

TO: Bayfield School Board
FROM: Jay Mitchell
DATE: June 6, 2012
RE: June School Board Report

1. Update on Impact Aid for 2013

There has been no action or introduction of an appropriations bill that would offset the sequestration of Impact Aid money in 2013. Attached is the NAFIS News letter that gives detail about an Impact Aid Technical Bill introduced in the Senate that would provide expedited aid payments.

2. PBIS "Schools of Merit"

Attached are two letters from the Wisconsin PBIS Network recognizing the Bayfield High School and Middle School as Schools of Merit. Missy Eid will make presentation to the School Board in July as to the progress and effect PBIS is having in the Bayfield School District.

3. Switch to WKCE Proficiency Cut Scores Based on NAEP Cut Scores

School Boards across Wisconsin will be challenged to:

- a. help students reach higher standards.
- b. educate their communities about changing standards.

One of the many changes confronting Wisconsin school leaders is the state's move to raise its standards measuring what students should know and be able to demonstrate in core academic subjects when they take the annual state assessments.

As a result, when the next round of state assessment results are released in the spring of 2013, some schools that have for many years met annual progress targets under No Child Left Behind (NCLB) education law will suddenly appear much less adept.

Although the students in those schools will likely be performing just as well as in the past or maybe even better, the change in the standards will tend to not make it look that way. The DPI acknowledges, "the change in new cut scores.....will certainly result in a drop in proficiency rates, at least in the short term."

School leaders should begin preparing how to communicate the difference to parents, students and communities as soon as possible. A plan should be put in place and implemented this fall. This year's results will not be reported to the public. It will be released to school districts on June 22.

I would recommend that Dr. Aslyn invite Amanda Popovich to present her overview and slide show to the School Board in July.

Attached is a slide from that presentation that shows how the difference in cut scores might effect proficiency scores in Math and Reading in fourth and eighth grade.

*How do our standards compare?

Percentage Proficient WKCE 2009				Percentage Proficient NAEP 2009				Difference WKCE and NAEP 2009			
4 th Grade		8 th Grade		4 th Grade		8 th Grade		4 th Grade		8 th Grade	
M	R	M	R	M	R	M	R	M	R	M	R
81	81	78	84	45.1	32.7	39.3	33.9	-35.92	-48.26	-38.66	-36.26

“This gap in proficiency between the NAEP test and WKCE has called into question the rigor of the state’s standards. “ (p. 15)

Preparing the Future Workforce: STEM Policy in K-12 Education, June 2009
<http://www.publicpolicyforum.org/pdfs/2009STEM.pdf>

Data source: Education Next <http://educationnext.org/files/ProficiencyData.pdf>

4. Cuts to Title I and IDEA Flow Through

Attached is a letter from Deputy State Superintendent Michael J. Thompson regarding cuts to Title I and IDEA money as a result of sequestration in 2013. These cuts would be made after January 1, 2013. On the positive side, Bayfield’s allocation for Title I went up significantly so even with a 9% cut we will receive about thirty five thousand more than we did last year.

5. On the agenda is consider approval of the District’s Liability Insurance with EMC. As you can see on agenda item 10.1.8, the premium has been reduced from last year by \$5,000. This is a result of worker’s compensation claims being down.