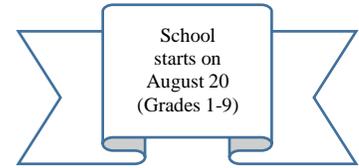




Board of Education Recap



July 17, 2018

Dear Vikings,

As we convened last night's Board meeting, we received the confirmation of another students' unexpected passing. Charlie Bledsoe was a sweet-natured, extremely bright 10-year-old boy who brought great joy and laughter to our Intermediate Center Vikings. I've heard Charlie's favorite question might have been, "why?" -- A young boy with a strong sense of wonder, a talent for writing/reading, and one heck of a video game player.

The loss of anyone who touches our lives can be difficult to comprehend, let alone a student. Words cannot begin to express the pain I know many of you have/are experiencing. While a communal response to this epidemic is forthcoming, it is important that we take time to mourn these beautiful children, first. (Very soon, Principal Hauge will be sharing additional information with Intermediate Center families.) Please keep Charlie's family, Valette (mom), Alex (father), Amelia (sister), Jacob (brother), and their entire family in your prayers and thoughts.

It is against this backdrop that Our Board of Education convened on Monday evening to continue their important work. Here are a few highlights from their meeting:

We are pleased to welcome **Mr. Brian Toth** as our new Coordinator of Transportation. Brian joins our team after several successful years as a Terminal Manager with Badger Bus Lines. Brian was in the audience to be welcomed by the Board. He is slated to begin on Monday, July 30, 2018. We are fortunate to recruit such highly skilled talent. It speaks volumes about our community.

Every Student Succeeds Act- Director of Instruction, **Mrs. Sarah Straka**, updated the Board regarding the replacement legislation to *No Child Left Behind*. Now that the federal government has finalized a large portion of their regulations, State level departments of education have enacted their expectations for school districts. Sarah has worked collaboratively with a number of stakeholders throughout the Mount Horeb community to craft our required documentation.

In action items...

The Board conducted their second reading of a number of policies. Unanimously, they voted to approve the removal of policy 532.3, "Professional Staff Leaves of Absence", because the information is outdated and not reflective of the current practice found in our Board approved Employee Handbook. In addition, the Board approved language related to equal educational opportunities for our school nutrition services program. The Board also updated their "Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect" policy to include newly required language concerning the reporting of threats to school safety. Lastly, the "Employee Physical Examinations" policy was updated to reflect recent legislative changes.



Community members were reminded of Wisconsin's upcoming sales tax holiday. Most school supplies, clothing, computers and computer supply purchases are given the reprieve during the August 1-5 event.

Just before the tax-free holiday, the District will be hosting our “Welcome Back Day” on July 24 from 3-7 PM at the Intermediate Center. This event is hosted for:

- families who do not wish to register their child(ren) online for the upcoming school year;
- families new to the District, who have not yet registered;
- families with concerns about the pre-populated data in Infinite Campus;
- adults who wish to purchase athletic passes (may also be purchased throughout the year at the High School Main Office);
- families needing support with their students’ lunch service accounts or forms; and/or
- families with questions about transportation needs.

More details may be found on our District’s homepage.

I am proud to be a Viking, and I hope you are too!

Steve