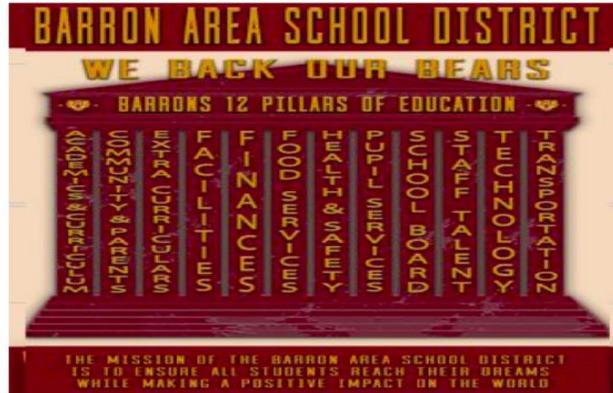


District Administrator's Report  
March 2019



Academics and Curriculum

Our ACT and ACT Workkeys testing is complete with the exception of a few make-ups. We are in full swing planning for WI Forward, ACT Aspire, and DLM.  
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STAR SGP District Goal Results (TM)

School	Percentage of students growing typically or above.
STAR Reading	
Almena	70%
Ridgeland	76%
Woodland	73%
Riverview Middle School	66%
Barron High School	68%

STAR Math	
Almena	79%
Ridgeland	65%
Woodland	71%
Riverview Middle School	64%
Barron High School	64%

Many students come to us dis-regulated. If a student is not regulated and emotionally stable, learning is near impossible. Meetings are being held in late March with early childhood teachers to determine how we can better identify and support students' mental health needs. With the increase in students affected by trauma, we'd like to be even more proactive in discovering and addressing those needs. Katarina House and Jen Clemens are meeting with the director of Marriage and Family Jennifer Johnston for additional ideas and collaboration in meeting students' mental health needs.

We will continue to integrate a social/emotional curriculum called Second Step for elementary students. Due to the cost, we are incorporating the program one year at a time. Our hope is that this added layer of learning will follow them throughout school and help them see more success academically.

### Community and Parents

On March 7, Mike McGowan visited Riverview to chat with the students about kindness, leadership, resiliency, healthy boundaries with technology/social media and coping skills. He focused on allowing the students to recognize their own role in developing skills they will need to be successful moving forward. His style was engaging, and the students were following along and found him enjoyable. He was also available during conferences for the parents to chat with.

Mr. McGowan has spent the last twenty-three years working with families and children. He has worked as an educator, an administrator, a family therapist, an alcohol and drug counselor and a trainer. He has directed state certified training programs and alcohol and drug rehabilitation programs. During the last twenty years, he has given assemblies to tens of thousands of school children each year and has trained thousands of teachers in hundreds of school districts across the country. A big thank you to the student council from the Luck School District and our Woodland PTA for their donations to make this possible.

Our Elizabeth Smart event was amazing. A special thank you to Sheriff Fitzgerald and the Barron County Sheriff's Department for bringing this special event to our District. What an amazing community we have here in Barron County. Over 1300 folks attended our Elizabeth Smart event Friday night. We are so grateful to Elizabeth for sharing her beautiful message with our community.

Also, we would like to thank the EMBRACE organization, our Barron Police Department, Elizabeth's awesome staging crew and finally everyone who joined us and surrounded us with good intentions for Jayme and her family. Once again, this community displayed beautiful intentions of love, hope and resiliency.

We are very excited about our two upcoming events. *Celebrate Unity* will take place on March 26th from 6:00-8:00 at our Barron Area High School and a benefit for Bob and Jennifer Smith will be held on May 4th at our high school as well.

### Extracurriculars

- Will Waldofski and Tristan Massie qualified for state wrestling. Tristan placed third at state.
- Girls Basketball All Conference - 2nd team Rylee Stauner and honorable mention Jada Brunkow.
- Boys Basketball All Conference - 2nd team Carter LaLiberty.
- FFA Parliamentary Procedure team advance to sectionals in their leadership event.

Spring sports are starting. Players and coaches are hoping for warmer weather so they can get outside and play. For up-to-date spring sport schedules, please visit <https://heartonorth.org/public/genie/142/school/144/> -

## Facilities

Continuous improvement is the keyword this month. Our music and agriculture departments continue to make their new rooms their homes. The sound panels are up, mirrors are in the practice rooms and projectors and whiteboards have been installed. I am told how excited they were to be able to use them.

