



Board of Education Recap

April 2, 2019

Just a friendly reminder...

There will be school on

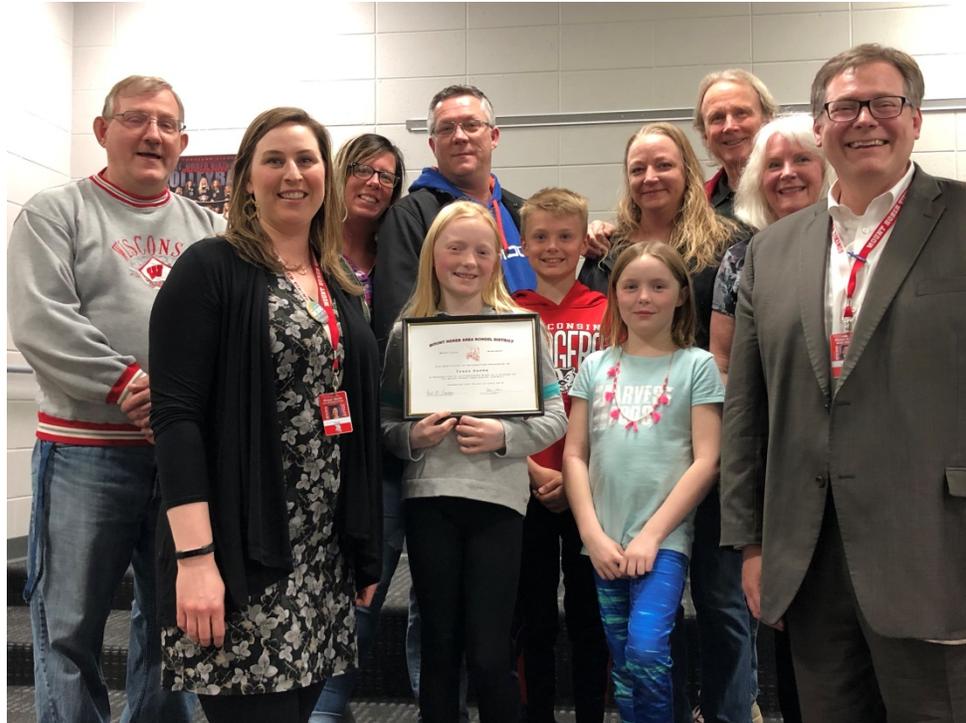
Friday, April 19

The Early Release Schedule will be followed

(make up due to weather).

Thankfully, there were no April Fools pranks at last night's Board of Education meeting. Here are a few highlights from their work last night.

Student of the Month: Fifth grader **Tessa Soppe** from Ms. **Kathy Thronson's** class was announced for this auspicious recognition. Principal **Katie Hauge** told those gathered, "Tessa is not only a capable student but is also kind and thoughtful towards her classmates. Academically, Tessa is a hard worker and gives her best. She is also a leader in her classroom community. Throughout the year, she was a buddy to two new students who joined the class. She welcomed them, made sure they had a partner to work with, and was a kind friend to them at recess." Thank you, Tessa, for embodying the 3 Rs (respectful, responsible, and ready). Here is a picture of Tessa along with her friends and family, including dad (**John**), her mom, (**Tiffany**), grandparents, cousin, and sister (**Ella**), Principal Hauge, Board Clerk **Jeff Hanna**, and myself.



School Showcase: Intermediate Center - Principal Hauge presented the progress she/IC staff have made toward this year's school goals. [Please click here for details](#). Each of the substantive goals established by the staff aligns to the Board of Education's new strategic plan, *Vision 2023*. Despite the state's latest report card rating of the Intermediate Center's performance as "Exceeding Expectations" (only 0.1 point from "Significantly Exceeding Expectations"), this group of professionals are not resting on their laurels. Strides are being made to close gaps in students' math and reading levels. We want every child to succeed at high levels...

Information and Advocacy Report: ... knowing students' readiness levels (i.e. academic, social and emotional baselines) is key to knowing how to build them up for success. Director of Student Services, **Brian Johnson**, was on hand to help those in attendance understand not only the number of students receiving additional supports but the kinds of interventions the District provides. [Here is a link](#) to Brian's study.

In action items....

The Board approved the following:



1. Eleven students will be heading to Orlando, Florida, at the end of the month to compete at DECA's International Competition! Here is a picture of several student leaders advocating for the opportunity to travel. Thank you, **Mrs. Baber**, for your advocacy of our students!

2. The installation of security cameras for our Early Learning Center, Primary Center, and Intermediate Center. The money for this expense is a result of a grant we received from the state's Department of Justice.

3. The installation of new locking mechanisms in the ELC, PC, IC, and Middle School. Again, these dollars are borne from our successful grant application to the state's Department of Justice.

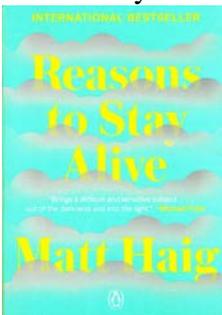
4. Furnishings for the new addition of the high school. After several months of touring showrooms, setting up mock classrooms for teachers/students, and lots of feedback we are moving forward with our selections. It was wonderful to have feedback from our Vikings every step of the way.

I cannot believe graduation is a mere seven weeks away – my word! So much to learn and accomplish before our beloved 'lil dumplins leave for the summer. We have a world-class staff that is sprinting to the finish. Please be sure to stop and smell the flowers this spring.

...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**

Mount Horeb Area Schools Sets Community Listening Session to Discuss School Resource Officer

MOUNT HOREB, Wis., (April 1, 2019) – The Mount Horeb Area School District is interested in hearing the public's feedback about any potential partnership with the Mount Horeb Village for a School Resource Officer program. The Board of Education will be hosting a community forum on Thursday, April 18, from 6-7:30 PM in the Middle School, located at 900 East Garfield Street.

The District's superintendent, Dr. Steve Salerno, said, "The answer to whether an SRO program is right for Mount Horeb can only be found with the input of our community. The most impactful changes to our community have always been made by trusting citizens' input. Our community's standard for their schools shall serve as the guiding light in our reflections of what, if anything, is appropriate."

The format of the event will include a brief overview, followed by an open forum for parents, staff, students, and community members to share their insights, questions, and/or concerns. No decision has been made about the implementation of a school resource officer and none will be made at this forum. Salerno said, "We are simply attempting to seek the pulse of the community on this topic. Is it right for Mount Horeb?"

In a recent communication to families, the District noted that before 2016, the front entries to all schools were unlocked. Since then, all schools have implemented a two-way communication system to ensure only those with legitimate business are permitted entry. Director of Student Services, Brian Johnson, stated, "We have been training students and staff in best practices for addressing armed intruders. We have successfully obtained \$263,000+ in safety grant dollars from the state's Department of Justice. This will permit us to install security cameras in all buildings, new classroom locks, and protective film for our windows."

Salerno concluded, "I know not everyone interested in this topic can attend this event. I hope they will reach out and let me know their thoughts." Salerno can be reached at salernosteve@mhasd.k12.wi.us or 608-437-7010.