



Superintendent's Friday Board Brief

December 19, 2014

ACADEMIC MATTERS

Strategic Plan Presentations

On December 18, I presented the Strategic Operating Plan to business and industry leaders who attended the Business Leaders Breakfast organized by GEF at district office. Overall there was a very positive reception to the plan and an expressed desire to discuss ways in which they can be partners in the successful implementation of the plan. Mayor Lewis and several of his staff members attended the presentation as well and welcomed me at the 6PM presentation to Town Council. In January, I will present to the Mesa Town Council. Jill Humphreys attended the meeting.

District Calendar

In preparation for your decision at the January Board meeting, attached you will find a chart with comparative information concerning the 2015-16 district calendars of several peer districts. This information will be posted in public content on Board Docs. Upon our return from break in January, a two question survey will go out to parents and teachers concerning the proposed calendar change.

COMMUNITY MATTERS

East Valley Chambers of Commerce Alliance (EVCCA)

On Tuesday, December 16th I was invited to join the Gilbert Chamber of Commerce to attend the 2015 EVCCA Legislative Priorities meeting held at the Mercy Gilbert Medical Plaza. Attendance was very strong, and the elected delegation from Districts 1, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, and 26 were present to respond to EVCCA's legislative priorities. You can view a copy of EVCCA's joint legislative agenda at: <http://evcca.org/legislative-priorities/>

BUDGET MATTERS

Student Success Funds

The district will be receiving \$700,000 of one time funds called **Student Success Funds**. These funds were made available as an initiative under Governor Brewer to "reward" districts for student performance. Because we have a balanced budget for this school year

and we have a significant projected deficit for next year, these funds will be held aside as part of our budget planning mitigation strategy.

In January, I will be providing you a summary of my proposed budget mitigation strategies for your review and comment.

BOARD MATTERS

Organizational Meeting

On January 13th the Board will hold its annual Organizational Meeting prior to the Board Work Study, and will conduct its elections for a Board President and a Board Clerk. In preparation for your organizational meeting, I have asked Tina LePage to prepare some materials in advance which will be sent to you via email. Please review and respond to Tina LePage and she will provide a summary of responses for the Board.

Friday, December 19th is an early release day and marks the start of the two week holiday. Classes resume on Monday, January 5, 2015.

Happy Holidays!