

Memo

To: Board of Trustees
From: Rob Sauer
Date: April 10, 2025
Re: Superintendents Board Report

Updates

- The legislative session ended on April 4th. A few areas where we will be immediately impacted are:
 - **Civics Test** – The Department of Education of has been directed to create a new civics test beginning with the 2026-27 school year. Students must be able to pass the test before graduating.
 - **Cursive Handwriting** – Beginning in the 2025-26 school year, public schools must test students' proficiency in cursive handwriting. Students who aren't proficient by fifth grade must receive additional instruction until proficiency is demonstrated.
 - **New Graduation Requirement** - the Legislature added a new digital literacy class, and the future readiness project, which will replace the existing senior project and requires inclusion of an experiential component, such as an apprenticeship, internship, or volunteer work. The digital literacy and future readiness project components will go into effect for the class of 2028.
 - **Early Fetal Development Videos** - Fifth through 12th grade instruction on human biology, contraception or sexually transmitted diseases must now include videos showing the development of a fetus.
 - **Sex-Ed Opt-in** - Schools must obtain parental consent before instruction on human sexuality. Currently, parents can opt out their child out of sex education.
 - **Transportation Funding** – The transportation funding formula will now allow reimbursements for vans and other passenger vehicles.
 - **Lifetime Educator Certificate** - Teachers and administrators can apply for a lifetime certificate after 25 years of experience. This certificate essentially exempts them from renewal training.

- I will be scheduling with principals to hold meetings with each of the schools to discuss the legislative session and what the impact might be for our district and staff. Debbie and I will also begin meeting in the next few weeks with the building representatives to work on the negotiation process. We will need to schedule a board budgeting workshop for sometime in May as well. The Department of Education will be hosting the Post Legislative Tour for our region on May 5th.