

Board of Education Workshop
Monday, April 14, 2025
4:30 PM
Board Room
214 - 1st Ave NE
Buffalo, MN 55313

REPORT

Present: Mike Honsey, Sheila Smude, Adam Bjorklund, Bob Sansevere, Amanda Lawrence, Matt Hoffman, Angie Greig

1. Presentation: Discovery Elementary/ECFE/ECSE
Mat Nelson, Discovery Elementary Principal
Eric Erlandson, Director of Community Education
Amy Ernst, Director of Special Services
Jen Greenhagen, ECFE Coordinator

Principal Nelson reported on student-set school goals which lead to WIN (What I Need).

Eric - Danielle Stein was awarded—

Amy – Jen has unified ECFE and ECSE staff and programming

Jen – shared information about all that is included in Early Childhood programming. Has a literacy goal in place and shared examples of various ways reading takes place.

2. Program for Professional Development (PPD) Update
Pam Miller, Director of Teaching & Learning
Jason Karn, PPD Coordinator

Stage level requirements have changed and no longer require a report to the school board. Used to be referred to as QComp. State aid is received for this - \$169 per/pupil in BHM schools. Professional Learning Communities are in place for like-staff which help staff be held accountable. Staff create Individual Growth and Development Plans and participate in two peer observations among continuing contract staff. Four coaches currently in place. Administrative eval takes place every three years. Discussion about purpose of program and why we chose to be involved. Participation is voted on annually by teachers. Current Governor's proposal is to do away with the program.

3. Bison Online Proposal
Pam Miller, Director of Teaching & Learning

Kaia Grant, Secondary Curriculum Coordinator

Ed Cox, BHS Assistant Principal

Post-Covid it was determined that there was a need for an online learning program. This program would go into effect next fall. Reviewed some current programs. Edmentum is currently used through SWMISD. This online program will be taught by our own staff and then will be in alignment with district curriculum standards and expectations. Will contract for 200 licenses which is the current number of students in this type of programming. Professional development would be provided for staff along with curriculum writing hours. Discussion about what a day looks like for the teacher and the student. Have engaged with the families of students who are currently enrolled in online classes through SWMSISD. Goal is to bring these students back into the district through Bison Online along with homeschooled students.

4. Special Education Extended School Year (ESY)

Amy Ernst, Director of Special Services

Individual education plans are being determined at this time. This year identifying 140 students (early childhood, K-12 and PRIDE). Plan to involve 37 staff for this summer. Program runs June through July. Getting more difficult to find staff willing to teach during the summer.

5. Summer Programs

Eric Erlandson, Director of Community Education

Summer brochures will be mailed shortly but are already online and available for signup. Families are already looking for summer programs. Child-care will remain site-based this year (this is a change from previous years). Hoping this is a positive, consistent experience for students. 450 students registered for summer daycare and some on a wait list. Hiring staff for this. Targeted Services provides remedial math and reading for students over the summer. Will now be called 'Bison Academy'. Staff identify students through Infinite Campus and parents can be notified that they can choose to participate through Infinite Campus. 385 referrals have been made by staff. Registration will open soon. Transportation will be provided from students' home schools. Need to be adaptable this year as construction is taking place. Classes will be built into the KidKare program for students to sign up for that were provided through Summer SunBlock. Free meals will still be provided.

6. Committee Reports

AL – 877 Foundation Pork Chop Dinner

SS – AMSD

BS – WTC, Unified Prom

Supt. Thielman commented on the AMSD meeting – education bill is not looking very good.