

June 11, 2020

BEARCAT BOARD STORY

Educating for Excellence....the Bearcat Way!



IT'S ALWAYS EXCITING TO BE A BEARCAT!

The Gasconade County R-1 School Board met Thursday, June 11, 2020 for a regular meeting and an executive session. The meeting took place in the Central Office and through Zoom.

Special Education will continue to provide Extended School Year services via AMIs to students through June 18th. Services includes academic, speech, and occupational and physical therapy, which are provided virtually or through AMIs. The Curriculum update shared the impact of assessment data for the COVID-19 shutdown and that we are awaiting DESE updates on how that may change the annual performance report (APR) for 2019 – 2020 school year. A financial impact of \$225,000 of state withholdings will be assessed to our district. However, we have a potential for a \$400,000 carryover for next year due to the closure and less operational costs during COVID-19, which helps with the net impact. Additional financial information will be available from DESE on June 22nd and we will take that into consideration before finalizing our 2020 – 2021 annual budget at the June 25th Board Meeting.

The Board approved Policy 2019-C2 that deals with criminal background checks, references, recruiting and hiring. The first read was approved by the Board in the May meeting.

We received two responses to the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the district's bank for 2020-2021. People's Bank of Rhineland was approved by the Board as the district's bank for 2020-2021.

In New Business, the FY21 budget discussion was tabled until a June 25th follow-up Board Meeting to ensure we had all financial numbers from DESE. The June 25th budget discussion will also include consideration of salary schedules and placement of staff on salary schedules. Additional policies are being reviewed and the Board was requested to do a first read of Policy 2019-C3 which deals with reassignments, resignations, terminations, transfers and non-renewal of staff members. An update on the efforts extended for the Title I program were shared; we appreciate the extra efforts our teachers put forth to provide instructional activities throughout the closure, remaining in contact with students and families to provide additional academic support and working with classroom teachers through the PLC process. These efforts enabled increased academic success and support school-wide. The district conducted an annual review of the guidance department that identified where counselors spend their time so we can re-focus efforts as needed for next school term. A review of the student handbook was completed, resulting in minimal changes. The Board approved several items of surplus property that will be open for bids from the public and listed on the district's website in mid-June. The district's tuition rates were increased by a nominal amount of \$402 for the 2020-2021 school year. Our last item of new business was the nomination and approval of Lloyd Stock as our 2020 recipient of The Bearcat Memorial; we are proud to honor Mr. Stock in our fall induction ceremony.

In executive session, the Board accepted the resignations of Jessiqa Morris (Elementary Building Aide), Keri Poehlman (Elementary School Counselor), Pamela Strothkamp (Psychological Examiner), and Tarey Vieth (High School Language Teacher). We appreciate the positive impact all four of our teammates have had on our students, staff and families.

The Board will hold a special Board Meeting on June 25, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Central Office.

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting is Thursday July 9, 2020 in the Central Office and through Zoom.

Please join us for these upcoming events:

Graduation - July 12th

