

Memo

To: Board of Trustees
From: Rob Sauer, Superintendent
Date: February 4, 2015
Re: Superintendent's Board Report

Day on the Hill

- I will be attending the Day on the Hill on February 15th and 16th. I will reach out to our legislators and will plan on meeting with them on the 16th. Please let me know if you have a certain message or information that you would like me to share with them.

Board Tour

- We had a very successful and informative board tour of the schools on Tuesday, February 2nd. We were able to see many different classrooms and the great work that is taking place. It is very exciting to see our outstanding staff and students in action. We also had a good meeting with representatives of Design West to look at the possible replacement of the bleachers in the high school gym. The current bleachers are 44 years old and in serious need of replacement. Design West will be putting together information for us so we can go out to bid and get a better idea of the cost for replacement.

Election Dates Update from the ISBA's Capitol Notes

- Several years ago, the Legislature passed "election consolidation." That means all elections are held on two dates. Two additional dates were negotiated for bond and levy elections. In that legislation, all trustee terms were changed from three to four years with elections being held in May of odd numbered years. The main purpose of election consolidation was to increase voter participation. That has not occurred with trustee elections. The proposed legislation related to this issue will move the election dates from May of odd years to November of even years – the same date as the Presidential election this year. Newly elected Board members would take office on January 1. In order to make the transition, any Board member who is currently serving will have their terms shortened by six months.

The bill sponsors express several reasons for this change:

- School Boards manage ½ of the state budget. As such, their elections should be held on the date when most voters will turn out to the polls.
- By having Board members take office in January, they will be able to participate in budget discussions and vote on the budget for the next year. This means they won't need to implement a budget that a previous Board adopted.