

Superintendent Saga - March 16, 2018

The sun is shining, the snow is melting, MCA testing is underway, and spring sports meetings and practices are starting. We are in the last trimester of the school year. While we are continuing working hard to insure a successful completion to the 2017-2018 year, we are also well underway in preparation for the 2018-2019 school year.

Students in the high school registered for classes this week. The 2018-2019 school year calendar has been approved. The major change to the calendar is the implementation of early out for students every Wednesday. This replaces the early Friday dismissals we have this year. Students will be dismissed one hour early. The time will be used for full implementation of Professional Learning Communities. A **professional learning community**, or PLC, is a group of educators that meets regularly, shares expertise, and works collaboratively to improve teaching skills and the academic performance of students.

On Wednesday, March 28 we will be having a Kick Off of our personalized learning innovation effort. Teachers and administrators, along with school board members and invited community members, will be collaborating to develop a vision for how personalized learning will work for Warroad Public Schools. If you have not received an invite but would like to participate please let me know.

Construction of the Early Learners addition is nearing completion.. Installation of the flooring is waiting for concrete to dry completely. Hopefully we will see this happening next week. Furniture samples have been delivered and we are waiting to be able to set up a model room.

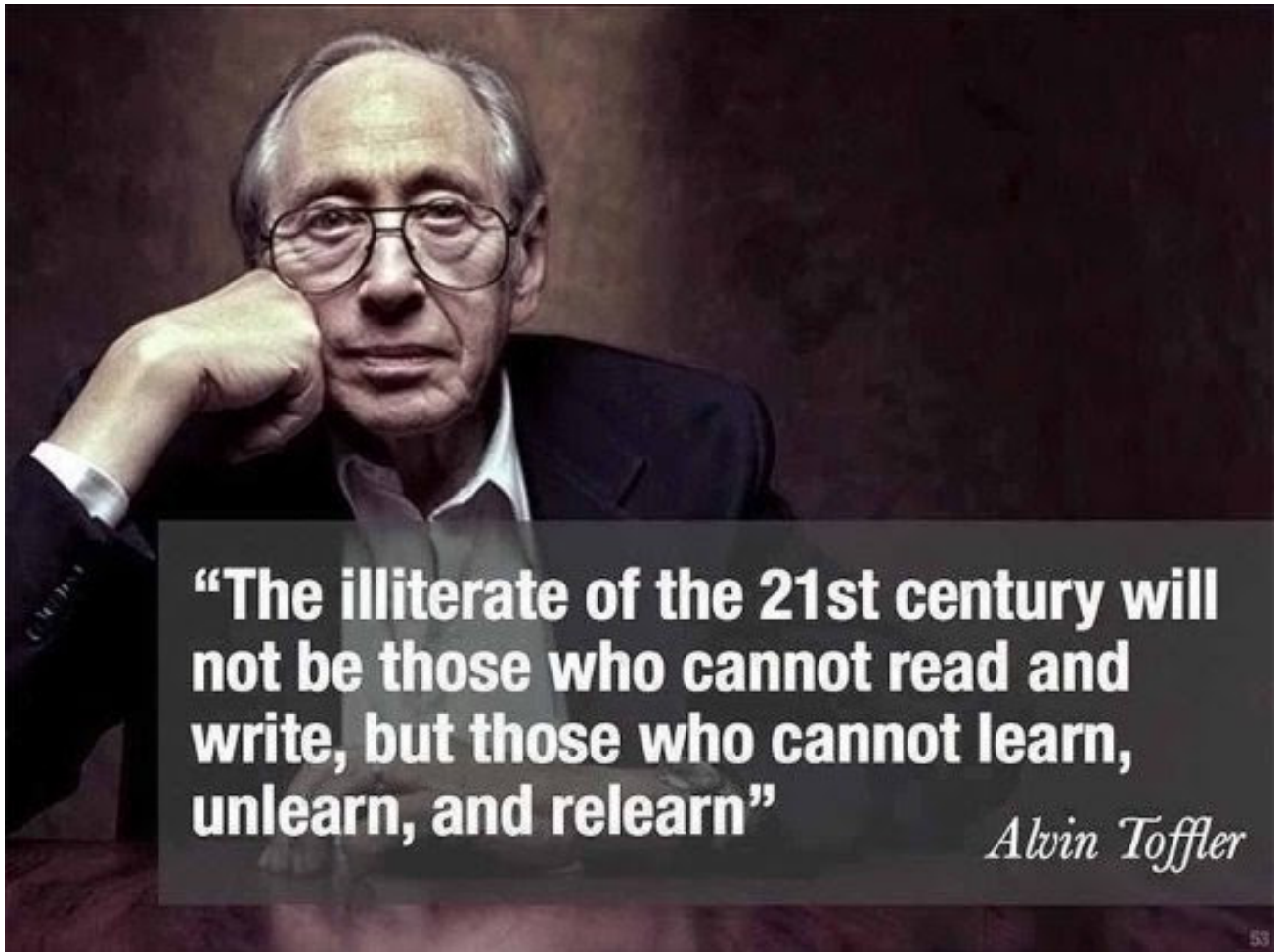
At a Special Meeting on March 13th the School Board approved the awarding of a contract for \$4,900,000 to Baratto Brothers Construction, Inc. for the renovation of the high school this summer. This also includes the remaining renovations in the elementary school.

We will be interviewing candidates for the Educational Technology and Innovation Integration Specialist on Monday and Tuesday. This position will provide additional support to teachers and administration in the design and implementation of innovation (RIZE).

We received notification that our Innovation Research Zone Pilot Program application was not recommended for approval by the Commissioner at this time. I consider this as being in "Not Yet" status as only one of a possible three greater Minnesota programs was recommended. We have until April 2 to make improvements to the application.

I have visited the Capitol twice this month as the District continues its quest for bonding funds to add a multipurpose room to the Angle Inlet School. The Education Finance committee, where I testified on Thursday, seemed to be very supportive. I appreciate the work that Representative Matt Grossell continues to do in this effort. Education Commissioner Cassellius also spoke in favor of the project.

Quote of the week:



**“The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn”**

*Alvin Toffler*