

# **Timber Lake School District No. 20-3**

**PO Box 1000 – 500 Main Street  
Timber Lake, South Dakota 57656**

**Dan Martin, Superintendent  
Amanda Hermes, Business Manager**

**Phone (605) 865-3654  
Fax (605) 865-3294**

July 23, 2021

Dissemination from July 14, 2021: Community input meeting specifically devoted to receiving input concerning our 2021-22 Return to Learning Plan “Stay the Course” and the budget for the “American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief”

On July 14, 2021, Timber Lake School District held a Community Input Meeting prior to the regularly scheduled school board meeting. We had 22 in attendance.

Supt. Martin began the community input meeting by stating, “This community meeting is specifically devoted to receiving input concerning our 2021-22 Return to Learning Plan and the budget for the “American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief” funds. Both Principal Paxton and Principal Marshall recently met with staff to review the 2020-21 Return to Learning plan. Principal Paxton reported on the Elementary staff’s feedback. The elementary staff felt the hygiene strategies were a success. The staff wishes to bring back the hands-on learning tools and group activities that are important for student engagement and continued growth. Principal Marshall reported on the Middle School/High School staff’s feedback. MS/HS Staff feel that the school has become much more efficient in utilizing Google classroom and enhanced hygiene efforts. Middle School/High School staff are also hopeful that they will be able to transition back to small group activities for engagement. The MS/HS staff would like to utilize zoom and virtual options sparingly, as both have their challenges. While discussing bussing, Mr. Martin stated that mask enforcement was challenging. Discussion took place concerning meals. It was communicated that the wishes are to go back to normal to the greatest extent possible. Lisa Martin, the school’s contracted nurse, was asked to share her thoughts. Lisa Martin stated that she was unsure what the guidance will be concerning mask-wearing on the buses. She commented that “normal” is wonderful but we need to be safe. Lisa Martin was asked if she knew what the quarantine time will be. She replied that it could be different this year due to the availability of vaccination. Supt. Martin reported that the school will participate in the state volunteer screening program again this year (this was formally called the sentinel program). The ESSER budget was discussed. Business Manager Hermes reported that there are some unknowns with the ESSER funds. The funds have been awarded. The ESSER II application is open but the ESSER III application is not. The board approved adding a Jr. Kindergarten Teacher, continuing with an additional MS/HS teacher and 2 additional paras using ESSER funds. An elementary teacher asked if added staff positions will be continued in the future. Mr. Martin explained this is one-time funding with ESSER II expiring in September of 2023 and ESSER III expiring in September of 2024. He also explained that if there is a need for staff to be continued, that there is a good possibility of keeping added programs through the 2023-24 school year. Also discussed was construction that took place this summer to convert an old locker room into a custodial room and the custodial room into an additional classroom. There are plans to update the Linderman house to classroom space and updating the boiler/HVAC system pending ESSER approval.

Sincerely,

Dan Martin

## **Mission Statement**

“Timber Lake School provides a safe environment that empowers students to become critical thinkers and responsible lifelong learners in a changing society.”