

Minidoka County School District

Superintendent's Report

March 19, 2018

Correspondence – We have received the following correspondence:

1. **Student Recognition** - We received notification that the **Minco Cheer Squad were the 4A Academic State Champions** with an average GPA of 3.519. We also had four music students qualify at the **Region IV Solo & Ensemble Competition** to participate in the State Solo Competition in May.
2. **College of Southern Idaho Head Start/Early Head Start Report** - We received this annual report. I only attached the cover letter. I will have the full report at the Board meeting if anyone is interested.
3. **Heyburn Public Hearing** – I will be attending a public hearing about housing expansion in Heyburn on the evening of Wednesday, March 28. The project includes five single family homes and six duplexes to the north of 21st Street at Q Street.
4. **Northwest Literacy Cooperative Interim Progress Report** – We recently received this report from Education Northwest on the progress of this literacy effort. It points out four areas in which progress has been made and discusses a number of issues and questions for our consideration. I would encourage you to review this document.
5. **Keep Idaho Students Safe (KISS) Initiative Overview** – We recently received the attached information about this new safety program that Sherri Ybarra, Idaho State Superintendent of Public Schools, has just started.

Information/Updates

- **Building Instructional Sweeps** – We have completed our Instructional Sweeps in the District and have had positive feedback both at the building and administrative level. If you would like a more in depth report of the findings of this effort, please let me know and we can share some of the data that was collected. We will plan on doing this again next year and hope more Trustees can participate.
- **Negotiations** – We have had three Negotiations Sessions that have all been positive. We have covered almost all of the language changes that were of concern. We did add an extra meeting on April 10 to finish up language and get a budget preview for next year. We anticipate having an Insurance Committee report at our April 17 session and hope to be done with Negotiations after two meetings in May (May 1 and 8). TL Lowder has done a great job as our facilitator for this process.
- **Reality Town** – Terry Merrill is heading up this project, which has been scheduled for May 9 at East Minico. The Kiwanis have paid for some of the start-up costs. The 2 hour event is for 8th grade students only and will be held twice on that day: in the morning for East students and again in the afternoon for West students. We need approximately 40 volunteers for the event, so if you are available please let Terry know.
- **ARTEC – Industrial Regional Professional Technical Charter (RPTC) School** – I believe we have met all the deadlines for this new school to start next year. The ARTEC Board will be accepting applications over the next few months and Michelle Deluna is in the process of setting up the finance software. The ARTEC Board has made a verbal proposal about how

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they would pay our District to provide the financial services and as soon as I get something in writing I will let you know.

- **East Minico Easement Work** – The Minidoka Irrigation District (MID) has begun work on the rerouted pipe along the north side of East Minico. I will have pictures for our next meeting if they are not included in Pat Swigert's Maintenance Report next month.
- **2018-19 School Calendars** – I have attached the revised calendars for next year that the Board approved last month. These will be placed on the District website as the approved calendars for next year.

Meetings/Activities

- **Staff/Building Visits:**

I briefly attended both the District and State Wrestling Tournaments and was glad to see Minico was not only well represented but took both the District and State Wrestling Championship titles. I also attended various basketball games.

I participated in the **Instructional Sweep** at West Minico and met with their staff to develop hiring materials. I also met with the Minico Building Leadership Team to review the applicants for that position. We had two sets of interviews for these positions and my recommendation will be to the Board for this meeting.

I have completed all but one or two of my mid-year evaluation meetings with our administrators and have met with staff from both our middle schools, Mt. Harrison and Acequia to discuss our Town Halls with staff and to get their input on the future of the District.

- **Committee/Community Meetings:**

I attended the Minidoka Education Foundation Board Meeting held February 14. That Board is regrouping and heard information from the director of the CSI Foundation on how to grow this foundation to better serve our students.

I was also able to attend the past three Parent Patron Advisory Team (PPAT) meetings that Michele Widmier has conducted. There have been lively discussions about student dress code, cell phone use and the new math program. Please let me know if you would be interested in receiving the minutes of these and other committee meetings.

I met with **Ben Smalley, Cassia Regional Hospital Administrator**, and his assistant, Stephanie Curtis, for lunch last month. They indicated they want to support us in our suicide prevention efforts and have some funds available for each of our secondary schools.

I participated in the **ISBA Day on the Hill** with three of our trustees and while there attended a meeting of the **Idaho Association of School Administrators** where they discussed the current legislative issues regarding education.

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I also attended the **Region IV Development Association (RIVDA) Board** meeting on March 1 in Twin Falls as the Region IV K-12 representative. We reviewed the mission and vision statements for the group. I would be happy to share my notes with anyone interested.

Upcoming Events

March 20	Achieve 3000 Observation at West, 1:30 – 3:30 (Trustees Welcome!)
April 9	Town Hall, 6:30
April 10	Health and Wellness Committee, 2:00 Agenda Review, 3:00 Negotiations, 4:00
April 11	Policy Review Committee, 3:45
April 16	Board Meeting, 4:30 – Work Session Topics: TBA
April 30	Board Training, TBA