

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 16, 2015

HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

New student enrollment is high again this year. The overall sophomore class that we are recruiting from is about the same size as in past years, but the applications just keep coming in. Currently, we have 555 new students placed in programs with a total of 687 applications. Thanks to our Student Services Department for their diligence in recruiting. Even under adverse conditions, the whole staff and student body worked very hard and did an outstanding job this year during and after Sophomore Visitation and the enrollment period.

CALENDARS

At this meeting, we are presenting you our high school, pre-school, and adult education calendars. These calendars will meet the requirements of our negotiated agreement and requirements from the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Board of Regents.

ALL BOARD DINNER

Our All Board Dinner will be March 25, 2015. Our theme this year will be "Pioneer – Celebrating Our Students." We will feature updates on the many exciting events from this school year and an opportunity for our visiting Board Members to interact with students.

CENTRAL REGION OSBA

Central Region Meeting of the Ohio School Boards Association was held on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at the Villa Milano Banquet and Conference Center in Columbus. Because the date conflicted with the Franklin B. Walter Awards Dinner Mr. Kowalski, Mr. Grubbs and Mr. Dennis Long represented Pioneer at the event in Columbus and I attended the event at the Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center.

REFINANCING UPDATE

We have continued our work with David Conley and Emily Cannon of Rockmill Financial as we consider whether or not to move forward with the financing of our Certificates of Participation. We expect to have the necessary paperwork completed by the end of next week which would then allow us to proceed if interest rates are at an appropriate level. Recently, interest rates have moved up

recently so we are not in the same favorable environment we were when we started this work in January

HVAC ISSUES

With the frigid temperatures this winter, our new HVAC system got a true test of how well it can function in below zero temperatures. The Variable Refrigerant System (VRS) in the Main Entrance did okay (it is manufactured by Mitsubishi), but the VRS system (manufactured by LG) in the remainder of the building had some major problems. Our maintenance staff has worked diligently to ensure that systems are functioning as efficiently as possible but it has been a struggle. We've been forced to place temporary heating units into some spaces and move some classes on some unusually cold days. The staff and students have been very understanding.

Currently, working with the LG and K Company from Akron, and have identified issues with refrigerant leaks, control boards, and compressors. We are attempting to systematically identify and repair issues with each non-functioning unit. In an effort to isolate root causes LG has agreed to replace all boards, a process that should be completed by the end of the day on Friday, March 13. Our maintenance staff will continue locating and repairing leaks and replacing non-functioning parts as we go. At the same time we are collecting and sending data to LG as units are repaired in the hopes that we can identify what's causing units to fail. We hope to have more answers by the end of March.

PERSONNEL

All personnel issues are common for this time of year.

