

Board of Education Recap September 17, 2019

Last night the Board of Education discussed a number of important topics. I thought you might enjoy seeing an update:

School Resource Officer Exploratory Committee – This past April, the Board of Education hosted a listening session to gauge the extent to which, if any, the community would be interested in hiring a districtwide School Resource Officer (SRO). At that time, the Board listened/heard from many individuals who shared their perspective about any potential partnership between the Mount Horeb School District and Village. Both entities encouraged leaders to assemble an exploratory committee to make a recommendation. As a result, a cross-section of students, parents, and staff met on a number of occasions throughout the summer to learn and discuss the implications of recommending or not recommending an SRO. Ultimately, consensus was reached between team members, and their work turned to building a program that reflects the attributes of the most successful partnerships. The team paid particular attention to research and what *not* to do. Ultimately, the exploratory committee came up with this recommendation for both governmental bodies. This memorandum of understanding was co-developed, as a result of the committee's work. On September 4, 2019, the Village of Mount Horeb unanimously approved the partnership. Last night, the Board of Education approved this arrangement, save minor changes to the MOU.

<u>School Goals</u> – As part of August's back-to-school meetings, staff have reviewed performance data to determine where we can further improve. Using the Board's strategic plan, <u>Vision 2023</u>, staff feedback, four "big rocks" were identified:

Vision: By the 2023-2024 school year, all schools will have a fully functioning MLSS for academic and behavioral systems and needs. Vision: By the 2023-2024 school year, the district will have defined common grading practices and a standards or outcomes-based assessment reporting system.

Vision: By the 2023-2024 school year, students are served within classrooms with their peers to reduce learning achievement and growth gaps.

Vision: By the 2023-2024 school year, all students in grades 5-12 will have access to a mobile learning device and K-4 will have increased access

How we reach these "big, hairy, audacious goals" requires careful planning. Each of the District's five buildings are at different readiness levels on their journey to meeting these BHAGs by 2023-2024. As such, each principal was on hand last night to share with the Board the collaborative efforts happening in realizing the desired results. You can find the principals' presentation by <u>clicking here</u>.

Odds and Ends...

- The Board authorized use of referendum savings to complete all flooring needs at the High School. This would be in the areas shown in light blue <u>on this map</u> (primarily around our music and Auxiliary Gymnasium hallway).
- > The District's "Meal Charges" policy was updated to reflect the requirements noted by the USDA.

In closing, our Vikings are beginning to find their groove for the school year. I recognize there may still be some hiccups around the District. If I can be of service in addressing concerns and/or connecting you to the proper people to assist you, it is never a problem for your to reach out to me – <u>salernosteve@mhasd.k12.wi.us</u> or 608-437-7010. In the meantime,...

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

Steve