

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: TAYLOR STEPHENSON

December 9, 2013

1. ENROLLMENT CONTINUES TO RISE, 628 AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR, AND AS OF DEC. 6, 657.

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S STRATEGIC PLAN: I will begin consultations in January, as I attempt to develop a plan for BRACKETT ISD, THE BEST THAT WE CAN BE. My goal is to interview teacher department heads from elementary and secondary schools, all principals, athletic director, specialty area teachers, vocational teachers, central office personnel, school board members, support personnel supervisors cafeteria, maintenance, transportation and custodial, parents, business and civic leaders of the community, and students. I will bring the board a plan to consider implementing as a vision of BISD; THE GOAL IS TO BUILD A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BRACKETT ISD: THE BEST THAT WE CAN BE.

3. BUILDING COMMITTEE: in January, the Facility Committee will begin meeting to take –campus tours, begin to identify needs for facilities, maintenance, technology, security and athletics. Because of student growth, and changes in the HB5 curriculum, we need a building program of some dimension. A building study committee will meet in early January to walk through campuses, and to set priorities for the board. I will talk with a financial advisor about ways to pay for the building program, and the committee with priorities by January 28. I will submit a draft recommendation and discuss what happens next by Feb. 11. If a Bond issue is needed, it must be called by February 28 for an election in May. We will look at funding from fund balance as well as a bond issue. From the board's standpoint, I need to know if this plan will work for you. THE PLAN: Committee meets walk through campuses, establishes priorities, and then I call in a financial advisor to review ways of paying for the project.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

January 7: Facility Committee meets to begin identifying needs

January 14: Financial Advisor Presentation, identify needs

Tuesday, January 28, Prioritize needs

Tuesday Feb. 11 Draft Recommendation and discuss what happens next How do we pay for the project? Fund balance, bone issue or a combination of both

February 17 Present facility recommendation to the board

February 28 Last day to call a bond election, if that is the chosen way to fund facility needs.

4. EVALUATING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: HB 5 REQUIREMENTS. The law calls for an evaluation of the district's schools by the Community. By August 8 annually, each district must evaluate the district and each of its campuses in community and student engagement, assign the district and each campus a rating based on criteria set by local committee and report the rating to TEA. TASB and TASA are working on ways to assist local districts in this process.

5. JANUARY BOARD MEETING: HONOR ATHLETES & HIGH ACHIEVING STUDENTS. LIKELY SETTING IN THE SCHOOL GYM, AS WE DID LAST YEAR.

6. Sports Season: has been a successful year; football & volleyball made playoffs, Cross Country scored well at state, Basketball has started and it looks as if boys and girls teams will be very competitive.

Baseball & softball will begin work at the end of January. Had a pitching coach from Austin work with our softball pitchers. Golf, track and tennis will begin their work later.

7. Special Education Staffing: There is an urgent need to hire a 2nd special education teacher for elementary....we have new students and one teacher has been trying to work in 2 classrooms. I would like to advertise, and see what is out there.

8. Driver Education Update: We have 40 students who have begun their on line instruction. If all goes well, students can begin driving with a certified instructor in a car provided by-driversed.com over the Christmas holidays.

9. Random Drug Testing we randomly selected 10 boys and- 10 girls. All high school students were assigned a number....I rolled the wheel....and when the number came up....the name that went with that number was selected. Also, anyone who tested late or who tested positive was included.

10. Compliments to Lisa Conoly and the Theatre Arts Classes for a superb Living Nativity Play this past Saturday evening. I am proud of our students, their teacher, and our community.

11. RECOGNIZE PRESIDENT SONDRRA MEIL FOR A SPECIAL LETTER FROM MARK FRERICH.