

Board of Education Workshop

Monday, November 14, 2022

4:45 PM

Tatanka Elementary STEM School

703 - 8th St NE

Buffalo, MN 55313

MINUTES

1. Presentation: Tatanka Elementary STEM School, Andrée Iden, Principal

Social disconnections due to COVID. Students also returned developmentally delayed. Purposeful Play is a program being used by the Kindergarten staff and includes Dramatic play space. Problem solving taking place among students and their peers. Also incorporates AVID with experiences to wear costumes portraying various career choices. Started at kindergarten level thinking would add to first grade then second, etc. But has been so successful that other grades have started to use this program.

2. 2022-23 Site and Improvement Plans and Reflection, Pam Miller, Director of Teaching and Learning

Elementary – Mat Nelson, DES Principal - Grateful for Early Release Days to provide staff development relating to Site Improvement Plans. Developmental gaps due to COVID are being addressed along with social emotional and purposeful learning.

Middle School – Matt Lubben - Learning targets are consistent at every level from 6-12. Next step is the six pathways including college, career, workforce, etc. Exposure to opportunities at WTC, military, college visits, childcare, medical careers. AVID rubric, Coaching and Certification Instrument, is very helpful.

High School – Mark Mischke - At BHS the message is that students choose their paths throughout their time at the high school and what their path is after high school.

Is there data showing what paths BHM students take after high school. Surveys are taken of alumni. Currently, more students going into 2-year schools. Communication with parents is important about options other than college.

3. BHS Course Proposals, Pam Miller, Director of Teaching and Learning and Mark Mischke, BHS Principal

13 new course proposals for BHS. All courses at BHS are being reviewed due to change to the trimester schedule in 2023-24. New courses only take place if there is enough student interest. Review has been provided by Department Chairs, Site Principal, and District and Community Teaching and Learning Councils. Classes are in the areas of Agriculture, Business, Math, Music, Phy Ed and Science. Excited about diversity in options and relevancy to life choices.

4. Director Department Goals

- A. Special Services, Amy Ernst, Director of Special Services
Developing an online professional resource area for staff. Ukero crisis management training which considers both student and staff situations. Provide parent engagement activities for Special Services families PK-21. Shared goal with Community Education for transitioning from pre-school into Kindergarten
- B. Community Education, Kim Carlson, Director of Community Education
Increasing early childhood and preschool services. Decrease the Community Education deficit. Develop an Out-of-School Time Crisis Plan for activities and events. Shared goal with Special Services for transitioning from pre-school into Kindergarten.
- C. Technology, Mat Nelson, Director of Technology
Continuous monitoring of traffic and use of wireless internet. Tech staff work tirelessly to provide good customer support. Provide training so that staff can effectively use Infinite Campus.
- D. Human Resources, Evan Ronken, Director of Human Resources
Mentorship program for ESPs. Update job descriptions for ESPs. Shared goal with Finance and Operations to eliminate paper absence slips.
- E. Finance and Operations, Ryan Tangen, Director of Finance and Operations
Efficiencies in benefit administration and open enrollment process to eliminate paper. "Celebrate Nutrition" branding in all school kitchens. Marketing and communication strategies for Nutrition Services. Buildings and Grounds cleaning manual.
- F. Teaching and Learning, Pam Miller, Director of Teaching and Learning
Grading practices that better reflect student learning. Systemic implementation of District-wide AVID.

5. Quarterly Financial Update, Miranda Kramer, Controller

Revenues as a percentage of the budget are at 10.56%. Expenditures are at 14.27% of the budget which are slightly higher than last year but lower than two years ago.

6. Quarterly Cash and Investment Report, Ryan Tangen, Director of Finance and Operations

Provided information regarding cash and investments, cash flow and OPEB Trust.

7. Year-End Financial Review for 2021-22, Ryan Tangen, Director of Finance and

Operations

General fund revenues are .37% higher than budgeted and expenses are .14% less than budgeted. Reasons for this include higher property tax revenues, Special Services Aid revisions, lower extended time ADMs, increased revenue from student activities, higher substitute costs, reduction of a transportation route, higher cost for fuel for transportation and maintenance and custodial supplies, timing of summer 2022 capital projects and increased re-employment costs. The district will be receiving an unqualified opinion in the audit report. The district spent 74.32% of all costs in instruction. Revenues and expenditures are at .23% of the budget.

8. 2022 Payable 2023 Final Property Tax Levy Certification, Ryan Tangen, Director of Finance and Operations

Truth in Taxation hearing will take place at the December 12th school board meeting. Final net tax capacity and referendum market values used for the property tax statements will be based on the projected 18.68% increase in net tax capacity values and 19.18% increase in referendum market values. Overall the Pay 2023 property tax levy will result in a 2.3% decrease in tax burden for the Truth in Taxation statements.

9. 2023-24 School Calendar, Superintendent Scott Thielman

Will continue with early release days on Fridays, October through May.

10. Committee Reports

SL – SEAC

BS – Negotiations

AL – 877 Foundation, DCTL, Safe Communities