

BOE Meeting Highlights

Board of Education Meeting April 11, 2018

The Board of Education encourages the public to attend the meetings held on the second Wednesday of each month. There is an opportunity at the beginning of each meeting for input from the public. After that the Board conducts the School District's business, including the Superintendent's and Principals' Reports, position appointments, and issues to act upon.

Here are some highlights from the meeting held on March 14. The next meeting will be held Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at 6:30 P.M. in the Jeffers Media Center.

Public Participation

- There were no public comments.

Superintendent's Report-Tim Keteri

- Head of food service Jean Stevens turned in her retirement letter. The CCSAB Awards dinner will be next week. Jeffers will be honoring student David Jukkala, parapro Valerie Dobson, and community members Tina and Pete Strack.
- The commencement speaker will be David Verran, a retired military man and Jeffers graduate.
- Looking into being proactive with security, the district is exploring contracting a police officer for the school. He approached the Village of South Range about sharing the cost and time of the officer. Eventually there could be grants that could pay for it.
- The district will be seeking a bond extension in August. It wouldn't be an increase, just an extension. Right now it goes for 14 years, this would extend it by 10 years for 24 years total. It would be an extensive and wide reaching millage for instructional and facility purposes. It would include a new roof for SRE and the JHS gym, building an extension at JHS for a cafeteria, moving the offices at JHS and SRE to a central location, remodeling the old gym at JHS into a PE gym, making the JHS kitchen into a weight room, new entry at JHS for the back as snow removal is hard in the corner of the building, upgraded security at SRE and JHS with new cameras and communication capabilities to broadcast events, floor upgrades, technology upgrades, 2 new garages for storage at SRE and JHS, new lockers at JHS, upgrades to the pool system to make it functional, fixing the pillars at SRE, and classroom furnishings. It would be on the August 7th ballot and work would begin around May 2019. The district would be hiring a project manager who would oversee everything.

Principal's Report-Kim Harris, South Range Elementary

- March's Jets of the Month were Vayda Kinnunen, Justen Rodriguez, Arabella Perala, and Cullen Larson.

- The number of Mrs. Dobson's Diamond Club members was bigger than ever with 30 boys and girls. The school recently had a Dobson Day for thanking Mrs. Dobson.
- Tuuli Savelainen is the student from Finland who is here for the "Hei Suomi" program with 3rd grade. She jumped right in with 3rd grade teachers Mrs. Lishinski and Mrs. Pyykkonen and is doing a wonderful job. She spends extra time at the school, staying all day.
- Kindergarten registration went well. There were 28 students and the number always grows over summer. It was a great group of kids.
- The science fair was recently held. All 4th-6th graders did a project. The students could present at the local fair at Michigan Tech. 3 groups did so. She appreciates how Mrs. Schuett reignited the interest in the fair. Mrs. Schuett will be doing a "Donor's Choose" fundraiser to raise money for a color printer to be used for the science fair projects.
- All teachers up for probationary status are recommended.
- Testing for grades 3-6 is coming up in the next few weeks.

Principal's and Athletic Report-Steve Lishinski, Jeffers High School

- Mrs. Pera, math and science teacher, recently celebrated Pi Day with the 7th graders. Her 8th graders had the MTU Engineering Ambassadors working with them on an oil spill activity.
- Mrs. Johnson, culinary teacher, started with basic knife skills and has moved on to cooking many things. It is a great program.
- Ms. Raether, German teacher, will be having her returnable drive on the 14th for their trip to Frankenmuth.
- Mrs. Raffaelli, math teacher, has 7th-9th graders do a spatial skills test as a part of a National Science Foundation research study coordinated through Michigan Tech and the University of Cincinnati. Students are identified with a number only and no names are attached to the data. Jeffers receives grant money for participating.
- Mr. Lishinski will be attending student teacher mock interviews at NMU on the 20th. It should help build relationships with potential teachers.
- All teachers up for probationary status are recommended.
- Testing started with the SAT and ACT Work Keys for juniors and PSAT for freshmen and sophomores. M-Step will begin for Juniors. Testing in the district continues through May.
- 39 students will be graduating.
- Softball, baseball, track, and golf practices have started. It might be a rough season with the weather.
- He recommends the Hockey program renew their cooperative agreement with Chassell, Dollar Bay-Tamarack City, Lake Linden-Hubbell, and Ontonagon and add L'Anse and Baraga. Jeffers did not get into the conference they were trying for so for now they are independent. It doesn't change the local schedule very much.
- The football co-op with Hancock is continuing as normal

Action Items

The Board discussed several action items.

Submitted by Valerie Dobson, South Range Elementary