

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

January 14, 2004

ISAT Results

Following this report, you will find a summary of ISAT results from all of the Lake Park feeder districts. I believe District 10's results are particularly good this year. That being said, I would like to emphasize that, under current test construction and conditions, "success" can be very fleeting, sporadic, and mysterious. We are not privy to standard error, standard deviation, the number of "disqualified" answer sheets or the "complicated formulas" that yield state results. Those are significant pieces of missing information. My research into the testing structure and process reinforces the fact that results from grade to grade (5th to 8th) in a single year, subject to subject (Reading to Writing) in a single year, longevity studies for the same group of students (8th grade 3 years ago was 5th grade), and year to year for the same grade level (this year's 8th grade compared to last year's 8th grade, are ALL statistically flawed comparisons. The primary reason is a combination of the facts that 1) test structure for each test is independent from all other tests (i.e. the raw score necessary to "meet"), 2) each subject area test (i.e. 5th grade math) tests different skills each year, and, of course, 3) the students are different each year. So, we should be happy we did well, but keep it in the perspective that these results provide us with little usable, sustainable, comparative results in their current form. The results do provide some focus for areas of improvement.

HVAC Contingency

We have approximately \$520,000 left in proceeds from the sale of \$3.7 million in bonds. We have scheduled remaining payments to Johnson Controls for Phase 3 (Benson) of approximately \$370,000. That leaves a contingency fund of approximately \$150,000. We know that the postponed technology classroom work I recommended last year was about \$90,000. I would like to know how the Board would like to proceed. It is my recommendation that do the technology room work as presented last year. That would leave about \$60,000 in contingency. We can count on having some contingency at Benson (air quality testing, clean-up). What ever is left, I would recommend we use to offset a portion of the maintenance costs associated with Performance Contract and not pursue any other projects through Johnson Controls.

Meetings with PTOs

On January 13th, the Board is invited to the Peacock PTO at 7:00 PM in the media center. On January 20th, the Board is invited to the IEPTO meeting at Benson (not Franzen) at 7:00 PM. These will provide the Board with two opportunities for positive public interaction and input.

2004-05 School Calendar

Lake Park and its feeder districts are looking at next year's calendar. Since Christmas falls on a Saturday, Lake Park is preliminarily considering starting the winter break on the Wednesday before Christmas and ending the Wednesday after New Years. Any thoughts?