District Advisory Council
Talking Points
May 16, 2013

Breakfast of Champions Update

- Fundraising is now tracking where we were last year at this time.
- Full funding of $1.2 million will provide 18-20 teachers, instructional coaches and an elementary arts specialist.
- Reductions in Force notices (RIF) to teachers have been postponed to June 15.

Teacher Leadership Program

- Eleven K-12 teachers have elected to enter this program offered by MISD and the UW.
- These teacher leaders will learn collaboratively and develop shared understandings.
- The district has some coaches at IMS and MIHS this year; 70% of MIHS teachers have been in touch with these coaches.

Overcrowding solutions

- Special Edition of *District NEWS* details overcrowding problem/solutions.
- Nearly 700 MISD students are currently being housed in more than 30 portables. Solutions for overcrowding:

    1. Build a new 4th K-5 elementary school on district owned land near the high school on Southeast 40th street and 86th Avenue SE. Cost = $30.4 million
    2. Expand the existing Islander Middle School campus, including 14 new classrooms, larger student commons area and a new gymnasium. Cost = $33.2 million
    3. Expand the existing high school by adding an additional eight to ten classrooms including science labs. Cost = $ $6.7 million
    4. Total Cost: $70.3 million to be financed by a possible bond.

- Listening sessions are scheduled on May 22, June 19 and August 28 in the North Campus Gym and May 21, June 20 and August 27 in the IMS Multi-Purpose Room. Time is 7:00 – 8:30 pm.

Video on Educational Specifications

- Now posted on district web site
- Explains the process of developing educational specifications for the new and expanded spaces.

Administrative Positions

- Fred Rundle is the new Director of Learning Services and Lindsey Maytich is Assistant Director of Special Education.
- Tara Stone is the Associate Principal at IMS.
- There is an opening for a Public Information/Public Records Coordinator that will be filled after the Bridge the Gap fundraising.
- Marion Mohler is retiring after 15 years of working as a Communications Consultant for the district.

- MIHS Rankings
  - *U.S. News* uses the percentage of free and reduced lunch students, test scores and graduation rates to rank schools. MIHS missed being ranked by a small margain. Because MIHS has a lower percentage of free/reduced lunch students, the ranking formulae require higher test scores.
  - *Newsweek* asked for the number of students who got accepted to any two or four year school. We reported the number of students who actually attended 2 and 4 year schools. Next year the district will report those numbers of students who were accepted.
  - The other *Newsweek* measure is the number of AP tests given.
  - We do not require students to take the tests, but other schools in the rankings require students who take AP courses to take the tests.

Security Audit

- The district conducted a security audit of all buildings. It is especially important now, in light of the Sandy Hook tragedy. General recommendations include:

  1. Perimeter fencing, landscaping and barriers at all elementary sites.
  2. Security cameras: increase the quantity throughout the interior common areas and around the perimeter of each of the district's buildings.
  3. ID badges: All personnel are required to wear these and visitors must check-in and receive a visitor's badge.
  4. Locking mechanisms to allow doors to be locked from the inside should be in place in all classroom doors. This has been completed in all three elementary schools and IMS. MIHS will be completed by the beginning of next school year.