



Board of Education Recap

October 8, 2019



Last night the Board of Education was introduced to **Raylan Olday-Westbury**. He is a kindergartner at the Early Learning Center. Mom, **Victoria Olday**, and dad, **Richard Westbury**, (along with Raylan's extended family) were on hand to celebrate this thoughtful little boy. Principal **Rachael Johnson** told the audience Raylan was selected because of his ability to make friends with everyone. She said, "You might imagine some kids are a bit nervous during the first few weeks of school. Raylan seems to know who could use some help and he makes sure that he includes them in lunch, getting to busses, etc. He is an absolute joy!"

As for the rest of the agenda, the Board discussed....

Results of the 2019 Summer School Program: We knew expanding summer school to include enrichment activities would cost a few extra dollars, but how much? That was the purpose of the follow up discussion with the Board. At an addition of less than \$20,000 (for labor, supplies, transportation)

it appears the risk vs. the reward was worth it. 369 students participated. From the very beginning, school leaders were concerned about regression during the long 2019 summer. We appreciate the supportive and constructive feedback we received as this expanded effort was launched. A decision about continuing the expanded program is still to come.

In weather related news...

Snow Removal Quotes – The Board considered several quotes for removal of the inevitable snow that is coming. In the end, Maple Leaf was the lowest price with a proven track record of high performance.

Costa Rica Trip – If the snow gets you down, fear not – Our World Languages department sought the Board's permission to travel to Costa Rica in June 2020. Seventeen students have preliminarily expressed interest in attending this trip that will be sure to make memories for a lifetime. The Board graciously approved this fantastic learning experience.

We had an absolutely fantastic 2019 Homecoming week – My favorite "dress up day" had to be "Group Day". There were lots of **Ross and Rachels** running around. Who knew 25 years later, our high school students would be interested in a television show from the 90's?!? #netflix.

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

Steve

