



## **School Board Communication from the High School Principal**

**July 9, 2018**

### **Summer Activities**

**Reports to MDE** ~ In June we submitted the MARSS report and the Disciplinary Incident Reporting System (DIRS) reports for both the high school and middle school.

**Middle School Redesign** ~ The administrative and counseling staff have met twice over the summer to continue work on future middle school programming and scheduling. We are at a point where we need to work with JMC to find a way to test the scheduling of our plan with a “mock schedule” run to see if it is really possible.

**Professional Development** ~ A number of teachers and administrators have attended or will attend professional development opportunities over the summer:

- Anatomy & Physiology Training – Mr. Moericke attended this required annual training at the University of Minnesota for teachers of the concurrent enrollment course.
- Spanish – Later in July, Ms. Aldinger will attend a 3-day workshop in Rochester from the Minnesota Council on the Teaching of Languages and Cultures. This workshop will focus on student performance goals and assessments and performance-based grades.
- HVED Educational Leadership Academy (principals & superintendents) on Aug. 1 and 2.
- HVED Special Education Teacher and Para Training – On August 21, all Dover-Eyota special education teachers and paraprofessionals will attend training in Plainview.

**Summer School** ~ The first session of the “satellite” credit recovery summer school program we offer through the HVED ALC is complete, running June 11-22. The second session runs July 9-20. Most of the students are from Dover-Eyota, with a few from St. Charles. Mr. Tauer is in his third year as the lead teacher, and Mr. Vera is the other main teacher in the program for the third year. This year at least three other Dover-Eyota teachers are also teaching at least one week in the program. I complete the budget proposals and submit them to HVED. Mr. Tauer completes a Continued Learning Plan for each student and records attendance data and submits it to HVED. Dover-Eyota pays the staff and is reimbursed by HVED from the credit recovery revenue generated by the program.

**Planning for August Teacher Training** ~ The admin team worked in June on plans for the new teacher training days and the workshop days for all teachers. I am working to finalize the schedule and details of the HS/MS teacher workshop days, which will include training that is part of the “No Bully” program funded through a grant from ESPN and Major League Baseball. Mr. Carolan will share more information about this program.

**Local Parades** ~ Mike, Jeanne and I handed out pencils in the rain at the Viola Gopher Count parade. I also hope to also participate in the Eyota Days parade.

***Capital Purchasing*** ~ I have spent considerable time processing teacher requests for capital items, looking for the most suitable items options, and getting the best pricing to get the most benefit from the allotted capital budget. This year a number of teachers were interested in switching to more collaborative and flexible furniture in their classrooms. They requested either two-person tables or individual tables and separate rather than desks with attached seating. This newer trend in in classroom furnishing allows for better portability for various collaborative configurations. Some classrooms will also offer a combination of traditional height and “stand-up” desk options. All new classroom furniture we have purchased over the last several years are more accommodating to the use of 1-to-1 student laptops. Other major items include a Spanish classroom library and replacement 3D printers for the industrial technology area.

***Hiring Update*** ~ I have filled all open teacher positions including the two hired since the last Board meeting described below. Two para positions remain to be hired as well as a lead director for a theatre production.

- Steve Stevenson was hired for English. Mr. Stevenson has 20 years of teaching experience, most recently four years at Cotter High School. He has also taught overseas and in Texas. He is originally from Texas. While at Cotter he was selected as a WKBT “Top Notch Teacher” and chosen by the Class of 2018 as their commencement speaker.
- Brianna Petron was hired for the long-term sub position in math from about the middle of September to about the middle of December. Her experience includes three years teaching math at a middle school in Minneapolis. She is originally from the Winona area.