January 28, 2020



Badger Mountain Elementary Construction

Superintendent Dr. Rick Schulte provided a report to the Richland School Board identifying specific sources of local funding to rebuild Badger Mountain Elementary without state matching funds. Board members unanimously approved moving forward with rebuilding the school, with construction beginning in the summer of 2020 and completion in time for the 2021-22 school year.

Science Curriculum Adoption Update

Erika Doyle, assistant director of Teaching, Learning & Curriculum, presented an update to the Board on the adoption process for new science curricula for Grades 6-12. The process began in August 2019 and has included determining best instructional practices, review of the state-adopted Next Generation Science Standards and ensuring courses meet the needs of students, such as every science course having a lab component. Teachers are currently piloting textbooks in classes before materials are opened to public review in the spring of 2020.

Superintendent Search Update

Consultant Hank Harris presented a report to the Board on the ideal characteristics of the district's next superintendent based on feedback from an online community survey and focus group meetings. Board members suggested some modifications to the document, which will be used to screen candidates for interviews. View The List Of Ideal Characteristics For The Next Superintendent. First-round interviews will take place in early March with finalists determined soon afterward.

Facility Planning Committee Update

Dr. Schulte reported to the Board that the first meeting of the district's Facility Planning Committee went well and he is looking forward to the group's recommendations in the coming months. He added that the district will pause efforts to identify necessary security upgrades at several older schools due to the workload created by the committee and current construction projects.

Strategic Plan

Dr. Schulte presented to the Board his recommendation for a framework of a strategic plan for the district. The framework revolves around the phrase "Together, We Educate Every Student For Success," with various elements of school operations, student achievement and community involvement making up each component. The framework is intended to be a durable starting point for district administrators and the future superintendent to build detailed plans for moving the district forward. The Board unanimously endorsed and accepted the strategic plan framework.

Tri-City Community Health Center

Dr. Schulte gave an update to the Board about efforts by Tri-City Community Health (TCCH) to bring a community health center onto the campus at Jefferson Elementary and the Early Learning Center (ELC). The timeline to build and open the health center has been pushed back as TCCH works with the city on permitting. Board Vice President Jill Oldson asked that there be specific language in any contract with TCCH to protect the district from any potential malpractice by the center's medical staff. Board member Kari Williams asked the district to reach out to staff and community members connected to Jefferson and the ELC to ensure any concerns are addressed.

Next Regular Meeting: Feb. 11 @ 6:30 p.m.