



PIPESTONE AREA SCHOOLS

District No. 2689

Dr. Klint W. Willert, Superintendent
Sonja Ortman, MS/HS Principal
Jennifer Moravetz, Elementary Principal
Len Burzynski, Maintenance Director
Lisa Pease, Coordinator of Curriculum, Teaching & Learning, and Continuous Improvement

Jacque Kennedy, Business Manager
Rick Zollner, Activities Director
Josh Stukel, Technology Director
Kim Tuin, Food Service Director

School Board Report July 16, 2024

As we pass the July 4 holiday, it is a sure sign that we set our eyes to the start of the new school year. The summer has been busy and filled with a number of activities. Here are a few items of information for the board.

1. **Property damage** – We are moving forward with the replacement of the concrete and block structure that was damaged due to the porta-john fire. We have worked with our insurance company, Liberty Mutual, and we are also asking for restitution for the cost of the district deductible which is \$10,000. I am hopeful we can recover the damages that resulted from the arson.
2. **Negotiations** – The negotiations subcommittee has started the negotiations process with the Education Support Professionals group. We had our first meeting on July 15 and we have our next meeting scheduled for July 29.
3. **Strategic plan and portrait of a graduate** – We are still working to find a partner to support our strategic design work. We have been communicating with an organization called World Savvy. They partner with schools on facilitating the Portrait of a Graduate. This would be part of the grant within the district.
4. **Community education coordinator** – We are recommending Rick Zollner to serve as the Community Education Coordinator. I will still serve as the Community Education Director and Mr. Zollner will manage the scheduling and coordination of community education activities. I believe this is a good fit and will help us create a more robust community education program in the district.
5. **Roofing** – The Tremco team has been challenged to complete the comprehensive review of our roof given the weather challenges we have experienced. However, I believe their team will be on site later this week. We are hoping that Tremco can present their findings at the regular August board meeting.
6. **School board candidacy** – We are nearing the timeline to file for the school board. Filings for school board will begin on July 30, 2024 and will close on August 13, 2024. The terms that expire are Chrissy DeBates, Lance Oye, Katie Wiese, and Tyler Fruechte. Here is a link to the Secretary of State website for more information on elections: [Minnesota Secretary Of State - Candidate Filing Periods](#).
7. **Cell phone policy** – I have started to communicate the changes with the policy and expectations. I wrote an article for the paper and discussed it on the radio show this week. I am planning to continue to share this information so parents and students are aware of the changes and expectations.
8. **Air handler replaced** – We had a large crane set up at the school to replace a roof top air handler. This was a project in the works for quite some time.

"Inspire life-long learners. Build Character. Prepare them for their future."

9. **Student loss** – I want to say a big thank you to the staff members who were present and community members present on Sunday and Monday to provide support for students or families needing someone to talk to due to the passing of Davina Darveaux. I was deeply moved to see the support and teamwork as the students, staff, and community grieve this loss.
10. **Title IX training** – Rick and I will be going through some Title IX training provided by MSBA. We know this continues to be an evolving topic at the national level. We are going to do our best to be informed and provide the necessary guidance per board policy with Title IX in the district.

That is all I have at this time. As always, feel free to contact me with questions. #ProudArrows!