

The Board of Education met last night, November 7. The meeting was filled with several important updates and celebrations of our students' accomplishments!

Girl Scout Troop 2041 Recognized– As part of the Board's ongoing effort to honor the outstanding contributions made by our students, the Girl Scouts were recognized. Led by Mrs. Kellie Aquino and Mrs. Amy Kellesvig, these service-oriented future leaders helped to beautify the Primary Center. Here is a picture of their amazing little faces with Board President Rothamer, Mrs. Aquino, Principal Johnson, Coordinator of Buildings and Grounds Reed, and myself.



ELC/PC School Goal Update: Principal Rachael Johnson did an outstanding job representing her amazing staff in updating the Board as to the school's academic, technology, and safety goals. A copy of her slide deck can be found by clicking the following link:

https://docs.google.com/a/mhasd.k12.wi.us/presentation/d/1r7KotK8EbRmPqhxJHcr9hNN7eTVL7xdnDs3d0dTF_Tg/edit?usp=sharing

Facilities Steering Committee Update– There was a large turnout at last Tuesday evening's meeting. Mr. Matt Wolfert, Bray Architects, walked the committee through the results of the survey. In listening to the community's input, three priority areas have emerged:

1. Infrastructure needs (Middle school roof and HVAC need attention; ELC plumbing, etc)
2. Secured entries (brick and mortar)
3. High School support is necessary (Initial discussion centered on the science labs, the cafeteria, etc.; however, more discussion will allow the committee to consider other priority areas).

The committee will meet again on Wednesday, November 9 and Thursday, November 17 (both at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Library). The goals of the discussion will be continued refinement of the specific projects the Board may wish to consider as part of a likely referendum initiative to occur in the spring.

Curriculum Specialists Update– With increasing State mandates and high stakes accountability there has long been a need to support instructional programs. As part of Director of Instruction Straka's vision, several teacher leaders accepted the call to serve as a member of the Content Area Specialist Team (CAST) - Among other things, they focus on 4 key questions in support of further enhancing instruction and student learning:

Congratulations to our
D3 State Runner Up
Boy's Soccer Team



1. What do we want each student to learn?
2. How will we know if each student is learning it?
3. How will we respond when a student is experiencing difficulty with learning it?
4. How will we respond if the student already knows it?

We are fortunate to be in a District that has a professional community of teachers willing to accept the call to lead and a Board that values this important work.

Warm Welcome– Finally, we wish to welcome Mrs. Beth Jauch, Auxiliary Services Administrative Assistant. Among other things, Beth will be helping families with their transportation needs. When questions arise, you will now have an additional set of hands to answer questions. Beth will also serve as the administrative assistant to our Buildings and Grounds and School Nutrition teams. Please feel free to contact her directly at 437-2400, extension 1251.

It really has been an amazing fall. As the weather turns crisp, our students' extra/co-curricular opportunities will shift indoors. Warm the soul and enjoy what promises to be a fantastic production of Shrek the Musical. Good seats are still available for most performances taking place this Thursday – Sunday.

I am proud to be a Viking and I hope you are too!

Steve

BONUS ITEM: When the Board's Education Subcommittee met before the meeting, participants learned about the State's FabLab Grant. (Please follow this link to find how these labs enhance Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM): https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fab_lab#List_of_labs) How can you help? Local industry sponsors are critical to the success of this potential initiative. In fact, in order to be a recipient of the grant, the District must demonstrate financial support from area businesses. Would you/your business be interested in learning more about how you can take our STEM efforts to the next level? Please drop a line to our Director of Instruction, Sarah Straka, (strakasarah@mhasd.k12.wi.us) or myself (salernosteve@mhasd.k12.wi.us)