

Superintendent's Report

September 22, 2014

Grants Won by Staff

The General Mills Foundation provided us with a \$6,000 grant for infusing additional technologies into our PE program at NBHS. We also found out we received a software grant from the Presidential Youth Fitness Program. That will allow the K-8 PE teachers to better manage student performance data and look for growth over time from their students.

Open Houses

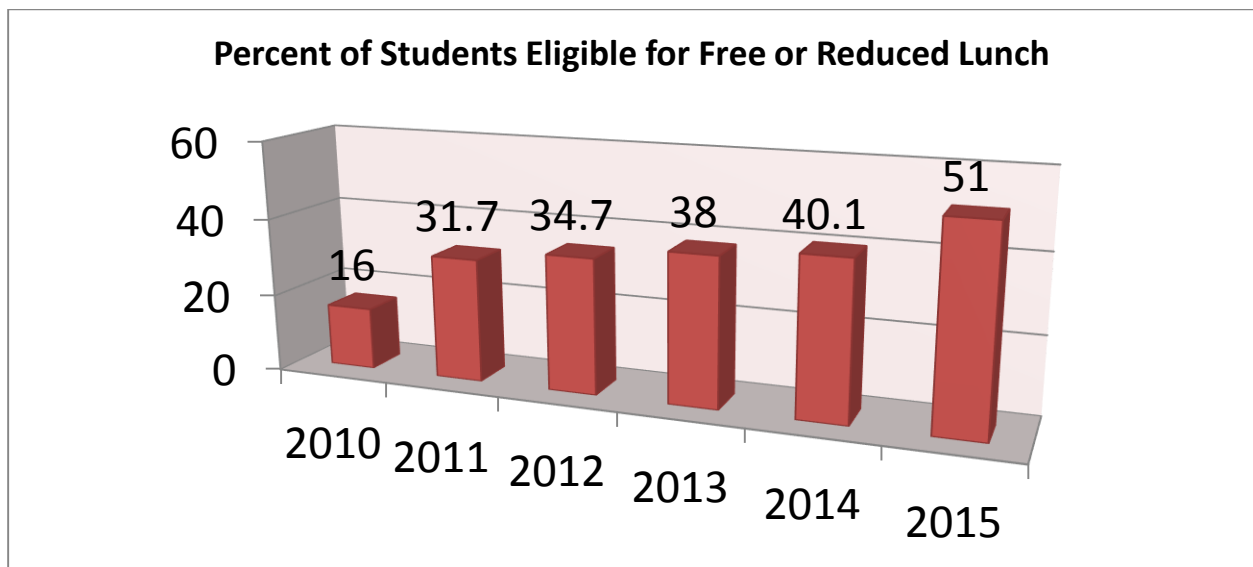
The schools all held open houses to begin the year. I saw some great presentations from some of the NBMS and NBHS teachers. Parent attendance continues to be an issue at NBHS. I have asked Mr. Hubert and the NBHS staff to try to figure out some ways to improve parent participation and communication.

Percentage of Students on Free and Reduced Lunch

The percentage of students who are on Free or Reduced Lunch from the federal government continues to increase. This year's percentages are below:

- NBHS 50%
- NBMS 50%
- NBUE 51%
- Capron 60%
- Manchester 52%
- Poplar Grove 47%
- District-wide 51%

The following graph from my State of the Schools address shows the increase over the past several years.



Homecoming

Last week was Homecoming and the student body showed great spirit throughout the week. Wednesday's Tractor Day at NBHS is always a major student event.

Payroll

Mr. Carr and I met with the Morrissey Agency last week to determine the first steps in conducting a complete payroll audit. The scope of the review will include each current employee:

- a) Accurate salary based upon current step and lane placement or via contract
- b) Ensure step and lane placements are accurate
- c) Stipend accuracy and lane placement
- d) Accurate deductions before or after tax as appropriate
 - 1) Proper insurance deductions
 - 2) 403(b) contributions, etc.
 - 3) Union dues for NBEA, NBESS or Teamsters
 - 4) No FICA for certified employees, etc.

We are working on pulling a number of data sources for the Morrissey Agency, so they will be able to use multiple sources in ensuring all staff are correctly placed. We have also identified a number of HR processes that we are hoping to have reviewed as part of the audit.

Annual Audit

The annual audit process is taking time and the auditors have a great many questions due to the multiple transitions in the business office and the lack of redundancy in either people or systems.

Bus Census

Mr. Carr and the principals have conducted a bus census for the week of September 8 to 12. We have done this each of the last several years to ensure as equitable a distribution of students among bus routes as possible. In the last few years some of the census data was able to help us combine a couple of routes and save some transportation funds.

