

## NORTHVIEW PTO MEETING – October 26, 2015

### Recap of Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> Superintendent/Parent Leader Mtg.

#### UPDATES

##### **Bond Referendum**

Parent Leaders were provided a quick overview of what is on the ballot for the upcoming election on Nov. 3. Voters can go to [www.mnvotes.org](http://www.mnvotes.org) to locate their polling place or go to [www.district196.org/bond2015](http://www.district196.org/bond2015) for instructions on how and where to vote absentee.

##### **School Board Candidate Forum**

Dakota County Regional Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a School Board Candidate Forum at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 28 at the Rosemount City Council Chambers.

##### **The Sheridan Story**

Greenleaf Elementary School began using The Sheridan Story weekend food program last year after implementing its own backpack food program two years ago. Greenleaf staff had witnessed students hoarding food from the cafeteria on Fridays to eat over the weekend and teachers saw students coming to school hungry on Mondays. Although it filled a need, the in-house backpack food program was very volunteer intensive leading. Greenleaf transitioned to a partnership with The Sheridan Story for the 2014-15 school year.

Volunteers at The Sheridan Story assemble the individual bags of food at their warehouse; food is delivered to the district's Central Receiving site, then the bags are delivered to the school. School staff/volunteers provide teachers with the bags designated for their classroom and teachers discreetly put the bag of food into the backpacks of students whose parents have opted into the program (families do not have to be participating in the free or reduced-price school meal program to receive weekend food). Students receive the food on Fridays or on the last day of school for the week.

Funding for The Sheridan Story is provided through churches or other organizations that sponsor a school, or through individual donations which funnel through the District 196 Foundation to schools (\$130 feeds one child for one year). The district's Faith Community has been very supportive and currently 10 of 18 elementary schools (Northview is one of them) and one middle school are being covered for the 2015-16 school year. Churches that are participating through donations are also interested in partnering with schools for tutoring and other volunteer opportunities.

##### **School Start Times**

Superintendent Berenz is beginning the process to review school start times. She asked Parent Leaders to discuss and record what they think they know about school start times and what they would like to know. This will help her determine the type of information she needs to provide the public as we move forward in the process.