



Superintendent Report -- February 2020

1. Jan 30th IASB held a workshop in Algon, "Leadership Essentials for School Boards". Both Tom Nugent and Todd Louwagie were able to make it that night. IASB did a really good job of describing best practices in regards to School Board communications with the community as well as the Superintendent. Some takeaways that I had: 1) Important that the board communicates as one, often times the President is responsible for that public communication. It is also important that concerned community or staff members who approach the board are communicated that the board acts as a unity, not as individuals. 2) Our board does a really good job of best practice protocol!
2. FEB 10th and 11th in I attended the Legislative Advocacy summit in Des Moines. I had the opportunity to speak with many of the educational lobbyists and also spend time at the capitol speaking with our legislators. SSA (Supplemental State Aid) is suppose to be approved by Friday (FEB 14). The Senate bill has SSA at a 2.1% increase while the House has the increase at 2.5% Last year the SSA increase was 2.06% while state revenues were around 2.1%. This year state revenues are at 5.5%. The Iowa per pupil amount is almost 3% below the National Avg and ranks 7 out of 9 in the midwestern states. The per pupil amount in Iowa is \$736 dollars less than the national avg of per pupil expenditures. It is important that we continue to communicate with our legislators that this level of funding is causing us to have large class sizes and for our secondary teachers to teach 7 out of 8 periods per day. We cannot cut any further in our district without cutting programs and opportunities.
3. I developed a [Standard Hiring Practice](#) to help our buildings in hiring this spring and beyond. It is a very basic guide that utilizes a team of staff members and has the staff members provide numerical data based upon how the interviewer answers questions and performs in a mini-lesson.
4. On Wednesday, FEB 12th part of our professional development at the High School focused ELL (English Language Learner) and was provided by our ELL consultant from the AEA, Val Jergens. Mrs. Jergens has worked with our EL Director, Rachel Muzik in helping provide support for our EL students throughout the year. The all buildings and levels are also using the time to continue their book study on Fostering Resilient Learners. The Elementary is also rolling out a new Peer Review Process that we will be utilizing throughout the District.
4. On March 18th, we will be providing Non-violent Crisis Prevention Training to some of our Teacher Associate Staff. This is very valuable training that can help staff in dealing with a child who may be having a difficult time or in preventing a situation from escalating.

Vision: ***Inspiring all learners to be engaged and successful***

Mission: ***Provide an enriching environment to meet the needs of all learners***

Core Values: ***RESPECT....INTEGRITY....STUDENTS FIRST....EXCELLENCE***

RISE to the Occasion. Reach for the Future.

Current Openings:

- 9-12 Band Instructor (2020-2021 School Year)
- High School Industrial Technology
- Middle School/High School Industrial Technology
- Middle School ELA
- Elem/Middle School P.E.
- High School Special Education
- High School Business
- High School Family Consumer Science
- High School Math
- 8th Grade Boys Basketball (2020-2021 School Year)
- Assistant Baseball Coach
- 9th Softball
- Middle School Softball
- Assistant Football

Joe Carter

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