

## Superintendent's Report October 17, 2016



September 6<sup>th</sup> Parking Lot Expansion Complete



September 21<sup>st</sup> HS Classes Underway

### Board of Education Calendar of Events:

<b>Buildings &amp; Grounds Committee</b> <i>Superintendent's Conference Room</i>	<b>Monday, October 3rd</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>
<b>Curriculum Committee</b> <i>Superintendent's Conference Room</i>	<b>Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:15 PM</b>
<b>Board Work Session</b> <i>High School Media Center</i>	<b>Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> h</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>
<b>Policy Committee</b> <i>Superintendent's Conference Room</i>	<b>Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:15 PM</b>
<b>Public Board Meeting</b> <i>High School Media Center</i>	<b>Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>
<b>Finance Committee</b> <i>Superintendent's Conference Room</i>	<b>Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:15 PM</b>
<b>Board Work Session</b> <i>High School Media Center</i>	<b>Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>
<b>Public Board Meeting</b> <i>High School Media Center</i>	<b>Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>

### Correspondence/Attachments

- *September 23, 2016, from Herbert J. Seeburger, Jr. Engineer to Dr. Sarruda regarding Parking Lot and Bus Access Road.*

- *Agreement For the Establishment of an Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit*
- *September 15, 2016 correspondence from Gayl Mazuco, NJ PERC Commission, approving request of withdrawal of NBRTA unfair practice petition.*

## **Business and Financial**

The Bond refunding resolution will be the primary point of focus regarding board business and finance this month. Please be reminded that this refunding process was introduced in August and we are revisiting this resolution this month. Please take a moment to review the Business Administrator's report as he has a comprehensive review of this process and the current status for consideration.

Also, please note that the administration has begun the budget development process for the 2017-2018 spending plan. At this time, a careful review of personnel and health care projections is underway. There has been discussion with the School Doctor regarding health services provided over the summer months while various sports and academic camps are being held. New guidelines are suggesting additional coverage and we're looking at the impact financially. Also, we know the AFJROTC program is advancing with a targeted September 2017 start. Therefore, staffing considerations are being reviewed.

## **Buildings and Grounds**

The parking lot expansion project is substantially completed. Both the East parking lot and the bus access road were available to all traffic on opening day and the changes produced a significant change in student, parent, and bus traffic. The Buildings and Grounds committee did meet to review the concerns identified in the September 23<sup>rd</sup> correspondence to Dr. Sarruda from the engineer, Herbert Seeburger. These concerns focus on two areas of the bus access road that are 'failing' and will need repair. The committee will report at the work session with an update.

The repair will be an inconvenience for approximately two weeks. This will be the result of the need to close the bus access road while the repairs are being made. Mr. Kaz will work with Dr. Lopez to develop a management strategy. ~~This will cause some inconvenience.~~

## **Negotiations**

Once again I am pleased to report that the board has settled with all six bargaining units. Teachers were the more recent to settle but all were settled for the opening of school in September and that certainly encouraged the positive energy that is on campus today. Once again I would like to thank the negotiations committee for their good work during these last eight months. Also, I recognize and appreciate the full board for their support and ratification of the contract.

The secretaries are settled but just recently finalized the distribution. Their initial proposal generated some concerns for me but we worked them out and as a result, the secretaries approved a distribution this week.

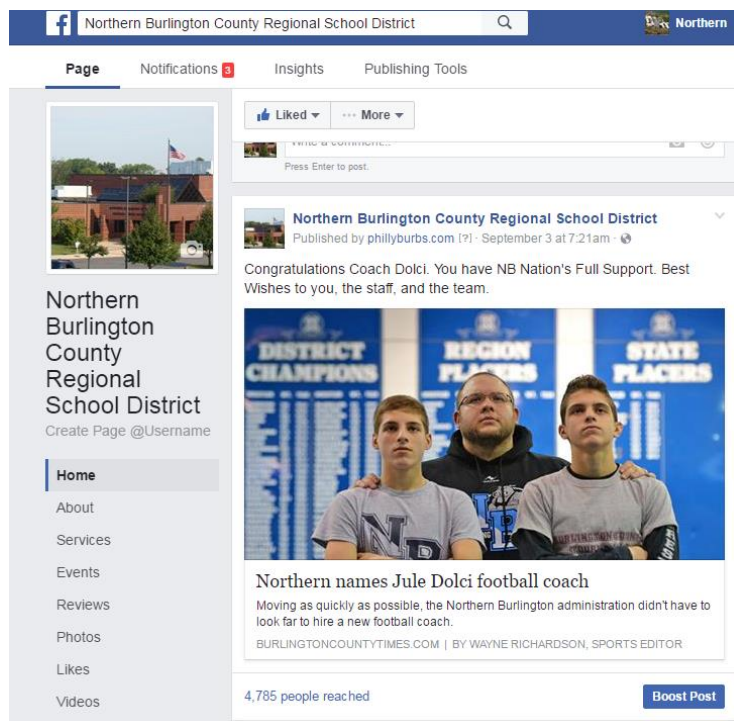
Custodians, Drivers, Child Study Team, and Administrators are all settled. This is a significant accomplishment as the FY '17 school year began with all negotiations settled.

