



CARDINAL COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

COMMUNICATION

TOGETHER, WE ARE OUR BEST!

Purpose of Cardinal Community Connections Communication Updates: Increase communication to foster positive stakeholder relationships and engage the community in school happenings around accurate, transparent information as a way to nurture school community pride.

Snow Removal Equipment Purchase

November 7, 2018

Last year our District budgeted money to replace our old snow plow truck. We looked for a cost effective solution, but we were unable to find one. The current snow plow truck is 25 years old and we have owned it for 12 years. It has needed to be replaced for the past three years. We committed \$4,000 last year to maintain the current snow plow, which is not an efficient use of our limited dollars, when it comes to weighing long-term cost and benefits. As such, we again budgeted for a purchase in the 2018-19 budget (\$14,000)

Our school is responsible for snow maintenance in ways many of us in our personal lives take for granted. For many of us, we can wait until the snow ends to plow; however, in schools we might need to plow up to three times a day. This snow maintenance expectation is part of our snow removal safety plan to ensure we are doing our part to reduce our risk ratio for insurance cost purposes. We have a large area to remove snow, and proper equipment can help with fiscal efficiency including the reduction of time and wages for our employees responsible for this work.

We recently purchased a used wheel loader and outfitted this unit with a snow pusher, which we anticipate will cut our labor time in half and reduce maintenance costs. The machine can be used for various projects, but the largest priority is snow removal. We are excited about the long-term savings in maintenance and equipment costs, as well as the short-term benefit of reducing labor costs. The wheel loader and snow pusher should last the district for a good 20 years, and we are pleased to share the long-term cost benefit with our taxpayers.

