

SUPERINTENDENT BOARD REPORT NOVEMBER 12, 2018 TO DECEMBER 4, 2018

1. Reviewed Safety and Security Assessments with Office Lovett. Officer Lovett is preparing a response for us to get to Standing Stone, Inc. Once Standing Stone can respond to us, we will have an executive session with the Board and Standing Stone to go over recommendations.
2. Completed the Act 44 required safety report for PDE.
3. Middle School lunch with student leaders.
4. Organized after school media duties, updated duties and supplied the information to the Board.
5. Attended the IU9 Superintendent's meeting, highlights as follows:
  - a. Received the negotiations book consisting of contracts from IU9 districts;
  - b. Virtual presentation by the National Science Institute in regards to college readiness programs;
  - c. Information presented on the proposed teacher certification changes; special education certificates will again be preK-12 as of 2022; expanding early childhood grade spans to include grades 5 and 6.
  - d. Discussed concerns with the rollout of the Safe2Say program by the Attorney General's Office; most districts do not have the personnel to implement the program and districts are not receiving informational updates.
  - e. Carnegie STEM Pathway workshop @ our Middle School on 12/3 (we were the only district to sign up);
  - f. Information presented and discussed about career readiness from the Standards Aligned System conference;
  - g. Received changes to the Classroom Diagnostic Tool.
6. Attended the PASA Board meeting via Zoom meeting; most notable items...
  - a. PSEA vs. Tamaqua lawsuit.... The Tamaqua SD Board enacted a policy to have select teachers trained and be permitted to carry a gun. The policy had a first reading in August of 2018 and was passed in September of 2018. PSEA is suing the district to get rid of the policy. PSEA asked PASA to join or support the suit against Tamaqua. The PASA Board voted to remain neutral because it is not up to us to police the policies of any school district. This role should be with the Attorney General, State Board or PDE. We are not interfering with local control.
  - b. Safe2Say....
    - The implementation date cannot be changed because that is the date in the law.
    - The law was going to pass with or without the support of PASA. Thus, it was better to support and remain part of the conversation. Such as, false reports are a misdemeanor.
    - Mark DiRocco, PASA Exec. Director did speak with the general counsel to the House and Senate about concerns about implementation from around the state. They cannot stop the implementation.
    - Mark DiRocco is meeting with the Attorney General and other associations to help work out the details of implementation. The Office of the AG is not used to implementing statewide programs with schools and they are learning as they go, such as how to roll out trainings and the lack of personnel in districts to implement Safe2Say.At this stage, St. Marys Area is good to proceed with implementing Safe2Say.
7. Collaboration and coordination of early dismissal and 2 hour delay.
8. Attended the PA Schools Work meeting on Saturday November 17<sup>th</sup> this is a collaborative effort to fight for significant increases in state funds for public schools. Please see the resolution for Board consideration. **Our local taxpayers fund public education at 68% and the state provides 32% of our funds. The SMASD receives \$6+ million less than our peers do from the state.**

9. Worked with Ginger on the Budget-Planning Model. I think you will be pleased with how deficits are reduced due to changes we have made.
10. Attended and spoke at the Football Banquet.
11. Participated in the PLGIT Risk Management conference call to learn about appropriate levels of insurance liability protection.
12. Worked with Tom Kronewetter to arrange for our Summer Softball Champions to be recognized by and meet the Governor on 12/7/18.
13. Phone meeting scheduled with AltSchool...In partnership with educators, their technology and design teams have created a platform to personalize learning and streamline school operations. AltSchool currently runs a network of tuition-funded pre-kindergarten through 8th-grade lab schools throughout the country. Their schools offer mixed-aged learning environments where technology helps educators create personalized, foundational knowledge and project-based learning experiences focused on developing the whole child. We have been focusing on personalized learning and can explore the AltSchool model.
14. Attended the Western PA Superintendents Forum through the University of Pittsburgh. I am one of only 55 Superintendents invited to participate. The focus of the professional learning was early childhood, social-emotional, relationships with children and families and multi-cultural awareness for students. Based on the research presented, the SMASD is providing for much of what children need today. We need to look into implementing an early childhood education program (providing for infants and toddlers) to complete the circle of care for children.
15. Met with numerous students and staff; visited all buildings and observed many classes. Thank you to our **Teachers and all Staff** for providing positive student centered programs for our students.
16. **Go Dutch!**

**Holiday Concerts see separate flier...**