

Minidoka County School District

Superintendent's Report

October 21, 2019

Correspondence

- The **City of Heyburn** sent us notice of their proposed amendment to their **Urban Renewal Plan for the Boulevard Urban Renewal Project**. A hearing will be held November 13 at City Hall. I have more information if you are interested.

Information/Updates

- **Academic State Champions** – Our Boys Swim Team was awarded the Academic State Champions for their grades with a 3.7 average. Here are the names of those who are on the team: Royce Barfuss, McKinley Haugeberg, Wrigley Heward, Luke Huff, Matthew Miller, Gavin Norviel, Jaden Robinson, Joshua Ward, Mason Wilkins, Caleb Young and Jacob Young.
- **School Safety Summit** - Pat Swigert and I attended a Safety Summit in Meridian on October 8. After listening to a keynote speaker we were asked to participate in identifying different areas of need where the State could support schools in the area of School Safety. I will share the information that was compiled with the Board when it becomes available.
- **Idaho Mastery Education Network (IMEN) Leadership Summit** – Dyann Blood, myself and the Mt. Harrison Junior High School (MHJHS) teachers attended this two-day training in Boise. We had many opportunities to gather information from those who had been doing Mastery Education for a number of years. The current plan is to have each of our MHJHS teachers teach at least one class using a mastery/competency grading system during third trimester and expanding to at least half of their classes at the start of next year. It is our hope that Mt. Harrison High School will begin to get some training in this methodology to start looking into it next year also.
- **Student Discipline** – We have had a higher than ordinary number of student discipline issues so far this year. As of Friday, October 18, I will have held eight informal expulsion hearings the majority of which have been for weapons at school.
- A **Transportation Department Recognition Luncheon** was held October 16. After enjoying some pizza, salad and homemade root beer, Ryan Edwards and Coleen Jones handed out recognition certificates and a new department jacket for each employee for having completed their safety training. Chair Heins and Trustee Suchan were also there and handed out years of service pins to seven different employees. Becky Hurst received one for thirty years of service in the District! Thank you Becky!

Meetings/Activities

- **Staff/Building Visits:**
I have been in all buildings since the start of school and most again this month at one time or another. I attended the Mt. Harrison Junior High School Back to School evening on September 19 and the Bilingual Parent Meeting and Minico's Homecoming football game on October 4.

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On September 20 I met with Wes Depew and Tina Williams, MCEA Co-presidents, as the first of our regular monthly meetings. These meetings have really helped build a more positive relationship and allows us to address a number of issues before they grow.

On September 25 I met with Troy Bird, Jessica Stapelman, Jason VanEvery and Kimberley Kidd to discuss next steps with regard to the Clark property. We then visited the property, discussed where the new Ag facility would most likely be located and the survey that was done to finalize negotiations with the Christian Ed to purchase part of their property.

I attended the Mt. Harrison Potato Palooza on October 1 where they had nearly 100 parents and family members in attendance and I enjoyed the Minico's Orchestra Cowboy Dinner on October 11 where all 53 of the Minico's orchestra students performed.

- **Committee/Community Meetings:**

On September 25, I attended the City of Heyburn's Comprehensive Planning Open House where they shared their plans for the future of the city and asked for input. I shared my input about the idea of better sidewalks around Heyburn Elementary School.

The first week of October was a busy one as I attended the Region IV Athletic Director's Meeting in Jerome in support of Brady Trenkle and our decision to not continue with the large ten school conference. We held our Policy Review Committee meeting on October 2, a Building Safety meeting on October 3 and on October 4 I attended the Facilities Committee Meeting at noon and the Bilingual Parent meeting that evening.

I also met with the **Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce Board** that week and shared information about the Supplemental Levy. In answering some of their questions we talked about our efforts regarding suicide and what we are doing to support mental health in the District. They have invited me back to share more information with the full Chamber membership at their monthly luncheon meeting in November.

On October 15 I attended an Incident Briefing set up by the Rupert Police Department to review the events surrounding the threats made at East Minico and the investigation that led to charges being filed.

District Happenings

- One of our students from Minico High School, **Hannah Copmann**, is the **Distinguished Young Woman of Idaho**. She was selected out of 36 girls from across the State and received a scholastic and interview scholarship and will represent our community at nationals in Mobile, Alabama in June of 2020. **Congratulations Hannah!**
- **In other news around the District:**
 - Paul Elementary had a successful **Panther Dash** which will allow them to replace their computer lab with Macs rather than PCs.
 - We had 76 students attend a **Latinos in Action Conference** at CSI on October 3 where some the following students received scholarships: *NNC* -Monica Tellez, \$64,000; Mayra Simental, \$64,000; Janet Serafico, \$64,000; Elisha Juarez, \$64,000; Sarahi Pulido \$64,000; *CSI* – Eric Morales \$500 + ; Luis Morales Valenzuela, \$1,600;

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Luis Navarro, \$1,600; Natalie Sandoval, \$1,000; Oscar Paz, TVC -\$1,000 ; *College of Idaho* - \$1,600; *CSI* - \$1,000 for a combined total of \$328,300!

- We have begun our Love & Logic classes for Parents with 10-15 parents in attendance. They are being held at Heyburn Elementary.
- **Kimberly School District** teachers are coming to Minico to observe our **College Prep Math (CPM)** teachers in action.
- Plans are in the works for the **Industrial Maintenance Program**, which has been taught at Minico at 7 am for the past three years, to become a full-fledged apprenticeship program with the help of Stotz Equipment.
- The **Twin Falls Bridge Academy**, TFSD's middle level alternative education program, recently visited Mt. Harrison Junior High School to see how we do things there, in particular our mental health program for students.
- **Mt. Harrison High School** helped pick potatoes for senior citizens then held a potato bar to feed their families. Extra potatoes were sent home to families who wanted them.

Upcoming Events:

October 22	Supplemental Levy presentation at Rupert City Council 7:00 pm
October 24-25	Dr. Cox and others at Danielson Training in Pocatello
Oct 30 – Nov 1	Dr. Cox Out of the Office
November 4	Legislator's Luncheon , 12:00 pm
November 6-8	ISBA Convention in Coeur D'Alene
November 11	Agenda Review , 3:00 pm
November 13	Policy Review Committee (PRC) , 3:45 – 5:00 pm
November 21	Parent Patron Advisory Team (PPAT) , 12:00 pm
November 18	Regular Board Meeting , 4:30 – 9:00 pm
December 16	Board Training , 3:00 – 4:30 w/ Dr. Heather Williams