



November 2019

District Administrator

Leadership Formation

Throughout my life, many individuals have influenced me in developing my theory of leadership. Realizing that my philosophy of leadership is a reflection of many individuals, it only fits that I share some of the lessons learned.

One of the first lessons of leadership that I learned was the message that “others will always depend on you.” As I have grown professionally, this message allowed me to understand that one cannot live life in total isolation, others need assistance no matter how strong or significant they appear to be. This philosophy has carried on with me throughout my personal and professional career.

In my current role as District Administrator, it is evident that an active learning community will only be as strong as the group itself. No one individual can or will play the sole role in educating the whole child. Education must depend on skilled educator “leaders” and loving family “leaders” to support desired growth. As a school leader, the school community must rely and build upon school community strengths and shared values to ensure educational success.

“Carpe Diem,” seize the moment. I learned this phrase as a young man from a person who actively influenced me to become an educational leader. Most leaders can trace back to someone who made a positive impression on what leadership can be. Throughout my experiences, one consistent message has always been found. Leadership

opportunities will present themselves throughout your life. Be ready to accept leadership opportunities when presented and foster a positive difference for others and yourself.

Most everyone possesses the ability to lead; dedicate time and effort into “what is best.” Engaging in active leadership will allow others to join in on a transformational journey and create environments committed to “Success for All.”

What Is Your Action Plan To Become An Effective Leader

1. As a leader, be committed to the betterment of the whole by actively demonstrating competence and rigor.
2. Build on foundations that created who you are. Strive to instill the concepts of honesty, respect, integrity, perseverance, and family into every decision you encounter.
3. Continually allow for growth and exploration. Encourage self-worth amongst all while fostering independence.
4. Live life as a journey. Continually remind yourself that one must continuously learn from others.
5. Understand that leadership vision is open for all to examine. Regularly encourage all to engage in the betterment of society.



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School Board Election Timeline

The timeline for the April 7 election is:



*November 26 (Tuesday) Publish notice of election (*Press Star* publication on November 21)

*December 27 (Friday) Deadline for non-candidacy for incumbent

*January 7 (Tuesday) Deadline for filing for School Board 5:00 p.m.

*January 14 (Tuesday) Verification of Declarations of Candidacy; drawing of lots for ballot order

*April 6 (Monday) Publish notice of election (*Press Star* publication on April 2)

*April 27 (Monday) School Board members take office

Board members who are up for re-election are John Heideman and Kim Schroeder. The term of office for the school board members is three-year terms. Please let us know if there are any questions.

Be 212 “The Extra Degree”



Reflecting on the activities this past month, vertical teaming was a common theme for our staff. Both formal and informal collaboration around understanding our content goals at all

levels demonstrates “The Extra Degree” of effort with a commitment to “Success for all Students.”

Danielle Sievert noted that the Social Studies team from the ISMS; Jann Berglund, Nathan Krueger, Kaitlyn Thompson, and Dan Wegner went the extra degree with regard to allowing themselves to be vulnerable. They were not afraid to admit the challenge involved in embracing change toward a new manner of thinking and instruction and provided each other the opportunity to think critically in a collegial manner. Each developed a unit plan and shared it for critique from the team. They left with goals for the future, as well as interest in continuing the practice of getting feedback from each other on this effort. Thanks to all participants in the vertical efforts.

Director of Business Services

WPPI Grant Award

The district was awarded a grant from WPPI in the amount of \$24,000. We applied for the grant to apply towards projects at Parkview Elementary School and/or the High School. The grant is

competitive and the award pays up to the amount of energy savings. WPPI’s letter quoted: “Your Fall 2019 Round application has been ranked as one of the top proposals of our RFP for energy efficiency.”



We are thankful for the grant award as it can offset a portion of the costs for projects in this year’s budget

Tyson Donation for Junior Achievement

The district was awarded \$2,500 by Tyson to again sponsor Junior Achievement in the district. We applied to the allocations committee through Tyson and they approved our request. This is a program Tyson has supported for over a decade. We sincerely appreciate their support and partnership!



