

**Superintendent Report: June Board Meeting**  
**Submitted on June 24, 2021**

**ADMINISTRATIVE WORK:**

**End of Year Work:** All of the administrators completed our end-of-year meetings with all staff that include a discussion of evaluations, maintenance concerns, tech requests and other feedback, for DEA, DESPA and all other staff. We continue to use the Marzano School Leader evaluation tool to evaluate the three administrators, which aligns with the Marzano tool that we use for teachers and support staff. The principals have also been completing other end-of-year reports and successfully launched our robust summer school.

We spent much of last week working on school improvement by spending time analyzing our data, examining best practice and working through the submissions made by each AIT as part of completion of the new MICIP state reporting tool. We met with Amanda VanDerHeyden to talk through our math data and also reviewed our FastBridge literacy data. Based on our review of our data and systems, we will be adding an AIT for Literacy next fall with a focus on examination of our MTSS system, Tier 2 interventions and working on creating a love of/culture of literacy by reading *The Book Whisperer*.

Quite a bit of time has been spent by all of us in interviewing for open positions. We conduct thorough background checks and have a rigorous, standardized process for hiring that we do for every person we hire, which is time-consuming, but has proven to be effective overall.

**ATHLETICS:**

**Athletic Updates:** We are very excited to welcome Mr. Dassance to our Aggie Family as our new Athletic Director. We held a Meet and Greet last week for the athletic department and invited the board members to attend as well. It was a great turnout and we appreciate everyone who found a way to attend to meet him. His first official day is July 1, but he has been here quite a bit meeting with Ms. Minnis and getting to know our coaches, families and student-athletes.

Our baseball and softball teams both won district championships this spring, which is very special as this was our first season using both fields and we hosted both! Our track team placed 6<sup>th</sup> at the state meet with two competitors who placed in multiple events- Jalen Nelson and Carson Voss.

We also hosted soccer districts this spring while also holding an outdoor graduation ceremony. Much thanks to Mike Sykes for juggling all of this and helping make each area look pristine for our district!

We were told this week that we have been selected to host boys' basketball districts again next year. Again, we are being selected much more for these events with our new facilities, so we continue to be so thankful to the community for the investment they made.

## **BUDGET UPDATES:**

**Planning:** The ISD business service staff will share an update regarding Revision 2 of the 2020-21 budget as well as a proposed budget for 21-22. We are anticipating just under a 14% fund balance for this year and project a fund balance of approximately 10.67% for next year, based on student enrollment of 740. This would be a reduction of 7 students from this year's fall count, but is also a very conservative estimate. Enrollment data is being updated regularly when we receive updated information. We have several new factors that are playing into the count this year because of the enrollment changes that happened as a result of the pandemic. While this is a crucial factor for next year's budget, the fact that the state hasn't established a budget for schools is also very significant.

We will again not change any of our lunch or breakfast prices for next year since we will continue to offer free breakfast and lunch to all students next year.

Our business services agreement with Ingham ISD is also up for renewal and on the agenda. We had a one-year agreement due to the terrible budget projections we were given and we are now in need of an updated agreement. We have an amazing partnership and the district has benefited significantly from this relationship.

Similar to the technology agreement, the ISD was having to significantly subsidize our contract with their own funds, so there is a bigger than usual increase for the first year, followed by smaller increases the following years. The new contract will still involve small ISD subsidies, but will be more in line with what is typical. We will need more assistance than normal for the next three years because of all of the reporting and accountability required with our receipt of federal funds related to COVID.

## **COMMUNICATION:**

**District Communication:** We are in the process of finalizing the spring/summer newsletter. We will highlight graduation and several other special events that occurred at the end of the school year as well as previewing plans for Registration Day this fall.

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH/PARTNERSHIPS:**

**Student school board representatives:** Both Sydney Hagelberger (fall) and Hugh Service (spring) will continue as reps for next year and Markas Hamlin (winter) will be our third rep.

**District Kudos:** It was an honor to represent the district in an interview with Athena International, founded by Martha Mertz. I had the chance to speak with Martha and Nancy Colflesh as they are looking for women leaders to include in an upcoming new book that will be published about the Athena Leadership Model. It was an honor to be asked to spend this valuable time with both of these inspiring women.

## **CURRICULUM/TRAINING:**

**PD:** Teams of teachers met throughout this month to work on various parts of their assessment process. Several teachers will also be attending Orton-Gillingham literacy training next month and starting in August there are several teacher training events scheduled.

**DSIT:** Our DSIT teacher leaders attend the June board meeting as part of their responsibility on this team, so they will be sharing the work their teams accomplished as a special presentation. Our math team didn't have a DSIT member, so I will be sharing the work this team accomplished as they finished up in January of this year and we then switched to working on social studies.

**County Instructional Leaders Meeting:** Our county instructional leaders meeting was held in June and we discussed several topics related to curriculum and instruction.

**DATA:**

**Misc:** We have not yet received our school data from the spring testing. We also anticipate the AP test scores sometime in July.

**Third Grade Reading Law:** None of our third graders were retained.

**FACILITIES:**

**Update:** We are moving forward with scheduled roof repairs as well as installation of a steel roof on the bus garage.

**PERSONNEL UPDATE:**

**Staffing:** We have now finalized a decision regarding our elementary behavior room. Due to the lack of other options for both our students and students in a neighboring district, we will keep this program for next year. This has resulted in a reassignment of existing staff to work with our middle school students and we were fortunate enough to hire a new elementary teacher to fill that vacancy. At this point, we have filled all of our open positions and we feel we have OUTSTANDING new teachers/reassigned teachers in every open role in the district.

There was a great turnout for the last day of school staff appreciation lunch provided by the Board and we heard wonderful feedback from the staff about how much they appreciated it!

**POLICY WORK:**

**Update:** The Policy Committee met to discuss meeting minutes and public participation through the policy lens and an update will be given at the Board meeting.

**SAFETY:**

We ended the 2020-21 school year with all staff and students healthy, which is a blessing that cannot be overstated. So many people contributed to the development and execution of safety protocols for every aspect of school... and we are now able to reflect on how blessed we are that no staff or students were lost to COVID this year.

**TEACHING AND LEARNING:**

We look forward to the elementary teachers using the Amplify Science curriculum next year and no other new curriculum adoptions are planned for next year.

**TECHNOLOGY:**

We have continued to ensure that we are outfitting classrooms and other learning spaces with updated technology in concert with our ISD technology partners. New computers, additional Promethean Boards and other technology will be added before fall.

**Upcoming Dates of Note:**

Registration Day- August 10

Opening Day for staff- August 16

(Board members are invited to attend the Welcome Back Breakfast at 8 AM in the MS Commons)

First Day of School- August 17

Check out the Aggie App Calendar to find upcoming school events!