

Superintendent Report: July Board Meeting
Submitted on July 20, 2019

Administrative work:

Our team worked together to complete the Program Evaluation Tool, the District Improvement Plan and the Elementary, Middle and HS School Improvement Plans. We incorporated the research and work we did throughout the entire year related to improving MTSS and the feedback from MSU professors Courtenay Morsi and Adrea Trunkenmiller as well as the author of Spring Math, Amanda VanDerHeyden.

We also met in July to discuss the work that needs to be completed by the time school starts. We divided to conquer it by our first admin meeting in early August. The shortened summer has a big impact on the work that needs to be completed by the admin team to prepare for the new school year.

Athletics:

We are currently looking for a new JV girls' basketball coach. Don Hamilton has resigned due to changes in his other work that make the coaching time commitment no long possible.

Christy has been working hard to plan the first Athletic Department Golf Outing Fundraiser. She has been getting sponsors, silent auction donations and teams. She and I will be working on developing an athletic department asset management plan as part of her goals for this year.

Budget Info:

We had Registration Packet pick up last week and enrolled several new students- some new to our district and others coming from surrounding school districts. We will have a better idea about student count after Registration Day on August 13. One area that needs further evaluation based upon student enrollment is whether we need to add a first grade teacher. This is a crucial factor for next year's budget, but we are still facing a lot of uncertainty since the state hasn't established a budget for schools.

Communication:

We posted the Spring/Summer district newsletter online and have been getting good feedback about its professionalism, information and overall format.

Community Outreach/Partnerships:

I met several members of the Class of 1969 on Saturday, July 13 to give them a tour of all of our schools as part of their 50th reunion. It was very nice to meet these Aggies and get their feedback about the school. We also talked about the sinking fund and several who still live in Dansville were very supportive of it being on the ballot in November.

Curriculum/Training:

Jerrold Braman will be attending another weeklong training from code.org this summer to enable us to offer an introduction to computer science course this fall. We will add this to the AP Computer Science course that was implemented this past year to round out that part of the curriculum.

Data

We sent our MSTEP preliminary results to Amanda VanDerHeyden as she and Courtenay Morsi plan to help us develop a program evaluation tool and analyze the impact of Spring Math on scores based on dosage.

Facilities:

Progress continues to be made in completion of the punch lists, as well as completion of the outdoor work. The outdoor work was sped up by the involvement and work of Chris Schmidt. Chris, Mike and I continue to meet with the construction team and architects regularly to ensure the project progresses towards completion. Key finishes recently include seeding the baseball and softball fields.

I was originally planning to bring the Board a proposal regarding increasing the fees associated with renting the facilities this month, but I feel it is best to wait until the November meeting in hopes to roll out changes no earlier than January.

In light of the reduction in on-staff facilities personnel, the district will be working with staff from the ISD for one year to collect data and will then determine next steps/needs for the 2020-21 school year.

Personnel Update:

We are very excited to share we hired a kindergarten teacher! Kait Bujaki joined our staff at the beginning of July and has already been at work getting her room ready for fall.

Our teacher evaluation data finished with most of our teachers being evaluated as highly effective. This is a combination of the data from classroom observations as well as a small percentage including state and student growth data.

Policy Update:

The policy committee met at the end of June and those policies are included in the July Board packet.

Safety:

We are updating gas shutoff information, room numbers and such in our Emergency Operations Plan. We have continued to work on this.

Teaching and Learning:

We have several secondary teachers and one administrator heading to two days of training called Reading Apprenticeship. This is a very impactful and effective training that other staff have attended in past years. Teachers learn how to incorporate reading strategies into content areas such as science and social studies.

Technology:

Andy and I are continuing to try to find funding outside of the general fund to replace the aging Smartboards in the elementary. We are hoping to start with Kindergarten and then will replace others based on a needs assessment of the current Smartboards.

Upcoming Dates of Note:

*Registration Day- August 13

*Opening Day for staff- August 19; The Board is invited to the Back to School breakfast at 8 AM in the MS Commons

*First Day of School- August 20

*Board Meeting- August 26

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