



HOWARD LAKE • WAVERLY • WINSTED
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HLWW School Board Members:

The superintendent report for the April 13th, 2026 school board meeting includes the following highlights tied to our four strategic plan focus areas:

Student Achievement and Well Being

- MCA testing is underway this week and our students and staff will be fully engaged in this key part of the school year. This state-wide assessment is part of our comprehensive understanding of student achievement across our school district, however, it is important to note that this is just one of the many tools that we utilize to help chart our students' progress throughout the year. Ongoing formative and summative classroom based assessments are also key indicators of student progress as is our Fastbridge, and where appropriate in the area of reading, our newly implemented Capti assessments.

Monitoring student performance is something that we as educators continue to develop our understanding of how to do in the most informative and helpful ways, while also being cognizant of the need to be mindful of “overtesting”. Additionally relying on other observational data as well as students' own assessments of their learning, are also key indicators of student progress and achievement. All of the above data helps to provide our teachers and students with ‘real-time’ information, allowing for adjustments to be made to support student growth and improvement throughout the school year.

- The Spring athletic and activities season is in full swing with a number of competitions already being held in the not always so favorable weather conditions of a Minnesota Spring. Our Spring Play will take place this coming Thursday and Friday evening, with an additional first time offering of a Wednesday afternoon matinee performance for our Senior Citizen community. Each of these co-curricular activities continue to provide

wonderful opportunities for our students to extend their learning beyond the classroom.

- Our district leadership team engaged in our first look at our Stakeholder Survey results from early March at our meeting this past week. In this first look, we focused on analyzing the Student Survey results as we will be considering ways to incorporate that feedback into our upcoming School Continuous Improvement Plans (SCIPS) for the 2026-2027 school year. In our May leadership meeting we will continue analyzing these results, specifically looking at the staff and parent results as well. I will plan an update on this work to the school board at the May work session.

Effective Resource Management

- As our administrative team continues to develop the budget for the 2026-2027 school year, we remain focused on maintaining the school board's commitment to adopting an annual budget that allows our long term financial health to continue to improve, specifically as it relates to our unreserved fund balance. We are working diligently to prepare a budget proposal for the upcoming work session on April 27th, with the desire to adopt a budget at the regular board meeting on May 11th.

Family Partnership and Community Engagement

- Our FFA Leadership Council continues to meet on a monthly basis and at the most recent meeting last Thursday, we had a great conversation about ways to continue developing partnerships with local businesses through our Work Based Learning program and continuing to look for new ways to expand these relationships. Seena Glessing has done an outstanding job connecting these employers this spring and we look forward to continuing to develop these partnerships going forward.

Staff Development and Support

- Following our recent adoption of the new K-8 Language Arts curricula, we are preparing for the essential professional development implementation associated with these newly adopted curricular resources. This professional



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development will begin in August and continue throughout the 2026-2027 school year, providing our staff with the necessary training to successfully utilize these new curricular materials to best meet the literacy needs of our students. I am excited for our staff to have the opportunity to continue this recent journey into implementing the Science of Reading practices that were called for as a result of the MN Read Act, as I do believe these changes will result in greater reading proficiency and more fully developed literacy skills for all of our students.