



Board of Education Recap

October 29, 2018

Last night, the Board of Education approved a reduction to our school's mill rate that returned the mill rate to pre-referendum levels. **In fact, the mill rate will be \$1.02 per \$1,000 of equalized value less than it was last year at this time.** Please read below for additional important news coming from last night's Board of Education meeting...

Report from October 23 WASB Fall Regional Meeting and Workshop: Board members Lipska and Sailor attended the Wisconsin Association of School Board's (WASB) Fall Regional meeting and workshop on Tuesday, October 23, in Monona. These events offer professional development and permit recognition for board members. Both President Lipska and Treasurer Sailor received certificates for their continued commitment to professional development.

Third Friday Update: Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance, Mr. Scott DeYoung, spoke of this year's report to the Department of Instruction. The DPI has identified the third Friday in September as the date which districts throughout the state count the number of students. This number is used for purposes of funding. As many may recall, our largest graduating class exited the District this past May; however, we only had a small dip in our total count.

In action items...

- The Board approved several policies on second reading (Sexual Harassment, Drug Free Workplace, Rules of Order, and Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings). At the same time, the Board revised their "Welcome Brochure" to reflect the advice received from legal counsel at a recent Board workshop.
- In addition, at the request of members of the High School English Department, a minor course revision was made to our Shakespeare class. The team felt it was important to consider expanding the scope of this class and retitling it "British Literature." This was approved.
- Each year on October 15, public school districts are informed of their official state aid amount from the Department of Public Instruction for the current school year. (As you may know, we are approximately one-third through this year's fiscal budget.) This number is important to finalizing our budget at the end of each October. At last night's meeting, the Board adopted a revised budget for 2018-19, certified the tax levy and designated our fund equity. In short, the mill rate proposed by administration and approved by the Board is slightly smaller than what was considered at our Annual Meeting in August (\$9.45 per \$1,000 of equalized value versus \$9.92 per \$1,000 of equalized value). This marks a decrease in the mill rate from 2017-2018, when it was \$10.47 per \$1,000 of equalized value).

We are looking forward to our next meeting, November 5, at which time we will be celebrating our student of the month from the Primary Center. In the meantime, I remain...

...proud to be a Viking and I hope you are too!

Steve