



Superintendent Newsletter

I would like to welcome everyone to the 2023-2024 school year. This school year, I would like to communicate monthly regarding what is happening at our school. The monthly school letters will consist of information regarding student learning, leadership, and families in our school district.

All students have a great opportunity to learn this school year. In elementary school, we added a gifted program through a RLIS grant to help high achieving students in our school. The gifted teacher is Mrs. Stockert, and she will be helping students one day a week in the elementary. In middle school and high school, we continue to add to our curriculum to meet the needs of our students. In middle school, students have opportunities in electives such as 21st century living skills and introduction to technology in which students learn skills that they will use as adults in our society. High school students have opportunities to take classes such as youth internship where they learn work skills on the job in area businesses. Also, we offer classes in person such as pre-calculus, anatomy, and robotics to help meet the needs of our students.

During the August school board meeting, we discussed the boiler system at the school. We are moving ahead with this discussion and advertising for bids to fix this issue. We are going to have a budget committee meeting to discuss funding possibilities for boiler system repairs. Lastly, we are having a special school board meeting in September to address this issue to align with our school budget for the upcoming school year.

If you have been near the school this past summer and early school year, you have noticed construction happening at the school near the High School, Agriculture/Science, Austin Auditorium, and Middle School buildings. The construction is a drainage project that the Newell Board of Education has been planning on for two years. The purpose of the construction is to preserve and protect our school building from water. To do the project in a fiscally responsible manner, we are breaking the project into phases. We are tying up phase one of the project this month and we will be working on phase two of the project for next summer in the spring. In phase one, we are installing a sump pit between the High School and Agriculture/Science buildings to pump water to 4th street drainage system. Also, we are doing cement work near the Austin Auditorium and Middle School entrances to get water away from these buildings during natural events such as rainfalls and snow thawing. The school district is using wind farm monies to complete these projects.

Sincerely,

Andrew Fergen
Superintendent
Newell School District