

Minidoka County School District

Superintendent's Report

May 20, 2019

Correspondence

- **City of Rupert Letter of Support** – We received a letter from the City of Rupert indicating their support for a Flag Education Program to be held this fall on Rupert City Square. I have shared the agenda with our elementary principals for their input.
- **Certificate of Appreciation** – We received a thank you from the Mt. Harrison Senior Dinner Committee for our contribution to this very successful event where there were nearly two hundred in attendance. I have attached a copy of the certificate and the program.

Information/Updates

- **Retirement Reception** – We had a very successful retirement reception on May 16. There were many staff recognized. When it was all added up there was over 460 years of service represented by those retiring. We give our heartfelt thanks to them for their many years of service to the District and to our children!
- **Open Teaching Positions** – We are still looking for about fifteen (15) teachers in the District. This is an ongoing concern because the teacher shortage is very real in our area. We are working with the College of Southern Idaho (CSI) to see if they have any candidates that might fit our needs.
- **Law Conference Attendance** – On April 22 and 23, two trustees, three administrators, Mr. Reed and I attended the Idaho Education Law Institute in Boise. WE received a great deal of information and it is available if you are interested.
- **Negotiations** – We settled our Negotiations with the MCEA on April 25. Many thanks to T.L. Lowder for facilitating this process! During this process we had many frank and productive discussions that helped all of us better understand each other and the issues we face as a District. At the recent Law Conference it was pointed out that negotiations are a reflection of the health of the District and I am pleased to say that our District is healthy and the positive attitude and tenor of our negotiations meetings reflected that health!

Meetings/Activities

- **Staff/Building Visits:**

I have been in various buildings throughout the month and met with our administrators in admin meetings and on an individual basis. Suzette Miller and I met with the middle school principals to discuss some of the student data and trends there.

We had a **Department Head Meeting** May 8 discussing events leading up to the end of the school year and into the summer. I also met with the Ag Science teachers discussing building options and the care/watering of the Clark property.

I attended the **Minico Choir Concert** on May 16. We truly have many gifted and talented young people in our care!

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- **Committee/Community Meetings:**

I attended the last Parent Patron Advisory Team meeting of the year on May 16. They decided to continue to hold their meetings next year on the third Thursday at noon. Everyone is welcome to attend.

My wife and I attended the **State Department of Idaho Career Fair** held at CSI on May 9. We visited with three candidates and shared information about our district with them.

District Happenings

- **Elementary** - Here is a sampling of some of what has been happening in our elementary schools:

Heyburn Elementary Library received a \$5,000 grant from the **Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL)** to enhance student access to library books. Thanks to Miranda Nelson for taking the initiative to apply for this grant!

During Kindergarten registration the **South Central Health District** was able to provide immunizations for eight (8) incoming children at Heyburn Elementary, more than any other district in their area.

Two students from Paul Elementary did well in the **Rupert Elks Writing Contest**. Cassandra Scott took 2nd place at the district level and Alec Dixon took 1st place at district and went on to take 2nd place state! Congratulations!

In the **Idaho Public Television 2019 KIDS Writers Contest for Southeastern Idaho** there were two students from Acequia Elementary who were recognized: Quinn Blauer who won 3rd place for 1st grade, and Tye Cook, who won 2nd place for 3rd grade. Rupert Elementary also had two students place in this competition: Kayden Morgan took 2nd place and Bellamy Czarnecki took 3rd place for 2nd grade. Great job ladies and gentlemen!

We had a kindergarten student from Rupert Elementary, Andrew Paz, who won an award and will have his art in the **ISBA Calendar**. We'll have to watch for that when the calendar comes out. Good work Andrew!

- **Secondary:**

On April 11, 2019, forty-two girls competed in the **Distinguished Young Women** program for the Mini-Cassia area. Three out of the top six girls in the competition were from Minico High School. The young women were judged on scholastics, interview, talent, and fitness, and self-expression. These three girls were:

Liberty Schaeffer received a scholarship award in Interview, Fitness, and Self-Expression, placing 3rd Runner-Up with scholarship amounts of \$2,550.

Kate Wilson received scholarship awards in Interview, Talent, Scholastic, Spirit of Distinguished Young Women, placing overall as 2nd Runner-Up with scholarship amounts of \$3,125.

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Hannah Copmann received scholarship awards in Interview, Fitness, and Scholastics being selected as Distinguished Young Woman North Mini-Cassia Winner for 2020, with scholarship amounts of \$3,350.

We are proud of these amazing young women and their accomplishments.

Congratulations on being Spartan Strong! Champions are made at Minico High School!

Minico High School held their first ever, very successful **National CTE Signing Day**. There were eight students who signed in various areas such as: Machine Operator Program, Northwest Lineman School, Cabinet Construction, Automotive, Video Production, Theatre Production, Welding, Radiology Technician, Vet Technician and EMT. In addition there were also 21 students who became Certified Nursing Assistants. Please see the attached program for student names.

Minico administration also noted that there will be more than twenty seniors who will receive their **Associates Degree** before getting their High School Diploma!

- **District:**

The District **Gifted and Talented (G/T) Committee** met May 2 and chose to revise the committee membership to include: Elementary and Secondary parents, an elementary representative, a middle school representative, a high school representative, an advanced opportunities representative, district representation/Special Services and student representation (senior projects). They believe that this will provide representation for all levels and help them better meet the needs of this particular population of students.

Upcoming Events

May 21	Bond Election Day
May 22	Mt. Harrison Graduation, 6 pm
May 23	Minico Graduation, 5:30 pm
May 30	Last Day of School
June 17	Budget Hearing
	Regular Board Meeting
July 11	ISBA Sumer Leadership Training in Twin Falls