

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT
By
Scott Johnson, District Administrator
December 2019

Happy Holidays to All District Residents!

This school district report is a summary of current events happening in school and a summary of actions taken at the monthly school board meetings. We understand that some residents are not able to attend school board meetings but would still like to stay informed of the great things that are occurring. This report is our attempt to keep you informed and be as transparent as possible with our community and staff.

This report will appear on a regular basis in our district newsletter, our school web page, and our school Facebook site so that everyone has equal access to finding out what is happening in the New Auburn Schools.

The December regular monthly school board meeting was held on Monday, December 16, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. The meeting started early this month in order to finish in time for the elementary concert.

Below is a summary of actions taken by our school board:

- **Sex Offender Presentation** - The meeting began with a conference call to a representative of the State Department of Corrections. The purpose of the call was to try and get more information related to the recent release and placement of a convicted sex offender in the New Auburn School District. After several minutes of discussion, the school board members and several members of our community were not satisfied with the information that was being made available at the meeting. Much of that was because the individual presenting was not in a position of authority to have answers to many of the questions being asked. As a result, it was decided we needed to hear from other officials that were closer to the situation. Specifically, the community members wanted some answers as to how a rural home in New Auburn was selected for the sex offender's placement, and why there seem to be a lack of proper and advanced notification to the community. Today I placed a call to the Chippewa County Sheriff and requested that he call a community-wide meeting to be held and invite those officials who have these answers to be present at the meeting. The sheriff was very cooperative and is in the process of planning a second meeting for the entire community. He plans on bringing informed officials with him to answer questions from the community.

Notification will go out community wide once this meeting is scheduled so that any interested members of the community can come and listen or ask questions. The meeting will likely be held one evening at the school.

- **School Performance Report** - Miss Mason, School Principal, provided a report to the school board that summarized our student's state testing results from 2018-2019. These results were embargoed until November. Miss Mason review the range of student scores from low to high and across the grade levels. She identified areas that need improvement and areas where gains are definitely being made. Miss Mason then proceeded to review changes in curriculum and programming that is either underway or being considered to continue the improvement process. She will be preparing a summary report that will be shared with the community sometime in January.
- **Roofing Repairs** - The school board took action to approve a couple of bids on two sections of our roof that will be replaced next summer. Those areas include the roofing over the kitchen area and the high school entry area. We will expect that work to occur between June and July by Northwest Roofing out of Chetek. Both areas are out of warranty by several years. The school board has decided to spread the cost over two different fiscal years in order to minimize the impact of the cost to taxpayers.

This marks the final school board meeting for 2019. Staff and students will be on holiday break from December 23-January 1. Classes resume on January 2.

On behalf of the staff and school board, I would like to wish our community happy holidays with your families and Happy New Year!

As always, community members are welcome to contact me or visit the school with any questions. Thank you for following this column.

Scott Johnson
District Administrator
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