



# Board of Education Recap

November 5, 2019

Those following our students' fall post-season play have witnessed an impressive run of accomplishments. It was capped off by some stellar performances by our girls and boys cross country teams who headed to State competition this past Saturday ("Dreaded Red" blazing trails!). I loved this picture Viking supporter **Jason McMahon** posted on social media.

Our admiration for our students' talents didn't stop there. Our boys soccer team made their fellow Vikings proud. Even though we came up just a bit short, there was no shortage of grace. On behalf of the Board, I extend our gratitude and congratulations to our athletes, their devoted coaches, and parents!



**Proposed Charter School** – The Board and administration enjoyed listening to community members' feedback about the Driftless Area Community School (DACS). Since the spring, DACS design team members have been discussing the possibility of the District hosting their proposed charter at the Intermediate Center. A working draft of the charter, proposed by DACS, may be found [here](#). Next steps: DACS has asked the Board to consider writing a letter of intent to partner DACS. DACS would like this letter by the end of November so DACS can determine the pathway they need to follow in applying for a federal grant. Any decision about an intent letter could come at the Board's November 18, 2019. The Board has received feedback from all perspectives on this topic. Please continue to share your thoughts on this important topic. You are welcome to send an email to me at [salernosteve@mhasd.k12.wi.us](mailto:salernosteve@mhasd.k12.wi.us), and I will be sure to get it to the Board of Education.

**Policy Update:** The Board considered how best to involve students' attendance at Board meetings. Currently, we enjoy students' participation on the following meetings: Board's Education Committee (**Cree Faber**), Finance Committee (**Ines Gilles**), Safety and Wellness Committee (**Emma Gundrum**) and full Board of Education Meetings (**Allison Gundrum**). Very clearly, you can see this is an impressive lineup of young people. As with most high achieving individuals, they are involved in many, many activities. The purpose of last night's discussion was to cast the net even further to garner greater student participation. [Here is a link](#) to the approved policy change.

The Mental Health and Wellness Community Coalition has selected their next communitywide book read: "[An Unquiet Mind](#)" by Kay Redfield Jamison. I am about 2/3 of the way through, and I have been purposefully regulating how much I am reading because I do not want it to end. Details of the discussion group are forthcoming, but I thought I might put this on your radar in case you want to get your copy now.

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