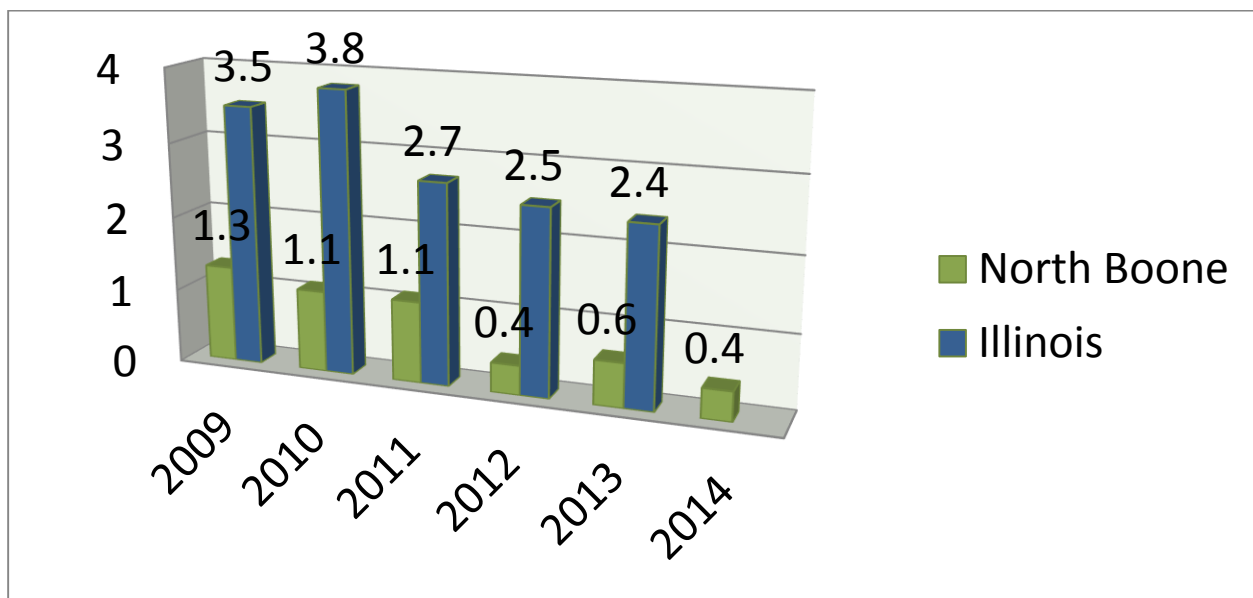
Capital Development Board

Kelly Holsker and Jim Novak are continuing to work through old files to recover documents needed by the CDB. We also found a couple of additional items that we will try to get the CDB to include within their calculations. I would also like to acknowledge the significant assistance of Roger Schroepfer of Wold Architects. He was the lead architect on many of the projects covered by the CDB. His help was essential to our ability to get this information gathered due to the lag between the original grant application in 2003 and today. In addition, I'd like to thank Jayne Ries, Paralegal at Tobin & Ramon law offices, for providing the deeds, HUD statements and other legal records required by the CDB.

Truancy in 2014

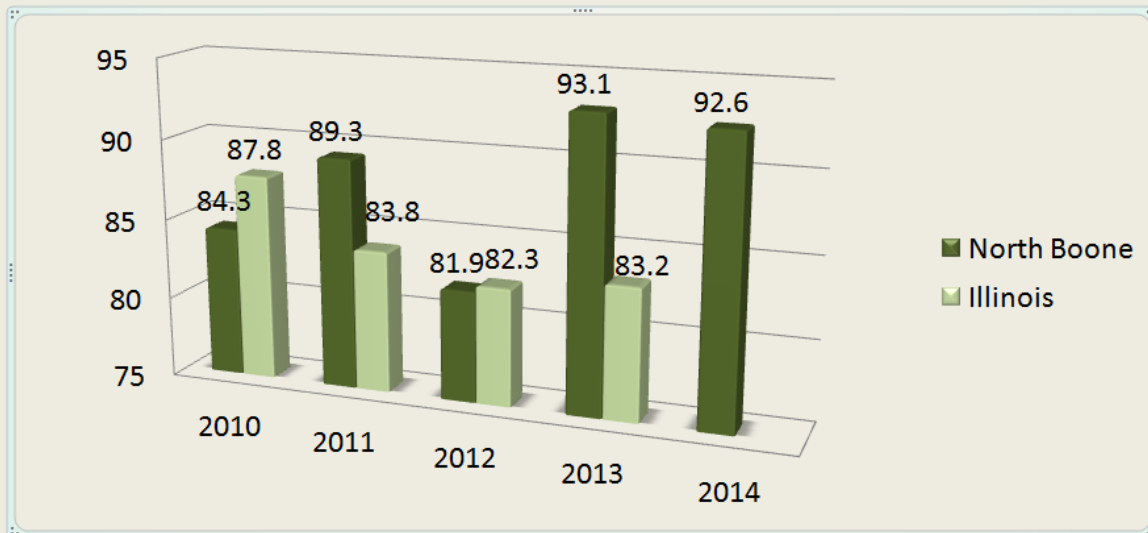
During the last school year, there were 246 truancy cases in Boone and Winnebago County. Five of those cases were from North Boone. The average age of those truants was under 13. I was troubled to hear that the ROE's truancy staff felt that the Boone County public defender's office tends to work hard to stymie court action to return these children to school. The ROE's truancy officers made 861 court appearances last year. The chart at the top of the next page shows the reduction of the

NB Drop Out Rate



While the NB dropout rate has dropped, we have also increased the four year graduation rate at NBHS. School report cards also report a 5 year graduation rate. When you remove alternative school graduates and special education students receiving services beyond four years of high school, the NBHS graduation rate is in fact quite impressive, but our goal is to see every student graduate.

NBHS 4 Year Graduation Rate



Certified Compensation Report

Attached is the annual certified compensation as required by the state. It will be posted on the district's website prior to the October 1 deadline.

ROE Documents

Attached is a summary of the tax rates for the Boone and Winnebago County districts. Due to the non-callable nature of the capital appreciation bonds and the loss of property tax values, we have the highest tax rate in the area. However, several districts are close to ours.

Also attached is a summary of the distributions of the Sales Tax for School Construction. Those revenues are running ahead of projections.