



**White Bear Lake Area Schools
School Board Meeting Highlights
November 28, 2016
Work-Study Meeting**

At the November 28, 2016 School Board Meeting of the White Bear Lake Area School Board, the following agenda items were presented and discussed:

1. **Update on School Board/Superintendent Goals and Strategic Plan Priorities for 2016-17.**
Board members were provided with an updated copy of priorities for 2016-17 reflecting changes or adjustments since the October work-study session.
 - a. **Goal 4C - Review of Mental Health/Chemical Health Recommendations and Timelines, including Review of 2016 Minnesota Student Survey Data.** The final recommendations from the Mental Health and Chemical Health Committee were presented by co-chairs Social Worker Avis Fink and Director of Student Support Services Kathleen Daniels along with other members of the committee. This committee grew directly out of significant concerns administration heard from staff during the 2014-15 school year, as well as the results of the 2013 Minnesota Student Survey. The work of the committee spanned better than a year and one-half, with preliminary discussions in the spring and summer of 2015, and significant committee work through the 2015-16 school year with wrap-up this summer and fall.

See the presentation [here](#).
 - b. **Goal 1, Strategy IV - Review of Technology Restructuring, including Digital Learning Specialists and Tier I and II Support.** Members of the Technology Department provided a review of Technology Restructuring. The Technology Department implemented changes to staffing and support models over the summer. The goals, outlined for the School Board last spring, are to provide the highest level of technical support, maximize the learning impact of our technology investment and prepare for the future. With the first quarter complete, Director of Technology and Innovation Mark Garrison, Tech Support Manager Steve Asper, Network Engineer Peggy Nadeau, Tier I Technician Penny Dally, and Digital Learning Specialist LuAnne Oklobzija shared data illustrating the success of the new model from the technical, instructional and systems perspective. They also described some of the department's major accomplishments of this fall and looked ahead to upcoming projects.

See the presentation [here](#).
 - c. **Goal 4E - Update on Senior Transportation.** Senior Program Coordinator Tara Jebens-Singh, Community Services Director Tim Maurer and Lions Club representatives provided an update to the School Board and options for next steps related to Senior Transportation. A copy of the communication and distribution schedule was made available, along with a recommended transition plan.

2. **Update on Laws and Policies Affecting Licensing, Compensation and Benefits of Preschool Teachers.** Linda Goers, Director of Human Resources, and legal counsel Mick Waldspurger provided information on the laws and policy affecting licensing, compensation and benefits of our preschool teachers.
3. **Update on Superintendent Recruitment and Selection Process.** George Kimball, Chair of Superintendent Selection Process and Procedures Committee, provided an update on the recommendations for the recruitment and selection process of our next superintendent. It is the goal of the School Board to have the new superintendent begin as of July 1, 2017.
4. **Overview of Opportunity to Participate in State Q Comp Program and Timeline.** Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Sara Paul and Dr. Michael McKenzie, President of the White Bear Lake Teachers Association, shared work that has been done to explore Q-Comp funding through the Department of Education. Q-Comp was enacted through a bipartisan agreement in the Minnesota Legislature in July 2005. The purpose of the presentation was to share the current thinking and the timeline for exploring this opportunity.

See the presentation [here](#).

5. **Goal 2: Overview of Timelines for Potential 2017 Renewal Referendum.** White Bear Lake Area Schools has in place an operating levy that was initially passed by District voters in November 2007 and renewed in November 2011. The District may seek to renew the operating levy as part of the November 2017 general election. An overview of the operating levy was presented to the School Board by Dr. Wayne Kazmierczak. This overview was organized as follows: 1) Statewide trends, 2) Recent operating levy referendum history, 3) Operating levy revenue details and tax impact, and 4) Preliminary timeline for November 2017 renewal referendum.

See the presentation [here](#).

6. **Discussion on Opportunity to Partner with Other School Districts on Equity Policy.** The School Board discussed the district's opportunity to partner with other school districts on equity policy. Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area school district leaders continue to discuss how to best address Minnesota's persistent opportunity and achievement gaps. The consensus has been that it would be wise to engage as a broader community with leaders from other school districts.

The purpose of this collective engagement is to ensure the constitutionally guaranteed right to an adequate education of all students by creating a comprehensive collective action plan to address integration, access, opportunity, and educational achievement (see attached document). The work of these school district leaders will be critical as policy recommendations are formulated and shared with school boards, legislators, and other stakeholders.

7. **Discussion on Primary Election Change.** School Board members discussed the possibility of eliminating the primary election in future District elections based upon information from Mr. Joseph Mansky, Ramsey County Elections Manager.

Find Board packets and audio/video files of White Bear Lake Area School Board meetings [here](#).