

Superintendent Report: June Board Meeting
Submitted on June 22, 2020

Administrative work:

There were quite a few logistics involved in creating a successful event for the last day of school on May 29th. Parents and students showed up in great numbers to pick up their personal belongings and end of the year honors as well as to turn in items that were borrowed. Most of our teachers were onsite to help with the distribution and in spite of the rain, the day provided both the opportunity for the exchange of goods and most importantly, some closure to our very challenging 19-20 school year for both students and staff.

The principals also conducted end-of-year meetings with teachers by Zoom this year to talk about evaluations (if applicable), as well as to collect any maintenance or tech requests and any other feedback. While our team met to try to see if we could do our state reporting, the uncertainty of what next year will look like made it impossible and we rescheduled that work for later in July. For that reason, we do not have updated merit pay proposals and draft goal updates for 2020-21 may be delayed, although I have been working on goal development that includes addressing providing district-wide professional development about systemic racism and equity that then leads to a district improvement plan goal within a new social studies AIT for the upcoming school year. Our team is currently reading *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates and plan to watch the docuseries called *America to Me*. I am also planning to view a recent webinar by MSU professors that was recently released for viewing. From here, we will work to develop our PD plan for staff and our improvement plan to reach our students.

We have been continuing the work of figuring out how to celebrate our senior class and we are very excited about the recent development. After reaching out to several local television stations, Tania was able to get a meeting with FOX47. We shared our desire to honor our seniors and after much discussion, we found an option that would be both a wonderful surprise for our seniors, but also something we could pay for with some recent donations where the donors intent aligned with this endeavor. Our DHS 2020 Commencement will air on Sunday, June 28 at 6:28 pm on FOX47!

Athletics:

Ms. Minnis and I have been working together as we have opened the track and soccer fields for the community and for our sports teams. Our teams are following all MHSAA guidelines for their sport and several sports have begun workouts.

We will continue to attend to the Governor's Executive Orders as well as the guidelines put out by the MHSAA as we plan for the upcoming school year as it relates to athletics.

Budget Info:

The ISD business service staff will share an update regarding Revision 2 of the 2019-20 budget as well as a proposed budget for 20-21. We are anticipating a fund balance of over 12% for this school year and with the guess of a \$480 per pupil cut to the foundation allowance for the upcoming

school year, we are projecting a fund balance of approximately 5% for next year, based on student enrollment of 724. This would be a reduction of approximately 14 students from this year's fall count. Enrollment data is being updated regularly when we receive updated information. While this is a crucial factor for next year's budget, the fact that the state hasn't established a budget for schools is also very significant. The third major factor for the budget moving forward is that the district has another critical item, the operational millage, on the ballot in November.

We are expecting a cut to the foundation allowance, as I've described here, but we may also experience a proration, which is a cut to last year's budget, which is already spent and wraps up on June 30. The numbers that were shared at the May Revenue Estimating Conference were grim and reportedly the latest numbers show the School Aid Fund short another \$174 million since then.

Please consider reaching out to the Congresswomen Elissa Slotkin and Debbie Stabenow as we are in desperate need of federal support to be able to weather this storm.

We will need to increase our lunch prices for the fall to \$3.05, based on the federal financial calculator outcomes. Based on our current data, we will also need to raise prices for the 2021-22 school year.

A tentative agreement with the DEA and DESPA will be presented to the board in closed session tonight for approval. The details will be shared in closed session. We are very thankful for the cooperative relationships we have with both bargaining units.

Communication:

Twice each week I have been sending School Messenger emails to families in our district with information about food and supply distribution. I have added other information to these messages as it has become available as well.

We will be sending out information shortly about precautionary measures we will be taking to ensure the safety of staff and students at summer school. As more information becomes available related to the plans for fall, we will be distributing it widely using School Messenger, FaceBook, the Aggie App and however else we can.

Community Outreach/Partnerships:

We have received a lot of continued community support for the ongoing distribution of food and supplies to our community. We have been able to provide meals and other supplies to approximately 250-300 students on every distribution day. The effort that Chris Salmon has made to stay on top of everything is what allowed us to expand our program into June and also allowed us to join in the Farmer to Family USA Partnership that has added boxes of awesome produce, dairy and chicken to the resources we give our families!

Curriculum/Training:

Our teachers and our administrative team have continued to attend professional development sessions being offered by Ingham ISD. They are learning more about best practices for teaching

online as well as how to improve their work in Google Classroom, how to provide online feedback, best ways to create and post videos, and much more.

Data

We are looking forward to seeing our AP test results in July. Other than that, we have not received any data outside of the survey data the principals shared in their principal reports that came from stakeholders regarding the communication and teaching/learning, etc. that were provided during the shutdown.

Facilities:

We have opened up the soccer field in addition to the previous opening of the track and football field areas.

We are continuing to work with contractors to finish punch list work and close out the bond project. You may notice the new sign that is located outside the MS building, which has been long-awaited and will be very helpful.

Personnel Update:

As a result of the interview process that took place last week, the district hired Stefanie Wooster as our new teacher for the elementary behavior room. We are excited to be opening this room back up due to the needs of our students and are excited to bring Mrs. Wooster on board! She has had two years of experience in the Huron Valley School district and resides in Howell.

We are holding off on posting two more potential positions until we have a better idea of how school will look in the fall.

Policy Work:

The Policy Committee will need to schedule a short meeting to update a few policies, including the wellness policy. I wondered if we could meet on July 27th at 5 pm, before the Board meeting. We can determine later whether it would be in person or by Zoom if this date/time work for everyone.

Safety:

I attended a Johnson Controls webinar that was shared with me by Trustee Mark Slabaugh and hope to sign up for their free security evaluation that includes how well they feel we would be equipped to reopen in light of the threat posed by COVID-19. I have been working with Steve and Rick to talk through our air handling systems and other potential ways to mitigate risk as we prepare for fall.

Teaching and Learning:

The Aggie Improvement Team work has been compiled by the teachers and will be presented tonight by the administrative team. We will be focusing only on what was accomplished in the 19-20 school year and will be sharing more about the work that lies ahead when we have more solid plans for fall, hopefully at the August board meeting.

We are now offering summer school onsite for students in grades K-8 and will offer the option of either onsite or online credit recovery courses for any high school students who need them.

I am serving on the Regional Education Reimagine team that is being spearheaded by IISD. Andy is part of the Operations subcommittee, Erin is part of both the School Personnel and Community Partnerships subcommittees, Tania is part of the Whole Child subcommittee, Jon Harpst is part of the Technology subcommittee and I am part of the Academics subcommittee. We are working with/consulting a number of different resources (plans from GA, MD, AZ, NIET, MSU, etc.) as we continue to plan for school in the fall. We will also work with the Ingham County health department on our ability to perform testing, with our Clean Team staff to ensure increased cleaning and sanitation, with the Governor's new committee (info due 6/30), MDE (info due 7/15) and CDC guidance. We plan to prioritize the safety and health of all Aggies, but also provide an education and keep our school viable for the future.

Technology:

We are ordering new HS student and teacher devices for the fall. This is a large purchase that must receive Board approval. We are still exploring the best possible case, so we will be presenting a “not to exceed” number at the meeting tonight.

We are exploring how to obtain hotspots that families could possibly use if we need to provide them again in the fall. Our best option is currently through T-mobile.

Upcoming Dates of Note:

*July 27- Possible Policy meeting followed by Board meeting

*Registration Day- August 11

*Opening Day for staff- August 17

*First Day of School- August 18