## Personnel

I am looking forward to having the Board meet all the new teachers as well as the “Educators of the Year” at the public meeting this month. Once again we have an excellent group of professionals to welcome to the district. Dr. McCormick has included in her report a list of all the new teachers and their assignments.

The administrative team continues to work diligently to stay ahead of all staffing concerns. This is a ‘never ending’ cycle throughout the year. I am pleased to advise the Board that

as a result of this strong effort, we opened school with a full staff.



At this time, we are managing some routine leave requests and openings. For example, on August 29<sup>th</sup> I received the resignation of the Head Football Coach and this certainly created some challenges for the team, community, and administration. The first scrimmage was in two days. I am pleased to give credit to Dr. Dan Uszaki, Athletic Director, for managing the situation and staying in close contact with the athletes, assistant coaches, parents, booster club members, and local newspapers. His quick action and collaborative approach to the situation allowed the transition to be both swift and successful. By the

time the students had returned for the first day of classes after Labor Day, Mr. Jule Dolci was named the head football coach.

The Burlington County Times covered the story closely and early in the process, parents were quite concerned. I posted the article on the district’s Facebook page (Pictured on Left) and also on Twitter.

## Programs

### Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC)

I am pleased to report that the Board of Education has received an official offer for the Northern Burlington County School District to open an Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC) unit at Northern Burlington County High School. Once approved by the NB Board of Education, activation orders will be published effective 1 January, 2017 at which time the Air Force will provide funding support for the NB unit.

The Curriculum Committee meets on Tuesday evening prior to the Board Work Session and a more comprehensive review of the process will be presented for discussion. I met with Dr. McCormick, Mr. Kaz, Dr. Lopez, Ms. Hackl, and Ms. Stella to discuss the process moving forward. Agenda discussion included a review of the Course of Study, preliminary discussion on the development of a spending plan, and staffing the program. I've attached the "Agreement for the Establishment of an Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit" for the Board's information. Please feel free to contact me directly if you review the agreement and have any questions or concerns. Again, Dr. McCormick, Dr. Lopez, and Ms. Stella will present an update to the curriculum committee on Tuesday evening and the committee will then report to the full Board at the work session later that evening.

### NB Social Media Update

Are you following @NBCSuper? Do you visit NB's Facebook page? If you do, you have been able to stay current with most all the events and activities on campus including the opening of school activities, the parking lot expansion project, athletic and marching band updates and the evening parent and student program updates.

In addition, I've noted that the start of the FY'17 school year has seen somewhat of a surge in the NB Facebook activity as data suggests more active following and sharing of NB information. In the chart to the right, please find the weekly update for the week of September 12<sup>th</sup>. People engaged and people 'reached' demonstrate the activity



Northern Burlington County Regional School District  
Promote Page

See Insights

	LAST WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	TREND
Page Visits	103	62	66.1%
Weekly Total Reach	2,871	349	722.6%
People Engaged	587	27	2,074.1%
Total Page Likes	615	602	2.2%

during that time period.

Currently, I am accepting weekly updates from both principals and the assistant superintendent. The



principals are providing the high school and middle school activities and Dr. McCormick will provide articles of interest regarding our academic programs.

NB's Excellence By Design (#NBExBD) committees has a focus on communications between the school and the community and this committee is discussing ideas to strengthen these communications. For example, the NB Facebook page and Twitter accounts have a significant part to play in meeting this goal and the ExBD committee is exploring ways to strengthen this communication.

