



Board of Education Recap

Just a friendly reminder...

There will be school on

Friday, April 19

The Early Release Schedule will be followed

(make up due to weather).



March 19, 2019

Last night, the Board of Education held their second meeting of the month. It began in celebration of our 2018 High School Girl's Cross Country team. As many of you already know, the team impressively performed in state competition this past fall; however, fans may not have known these impressive young women are also model academic students! In fact, the WIAA has recognized their team for the auspicious **Academic All State Award and State Competition!** It stands to reason our Board of Education would want to acknowledge the team's extraordinary work in and out of the classroom. Thank you to Coaches **Brian McIntyre** and **Teresa Barry**

for setting a tone for success. **Brian McIntyre** who is pictured with **Rhya Brandemuehl, Liz Donaldson, Emily Fountas, Kaylyn Hellenbrand, Anna Ollendick, Emma Van Orsdel, and Grace Vesperman**. Those wonderful people flanking our Lady Vikings are proud and inspiring family members.

Community and Legislative Engagement Advocacy: Mental Health Awareness: This subcommittee is committed to educating the community on important education and school funding topics. As such, the second full Board meeting of the month has been dedicated to presentations around such topics. This month, Vice-President **Diana Rothamer** updated her colleagues and audience members about a potential for the State of Wisconsin to increase funding for schools in support of mental health initiatives. Due to a Board that understands the importance of aligning our resources to our needs (per the District's Strategic Plan, [Vision 2023](#)), it appears MHASD is leading this charge throughout the state (e.g. a successful "Building Bridges" grant, therapists in our schools, Medicare billing hours, etc.); however, we do not rest on our laurels. [Here is a link](#) to the report Diana provided to the Board.

Consider Approval of Supplemental Referendum Work from Owner's Savings: At the Board's March 4, 2019, meeting, administration was asked to return to the drawing board for purposes of proposing relatively cost neutral solutions to the High School's front façade. Those who regularly walk through the High School's front doors may have noticed some of the brick and mortar have eroded over time (I may be mistaken, but I believe it may be original to the school, 1964 ish.) The original plan proposed adhering a metal-like façade to cover over the entire area. In addition to being functional, this would have also served as an accent piece. The cost was about \$28,000. It was requested that we explore the patching of mortar and replacement of brick. This

would cost approximately \$22,000. The administration was asked to provide options for the Board's consideration to avert the added cost and take care of the aging brick. The following suggestions were made to the Board to meet the goal: remove additional seating north of the covered portico, eliminate the wood finish surface on most of the remaining seating, and cut back on concrete used on that part of the project. The Board unanimously accepted this change.

Consider "Audio and Visual Media" Policy Number 361.1: With so many resources at teachers' disposal to convey learning, it is easy to understand when differences of opinion may arise in determining what is age appropriate. Director of Instruction **Sarah Straka** worked closely with professional staff and parents to share with the Board's education subcommittee this policy. You may find a link to the policy that the Board approved [here](#).

Consideration of Budgeted Purchases for Interactive Displays: Thanks to the Board of Education's support, we continue to ramp up our technological efforts. In addition to piloting Chromebooks for all students in grades five and six, we are completing the purchase of interactive display panels for our Intermediate Center and High School. The ability for students and staff to "cast" on to large, interactive screens, has been a powerful tool in obtaining mastery of concepts taught.

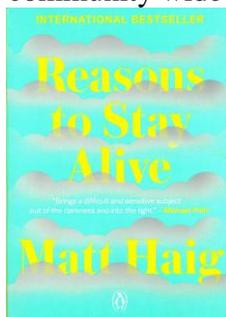
Finally, I would be remiss if I did not note the Board of Education's efforts to recognize Youth Art month. A resolution was approved unanimously. We understand at the heart of any thriving academic program is a love for the arts. Members of our art department were on hand to support the Board's recognition of this special occasion. From left to right, **LuAnn Wichlacz, Anna King, Laura Gruetzmacher, Brad Miller and Dana Showers**.



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

Steve

Reminder: Mount Horeb Mental Health Coalition is hosting community wide read of:



Tuesday, April 9, 6:30-8:00 pm at **Mount Horeb Public Library**