



REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 21, 2014

PIONEER SPRING FORMAL

The Pioneer Spring Formal was held April 5th. The staff reported that the students looked great, had a wonderful time and were very well behaved. Ms. Lindi Lane and the Pioneer Student Council transformed the Arena into an *"Under the Stars" theme*. As usual, it was absolutely beautiful!

I appreciate the administration and staff that helped chaperone and clean up. This is always a very special evening for our students!!

HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

The projected enrollment for next year is still coming in. We currently have placed 614 new students for the 2014 – 2015 school year. These continue to be exceptional numbers. We will be welcoming our new students and parents at the Pioneer New Student/Parent Orientation on Thursday, April 24, 2014. Students and parents will have the opportunity to visit the Career Technical Labs and learn all about Pioneer and their programs.

REDUCTION IN FORCE

At the end of the month, I will be checking enrollment very closely to determine if I need to send out Reduction In Force (RIF) letters. Although things are looking very good, if needed, RIF letters will be delivered by me to the union and teachers by April 30th.

RIF's are not acted on until the June board meeting, so I will keep you posted on any reductions and possible abolishment of programs.

Student Services and instructors will continue recruitment efforts.

PIONEER ANNUAL BOARD MEMBER-ADMINISTRATOR DINNER

As usual, the Annual Board Member-Administrator Dinner was a big success. Chef Seth Weibel and the Culinary Arts students did an excellent job with their Italian Cuisine! I appreciate the help Mr. Jason Fortman and the cafeteria staff

provided to the Culinary Arts Department. Thank you for your support of this special event!

CALAMITY DAYS

Well, I think we can say we hit the “ULTIMATE” in winter weather this year!! We had 9 closures, 10 two hour delays and 1 early release. We are asking you to approve the days we had to cancel school.

TEXTBOOKS

This year we have an Environmental Science and a few Career-Technical textbooks to be approved for a total of \$19,703.75. The textbooks will be displayed for your review at this meeting. All textbooks have been reviewed by Greg Nickoli, Director of Operations. It is his recommendation that the textbooks presented be approved at the May meeting by the Board of Education.

STAFF APPRECIATION

Staff appreciation is May 5 – 9, 2014. I invite you to recognize the Pioneer staff through a resolution. We will recognize the teaching and support staff during this week and hope you will do the same.

AWARDS NIGHT AND RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

It is always a pleasure to recognize outstanding students at the Pioneer Student Awards night. This year this special event will be held May 1, 2014. We always appreciate your attendance and want to recognize you, so when you arrive please let me know so we can introduce you.

The Byron Carmean Award is the most prestigious award presented to a Pioneer student. This year we have five (5) candidates for the award. The approval for recognition will be appreciated as will the \$1,000 Scholarship. The runners-up will each receive a \$250 scholarship. The Shelby Rotary Club will be asked to contribute scholarships for the candidates. The Pioneer Education Association of Pioneer will also contribute a check in the amount of \$500 to the winner.

DAYS TO HOURS

In order to meet the new mandate of changing the calendar from days to hours we need to increase the instructional day by 10 minutes per day. The new law states that the instructional school year must be, at least, 1001 hours. Our current instructional year is 1016 hours (8:20 am – 2:25 pm / 5.59 hr. day) allowing us only 2.8 calamity days with no delays (for professional development or snow days).

We are recommending that we increase the instructional year to 1046.5 hours (8:10 am – 2:25 pm / 5.75 hr. day) allowing us about 7.9 calamity days. We will eliminate all delayed start days for professional development and try to avoid calling two (2) hour delays.

IPADS

In May, we will be exchanging your laptops for IPADS. The IPAD will allow you to simply touch the screen to access BlueSky and your e-mail. This will tremendously simplify the process of reading the Board agendas and e-mail.

PERSONNEL

We are recommending the following administrative contracts be renewed for three (3) years: Mary Lee Barr, Jason Fortman, Mike Martin, Kris Kowalski, Greg Nickoli and Jim Grubbs. All administrators have gone through 2 of a 3 cycle evaluation process and will have their final summative evaluation in a few weeks.

The remainder of the personnel issues is common for the month of April.