THE JOSEPH SEARS SCHOOL

KENILWORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38

Memo to: Kenilworth Board of Education
Dr. Crystal LeRoy, Business Services and Human Resources Manager

From: Dr. Kelley M. Kalinich, Superintendent

Date: June 11, 2015

Re: Superintendent's Report

As we close out the school year, there are two items I would like to highlight for the Board.

Top School District In Illinois Recognition

First, I am pleased to re-announce that Kenilworth School District was rated the top public school district in Illinois in a recent analysis by Niche, an organization linked with Carnegie Mellon University that is focused on evaluating data related to K-12 schools, as well as colleges, to guide students and their families in determining the best options available for education. Kenilworth was also ranked 38th nationally, out of more than 9,000 districts studied.

Mr. Chike Erokwu has developed a press release and will be reaching out to the local media to cover this recognition.

Review of Strategic Plan and School Culture Action Plan

I will be providing an update on the Strategic Plan progress and School Culture Action Plan at our Board meeting. My goal is that the report will provide a summary of the work accomplished for the 2014-2015 school year, as well as to identify potential areas of focus for the 2015-2016 school year.

Highlights of accomplishments include:

- Curriculum – Expansion of Response to Intervention supports at the Junior High level; full implementation of the PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) in grades 3-8; renewal of the Social Science Curriculum in grades 6-8; piloting of Science instructional materials in grades K-8 with analysis for changes in the 2015-2016 school year; completion of Time analysis with development; recommendation of a new Master Schedule and implementation of Technology access goals across all grade levels; and regular articulation with New Trier Township High School departments.

- Culture – Completion of a Social Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum audit and piloting of bullying related curriculum in grades K-5; communication homework expectations to students in grades 6-8; establishment of faculty meeting room (teachers' lounge) space; implementation of School Culture Survey with faculty/staff and related Action Plan; and implementation of proactive communications with parents and students regarding procedures, homework and overall expectations.

DR. KELLEY M. KALINICH, SUPERINTENDENT DR. CRYSTAL S. LEROY, BUSINESS SERVICES AND HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
MRS. KENDRA N. WALLACE, PRINCIPAL MS. JULIA R. JONES, DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

542 Abbotsford Road Kenilworth, Illinois 60043 phone: 847.256.5006 fax: 847.256.4418 www.kenilworth38.org

- Communication – Board of Education review and redesign of Administrative Organizational Structure; provide transparency in Board decision-making; completion of migration of data and user guide on websites; promotion of listen@kenilworth38.org Board communication vehicle; and establishment of communication letters to parents on annual topics.

- Finance and Facilities – Examination of Board Policies related to financial matters, as well as historical expenditures with consideration of long range projections; examination of staffing policies and needs as related to student enrollment; installation of building signage for greater ease of identification of classroom and building spaces, including for emergency personnel; and consideration of future facility needs to be addressed within the existing financial resources.

Areas of Incomplete Work for Future Consideration:

- Curriculum – Development of Enrichment (Response to Intervention) opportunities for students in grades 6-8; Development of renewed gifted education services; implementation of informational meetings/communications for parents on topics/philosophy to include Response to Intervention, including gifted instruction, homework expectations, new Master Schedule features and effective use of instructional technology; completion of curriculum mapping in English/Language Arts, Junior High Science and Social Science; and implementation of curriculum renewal in World Language.

- Culture – Establishment of procedures for lunchroom and playground expectations, as well as implementation of parent and student informational meetings/communications on the procedures; design and implementation of Advisory instruction within the context of the new Master Schedule; and development of goals in response to parent and faculty/staff survey feedback.

- Communication – Establishment of system to evaluate the effectiveness of the new Administrative Organizational Structure; implementation of parent informational meetings/communications regarding the website and ease of access to information; and prioritize outreach to school community members without school aged children.

- Finance and Facilities – Revision of Master Facility Plan; clarification of the facility priorities and development of financial resources to be applied from within the existing resources; and establishment of an implementation plan schedule.

The Strategic Plan completion of year 2 has continued to advance the District for the betterment of our students, yet there is still opportunity for us to do more. In my review of the plan with the faculty/staff throughout the school year, there is a commitment to continue the plan for the originally planned third year. I hope that this summary provides the opportunity to develop year 3.

The School Culture Action Plan progress requires the inclusion of the survey results from the faculty/staff which will be available for my presentation to the Board on Monday, June 15, 2015.