

# KINDLE'S KORNER

Dr. Wayne Kindle, Superintendent

Yankton School District

## **Legislative Coffees**

Please join others at the final Legislative Coffee to be held on March 2. Legislative coffees are held monthly during the South Dakota State Legislative Session (January-March) and serve as an open forum for discussion with elected officials. This is an opportunity to share your thoughts and ideas regarding educational issues facing the Yankton School District.

The Legislative Coffees are open to the public. The final Legislative Coffees will be on March 2 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Avera Office Pavilion Amphitheatre, 409 Summit Street.

## **School Finance 101 – School Funding Sources and Uses**

To better inform our patrons in the district about school finances, I will provide this section with a variety of topics titled “School Finance 101”.

This will also be an on-going agenda item at all of our school board meetings.

### ***General Fund***

The General Fund is the primary school operating budget, which is funded by property taxes, state aid, local revenues (i.e. gate receipts, rental income, interest), intermediate revenues (i.e. county fines), other state revenues (bank franchise taxes, school & public lands funds) and federal grants. The General Fund budget is expended on salaries and benefits of employees, instructional materials, activities, transportation, professional services (i.e. advertising, audits, elections, legal, professional development for employees), utilities, care/upkeep of facilities and insurance.

### ***Capital Outlay Fund***

The Capital Outlay Fund is one of two vital funds authorized in statute to account for major repairs or construction of school facilities, instructional equipment, textbooks and software, classroom technology and infrastructure, school buses, vehicles and debt service. Revenue for

the Capital Outlay fund is derived primarily from property taxes. Legislation in 2016 imposed a cap on the amount of tax request schools can submit from a flat levy to a dollar request no more than 3% or inflation, whichever is less, above the previous years' tax request, plus new construction growth. This cap has had a negative effect significantly restricting much needed revenue growth that could be used to maintain aging school buildings, infrastructure, updating technology and other needed projected in the Yankton School District.

### ***Special Education Fund***

The Special Education Fund is authorized in statute to account for the costs associated with education and related services of children with special needs. In addition to salaries and benefits costs of special education staff, instructional materials and textbooks, the special education fund also pays for tuition for out-of-district placements, early childhood intervention, specialized equipment, transportation costs and professional services such as psychological, health, physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech services. Funding for the Special Education Fund is derived from a combination of local property taxes, state aid and federal funding.

### ***Other Funds***

The Yankton School District also maintains an Impact Aid Fund (federal funding to replace lost property taxes from the construction of Gavins Point Dam), enterprise funds such as a School Food Service Fund, Concessions Fund, Unemployment Fund and Self-Insurance Fund (a fund established to account for employee health insurance benefits) and a Fiduciary Fund where the school is the fiscal agent for various class and club accounts.

### **CY North Parking Lot \$125,000 Donation!**

Many folks have commented about the Crane Youngworth North Parking Lot regarding no lighting and the need for concrete, as well as marked parking areas. We have some really good news to share.

The Doug and Kellie (Larson) Schieffer family both YHS graduates have made a matching pledge challenge of \$125,000 towards paving and lighting of the CY North Parking Lot! We want to extend our gratitude to this generous family for remembering the YSD.

We are seeking other families, individuals, businesses and YSD Alumni who would like to help in matching the \$125,000 gift. This can be done by either purchasing a stadium chair for \$1800 with donor information engraved on the donor plaque or by making a contribution to this project.

I want to personally thank Randy Lien and Jay Sohler both YHS graduates. They have volunteered to lead a group of other YHS graduates in raising the funds to meet or exceed the \$125,000 pledge challenge by the Doug and Kellie (Larson) Schieffer family.

The YSD would like to be able to complete this project next summer in time for fall events at Crane Youngworth Field. Please call the Superintendent's office at 665-3998 to discuss how you can be part of making this a reality and thank you in advance.

### **School Board Meetings**

School board meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at the Yankton School District Administration Building at 5:30pm located at 2410 West City Limits Drive. School board meetings are recorded and re-aired on public-access channels on local cable television and archived on the school district website <http://ysd.k12.sd.us/>. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

### **Yankton School District Tuiton-Free Preschool**

If you know of any 3 or 4 year old toddlers who could benefit from preschool, let them know we have a few openings for next fall (2019-20 school year). We will help them get registered. They can call the Webster Elementary School office at 665-2484 for more information.

These children need to be 3 or 4 by September 1, 2019. There is a \$50 registration fee upon registering, which will be refunded upon enrolling in the district's JrK or Kindergarten the following years.

This is an incredible opportunity, which will have many positive and long lasting effects on these children, families, and our community. Call 665-2484 for more details!

### **Superintendent Presentations**

As Superintendent, I would be happy to visit with you personally or speak to your group/organization. I am also willing to host your group at our Administration Building or one of our school buildings. I would also come to your facility or meeting place.

As Superintendent, I have spoken to several groups through our community and have hosted groups at our Administration Building. Please feel free to contact me at 665-3998 to arrange a time to visit.

Let's continue to have a great year!

Henry Ford stated, “Coming together is a beginning. Staying together is a process. Working together is a success.”

