do!