

Board of Education Recap

June 3, 2019

Whoever coined the term "lazy days of summer" likely never attended a Mount Horeb Area School District Board of Education meeting during the month of June.

Here are a few highlights from last night's busy meeting.



Student Recognition: The High School's administrative team were on hand to recognize Kysa Ibinger, soonto-be-senior! Kysa's all-around-positive disposition was just the just the beginning in a long list of reasons for her selection as a student of the month. Those in attendance at Monday night's meeting heard from a number of Kysa's teachers who wrote about Kysa's fortitude, penchant for assisting others, and contributions to the success of the High School's program. The evening was made even more special by sharing it with Kysa's family. Kvsa is pictured with her loving mom and dad (Julie and Terry Ibinger), sister and brother (Kamryn (10) and **Nicolas** (6), high school administrators (Rick Penniston, Deanne Lensert, and Kolleen Nesheim). Board of

Education President (**Diana Rothamer**), High School liaison (**Rod Hise**), and me. Listening to all of the contributions Kysa makes to our community we hope she will find some time to enjoy a little "down time" this summer!

<u>Draft Dress Code Policy</u> Members of the Board's "Safety and Wellness Committee" updated their colleagues on an effort that has been several months in the making. Upon surveying staff and talking with students in grade level forums, a draft dress code policy was shared (<u>Please find it here</u>). It is important to hear directly from families prior to any BOE vote (which may occur on June 17). If this topic is "near and dear" to you, won't you please take a moment to review it and drop <u>Brian Johnson</u> (Director of Student Services) and/or <u>myself</u> a line?

<u>Referendum Project Update</u>: Fresh off the District's latest referendum Progress Report (please find that here), Mr. **Dave Reed** (Building Services Coordinator), Mr. **Scott DeYoung** (Associate Superintendent for Business and Finance), **Mr. Kevin McGuire** (Kraemer Brother's Project Manager), and I updated the Board on various milestones. Chief of among them is the project's continuing status as "on-time" and under-budget with

the new addition. As it relates to all the renovation work taking place at the High School, Dave Reed said it best, "With all of the construction workers onsite it looks like an ant colony."

From a budgetary perspective, we remain in an enviable position. That has given the Board pause to consider what/how many additional projects can be considered using the earned savings and within the framework of the community's April 2017 authorized borrow. During the Board's June 17 meeting, the administrative team, with the assistance of Bray and Associates, will recommend additional work based on the District's Long Range Facility Plan. It is essential that we receive the community's feedback. I hope you will please consider attending this meeting to share your perspective. We anticipate the vast majority of any new work would be completed in the summer of 2020.

<u>School Showcase- High School</u>: Despite the construction, it has been a productive year. The High School's administrative team shared progress made on each of their school goals. Their presentation can be found here.

In closing, I am enjoying the tweets, Instagram pictures, and Snapstories that our Vikings are sharing of their travels. (There's a sentence we could not have imagined ten years ago!) Our music students are enjoying a swing through New Orleans and our middle school students are experiencing the beauty and historical significance of our nation's Capital. I am grateful to our staff and parents for providing these enrichment experiences. It makes me...

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

Steve