

1.17.22

Dear **Cardinal** Staff and Families,

The legislative session kicked off on Monday! The Governor’s Condition of the State and proposed budget were the capstone of the week. Education has been in the forefront of conversations, with the following focus areas highlighted:

- attracting and retaining teachers through implementation of a first-in-the-nation teacher and paraeducator registered apprenticeship grant program
- providing a one-time \$1,000 teacher retention bonus for teachers who stayed on the job through the pandemic and will continue teaching next year
- Registered Apprenticeship is one of the work-based learning options increasing across the state, with about 60 high schools participating, and more planning to launch programs soon. This earn-and-learn model offers students who are ready to jump-start a rewarding career while helping local employers expand their early talent pipeline.
- Advanced Manufacturing, Welding, Health Care, Education (Teachers and Paraeducators) and IT are just a few of the fields with apprentices in high school.
- The CCSD has desired a partner to initiate the first registered apprenticeships in the community. If you are interested in providing students opportunities to hone their professional skills and receiving value-add to your organization, please reach out to Chris Bergman, cbergman@clarindacsd.org

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Understanding the financial story of your school district is critical.
Are you interested in knowing more about the following?

public use of taxpayer dollars, salary negotiations, spending from categorical funds, unspent authorized budget, enrollment trends, key financial indicators, expenditures per pupil, SSA, property taxes, capital projects, sales tax revenue, enterprise funds & more

If so...

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...please, join us for a CCSD Board Workshop!

Wednesday, January 19th from 4:00-6:00 Board Conference Room

IASB Financial Information Shawn Snyder & Jan Miller-Hook **School Finances and Budgets**

Forecast5 Lora Appenzeller **CCSD’s Budget and Five-Year Projections**

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What superpower do you most need now? Listening.

Learn from Jenn David-Lang, The MAIN IDEA founder states:

I don’t need to tell you.
There is so much that is out of our hands right now.
There is so much chaos – it’s hard to know where to begin.

But one thing you can do is to

simply be there.
Be there for your students.
Be there for your staff.
Be there for your families and your community.
And the best way to do that is to *listen*.

Jenn recommends Kate Murphy's eight key strategies to improve listening starting tomorrow.

8 Ways to Become a Better Listener

Vouchers

A Message from Margaret Buckton at IASB

[Find the legislators](#) who represent your school district.

Are you interested in advocating for public schools?

- **The Governor's new voucher proposal:**
 - Targeted to families at 400% or less of the federal poverty level and students with IEPs.
 - Must be currently enrolled in a public school
 - Allows funds to be used for private school OR home schooling
 - Total number of vouchers is capped at 10,000
- **Talking Points to Use with Iowa Legislators**
 - **Use public dollars for public schools. Period.** The public's investment should be used to support public community schools which are open to all students regardless of race, religion, gender, socio-economic status and disability, not for a new entitlement program for parents who choose private education.
 - **Public funds require public accountability and transparency.** Public schools are overseen by a publicly elected citizen governing board, are required to report academic results to the general public, have an annual public financial audit, and be transparent with all expenditures and decision-making. Private and religious schools are not held to that same public standard. Taxpayers have a right to know how their funds are being used, but are left in the dark about the use and impact of voucher funds.
 - **A slippery slope toward a costly and expansive voucher program:** This voucher program may start small, but as we've seen in other states, once a program is established, it is easy to expand. This will pull more resources away from public schools.

The next regular school board meeting begins at 6:00 PM at the CCSB Board Room on Wednesday, January 26th.

Find joy in the day!

~ Chris