

To: Bayfield School Board Members
From: Jay Mitchell, Interim Superintendent
Date: April 20, 2011
RE: Activity Report/District Update

Financial Administrator:

Jack Amadio, Finance Manager, spend Wednesday April 20, 2011 meeting with district staff and going over financial reports. We are in the process of connecting him to Skyward Software so he can run financial reports. In absence of Nancy, budgets reports have not been distributed for a couple of months.

We will have a budget update of you at the April 25th meeting. It is my goal to have the number of FTE's approved so principals can get a schedule for students and their staff completed.

Appointment of Board Seats:

The process of getting a determination on the Russell Township Board seat has consumed a great deal of time and has taken some turns that were unforeseen.

The Government Appeals Board has informed me that they do not make determinations of this nature. It is the jurisdiction of the Attorney General's Office under WI statute 8.28, sub 1, 2.

On Wednesday, April 20, 2011, we submitted to the Attorney General's office a request for determination for eligibility for the Russell Township Board seat. We will not get a termination in time for Monday's Board meeting.

I am still researching how we should proceed at that meeting and will be in communication with you prior to that meeting with recommendations.

Negotiations:

The union representation has requested that after the completion of Board reorganization the negotiations committee meet with them to discuss the potential of settling a contract for the 2011-2012 school year.

They have given me some potential dates that I will share with the committee after the appointment of new Board members is completed.

If there is no contract settlement and the Governor's proposal is finalized, the School Board will need to consider adopting policy in absence of contract language. We have documents that will guide our work from Weld, Riley, Prenn and Ricci. They have completed a "core policy" draft. They also offer to consult with the Board during this process. I would recommend the review of this document and investigate other venues that might provide some guidance.

Joint Finance Committee hearings conclude, voting will begin:

The Joint Finance Committee has concluded its hearing and will begin deliberating soon. Their intent is to complete deliberation by the end of May and move the recommended bill to legislature.

The proposed \$834 million cut in state aid and \$1.7 million cut in school revenue over the next two years is still in the bill. The voucher proposal would also siphon money away from public schools and redirect those funds to private schools.

There may be some concession on the 5.5% reduction in the revenue limit authority and the low revenue ceiling by a couple hundred dollars.

If you have time, please draft a letter of support for these two measures and send them to our legislators. If you need impact information, I can provide it for you. Also, it helps to add in your letter the concerns and objections to the voucher proposal.

State Won't Appeal Restraining Order on Collective Bargaining Bill:

The state Department of Justice will not appeal a temporary restraining order barring the state from implementing a controversial measure to limit collective bargaining for most public employees. The decision not to appeal means the restraining order will remain in effect until the Supreme Court gets involved or Dan County Circuit Judge Maryann Sumi rules on the merits of the case, which could take weeks or month. Legal briefs on the case are not due until May 23.

66.0301 Agreements

As you know, the needs of the District in the area of special education have increased significantly over the past few years. For this reason, I am recommending your approval to increase Special Education Director support to 60%, which would give the School District of Washburn 40% Special Education Director support.

FTE for 2011-2012 School Year

After reviewing teacher staffing needs for the 2011-2012 school year, I am recommending the board's approval for 50.5 FTE's for the 2011-2012 school year.

Board of Education In-service

An in-service has been scheduled for our Board of Education for Saturday, April 30, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. at the Northern Edge Restaurant south of Bayfield. School Attorney Andrea Voelker will provide information on the roles and responsibilities of board members. I encourage all board members to attend. Coffee, juice, and sweet rolls will be served at 8:30 a.m., in-service will be 9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. A lunch will be served following the in-service

Informational Items:

- a. letter from Fiscal Bureau
- b. letter from Weld, Riley, Prenn and Ricci
- c. update from Fair Aid Coalition
- d. calendar for informational purpose – will be placed on the May agenda for approval