

Superintendent Report (8/7/20)

Updates from around the district and the state

1. Here is some good news for our community and for our families: *Geneseo Communications and Cambridge Telcom were awarded an aggregate total of 5.8M in grant support from the State of Illinois. With this needed grant funding, our company will be able to connect nearly 4,000 homes, farms and businesses to our state of the art fiber optic network. We are excited to get in the ground and are available should you have any questions concerning the project. You can follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Geneseo>) for periodic updates as we meet certain project milestones.*
2. Student enrollment numbers as of 8/5/20:
 - a. Not completed - 85 total
 - b. Homeschool - 41 total
 - c. Remote - 382 total
 - d. In Person - 2053 total
 - i. Millikin - 11 not completed, 42 remote, 308 in person
 - ii. NS - 15 not completed, 56 remote, 253 in person
 - iii. SW - 19 not completed, 74 remote, 274 in person
 - iv. GMS - 27 not complete, 92 remote, 467 in person
 - v. GHS - 13 not completed, 118 remote, 751 in person
3. Under School Code, Formal Joint Committees must meet each school year by December 1 to review the teacher evaluation plan. This year we met on August 4 to review the process for evaluating teachers under a remote setting and to adopt a rubric for our new instructional coaches. I am bringing the updated plan to you for approval.
4. The new Leadership Teams' co-facilitators met on August 3 to review their goals for the 2020-2021 school year. It has been difficult to put time, effort, and energy into non-COVID related items, but our Leadership Teams are committed to moving their buildings and the district forward despite COVID.
5. I received this unfortunate email last month regarding the Preschool For All grant: *Thank you for submitting an **FY 21 PFA/PFAE/PI** Early Childhood Block Grant application. As stated in the request for proposal, the total amount of funding available for Preschool for All, Preschool for All Expansion and Prevention Initiative is contingent on appropriation by the Illinois General Assembly. We received notice that ISBE will receive level funding for ECBG in FY21 budget. This means that our FY21 appropriation will be the same as the FY20 appropriation that ISBE received. As a result, funding for additional programs is not currently available. Should circumstances change you will be notified.*
6. The IESA announced that they will now be having a reduced fall sports season. Our middle school is working on a plan to allow for player development this fall with additional safety measures in place. More information will be shared from GMS when it is available. IHSA just announced their plans for fall activities, including moving some sports to the spring. GHS will release additional information once it is finalized.
7. On August 10, we are welcoming 22 new teachers to the district during our new teacher orientation. We are excited to see what they bring to their classrooms and the district!