

TO: Bayfield School Board
FROM: Dave Aslyn
DATE: April 19, 2016
SUBJECT: April District Administrator Report

1. School Forest

Work continues on the updates of the legal status of the District's School Forest. The Policy Committee will be looking at the draft of a restrict covenant for the property developed by attorney Dustin Von Ruden of Weld Riley. We've been in communication with the owners of the property District students and staff to cross in order to get to the School Forest and have presented them with a draft of a legal document drafted by Mr. Von Ruden that would grant formal permission for access. Work continues on a School Forest fact sheet that will go on the District website when it is completed.

2. Preliminary Budget for 2016-17

Preliminary 2016-17 budget contingencies will be presented to the Finance Committee and School Board in April. We do know that our State General Aid will be reduced by 15% again next year as the State's funding formula continues to treat school districts like Bayfield negatively fiscally. We anticipate receiving approximately \$460/student of State General Aid for 2016-17. We've received preliminary information from M3 indicating that the District should plan for an 8% increase in health insurance premiums. There will be a 10% increase in dental premiums.

3. School – Community Pow Wow

The Bayfield School District School - Community Pow Wow is scheduled for Friday, April 22nd. Chi Miigwech to Kasie Gokee and Richard Lafernier for their good work, along with Bayfield students, in preparing for this big event. Kudos also go out to Karen Boutin and Jeff Gordon for their work in preparing for the event. The event will begin with a feast at 5:00 p.m. and the Grand Entry will follow at 6:00 p.m. A group of students will be honored at the Pow Wow.

4. Strategic Plan – Effective Communications

Two significant efforts are underway as we work at improving communication with parents/families and the community. Five staff members took part in training aimed at improving how the District uses social media to communicate. Andrea Gribble of SocialSchool4Edu worked with staff members at the school. Andrea has worked with about 100 schools in WI and MN to help improve communication through social media. We are working with CESA 6 for review and consultation on the District's website. This project has been slowed down due to a change in personnel at CESA 6. We still plan to have the revised District in place when the new school year begins in the fall. Based on feedback the District has received on surveys, the online communication tools are playing an ever larger role in the community the District serves.