

## ***MISD Board Communicator May 21, 2012***

***NOTE:*** This month our meeting will occur at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 21 at the CASMAN Academy. The meeting will be followed by the CASMAN Board meeting beginning at 5:00 p.m. We hope that you will be able to participate in both meetings.

### ***Manistee ISD will provide services that will improve teaching and learning***

- We are in the process of setting up an early childhood education center in the Madison Elementary School in Manistee. We would locate our Great Start related staff people at this location. We also hope to open a second GSRP site in the county (the other one is in Bear Lake). This is the next step in improving coordination between Head Start, GSRP and other Pre School providers for the coming year.
- Each early childhood classroom program will have to be rated for quality by the state. The new TQRIS system overseen by the state will rate programs that serve children. Beyond the rating system, our early childhood programs will gain more quality oversight from having an early childhood consultant working with classroom teachers in our GSRP programs.
- Kay Salyer and myself are working with Laura Heintzelman on the development of the new Local College Access Network program in Manistee County. The LCAN has been funded by the state to increase the number of students who go to college and are successful in college. We will reporting on a variety of activities undertaken by the LCAN to make this impact.

### ***Manistee ISD will provide services to assist local districts to comply with local, state and federal mandates***

- The State Legislature continues to dabble with reforming the Michigan Public School Retirement Act, among other things. This past week on Friday, the Governor released a simplified reform to the system that changes many of the provisions proposed in Senate Bill 1040. Basically the Governor's plan works to prefund the system by continuing the current 3% employee contribution toward retirement health insurance. Current employees will be given an option to continue the 3% contribution or select not being covered for health insurance during retirement. There would still be an option to elect a 1.25 or 1.5 multiplier if the employee opts out of the proposed increase.
- The State Senate also acted to pass Personal Property Tax reform legislation. The issue now moves to the House, where we understand it will not be taken up until after the House summer break. It is also likely that the House will not accept the Senate version of the reform. The current Senate plan eliminates the PPT on all commercial and industrial property valued under \$40,000. The plan also requires

that the State replace lost revenues to schools, municipalities, etc. during that three year period. I understand that replacement continues beyond three years but only if the loss results in more than a 2% budgetary loss for those taxing units.

***Manistee ISD will provide services to improve quality, enhance efficiency, and foster cooperation and collaboration in our Educational service area***

- The third of four articles was submitted to the paper discussing educational changes that are impacting our K-12 school districts. The final article will be coming out in June and include thoughts from all of our local Superintendents and our CASMAN Academy Director. With this series, the hope was to enlighten our community on the issues facing local Education.
- Our Personnel-Salary Committee met this past month to formulate recommendation for salary and benefits for our ancillary, non union and administrative staff people. The recommendation is in your packet and I will be discussing it in more detail at the board meeting. We have not yet begun to bargain with our teaching staff as they were awaiting insurance and other data.
- We will be hosting administrative professional development for Wexford-Missaukee and Manistee ISD this summer in August. Kay has put together a great program that takes place in Manistee on one day and in Onkama on the second day.
- We will be sharing instructional services with WMISD in the coming year in a bigger way. Kim Rinehart (English Language Arts) will be spending some time in WMISD and Dave Johnson (Social Studies) will be coming to Manistee. I only see us expanding this collaboration in the near future to more areas.

***Other Items***

The evaluation of the Superintendent is in your packet for action. Carver met with me related to the evaluation. Thank you for being so generous with your comments towards me as your superintendent. Don't hesitate to ask me for more or different information if you need it as a board member.

The organizational meeting of the board will be coming again in July. At that meeting, I will be calling the meeting to order until you select the MISD Board President, then other officers follow that election.

As always, feel free to call or email me with any questions or concerns. Scott

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