BURGUM HIGHLIGHTS PROGRESS AT INNOVATIVE ED SUMMIT

Gov. Doug Burgum, State Superintendent Kirsten Baesler and education leaders from across the state highlighted the progress made during the past year to transform education in North Dakota at the second annual Governor’s Summit on Innovative Education at Northern Cass School near Hunter. Nearly 500 people registered for summit events, which included more than a dozen speakers, breakout sessions, the first-ever #InnovativeND Awards and a 30 Hour Challenge that had groups developing and presenting solutions to current challenges in education. The free summit was sponsored by the Governor’s Office, the state Department of Public Instruction and the Bush Foundation.
About 40 students in grades 8-12 attending the North Dakota Indian Youth Leadership Academy this week at the University of Mary in Bismarck received a visit Tuesday from Gov. Burgum and First Lady Kathryn Helgaas Burgum, discussing a wide range of topics including the need for more activities and options for young people, more education about Native American culture and other challenges and opportunities. Now in its ninth year, the academy is hosted by the North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission, led by Executive Director Scott Davis. The academy’s mission is to design, develop and implement a wide range of leadership programs, opportunities that will advance one's spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical attributes.

LT. GOV. MEETS WITH TRIBE ON TAX ISSUES

As efforts continue to strengthen tribal partnerships – one of the administration's five strategic initiatives for North Dakota – Lt. Gov. Brent Sanford discussed tribal and state taxation issues with Vice Chairman Floyd Kirk Jr. and other officials from the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, as well as state Tax Commissioner Ryan Rauschenberger, representatives from his office and state legislators.
Lt. Gov. Sanford met Wednesday with officials from Manitoba, the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, State Water Commission and other agencies to talk about progress on the Red River Valley Water Supply Project. The meeting in Devils Lake included discussion about water needs in central North Dakota, the Red River Valley and Canada, as well as potential treatment options to address Manitoba’s concerns about biota transfer in the proposed movement of Missouri River water into the Red River basin during times of water scarcity. Sanford recently toured the McClusky Canal, part of the proposed project.

ICYMI: GOVERNOR, FIRST LADY HOST FIRST EVENT AT NEW RESIDENCE

Last week, Gov. Burgum and First Lady Kathryn Helgaas Burgum hosted members of the Task Force for Higher Education Governance for the first event in the public space of the new governor’s residence. A public open house is slated for late summer after landscaping and demolition of the former residence is completed. See more photos here.