

November 15, 2023

Blog – November Updates

It always amazes me how fast time seems to go by, especially as I get older. It seems that the school year just got started and our first quarter of school has already been completed. Thanksgiving Break is rapidly approaching and the Christmas carols are filling the airwaves. So, this seemed to be a great week to give you some updates on what is going on in the District. First, I want to thank everyone who has already taken the operational referendum survey. The information that you provide us in this survey will help the Board structure the appropriate referendum for the April election. If you have not already received your postcard, it should be arriving very soon. This postcard was sent out to every household in the Parkview School District and lets you know how to access the survey. The postcard also has an invitation to attend the Board's Public Forum on Monday, November 20 at 6:00 p.m. in the Junior/Senior High School library. The Board has set aside this time to listen to the students, staff and residents of the school district about what matters to you and the future of the Parkview School District. The Board wants to hear your thoughts about the upcoming superintendent search, the 2024-2025 school calendar, the upcoming operational and facilities referendums and any other topic that you would like to discuss with them. I truly hope you will mark this day off on your calendar and attend this public forum. You can access the operational referendum survey by clicking on the following link:

https://parkviewsd.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_e4dXP4gAssnGWAm?Source=Blog.

On Tuesday, November 21, the Board of Education will be posting the job opening for Parkview's next school superintendent. We used the feedback from the superintendent search survey to help re-write the Job Description for the next superintendent and to use as the basis for the essay questions that each candidate is asked to answer in the application process. The application period will last from Tuesday, November 21 until Monday, January 7, 2024. At the end of the application process, the Board of Education will review each of the candidates and select those candidates that they feel deserve to be interviewed for the position. The first round of interviews will take place on Monday, January 15. If you would like to be a part of the either the staff or the parent/guardian/community interview teams, please send me an email at wanderson@email.parkview.k12.wi.us.

I have also completed four draft calendars for the 2024-2025 school year. I created these drafts based on the information that people provided me on what they would like to see in the upcoming school calendar. As you can imagine, there was a wide range of opinions. However, all calendar options share the same components. All of the calendars have 174 face-to-face instruction days and 15 professional development/work days. I will be sending out a calendar survey next week asking individuals to rate each of the options and provide additional comments. Once I have received the results of the survey, I will make some adjustments and present a calendar to the Board of Education for their review and approval. It is my hope to have the 2024-2025 calendar approved by the Board in either December or January.

After the winter break, I will start working with the staff on the review and updating of the Employee Handbook. The Employee Handbook is an important document that lays out the

working conditions and benefits for all staff members. During this process, Board members, administrators and staff will be able to provide feedback on how they think the Employee Handbook can be improved to provide a clear description of expectations, working conditions and benefits. The goal will be to have a final revised document for the Board to review and approve by April or May.

Finally, in the month of January, we will start putting together draft financial budgets for the 2024-2025 school year. This year, we will be working on two different budgets. One budget will be based on the passage of the operational budget in April and the other budget will be based on what the budget will have to look like if the referendum fails. It is my goal to lay out each scenario very clearly so that everyone will know what to expect with either outcome.

I want to thank each of you that has participated in any or all of the surveys. Your ideas and opinions matter. I strongly believe that when we work together all things are possible. I hope that each of you have a great Thanksgiving with friends and family. I am grateful for many things and one of those things is being able to be a part of Parkview School District this school year.