



Tom Tiede- Director of Transportation/Buildings & Grounds

December 2024 Board Report

Transportation

We have been keeping busy in Transportation! We have been largely grateful for nicer than average early winter weather and the drivers have appreciated not having to navigate many days of adverse driving conditions. We have recently added some PFA preschool children post screening to existing preschool routes and are into winter sports at Lakeview, including basketball, cheerleading and volleyball. In addition, Prairieview is taking their annual PTO sponsored holiday trip to the Tivoli Theatre the week before the Holiday Break.

The upcoming Holiday Break serves as an opportunity to re-certify some of the buses for their semi annual safety certification and complete any scheduled maintenance on others that are due. Often, the Holiday break timeframe and weeks following prove to be some of the coldest for the season, often proving difficult to run a fleet of diesel buses. Behind the scenes, I work with our fuel supplier on additive blending both on the supply end and on our end to do all we can to ensure that the diesel fuel does not gel and cause rough or non running conditions. Buses will also be run during the break 2-3 times to ensure proper charges and lubrication.

Buildings & Grounds

Roughly one year ago, we learned that we were awarded federal funds from the COPS, School Violence Prevention Program. To date, we are beginning to initiate the final award fund requests and will be working to close out the grant hopefully before summer arrives. This grant has provided and will continue to provide many great things to the district including; upgrading and adding security cameras, perimeter fencing, door upgrades, handheld radios, window security film, upgraded visitor management systems, intercom systems and more.

Our buildings are buzzing with activities before and after school with both school sponsored activities as well as outside rentals. Examples of these activities include; DYC soccer/basketball, tennis camps, cub, boy & girl scouts, taekwondo and of course, our own LV sports teams and PV and IDE intramural activities. I want to thank all of our custodians for going the extra mile to accommodate all of these groups and teams.

Over the Holiday break, many things will be happening to our buildings in this short period. Examples of work over the break include; replacement of the hot water mixing system at PV, replacement of the remaining original exterior doors at LV, replacement of the remaining original interior doors at IDE and lastly, the replacement of the classroom carpeting at LV. This is a very ambitious schedule, but one we are confident we can accomplish. I look forward to sharing photos and updates in January.

Lastly, buildings are ready for winter weather if and when it arrives. We have sidewalk ice pre-treatments, salt and of course, shovels and snowblowers at the ready.