**National Association of Federally Impacted School  
Fall Conference, Washington DC  
September 25-25, 2016**

This year's conference theme is "Make Your Voice Count" and the task for all attendees is to advocate for our districts, our schools, and our students. Conference sessions provided the opportunity to hear representatives from the U.S. Department of Education, the Office of Management and Budget, Education Week, the Council of Chief State School Officers, the National Council of State Legislatures, and the American Association of School Administrators.

For me, each conference begins early Sunday morning with the NAFIS Board meeting. I have enjoyed my role as the Vice President and working with the Executive Director, Ms.



Hilary Goldman and the President, Mrs. Sandy Doebert. This has also given me a deeper appreciation of the role our Board President and Vice President must play as they work to provide governance and structure to NB Nation.

This year, I was more involved with the business of helping manage the conference. At this meeting, we reviewed the 'talking points' that

serve to direct membership as they prepare to make their Hill visits. These talking points consider each Sub-Group's position on the "NAFIS Asks" and help guide the actions of the association regarding financial expectations and Impact Aid in general.

This fall, as the President of the NAFIS Subgroup, Mid-to-Low-LOT Schools, I was asked to present the subgroups updates to the NAFIS membership. The picture above left was taken as I presented at the General Session. There was a 'show your school spirit' theme so I was proudly wearing my NB sports shirt.

Later that day, I presented during the breakout session for the MTLLS subgroup. At this meeting, we continued our work on 'branding' the MTLLS Subgroup and seeking more strategies to increase the membership.

Monday's Sessions included seminars that offered various legislative updates, a review of the role of the media in federal relations, the Federal budget, and the impact the election year might have on the Impact Aid program.

At the end of the day, Mr. Kaz and I traveled to the Hill to visit with our representatives from Senator Menendez and Senator Booker's office. At this meeting, we introduced to the representatives the idea of generating federal funds to support NB's building project. I am pleased to report that both representatives were very positive with the idea and each is looking forward to sharing this with his/her Senator. I remind the Board of my meetings in August to introduce this initiative with representatives from Congress MacArthur and Smith's office.



Dr. Sarruda meets with representatives from Senator Menendez and Senator Booker's Office

On Tuesday, we traveled to the Hill to participate in the "Hill Visits." During these visits, we joined the other New Jersey educators and follow a prearranged schedule to visit the offices of our New Jersey congressman. This is the most important aspect of the conference. Our role as Impact Aid advocates is to visit with our legislators and present the NAFIS message. We bring concerns about the impact military bases and serving the military families has on our schools and we justify the NAFIS Impact Aid appropriation requests. We all share our stories about the needs of our students and remind Congress of their responsibility to ensure that our district which is affected by a Federal presence has the resources to provide our students with a quality education.

### Board Member Visibility on Campus

As I mentioned in my last report, I am once again challenging each Board member to be more visible during school events. Come to a home football game; enjoy watching the field hockey team and soccer teams compete. Enjoy the musicals and band and choral performances throughout the school year. The visibility of the Board will build better relations with the community. And as I've stated before, it is very important that all Board members be ambassadors of the NB social media sites and encourage our community members to visit them as well. When your community member asks you questions about the school, I encourage you to direct them to the NB Face book page and/or web page. Do they follow @NBCSuper on Twitter? What do they say about @NBCPride and some of the other NB Twitter accounts? As we work to build the NB Brand, we simply must continue to push this media to our communities.

### HIB Updates

Attached please find the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying report for the month of :

Middle School  
– Incident Investigations



- **Confirmed HIB Reports**

**High School**

- **Incident Investigations**
- **Confirmed HIB Reports**

**Final Thought:**

**Determining the date of the next referendum is a conversation we must have on Tuesday. Please take a moment to read the updates from Mr. Kaz regarding our progress with the Department of Education.**

**There has been much conversation regarding tax increases in Mansfield and Chesterfield and during the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting, I discussed the idea of moving the referendum to November of 2017. The other option is March 2017 or September 2017. However, staying consistent with our decision in May, we really can't finalize this decision until we receive our PEC letter from the Department of Education. We hope to have this letter in the next three weeks so it does look like we will be setting this timeline in November. Again, we will be discussing this on Tuesday at our work session so give yourself sometime this weekend to gather your thoughts.**

**Have a great weekend.**

**Go Carson Wentz and the Eagles!!**