

Superintendent's Report

March, 2017



Northern News 2016-17 Show #5



Board of Education Calendar of Events:

Finance Committee <i>Superintendent's Conference Room</i>	Monday, March 6th	6:15 PM
Board Work Session <i>High School Media Center</i>	Monday, March 6th	7:30 PM
Buildings & Grounds Committee <i>Superintendent's Conference Room</i>	Monday, March 20th	6:15 PM
Public Board Meeting <i>High School Media Center</i>	Monday, March 20th	7:30 PM
Negotiations Committee <i>Superintendent's Conference Room</i>	Monday, April 10th	6:15 PM
Public Board Meeting <i>High School Media Center</i>	Monday, April 10th	7:30 PM
Personnel Committee <i>Superintendent's Conference Room</i>	Monday, May 8th	6:15 PM
Board Work Session <i>High School Media Center</i>	Monday, May 8th	7:30 PM
Public Board Meeting <i>High School Media Center</i>	Monday, May 15th	7:30 PM

Correspondence/Attachments

- February 10, 2017 from Daryl Minus-Vincent, Interim Executive County Superintendent, to Dr. Sarruda regarding Mid-Year Budget review and approval.
- February 17, 2017 from Frank Cavallo to Richard Kaz regarding Kean Federation of Teachers vs Kean University: Changes to Rice Notice Requirements.
- February 21, 2017 from Karen Campbell, Director Office of Supplemental Educational Programs, regarding Title I Part A allocation reduction.

Standing Committee Reports

The Finance Committee will meet on Monday, March 6th at 6:15 PM to review the current status of the proposed budget. A report will follow during the work session.

The Buildings & Grounds Committee will meet on Monday, March 20th at 6:15 PM to review the current status of the facilities project. A report will follow during the public meeting.

Also, please be reminded that the agendas for the committee meetings are kept in the “Library” section in Boarddocs.

Business and Financial

The district received its state aid figures on Thursday evening, March 2nd and the spending plan is being finalized. As per Mr. Kaz’s report, the increase is approximately \$8,000. Once again, the district is being underfunded but once again, I will say an \$8,000 increase is better than a \$0 increase.

There is a Finance Committee meeting scheduled for Monday evening at 6:15 PM to review the final state aid figures. Moreover, the equalization data for each municipality has also been received. Therefore, final tax impact has been projected. The finance committee and administration will be prepared for a full Board review on Monday evening.

Buildings and Grounds

The Buildings & Grounds Committee will meet on Monday, March 20th at 6:15 PM in the SCR. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the current developments in the Building Project. Agenda topics will include:

1. Proposed revisions to the addition/renovation design
2. Options to include Middle School Additions
3. Possible timelines for next referendum (December 2017 Target Date)

Please be reminded that the Superintendent, Business Administrator, and architect met with the state department personnel in the facilities planning office to discuss and review the PEC letter. One significant consequence of the meeting was the determination that it’s appropriate to review the renovation plans and better position the district for state aid by better utilizing the formula and its provisions. In an effort to hold down costs, maximize

state aid, and meet the ‘core needs’ of the district, some revisions are being proposed and these will be discussed on Monday the 20th once drawings can be prepared. The architect will attend this meeting as well.

Negotiations

There is a Negotiations Committee meeting being scheduled for Monday, April 10th in the SCR. Even though all NB associations (Administrators, Child Study Team, Custodians, Drivers, Secretaries, and Teachers) have contracts, there is a need to meet to determine the contracts for our ‘non-unit’ personnel. These are all employees that are not in a bargaining unit including central administration and administrative assistants.

The Negotiations Committee will prepare to report to the full Board at the work session on May 8th.

Personnel

Administration has begun the process of staffing for the fall of 2017. At this time, we know the following positions are scheduled to be filled:

High School:	English, Math, Agriscience, Physical Education, AF JROTC (2)
Middle School:	Special Education
District Wide:	Social Worker, Athletic Trainer (Part Time)

As the interview process unfolds, various recommendations will appear on the Board agenda starting on March 20th with the AF JROTC positions. We anticipate teaching positions will be recommended in May and June.

