



Education Information Services • 125 South Webster Street • P.O. Box 7841 • Madison, WI 53707-7841 • (608) 266-3559

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Contact: Tom McCarthy, DPI Communications Director, (608) 266-3559

Rural council to meet Tuesday in Clinton

MADISON — Presentations on supporting students with disabilities and building capacity for rural education research along with a choral presentation and tour of the aquaponics lab headline Tuesday's meeting of the State Superintendent's Advisory Council on Rural Schools, Libraries, and Communities. The panel will meet at Clinton High School in rural southeastern Wisconsin.

Clinton School District Administrator Jim Brewer will open the meeting at 9 a.m. and introduce State Superintendent Tony Evers. Evers will commend the Clinton Community School District for its investment in education, which shows in the district's 97 percent graduation rate and ACT results that are the highest in the Rock County. Through community support, Clinton is able to offer technology, leadership, apprenticeship, and Advanced Placement opportunities for its students.

At 9:15 a.m., Nancy Molfenter from the Department of Public Instruction, will provide an overview of the department's Transition Incentive Grant, which was part of the state's 2015-17 budget to improve post-school outcomes for students with disabilities. Council members will have an opportunity to share experiences and ideas to support postsecondary and employment opportunities for students with disabilities.

Craig Albers and S. Andrew Garbacz, both from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, will describe priorities in rural education and efforts to develop a research center to support rural schools. The pair will facilitate a council discussion on existing priorities for Wisconsin's rural schools and opportunities for collaboration.

The Clinton High School Choir, under the direction of Aaron Bennet, will perform during the 11:30 a.m. working luncheon. At 12:30 p.m., Superintendent Brewer will begin the tour and showcase with an update on rural school realities that include deficits, referendums, and building issues. Andrew Feldparsch, middle school science teacher, will lead the tour through the middle school aquaponics lab. The showcase will also incorporate information on the school's stateline mental health collaboration.

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WHO: State Superintendent Tony Evers

Advisory Council on Rural Schools, Libraries, and Communities

WHAT: Advisory Council Meeting

WHEN: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday, April 10, 2018

WHERE: Clinton High School Library

112 Milwaukee Road, Clinton