

Minidoka County School District

Superintendent's Report

November 18, 2019

Correspondence

- We received an update from the State Department of Education concerning how Idaho compares on the National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP), which is an annual test of randomly selected schools from across the nation. See attached press release.
- On October 16 we received email notice that we did receive a **\$5,000 Youth Cigarette/Vaping Education Mini-Grant** from the Idaho Office of Drug Policy. We had applied for about \$16,000 for vaping detection devices, but due to the large number of applications we were only allocated this amount. Our first event will be a Town Hall held at Minico on December 9th. More information on other activities will be shared next month.

Information/Updates

- **Student Discipline** – We have added a summary of student discipline as a separate report to the Board. That report covers that student discipline resulting in an Out of School Suspension (OSS) since the beginning of the year.
- The State of Idaho requires all administrators to attend a **Danielson Model Training** in order to renew their certification. I and a number of other staff attended a two-day training in Pocatello on October 24-5. If interested, we can take some time in a Board Work Session to review this model since it is what is used for all of our certified staff evaluations.

Meetings/Activities

- **Staff/Building Visits:**
I have visited both Mt. Harrison and Rupert Elementary this month and met with a number of staff and administrators to listen to and address concerns.
- **Committee/Community Meetings:**
On Thursday November 14, Suzette Miller and I presented information at the **Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce** Luncheon on our mental health and suicide prevention efforts.

I met with the **Rupert City Council** on October 22 and shared some information with them about the Supplemental Levy. I also participated by phone as a member of the Region IV Development Association Board, where we approved Jeff McCurdy as their new President.

District Happenings

- **Paul Elementary** hosted a Family Literacy Night with local author Gary Hogg on October 28th.
- The **Paul Elementary PTO** held a Read-a-Thon from Oct 24 through Oct 30 and challenged students to read 100,000 minutes during that week. The students met and exceeded that goal with 144,972 minutes in just 5 days!
- **Rupert Elementary** 1st grade will be singing at the Caring and Sharing at the Civic Center on Dec. 2nd and their 3rd grade Christmas Program will be at at Minico High School on Dec. 3rd.
- **Minico Girls Basketball** has started with a jamboree that was held November 11.
- The **Magic Valley Philharmonic** came to **Minico** October 29th- held two shows for the 9th & 10th grades and 11th & 12th grades.

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- **Minico** also “had a very successful **Trunk or Treat** prior to our Senior Football Night- it was sooooo fun and a great turnout by clubs, activities and community.”
- **Mt. Harrison High School** held a dinner for **Veterans** and their families on Friday November 8 and **Heyburn Elementary** had two different recognition programs for our **Veterans** on Monday November 11.
- This past month we had a district-wide **RTI meeting** that was attended by the building RTI representative from each school. The topic of discussion and training provided was by TL Lowder who provided information regarding behavior/classroom supports that should be in every classroom. She gave ideas and suggestions for how to deal with challenging students and how that pertains to the RTI process.
- We also had our second **District Mental Health Committee** meeting on November 13th with a representative from the elementary, middle and high school counselors present. Sherry Bingham reviewed our counseling referral process once again and shared resources available to all students/parents. Suzette Miller gave an update on our plans moving forward with the Hope Squad training scheduled for November 20th. We will be training two staff members from both high schools and plan to implement the program/class for the second semester.
- Other District trainings that were provided for our teachers this month which included the following:
 - Write Tools (writing curriculum) training/modeling/coaching at both East/West Middle School - November 12th
 - CPM (College Prep Math) Assessment training provided to all secondary math teachers by Christine Haley- November 14th
 - Science Curriculum Committee had the opportunity to receive training/support from Aaron McKinnon (State of Idaho Science Curriculum Specialist) He also provided the same presentation to our admin team.
 - Our district G/T team attended and National G/T conference and will be doing a "Good News" report next month.

Upcoming Events:

November 21	Parent Patron Advisory Team (PPAT), 12:00 pm
December 9	eCigarette/Vaping Town Hall, 6:30 pm @ Minico
December 16	Regular Board Meeting, 4:30 – 9:00 pm
December 20 – January 3	Christmas Break