Please note, as we prepare for our NB JROTC program start in September 2017, I have been working with Dr. Lopez, Dr. Kearns, Ms. Stella, and Mr. Kaz to conduct the interview process to properly staff for the program. In early February, we were able to interview three (3) candidates for the Senior Aerospace Science Instructor (SASI). In addition, on two separate days, the committee interviewed a total of seven (7) candidates for the Non-commissioned Officer (NCO) position. We are very excited with the talent and experience of our candidates. At this time, final interviews are being conducted and salary and terms of employment are being outlined. The committee has established a timeline that would culminate with Board approvals at the March 20th Board meeting.

Programs

National Association of Federally Impacted Schools

I traveled to Washington DC the week of February 20th to participate in the Impact Aid Staff Briefings. I also took the opportunity to again meet with Jayson Schimmenti from Congressman MacArthur’s office to keep the momentum moving forward on the special legislation to support NB’s facility projects via the National Defense Authorization Act.

During the visit, I had the privilege to represent the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools and the sub group, Mid-To-Low LOT schools, as we prepare our position to support the Impact Aid program and deliberate the pro's and con's of school choice and vouchers which are two key concepts presented in the President's proposed budget.

Over the three days, NAFIS staff and the NAFIS subgroup leaders met with Hill staff for two congressional briefings. It should be noted that these briefings take place at the beginning of every new Congress and provide an overview of the basics of the Impact Aid program to new members of Congress and their staff. The briefings had 33 attendees representing offices from both the House and Senate.

“Congressional staff members heard from NAFIS Executive Director Hilary Goldmann and Government Relations Director Jocelyn Bissonnette for a brief overview of the Basics of Impact Aid and from the four-subgroups of NAFIS. Kyle Fairbairn (MISA), Brent Gish (NIISA), Jim Sarruda (MTLLS), and Tom Schneider (FLISA) presented on their respective subgroups - all touching upon the need for continued Federal funding and support of the program. The consistent message in each presentation: Impact Aid is a non-partisan issue and advocating for children in these impacted school districts should be a top priority. The NAFIS sub-groups have more common ground than the uniqueness we represent.” (NAFIS Bulletin)



After the briefings, we met with seven offices individually to educate and update staffers on key committees of the importance of increased funding for the Impact Aid program necessary to fully provide for each school district. Congressional staff received valuable background information on Impact Aid prior to the NAFIS “Hill Day” scheduled during the March Conference.

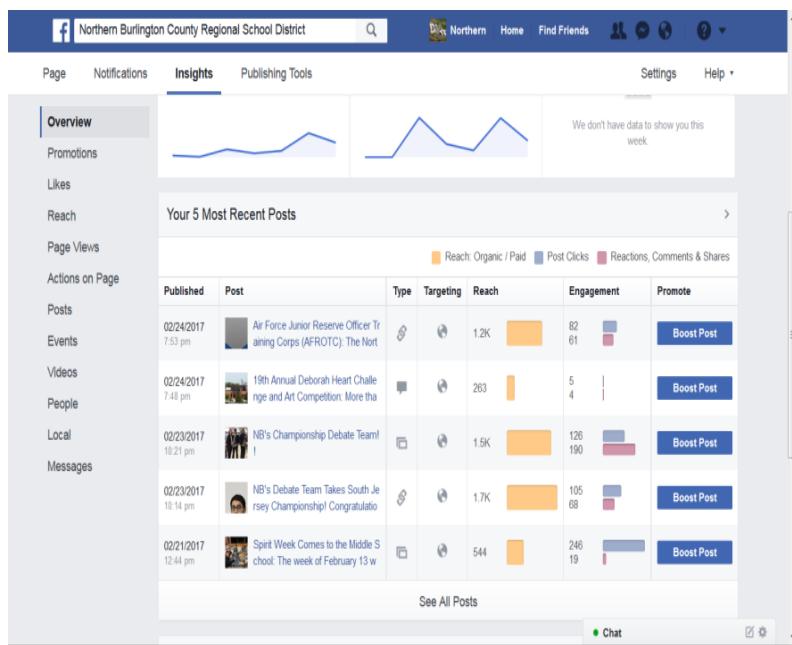
Social Media: NB Facebook, NB Twitter, & NB YouTube