Winter is it still lingering kind of, now we have had rain and melting. This has led to some frozen drains that we worked on to thaw. One of the drains was in Woodland's parking lot and one in Riverview's parking lot.

We were privileged and excited to host the Elizabeth Smart event on Friday. Special thanks to our facilities professionals for making this happen. With a set up time scheduled of 15 minutes, I don't know of any other team that would jump at this and do a better job to make it happen.

Our Fitness room is now moving forward. Painting should start Monday, March 18th with vendors waiting to install the mirrors after the painters finish. The flooring has been picked out, and we will meet with an installer on March 14th.

Phase I repairs are starting up. The plumbers have the new pumps and valves installed for the in floor heat. Trane has pulled new wires to control them.

Our Security Grant project is continuing with new countertop and cabinet design in the Woodland office. This will help our office people to interact with our guests more safely without the guests having access to the whole building until approved.

## Finance

We have been actively engaged with our politicians, giving our input on the Governor's budget proposals. Believe it or not, the budget process is already heavily underway for the 2019-20 school year; creating a budget that maximizes opportunities for students and gives staff the resources needed to help our kids.

## Food Service

Our food service staff continues to enthusiastically assist with our district sponsored community events that are popping up. Nicole attends each planning meeting with a vision for exactly what needs to be done in order to successfully cater to our needs.

## Health and Safety

Health Services continues to assist our students and parents in keeping our students healthy and ready to learn.

Our district is participating in the Wisconsin School Health assessment this year to assure that our schools are creating learning environments where students are healthy, safe, engaged, supported and challenged! This includes a full assessment and action plan throughout our entire district. At the end of this program our school will receive feedback and assistance for continuous improvements.

Deputy Dave continues to work with our staff on an individual basis in order to go through their crisis management strategies which are specific to their work locations. This insures quick and confident response if we have crisis.

## Pupil Services

The after school program through the 21st Century Community Learning Center (CLC) grant has begun its recruiting for more students. A flyer has been created and shared during the most recent Parent/ Teacher Conference at Riverview Middle School. A survey to students and parents will also be created and administered. We hope this will assist us in getting more students attending the program after school. It is free and there is a late bus every night of the week. Help for academic and creative needs are emphasized. We are here to help and work on fun things!

## School Board

WASB, Wisconsin Association for School Boards, put on a special event this month, which positioned Superintendents to meet and have productive conversations with senators and representatives from our perspective assembly and senate districts.

The upcoming biennial budget proposal has the potential to have a significant impact on our local schools. This time spent in conversation with legislators is well worth the while because they can have a noteworthy influence on the ability for us to achieve our mission and vision that we hold for our Golden Bears. It is crucial that we position ourselves to promote understanding and support of public education. We will continue to work toward effective legislative advocacy, because we hope to help those policy makers appreciate the effect that their decisions have on the opportunities we can provide our students, staff and communities.

The priorities that could have the greatest impact on our school district would be increases in Special Education and English Language Learner reimbursements, revenue limit adjustments to the change along with the consumer price index annually, expanding mental health categorical aid program to include reimbursements for expenditures. We are also interested in the possibility for poverty factor increw .2 FTE as a state calculation reform.

## Staff Talent/Development

District-wide, our teaching staff continues to work on their Golden Standards, aligning them to their instruction and in some cases state testing. Our support staff will receive training on how to respond to students who have experienced trauma and how to take care of their own mental health on April 18.

## Technology

The IT team continues to plan for online state testing with team planning meetings that include the District Assessment Coordinators and School Assessment Coordinators. Student will be taking the Wisconsin Forward state test (grades 2 -8, 10) and ACT Aspire (grades 9 and 10). Focus has been on testing schedules and ensuring student devices are ready to go with applications for testing. We are in review of district software products and licensing for 19-20 renewals. Planning details and preparations have started for all summer projects related to technology and building upgrades.

## Transportation

Our transportation department continues to successfully battle through challenging weather patterns which most recently includes fog as well as icier roads in our outlying villages. We really appreciate the time taken to upkeep our roads in Barron County so that our busses can safely transport our students.