

District Status Report

17 June 2016

2015-16 Report# 45

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.**

[The next Status Report will be Friday, July 1, as I will be out of the office most of next week.](#)

Information – Communication -- Correspondence

1. News From Around the State and Beyond

Politics: Gov. Dayton, legislative leaders no closer to agreement on public works and taxes

Politics: Minnesota pension changes get pushed off to next year

2. 6-20-16 School Board Meeting Preview – A few items to bring attention to . . .

- a. Elementary Playground Update – Representatives from the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) will present an update on the purchase and installation of the first and second phases of the new playgrounds for the Elementary School. The PTO will plan to present an updated donation total for the Board to accept. We plan to have motions accepting the Playground donation funds, as well as the purchase of Phase II.
- b. General Obligation Crossover Refunding Bonds Sales -- The Board will be asked to ratify the sale of the General Obligation Crossover Refunding Bonds, Series 2016A of the District as presented at the May 16 School Board meeting by Northland Securities. As presented in May, the goal was to maximize debt service cost savings. At the May 16 Board meeting, the Board set a minimum target cost savings amount of \$65,000.00 based on a preliminary net savings projection of \$72,414. The final net cost savings by ratifying the sale Monday night will be \$71,506.
- c. NRHEG ASFCME Agreement for 2016-2018: I will be recommending that the board approve the NRHEG ASFCME Agreement for 2016-2018. A tentative two-year agreement was reached on May 23 with the AFSCME membership voting in favor of the tentative agreement on June 1. Thank you to members of both negotiation teams for their time and commitment to the process. Joining me on the District's team included board members: Rick Schultz, Lori Routh, Michele Moxon, and Business Manager Karla Christopherson. Highlights of the agreement include:
 - Ability to carry over up to five (5) days of unused vacation
 - Insert a mediation step in the grievance process
 - 8.05% compensation package increase that includes:
 - Wage rate increase averaging 3% each of the two years of the agreement
 - A full step movement recognizing years of service for each year of the agreement
- d. Revised Budget for 2015-2016: I will be recommending that the board approve the revised budget for 2015-2016 as presented with a projected revenue of \$10,746,150 and expenditures of \$10,737,876.
- e. Budget for 2016-2017: I will be recommending that the board adopt the proposed budget for the 2016-2017 year as presented with a projected revenue of \$10,731,430 and expenditures of \$10,703,206.
- f. Unrequested Leave for 2016-2017: I will be recommending the board approve the Unrequested Leave for two teachers for the 2016-17 school year. One reduction is for 0.33 FTE as a result of the uncertainty of a more senior teacher securing a variance after July 1 for a portion of his contract. The other reduction is for 0.1 FTE due to a reduction in student enrollment.
- g. Job Share Request: As part of my Superintendent's Report, I plan to share the Administrative Process and Guidelines I have developed with the input from administrative staff,

paraprofessionals requesting the new job share, and other members of the Paraprofessional Association. I am recommending moving forward with the job share request by Secondary School paraprofessionals Judy Tweeten and Lori Tomsche for the 2016-17 school year. This is a new administrative process which includes Board approval of the request with the recommendations of the principal and superintendent.

- h. First Reading of Revised MSBA Board Policies – The Board’s Policy Committee met on June 14 to review the revised policies forwarded to us by the Minnesota School Board Association. Board members were forwarded the policies several weeks ago. The Policy Committee recommends the Board approve the revised policies as forwarded to us by MSBA. Committee members Rick Schultz, JoAnn Maloney, and Michele Moxon will be prepared to respond to questions Board members may have regarding their review of the recommended policy revisions. If approved by the Board, the Board will then be asked to consider approval of the second and final reading at the July School Board meeting.
- i. Under the information section at the end of the Agenda, you will notice we have added a statement regarding the potential for Board members to gather informally following the Board meeting. This is intended to be open and transparent with the public regarding the potential where Board members gather to enjoy conversation and fellowship that does not include School District business. Please let me know if you have any questions.

There are a number of other important items under New Business for Monday night. Please let me know in advance of the meeting if you have any questions.

- 3. **Tobacco Use on School Grounds:** I was contacted this week by a health educator at the Steele County Public Health Department who works on tobacco use prevention for the County regarding a call she received from a concerned citizen asking about tobacco use on the Ellendale school property, specifically the park/ball fields. The report was that this individual frequently witnesses smoking on the property. We have reviewed our policies and believe it is stated that tobacco use is not permitted on school district property. I am in the process of ordering additional signs through the County to place in specific areas.
- 4. **Board Member Check-ins with Dale** -- Thank you for arranging a time with Sue to meet with me in July. Please let me know in advance of our meeting of any items you would like me to address.
- 5. **Soccer Transportation** -- A parent contacted me this week to reask the question about the District providing transportation for our student-athletes who are part of our co-op team with Waseca. I thanked him for his call.

School Board Calendar of Events

June 20, 2016	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting – Secondary School Media Center
July 18, 2016	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting – Elementary School Media Center

Dale's Calendar for June 20 – July 1 (As of 6-9-16)

Week of June 20

Monday	8:30 am 6:30 pm	Legislative Update by MDE in Mankato School Board Meeting
Tuesday		Out of District
Wednesday		Out of District
Thursday		Out of District
Friday		Out of District

Week of June 27

Monday	1:30 pm 2:00 pm	Check in with Karla Check in with Sue
Tuesday	8:00 am 1:00 pm	Performance Review Performance Review
Wednesday	9:00 am	Budget Development Process Planning with Karla
Thursday		In the District
Friday		Out of District

Thank you for all you do!