

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT
By
Scott Johnson, District Administrator
May 2020

Greetings 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 May regular monthly school board meeting was held on Monday, May 18, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Below is a summary of discussions:

- **Curriculum Support** - The school board authorized the purchase of a new curriculum support known as IXL. This is a teaching tool that will serve as a supplement to all grade levels in the core subject areas. The unique thing about this teaching tool is that it can be used to help students who are struggling in certain subjects, regardless of whether they are in school or at home. This leaves our staff better equipped with the ability to better teach students in the event our school needs to be closed for pandemic reasons or even for emergency snow days.
- **Audit Contract** - The school board took action to approve the annual auditor's contract, which includes our annual summer audit and a full audit report to follow later in the year.
- **Parking Lot** - It is time for our school parking lots to be repaired, resealed, and relined again this summer. The school board accepted the bid of Anderson Asphalt for this job. We expect the actual work to be completed toward the end of August because we have two roofing jobs that will be taking place during June and July. We won't finish the parking lots until after the heavy roofing trucks are done driving into the parking lots.
- **High School Office** - The school board took action to approve a flooring covering bid from Green Door to replace the carpeting in the main office and two smaller offices. The main entry area will include new tile replacing the old carpet in the highest traffic flow area. This work is approved to begin whenever the contractor can fit us into his calendar.
- **Resignations** - The school board accepted the following resignations: Richard Dachel - Junior Varsity Boys Basketball; Nanette Goodman - Business Education Teacher and

Athletic Director; Brittany Powell - Science Teacher; Rebecca Myers - Gifted and Talented Coordinator; and Alyssa Rands - Cheerleader Advisor. We thank all of these individuals for your work with our students and wish you all the best.

- **New Principal** - I am pleased to announce the school board took action at a special school board meeting earlier this month and hired a new principal to replace Miss Mason. Mrs. Lori Hebert from Chippewa Falls has been hired. Mrs. Hebert comes to us with extensive training and experience in curriculum and instruction. She promises to pick up with the great work that Miss Mason and our staff have been doing in the area of instructional improvements and student achievement gains and take us to the next level. Mrs. Hebert will be reaching out to our community and families in the very near future to introduce herself. She and her husband own property in the area and plan to build a home here in the near future. Her start date will be July 1st. Please join us in giving her a warm welcome to our school district.
- **Other Hires** - Our school board also took action to fill a couple of teaching vacancies. Kristi Ellwanger, Ladysmith, has been hired as our new Business Education teacher. Justin Todd, Eau Claire, has been hired as our new Science Teacher. Both of these new teachers will begin on August 24th, but we will likely see them in and out this summer as they will be excited to get their new classrooms ready. Welcome aboard to Mrs. Ellwanger and Mr. Todd.
- **Graduation** - It is still our plan to conduct the Class of 2020 graduation ceremony on Friday, July 10th. We are holding out hope the state will give us clearance to conduct a ceremony on site by then. If for any reason the current pandemic restrictions are not lifted in time to do that, we will prepare some type of an alternate graduation ceremony that may be designed around whatever social distancing restrictions will be in place at that time. We thank you for your patience while we wait in limbo for further direction from our state officials. Please continue to check back to our district webpage or facebook site for changes and details as they get finalized.
- **Summer School** - We are also still planning a three-week summer school that will occur at the beginning of August, provided the state restrictions to bring students back into the building are lifted by then. It is our hope to spend a three-week summer school session getting students caught up on any work and skills in which they have fallen behind. Mrs. Guest is the Summer School Director and she is currently taking registrations. For more information, please look at the school district website.

*As a special note, our building will be closed to the public until further notice, with the exception of the district office, which will continue to be open for business each day.

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

Stay healthy folks!

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