

HLWW School Board Meeting – March 8, 2021

Superintendent Report

* MSHSL Constitutional Amendment Vote – A vote of all MSHSL member high schools was conducted to place two new seats at the MSHSL table for superintendents. This will allow superintendents a voice in decisions and in particular, allows us to monitor and then vote on things which will impact school budgets. It has been something that has been asked for since 2015... Ironically, the MSHSL was started by school superintendents.

* Comparable worth study – Next fall we will need to conduct a comparable worth study. This is done every three years. This is a study of all positions in the district to evaluate pay for each employment group, checking such things as pay for men and women, as well as the tiers of our pay system in terms of duties for each job. We will be contracting with a company to complete this study. The cost will be approximately \$500. Megan Tormanen sought out quotes and researched by calling references, and the company we have chosen comes highly recommended by many school districts.

* Budget – As we hear more from the legislature about school funding, we continue to work on our proposed budget for 2021-22. The largest issue schools face at this time is the lost funding due to losses in enrollment this year. As was reviewed in the revised budget, we will need to decide whether to utilize the latest federal aid to avoid layoffs and impact student learning, or if the legislature approves from the Governor's budget, a replenishment of some or all of the lost aid this year, and we can keep the federal aid in the budget for next year to utilize it do continue to address COVID, technology, learning loss, etc.

* Distance Learning in 2021-22 – The legislature will make a decision on whether DL is required to be offered again next school year. As well as our "live" teaching has gone this year, we don't think that "live" teaching for students who choose to be DL full-time, is the best option. That is why the Governor instituted 30 minutes of additional prep per day for teachers doing this kind of teaching. Instead, we do see "live" teaching continuing for the purposes of student absences. Students who are on short-term absences, suspensions, etc., would be able to continue to follow along with their classes for the days they are out. For the DL option, we are considering a variety of avenues. One is with MAWSECO and the idea is that the 7 member districts would offer courses in each of their districts and students could register with any district for their classes, to fill their schedule. We would come up with a cost sharing budget for this. The other idea has to do with us doing our own thing "in-house," sort of like our current ALP. We would purchase seat time through an on-line vendor and then we would assign a teacher of record to oversee the students in the program. I would venture to say we would have one person at the MS level (5-8) and one for the elementary level (K-4). This is all dependent upon what sort of curriculum is out there, but we have good knowledge of Odysseyware, but that only has curriculum down to Grade 3. Odysseyware is our vendor for the ALP program. We are sending out a survey soon, to our families using DL, to those who chose a different on-line school, and to homeschool families, to gauge their interest in this sort of option for next fall.

* COVID-19 Numbers Update – 3-4-2021

County Case Rates – 3-4-2021

Wright County – 19.44

McLeod County – 9.21

Two Week Cases – (Howard Lake, Waverly, Winsted Zip Codes) – **18** new positive cases

HLWW Active School Case numbers as of 3/4/2021 - K-12 (all schools)

Students	Staff
POS – 3	POS - 0
DTI – 5	DTI - 0
DTQ – 21	DTQ – 0

* Staff Vaccination Update – 3-8-2021

229 total staff – includes drivers and subs

- **49%** of staff have received their first or second dose or are scheduled for an appointment the week of March 1.
- **28%** of staff still working to get in or undecided at this time (we are working to coordinate access)
- **23%** of staff have declined to vaccinate at this time