Facilities Committee Update

The committee met before the board meeting tonight and discussed the following topics:

- FFA School Forest and Potential Future Use
- Parkview Cafeteria Tables
- Lincoln Hot Water Heater
- Lincoln Door Replacement
- High School Track Resurfacing
- High School Dishmachine Replacement
- Bus Garage Heater Replacement
- Sugar Bush Roofing Project
- 2020 School Bus Replacement
- Maintenance Hire Update



Look for future meeting agenda items on some of these topics.

Director of Pupil Services

Sources of Strength

On September 27, 2019, over 70 students participated in Sources of Strength at New London

High School. Approximately 15 staff members participated as well.

Today's education is about more than just providing students a viable curriculum.

Sources of Strength is a national suicide prevention program that also aims to reduce those risky behaviors among teens. The program takes a science-based approach by utilizing the power of in-person social networks. Peer teams comprised of students guide the effort by spreading messages of hope, resiliency, and connections.



Academic and Career Planning and Future Freshman Night

On January 6, 2020, all students and their families are encouraged to attend the course scheduling and pathways to success. Youth Apprenticeship, Dual Credit, work experience and presentations on course offerings by departments will also be available.

Future Freshman, as well as new High School students, and their parents are invited to report to the opening session beginning at 5:00 which will review scheduling procedures and available coursework. Additional information will also be available for all students regarding scheduling, courses of study, career pathways, and other strategies to get the most out of your high school experiences.

This is a collaborative event offered by the high school staff to encourage students to become invested in their high school career and their pathway towards becoming lifelong learners.

Knights of Columbus Donation

On Thursday, October 24, Jim Russell from the Knights of Columbus presented a monetary donation to the Pupil Services Department of the School District of New London. Pictured are Jim Russell from the Knights of Columbus, as well as High School teacher, Jill Spencer, and students from her 6th hour class.



Director of Teaching and Learning

\$10,000 Grant for WISELearn Math Initiatives

Congratulations to Lynn Schaal on receiving a \$10,000 WISELearn grant related to Open Educational Instructional Materials of Professional Learning (IMPL). OER improves equity via increased access, empowers teachers to customize and update the content for their



classrooms, with the goal to ultimately save schools money. With this grant, staff will have funding available to participate in professional development and the opportunity to implement lessons and activities based on the unique needs of their students in the area of Geometry. ISMS and HS math staff interested in being a part of this effort will be building a team later this month.

Coming Soon: School and District Report Cards

As part of the state accountability system, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) produces report cards for every publicly funded school and district in Wisconsin. These Accountability Report Cards include data on multiple indicators for multiple years across four Priority Areas (Student Achievement, Growth, Closing Gaps, and On-track and Post-secondary Success). A school or district's

Overall Accountability Score places the school/district into one of five Overall Accountability Ratings:

Rating	Score	Stars
Significantly Exceeds Expectations	83-100	*****
Exceeds Expectations	73-82.9	****
Meets Expectations	63-72.9	***
Meets Few Expectations	53-62.9	**
Fails to Meet Expectation	0-52.9	*

The public release of the ratings from the 2018-2019 school year will take place in mid-November this year. As always, our results will be shared on our district webpage. Further details on this effort from the office of accountability can be found online at <https://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards>.

Vertical Team Meetings

English, Math and Social Studies teams met in vertical meetings to discuss standards for instruction earlier this month. These meetings also provide staff the opportunity to discuss student achievement at all grade levels as well as to look a bit deeper into data to support our efforts. This group will identify grade level benchmarks including incoming skills and next steps for learning. Thank you to all who participated as well as those who meet in Professional Learning Community teams to further develop and hone in on instructional goals.



Instructional Committee

Our next instructional committee meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2019, at 4:15 p.m. at the District Office.

End of the Quarter Report Cards



November 1, 2019, marked the last day of first quarter for our students. As a reminder, report cards for students grades K-8 will be sent home with students on Thursday November 7, 2019.

Students in grades 9-12 do not receive quarter report cards and instead receive a semester transcript in January.