



# NEWTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## School Board Highlights

*The School Board would like to highlight a few items of importance following each board meeting to share what is happening around the board table.*

### Regular Board Meeting – October 12, 2020 (6:30 PM)

#### 2020 IASC Administrator of the Year – Lisa Sharp



Congratulations to Lisa Sharp, BMS Principal for being named as the 2020 Iowa Association of Student Councils (IASC) Administrator of the Year! Mrs. Sharp's many contributions as a supporter of student council and one who cares about youth qualified her for this award.

She will be honored with an award at the Iowa Leadership Conference in Des Moines on Monday, March 22, 2021. Thank you for your leadership, for your dedication to education, and your support of student council!

#### Supervisor Reports

Thank you to our department supervisors who each gave reports to the School Board:

#### Food Service – Cristy Croson, Supervisor



Cristy Croson shared plans for recognition of **National School Lunch Week** – October 12 – 16, 2020. This year's theme is Now Playing: School Lunch!

All students are encouraged to eat meals at school, with the temporary, universal free breakfast and lunch service made available through a USDA program that is expected to last through the end of the year, but could end earlier pending federal funding.

#### Transportation – Curt Roorda, Supervisor

Curt Roorda provided a timeline update for launching a “**Here Comes The Bus**” app, and making it available to our district families. Here Comes The Bus is an easy-to-use website and app that enables parents to see the location of their child's school bus on a smartphone, tablet, or personal computer. Watch for more communications on this...coming soon!

#### Maintenance – Jack Sutteck, Supervisor

Jack Sutteck shared that roof repairs from the August 10, 2020 Derecho storm event are 1/3 complete and that the Roof Top Unit project at Newton High School is 95% complete. He noted that in working with EMC Insurance, it was determined that the district lost 71 trees in the storm!

#### Technology – Shane Wheeler, Supervisor

Shane Wheeler reported that the technology department continues to work on network repairs, post Derecho and they are also working on a project for improving security measures to protect district data from future unexpected events.

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## Traffic Study

The School Board unanimously approved a proposal submitted by Bolton & Menk, Inc. in the amount of \$5,800 to conduct a traffic study at Berg Middle School and Woodrow Wilson Elementary schools. The scope of work includes observations of school traffic patterns during arrival and dismissal times at the schools and creation of a list of ideas and options to be considered. District staff is working with the City of Newton (Police Department & Public Works), and Traffic Engineers on this project, which will be funded from the School Board specific budget. Results and recommendations from this traffic study will be presented at a future school board meeting.

## District Communication Plan

Superintendent Tom Messinger reported on the beginning of a district communication plan that includes a new district **Twitter** account (@SchoolsNewton), user friendly upgrades to the **district website** ([www.newtoncsd.org](http://www.newtoncsd.org)) and the implementation of a twice monthly publication of a **district newsletter** entitled, "Red Pride Review" which will be available each Friday following the board meeting schedule. If you would like to view the first edition of the Red Pride Review, it is currently available on our district website at the following link: <https://www.newtoncsd.org/red-pride-review/red-pride-review-10-9-20>.

## Future Meeting Dates

Regular Board Meeting: October 26, 2020 – 6:30 PM (EJH Beard Administration Center & via Zoom)