

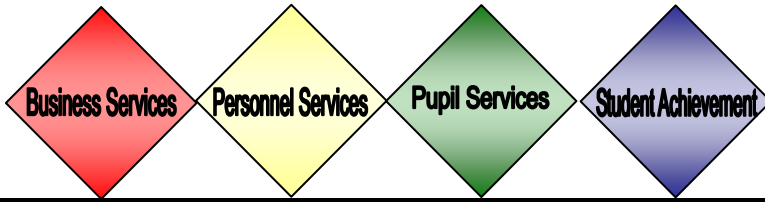


School District of New London

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Bill Fitzpatrick
District Administrator
Date: January 6, 2009



Board of Education Election

As of Tuesday morning we have five candidates for the three vacant positions on the spring election.

They are:

- Ginny Schlais
- Terry Wegner
- Theresa Banick
- Jeremy Gorges
- Constance Neely

Candidates may still file papers until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2009. We have asked Jim Auer to stop in on Wednesday morning to draw lots to establish the order in which the candidate names will appear on the ballot. I will inform the Board and public of that order at the meeting on Monday.

Reduction In Force

As you are aware, we are preparing various scenarios by which staff reductions for next year are being considered. I have placed the issue on the closed meeting agenda for this Monday to discuss. We will not be taking any action at this time. As there may be a possible conflict of interest for a couple of Board members, I have asked our school attorney to provide guidance.

School-to-Work Brochure

We have been working with the UW Extension Office, Waupaca County Economic Development Inc., and FVTC to formalize a partnership in the area of manufacturing. Attached is a brochure that has been developed. We, in New London, are specifically working to develop the model in the area of printing with Curwood. We will be meeting as a group during this month to finalize a pilot for two students this summer.

Personnel Division

The Personnel Division met to discuss and develop clear protocols for dealing with certified staff licensing issues. The Department of Public Instruction has created a number of categories for dealing with newly licensed teachers under PI-34, and for those professionals continuing to renew their license under the old process.

Under the state law, if certified staff members allow their license to lapse, they disqualify themselves

from employment. The DPI has provided guidance to individuals seeking to renew their license. Our protocols will incorporate that guidance. We will be notifying individuals whose license is about to lapse of their responsibility to maintain appropriate licensure or risk a loss of employment.

Some individuals may be awarded a license with stipulations. We will be requiring individuals whose license is awarded with stipulations to provide the district with a plan of action to address the specific concerns. The district will then monitor the plan implementation. An individual's failure to complete the approved plan may lead to non-renewal, transfer to a position for which the individual is appropriately licensed, or disqualification from employment because the license has lapsed.

If an individual has an emergency license, the district will be closely monitoring the progress of their plan as well. The DPI endorses very few emergency licenses, so we will be closely tracking these individuals to assure they are appropriately licensed within the timeframe allowed.

We will also be building in a few more conditions of employment to be completed during the first three years of employment. Failure to meet those conditions may result in a recommendation for non-renewal.

Mid-Year Reviews

I am completing my mid-year reviews with directors and principals. In addition to performance assessments, we are conducting progress monitoring of the district goals and School Improvement Plans.

Bullying Pilot at Parkview on TV

As part of the School Improvement Plan, Parkview is instituting an anti-bullying program. During the first semester the school team was trained and data was collected to establish a baseline. This week the school is conducting a kickoff for the program. Channel 2 was on hand to capture the enthusiasm. If there are promising results, we may consider expanding the training to the other elementary school staff. We will be reporting comparison results to the Board at the end of the year.