



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

Superintendent's Report – Pipestone Area Schools

It is August and that means one thing – BACK TO SCHOOL! There has been increased activity at the school with students and staff alike. Here are a few updates for the board.

1. **Portrait of a Graduate** – Our work on developing the district's Portrait of a Graduate continues to move forward. As you know, we have engaged students, staff, parents, and community members in gathering input and feedback on the key attributes we expect from a Pipestone Area School graduate. The Portrait of a Graduate will be presented later in the board meeting for board action. This will set the course then for the development of the district strategic design on how we operationalize the Portrait of a Graduate throughout the school system. I am encouraged by the shared commitment to defining the key skills and attributes we want all PAS graduates to embody.
2. **Roofing Project Phase I Completion** – The first phase of the roofing project has all but been completed successfully. The sheet metal crew will be putting the final touches on the Phase I work. I am excited about this work as it marks another important step in maintaining and improving our facilities to ensure safety, longevity, and efficiency for our district buildings. The additional insulation and the roof system should enhance energy efficiency and provide for the district for many years to come.
3. **Teacher Contract Negotiations** – We have begun the process of teacher negotiations. There have been two sessions thus far. The dialog has been collaborative and productive. I look forward to continued collaboration with our teaching staff representatives as we work toward fair and sustainable outcomes that support both staff and students.
4. **Start of the School Year** – Today we officially launched the new school year. Later this week we will host open house events for parents and students. It is always energizing to see students, staff, and families return with excitement and optimism for the year ahead.
5. **Custodial Team Appreciation** – I want to offer a very special thank you to our custodial and maintenance teams. Their hard work over the summer months has ensured our facilities are clean, well-prepared, and welcoming for students and staff. As you may recall, it was only two years ago we had to bring in a third-party vendor to ensure our schools were clean and ready for the start of the school year. If you see Len or others on the buildings and grounds team, please share your appreciation for their efforts and contributions to ensure our schools and classrooms and grounds are ready!
6. **Parking Lot Maintenance** – In addition to interior preparations, I had asked the team to ensure we are maintaining our roadways and parking lots. It had been quite some time since we completed crack sealing work in our parking lots. By taking this proactive maintenance step, we are helping extend the life of our asphalt parking lots and roadways.

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

7. **Fall Activities and Athletics** – There is great energy surrounding the start of our fall sports and activities. The participation of students, the support of families, and the pride of our community highlight the important role these programs play in developing well-rounded students. I am sure we will all be looking forward to events in the gym and on the outdoor courts and fields as we get further into the fall. Good luck to all Arrows in fall athletics and co-curricular activities!!
8. **AIM Award** – We are implementing a new staff recognition program called AIM. It stands for Achieving Impact and Momentum. The award is designed to encourage and support staff recognition for contributions to the district, for going above and beyond, and for exceptional work in supporting district initiatives such as the Portrait of a Graduate. Anyone can nominate a staff member. We have recognition forms and boxes in each of the offices for the process. I truly believe we do not celebrate the great work of our team enough. This is a process to acknowledge outstanding effort and contributions to make Pipestone Area Schools a great place to work! A big Thank You to Jennifer Moravetz for putting the graphics on the boxes. A box will be placed in each office for the opportunity to recognize staff.



I believe that is all I have for now. I look forward to the weeks and months to come as I begin my 26th year as a school superintendent! Let's go Arrows!