Each month, as I prepare for the upcoming Board meetings, I find myself reviewing the various social media outlets to gain a better sense of the events for the month. These information sources provide one with the ‘pulse’ of NB activities underway. Once again, I strongly urge each Board member to take some time to survey NB’s social media outlets to stay abreast of all that is great here at NB. Perhaps this weekend, consider taking 45 minutes to browse the following media sources:

NB’s Facebook

How often do you visit the NB’s Facebook account? Simply click on the following link for regular updates on the events and activities happening in the district.

<https://goo.gl/uUqCxG>

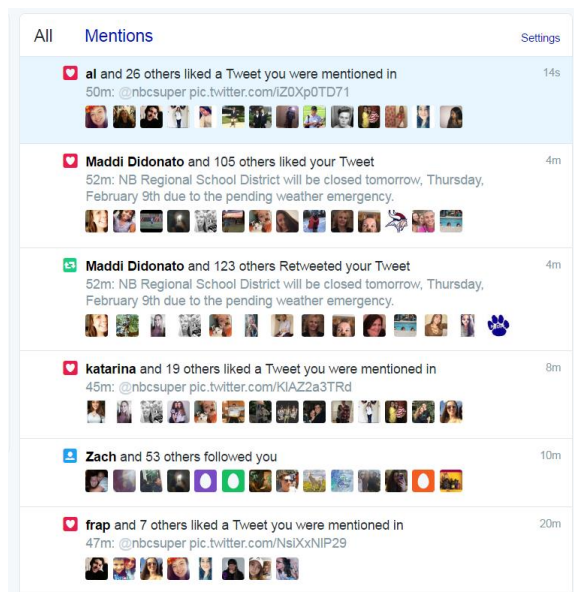


The chart to the left provides the NB Facebook page summary for the week of February 19th to the 25th. The stories posted included:

1. The NB AFJROTC announcement and the video that introduces the program
2. The 19th Annual Deborah Heart Challenge
3. NB's Championship Debate Team
4. NB's Spirit Week in the Middle School
5. NB's DFL (Drama & Forensics League) Accomplishments

NB's Twitter Account

Twitter continues to cover a wide range of NB activities including most all academic accomplishments, athletic accomplishments, and special interest stories including emergency notifications.



NB's primary account is @NBCSuper. The Superintendent manages this account and follows all other accounts in the district. Moreover, many of the Tweets are 'retweeted' from this account so if you only follow one account, this is the one to maintain a general sense of all the 'ongoings' in the district.

There are also some very popular hashtags to follow including: #NBITD #NBExBD, #Techshare17, #FFAWeek17, #NBAcademics, and #NBNation.

The picture below demonstrates a typical tweet.

Note the account that posted the tweet is @NBCJumps. This is one of NB's track accounts.

[NBCJumps](#)@NBCJumps

NB's Kayla Jackson finishes 3rd in the NJSIAA Meet of Champions in the 200m, congrats and great season!



2016-2017 Calendar Revision

Agenda item #14.07 reflects the revision to the current school calendar to include Friday, February 17th as a full school day. This day was included as an instructional day to 'make up' for the one snow day earlier in the month.

NB News on YouTube

Another media account that keeps growing in popularity is NB's "YouTube" account. Please click on the following line to view one of the more recent news casts.

<https://youtu.be/hdQn6IKTpsA> The idea is to have the community become more and more familiar with these news sources. Also, as Board members become more comfortable with them, they too can encourage friends and neighbors to explore.

HIB Updates

Attached please find the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying report for the month of February 2017:

Middle School

- 1 – Incident Investigations
- 0 – Confirmed HIB Reports

High School

- 1 – Incident Investigations
- 0 – Confirmed HIB Reports



Final Thought:

I sincerely appreciate each Board member for taking the time to reach out to me via e-mail with any questions he/she may have. Strong communications between the Board and the Superintendent has always been a priority for me. As demonstrated through the months of January and February, the Board has been working very well in committees and the committee reports to the full Board have been clear and informative. Thanks to all!